



APRU

Asia Pacific Women in  
Leadership (APWiL)

# APWiL Mentoring Program 3rd Cohort 2022-2023

## Participants & Testimonials



# Participating Universities:

- 
1. Keio University
  2. Korea University
  3. Kyushu University
  4. Monash University
  5. Nagoya University
  6. Nanyang Technological University
  7. National University of Singapore
  8. Osaka University
  9. Tecnológico de Monterrey
  10. The Australian National University
  11. The Chinese University of Hong Kong
  12. The University of Auckland
  13. The University of Sydney
  14. Universiti Malaya
  15. University of California, Davis
  16. University of California, Riverside
  17. University of California, San Diego
  18. University of California, Santa Barbara
  19. University of California, Santa Cruz
  20. University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
  21. University of Oregon
  22. University of Southern California
  23. University of the Philippines
  24. UNSW Sydney

## Mentee

Dr. Shana Brown

Department Chair

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa



*"My mentor was incredibly kind, engaged, and astute in her advice... I can't say enough about her generosity as a mentor and the importance of this program... Thank you Sang-Hee!"*

*"I am happy that my mentee found our conversations helpful; I feel like I was the one who learned the most and found new ways to build relationships."*



## Mentor

Dr. Sang-Hee Lee

Professor

University of California, Riverside

APWIL Mentoring P  
3rd Cohort**Mentee**

Dr. Frances Byrne  
Senior Lecturer  
UNSW Sydney



*"I thoroughly enjoyed meeting and having regular catchups with my mentor. ...I learned useful and practical tips that I can use day to day and going forward in my career."*

**Mentor**

Professor John Rundle  
Distinguished Professor  
University of California, Davis



APWiL Mentoring Program  
3rd Cohort**Mentor**

Professor Jiro Takai  
Professor, Associate Dean  
Nagoya University

**Mentee**

Professor Eunsu Choi  
Associate Professor  
Korea University

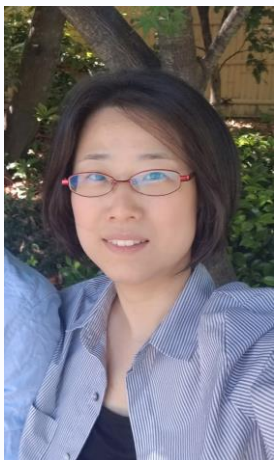


## Mentee

Dr. Sohyun Chun

Lecturer, International Student Adviser

Nagoya University



*"...Even though I have filled  
the role of mentor, I have  
learned just as much from  
Sohyun as I feel I have been  
able to teach and mentor  
her!"*

*Mahalo to the APWiL team  
for these treasured  
connections."*



## Mentor

Nikki Chun

Vice Provost for Enrollment Management

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

APWiL Mentoring P  
3rd Cohort**Mentor**

Professor Michele Ford

Director

The University of Sydney

**Mentee**

Assistant Professor Maritess Cruz

Assistant Professor

University of the Philippines



**Mentee**

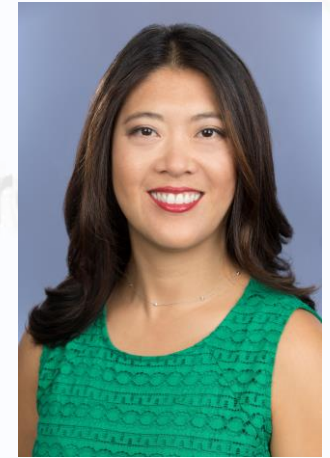
Dr. Jennifer Dan

Assistant Professor

University of California, San Diego



*“Advising and passing on  
what I have learned in my  
path hopefully has had an  
impact on my mentee in  
navigating large system  
and the power of  
networking.”*

**Mentor**

Dr. Cassandra Lee

Chief of Sports

University of California, Davis



APWiL Mentoring P  
3rd Cohort**Mentee**

Dr. Faithe Day

Assistant Professor

University of California, Santa Barbara

**Mentor**

Dr. Amaryllis Torres

Professor Emeritus

University of the Philippines



APWiL Mentoring P  
3rd Cohort**Mentor**

Dr. Sooyeon Kim

Associate Professor and Head of Department  
National University of Singapore

**Mentee**

Ms. Irish Joy Deocampo

Assistant Professor

University of the Philippines



APWiL Mentoring P  
3rd Cohort**Mentee**

Dr. Micaela Díaz-Sánchez

Assistant Professor

University of California, Santa Barbara

**Mentor**

Associate Professor Jemaima Tiatia

Pro Vice-Chancellor Pacific

The University of Auckland



APWiL Mentoring Program  
3rd Cohort**Mentor**

Professor Gillian Yeo

Professor, Associate Dean (Faculty)

Nanyang Technological University

**Mentee**

Dr. Ding Ding

Assistant Professor

The Australian National University



*"To my mentor,  
I'm truly thankful for an  
amazing experience. She has  
provided candid insights, shared  
constructive suggestions, and  
dedicated her time to mentoring  
and shaping the careers of  
junior professionals.*

*To the APWiL program and staff,  
many thanks for your wonderful  
organization!"*



**Mentee**

Associate Professor Rachael Hains-Wesson  
Director Work-Integrated Learning  
The University of Sydney



*"I have discovered that there are more similarities than differences between women in leadership roles. We need to continually back-one-another, speak our truth, bring our authenticity to the table, be heard and to never give up..."*

*"Participating in the APWiL Mentoring Program has been fantastic! Mentoring Rachael Hains-Wesson has been a joy, and I learned so much about higher education in Australia..."*

**Mentor**

Dr. Tracy Poon Tambascia  
Professor of Clinical Education  
University of Southern California

**Mentee**

Dr. Fiona Ho

Assistant Professor

The Chinese University of Hong Kong



*"It has been an incredible experience being a mentee in the APWiL Mentoring Programme. The opportunity to connect with a mentor from overseas was truly eye-opening and transformative for me..."*

*"I have truly enjoyed getting to know and mentor Fiona during our year together in APWiL. There are few opportunities for cross-national and trans-continental mentorship in academia, and this experience has been quite rich..."*

**Mentor**

Dr. Kristin Yarris

Associate Professor

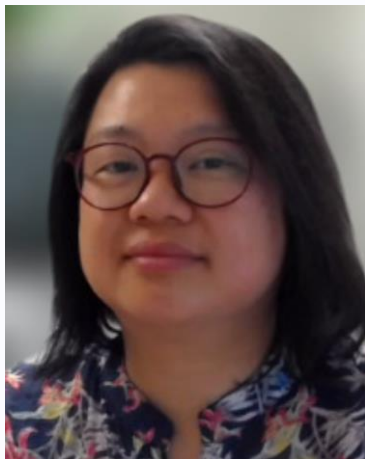
University of Oregon

APWiL Mentoring Program  
3rd Cohort**Mentee**

Dr. Poh Choo How

Associate Professor

University of California, Davis



*“The APWiL Mentoring Program has been a transformative experience. I have learned so much from my wise, experienced, and inspiring mentor... I am so grateful for the opportunity to participate this year! Thank you!”*

**Mentor**

A/Professor Suzanne Nielsen

A/Professor and Deputy Director

Monash University

## Mentee

Ms. Tracy Huang  
Associate Lecturer  
UNSW Sydney



*"I am very happy to walk  
with a young colleague who  
has to handle work, a  
young family while  
completing her PhD...  
Thank you for such a  
wonderful opportunity that  
allows us to grow together."*



## Mentor

Professor Mee Kam Ng  
Professor  
The Chinese University of Hong Kong



**Mentee**

Professor Yoko Ibuka

Professor

Keio University



*“Mentoring with Juliana has provided me with a wealth of inspiration regarding how to navigate various situations and plan my next steps in my career...*

*I am immensely grateful for this wonderful opportunity. Thank you.”*

*“Participation in the APWiL Program has been a rewarding experience. I always look forward to catching up with my mentee and have enjoyed all our meetings... I look forward to continuing our exchanges beyond this Program.”*

**Mentor**

Professor Juliana Ng

Director, Research School of Accounting

The Australian National University

**Mentee**

Dr. Kaori Idemaru

Professor

University of Oregon



*“Participating in the APWiL Mentoring Program empowered me to purposefully and proactively work on developing leadership skills and raising my research prominence. With my mentor's guidance, I applied and secured university fellowships, accepted invitations for guest lectures, and submitted research grants...”*

*“It has been a real honor to work with Kaori! To see her taking concrete steps to allow her leadership skills to emerge has been a truly rewarding part of the program. The program has helped both of us to focus on our goals and think about what we can do to reach them...”*

**Mentor**

Professor Stefanie Shamila Pillai

Professor

Universiti Malaya

**Mentee**

Professor Sachiko Kazekami

Professor

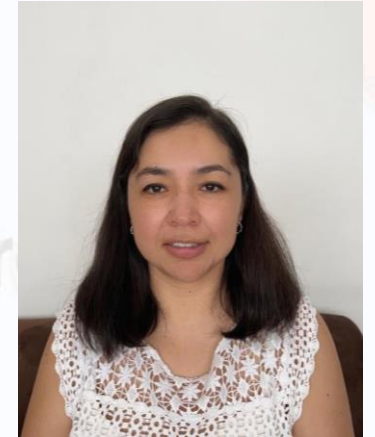
Keio University



*"It was more meaningful than I imagined! I've thought about things I hadn't thought about before, learned a lot from my mentor, cleared up what was unclear to me...  
...I was able to meet my mentor in person and invite her to my class to discuss with my students!"*

*"The program has been a wonderful experience for me. It allowed me to meet a talented, courageous woman committed to her development... I have learned even more than what I have taught..."*

*Thank you APWiL and thank you Sachiko."*

**Mentor**

Dr. Karla Valenzuela

Head of the School of Engineering and Science  
Tecnológico de Monterrey



Asia Pacific Women in  
Leadership (APWIL)

## **Mentee**

Professor Vera Keller

Professor

University of Oregon



## APWiL Mentoring Program 3rd Cohort



## **Mentor**

Dr. Celine Parreñas Shimizu

Dean of the Arts and Distinguished Professor of Film and Digital Media

University of California, Santa Cruz



## Mentee

Professor Hyejeong Kim

Professor

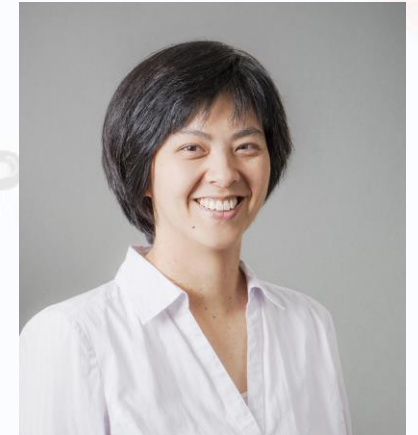
Korea University



*“Every talk I had with my mentor really impressed me. The ideas from our discussions stuck with me...”*

*...I especially appreciate my mentor for taking the time to help me out.”*

*“Being a mentor provided an opportunity to reflect back on my experiences as a young faculty member and compare to what I know today...”*



## Mentor

Professor Ellis Meng

Shelly and Ofer Nemirovsky Chair of Convergent Biosciences,

Vice Dean of Technology Innovation and Entrepreneurship,

Professor of Biomedical Engineering and Electrical and Computer Engineering

University of Southern California

## Mentee

### Dr. Kuriko Kudo

Assistant Professor, Vice director and  
CTO of Telemedicine Development Center of Asia

### Kyushu University



*“The monthly exchange of ideas with my mentor exposed me to the flexible and bold thinking of women researchers at the top of both academia and university... As a result, it led to my own promotion during the term and a significant achievement in obtaining 3 competitive funds.”*

*“It has been an absolute pleasure getting to know my mentee...  
... I feel gratified by this international connection!  
I hope we can meet in person someday.”*



## Mentor

### Dr. Kim Barrett

Vice Dean for Research and Distinguished Professor  
University of California, Davis

APWiL Mentoring P  
3rd Cohort**Mentor**

Professor Susette Min

Associate Professor

University of California, Davis

**Mentee**

Dr. Charity Lee

Senior Lecturer

Universiti Malaya

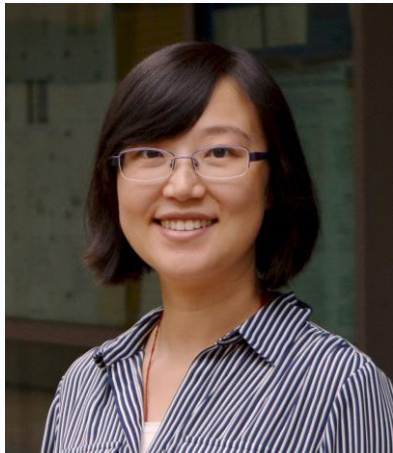


APWiL Mentoring Program  
3rd Cohort**Mentee**

Assistant Professor Yanran Li

Assistant Professor

University of California, Riverside

**Mentor**

Jayashri Ravishankar

Associate Professor

UNSW Sydney



**Mentee**

Professor Xiao Luo

Assistant Professor

University of California, Santa Barbara



APWiL Mentoring P  
3rd Cohort



**Mentor**

Professor Megumi Akai

Professor

Osaka University

## Mentee

Dr. Nayeli Martínez Consuegra

Professor

Tecnológico de Monterrey

*"I am happy that my mentee found our conversations helpful; I feel like I was the one who learned the most and found new ways to build relationships."*



## Mentor

Professor Huinan Liu

Professor

University of California, Riverside

*"...We strived through our daily occupations to try and maintain communication that was enriching and interesting."*

## Mentee

Dr. Lauren May

National Heart Foundation Future Leader Fellow

Monash University



*“The APWiL Mentoring  
Program demonstrated to  
be one of the most  
rewarding mentorship  
programs that I have  
participated in...”*



## Mentor

Professor Joan Zuo

Director

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

APWiL Mentoring Program  
3rd Cohort**Mentee**

Dr. Yujie Men

Assistant Professor

University of California, Riverside

**Mentor**

Professor Yeng Ming Lam

Chair, School of Materials Science and Engineering

Nanyang Technological University



APWiL Mentoring  
3rd Cohort**Mentor**

Professor Alisa Freedman  
Professor  
University of Oregon

**Mentee**

Dr. Fernanda Penaloza  
Senior Lecturer in Latin American Studies  
The University of Sydney



## Mentee

Dr. Radhika Prabhakar

Assistant Professor of Medicine

University of Southern California



*"I found this mentorship program tremendously helpful... I could not imagine a more suitable mentor..."*

*Thank you for this opportunity!"*

*"I am grateful to the APWiL Mentoring Program for connecting me with such an incredible mentee... Congratulations Dr. Prabhakar on all of your accomplishments this year!"*



## Mentor

Dr. Serena Yang

Division Chief, General Pediatrics;

Vice Chair, Community Engagement, Department of Pediatrics

University of California, Davis

APWiL Mentoring Program  
3rd Cohort**Mentee**

Dr. Katherine Ralston

Associate Professor

University of California, Davis

**Mentor**

Professor Moon Jung Song

Professor

Korea University

**Mentee**

Dr. Uma Ravat

Assistant Teaching Professor

University of California, Santa Barbara



*“...The program has helped me hone my leadership and project management skills, bolstered my confidence, and reinforced my philosophy... The networking events, workshops, and panel discussions were eye-opening...”*

*“...My mentee and I are about to accomplish all three goals that we decided upon at the beginning of the program, 1) to establish a joint research project between UCSB and the Keio University; 2) to discuss Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; 3) to start an exchange program between UCSB and Keio students...”*

**Mentor**

Professor Kyoko Ohara

Professor  
Keio University

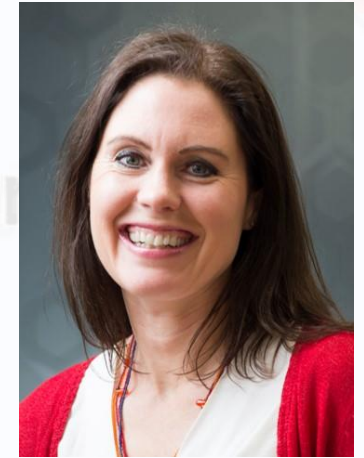


APWiL Mentoring Program  
3rd Cohort**Mentee**

Dr. Alicia Riley

Assistant Professor

University of California, Santa Cruz

**Mentor**

A/Prof. Joanne Ryan

Head, Biological Neuropsychiatry and Dementia Unit

Monash University

## Mentee

Dr. Carolina Senés

Chair of Regional Bioengineering Department (West area)

Tecnológico de Monterrey



*"...I am grateful to both APWiL and my mentor and acknowledge that this past year has not only influenced me for the immediate future but has also steered me towards decisions that will leave a lasting imprint on my career trajectory."*

*"Learning about the customs in another country is fascinating. I have really enjoyed getting to know my mentee..."*



## Mentor

Professor Alison Butler

Professor

University of California, Santa Barbara

**Mentee**

Dr. Yong Adilah Shamsul Harumain  
Senior Lecturer  
Universiti Malaya



*“APWiL mentoring program has boosted my confidence and competence. Professor Aya’s advice and sharing encouraged me to explore and not to be afraid of things which is not a norm for me. It has empowered me to overcome obstacles and be focus on my career objectives...”*

*“I gained a really valuable experience from APWiL in getting to know a young researcher from a different background and engaging in a one-on-one exchange of thoughts and information...”*

**Mentor**

Dr. Aya Hagishima  
Professor  
Kyushu University

**Mentee**

Dr. Shaheen Sikandar

Assistant Professor

University of California, Santa Cruz



*"The APWil program has helped me think more broadly about my research and global impact. It has also helped me maintain a work-life balance. I am excited to continue the relationship with my mentor in the coming years."*

*"...Everyone has a very different journey (story) to tell, and I am very honored to be part of a cohort that where I can share my story while learning so much from so many other stories. All these will keep the flame burning for a long time."*

**Mentor**

Associate Professor Dr. Ivy Chung

Director

Universiti Malaya



APWiL Mentoring Program  
3rd Cohort**Mentee**

Nadia Singh

Associate Professor of Biology

University of Oregon

**Mentor**

Dr. Lori Ideta

Vice Provost for Student Success

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

**Mentee**

Dr. Eunice Tan

Assistant Professor

National University of Singapore



*“...I have enjoyed learning from colleagues globally, and especially my assigned. The programme has been an eye-opener and a great opportunity to meet many inspirational academics...  
...I am also learning how to be a better person...”*

*“The program enabled me to get to know a thoughtful and considerate person who constantly seeks to improve personally and professionally. It was a two-way learning experience that enriched my views and strengthened my confidence...”*

**Mentor**

Dr. Irma Eraña

Medicine program national director

Tecnológico de Monterrey

APWiL Mentoring Program  
3rd Cohort**Mentee**

Dr. Jinna Tay

Senior Lecturer

National University of Singapore

**Mentor**

Dr. Yoon-Jung Lee

Professor

Korea University

**Mentee**

Professor Stephanie Teves  
Associate Professor & Chair  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa



*"I thoroughly enjoyed my  
first mentoring experience.*

*We would call this  
relationship a 'tuakana-  
teina' one. Where teaching  
and learning occurs in both  
directions..."*

**Mentor**

Associate Professor Te Kawehau Hoskins  
Pro Vice-Chancellor (Maori)  
The University of Auckland



APWiL Mentoring P  
3rd Cohort**Mentee****Eleanor Vandegrift**

Program Director for Global STEM Education Programs  
& Senior Instructor II

University of Oregon

**Mentor**

Professor Adriana Verges  
Professor in marine ecology  
UNSW Sydney

APWiL Mentoring Program  
3rd Cohort**Mentor****Dr. Suzi Hong**Professor and Interim Assistant Dean  
of Faculty Affairs and Mentoring

University of California, San Diego

**Mentee****Dr. Nicole Vargas**

Lecturer

The Australian National University

*The APWiL program, and mentorship by Prof Suzi Hong has been particularly beneficial for me both professionally and personally...**Prof Hong has gracefully shared her experience in academia to nurture and encourage me in times of doubt..."*

**Mentee**

Grace Wangge

Associate Professor

Monash University



*“I have someone who can give me assurance that I was on the right path. Sometimes having someone who can just share your journey and can see the issue from a different light is needed.”*

*“Useful program to connect with other female faculty to share and learn about each other's experiences and strategies.”*

**Mentor**

Associate Professor Jeannette Lee

Vice Dean Academic Affairs

National University of Singapore

APWiL Mentoring P  
3rd Cohort**Mentor****Professor Kum-Kum Bhavnani**

Associate Vice Chancellor for

Global Engagement and Distinguished Professor

**University of California, Santa Barbara****Mentee**

Associate Professor Chen-Hsi Wong

Acting Chair

Nanyang Technological University



*“This has been an extremely rewarding and impactful mentorship, very much directly correlated to the amazing pairing. My mentor has been truly supportive, wise, kind, patient, and infinitely generous with her time...”*



## Mentee

Dr. An-Min Wu

Assistant Professor (Teaching)

University of Southern California



*"...This past year, under her help (mentor's), I was able to assess more on the priority of my professional and personal life, and to be more strategic yet compassionate about advising students."*

*"I had an extraordinary experience that showed me hidden layers in the mentor-mentee relationship. Encouraging and being encouraged by experiences that my mentee shared was the greatest benefit of the program..."*



## Mentor

Professor Leila Carvalho

Professor

University of California, Santa Barbara

APWiL Mentoring P  
3rd Cohort**Mentee**

Dr. Mao Yagihashi  
Assistant Professor  
Osaka University

**Mentor**

Professor Sri Kurniawan  
Professor  
University of California, Santa Cruz

APWiL Mentoring Program  
3rd Cohort**Mentee**

Dr. Xiao Yang

Assistant Professor

The Chinese University of Hong Kong



*“During APWiL Mentoring Program, I truly believed that women have a very influential role in shaping a new ecosystem for education, social progress, and excellence...”*

**Mentor**

Professor Thomas Preiss

Co-Head Division of Genome Science and Cancer

The Australian National University

**Mentee**

Dr. Yizhao Yang

Associate Professor

University of Oregon



*“The APWIL Program has been an enriching and heartwarming experience. My mentee is a kind, hardworking and gentle person who balances her stellar academic career with her mom and wife duties admirably. I have learned a lot from her.”*

**Mentor**

Dr. Ma. Victoria Raquiza

Associate Professor

University of the Philippines



**Mentee**

Dr. Wai Yee Yeong

Associate Professor

Nanyang Technological University



*"The program led me to a mentor who is so kind and generous with her time in providing guidance... I have gained incredible insights in leadership development in academia... Thank you, Prof Akiyo!"*

*"I experienced an amazing journey with my mentee this year. The thrilling highlight was that Wai Yee became the chair of her department... It was a true privilege to walk together with Wai Yee in our careers."*

**Mentor**

Vice President Akiyo Okuda

Vice President  
Keio University