



N. Justice of Pacific Lutheran University

Recipient of the 2024 Early Career Undergraduate Impact Award

Dr. N. Justice works to provide deep and rich opportunities for undergraduate students in statistics. During her time at PLU, she has been a driving force behind the development of first a data-science minor, and then a data science major. For these two academic programs, she created two new courses, Statistical Consulting and Statistical Modeling, that provide students with numerous ways to interact with data-science techniques and to grapple with important ethical issues in the field. She also was a leader in bringing DataFest to PLU, offering students opportunities to glean insights from rich, messy data sets.

Dr. Justice's influence reaches beyond PLU. She served as a member of the founding team of the ASA Statistics Education Section mentoring program for several years—a program through which numerous novice statistics teachers throughout the country have since found support and encouragement to improve their teaching. Dr. Justice has also conducted collaborative research on students' and teachers' understanding of and experiences in statistics, as well as students' emerging identities as statisticians. She often includes undergraduates in her scholarship and has many publications with undergraduate coauthors. Finally, last year she began a tradition of opening up the PLU DataFest competition to students from other institutions in the surrounding region, giving them rich opportunities to work with data as well.

Through her dedication to her students' learning and her scholarship connected to statistics education, she has demonstrated that she is deserving of the Mu Sigma Rho Early Career Undergraduate Impact Award.