

**Science Department Faculty Biographies  
St. Ignatius College Preparatory**

**Ms. Karen Cota**

- **Education**  
San Francisco State University – B. A., Liberal Studies, Mathematics, Physical and Life Science Emphasis  
San Francisco State University – M. A., Secondary Education
- **At SI since**  
1993
- **Course Load, 2009-10**  
Anatomy/Physiology, 1 section  
Biology, 3 sections
- **Additional courses taught while at SI**  
General Science
- **Previous teaching experience**  
St. Thomas the Apostle, Immaculate Conception Academy
- **Extracurricular Activities, 2009-10**  
Coach, Girls' Softball  
Coach, Boys' Volleyball  
Paintball Club

**Ms. Mae Linh Fatum**

- **Education**  
University of San Francisco – B.A., Physics and Mathematics  
University of San Francisco – M.A. & credential, anticipated 12/2008
- **At SI since**  
2008
- **Course Load, 2009-10**  
Physics, 4 sections
- **Additional courses taught while at SI**  
Engineering
- **Previous teaching experience**  
Martin Luther King, Jr., Middle School  
Mercy SF Summer Program in Chemistry  
Student Instructor, Physics Department, University of San Francisco
- **Extracurricular Activities, 2009-10**  
Gaming Club, Model Congress

**Mr. Donald Gamble**

- **At SI since**  
2004
- **Course Load, 2009-10**  
Biology, 2 sections  
Multimedia Design, 2 sections
- **Additional courses taught while at SI**  
Human Anatomy & Physiology
- **Extracurricular Activities, 2009-10**  
Coach, Freshman Basketball

### Dr. Cynthia-May S. Gong

- **Education**  
California Institute of Technology – B.S., Chemistry  
University of California at Berkeley – Ph.D., Chemistry
- **At SI since**  
2009
- **Course Load, 2009-10**  
Chemistry, 4 sections
- **Previous teaching experience**  
Lead Math and Science Instructor, SAGE Academy, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (3 years)  
Assistant Professor, Graduate College, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (3 years)  
Graduate Student Instructor, University of California, Berkeley (3 years)  
Teaching Assistant, California Institute of Technology (1 year)

### Mr. Scott Haluck

- **Education**  
Loyola Marymount University – B.S., Electrical Engineering  
Loyola Marymount University – M.A., Secondary Math Ed.
- **At SI since**  
2007
- **Course Load, 2009-10**  
Engineering, 1 section  
Algebra 2, 2 sections  
Precalculus Accelerated, 1 section
- **Additional courses taught while at SI**  
Geometry
- **Previous Teaching Experience**  
Notre Dame High School, Sherman Oaks, California
- **Extracurricular Activities, 2009-10**  
Invisible Children  
Bay Area Sports Club  
Tenderloin Care Club

### Ms. Patricia Kennedy

- **Education**  
University of Arizona – M.S., Ecology and Evolutionary Biology  
University of Texas at Austin – B.S., Zoology
- **At SI since**  
2001
- **Course Load, 2009-10**  
Biology, 2 sections  
Environmental Science, 2 sections
- **Additional courses taught while at SI**  
Chemistry
- **Extracurricular Activities, 2009-10**  
Coach, Girl's Cross Country

### Ms. Deirdre McGovern

- **Education**  
San Francisco State University – Clear Teaching Credential with Single Subject Credentials in Life Science and Social Science  
Santa Clara University – B.S., Combined Sciences
- **At SI since**  
1989
- **Course Load, 2009-10**  
Chemistry, 4 sections
- **Additional courses taught while at SI**  
Biology Honors, Biology, General Science, Honors Chemistry
- **Extracurricular Activities, 2009-10**  
Assistant Moderator, Yearbook  
House Manager for the Performing Arts  
Co-moderator for the Irish Club

### Ms. Karolina Michniewicz

- **Education**  
University of Maryland – B.S., Biology
- **At SI since**  
2005
- **Course Load, 2009-10**  
Biology, 2 sections  
Anatomy/Physiology, 2 sections
- **Previous Teaching Experience:**  
Oakland Mills High School, Maryland: Health, General Science, Math
- **Extracurricular Activities, 2009-10**  
SI-TO-GO Moderator  
Ski Club Moderator

### Mr. Adrian O'Keefe

- **Education**  
Graduate Theological Union – M.A., Systematic and Philosophical Theology  
Louisiana State University – B.A., Religious Studies / B.S., Physics
- **At SI since**  
2006
- **Course Load, 2009-10**  
Honors Physics, 2 sections  
Astronomy, 1 section  
Science & Religion, 1 section (Religious Studies Dept.)
- **Additional courses taught while at SI**  
Summer Physics, Physics
- **Previous Teaching Experience**  
St. Michael the Archangel, Louisiana: Chemistry
- **Extra-curricular Activities, 2009-10**  
Moderator, Astronomy Club

## Mr. Byron Philhour

- **Education**
  - University of California at Berkeley – A.B., Physics
  - California Institute of Technology – M.S., Physics
  - California Institute of Technology – Ph.D., Physics
- **At SI since**  
2003
- **Course Load, 2009-10**
  - AP Physics C, 1 sections
  - Physics Honors, 2 sections
  - AP Computer Science, 1 section
- **Additional courses taught while at SI**  
Astronomy, Engineering, Summer Physics
- **Previous teaching experience**
  - Adjunct Lecturer in Astronomy, City College of San Francisco (4 years)
  - Adjunct Lecturer in Astronomy, San Francisco State University (2 years)
  - Graduate Student Instructor, California Institute of Technology (2 years)
- **Extracurricular activities, 2009-10**
  - Moderator, Physics Club, Gaming Club, and Faculty Forum
  - Science Department Chair & Website Administrator

## Mr. Matthew Stecher

- **Education**
  - University of Portland – M.A., Teaching
  - University of Notre Dame – B.S., Biology
- **At SI since**  
1999
- **Course Load, 2009-10**
  - Physics, 3 sections
  - Chemistry, 1 section
- **Additional courses taught while at SI**  
Chemistry, Physics Honors
- **Previous Teaching Experience**
  - St. Petersburg Catholic High School, 2 years
- **Extracurricular Activities, 2009-10**
  - Head Coach, Freshman Football
  - Head Coach, Baseball

## Ms. Maureen Sullivan

- **Education**
  - San Francisco State University – M.A., Biology with a concentration in Ecology and Systematic Biology
  - The University of Virginia – B.A., Biology with a minor in German Language and Literature
- **At SI since**  
1995
- **Course load, 2009-10**  
Biology, 4 sections
- **Additional courses taught while at SI**  
Marine Biology, General Science, Photography (Fine Arts)
- **Previous teaching experience**
  - San Francisco State University
    - Introductory Human Biology Lab (BIOL 101) TA, 3 years
    - Nature Study (BIOL 300), lecturer, 1 semester, TA/GA, 3 semesters
    - Mammalogy (BIOL 480) TA, 1 semester
  - Visitation Valley Middle School, substitute teacher, 1 year
- **Extracurricular Activities, 2009-10**
  - Detention Supervisor
  - House Manager for Wiegand and Bannan Theaters
  - Moderator, Bowling Club

## Mr. Mike Ugawa

- **Education**
  - University of San Francisco – M.A.T., Physics (Science Education)
  - University of San Francisco – California Professional Clear Teaching Credential - Single Subject, Physical Sciences
  - San Francisco State University - B. A., Physics, Summa Cum Laude
  - City College of San Francisco - Certification in Electronics Engineering Technology
- **At SI since**  
1996
- **Course load, 2009-10**  
Science Research  
Advanced Science Research
- **Additional courses taught while at SI**  
Physics AP-B, Honors Physics, AP Computer Science, Computer Engineering and Hardware, Summer Chemistry
- **Previous teaching experience**
  - Lowell High School, Physics and Chemistry
  - San Francisco State University, Physics
  - Exploratorium Teacher Institute, Physics
- **Administration, 2009-10**
  - Director of Academic Scheduling and Records
  - Bookstore Administrator
  - Telecommunications/Voicemail System Administrator
- **Extracurricular Activities, 2009-10**
  - Science Club Moderator

### Ms. Christine Wilkinson

- **Education**  
University of Maryland, Baltimore County – B.S., Biology  
University of Maryland, Baltimore County – M.A., Secondary Science Ed.
- **At SI since**  
2007
- **Course Load, 2009-10**  
Biology, 2 sections  
AP Biology, 1 section  
Engineering, 1 section
- **Additional courses taught while at SI**  
Chemistry
- **Previous teaching experience**  
Western School of Technology and Environmental Science
- **Extracurricular Activities, 2009-10**  
Lacrosse

### Ms. Michelle Wynn

- **Education**  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst – B.A., English  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst – B.S., Neuroscience  
Boston College – M.Ed.
- **At SI since**  
2008
- **Course Load, 2009-10**  
Honors Chemistry, 3 sections  
AP Chemistry, 1 section
- **Additional courses taught while at SI**  
Chemistry
- **Previous teaching experience**  
Darien High School, Connecticut  
Leadership Public School
- **Extracurricular Activities, 2009-10**  
Chemistry Club & Chem Bowl