



Submitted application for Economic Development Committee

Email *

[REDACTED]

This Form and its contents may be subject to the California Public Records Act, and as such may therefore be subject to public disclosure unless otherwise exempt under the act.

First Name *

Jose Pablo (JP)

MI

Last Name *

Dundore-Arias

Address 1 *

[REDACTED]

Address 2 (optional)

City *

[REDACTED]

State *

CA

Postal Code *

[REDACTED]

What district do you live in? *

District 4

What district do you want to serve in?

District 4

Some boards and commissions require membership to be racially, politically or geographically proportionate to the general public. The following information helps track our recruitment and diversity efforts.

Ethnicity

Hispanic/Latino

Gender

Male

Primary Phone *

[REDACTED]

Alternate Phone

Please identify how you prefer to be contacted.

Email

Are you currently serving on a County of Monterey Board, Commission, Committee or other Community Advisory Group? *

No

Interests & Experiences

Please tell us about yourself and why you want serve

My name is Dr. Jose Pablo (JP) Dundore-Arias, and I serve as an Associate Professor and Coordinator of the Agricultural Plant and Soil Sciences (AGPS) major at CSU Monterey Bay. I have dedicated my career to advancing higher education opportunities that directly serve the needs of Monterey County's agricultural communities. I played a leading role in creating CSUMB's first agricultural degree program, which has since become one of the university's fastest-growing majors. Today, the AGPS program serves a majority of students from Monterey County, particularly those from farming and rural communities. More than 80% of our students are Hispanic and first-generation college students—the very communities that form the backbone of our region's economy. Through our program, we have built a clear pathway to higher-paying, local employment: over 85% of our graduates secure jobs in the county, directly contributing to the agricultural industry while supporting upward social mobility for themselves and their families. In addition to academic leadership, I have secured and managed over \$10 million in grants dedicated to agricultural workforce development and research. These initiatives strengthen the pipeline of skilled professionals, address critical workforce needs, and help preserve and grow Monterey County's agricultural economic base while fostering innovation and sustainability. My work has been recognized with national and international honors, including the 2023 Excellence in Teaching Award from the American Phytopathological Society, the 2020 FFAR New Innovator Award, and the 2013 Next Generation Global Agricultural Leader Award from the Chicago Council on Global Affairs. I have also participated in leadership programs such as Leadership Monterey County (2025) and the Linton-Poodry SACNAS Leadership Institute (2023). These experiences have deepened my commitment to building inclusive, community-driven economic strategies. I am motivated to serve on the Economic Development Committee because I see higher education as an essential partner in shaping Monterey County's economic future. My work has shown me how collaboration between education, industry, and government can expand opportunities, diversify the regional economy, and sustain vital industries such as agriculture, tourism, and education. I want to bring this perspective to the committee to ensure that countywide planning reflects the voices of our students and communities, and that higher education continues to play a central role in advancing economic development and prosperity for all.

Please state the reason you would like to be a member of this board committee/commission/district.

I would like to serve on the Economic Development Committee to contribute the perspective of higher education as a key driver of economic development in Monterey County. CSUMB, as the county's only 4-year public university, plays a central role in preparing a skilled workforce, fostering social mobility, and supporting the region's largest industries. As an educator, I have worked closely with agricultural leaders, workforce agencies, and community partners to align education with industry needs. These collaborations have created strong pathways for students—many from farming and rural communities, and the majority first-generation and Hispanic—into local careers while also advancing innovation and sustainability in agriculture. Serving on this committee will allow me to strengthen these partnerships and ensure that higher education continues to be fully integrated into countywide policies and initiatives. Equally important, I am committed to making sure that diverse voices and perspectives—especially those of students, farmworker families, and underrepresented communities—are represented and heard in shaping Monterey County's future. I will leverage my experience in program development, grant leadership, and community engagement to help diversify the local economy, expand access to higher-paying job opportunities, and sustain Monterey County's

agricultural, educational, and community economic base in collaboration with industry, government, and nonprofit partners.

Have you served on an advisory group before?

Yes

If yes, please explain

I have served on several advisory committees and task forces to the CSUMB President, where I contributed to initiatives focused on workforce development, advancing Hispanic-servingness, and strengthening agricultural education and research. In addition, I serve on the scientific advisory board of a grower-led initiative, providing expertise in plant and soil microbiology and disease management to guide industry-driven research and innovation. I also serve on the Public Policy Board of the American Phytopathological Society, helping shape national conversations on agricultural science and policy, and was invited to serve on the USDA Equity Commission in recognition of my leadership in promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in agriculture and higher education. These experiences have allowed me to bridge higher education, industry, and government priorities, and I would bring this collaborative and equity-focused perspective to the Economic Development Committee.

How did you hear about the position?

Through Leadership Monterey County

County of Monterey Policy - states that Commissioners are required to attend meetings on a regular basis. If appointed, will you be able to attend meetings regularly and devote the time necessary to fulfill your duties as a member *

Yes

Background Information

Upload a resume with the names, addresses, and dates of employers for the last five (5) years.

[View Resume](#)

Employer

California State University Monterey Bay

Job Title

Associate Professor

Occupation

Professor

Employer Address

[REDACTED]

Information Regarding Conflict of Interest and Filing of Statements of Economic Interests (Form 700)

State and local law requires that you abstain from participation in decisions that may affect your financial interest, including sources of income and interest in real property or investments. In addition, if appointed you may be required to fill out a disclosure statement that identifies certain of your financial interest beginning with the immediate 12 months period prior to your appointment.

In accordance with Government Code Sections 87313 and the County of Monterey's Conflict of Interest Code, this Board/commission/Committee/District, you may be required to file statements disclosing certain types of information so that the public can be made aware of potential conflicts of interest. The types of disclosures are:

- Investments
- Interests in Real Property Held by a Business Entity or Trust
- Investments Held by a Business Entity or Trust Income (other than loans and gifts)
- Income – Travel Payments, Advances, Reimbursements
- Income gifts
- Business Positions
- Commission Income Received by Brokers, Agents, and Salespersons
- Income and Loans to a Business Entity or Trust Income from Rental Property

If you have any questions regarding disclosure requirements, please contact the Clerk of the Board's office at 831-755-5066.

Please identify any specialized accommodations needed for equal participation:

N/A

I DECLARE, UNDER PENALTY OF DISQUALIFICATION AND TERMINATION, THAT ALL STATEMENTS IN THIS APPLICATION ARE TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

Enter Your Initials *

JPDA

Jose Pablo (JP) Dundore-Arias



Education and Training

Institution	Area	Degree & Years
Universidad de Costa Rica (UCR)	Agronomy	B.S., 2005
Iowa State University (ISU)	Plant Pathology	M.Sc., 2010
University of Wisconsin-Madison (UW-Madison)	Plant Pathology, (Entomology minor)	Ph.D., 2015
University of Minnesota (UMN)	Agricultural Microbiomes	National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Research Fellow, 2018

Research and Professional Experience

2019- **Associate Professor**, California State University Monterey-Bay, Seaside, CA.
 2018-2019 **Project Coordinator and Community Engagement Lead** of Agricultural Microbiomes Research Coordination Network, UMN, St Paul, MN.

Recent publications

Refereed Journal Papers (*selected 2020-2025*)

- Jasso, KY, Hasegawa, DK, and **Dundore-Arias, JP**. 202X Assessing the frequency of Pythium wilt and INSV co-occurrence in commercial lettuce fields. *Plant Disease*, *submitted*.
- **Dundore-Arias, JP**, Hansen, Z, Klasek, S, Lane, B, Michalska-Smith, M, Kinkel, LL. 202X. Stimulating new ways of thinking about agricultural microbiome research through a Thinkathon Community-based Interactive Workshop. *Phytobiomes Journal*, *submitted*.
- **Dundore-Arias JP**, Laney A, Leandro, L, and Charkowski, AO. 2025. Biology with a Purpose: Describing Undergraduate-Level Literacy in Plant Pathology and Plant Pathology Competencies. *PhytoFrontiers*, *in press*.
- Kelliher, JM, Mirzayi, C, Bordenstein, SR, Oliver, A, Kellogg, CA, Hatcher, EL, Berg, M, Baldrian, P, **Dundore-Arias, JP**, et al. 2025. Standards for Technical Reporting in Environmental and host-Associated Microbiome Studies (STREAMS) Guidelines. *NMICROBIOL-25010010B*.
- Kelliher, JM, Aljumaah, M, Bordenstein, SR, Brister, JR, Chain, P, **Dundore-Arias, JP**, et al. 2025. Microbiome data management in action workshop: Atlanta, GA, USA, June 12–13, 2024. *Environmental Microbiome* 2025, DOI: 10.1186/s40793-025-00702-9
- Ramos G, Goldman P, Sharrett J, Sacher GO, Pennerman KK, Dilla-Ermita CJ, Jaime JH, Steele ME, Hewavitharana SS, Holmes GJ, Waterhouse H, **Dundore-Arias JP** and Henry P. 2024. Geospatial analysis of California strawberry fields reveals regional differences in crop rotation patterns and the potential for lengthened rotations at current levels of production. *Front. Sustain. Food Syst.* 8:1341782. doi.org/10.3389/fsufs.2024.1341782
- **Dundore-Arias, JP**, Michalska-Smith, M, Millican, M, and Kinkel, L.L. 2023. More than the Sum of its Parts: Unlocking the Power of Network Structure for Understanding Organization and Function in Microbiomes. *Annu. Rev. Phytopathol.* 2023. 61:403–23. <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-phyto-021021-041457>.
- Armitage, DW, Carter, ME, Choudhury, RA, Remus-Emsermann, MNP, Morris, CE, Leveau, JH, Kinkel, LL, **Dundore-Arias, JP**. 2023. Predictive ecology and management of phyllosphere microbial communities through cross-scale synthesis. *Phytobiomes Journal* <https://doi.org/10.1094/PBIOMES-02-23-0012-P>
- Milligan-McClellan, K, **Dundore-Arias, JP**, Klassen, J, Shade, A, Kinkel, L, and Wolfe, B. 2022. Deciphering the Microbiome: Integrating Theory, New Technologies, and Inclusive Science. *mSystems*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1128/msystems.00583-22>
- Henkhaus, N, Busch, W, Chen, A, Colón-Carmona, A, Cothran, M, Diaz, N, **Dundore-Arias, JP**, et al. 2022. Removing Systemic Barriers to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Report of the 2019 Plant Science Research Network workshop “Inclusivity in the Plant Sciences”. *Plant Direct* 6(8):e432. doi.org/10.1002/pld3.432.
- Crants, JE, Kinkel, LL, **Dundore-Arias, JP**, Robinson AP, Gudmestad, NC, and Rosen, CJ. 2021. Potato Nitrogen Response and Soil Microbial Activity as Affected by Fumigation. *American Journal of Potato Research*. 98, pages285–303. doi: [10.1007/s12230-021-09843-2](https://doi.org/10.1007/s12230-021-09843-2).

- Vangay, P, Burgin, J, Johnston, A, Beck, KL, Berrios, DC, ... **Dundore-Arias JP**, et al. 2021. Microbiome Metadata Standards: Report of the National Microbiome Data Collaborative's Workshop and follow-on activities. *mSystems* 6(1)e01194-20. doi.org/10.1128/msystems.01194-20.
- Fulcher MR, Bolton ML, Millican MD, Michalska-Smith MJ, **Dundore-Arias JP**, et al. 2020. Broadening participation in scientific conferences during the era of social distancing. *Trends in Microb.* 28:12 949. doi.org/10.1016/j.tim.2020.08.004.
- Henkhaus N, Bartlett M, Gang D, ... **Dundore-Arias JP**, et al. 2020. Plant science decadal vision 2020–2030: Reimagining the potential of plants for a healthy and sustainable future. *Plant Direct.* 2020;00: 1–24. <https://doi.org/10.1002/pld3.252>
- **Dundore-Arias JP**, Eloe-Fadrosh E., Schriml L., Beattie, G., Brennan, F., *et al.* 2020. Community-driven Metadata Standards for Agricultural Microbiome Research. *Phytobiomes Journal* doi.org/10.1094/PBIOMES-09-19-0051-P
- **Dundore-Arias JP**, Castle S, Felice L, Dill-Macky R and Kinkel LL. 2020. Carbon Amendments Influence Composition and Functional Capacities of Indigenous Soil Microbiomes. *Front. Mol. Biosci.* 6:151. doi: 10.3389/fmolb.2019.00151.

Non-Refereed Technical Publications with Relevance to the Proposed Project (selected 2022-2025)

- Smith Richard, Brennan E, **Dundore Arias JP**, Geisseler D, Henry P, et al. 2023. Soil Heath and its Impact on Soilborne Disease. *Salinas Valley Agriculture Blog*. <https://ucanr.edu/blogs/blogcore/postdetail.cfm?postnum=56038>
- Smith R, **Dundore-Arias JP**, Richardson K, Wang Y-C, and Love T. 2022 Lettuce Variety Tolerance to Pythium Wilt. *Salinas Valley Agriculture Blog*. <https://ucanr.edu/blogs/blogcore/postdetail.cfm?postnum=5573>
- Smith, R, **Dundore-Arias, JP**, and Cahn, M. 2022. Research Update on Control of Pythium Wilt on Lettuce. *Salinas Valley Agriculture Blog*. <https://ucanr.edu/blogs/blogcore/postdetail.cfm?postnum=51256>
- **Dundore-Arias, JP** and Smith, R. 2022. Pythium wilt of lettuce, biology and control. *CAPCA ADVISER Vol XXV, No. 2, 2022*. <https://capca.com/publication/adviser-magazine-april-2022/>

Scientific Conference abstracts (selected 2024-2025 * and ** denotes CSUMB undergraduate and graduate students, respectively)

- Garcia J* and Dundore-Arias JP. 2025. A Low-Resource Lettuce-EcoFAB Model for Rhizosphere Microbiome Research and Education. Poster Presentation at the EcoFAB 2025 (Asilomar, Pacific Grove, CA).
- Dundore-Arias JP. 2025. Nurturing Relationships to Harvest Success: Leveraging Social Capital for Training the Next Generation of Agricultural Leaders. Oral Presentation at the Plant Health Meeting 2025 (Honolulu, HI).
- Dundore-Arias JP. 2024. Salud del suelo y secuestro del carbono: Que es y porque es importante. Oral Presentation at the Latino Farmers Conference (Seaside, CA).
- Dundore-Arias JP. 2024. Etiology and Integrated Management of Pythium Agricultural Research Institute Conference (Sacramento, CA).
- Drumonde S*, Hickey H, Dundore-Arias JP. 2024. Effect of soil amendments on soilborne Streptomyces and their pathogen suppression abilities. Poster Presentation at the NDiSTEM 2024 (Phoenix, AZ).
- Ispache D*, Escalante V, Fremont A, Dundore-Arias JP, Zhalnina K. 2024. Defining Plant - Soil Microbe Interactions to Support Plant Health and Carbon Sinks. Poster Presentation at the NDiSTEM 2024 (Phoenix, AZ).
- Norwood K*, Dundore-Arias JP. 2024. Unveiling the Villains: Assessing Pathogenicity of Pythium ultimum and Pythium uncinulatum in Lettuce. Poster Presentation at the NDiSTEM 2024 (Phoenix, AZ).
- Sanchez K*, Keelan K, Dundore-Arias JP. 2024. Characterization of Phosphorous Acid Sensitivity of *Pythium uncinulatum* and *P. ultimum* from Salinas Valley. Poster Presentation at the NDiSTEM 2024 (Phoenix, AZ).
- Broderick P*, Hickey H, Dundore-Arias JP. 2024. Developing a Multiplex PCR to Detect Pythium spp. Associated with Pythium Wilt of Lettuce. Poster Presentation at the Plant Health Meeting 2024 (Memphis, TN).
- Dundore-Arias JP. 2024. Exploring the Impact of Course-Based Undergraduate ResearchExperiences (CUREs) on Student Scientific Skills and Career Aspirations. Oral Presentation at the Plant Health Meeting 2024 (Memphis, TN).
- Garcia J*, Hickey H, Bai Y, Michelmores R, Dundore-Arias JP. 2024. In vitro Screening of Lettuce Varieties for Tolerance to Pythium Wilt. Poster Presentation at the Plant Health Meeting 2024 (Memphis, TN).

- Jasso K**, Hasegawa DK, Dundore-Arias JP. 2024. Investigating the Impact of Environmental Factors on the Development and Co-Occurrence of Pythium Wilt and INSV in the Salinas Valley. Poster Presentation at the Plant Health Meeting 2024 (Memphis, TN).
- Keelan K, Hickey H, Dundore-Arias JP. 2024. Characterization of the Sensitivity of Lettuce-associated Pythium species to Mefenoxam and Phosphoric Acid. Poster Presentation at the Plant Health Meeting 2024 (Memphis, TN).
- Tao J*, Zetko B, Dundore-Arias JP. 2024. Evaluation of Plant Beneficial Roles of Soilborne Streptomyces Native to the Salinas Valley. Poster Presentation 2024 Western Society of Crop Science Annual Meeting (Monterey, CA).

Grants Received Total \$10,104,589, shown below selected grants PI or Co-PI during tenure at CSUMB

- CSU Chancellor's Office ARI IPM. Title: *Enhancing Plant Health with Microbial Soil Probiotics: Investigating Plant Growth- Promoting and Biocontrol Potential of Soilborne Streptomyces from the Salinas Valley* (2025-2026, PI, \$38,474).
- California Leafy Green Research Board. Title: *Lettuce variety evaluation for tolerance to INSV/Pythium wilt coinfection*. (2025-2026, Co-PI, \$33,714, subaward \$9,479).
- USDA NIFA NEXTGEN. *Nurturing Relationships to Harvest Success: Building Social Capital for Training the Next Generation of Diverse Agricultural Leaders*. (2023-2028, PI, \$5,000,000).
- USDA NIFA NEXTGEN. *Learning to Lead: Career Pathways Supporting US Leafy Green Production*. (2023-2028, Co-PI, \$9,000,000, subaward \$1,742,540).
- DOE Energy Earthshot Research Centers (EERC). *RESTOR-C: RESTORation of soil Carbon by precision biological strategies* (2023-2028, Co-PI, \$19,500,000, subaward \$286,456).
- California Senate Bill 170 (through California Leafy Green Research Board). Title: *Screening of romaine and head lettuce varieties for tolerance to Pythium Wilt in vivo and in vitro*. (2023-2024, PI, \$17,000).
- CSU Chancellor's Office ARI IPM. Title: *Etiology and Integrated Management of Pythium wilt of Lettuce in the Salinas Valley*. (2023-2026, PI, \$303,331)
- California Leafy Green Research Board. California Leafy Green Research Board. Title: *Renewal USDA Lettuce Breeding for Improved Resistance to INSV, Pythium, Verticillium, and Fusarium*. (2023-2024, Co-PI, \$76,090, subaward \$11,890).
- California Leafy Green Research Board. California Leafy Green Research Board. Title: *Tackling the triple threat of Thrips, Pythium, and Impatiens necrotic spot virus using novel soil amendments with priming and biological control activity*. (2023-2024, Co-PI, \$34,606, subaward \$13,190).
- California Senate Bill 170 (through California Leafy Green Research Board). Title: *Lettuce variety evaluation for tolerance to Pythium wilt and INSV coinfection*. (2023-2024, Co-PI, \$44,337, subaward \$7,046).
- California Leafy Green Research Board. Title: *USDA Lettuce Breeding for Improved Resistance to INSV, Pythium, Verticillium, and Fusarium*. (2022-2023, Co-PI, \$62,999, subaward \$11,600).
- California Senate Bill 170 (through California Leafy Green Research Board). Title: *Screening of romaine and head lettuce varieties for tolerance to Pythium Wilt*. (2022-2023, Co-PI, \$33,000, subaward \$4,900).
- California Senate Bill 170 (through California Leafy Green Research Board). Title: *Assessing the frequency of Pythium wilt and INSV co-occurrence, and the effect of temperature on Pythium wilt incidence in Monterey County's lettuce production*. (2022-2023, PI, \$56,438).

Awards and Honors

- 2023. Excellence in Teaching Award, American Phytopathological Society.
- 2022. Mentor of the Year Award, Undergraduate Research Opportunity Center, CSUMB.
- 2020. FFAR New Innovator Award.
- 2019. American Phytopathological Society Outstanding Volunteer Award.
- 2016. National Academies Education Fellow in the Life Sciences.
- 2013. Howard Hughes Medical Institute Scientific Teaching Fellow.
- 2013. Next Generation Global Agricultural Leader Award, The Chicago Council on Global Affairs.

Synergistic and Leadership Activities

- 2025. Leadership Monterey County
- 2025. Marquis *Who's Who* in Agriculture
- 2023. Linton-Poodry SACNAS Leadership Institute.

- 2020. National Microbiomes Data Collaborative (NMDC) Champion.
- 2020. Course-based Undergraduate Research Experiences (CURE) Fellow.

Professional Service:

- *Member*, Grower Shipper Association Pest Management Task Force.
- *Member*, APS, ASPB, MANRRS, SACNAS, NOGLSTP.
- Peer reviewer for Phytobiomes, Plant and Soil, Microbial Ecology, Frontiers in Microbiology, Plant Health Progress, Plant Disease, PhytoFrontiers, CourseSource.
- Panel reviewer for NSF, NIFA, CDFA, JGI.
- Scientific Spanish/English Translator, Plant Health Instructor / APS Education Center.