

**SONOMA STATE**  
**UNIVERSITY**



**SCOOPS OF GRATITUDE**

## The Staff Council Executive Board

I deeply appreciate the collaborative work the Staff Council Executive Board has engaged in. Working to bring closer collaboration across campus, highlighting various programs and areas in the Staff Council meetings to grow campus connections, and inviting various guests to broaden awareness of the great work that is happening all over our campus!

- River Christina Cullen, Accountant II



**SSU**

## Facilities Management

Steve Jobs once said, "Great things in business are never done by one person; they're done by a team of people."

So, let's celebrate and acknowledge the greatness of our FM team who are on campus every day ensuring the campus facilities including the grounds are safe, clean, operating properly and maintained.

- J. Dana Twedell, Patty Couret, Kat Marian and Nicole Hendry





## Professor Wendy St. John



I want to give a shout-out to Prof. Wendy St. John for collaborating on a wonderfully interdisciplinary class in Spring 2022, when she and I combined BIOL 131S and CS 285 to create "Exploring Research in Biology and CS" as a stacked course, leading to a fun, technology-driven class on environmental inquiry.

- Mark Gondree, Associate Professor  
Computer Science Department





## The Accounting & Reporting Team

Shout out to the Accounting & Reporting Team for being in the top 10 within the CSU on closing the books.

Sonoma made the cover of the consolidated financials once again! Great job to a great team!

- Amanda Visser



## REACH Staff

To our friends in REACH, congrats on an amazing year! I know that your year has been an incredibly taxing, maddening & challenging year & that you all took on so much more than anyone will ever really know. While many of us were working from home, you all were here EVERY DAY helping the residents through all of this, even when they did not take care of themselves. Through the work you all have done during the height of COVID, and even now as cases are still coming in, you all have shown your true care, passion & compassion for our students. KUDOS to you all! It's a pleasure to work with you!!

- An Admiring Fan



**SSU**





SSU



## Kendall, Missy, and Tyson

Thank you for all the numerous ways you supported this campus  
and our students this year!

- Laura Monje-Paulson



**SSU**

## Lauren Morimoto and Bryan Burton

Shout out to Lauren Morimoto and Bryan Burton for  
engaging in work to strengthen connections between  
Staff Council and Academic Senate!

- Staff Council Executive Board



**SSU**

## Claudia Molloy, Emily Clark, and Suzanne Toczyski

A shout out to Spanish Professor Dr. Emily Clark and French Professor Dr. Suzanne Toczyski as well as to our Administrative Analyst Claudia Molloy who helped make our MLL resource table a success on a weekend when students and their families and friends were visiting SSU!



Muchas Gracias und Merci Beaucoup!

- Michaela Grobbel, Professor of German





## **Ricky Khanijow, Jennifer Edens and Tracey Fleming**

For your continued dedication to the students, faculty, and staff at SSU, by making sure that everything kept running smoothly while waiting for a new director and enhancing processes, trainings, and services. Your work is often unseen by most but you make a difference and make SSU a safer place to be!

- Julie Vivas, Sr, Director OPHD and Title IX Officer



**SSU**





SSU



## Priscilla Saldana

Thank you to Priscilla for ALWAYS being there with historical and campus knowledge! I feel like Priscilla is the human Wikipedia of the Division! And she is always SO responsive and kind, even when I know she's being interrupted!!

Thank you Priscilla for all your support!!

- Rachel Carbone, Executive Assistant to the Vice President  
for Student Affairs



**SSU**



**Julie Brown, Tori Chavez, Kimmy Lillo, Ivonne Mejia Berzunza,  
Carrie Schmidt, and Cheryl Santa Cruz**

I want to send a special thank you to the Concur Travel implementation team. This project implementation was smooth and timely due to the efforts of this wonderful team. It was such a pleasure to work with all of you.

Great things happen, when we work together.

- Jenifer Barnett, Managing Director Contracts, Procurement  
and Accounts Payable



**SSU**

**Tim Wilbur**

Thank you for all your hard work, support, kindness, and eagerness to help throughout this year!

You are truly one of a kind and everything you do is appreciated!

- Mariah Atkins, AS Programming Coordinator



**SSU**

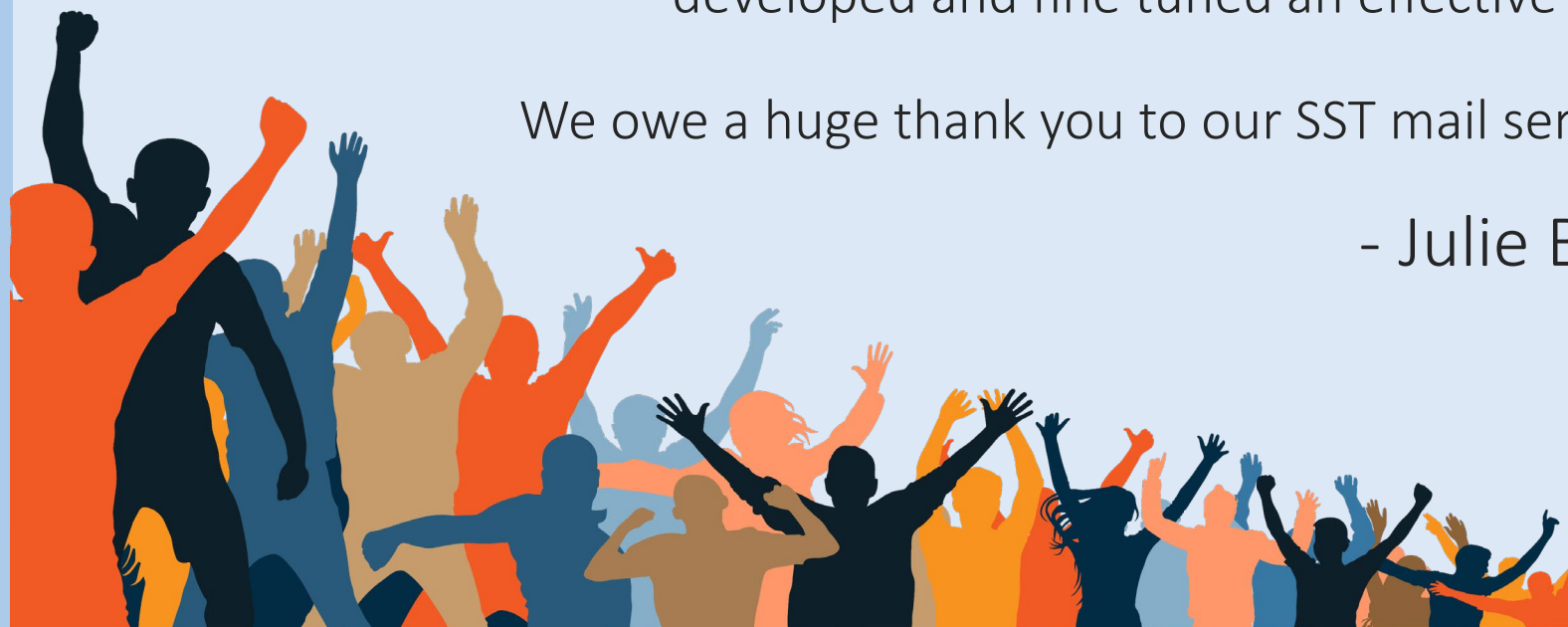
## **SST Mail Services Team: Gloria Allen, Ryan Grumich, Kate Lapp, Sarah Tucker and our trusty red wagon**

When we transitioned to remote work we faced many unknowns and new, unexpected challenges. One of them, surprisingly, was dealing with all of the mail and packages!

In order to facilitate receiving and distributing equipment and supplies to staff, faculty, and students, SST established its own in-house mail service. From picking up items from Shipping and Receiving, to shipping out lab kits and navigating complicated on-campus pick-up procedures, our staff have developed and fine tuned an effective internal process.

We owe a huge thank you to our SST mail services team. Thank you!

- Julie Barnes, Administrative Manager School of  
Science and Technology



**SSU**



## A thank you to our SST Tech Staff

In SST, our techs have worked tirelessly to support both in-person and virtual courses.

Kandis Gilmore, Instructional Support Tech in Biology, assembled and mailed well - over 300 lab kits to our students for the Fall 2020 semester as an example.

- Julie Barnes, Administrative Manager School of Science and Technology



**SSU**

**Khou Yang-Vigil, Dr. Gerald L. Jones, and Dr. Michael D. Young**

Thank you for showing me what it means to be a great leader through the work that each of you do and how you each show up every day. I appreciate y'all!!

- Valerie Olivares, EOP Advisor



**SSU**

## Jestina Casas & Jaime Russell



Huge thanks for Tina and Jaime for helping distribute the CSUCCESS iPads to our students!

- Amanda McGowan, Associate CIO



**SSU**



## Entrepreneurial Activities Team

Despite numerous challenges with repopulation and staffing, thank you for continuing to put your best foot forward for our campus, providing great experiences for our students and supporting each other.

I am grateful for all you do!

- Neil Markley, Associate Vice-President for Administration  
and Finance



**SSU**

## Kristi Hellman

Your knowledge and expertise about university policy is so welcoming to our new students and me as faculty. I know I can always count on you to find an answer for my questions and student needs. I so thank you for your speedy responses to my questions, your research to find answers and for all you have given to the nursing department.

You are essential arm to creating success for us.

- Alanna Brogan, MSN, PHN, RN



**SSU**

## Office of Admissions

Admissions staff did amazing work this year and they were able to review over 80% of our applicants by January! They have experienced so many changes from technology, to the way in which they process applications to changes in staffing. They handle it all with grace and work hard to meet the goals. Very proud of this team and their dedication to serving students and providing the very best customer service even while facing deadlines.

Our admissions staff is an amazing group of professionals!

- Natalie Kalogiannis, Director of Admissions



**SSU**



## Staff Council Leadership Team

Thank you to Katie, Sadie, Aidan, Nina, and River for your deeply thoughtful leadership this year.

Our campus is better because of you!

- Laura Monje-Paulson



**SSU**

## Derek Girman

Shout out to Derek for being a terrific Graduate Studies Coordinator. What the heck would we do without you?

You're always thinking about what's best for our Grad Programs, our students, and our faculty. Thank you, thank you!

- Stacey Bosick and Jenn Lillig



**SSU**

## Josh Anderson & Katie Musick

Josh and Katie are problem solvers and I so appreciate working with both of them to remove barriers to students' academic success.

Thanks for your dedication and work ethic!

- Loriann Negri, LARC Director



**SSU**





## Samantha Phillips

We appreciate Sam,  
our super fantastic ROCKSTAR  
custodian!

- Chief Nader Oweis on behalf of SSU Police Department



**SSU**

## Kari Manwiller

Shout out to Kari for her endlessly patient support of faculty as they make their catalog copy and curriculum clear to students!

Plus she reminds us to take a moment to breathe!

- Stacey Bosick and Jenn Lillig



**SSU**

## Lena Fromme

As our essential worker during the COVID-19 shutdowns, Lena was our constant support in the EdEon STEM Learning grant-funded work. She managed and delivered over 300 STEM kits to 7 California High Schools for our Learning by Making integrated STEM 9th grade curriculum. She has taken on work in two other departments, juggling a multitude of deadlines and paperwork with apparent ease with great success.

Lena always goes a step above and kept us successful through some very tough years.

- Laura Peticolas, EdEon Associate Director





## Nina Bardwell-Chanthalangs

WOWZA!

We are lucky to have Nina swinging in to handle 50 jobs at once!

Thanks, Nina, for knowing how to prioritize and asking all the right questions!

- Stacey Bosick and Jenn Lillig



**SSU**

## Ricky Calderon

Shout out to Ricky for stepping into a new role and ROCKING IT! Ricky is quick to notice the accomplishments of our peer mentors and give them praise.

Here, we give HIM the praise for all of his terrific work coordinating his team and various first and second year transitional events around campus!

- Stacey Bosick and Jenn Lillig



**SSU**

## Maddie "Post-it Note Queen" Peterson

Cheers to Maddie! Maddie jumped right in to organize sessions for the Association for Interdisciplinary Studies Conference coming up in November 2022. (Y'all have never seen so many post-it notes!) Thanks Maddie for only recently joining our team, but diving in head first!

- Stacey Bosick and Jenn Lillig



**SSU**



## Jordan Lundberg, Keith Tucker, Kenny Russum & Rob Cunningham



Boom lift tree work to remove caught fallen branches to keep the SSU Community safe.

- Mark Utarid, FM Housing and Fleet Operations Manager



**SSU**

## Dennis Goss, University Scheduler

A big shout out to Dennis Goss - the one man team who makes sure that courses are run on time and in locations best suited to learning outcomes!

From finding missing furniture to addressing troublesome classroom technology, behind the scenes, Dennis does it all - thank you Dennis!

- Sean P Johnson, University Registrar



**SSU**

## Loriann Negri

High-five to Loriann for having such compassion for our students  
to support them across their academic career.

And for just getting in there and doing what needs to be done!

- Stacey Bosick and Jenn Lillig



**SSU**



## Merith Weisman

Kudos to Merith for looking out for our Center for Community Engagement staff and advocating for service-learning on our campus!

- Stacey Bosick and Jenn Lillig



**SSU**



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## Melinda Milligan

Props to Melinda for overseeing Program Review!

You're such an important resource to faculty and programs as they work toward continuous improvement of their curriculum.

Thank you!

- Stacey Bosick and Jenn Lillig



**SSU**



## Kristi Hellman

Thank you, Kristi, for always being ready, willing, and able to help me out with my various requests!

You work tirelessly to support the nursing department and I am grateful for you!

- Monica Lehmann



## Kaitlin Springmier

Yay for Kaitlin!

She took the helm of University Studies and supported development of a new interdisciplinary learning community (UNIV 150AB) to help bring us all together.

- Stacey Bosick and Jenn Lillig



**SSU**







**Kim Purdy**

Thank you for the award-winning apricot-pineapple jam.  
A blue ribbon is on the way.

- Neil Markley, Associate Vice-President for Administration  
and Finance



**SSU**

## Staff in School of Education

I can't thank them enough for their positive approach as we came back to campus. They are team players and always put our students first. They all help our faculty the best they can while at the same time managing their own loads.

Thank you!

- Laura Alamillo, Dean, SOE



**SSU**

## Chandra Holte

Chandra has said to me, during a meeting about hiring for grant-funded work as a part of our EdEon STEM Learning team, "The grant-funding hiring in a state-run system is like putting a square peg in a round hole." Yet, we somehow make the hole big enough so that our square peg fits into the CSU, State, Federal and grant-specific policies, regulations and/or laws. Thank you, Chandra, for helping our grant-funded work fit into SSU, even when it's an odd fit.

- Laura Peticolas, EdEon Associate Director



**SSU**





SSU



## Julie Barnes

Julie is an excellent leader who is always there to help. I am not sure how I would have made it through the past couple of years as a new chair with out her help.

Thank you, Julie for all you do to support me and nursing.

- Anna Valdez, Professor and Chair of Nursing



**SSU**

## Ana Munoz

Ana, thank you so much for keeping the department going. I appreciate everything you do to ensure we have everything we need to run the nursing department.

You are so appreciated by the team.

- Anna Valdez, Professor and Chair of Nursing





## Jenn Lillig

Huge shout out to Jenn for going above and beyond for our staff,  
faculty, and students in her role as Associate Dean for  
Undergraduate Studies!

- Stacey Bosick



**SSU**

## Kim Purdy

Want to acknowledge the support Kim provided to our student assistants, and to me, especially as I had continued to work remotely, up until January 2022. I'm grateful the Provost's Office moved into the Suite and have had the opportunity to work with Kim on a day to day basis. She's a true team player and all around good egg!

- Alicia Hodenfield, Administrative Manager/Executive Assistant



**SSU**





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## Laurie Baggs-Ortega

Laurie keeps our collections payments up-to-date and recently served on a Library committee for our very first student assistant scholarship program.

She is a valued member of the Library team!

- Dr. Karen Schneider, Dean of the Library



## Mike Ogg

Thanks, Mike, for being such a terrific colleague and helping us all understand the numbers!

Keep on rockin' in the free world!

- Stacey Bosick



**SSU**

## Michael Hazen

Michael is consistently helpful, collegial, knowledgeable, and great fun to be around. He solves problems with a smile, and we are so lucky in the School of Education to have him as our GeoTeam staffer.

Thanks Michael!

- Aidan Humrich



**SSU**



## Moe Calvez

Moe, thanks for always making time to support our office's Information Technology needs – you are a great partner and we are forever appreciative and comforted knowing you are just a phone call away!

- Chandra Holte on behalf of University Personnel



**SSU**

## University Personnel

Thank you to each and every member of the University Personnel team for so skillfully tackling the daily juggling act and allowing us to partner and support the ever changing campus HR needs.

- Chandra Holte, Director of Talent Acquisition and Workforce Administration



**SSU**

## Katie O'Brien

Katie, you're amazing.

Thanks for all you do for our degree completion students and our international students. Thanks in particular for stepping up to fill in, while staff is away. So appreciate you!

- Stacey Bosick and Jenn Lillig



**SSU**



## Robbin Elliot Cortez

Thank you Robbin for always having a cheery attitude and a smile on your face through all the craziness of the last few years. We appreciate your dedication and hard work keeping our Department running smoothly every day and in every way!!

You are truly amazing and we appreciate you!!

- Susan Herring



**SSU**

**Ana Munoz, Cathi Cari Shudde, Christina Thao, Cory Oates, Gloria Allen,  
Kandis Gilmore, Kate Lapp, Kristi Hellman, Liz Kettmann, Marissa  
Reichenberg, Phil Mooney, Robbin Elliott Cortez, Roger Mamer, Rosemary  
Galten, Ryan Grumich, Ryan Brown, Sarah Tucker, Shahram Marivani,  
Stephanie Thibault, Sujan Bhattacharai**

Your hard work and dedication is an example to everyone at SSU!  
Thank you for being your best every day!

- Julie Barnes, Administrative Manager,  
School of Science and Technology



**SSU**

## Bonnie Cormier

As the one and only administrative assistant for the Library, Bonnie wears a thousand hats and wears them very well! Whether she's calendaring meetings or arranging hospitality for events, she's terrific. Bonnie is also a founding member of the Library's Systemic Racism Response Committee and has helped bring important DEI professional development opportunities to the Library.

- Dr. Karen Schneider, Dean of the Library





**Kim Purdy**

My goodness you're wonderful!

Thanks for all of the support and the 10,000 things you do to  
make this institution great!

- Stacey Bosick



**SSU**

## Meghan Croll

Meghan's savvy skills are crucial to ensuring our books are findable, whether on our virtual or physical shelves.

She even catalogs our unique and rare materials -- an invaluable skill!

- Dr. Karen Schneider, Dean of the Library



**SSU**

## Meredith Bates

Thank you for always being such a bright light in the office!

You are so fun, creative, and always willing to lend a helping hand!

- Mariah Atkins, AS Programming Coordinator



**SSU**



## Lauren Hart

Lauren is the Library's first dedicated facilities specialist and she is absolutely amazing. She's a work-order ninja and brings significant expertise to building management. She was also central to the laptop distribution program that helped the Library serve our Seawolves in the first year of the pandemic.

- Dr. Karen Schneider, Dean of the Library



**SSU**

## Flora Williams-Bonner

Flora is our student assistant wrangler, and does a great job onboarding and scheduling our student assistants and guiding the overall program. But she does much more than that, from working at the Library's front desk to being a founding member of the Library's Systemic Racism Response Committee. Flora is active in university life and she helps us be a more caring organization by ensuring we recognize employees for their milestones.

- Dr. Karen Schneider, Dean of the Library



## Christine Hayes

Christine keeps the Library website in tip-top shape and is a dedicated participant in all library activities.

She's a low-key, very polite person but talk to her for a few minutes and her delightful sense of humor emerges.

- Dr. Karen Schneider, Dean of the Library







SSU

## Kathryn Jeon

Kathryn provides essential support to our online services. If you've ever used a library journal or database off-campus, you have Kathryn to thank for it working so smoothly.

- Dr. Karen Schneider, Dean of the Library



**SSU**



## Dawnelle Ricciardi

If you have ever requested a book or article from another university, whether in or out of the CSU, Dawnelle's leadership of her department made that happen. She ensures that every year thousands of traditional and electronic materials get here fast. She is also a sustainability advocate and an active participant in university life.

- Dr. Karen Schneider, Dean of the Library



## Tai Russotti

Tai held us all together during the 1 ½ years we were working remotely and made sure our transition back to campus was comfortable. She is innovative, supportive, kind, and just the best manager we could ever hope to work for!

Thank you Tai for everything you have done for us -  
we are so appreciative.

- Leigh McTaggart, Dean's Assistant



**SSU**



## Entire Student Services Office in School of Education

This team made up of Maricela, Crescencio and Margie have been instrumental in ensuring our teacher candidates get in promptly and efficiently even as we went entirely remote. They came up with innovative ideas to process students.

- Laura Alamillo, Dean School of Ed



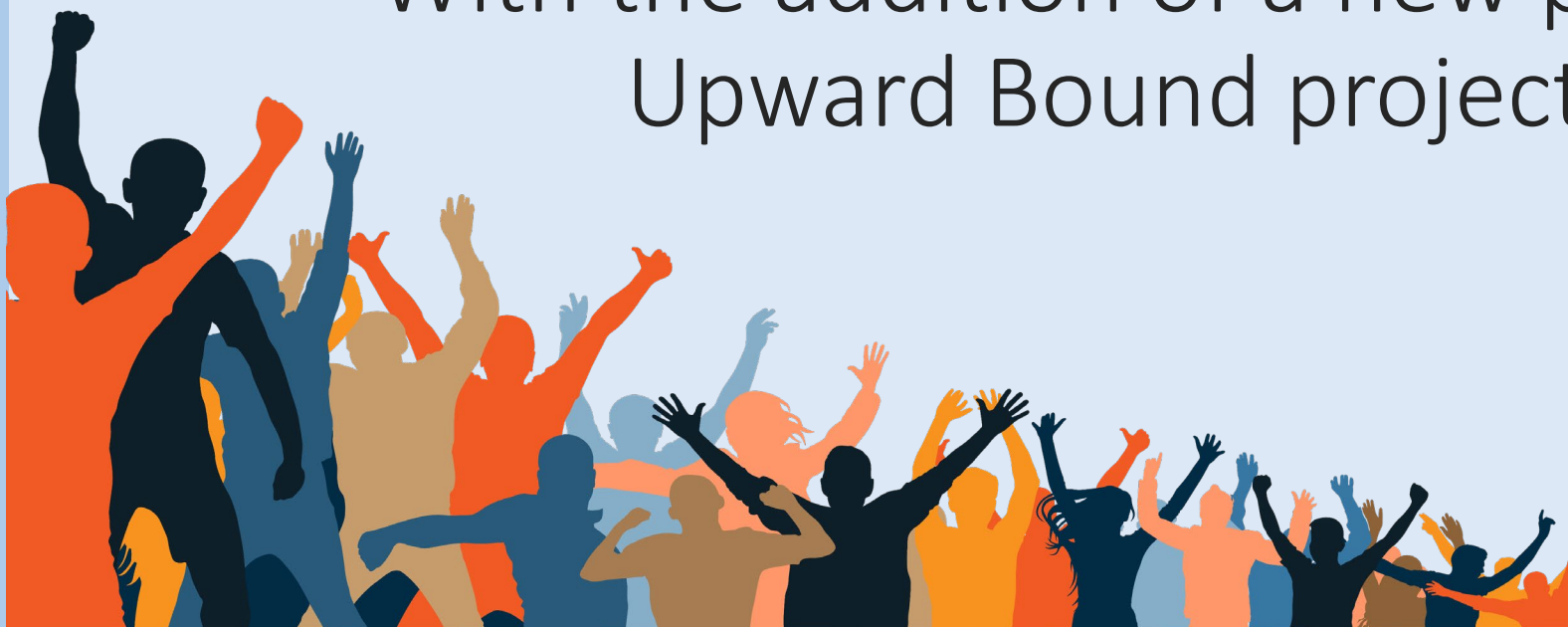
**SSU**

## Susan Wandling and Pre Collegiate Programs Staff

Congratulations to Susan Wandling and her team for successfully procuring another round of five-year renewal grants for each of PreCollegiate Programs' TRIO Upward Bound Programs!

With the addition of a new project in Clearlake, there are now 7 Upward Bound projects at Sonoma State University!

- Gerald L. Jones, AVP for Student Affairs



**SSU**

## Vanessa Bascherini

Yay Vanessa!  
We thank you for coordinating with our high schools to support  
college preparation.

That's a big step for our future students!

- Stacey Bosick and Jenn Lillig



**SSU**



## Student Access & Success Staff

Big shout out to all the staff for the way you show up each day in support of our students. Despite the myriad of challenges presented over the past few years, collectively you all continue to amaze me with your commitment to make sure our students have the resources and guidance needed to persist through graduation. Strong work indeed!

- Gerald L. Jones, AVP for Student Affairs



**SSU**

## Natalie Williams-Munger

Funny. Professional. Not afraid to do the right thing. On top of things. All while becoming a new mother during a pandemic.

Lucky to have her at the SBE.

- JF Coget, Dean of SBE



**SSU**

## Soo Haylett

Always on top of things and amazingly professional and poised.  
Never presents a problem without coming up with possible solutions.

Graceful under pressure. Service oriented. An amazing individual.

- JF Coget, Dean of SBE



**SSU**

## Ana Munoz

Ana has served the nursing department for many years now in her position as administrative assistant. She is dedicated to excellence and creates an atmosphere of caring and service that only she can provide.

Whenever, I have asked for help in navigating university policy Ana has responded in a timely manner and with accurate information. She makes my job easier.

- Alanna Brogan



**SSU**



## Kristi Hellman

Kristi, thank you so much for all you do to keep the nursing department on track. I am not sure what we would do without you. Thank you for being proactive and so efficient.

You are awesome.

- Anna Valdez, Professor and Chair of Nursing



**SSU**

## Sara Jordan

Sara started this year as our AM and has been amazing. She is positive, collaborative and action oriented.

We appreciate you!

- Laura Alamillo, Dean, School of Education



## Katie "ARR Queen" Musick

Shout out to Katie for always looking for new ways to  
facilitate student progress through the ARR!

And how about those Graduate ARRs!!! WOO!

- Stacey Bosick and Jenn Lillig



**SSU**

## Trudee Herman

Trudee has partnered with SSU's EdEon STEM Learning team on grant-funded contracts since the days of NASA and Education and Public Outreach. Our work relies on her attention to detail and quick responses. We couldn't do the successful work we do with high school and SSU students without her. Thank you, Trudee!

- Laura Peticolas, EdEon Associate Director



**SSU**



**Ryan Walsh**

We appreciate you, Ryan!

- Michael Balasek, Director of the Advising Center



**SSU**

## Kristi Hellman

Kristi is an integral part of the department of nursing. Since I started at SSU I have always been able to count on her to help me with any task. She works behind the scenes to ensure our programs run smoothly. There are many moving parts in this department from clinical placements, regulatory requirements, and managing student applications. She is our resident expert in applications and our requirement repository and helps all that ask. She is kind, reliable and wonderful to work with.

We are very lucky to have her, because we know she has our backs in all areas. We thank you Kristi!

- Rachel Napoli, Associate Professor of Nursing



**SSU**

**Luis Vega**

We appreciate you, Lu!

- Michael Balasek, Director of the Advising Center



**SSU**

**Tracy Navas**

The Advising & Transfer Center appreciates you, Tracy!

- Michael Balasek, Director of the Advising Center



**SSU**





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## Conference and Events Services

A HUGE shout out to CES and, in particular, Kelsey Moss who always brings the most pleasant “can do” attitude – even when our office reaches out with last minute rush requests.

Thanks for the great customer service, it is appreciated!!!

- Chandra Holte, Director of Talent Acquisition and  
Workforce Administration



**SSU**

## Julie Barnes

Julie's constant support of the SST staff, including us here at in the EdEon STEM Learning Department, keeps our grant-funded work successful when big challenges arise. She has built community, such as the gathering she put together to show gratitude for all who helped us navigate through COVID, writing: "We should not forget what we have experienced and learned during this time." She provides support and professional development to all SST ACs in all Departments, going above and beyond. She creates a can-do environment helping us all thrive in our work.

- Laura Peticolas, EdEon Associate Director



**SSU**





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## Aubrielle Russo & Remy Williams

I want to send a special thank you to Aubrie Russo & Remy Williams for all their help in the Faces of SSU project this year. This project was able to recognize over 21 people including students and alumni. This project helps with SSU recruitment efforts and building community and sharing stories and experiences. Both Aubrie and Remy were heavily involved with various aspects of this project. The final product looked amazing and an event kicked off the campaign where students were happy to be able to participate in person this year. Thank you for all your hard work on this project!

- Casey Kelly



**SSU**

## Megan, Emily, and Sam

Shout out to the chairs of the governance curriculum committees for their hard work this year supporting curriculum revision and policy development to benefit our students. You are always engaged and thinking about the best interest of our faculty and students! No matter how many meetings!

- Stacey Bosick and Jenn Lillig



**SSU**

## Ana Muñoz and Kristi Hellman

You two are amazing. This department would not function without you.

Thank you for your constant support. I can always count on you for help with any project and am so grateful.

- Jordan Rose



**SSU**

## Sharon Fuller

Shout out to Sharon for being our first Faculty Fellow for Anti-Racist Curriculum. Your support of faculty in centering racial and social justice during curriculum revision helps us all think critically about equity and inclusion.

We learn from you in every conversation!

- Stacey Bosick and Jenn Lillig



**SSU**



## Mike Visser

Hard working, ethical, knowledgeable.

Does what's right for Sonoma State and an amazing partner to me and the School of Business and Economics.

- JF Coget, Dean of SBE



**SSU**

## Vanessa Poblano

This has been a tough year for all of us but especially for you as the face of Academic Personnel with the faculty. Despite the reorganization, COVID-19, physically leaving an office and relocating to a cubicle, assuming a massive workload due to staff shortages, and shifting from one supervisor to another you have maintained the most amazing attitude of kindness and generosity in all your services to faculty at SSU. I have worked this year as the Chair of a TT search and a member of the lecturer pool refresh and URTP. You have been cheerfully available and a true supportive ambassador.

- Dr. Deborah A Roberts



**SSU**

## The Career Center Team

Audra, Becky, and Shelby,

You all have done such amazing work this year!

Thank you for being such a talented team!

- Laura Monje-Paulson



**SSU**

**Margot, Carolyn, Dawn, Laura, Andy, and Joe**

Thank you to this team for working so hard to ensure accurate tracking and reporting of our student COVID information!

- Laura Monje-Paulson



**SSU**



**Erika Black**

We appreciate you, Erika!

- Michael Balasek, Director of the Advising Center



**SSU**

## Alex Marchuk

Even though Alex is new to campus, she has jumped in with both feet and already feels like part of the family. It's no easy feat to so seamlessly become part of the team when you are working the front desk of CAPS, but she rocks it! Always present, always informative and always kind, Alex is so appreciated!

- Rachel Carbone, Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs



**SSU**

## Rachel Carbone



Rachel has gone above and beyond to ensure that all students feel like Sonoma State is their home. She has done a tremendous job of connecting students in crisis with different programs to ensure they are set up for success.

- Christina Gamboa, Accountant



## Christina Thao

The Advising & Transfer Center appreciates you, Christina!

- Michael Balasek, Director of the Advising Center



**SSU**



## **Amanda McGowan, Jaime Russell, Vanessa Pedro, Josh Anderson, Ryan Johnson, Adrienne Price, CTET, Academic Personnel**

THANK YOU to everyone involved in the selection and implementation of our new course evaluation (SETE) system! This was a giant, high-stakes project.

That the implementation went so well is a testament to expert project planning and A LOT of behind the scenes work by smart, dedicated staff. Data security, accessibility, system integration, data queries, data transformations, data imports, exports and automation! Thanks to your work, SSU has a robust SETE system that will better serve the campus.

- Heather Brown, AVP for Institutional Effectiveness



**SSU**

## Office of Registrar Staff

When things look effortless, there has often been tremendous effort to get them there. A shout out to the Office of the Registrar's staff, whose dedication to our students and the systems that support them keep the the University moving forward smoothly every day!

- Sean P Johnson, Registrar



**SSU**





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# Joseph Wright

We appreciate you, Joe!

- Michael Balasek, Director of the Advising Center



**SSU**



## Mo Phillips

Thank you for EVERYTHING you did this year to make sure our students had incredible opportunities on campus.

- Laura Monje-Paulson



**SSU**

## **Priscilla Saldana and Veronica Dueñas**

On behalf of the Student Access & Success staff and leadership team, thank you so much for all that you do in support of our students and departmental operations!

You two rock!!!!

- Gerald L. Jones, AVP for Student Affairs



**SSU**

## Erin Rock

For helping us navigate the myriad of ways to hire in order for us to successfully complete our grant-funded work, Erin Rock has lived up to her name, as an official EdEon Rock Star!

Thank you, Erin, for all you have done for SSU's EdEon STEM Learning.

- Laura Peticolas, EdEon Associate Director



**SSU**

## Jeffery Reedy

Joining a new team can be a daunting task. Joining the EdEon STEM Learning team, with over 6 federally funded STEM grants, each with multiple milestones and deliverables from revising rocket curriculum with new electronics parts for the payload and from university student level to autistic teens, can feel impossible. Jeffery has excelled in every new endeavor he has supported. He has managed to create an entire new lesson for a Water & Soil 9th grade unit, build and revise rocket curriculum, and build and test a small NASA satellite antenna.

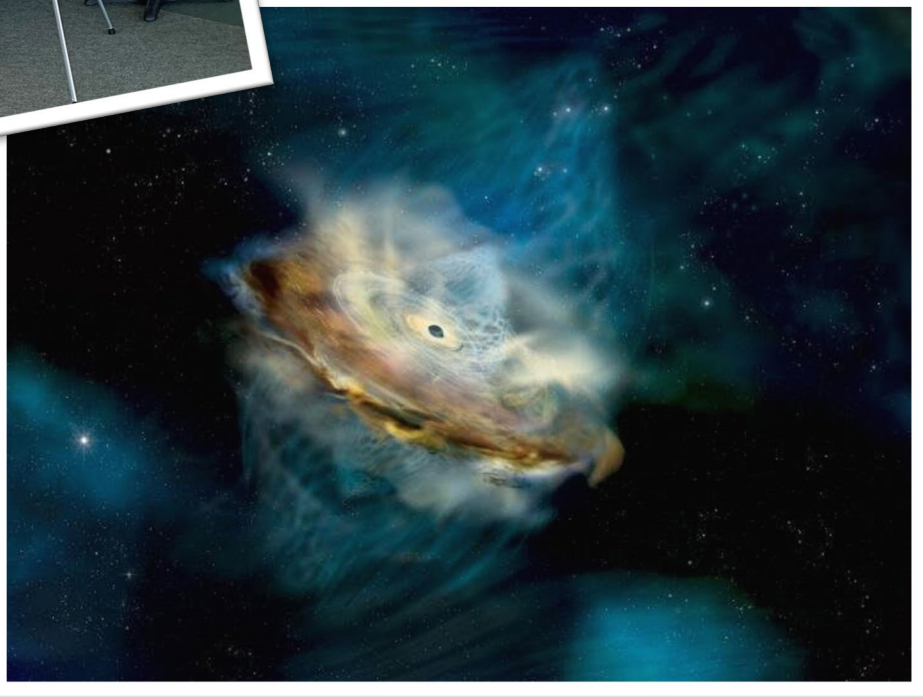
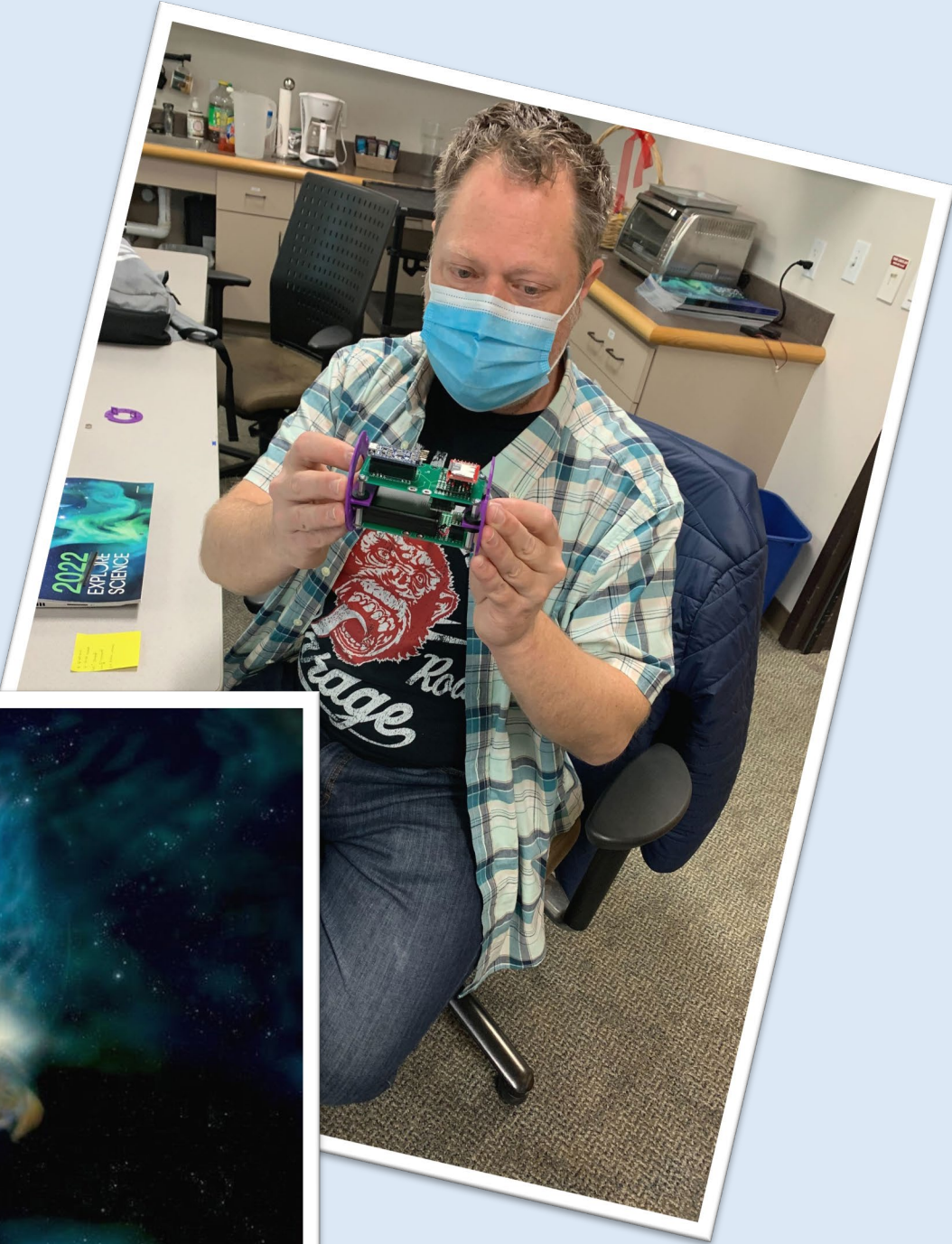
- Laura Peticolas, EdEon Associate Director



**SSU**



EdEon



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## Aurore Simonnet

NASA science communications, professional high school curriculum, and grant-funded websites at the EdEon STEM Learning Department require quality and accurate graphics. Aurore not only creates beautiful graphics that are scientifically accurate, but she also ensures that the students learn from what she produces.

Her art is regularly featured in NASA press releases for the Fermi and Swift satellite missions, including one that came out on May 5th, 2022. She expanded her abilities and products to video in this latest press release to astounding effect.

- Laura Peticolas, EdEon Associate Director



**SSU**

**Priscilla Saldaña**

We appreciate you, Priscilla!

- Michael Balasek, Director of the Advising Center



**SSU**

## Darren Sargent

Darren provides excellent management of over 800,00 books and other items on our library shelves, including the Automated Retrieval System. He also lends his artistic eye to the Library's Art Committee, which plans wonderful exhibits every year.

- Dr. Karen Schneider, Dean of the Library



**SSU**



## Casey Lewiston

It is rare in the grant-funded world to get noticed for a technology innovation. Casey did just this for the EdEon STEM Learning Department. His Web App for the Learning by Making curriculum, which interacts through a serial port to microcontrollers, makes it possible to bring sensor technology to hundreds of California ninth graders using their own computers. The federal Department of Education has taken note, as we are moving into our first full year of all 7 high schools using this new technology.

- Laura Peticolas, EdEon Associate Director



**SSU**

## Juanita Tenorio Ruiz

The grant-funded work at EdEon STEM Learning is ever changing and fast paced. Juanita keeps the projects organized, meeting deadlines, and within budgets. This past year, she recreated our EdEon 18-month projection budget for the first time without any guidance and only one equation mistake in an Excel sheet with over 7 grant-funded projects, all tied together in a summary sheet. She keeps track of hundreds of teens, undergraduates, and partners, all who either benefit from or support the multitude of grants we oversee.

- Laura Peticolas, EdEon Associate Director



**SSU**

## Kate Lapp

Thank you, Kate, for all of your hard work, for keeping the department lively and cheerful, and most importantly, for modeling courage and strength for all of us. We appreciate all you do for us. Many thanks!

- Sudhir Shrestha. Chair, Engineering Department



**SSU**

## Hope Ortiz

Hope!!! Thanks for supporting Study Away!

We are sending students to Greece this summer because of you.  
Such a great opportunity!

- Stacey Bosick and Jenn Lillig



**SSU**



## Nick Powers

As the Mail Room supervisor, Nick Powers came through for the EdEon STEM Learning team again and again through COVID shut-down and now when we are in person. He has navigated Rocket Motor Hazmat shipping support. He has fork-lifted boxes of kit materials for CA 9th grade STEM classrooms. Nick and his team makes the EdEon grant funded work succeed time and time again.

- Laura Peticolas, EdEon Associate Director



**SSU**

## Michael Cullinane

Michael provides caring, expert customer service for the thousands of people who use our public-facing operations every year.

He's doubly awesome because he brings pizza to Library parties!

- Dr. Karen Schneider, Dean of the Library



**SSU**

## Tiffany O'Neal

For going above and beyond in her efforts to engage the alumni association in as many events as possible, spearheading the Heart of SSU Scholarship and Nichols Scholarship, and working to make graduation as special for our students as possible!

- Rich Shayewitz, Head Men's Basketball Coach & Alumni Association Board of Directors Member



**SSU**

## Gabrielle Utarid

Through thick and thin, night and day, Gabby has been here for the EdEon STEM Learning team. She ensures our proposals go in on time and that they meet the funder's requirements. She ensures quality in the post-processing of grant deliverables. Thank you, Gabby, for the important work you do to keep the EdEon STEM learning team funded and successful!

- Laura Peticolas, EdEon Associate Director



**SSU**



## Stephanie Farris

Thank you for all your hard work, Stephanie!

All the creativity and fun ideas you bring into the office are appreciated!

- Mariah Atkins, AS Programming Coordinator



**SSU**

**Jesse Magana**

Jesse!

Your amazing voice, attitude, and eagerness to build community  
make you shine so bright!

Thank you!

- Mariah Atkins, AS Programming Coordinator



**SSU**

## Karen Vielma-Cortes

Congratulations, Karen!

Not only did your work as an AS Intern prove to be an assets to the AS team but all your hard work paid off and you graduated with your MASTERS! We are all so proud of you! :)

- Mariah Atkins, AS Programming Coordinator



**Erik Dickson**

Thank you for a great year filled with learning opportunities,  
laughs, and good conversations!

Thank you for never making it a dull moment around the office!

- Mariah Atkins, AS Programming Coordinator



**SSU**





SSU



## Stephanie Graham

Stephanie is an outstanding team member who has taken on additional responsibilities this year and has excelled in this expanded role. Stephanie's positive attitude, sense of humor, professionalism, and can-do attitude contributes to a very welcoming atmosphere in the DSS office. Stephanie's contributions have been invaluable this past year when we have been short-staffed.

- Brent Boyer, Director DSS



## Yvonne Wormer

She may not even read this, but when Yvonne walks into a room the students literally cheer. She is the amazing piano accompanist of the music department and works her tail off to coach, practice with, and help our students confidently perform on stage. She has a way of putting nervous students at ease. The show would not run without Yvonne.

- Brooke Tester



## Jana Duncan

Jana does excellent work with the marketing in the Music Department. She keeps all the social media up to date and highlights our excellent student work. Behind the scenes, she is always making sure the student performances are front and center!

- Brooke Tester



**SSU**



## Ray Johnson

A gentleman. The perfect ambassador for the WBI.

At the heart of our successful outreach to the Wine community  
and its financial support of our programs and students.

- JF Coget, Dean of SBE



**SSU**

## **Drs. Bacigalupa, Casesa, O'Keefe, Estrada, Lyon, Mahdavi**

The Chairs are critical to informing decision making in the School of Education. I appreciate their support and input. I want to recognize them this year for their overall positive and hands on approach since I started at SSU. I could not do my job well without them. Thank you!

- Council of Chairs



**SSU**

## Jack Ritchie

All of the Library staff are amazing but in this shout-out I want to thank Jack for his courteous, patron-centered service model.

He sets the standard for the Library and helps us communicate an extravagant welcome to all who use our services.

- Dean Karen Schneider, University Library



**Amanda Visser, Johna Beem, Julie Brown, Christina Gamboa,  
Mark Harlin, Nikki Hill**

Shout out to our department - Amanda Visser, Johna Beem, Julie Brown, Christina Gamboa, Mark Harlin, Nikki Hill - for being such a flexible hardworking team and meeting the challenges that have arisen time and time again. Go team!!

- River Christina Cullen



**SSU**



**Erin Hunter, Elizabeth Chelini, Stacey Murray**

So grateful for you all, for your leadership, and for the laughs!

- Laura Monje-Paulson



**SSU**

## **The Commencement Logistics Committee and all alumni, staff, faculty and admin who volunteered**

Thank you to the amazing Sonoma State University alumni, staff, faculty and administrators who volunteered their time to deliver an amazing commencement weekend. Shout out to the Commencement Logistics Team for their tireless dedication to planning an amazing commencement over the last six months. Your commitment to SSU was demonstrated this weekend, thank you!

#NomaRising

- Dr. Mario A. Perez and Caroline Neyman,  
Co-Chairs of Commencement Logistics Committee



**SSU**





SSU



## Stacey Bosick

Thank you for your leadership on all of the fronts, for always considering the well-being of the team, and for thinking forward.  
I have learned a thing or many over the last year!

- Jenn Lillig, Interim Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies



**SSU**



## Sonoma State Faculty

Thanks to the faculty at Sonoma State, each and everyone—part-time, full-time, lecturers and tenure-track. The last two years have demonstrated the depth of commitment you have for our students. You have given of yourselves in remarkable ways, and we thank you for being the amazing teacher-scholars you are.

- Provost Karen Moranski



**SSU**

## Sonoma State Staff and Administrators

Thanks to all staff and administrators across Sonoma State who work tirelessly to make sure our students have an amazing experience at Sonoma State. The last two years have tested all of us, but we are grateful for your dedication and hard work.

Thanks!

- Provost Karen Moranski

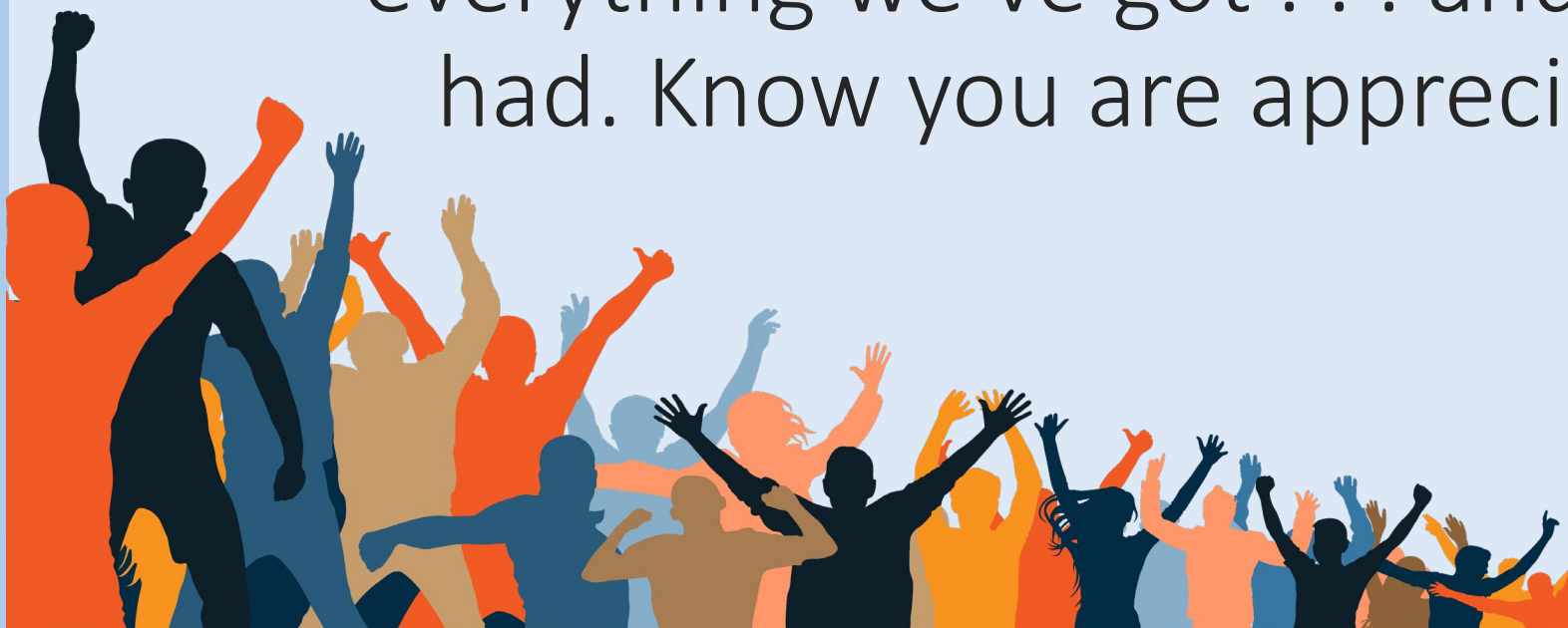


**SSU**

## Staff in the Division of Academic Affairs

Under the most challenging of circumstances, the Staff in the Division of Academic Affairs excel in providing academic support to our students and faculty. Educating our students takes everything we've got . . . and sometimes more than we knew we had. Know you are appreciated, and thank you for all you do!

- Provost Karen Moranski



**SSU**

## Mendel Murray

We appreciate you, Mendel! Good luck and go TFC!

- Michael Balasek, Director of the Advising Center



**SSU**



## The Entire Human Resources Team

I want to express my gratitude and appreciation for the entire Human Resources team for being so incredible. I am thankful for all the support you all give everyday. We may require a lot of coffee and carbs to do it, but we get it done!!

- Trisha Ramos, Managing Director of Payroll, Benefits and Workers' Comp



**SSU**

## Kendall, Missy and Tyson

I thank the Risk team for keeping our campus running smoothly throughout these past couple of years. Your dedication to the safety of our employees is nothing short of incredible. I understand that it is not always easy but you continue to smile through it all. Thank you for all that you do!

- Trisha Ramos, Managing Director of Payroll, Benefits and Workers' Comp



## Shahram Marivani

Thank you, Shahram, for everything you do for the department. I am always amazed by how you manage to help so many students in so many different ways in supporting their lab and project needs. Thank you for being so resourceful and making sure we have all the tools we need. Thank you on behalf of everyone in the department.

- Sudhir Shrestha. Chair, Engineering Department



**SSU**

**Jami Grosser**

We appreciated you, Jami!

- Michael Balasek, Director of the Advising Center



**SSU**



## The whole SBE dean's office and graduate programs teams

For maintaining operations during a rocky two years,  
continuing to show up, and delivering our mission to  
Grow Leaders who are courageous, curious, and kind.

- JF Coget, Dean of SBE



**SSU**

## Cultural Grad Coordinators and Teams

Congratulations and Amazing jobs with the Cultural Grad Celebrations!!!! They all went so well and the students were happy and proud to be participating in each ceremony. I know that this work is not easy and at times can be thankless. I saw the work you did, saw the care in which you lifted each grad up and am grateful for all of you! Thank you!

- An Admiring Fan



**SSU**

## Veronica Dueñas and Priscilla Saldana

V & P, y'all are just so awesome!

Thanks for being you and for all that you do all the time for  
Student Access & Success.

- Valerie Olivares, EOP Advisor



**SSU**

## John Muller

John is like one of those New York cookies that are half vanilla and half chocolate. He provides superb service to the SSU community at our checkout desk, but he also performs intricate metadata magic in Special Collections to make our digital collections for come to life.

- Dr. Karen Schneider, Dean of the Library



**SSU**



## SEIE Team

Jason, Judy, Julie, Adrienne, and John,

Thank you for all you do for our self-support programs in SBE.  
Your dedication and commitment to our students and all stakeholders is commendable. You are truly a pleasure to work with, and very much appreciated!

- Soo Haylett, MBA Programs SBE



**SSU**

## Financial Aid

You have all done an amazing job getting financial aid awards out (and all that it represents) to our perspective and current students. I am thankful to have an amazing team to work with. Thank you for all you do!

- Shanon Little, Director, Financial Aid



**SSU**

## Natalia Villanueva-Nieves, Amy Catania, Hillary Homzie, Jennifer Roberson, Sandra Moore



Thank you to my wonderful SYRCE colleagues this spring semester! You all helped make our SYRCE class and our final symposium on May 17 in the GMC a success! Thank you for your wonderful lectures in our big forum, your engagement with our students in your seminars, your guidance, encouragement, patience, research help and creativity! It was a pleasure to work with you - thank you so much!

- Michaela Grobbel, MLL Chair & SYRCE Coordinator



## Jac Holley

Thank you for all your kindness, support, and hard work Jac!

You are always a delight to see in the office and manage to brighten everyone's day every day!

- Mariah Atkins, AS Programming Coordinator



**SSU**



**Nicole Stein**

We appreciated you, Nicole!

- Michael Balasek, Director of the Advising Center



**SSU**

**Veronica Gonzalez**

We appreciated you, Vero!

- Michael Balasek, Director of the Advising Center



**SSU**

## Rich Parker

Problem solver and very responsive: let us count the ways Rich has fixed things in the university, done them right and well ahead of schedule! One time Rich identified an airflow issue at the Climbing Wall that was problematic for many years that no one noticed until Rich discovered the issue!

- Ryan Fitz, Lead Recreation Coordinator



**SSU**

## Vicky Garcia, Jen Lanatti Shen, and Jane Emley

Shout out to the TRIO SSS Writing Specialists, Vicky, Jen, and Jane, for going above and beyond in your support of the students enrolled in our programs. Your dedication and commitment to our student's academic success is inspiring!

- Rose Calzontzi, Interim TRIO SSS Operations Manager



**SSU**



## University Advancement

I am grateful for the amazing University Advancement team who continues to go above and beyond to support Sonoma State. This Rock Star group continue to build a culture of philanthropy at SSU in support of our amazing students, faculty, staff and the great programs that continue to change the lives of so many students. Achieving our philanthropic goal in 2020-2021 and on the verge of doing it again this fiscal year is a testament to the passion and dedication of this amazing team!

- Dr. Mario A. Perez, Vice President for University Advancement



**SSU**

## Mendel Murray

For going above and beyond in helping all students and student-athletes excel at Sonoma State. His tireless effort of being a great mentor to all will be missed! Thank you!

- Rich Shayewitz, Head Men's Basketball Coach



**SSU**

## Athletics

Thank you to the entire athletic department staff for  
your tireless energy, commitment to our student-  
athletes, and success this year!

GO SEAWOLVES!!

- Nicole Annaloro



**SSU**





SSU



## Rachel Carbone

Rachel, I don't know what I would have done without you! You are amazing and I just want to thank you for always there to help, guide and support me, and for just being you!

You are the best!

- Michael Young, Interim Vice President Student Affairs



**SSU**

## To the managers and culinary team

I am so happy to be here at Sonoma State University, everyone has been great with open arms of welcome. Very talented group of people. It makes me glad to come to work.

Thanks everyone.

- Michael Peters, Sous Chef



**SSU**

## Sarah Tucker, Christina Thao and Catherine Fonseca

Thank you so much for collaborating with the LARC to support student academic success prior to finals. What a fun event we offered students - tutoring, library research support, food, pajamas and study space!

- Lorian Negri, LARC Director



**SSU**

## Ignacio Gallegos

Ignacio help provide translational support to our basketball staff and potential student athlete and his family. I reached out to Ignacio to see if he could help translate for us. He came over right away and made the meeting with the family go smoothly. The mother and student athlete immediately relaxed and felt more comfortable. They both truly enjoyed their experience here at Sonoma State. Ignacio, showed true Seawolf teamwork. Thank you.

- JJ Santa Cruz, Associate Head Coach, Men's Basketball





## Student Affairs Executive Leadership Team

Rachel, Anna, Laura, Erik, Ryan, Gerald, Susan and Michael...  
Most things I would write are not appropriate for LoboVision.

We've survived another year!!

Cheers to you all!

- Laura Monje-Paulson



**SSU**

## Tim Hensel

Tim has shouldered a great deal of responsibility on CTET's team as staff departures have reduced our team size. He's shared responsibility for Canvas management and now classroom technology support, and he does it all with a smile on his face. I really don't think that CTET could stay open without Tim, and I want to make sure that everyone knows how important he has been to CTET staying open during the past year!

- John Lynch



## John Lynch

John has done an amazing job this semester, dealing with staffing shortages, and continuing to ensure that our core online teaching platforms like Canvas continue to run smoothly.

- Justin Lipp, CTET Director



**SSU**

## Tim Hensel

Tim has really been a clutch player this year. We've had several staffing departures in CTET, and Tim has stepped in to provide support for Canvas as well as learn the ropes with supporting classroom technology. It's been awesome to see.

- Justin Lipp, CTET Director



**SSU**



## Chelsea, Carly and Fatima

Thank you Chelsea, Carly, and Fatima for your ongoing support and dedication to supporting the work we do in our department. You always greet our alumni, students, and donors with friendly and positive attitudes. You work hard at your jobs, and make coming to the office a lot of fun.

I feel fortunate to work with all of you and Sonoma State is so lucky to have you talents, dedication and professionalism supporting our mission and students.

- Tiffany O'Neil, Senior Director of Alumni Engagement and Annual Giving



**SSU**

## Nick Powers

Nick helped out so much during the pandemic when we had ~350 lab kits to mail out to students. He helped troubleshoot problems with mail merge and mass uploading of addresses to UPS system, and cheerfully handled all our boxes.

Thanks Nick!

- Kandis Gilmore, Biology Technician



**SSU**

## Ashlyn Arend

Ashlyn is the amazing and talented Analyst in the Psychology department. Without her the department would not run. She keeps us on top of responding to students, organizing advising and registration, filling supply orders, and just generally keeping us running smoothly. She's enthusiastic, knowledgeable, super competent, and a superb writer. We're so lucky to have Ashlyn running our department!

- Laurel McCabe, Interim Chair, Psychology Department



## Sonoma State University Culinary Services

I'd like to take this opportunity to give the biggest shout-out possible to the entire Culinary Services team. This last year has been filled with adapting and transforming the program to meet the needs of the repopulated campus. It's amazing to have seen UCS rise to every occasion with a smile and some delicious food along the way. I'm forever grateful for this team and am proud to be a member.

- Lauren Antoni, Interim Director, Culinary Operations



**SSU**



## Facilities Management

Thank you, Shawn Potts, Bill Fulton, Frank Soll, Talmadge Savage, Nicole Hendry, and the entire Facilities crew for taking care of us and ensuring we had everything we needed to make people happy with food and beverages!

- Lauren Antoni, Interim Director, Culinary Operations



**SSU**

## Student Center Operations

Thank you, Jenna Spolarich, Katherine Counter, Jenna Hennessy, and all of the Student Center Ops students for continuously lending a helping hand to Culinary Services this year. We could not have opened Lobos without you!

Thank you for your generosity and teamwork!

- Lauren Antoni, Interim Director, Culinary Operations



**SSU**

## Seawolf Service Center Team

I'd like to give a HUGE shoutout to the Seawolf Service Center team for their commitment to team work! The SSC team demonstrates team work in their collaboration not only with each other but also with other departments on campus in an effort to ensure a service and solution oriented office. They excel in their ability to pivot as priorities change and do so without complaint. I am SO proud of the SSC team and their hard work and commitment to the campus community.

- Lizzie O'Brien, Director of Seawolf Service Center



**SSU**

## Angela Jones & Nicki Orser

Thank you for being such a rockstar team in SBE Grad Programs.  
Your dedication and commitment to our students and all  
stakeholders is commendable.

You are both awesome and inspiring, and very much appreciated!

- Soo Haylett, MBA Programs SBE



**SSU**



