

SCOOPS OF GRATITUDE

SONOMA STATE
UNIVERSITY

Accounts Payable Team

Big shout out to the Accounts Payable team for all your brilliant and very patient support with P2P. The learning curve is real and you're always there for us!

- Rachel Carbone, DSA

Information Technology

Huge thanks to the IT team for the patience and expertise you bring to troubleshooting the daily “have you tried restarting it?” moments across campus.

Division of Student Affairs

I am so proud to work alongside this team, thank you for showing up every day with so much care and making this campus feel like a true community.

- Dr. Sarah Ellison, DSA

Custodial

Thanks to the Custodial team for all your hard work and for everything you do behind the scenes to support keeping our campus clean.

Steve Higginbotham

Shout out to Steve at the Bookstore for always being a friendly, helpful, and familiar face everyone appreciates seeing around campus.

Megan Varnadore

Thanks to Megan in Risk for always being responsive and helpful when helping departments respond to information requests.

Alicia Hodenfield

Thanks for always having a can-do attitude and for being willing to jump in and help whenever needed, I appreciate you!

- Chandra Holte, Human Resources

John Lynch

Thanks for your enthusiasm for the MBA program - you continue to be a great spokesperson and ambassador when sharing your experiences with others!

Matty Mookerjee

Thank you, Matty, for your thoughtful leadership and steady support as Interim Associate Dean of Academic Programs. Your work supporting undeclared students, guiding uAchieve implementation, and strengthening collaboration across campus has made a lasting impact. As you return to faculty to support the Geology major, Academic Programs won't be the same without you. You truly rock! In Star Wars, you'd be Qui-Gon Jinn: thoughtful, grounded, student focused, and always bringing a fresh perspective.

- Jennifer Lillig, Academic Programs

Theo Bridant

Thanks for your great support with the tech needs in Pearson Theater - your expertise and positive attitude are always so appreciated!!!

Office of Institutional Equity and Belonging

HUGE shout out to every single person who helped shape and support this year's cultural graduation ceremonies. These celebrations created meaningful spaces that affirmed and celebrated our students' identities, communities, and lived experiences, and the care and effort behind them was deeply felt and appreciated.

University Advising

Shout out to the Advising team for always helping our students to stay on track and feel supported every step of the way.

Aremi Cruz

Thanks for your responsiveness with questions related to student employment - you always seem to have the answers and we really appreciate your support!

Data-to-Doing Team

Thank you Alvin, Joe, Rose and Dr. Ellison! Through data and education, your efforts continue to pave the way for informed decision making and stronger retention-related practices.

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA

Accounts Payable Team

Thanks for always being available to meet with departments when questions come up or additional support is needed!

Groundskeeping

Thanks to the Groundskeeping team for all the work that goes into maintaining campus grounds and outdoor spaces throughout the year.

Bianca Delgado

Thank you for being authentically yourself and for bringing such vibrant, joyful energy into the workplace. It's a pleasure to work alongside you, as well as to see the positive impact you have in your work with students!

- Chandra Holte, Human Resources

Loriann Negri

Thank you, Loriann, for your exceptional leadership, collaboration, and commitment to student success across LARC, CCE, and Academic Programs. Your thoughtful leadership continues to strengthen support systems across campus. We especially appreciate your work launching the College Career Faculty Fellows framework. If Academic Programs were Star Wars, you'd be Padmé Amidala: collaborative, compassionate, and focused on building stronger communities and opportunities for others.

- Jennifer Lillig, Academic Programs

Kelley Kaslar, Emily Uhrich, Kyle Williams, Zach Gonzales,
Cassandra Garcia and Lupita Ruiz

Sonoma State is so lucky to have your amazing energy and contagious smiles as the first point of contact for prospective students - thanks for the spirit and positivity you bring to your work every day!!!!

- Chandra Holte, Human Resources

Kari Manwiller

Thank you, Kari, for your continued support of Academic Programs and faculty curriculum development. Your patience, collaboration, and attention to detail never go unnoticed. You ensure our academic programs are represented accurately across the catalog and university websites while always keeping students at the center. If Academic Programs were Star Wars, you'd be Admiral Ackbar, steady, dependable, and always helping the rest of us navigate complex systems with accuracy and foresight.

- Jennifer Lillig, Academic Programs

Huge thanks to all of the managers who supported this year's Commencement weekend. Your teamwork and support helped make the celebrations successful and meaningful for our graduates, families, and campus community.

We truly appreciate all the time and effort that went into supporting such an important milestone for our students!



Belen Aguilar

Thanks for your positive attitude in Facilities, it is always a pleasure to work with you and campus appreciates your support!

Noelle Fisette

Shout out to Noelle for all the support you provide with trainings and CSU Learn. Your responsiveness, knowledge, and willingness to help whenever questions come up are so appreciated!

Payroll Team

Shout out to the Payroll team for always being so kind, patient, and helpful when assisting with questions related to reporting time.

Your support and responsiveness are truly appreciated!

Seawolf Services

Huge appreciation to the Seawolf Services team for all the ways you help support students and employees. Thank you for being such a reliable one-stop resource for our campus community.

Corey Chattey

Shout out to Corey for the leadership and support you provide in the Mailroom to help keep mail and deliveries moving across campus.

Your reliability and behind-the-scenes work are appreciated!

DREAM Center

Bianca, thank you for your dedicated support of our Dream Center students, creating a supportive space and milieu for all utilizing DREAM Center services.

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA



Dennis Goss

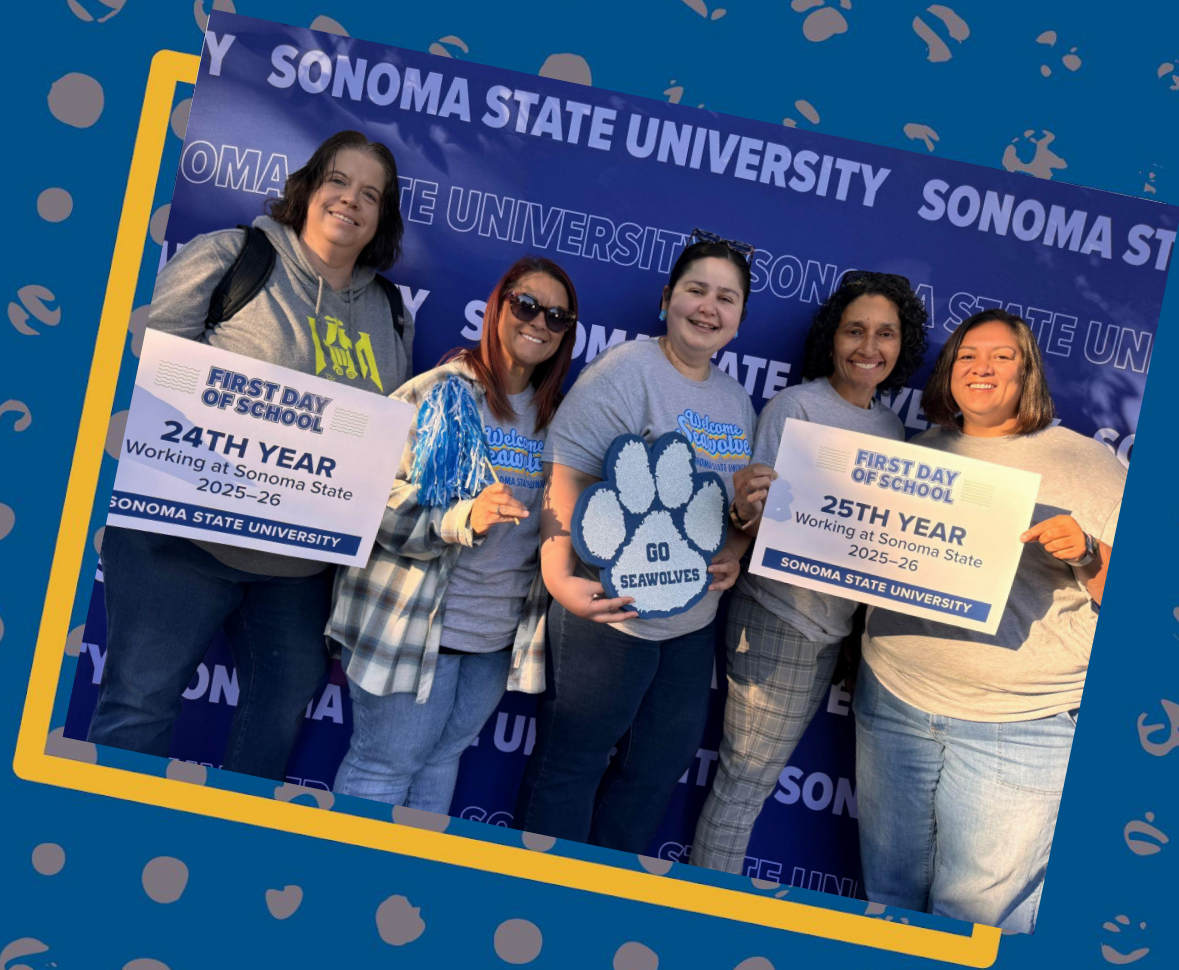
Dennis, thanks your support for the campus schedule and for always bringing such an easygoing, positive attitude and energy to your work!

SSU MarComm Team

Thanks for the new energy being infused into the campus social media pages - the content you've been sharing is so engaging and fun that it almost makes me want to go back to college myself!

Meredith Spires

Thank you for your ongoing support of Academic Senate week after week. Whether assisting with administrative needs or jumping in to troubleshoot Zoom mid-meeting, your support is appreciated!



Loriann Negri

Shout out to Loriann for the leadership, care, and support you bring to helping students thrive academically. The LARC has such a meaningful impact on the student experience and their success across campus!

Aremi Cruz

Thank you for all of your super helpful CHRS coordination and support!

- Scott G, Faculty Affairs



Sara Jordan

Thank you so much for your valuable insights and questions this year, and your leadership with the additional employment calculator to support our faculty!

- Scott G, Faculty Affairs

Sarah Gillespie

Thank you for taking such great care of our outside groups. I have recommended you several times, and I consistently hear that you make working with CES quicker, clearer, and easier. Your clear and timely communication, along with your follow through, provides great service that we all can appreciate.

- Chelsea Hennan, OPHD

Nicole Hilger

Thank you for powering through months and months of CHRS testing and training!

- Scott G, Faculty Affairs

Evan MacKay

Thank you for powering through months and months of CHRS testing and training!

- Scott G, Faculty Affairs

Mariah Atkins

It is always a pleasure running into you, and every interaction makes the day feel a little brighter. Thank you for bringing such a positive outlook and genuine care to the SSU community. Your willingness to go above and beyond does not go unnoticed. You consistently make time to check in, follow up, and ensure others feel supported, and that level of dedication truly makes a difference.

- Chelsea Hennan, OPHD

Division of Student Affairs Staff & Faculty

Thank you DSA staff and faculty for how much you support and pour into our students, connecting them with programs, services and resources that help them thrive at Sonoma State!

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA

The HUB

From thoughtful and culturally responsive programming to cultivating a space for students to build community, thank you for making belongingness more than just a concept, but a meaningful practice here at Sonoma State.

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA

Madeline Peterson

Maddie has gone above and beyond in helping me onboard in my new roles this year. She is generous, resourceful, and always kind. My work here at SSU is better because of her!

Thank you lovely!

- Emily Hostutler, University Studies

Office of Institutional Equity & Belonging

Thank you for your continued efforts to center equity and belonging at the forefront of the work we do at Sonoma State. Great job!

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA



EOP

Thank you EOP team for helping support students' transition and persistence through graduation. Y'all rock!

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA

Seawolf Scholars

Shelly Gomez and Stacie Rodriguez-Fitch, your unwavering commitment and support of our Seawolf Scholars does not go unnoticed!

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA



Military & Veteran Resource Center (MAVRC)

Thank you Yvonne for supporting our military-affiliated students. You've done an outstanding job helping build a supportive community.

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA

Disability Services for Students (DSS)

Big shout out to the entire DSS team for all that you do to make sure our DSS students accessibility needs are met. Your strong advocacy helps make success possible for our DSS students!

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA

TRiO Student Support Services

TRIO SSS U4S and MAP staff, you rock! Thanks for helping our students achieve academic success! TRiO works!

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA



University Advising and Student Success

Learning to select the right classes and which course fits what area is made a whole lot easier because of our awesome Advising team! Cheers!

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA



Pre-Collegiate Programs (PCP)

Making the college-going dreams a reality for our low-income, first-generation college students and their families is because of our awesome Pre-Collegiate Programs staff - Academic Talent Search, Upward Bound, and Upward Bound Math & Science projects!
TRiO works!

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA

Noma Cares Central

You continue to tackle each unique case with compassion and understanding, connecting our students with the support and resources needed so they can focus on their classes and well being.

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA



Dream Center

Huge appreciation to the Dream Center for the incredible support, advocacy, and sense of belonging you provide for our students!!!!

Ben Ellis

Thank you Ben for your thoughtful and educational approach to helping students learn, grow and take accountability! Keep up the great work!

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA

Career Center

Because of this talented team, Sonoma State is poised to become the premier career-ready campus. Great job, Career Center team!

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA



REACH

I cannot say enough about REACH for all that you do 24/7. Your hard work, commitment, and long hours in support of our students is remarkable, appreciated and does not go unnoticed.

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA

Student Involvement

Thank you for all your efforts in connecting students to the campus, helping create a sense of belonging and making all students feel a part of the Seawolf family and community.

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA



Campus Rec

Campus Rec is where to be! Thank you Ben, Reed, Mike for your hard work, your enthusiasm for the students and your commitment to fitness and teaching our students how to live well!

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA

CAPS

CAPS Team – you are so very appreciated! We see you carrying the weight of our students on your shoulders! There aren't enough words to express our gratitude!!
Thank you, thank you, THANK YOU!

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA



University Advancement

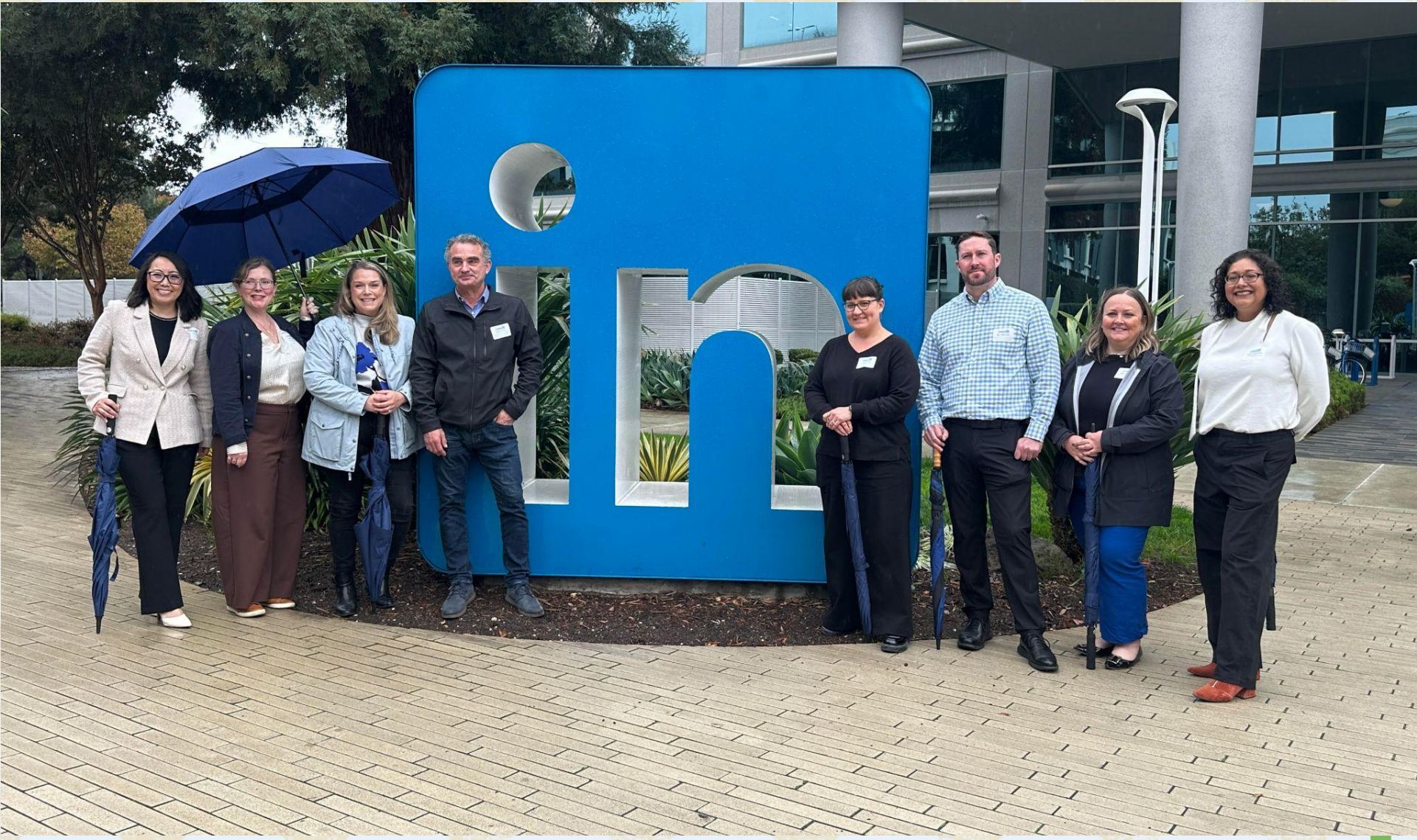
BIG appreciation to Advancement and Alumni Relations for keeping our community connected and engaged long after graduation.

Keep up the great work!!!!!!

Student Health Center

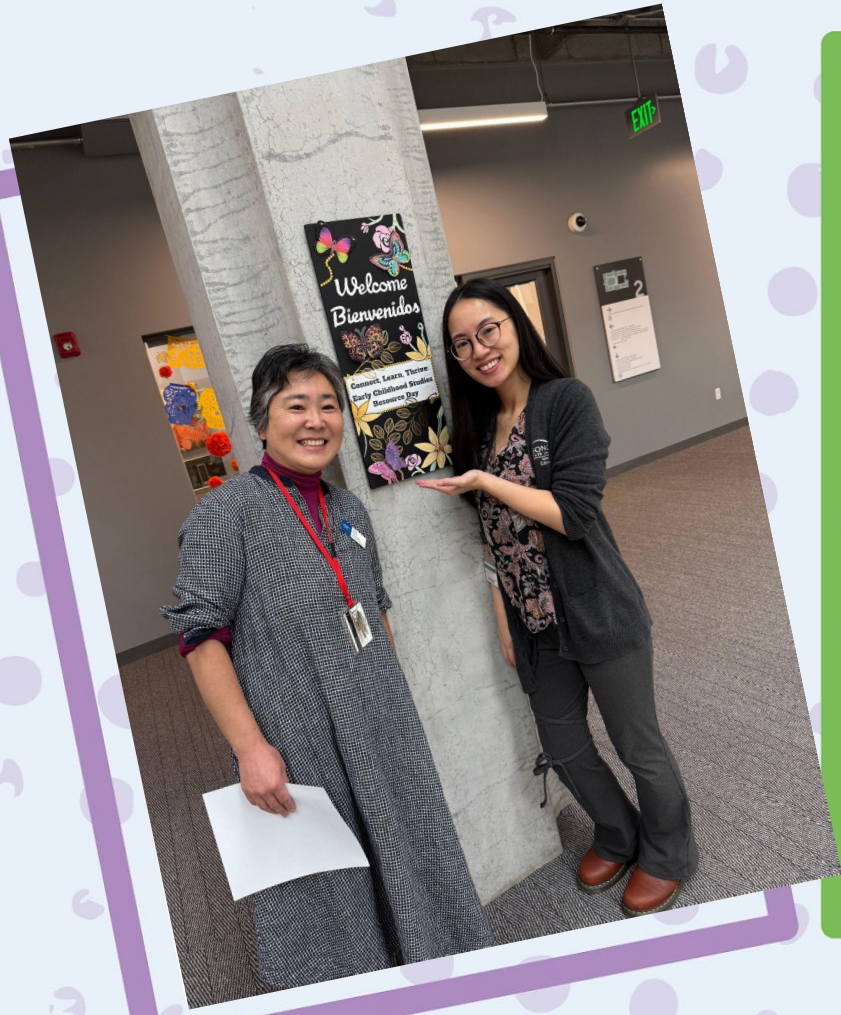
We appreciate you for the attentive and outstanding medical care and education given to every single student you see!! Thank you for making sure students stay healthy and thrive!

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA



Financial Aid

A big thanks to Financial Aid for helping our students navigate one of the most stressful (and often confusing) parts of college with patience, care, and expertise.



Associated Students

Thank you for all that you do in helping our students find and center their voices in support of their fellow students!

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA



Confidential Advocacy

Thank you for your strong advocacy for our student survivors! Your support, passion and educational programming are second to none! You are so appreciated, Kellie!!

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA

Lobo's Pantry

Thank you for ensuring our students have the food security they need and doing it with such grace, dignity and care!

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA



Campus Rec

Shout-out for being the energy of our campus, thank you for giving our students a place to blow off steam, find their community, and take care of themselves.

- Dr. Sarah Ellison, DSA

Project Rebound

Danika and Chano, thank you for the tremendous work you're doing building a new program and making sure students that were formerly incarcerated have what's needed to thrive at Sonoma State.

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA





Thank you
to the
EdEon
Staff for
supporting
our
students
and our
President.



University Police Department

Thank you for your educational and community-oriented approach to policing, always making sure our campus community is safe, informed and supported.

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA

University Advising

Huge thanks for being the steady hand and the heart that helps our students find their way whenever they feel lost in the process.

- Dr. Sarah Ellison, DSA

Jenna Hennessy and Jenna Hesterberg

Shout out to the Jennas and their amazing Student Center Operations team for the great support they provide for events on campus - and always with a smile!

- Chandra Holte, Human Resources

Disability Services for Students

Thank you for the incredible work you do to make sure every single student feels seen, supported, and ready to succeed.

- Dr. Sarah Ellison, DSA



TRIO Pre-Collegiate Programs

Shout-out for being the spark that helps our local students realize their college dreams are actually within reach.

- Dr. Sarah Ellison, DSA



CAASE

To a team that truly goes above and beyond, thank you for being the ultimate support system and for always championing our students' biggest goals.

- Dr. Sarah Ellison, DSA

Graphic Designer Team

Adriana, Brittany, and Remy,

Thank you for all you do to make SSU visually pop and for making us look good!

- The Marketing Team

Career Center

Thank you for helping our students see what's possible and giving them the tools and the confidence to step into their future.

- Dr. Sarah Ellison, DSA



Data-to-Doing Retention Collaborative

A big shout-out for helping us see the "why" behind the work and for all the effort you put into making sure we're doing our very best for our students.

- Dr. Sarah Ellison, DSA

REACH

A huge thank you for creating a home away from home for our students and for all the late nights you spend making sure they feel safe, included, and connected.

- Dr. Sarah Ellison, DSA

Payroll and Benefits

Shout out to Payroll and Benefits for always being so incredibly responsive to answer questions and also always doing so with care and patience.

Shout out to President Spagna for bringing a new energy and excitement to campus.

Your enthusiasm and engagement have been noticed since day one and I can't wait to see what new heights Sonoma State is headed for!

Student Engagement

Thank you for being the "spark" that makes campus life come alive; you're the reason our students have those core memories and friendships that last a lifetime.

- Dr. Sarah Ellison, DSA

Culinary Services

A special thank you for all the hard work behind the scenes, you do so much more than provide a meal; you provide the comfort and fuel our students need to keep going.

- Dr. Sarah Ellison, DSA



Marketing and Advancement

Thank you for telling our story so beautifully and for making sure the world sees the incredible heart and talent we have here at SSU.

- Dr. Sarah Ellison, DSA



Kelley Kaslar and the Recruitment Team

Shout-out for being the first smile our future students see. Thank you for making everyone who walks through our doors feel like they truly belong here.

- Dr. Sarah Ellison, DSA

Julie Shell

Thank you, Julie, for the leadership, knowledge, and dedication you bring to Academic Programs and Academic Affairs. Your broad understanding of SSU processes, commitment to student success, and thoughtful problem-solving make you an invaluable resource across campus. We especially appreciate your leadership in developing the Adult Learner Hub for re-entry students. If Academic Programs was Star Wars, you'd be Obi-Wan Kenobi, wise, grounded, and always ready with practical guidance.

- Jennifer Lillig, Academic Programs

Laura Alamillo and Sara Jordan

Big thanks and gratitude to Laura Alamillo and Sara Jordan. Staff in the College of Education, Counseling, and Ethnic Studies appreciate the supportive, collaborative and collegial work environment you create every day. We feel supported, appreciated and valued in our work. Life can be hard, but you both make coming to work each day a pleasure. Thank you so much!

- Aidan Humrich, ECES



Brian Wichert

Shout out to Brian for all the unwavering, patient support you give me -- even in the face of the impossible! You ALWAYS put it all together with such grace! Thank you!

- Rachel Carbone, DSA

Martha Shott

Shout out to Martha -- for your continued support! Your willingness to help, the depth of your knowledge and your patience is so much appreciated! Thank you!

- Rachel Carbone, DSA



Tiffany O'Neil

You are a POWERHOUSE! And so very inspiring! Who isn't in awe of your grace, knowledge, leadership and energy?! Keep rocking it!!

- Rachel Carbone, DSA



Viri Ruiz

Thank you for jumping right in to the LARC/CCE team! I appreciate how quickly you've been learning and how collaborative you've been. We are so fortunate to have you on our team!

- Loriann Negri, LARC and CCE

Thank you to the EdEon staff for supporting our volunteers.

Thank you for ensuring that rural and economically disadvantaged youth receive STEM kits.



Margarita

Thank you for always taking such good care of us on the third floor of the Student Center! You're part of our family and we appreciate you so much!

- Rachel Carbone, DSA

Seawolf Services Team

You always have all the answers and you offer them with a smile! The campus -- staff and students alike -- is so lucky to have you! Thank you for your unfaltering presence and your willingness to always find the answers! WE APPRECIATE YOU!!

- Rachel Carbone, DSA

Nina Bardwell-Chanthalangsy

Nina is exceptionally capable. It often feels like she is already halfway through a task before I've even fully explained it. Beyond her strong work ethic, she always brings a positive attitude and is constantly looking for ways to support the team and help wherever needed. Thank you for bringing such initiative, positivity, and teamwork into everything you do.

- Matty Mookerjee, Academic Programs

Facilities

A big shout out to Facilities for supporting everything from the day-to-day routine campus maintenance needs to the last-minute and unexpected things that pop up!!!

Katie Musick

Katie is incredibly driven and reliable. She knows what needs to get done, figures out the best way to make it happen, and follows through. She is the kind of team member you can always count on, and her independence, consistency, and generosity with her time make a huge impact on our team. Thank you for always being willing to step in, support others, and help keep things moving forward.

- Matty Mookerjee, Academic Programs

Kyla Walters

Kyla has been an incredible partner and collaborator, always bringing fresh ideas and creative thinking to the table. She consistently puts students first and is always looking for ways we can better serve and support them. She is incredibly generous with her time, frequently stepping up to volunteer for tasks and initiatives simply because she cares deeply about the work and the students we serve. Thank you for continually showing up with your passion, your compassion, and your strong commitment to student success.

- Matty Mookerjee, Academic Programs

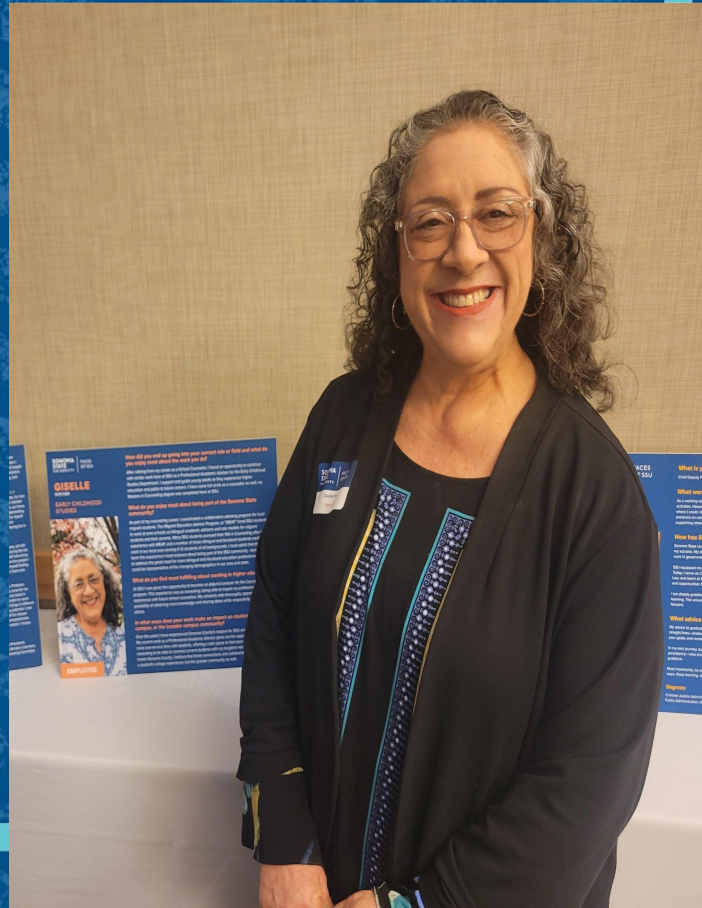
Kamen Nikolov

Thank you Kamen for always having such a huge smile on your face, it is contagious and makes others around you feel

Megan Kane

Thank you, Megan, for your continued support of graduate students and the evolution of graduate programming. Your thoughtful planning, attention to detail, and meticulous approach make a tremendous impact across campus. As an office of one, you manage complex processes with professionalism and care while always centering students. In Star Wars, you'd be Mon Mothma, strategic, steady, and always building systems that support others.

- Jennifer Lillig, Academic Programs



Maddie Peterson

Thank you, Maddie, for the organization, thoughtfulness, and dependability you bring to Academic Programs and Academic Affairs. Your ability to take on new responsibilities while creating clear, streamlined processes has made a meaningful impact for students, faculty, and staff. And me! If Academic Programs was Star Wars, you'd be Leia Organa, calm under pressure, endlessly capable, and somehow leading multiple complex operations at once with grace and determination.

- Jennifer Lillig, Academic Programs

Thank you to the EdEon staff for keeping our telescope working for burgeoning astronomers.



Huge shout out to Lobo for bringing the school spirit, dance moves and great energy to campus events and celebrations!!!



The Extended Ed Crew

Julie Shell, Judy Vincenti, Jennifer Haynes, Adrienne Tiraterra, & Adriana Vigil

Thank you to our Extended Ed Adjacent crew for continuing to work as a team through a year of transition and change. Even while dispersed across campus units, your collaboration, flexibility, and dedication have kept scheduling, marketing, budgeting, and registration moving smoothly for students. Excited to work with you to support adult learners! In Star Wars terms, you're the Rebel Alliance: adaptable, resourceful, and proving teamwork can hold the galaxy together across many systems.

- Jennifer Lillig, Academic Programs

MSI

Chano, thank you for teaching, guiding, supporting and leading the students of the Male Success Initiative. Salute!

- Dr. Gerald L. Jones, DSA



Emily Hostutler

Emily has hit the ground running in her new FAST Program Coordinator role with tremendous energy, passion, and innovative ideas. She cares deeply about student engagement and works incredibly hard to ensure the FAST program runs smoothly and successfully. She also goes above and beyond to support and care for the Peer Mentors and student leaders, helping create a positive and supportive experience for everyone involved. Thank you for the heart and enthusiasm you bring to supporting both our students and student leaders.

- Matty Mookerjee, Academic Programs

Gustavo Pimentel Perez & Brittany Eldred

Thank you for your incredible work on this year's Faces of SSU project and for helping organize the marketing, communications, and graphics to celebrate 42 SSU community members this year!

- Casey Kelly, University Marketing



Skyelar Dunn

Thank you for amplifying SSU's social media presence through your creativity, strategic planning, and leadership of the student marketing and social media team. Your work continues to strengthen our brand and engage the SSU community in meaningful ways!

- Casey Kelly, University Marketing

Caroline Banuelos

Thank you for all that you do to support faculty with academic internships and service-learning courses. We greatly appreciate how you connect the local community with our campus.

- Loriann Negri, LARC and CCE

Modesto Llanes

Thanks Moe for your great support of all of our campus
technology needs in the classroom!!



John Lynch

Thank you for thinking strategically when funding opportunities arise and intentionally including people across the campus in your work. Your collaborative approach and innovative thinking builds partnerships and makes a real impact at SSU.

- Loriann Negri, LARC and CCE

Thank you
to the
EdEon
Staff for
supporting
our
technolog
y needs!



Molly Mande

Thank you for turning AI into your personal assistant lol and using it to help level up our forms, systems, and operations!! Your innovation and "there has to be a more efficient way" mindset makes a huge difference for our team.

I appreciate that you are constantly learning and growing -- and bringing the LARC along with you!

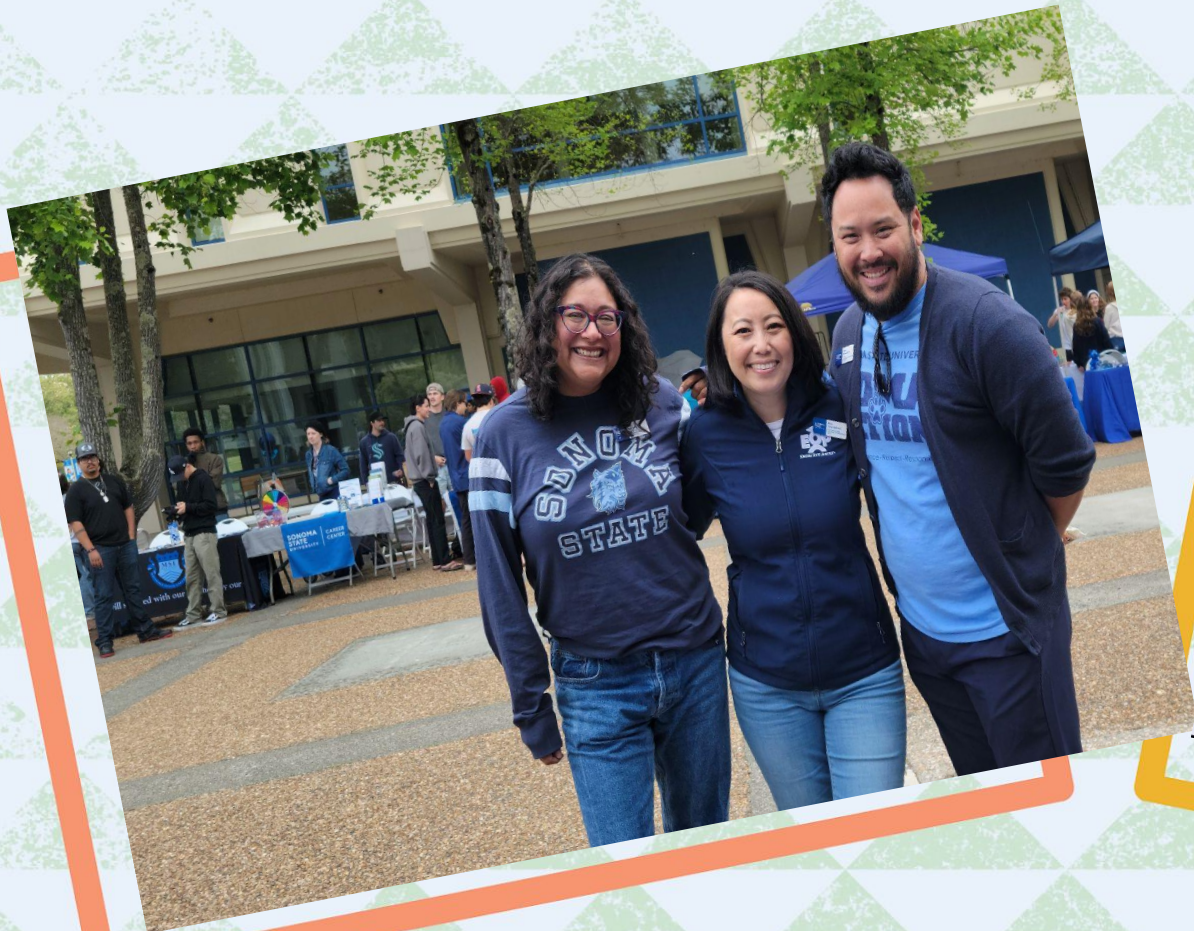
- Loriann Negri, LARC and CCE

Jenn Lillig

Thank you for always helping me think through things challenges and encouraging me to take ownership and trust my instincts. Your support, collaboration and leadership make such a difference for me - and the Academic Programs team - every day.

Thank you for also making me laugh when things feel frustrating and for being so genuinely fun to work with. I'm very grateful that you're my boss!

- Loriann Negri, LARC and CCE



Maddie Peterson

Thank you for getting a lion's share of work done ALL THE TIME. It does not go unnoticed. Your ability to multi-task, keep everyone on track, and make sure people have the information that they need is honestly impressive.

Now go enjoy that traveling! :)

- Loriann Negri, LARC and CCE



The Schedulers:
Poonam Rani, Jill Siliznoff, Cathy Cari-Shudde, & Dennis Goss

Thank you all for working with me this year to tag Service-Learning courses. I appreciate your quick responses and willingness to try new things -- and to outreach multiple times. You all are the BEST!

- Loriann Negri, LARC and CCE

Alonso Gonzales, Bryan Carter, Gabriel Fowler, & Jim Doherty

These individuals have shown attention to detail by keeping our athletic fields in optimal shape for our club sports, refurbishing a plant bed with beautiful flowering succulents on the 3rd floor of Schultz so that staff, students and Faculty can enjoy the outdoor space; working with and mentoring students at to install a Bioswale and a raingarden; replanting East Cotati and Sequoia Way entrance with flowering native perennials, and helping train new landscaping staff. Your commitment to beautifying this campus, mentorship and attention to detail are outstanding. Thank you for your service!

- Christa Irwin, Landscaping

Tai Russotti, Sara Jordan and Julie Wood

Thanks for all the many ways you support the colleges and for the great partnership in helping keep things moving on the many processes that intersect with our office - we appreciate you!

- Chandra Holte, Human Resources

The University Advancement Division Staff
THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Through every challenge, each of you has continued to serve our students, alumni, donors, and campus community with professionalism, compassion, and resilience.

The impact of your work, which is often carried out behind the scenes has not gone unnoticed.

Thank you for all you do for Sonoma State and for the community we proudly serve.

- Adam, Ian, Jeff, and Tiffany, Advancement

The Communications and Graphic Design Team

Thank you for being our partners and helping bring creativity and storytelling to our campus. We appreciate you!

- The Marketing Team



Our campus partners in
Student Affairs, Administration & Finance,
Academic Affairs, & the Green Music Center

Thank you for your partnership and support in connecting with our alumni community!
We couldn't do it without you.

- Jen & Tiffany, Advancement

Thank you to SSU, ORSP, and SFBRN Staff that make the EdEon STEM Learning work possible.

