

**SONOMA STATE
UNIVERSITY**



SCOOPS OF GRATITUDE

The Seawolf Service Center Team

To the incredible team at the Seawolf Service Center: You show up every day with heart, purpose, and a commitment to making SSU a great place to be. Whether it's behind the scenes or face-to-face with students, staff, or faculty, you do the work that keeps everything running smoothly — and you do it with grace and professionalism. Thank you for being the rockstars you are. We appreciate you and we couldn't do it without you!



- Elizabeth O'Brien

SSU

Amelia Harbison

Shout-out to Amelia Harbison for 11 amazing years at REACH! She built the foundation we stand on, and without her, this place wouldn't just fall over; it wouldn't feel like home. She is a loyal friend, an incredible mom (to a future world leader), and always serves looks with her colorful hair and killer style. She deserves the dream backyard and the ultimate camping vacation. We love you, Amelia!

- Remy Williams

SSU



Kelsey Moss

Big shout-out to Kelsey Moss, SSU's most prepared person alive (she probably knows your schedule better than you do). She supports everyone, shows up for her team, and still relaxes better than the rest of us. She dresses like a future CEO and might be cooler than you too. Basically, we're all just trying to keep up.

Thanks, Kelsey!

- Remy Williams



SSU



Seawolf Services Center Team

Shout out to Seawolf Services for always taking care of everyone on campus!



- Ignacio Gallegos

SSU



Sara Jordan

We are so lucky to have Sara as our Director of Operations! She fosters a positive, collaborative atmosphere in our College, and always makes staff feel supported and valued. She leads from the front, and can always be found mucking in with collages to get things done. I like to say that she doesn't micro-manage, she micro-assists! Such a pleasure to call her my colleague. Thank you Sara!

- Aidan Humrich



SSU



Gloria Allen

Thank you Gloria for your help in the tablecloth department! You are the best, and I'll miss our chats when you eventually retire. There's always chocolate in my office with your name on it! Thank you!!



- Aidan Humrich

SSU



Kellie Douglas

Kellie is an all around amazing human being! She is so sweet and kind and compassionate. She is extremely generous with her time and energy and I couldn't have survived this year without her! Love, Courtney



- Courtney Avvampat

SSU

Meredith Spires

Shout out to Meredith for keeping the Faculty Senate going for the past three years. She works in a shop of one, so it can be a pretty solitary job sometimes. Thanks for always helping us understand where we're at with committee vacancies, and for running our elections! It's a thankless job most of the time, so THANK YOU!!



- Aidan Humrich

SSU

Chaka Morrison

You are amazing and I appreciate everything that you do!



- Courtney Avvampat

SSU



Emma Coe

I couldn't do this without you! You rock!

- Courtney Avvampat

SSU

College of Education, Counseling, and Ethnic Studies



Christy Giambastiani

Thanks for your leadership and individualized support and guidance you provide to students each day, which helps lead to their success.



- Brent Boyer

SSU

Michael Eynon

Thanks for the individualized guidance and support you provide to your students, which directly improves their lives and leads to their success.



- Brent Boyer

SSU

Confidential Advocacy

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

- Dr. Gerald Jones



SSU

Seawolf Service Center

Thank you to the Seawolf Service Center for the collaboration and teamwork in working with the Payroll and Benefits department to ensure timely delivery of paychecks to our employees not on direct deposit. We appreciate you and thank you for all that you do to support our employees and students.



- Trisha Ramos

SSU

Mary Lenoir

Thanks for the individualized guidance and support you provide to your students.
Your efforts are appreciated and acknowledged for helping students succeed.

- Brent Boyer



SSU

Ellie Orona

Thanks for helping create a welcoming environment in the DSS and serving as a role model for our outstanding student assistants.



- Brent Boyer

SSU

College of Education, Counseling, and Ethnic Studies



Noelia Franzen

Thanks for your leadership and positive can-do approach you take each day.



- Brent Boyer

SSU

Stephanie Graham

Thanks for your efforts making Disability Awareness Month a success this year.



- Brent Boyer

SSU

Human Resources and Faculty Affairs & Success

Thank you to the Human Resources and Faculty Affairs teams. Your dedication to our Faculty and Staff is unwavering and commendable. I appreciate being a part of such an incredible team who consistently shows up supporting each other with a smile and kind words. I appreciate each and every one of you!

- Trisha Ramos



SSU

Ian Carlson

Thanks to Ian for heading the Drupal migration, and getting all of our new sites up and running this past year! He's always making time to help answer questions and fix all the broken things. We're lucky to have him on our campus. And thanks for leading our weekly Drupal drop-in meetings - it's great to have a place where staff can help each other each week. From the small, dedicated weekly group, we appreciate you, Ian!

- Aidan Humrich



SSU

REACH Staff

Thanks for your collaboration and can-do approach. Your smiles and sense of humor help make even the most difficult situations manageable.



- Brent Boyer

SSU

All SEM Staff

I would like to recognize the small but mighty SEM team. A year ago, we set out to "Stop the Drop" and begin our enrollment recovery for 2024-25. The SEM Team accomplished both those goals. In Fall 2024, we stopped the 8-10% drops that had been happening for the past several years and then brought in 30% more new students for spring 2025. Spring saw the first term-over-term overall enrollment increase in nine years! Then, we launched a summer campaign that has already exceeded our goal of summer enrollment. The SEM staff have consistently gone above and beyond. Well Done!

- Ed Mills



SSU

Casey Kelly

You make our events sparkle! Thank you!



- Alicia Hodenfield

SSU



Ian Hannah

Every day you juggle a million things, and always know exactly where each will land! I appreciate your thoughtful consideration and employment of your vast knowledge! It sure makes my job easier!



- Alicia Hodenfield

SSU

Sara Golightly & Amy Bisping

Thank you for making us all feel loved, appreciated and celebrated! Your thoughtfulness sustains me!



- Alicia Hodenfield

SSU

Student Access & Success Teams

Shout-out to the incredible Student Access & Success (SAS) team! Thank you to Career Services, EOP, Seawolf Scholars, TRIO, MAVRC, DSS, University Advising, and Pre-Collegiate Programs for your unwavering commitment to student success. Your work uplifts, empowers, and transforms the Seawolf experience every day. Grateful for all you do!



- Sarah Ellison

SSU



Stephanie Toves, Luisa Grossi, Angeles Hernandez & the entire Registrar's Office

Thank you Stephanie, Luisa, Angeles and everyone at the registrar's office for being so kind and supportive to all our students and especially the DSS students. I appreciated you fielding all my (many) questions with such prompt and detailed responses.



- Michael Eynon

SSU

TRIO SSS

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

- Dr. Gerald Jones



SSU

Dana Twedell & the entire Facilities Team

I want to express gratitude to Dana and the entire facilities team. They have shown time and again how much they care and support the accessibility of our campus. We at DSS appreciate the continual maintenance and repair of the roads and pathways on our campus. Thank you for creating a safe and accessible campus.



- Michael Eynon

SSU

Ben Ellis / Conduct

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

- Dr. Gerald Jones



SSU

Aimee Studer

Thank you for being a bright light, a safe space, and bringing so much joy to every interaction you have. I have enjoyed the collaborations and work we have achieved together this year, and am beyond grateful for your partnership and friendship.



- Kellie Douglas

SSU



Mario Perez

Thank you for your loyalty and friendship when the going gets tough and
for leading with your values.

- Karen Moranski



SSU

Courtney Avvampato

It has been a true joy and honor to work with you these last two years. Cocreating impactful campus events with you, becoming true friends while supporting each other through the highs and lows of our work, and sharing in the pure happiness of your sweet MHA cohort this year - I will miss you so much!

- Kellie Douglas



SSU

Campus Prints: Gabi, Corey, and Anthony

Huge thanks to Campus Prints for always being a pleasure to work with!
Your hard work, quick turnarounds, and attention to detail don't go unnoticed.



- Karoline Gaitan

SSU

Gillian Estes

Gillian brings heart and intention to everything she does. Her thoughtful leadership and steady support of staff have been invaluable during a challenging year, and her compassion shines through in every interaction. Being selected as a Face of SSU was a well-deserved recognition of her deep commitment to our university community. We are lucky to have her!



- Loriann Negri

SSU



Molly Mande

Molly has really expanded her reach this year—building great connections across campus and throughout the CSU system. She's always willing to share her skills and insights, and she has helped me grow in my understanding of data systems. I truly value her collaborative team spirit. And her caring support of our student staff is vital to keeping the LARC going strong!

- Loriann Negri



SSU

Sarah Tucker

I appreciate you so much! Thank you for keeping me grounded and reminding me why we do what we do. Thank you!

- Christina Thao



SSU

MAVRC

Thank you Yvonne for supporting our military-affiliated students. The pride you show in your work shows in the lives of those students!

- Dr. Gerald Jones



SSU

Caroline Banuelos

Caroline does a great job balancing her work in the CCE with her civic commitments. Her community connections bring real value to our partnerships, and her flexibility and steady presence help keep things moving forward. I appreciate her thoughtful approach and flexibility.



- Loriann Negri

SSU

Culinary

Shout out to our amazing Culinary Services team for fueling commencement day with the Power Salad bar for lunch. The spread was a perfect (and delicious) energizing boost to help employees power through the day!!!

- Chandra Holte

SSU



Kari Manwiller

Many thanks to Kari Manwiller this year for supporting departments in a monumental update to program advising plans in response to changes in general education requirements. Your work in all aspects of the university catalog and support of faculty as they navigate curriculum change technology is valued and vital for student success.

- Jenn Lillig



SSU

Pre College 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!

- Dr. Gerald Jones



SSU

Strategic Enrollment Team

Thank you for seeing the potential in Sonoma State and working in incredibly creative ways to show prospective students this campus is their home.

- Karen Moranski



SSU

Human Resources Team

Thank you for all the many ways you support our campus community. From getting people paid, managing their benefits, completing ergonomic assessments, providing workforce planning support to offering training and professional development and so much more. Your work touches every part of campus and is appreciated by so many!!!

- Chandra Holte



SSU

Project Progress

Thank you Alvin & Joe! Through education, your knowledge and expertise of data has changed the way the University can succeed!

- Dr. Gerald Jones



SSU

Ricky Calderon

Ricky Calderon, your work with first/second year transition programs and Alpha Lambda Delta continues to be instrumental in student success and leadership growth. I continue to appreciate your thoughtful and vital contributions in all of our work on the academic side of the house!

- Jenn Lillig



SSU

University Advancement Team

To the University Advancement team - thank you for all you do!



- Tiffany O'Neil

SSU

Gillian Estes

Thank you for your humane and thoughtful leadership of Staff Council this year. Your wisdom is so valuable to all of us.

- Karen Moranski



SSU

Karoline Gaitan

Congratulations Karoline Gaitan on your second successful year as our EAP Coordinator. You are building a brand new EAP program and establishing stronger relationships with our high school colleagues. The new EAP YouTube channel rocks and will support our incoming first year students in their preparation for English/math coursework and college as a whole.

- Jenn Lillig



SSU

Ricky Calderon, Loriann Negri, Karoline Gaitan, & Maddie Peterson

Jump Start Team- thank you for being the best Jump Start team to work with. This team's desire for continual program improvement to support student success and our overall collaboration brings me extreme joy. You warm my heart.

- Jenn Lillig



SSU



Maddie Peterson

Maddie Peterson, your support across the board is always noticed and appreciated. You continue to grow in all aspects of your work and your support of our team allows us to also grow in our support of faculty and student success. You have put many systems in place this year (tracking, syllabus library, etc) that have reduced the workload for all of us. Kudos to you!

- Jenn Lillig



SSU

EOP

Thank you EOP team for the way you show up to help connect the dots to ensure our EOP students have the knowledge, support, and resources to thrive at Sonoma State!

- Dr. Gerald Jones



SSU

Career Center

Congratulations and great job creating a beautiful space and program to support our students and strengthen community connections! Becky, Chano & Nina – keep up the strong work!

- Dr. Gerald Jones



SSU

Dennis Goss & Julie Shell

Dennis Goss and Julie Shell, I cherish your analytical minds. I truly appreciate your willingness to jump into any sort of spreadsheet and check the math! Thank you for always being there for questions and having such clear answers!

- Jenn Lillig



SSU



Hope Ortiz

Thanks to you, Hope, for ensuring success for our study away students. They count on you because they know they'll get the support they need. Your energy for global engagement on our campus is unstoppable and so necessary as we navigate campus priorities. Thanks for all of your hard work and dedication.

- Stacey Bosick



SSU

Administrators and Staff in Academic Affairs

Thank you for steadfast and creative leadership in a time of incredible intensity, pain, and pressure, for working every day with integrity and courage. Thank you for your compassion and humanity—for remembering how we should do what we do. You keep the success of students, faculty, and staff and the best interests of the campus at the forefront of everything you do. You speak up and push back and make your teams stronger. Thank you.

- The Provost



SSU

Katie Musick

Good heavens, you're an all star! Thanks for kicking off UAchieve. You're doing so well with it! And all while continuing to be a reliable source of all things Sonoma State. Thanks for your problem solving and smarts. So glad you're on my team.

- Stacey Bosick



SSU

Megan Kane

Megan - You make Grad Studies shine! I'm so grateful for your willingness to go above and beyond to do right by our graduate students. Your patience, thoughtfulness, and smarts are irreplaceable.
Thank goodness for you.

- Stacey Bosick



SSU

Zachary Seifert Ponce

Shout-out to Zachary Seifert Ponce—tech wizard, event lifesaver, and king of saying “yes” like it’s a lifestyle choice. Always showing up with coffee, cool vibes, and help to spare. His guitar skills? Next level. His style? Colorful, bold, and matched only by his glorious long hair. Rock on, Zach—both on stage and in the tech booth!

- Remy Williams



SSU

DREAM Center

Facing increasingly challenging times, the Dream Center has moved, created a new home and brought much needed passionate support to our Dream Center students! Bianca, thank you for how seamlessly you've stepped into this new role!

- Dr. Gerald Jones



SSU

MSI

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

- Dr. Gerald Jones



SSU

THANK YOU

I'm retiring on June, 30, 2025, and I wanted to thank you for all the shared laughs, the hard work, and the camaraderie we've built together.

I'll cherish the memories we've made and I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to have worked with you.

Julie Barnes



Julie Shell

Thanks for all of your terrific work keeping summer scheduling on track.
Without your advising and careful recommendations, I don't know
where the heck I'd be! Thank you!!

- Stacey Bosick



SSU

Nina Bardwell-Chanthalangsy

Thanks so much for your ongoing work on dual enrollment, program review, and every random thing we come up with together. You're outrageously dependable, quick, and smart. I'm so grateful to have you on my team.

- Stacey Bosick



SSU

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 Jones



SSU

Stacey Bosick

Once again, thank you for your leadership in Academic Programs. Our team is the best- and that's because you allow us to be and you provide guidance so we can grow. I continue to learn from you everyday. I'll tell you the rest over tacos.

- Jenn Lillig



SSU



Emily Acosta Lewis

Thank you for your dedication to our campus through a period of crisis and intense division. You have a HUGE heart and care so much about the future of SSU and the success of our students. I appreciate you! <3



- Loriann Negri

SSU

The TRIO Team

Thank you for your years of collaboration with the LARC in supporting students in achieving academic success. We value you all and look forward to continuing to support TRIO students!

- Loriann Negri



SSU

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. It's a GREAT day to be a Seawolf!

- Dr. Gerald Jones



SSU

Student Health Center (SHC)

We appreciate you!! Thank you for making sure students stay healthy and thrive!

- Dr. Gerald Jones



SSU

Monir Ahmed

Thank you for your partnership and purposeful collaboration in the hardest of times and for your commitment to preserving what is best about our campus.

- Karen Moranski



SSU

Stacey Bosick

Thank you for always supporting me and listening -- even if I'm "deep in the weeds."

Your mentorship and guidance has been invaluable these past few years.
And your sense of humor and much-needed silly memes aren't bad
either. ;) THANK YOU!

- Loriann Negri



SSU

CAPS Team

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 Jones



SSU

HR Team

You ladies are always so helpful and I am happy that I get to work with you all.

- Evan MacKay



SSU

Seawolf Services Center Team

Thanks for all the many ways you support our campus on the daily! Whether issuing a new hire or student an ID card, answering questions, or helping someone make a payment on their account, you are always friendly, helpful and a big part of what makes the Seawolf experience so great!

- Chandra Holte



SSU



Julie Barnes

Thank you for keeping me grounded and for helping me navigate through so many different things. We at MESA appreciate you so much and will miss you!

- Christina Thao



SSU

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.

- Dr. Gerald Jones



SSU

Edie Brown

Being moved into the same office this year has been the BIGGEST blessing I never expected to have! I am so grateful for your work, your kindness, and your willingness to support students together.

Thank you, friend!

- Kellie Douglas



SSU

Landscaping



University Advising & Student Success

Learning how 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 Jones



SSU

LARC Team (Loriann, Molly, Gillian)

Thank you for continuously creating a safe space for MESA students! We appreciate you!

- Christina Thao



SSU



Accounting & Property Team

Great job this past year - #1 in the CSU once again!!

I am very grateful for each one of you (Nikki, Johna, Kristin, Mark and Kevin) we are great team. I am looking forward to another year-end close with you all.

- Amanda Visser



SSU

Tiffany O'Neil

You are a true thought partner, creative thinker, doer, organizer, listener, and leader - and honestly, the list just keeps going. Your energy, ideas, and partnership make you such a joy to work with and it is clear how much heart you put into everything you do to support this campus and its alumni.



- Chandra Holte

SSU

Rheannon Torres

Thank you for your patience and for your willingness to help me navigate through random scenarios. I appreciate you!

- Christina Thao



SSU

Athletics

Thank you for your mentorship, guidance and leadership development of our student athletes!

- Dr. Gerald Jones



SSU

Associated Students

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

- Dr. Gerald Jones



SSU

Campus Recreation

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

- Dr. Gerald Jones



SSU

Landscaping



Tai Russotti

I look forward to working more closely with you in the new academic year! Thank you for your continuous support and reassurance. I appreciate you!

- Christina Thao



SSU

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 makes success possible for our DSS students!

- Dr. Gerald Jones



SSU

Commencement Employees

A HUGE shout out to all the incredible employees who helped make this past weekend's commencement ceremonies so special! It is each of your support in front and behind the scenes that helped to create a truly memorable day for our graduates and their friends and families. Thank you for making it all possible!

- Chandra Holte



SSU

Institutional Equity & Belonging

Brand new office and the IEB is already making a difference bringing Equity and Belonging into the spotlight, building bridges, creating spaces and supporting our students! Great job, Tramaine!!

- Dr. Gerald Jones



SSU

Payroll Team

Thank you for all of your help, I wouldn't be able to do my job without you.

- Evan MacKay



SSU

Kelsey, Erin, Mike, & Stacey

You are rocking Team Provost! Thank you for taking me on and helping out! I appreciate the goodwill, the knocks on the door, the notetaking in free-ranging meetings, the agenda-making, the wrestling with my crazy schedule, and the support you give me every day. Even when Kim comes back, you will forever be part of Team Provost! With immense gratitude.

- Karen Moranski



SSU



Welcome Center Team

Rain or shine, you are out there greeting prospective students and their families with smiles, knowledge, and Seawolf spirit. Thank you for being the first friendly faces people meet and for showcasing all the incredible things our campus has to offer. You make a lasting first impression - and it does not go unnoticed or unappreciated!!!



- Chandra Holte

SSU

Emily, Suzanne, & Sam

Thank you for your leadership in the toughest of times.

- Anonymous



SSU

College Directors of Operations: Julie, Julie, Tai, and Sara

You are the unsung heroines of the last three years. Julie Barnes, we celebrate your many contributions, and we will miss you. Julie, Tai, and Sara, you are key to the future of the Division of Academic Affairs, and we are so glad you are with us! All four of you work through change with grace and use your experience to keep everything going. Thank you for your commitment to the institution—its students, faculty, and staff—and for your willingness to try new ways of doing things. We are so grateful.

- The Provost



SSU

Ed Mills

Thank you for coming to us, being with us, and helping us. I am forever grateful to work with you.

- Karen Moranski



SSU



Jacob Yarrow

Thank you for fashioning a space where humanity, inclusion, and the arts come together, and thank you for being a really kind, collaborative, and creative team member.

- Karen Moranski



SSU

The HUB

What a year for The HUB! Congratulations on a successful move and expansion!



- Dr. Gerald Jones

SSU

Jessica Way and the Entire Commencement Team

Thanks for an amazing job!



- Karen Moranski

SSU



Amy Bisping, Carly Davis, & Casey Kelly

Amy, Carly, and Casey, I'm truly grateful for you! Your hard work, creativity and dedication never go unnoticed. It's a privilege to work alongside such talented colleagues. Thank you!

- Tiffany O'Neil



SSU



CES Team

Sarah, Melissa, and Brian, thank you for your dedication, hard work, and the laughter that keeps us all going. I truly appreciate each of you and feel so lucky to work with such an incredible team.

- Kindra Kautz



SSU

Facilities



Seawolf Scholars

Thank you Shelly Gomez and Stacie Rodriguez-Fitch supporting our Seawolf Scholars! You both ROCK!

- Dr. Gerald Jones



SSU

Gerald Jones

Thank you for your kindness, compassion, and grace, and your unwavering willingness to do what is right.

- Karen Moranski



SSU



Noma Care Central

You tackle each unique case with your whole heart and our students-in-need to a list of resources that you carefully curated and cultivated both on and off campus. We see your hard work and the difference you are making in the lives of our most vulnerable students! Rock on, Dr. Brown!!

- Dr. Gerald Jones



SSU

Student Affairs Staff

Your continued passion to support our students - keeping them entertained, safe, educated, and feeling like family is second to none!

- Dr. Gerald Jones



SSU