# The GLOBE S

Student Voices and Views for the SLCC Community



www.globeslcc.com August 2022 | Fall '22 | Issue 1

## Letter from the President - Welcome Bruins! <<





Salt Lake Community College President Deneece G. Huftalin

Dear Students.

Welcome to SLCC! I hope you had an amazing summer and are ready for the new semester. You've chosen to attend an exceptional college that educates and trains more than 45,000 students each year. The incredible range of backgrounds and experiences brought by our students make SLCC the most diverse higher education institution in Utah – a source of pride for all who work here.

Whether you're a new or returning student, know that our fantastic faculty and staff are committed to your success. All 3,500 of us are ready to support, assist and cheer you on as you work toward your educational goals.

To start your year off right, I encourage you to meet with one of our caring and dedicated academic advisors. They will help you navigate your path in transferring to a four-year institution or in starting a program that puts you on the fast track toward rewarding employment. Your SLCC advisor is an important ally in helping you achieve success, and they will regularly reach out to see how you are progressing in your studies.

In addition to our advisors, you'll be spending time with excellent faculty who are committed to bringing their best to the classroom. All SLCC faculty hold top-notch academic credentials, and many have years of direct work experience in their fields. This combination of academic knowledge and real-world understanding will be invaluable to you and your learning.

Thank you for choosing SLCC. Our story is your story – and we are fortunate to be part of yours. Best of luck, and I hope to see you around campus.

Go Bruins! Deneece G. Huftalin, PhD President Salt Lake Community College

# Letter from the Editor

Dear Bruins,

First, welcome to new Salt Lake Community College students, and welcome back to those returning for another semester. I don't know about you, but whenever a new school year comes around, I feel a light sensation of butterflies in my stomach whether it's from excitement or anxiety. I can't say for sure. (I'm leaning towards saying it's likely both.) As the semester progresses, know there are plenty of resources and student clubs, associations and services available to help you along your academic journey, many of which we highlight in this issue. If school begins to feel like a solo effort, please don't hesitate to reach out to these groups or offices. Chances are you will find someone – or many people – more than happy to lend a hand.

This summer marked my fourth semester at *The Globe*. During this time, as part of my reporting, I've come to meet people from all walks of life – people whom I perhaps would not have met otherwise. SLCC is the most diverse school in the state, and it shows not just in its student enrollment, but in its school's groups - many student-led and their efforts to promote spaces that invite and represent that diverse body.

Services like the Gender and Sexuality Student Resource Center, Dream Center, ESL Legacy Mentors and groups like the Black Student Union, American Indian

■ Photo courtsey of Cristian Martinez

The Globe, Editor-in-Chief, Cristian Martinez.

Student Leadership and Multicultural Student Council, among others, contribute to the dynamic environment across SLCC's campuses. Alongside supportive staff and faculty, I firmly believe students are at the forefront of these efforts, and I can't wait to see what comes next.

Muchas gracias to those who have helped me along the way. I wish everyone a successful and fruitful fall semester.

Cristian Martinez

Editor-in-chief

The Globe









# OBE Student Staff

#### **Cristian Martinez**

Cristian is a journalism and digital media student at Salt Lake Community College. He describes himself as an introvert and homebody, but he is trying to stop doing the latter so often. Cristian enjoys watching movies, going for long walks and drinking coffee whenever he gets the chance.



#### Alexie Zollinger Staff Writer

Alexie is a journalism and digital media student at SLCC and a part-time barista. She loves to hear people's stories and enjoys cartoons and movies with a lot of heart - slashers, too. Alexie hopes to one day realize her dream of being a cultural reporter for a local news organization.



@mlarkphotography

Mackenzie is a photography student at SLCC. She enjoys capturing the personalities of animals and the beauty of plants and holds a deep appreciation for nature. Mackenzie spends most of her free time taking excessive amounts of photos of her dogs,



#### Jonny Tollestrup

Jonny is a journalism and digital media student at SLCC. He loves working with his fellow writers at The Globe, spending time with his lovely wife, and arguing endlessly about pop culture and fast food. His inner Canadian wants you to know he's sorry. For what he's not sure, but he is sorry.



#### **ADVISER**

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Moose and Milo, and her frog Kyle.



**ADVERTISING Jake Sorensen** j.sorensen@chronicle.utah.edu

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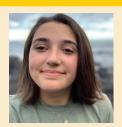
Sean Stetson Diaital Fditor @SMS4988

Sean is a journalism and digital media student at SLCC. Originally from Boston "title town" Massachusetts, sports are Sean's bread and butter, and he always finds a way to bring it up. Sean is also a retired Army veteran and is getting married to the love of his life, Wendy Brown, this coming spring.



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#### **Student Summer Writers**



**Ashlee Astin** COMM 1130

Ashlee Astin is a communication major at SLCC in the journalism and digital media program. She enjoys puzzles and going to concerts in her free time.



**Zane Smith** COMM 1130

Zane Smith is a political science major at SLCC. He works at the Salt Lake County Mayor's Office of Diversity and Inclusion and is an avid reader.



**Nicholas Bowne** 

COMM 1130

Nicholas Bowne is a strategic communications and marketing major at the University of Utah. He enjoys spending time in the mountains camping and fishing.



**Marcus Webster** 

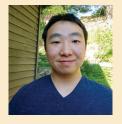
COMM 1130

Marcus Webster is a journalism and digital media student at SLCC. He is a public speaker and dancer who loves to entertain an audience.



**Patrick Kennedy** COMM 1130

Patrick Kennedy is a second-year journalism and digital media student at SLCC. When he is not studying or working full-time for a local tech company, he enjoys spending time with his friends and traveling.



facebook.com/slccsmc

Jonnathan Yi COMM 1130

Jonnathan Yi is a communication student at SLCC. He is currently writing this paper and is worried you won't like it. He also enjoys playing video games and going on long runs to clear his head.



slcc.edu/smc



@GlobeSLCC



Fall semester begins Tuesday, Aug. 23 - Are you ready?

#### HAVE YOU COMPLETED NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION?



Join us at a Bruin Bound session or complete the online orientation. We also offer virtual registration assistance.

# Bruin Bound in-person

#### Bruin Bound: orientation, advising and registration

- \* Meet with an academic advisor and career coach.
- \* Connect with staff and other students in your area of study.
- \* Learn college success tips and discover campus resources.
- \* Receive help selecting and registering for courses.
- \* Offered at the Taylorsville Redwood, South City and Jordan campuses.

# Online orientation

\* Ideal for Salt Lake Technical College (SLTC) students, international students, transfer students or any student who wants a refresher of the college.

# Virtual registration assistance

After completing the online orientation:

\* Work directly with Orientation and Student Success (OSS) Office staff for registration assistance, and get all of your questions answered.

Visit slcc.edu/oss/orientation to get started. If you have any questions, please contact SLCC's OSS Office.

Email: oss@slcc.edu | Phone: 801-957-4299

#### MySLCC IS YOUR GATEWAY TO SLCC

MySLCC

Visit my.slcc.edu to log in to your MySLCC. This is where you will register for classes, receive official email from SLCC, pay your tuition, check your financial aid awards, view your grades, access Canvas and find out what's going on in your classes and throughout the college.

To obtain your MySLCC username and password, click on the "First Time Users" link just below the login window. You will need to know your student ID number (called your "S" number). Your "S" number was originally sent to you in your admissions letter, but if you do not know it, you can look it up online.

#### **Useful Phone Numbers**

SLCC Operator/General Info 801-957-4073

Operators can direct you to the right people for just about any SLCCrelated question. Admissions

801-957-4073

**Academic Advising** 801-957-4978

**Financial Aid** 801-957-4410

## **Tips for the First Day**

#### **ARRIVE EARLY**

Give yourself extra time to find a parking space. Campus parking is the most crowded during the first week of classes.

#### **BE PREPARED**

Whether you're using a laptop, tablet or pen and paper, be prepared and ready to take notes on the first day of class.

#### **BE SAFE**

All SLCC campuses continue to be mask friendly. Students and employees are encouraged to conduct a daily symptom check before coming to campus. Anyone experiencing symptoms of illness may not come to school and can return upon being symptom-free for at least 24 hours. Stay up to date with SLCC's Coronavirus response website slcc. edu/safe/c19.aspx.

#### **CLASS LOCATIONS MAY CHANGE**

If one of your classes has a location change, the updated information will be displayed on the door of the originally scheduled classroom. You may also visit the Registrar and Academic Records Office for assistance.

You can view and print your schedule online in MySLCC or, better yet, access it via the SLCC app (find it by searching for "Ellucian Go" on Google Play or the App Store).

#### **CHECK THE FALL 2022 CALENDAR**

Know the important deadlines for adding and dropping classes, paying tuition and the last day to withdraw from classes (slcc.edu/academiccalendar).

#### ATTEND CLASS THE 1ST DAY OR YOU MAY LOSE YOUR SPOT!

1st Day

To make room for other students, your instructor can drop you from your class if you don't show up. Please make note of the following:

- \* If your class meets **once a week**, you must attend your very first class session.
- \* If your class meets **twice a week**, you must attend at least one of the first two class sessions.
- \*If your class meets **online**, you must log into Canvas within the first five days of the term.

If you are unable to attend class your first week of school, you must inform your instructor of your absence ahead of time. Instructor contact information can be found on your class schedule accessible through MySLCC. If you decide you do not want a class you are enrolled in, **you must drop it**. Do not assume the instructor will drop you.

#### **IMPORTANT DATES FOR FALL 2022**



Know the important deadlines for adding and dropping classes, tuition deadlines and the last day to withdraw from classes (slcc.edu/academiccalendar).

Event	Full Term 16-Week Aug. 23 – Dec. 15 and 1st-Half Term 8-week Aug. 23 – Oct. 15	<b>12-Week Term</b> Sept. 14 – Dec. 15	2nd-Half Term 8-week Oct. 17 - Dec. 15
Classes Begin	Aug. 23	Sept. 14	Oct. 17
Last Day to Add Classes	Sept. 1	Sept. 23	Oct. 24
Tuition Due	Sept. 7	Sept. 14	Oct. 17
Last Day to Drop Classes with 100% Refund	Sept. 13/Sept. 2	Sept. 29	Oct. 27
Last Day to Withdraw (No Refunds)	Oct. 11/Sept. 26	Oct. 31	Nov. 18

#### **ACADEMIC ADVISING**



Academic Advising is available to help connect students with valuable resources at the college and, most importantly, create a roadmap of the classes you need to successfully complete your degree or certificate and transfer or enter the workforce.

Visit our website at slcc.edu/academicadvising for instructions on how to schedule an appointment or review frequently asked questions. Services are available at the Taylorsville Redwood Campus, South City Campus, Jordan Campus, West Valley Center, Miller Campus and Westpointe Center locations.

#### >>> Program Questions

Are you already in a program but unsure what you need to graduate? Academic advisors will assist you in using a tool called "DegreeWorks" that will track your progress in your program and create a "what-if" scenario to show which of your completed courses would still count if you were to change your program of study.

#### >>> Transfer and Workforce Referrals

What about the next steps? Academic advisors work in partnership with programs at our most popular transfer institutions to provide a seamless transition to your next degree. If you're looking to join the workforce sooner, career coaches can help you find jobs in your industry that match your certificate or degree.

#### PRINTING IN OPEN COMPUTER LABS



Students can print up to 50 pages every semester for free using their OneCard. If you need to print more, money can be added to your OneCard account. For more information, call 801-957-4022 or visit slcc.edu/onecard.

#### **CENTER FOR HEALTH & COUNSELING**



The Center for Health & Counseling (CHC) helps students stay physically and mentally well while they navigate their educational experiences at Salt Lake Community College. The CHC promotes and supports healthy bodies and minds, while providing health services at affordable rates. The CHC's integrated clinics are accessible to all, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender identity and socioeconomic status.

The CHC is comprised of medical services, mental health counseling services and massage therapy.

A wide variety of medical services are offered, starting at \$15 per appointment and may include immunizations, physicals, sick visits and STI/STD testing.

Mental health counseling is \$15 per appointment or \$30 for couples counseling. Mental health crisis walk-ins are free of cost and are offered to students, employees or SLCC campus visitors that may need immediate help.

Massage therapy is typically an expensive service, however, at the CHC students may receive a full-body massage for \$30 per hour.

All appointments may be made over the phone by contacting 801-957-4268 or by visiting the Taylorsville Redwood, Jordan or South City campus locations during business hours. For more information about services, prices and more, visit slcc.edu/chc.

Follow the CHC on Instagram at @slcc chc.

#### **CHILD CARE OPTIONS AVAILABLE**



Salt Lake Community College has morning and afternoon childcare available at the Taylorsville Redwood Campus (TRWD), South City Campus (SCC) and Jordan Campus. SCC also has evening care.

Childcare is available for children six weeks old and up at SCC, six weeks to 12 years at Jordan Campus, and ages 2 to 5 at TRWD.

Childcare vouchers are available for qualifying students to help pay for the cost of childcare and can be used at any licensed childcare in the state of Utah, including each of SLCC's childcare locations. Reduced childcare tuition is also available for eligible students at SCC.

Additional funding is available for Career and Technical Education (CTE) students and can be applied to tuition at all three campus locations, along with the childcare voucher, further cutting costs.

For more information, visit Child Care and Family Services at slcc.edu/childcare, or call one of our locations: 801-957-3070 for SCC, 801-957-4567 for TRWD and 801-957-6030 for Jordan Campus Child Care. For more information and to get on the waitlist, please call the numbers listed above or email holly. garcia@slcc.edu for SCC and TRWD or wendy.blanchard@slcc.edu for Jordan Campus.

#### **HOW TO PAY FOR TUITION - HAVE A PLAN!**



Would you like the option to pay your tuition in four installments rather than all at once? Check out the Tuition Payment Plan (TPP). Forms are available online at slcc.edu/ar or at Cashier Services. For more details, call 801-957-4480. Subsequent TPP payments are due the 10th of each month.

#### OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS



For prospective students interested in applying to Salt Lake Community College, the Office of Admissions provides information on the academic programs and opportunities that await them at the college.

Admissions host events ranging from early college outreach to college awareness to open-house activities and ensures that staff are available every weekday to answer questions and work one-on-one with people interested in applying to SLCC. They can assist with campus tours, answer questions about residency and refer prospective students to additional resources. The admissions application is available in both English and Spanish.

For information on how to get started, answers to frequently asked questions and more, visit slcc.edu/admissions.

#### **SLCCSA**



Salt Lake Community College Student Association (SLCCSA) is the student government that acts as a bridge between students and administration at the college by representing and expressing student opinions and interests. SLCCSA offers tuition waivers to eligible students who serve as board members.

If you are interested in learning more or getting involved, here's how:

- \*Apply to join SLCCSA at https://tinyurl.com/slccsaboardmembers. Eligible students receive a tuition waiver.
  - \*Visit us online at slcc.edu/thaynecenter/slccsa
- \*Visit us in person at Taylorsville Redwood Student Center, room 124, Jordan Campus JSTC 201; or South City Campus, Room 2-074.

#### **TRIO**



Students who are first-generation college students, come from low-income backgrounds and are U.S. citizens or permanent residents planning to graduate from Salt Lake Community College and transfer to a four-year institution may qualify for exclusive resources offered through TRIO.

TRIO programs help bridge connections at SLCC and within the community through scholarships and financial aid support, one-on-one tutoring, networking with four-year institutions and engagement in cultural events. Students can learn more about TRIO services, events and eligibility at slcc.edu/trio or by visiting the TRIO office in person at the Taylorsville Redwood Campus in the Construction Trades Building room CT226.

#### STUDENT CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS



Student clubs and organizations provide an opportunity for students to explore different interests and connect to individuals with similar experiences. Salt Lake Community College has more than 40 student clubs and organizations spanning from academic-related groups to identity-specific groups to groups focusing on special interests.

More details about clubs, including how to contact club advisors and club presidents about joining a group, (slcc.edu/thaynecenter/programs-services/clubs-and-orgs).

If you would like more information about student clubs and organizations or about starting a new club, email anita.lui@slcc.edu.

#### FREE FAFSA WORKSHOPS AND COMPLETION ASSISTANCE



The Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships offers free workshops to assist with completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Staff at these events are available to help current and prospective students accurately fill out the FAFSA. No appointment or registration is necessary and walk-ins are welcome. Workshop sessions are held in the Taylorsville Redwood Campus Student Center, (second floor computer lab) on Tuesdays from noon to 1 p.m. and Thursdays from 5 to 6 p.m.

For more information on the FAFSA and related resources at SLCC, visit the school's Financial Aid website at slcc.edu/financialaid, scroll down, and click on the "FAFSA Completion Assistance" tab near the bottom of the gold sidebar.

#### **THAYNE CENTER**



The Thayne Center for Student Life, Leadership and Community Engagement connects students to the community, resources and programs that cultivate empowerment, leadership and social change.

Some of the programs offered by the Thayne Center include:

- \* Leadership development
- \* Student forums with President Deneece Huftalin
- \* Alternative breaks (fall and spring)
- \* Civically Engaged Scholars, a graduation distinction for community engagement
- \* Community work study for community employment opportunities
- \* #SLCCServes, planned community service projects
- \* National Society for Leadership & Success
- \* Basic need resources
- \* Bruin Pantry (located at the Taylorsville Redwood, Jordan, South City and West Valley Center campuses)
- \* Support for SLCCSA and clubs and organizations
- \* Student travel

The best way to find out more about the Thayne Center is by stopping by our offices, located on three campuses: Taylorsville Redwood Student Center (room 124), Jordan Campus (JSTC 201) and South City Campus (room 2-070). Learn more online at slcc.edu/thaynecenter.

For the hours and locations of our four Bruin Pantries, visit slcc.edu/thaynecenter/programs-services/bruinpantrygethelp.aspx.



#### **BUS/TRAX INFO**



Your OneCard doubles as your UTA bus and TRAX pass. After you register for classes, stop by any ID Center to obtain your free OneCard.

# Student services and where to find them

#### >>> Submitted by Student Services

In addition to the services at Taylorsville Redwood Campus, Salt Lake Community College offers a variety of student services throughout Salt Lake County.

- \* Academic advising
- \* Admissions
- \* Bruin Food Pantry (Jordan, West Valley, South City and Taylorsville Redwood)
- \* Career services
- \* Cashiering/tuition payments
- \* Center for Health and Counseling (Jordan, South City and Taylorsville Redwood)
- \* College store
- \* Computer labs
- \* COVID self-testing kits

- \* Disability Resource Center
- \* Dream Center (Taylorsville Redwood and West Valley)
- \* Financial Aid/ Scholarships
- \* Gender and Sexuality Student Resource Center (South City)
- \* International student services
- \* Lactation rooms
- \* Learning Center/tutoring
- \* Library/media
- \* Meditation/prayer rooms (Jordan and Taylorsville Redwood)
- \* OneCard



Miller Campus is one of the seven campuses offering a variety of services to students.

- \* Orientation & Student Success
- \* Parking
- \* Thayne Center for Student Life, Leadership & Community Engagement
- \* Testing (Jordan, South City, Taylorsville Redwood, West Valley and Westpointe)
- \* Transcripts
- \* TRIO programs
- \* Veterans services
- \* UTA pass activation

# **Campus Student Service information**

# >>> LIBRARY SQUARE STUDENT SERVICES

231 E. 400 South Salt Lake City LSC 109

Contact us: 801-957-2002

# >> SOUTH CITY CAMPUS STUDENT SERVICES

1575 S. State Salt Lake City SCM Room 1-061 R-F 2 Contact us: 801-957-3350

#### JORDAN CAMPUS STUDENT SERVICES

3491 W. Wights Fort Rd. (9000 S) West Jordan Jordan Student Center Info Commons Contact us: 801-957-2680

#### >> WEST VALLEY CENTER STUDENT SERVICES

3460 S. 5600 West West Valley City Lobby

Contact us: 801-957-2117

# >>> MILLER CAMPUS STUDENT SERVICES

9750 S. 300 West Sandy Miller Free Enterprise Center Room 138 Contact us: 801-957-5417

# WESTPOINTE CAMPUS STUDENT SERVICES

2150 W. Dauntless Way Ave. Salt Lake City SSB Lobby

Contact us: 801-957-2150

# >>> HERRIMAN ANNEX STUDENT SERVICES

13011 S. Pioneer St. Herriman Suite 101 Contact us: 801-446-6625

JUNIPER CAMPUS (in Herriman - opening Fall 2023)
 STUDENT SERVICES
 14551 S. Sentinel Ridge Blvd. Herriman



Student Services can be found in the Jordan Student Center on the Jordan Campus.

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# **Tuition increases across Utah higher education institutions**

#### **Cody Vurik**

Contributing Writer

Salt Lake Community College will increase its tuition in 2022, joining six other public colleges in Utah who will do the same.

Starting with the summer 2022 semester, SLCC increased tuition by 4%, which adds \$138 for two semesters at 15 credits each. The Utah Board of Higher Education also approved SLCC's student fee increase of \$25, or 5.62%.

Student Association President Lindsay Simons explained the process in an email.

"Myself and other students served on the Student Fee Board from October 2021-February 2022 to recommend student fee increases for the

upcoming academic year," Simons wrote. "The increases for tuition and fees were also shared with students at the Truth in Tuition event in March."

Peta Owens-Liston, SLCC assistant director of public relations, said there are things the college is doing to counterbalance the tuition increase. This includes raising the minimum wage for SLCC employees increasing from \$12 to \$14, as of July 1.



Salt Lake Community College received approval from the Utah Board of Higher Education in March to increase tuition by 4% and student fees by 5.62%. The new rates will be in effect through the spring 2023 semester.

"Part of SLCC's mission is to provide affordable access to education, so our leadership is very mindful of maintaining that and sensitive to the pressures on our student population," Owens-Liston said.

SLCC's will sustain its child care program through a combination of a fee increase and subsidies from institutional funds and federal grants, according to The Salt Lake Tribune. SLCC President Deneece Huftalin told the Tribune she is trying to find other places to cut costs.

Last year, SLCC moved the source of funding for some services — including the student newspaper, ID card, recycling and charges associated with running the Gender and Sexuality

Student Resource Center — from fees to tuition, according to the Tribune.

SLCC also restored its application fee, now \$20. The previous \$40 fee was temporarily waived in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Information regarding tuition and fees and financial aid can be found on SLCC's website, slcc.edu/financialaid. Financial aid offices are located at several SLCC's campuses.

# A message from the COVID-19 task force

#### Submitted by the COVID-19 task force

The pandemic continues with new variants, which are expected to move to the United States. In Utah, new cases continue to fluctuate even as deaths overall are trending down. Vaccinations and boosters are highly encouraged for those eligible but are no longer required for students to attend SLCC. The college is "mask friendly," and wearing a mask is still a great way to prevent spreading.

Students experiencing flu-like symptoms, including fever, shortness of breath, sore throat, muscle aches, chills, or decreased sense of smell or taste, should stay home and get tested. If the test is negative and the student is symptom-free after five days, they may return to campus. Students who have tested positive for COVID-19 must not come to campus and are required to submit the self-report form. SLCC contact tracers will send specific instructions to students who have filled out the form.

Home test kits and masks are available for free at every campus' student support desk and the Center for Health and Counseling. Stay current on COVID-19 information, or get questions answered from the COVID-19 updates webpage slcc.edu/safe/c19.aspx.



SLCC has hosted multiple vaccine clinics throughout the last year.

# Creative careers start in arts, communication and media

#### Submitted by School of Arts, Communication and Media

The Salt Lake Community College School of Arts, Communication and Media (SACM) is the place for students to find opportunities to express themselves and inspire others.

With 17 different programs over two divisions, students can earn degrees or take general education courses in music, film, communication, journalism, performing arts, visual art and design, architecture, fashion design and more. Skill Set Pathways also provide opportunities for students to earn certificates of achievement in key technical areas in as little as one semester.

Through engaging general education, personal enrichment and program-specific courses, dedicated faculty prepare students to succeed in rapidly expanding creative and technical fields, with the training and skills that match industry needs. Students also learn vital soft skills, including critical thinking, project management and collaboration, which are increasingly sought after by employers.

"Our students learn production and performance. And our students learn



Associate Professor Matt Merkel operates a studio camera as Journalism and Digital Media major, Jonny Tollestrup, gets ready to read the news in the Center for Arts and Media.

teamwork," said Nick Burns, associate dean of communication and performing arts. "Some students seek gen ed credit. Other students want to master specific art or media or performance skills. Either way, online or on stage, our courses and programs emphasize collaborative, hands-on, creative work."

Housed in the one-of-a-kind Center for Arts and Media at the South City Campus, SACM classes utilize modern facilities and equipment to provide truly exceptional educational experiences. The Center is constantly seeking to provide the latest technology and academic experiences, including through a newly funded virtual production studio that promises to be one of the first such training facilities in the state when completed.

Students and community members will also find exciting events and programs at the Center for Arts and Media, including lectures, screenings, art exhibits, concerts, performances and theatre productions at the historic Grand Theatre. Since 2015, the center and Grand Theatre have also served as the largest Salt Lake City venue for the international Sundance Film Festival.

"As students return to campus, our school and programs continue to provide uniquely engaging instruction through dynamic courses, amazing faculty and enlightening events and activities," said Richard Scott, dean of the School of Arts, Communication and Media. "We're excited to build on the momentum created by our

instructors and students to solidify our campus as a vital hub for cutting-edge arts and education."

#### **Division of Communication and Performing Arts**

The Division of Communication and Performing Arts brings together degrees and courses that provide pathways for SLCC students to share their voices. Whether through filmmaking, songwriting or journalism, students taking division classes learn crucial skills applicable to a wide range of careers.

"From TV to TikTok, from dance to documentary film, modern life is touched by media and performance," Burns said. "All students need media literacy. Our students learn to be smart media consumers, as well as engaged media producers and performers."

With both general education and degree-specific courses, the Division offers AA, AS and AAS degrees in multiple disciplines. These include communication studies (public speaking, persuasion, interpersonal, intercultural, teamwork, conflict

resolution and more), journalism and digital media (radio, television, text, social media, visual communication and more), film production, music production and performing arts (dance, film, music and theater).

Each semester the division offers nearly 600 sections of various courses, many also available online. These classes provide a strong foundation for further academic success, including articulation with regional colleges and universities. The division champions hands-on learning in industry-standard facilities, including a three-camera television studio, film sound stage, music recording studio, radio station, *The Globe* newsroom and 23 video/audio edit suites. The division is also home to the SLCC Student Media Center (SMC), which oversees students' hands-on experiences at *The Globe*, RadioSLCC and television news.

#### **Division of Visual Art and Design**

The Division of Visual Art & Design (VAD) offers SLCC students AS and AAS degree programs in a variety of disciplines, including visual art, architecture, fashion design, interior design and art history. With the option to specialize in several areas, SLCC art and design students receive the skills

and training necessary to succeed in these rapidly expanding creative fields.

Housed at the South City Campus, as well as facilities at the Taylorsville Redwood and Library Square campuses, VAD classes incorporate the latest technology and software so students can stay up to date with the changing demands of constantly evolving artistic fields. Interactive computer displays and traditional studio spaces allow for a truly hands-on approach to education, with instruction focused on both traditional and digital techniques. With highly skilled faculty recognized throughout their industries, VAD programs uphold a well-earned reputation for quality and excellence. Whether going directly into the workforce or looking for opportunities to pursue further education, the Visual Art and Design division provides SLCC students with an engrossing academic experience.

In addition to the degree programs, students throughout SLCC can include some art in their schedules by taking fun and engaging general education courses that expand their artistic abilities, with topics including painting, photography, animation and more. The division also offers one-year certificate programs for several different subjects.

"Our students have something to say, a message to share. They know our studios, our faculty and our classrooms offer the best in Utah," Burns said. "Come check us out. You won't be disappointed."

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# SLCC looks to become a Hispanic-serving institution

#### **Cristian Martinez**

Editor-in-Chief @CrisM 0

For Richard Diaz and his family, immigrants from Peru, Salt Lake Community College has been an educational cornerstone.

They found themselves living in the Kearns and West Valley area upon moving to Utah. Diaz's parents attended SLCC, becoming the first to learn English and later complete a certificate through the School of Applied

Technology. Diaz's older brother started at SLCC before leaving to join the military, and his second oldest brother, after returning from the military, pursued a criminal justice degree at SLCC.

"This institution is written into the story of my family," Diaz said, "and I believe its impact can also be felt across multiple communities that represent the Latinx diaspora."

Diaz told his family's story in February during SLCC's annual 360 event, in which the college communicates its strategic goals to staff and faculty. Though in past years the event has been relatively general, this year's event focused on SLCC's status as an emerging Hispanic-serving institution, or HSI.

Diaz and Alonso Reyna Rivarola, also an immigrant from Peru, hold directorial staff positions at SLCC and recently began acting as co-leads of the Emerging HSI Collaborative Work Team. College leadership created the work team to address the needs of Latinx students and to develop a formalized plan for SLCC to become an HSI.

The federal government grants an official HSI designation to institutions whose Latinx students account for 25% of the total student body, allowing them to receive specialized grants. According to SLCC's fact book, full-time Hispanic students account for 19.3% of total students as of 2021, the highest percentage figure of any higher-ed institution in Utah.

But for Diaz, Rivarola and the collaborative work team, their goal to better serve Latinx

students stands regardless of a federal designation.

"As the only higher education institution located on the diverse west side of Salt Lake, SLCC is strategically positioned to provide access to higher education to students from these communities," Diaz said.

SLCC President Deneece Huftalin echoed this point, saying, "If Salt Lake County is our service area, we need to reflect that service area."



Richard Diaz, left, and Alonso Reyna Rivarola, co-leads of the HSI collaborative work team, give their remarks during the "SLCC 360" event in February.

According to the latest data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Salt Lake County's Hispanic or Latino population sits at nearly 19%, with West Valley and Kearns sitting at 40% and 33%, respectively.

The 'why'

During the February event, SLCC shared data showing that the Hispanic population saw the largest growth of college-age individuals in Salt Lake County in 2021 – 53% as opposed to 14% for non-Hispanic.

However, the formation of the HSI work team coincided with a drop in completion rates among Latinx students from 2020 to 2021, whereas other students of color saw a small, overall increase despite the pandemic.

In addition, the opportunity gap in completion among Latinx students, which measures the percentage difference in completion rates between students of color and their white peers, also widened by 8% from 2020 to 2021.

"This speaks again to the idea that

student experience isn't the same across all populations," said Jeff Aird, vice president of Institutional Effectiveness at SLCC.

Sendys Estevez, the college's student success coordinator for Latinx students, said the pandemic likely exacerbated existing problems facing first-generation Latinx students, a population she regularly works with.

"Just stepping on a college campus and dealing with everything that college is,

from college language [...] the navigating of two worlds of their life as a Latinx individual, and then being a first-generation Latinx student in a predominantly white institution [...] that itself is very overwhelming, it can be intimidating," Estevez said.

Estevez also pointed out the added challenge among Latinx students, particularly those who are undocumented, in being eligible and qualifying for federal student aid, making tuition payment difficult or unfeasible if they cannot obtain federal help.

Like Estevez, Diaz works with

Latinx students through programs such as Bruin Scholars and Summer Bridge. These programs, predating the current work of the HSI work team, are designed to help incoming high school students from marginalized backgrounds succeed at SLCC by offering peer mentorship, personalized assistance and connection to resources.

"The mere fact that programs like this exist, I think, point to larger, systematic issues that many of our minoritized populations face as they transition from high school, or from adult life in workforce, into higher education," Diaz said.

"When you date back historically, thinking about who [colleges were] created for – as well as when you think about the emergence of Hispanic-serving Institutions," Diaz said, "the things that they all have in common is that those colleges always, always, always started as predominantly white colleges."

Read more about SLCC becoming an HSI at globesicc.com.

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# Student Writing and Reading Centers: a resource for all

#### Submitted by Clint Gardner, director of Student Writing & Reading Centers

"Writing scares me," said Haley Frye, a Salt Lake Community College student enrolled in English 1010. "I've never been strong with English at all. It's been one of my weakest subjects throughout high school and my entire learning."

Frye's fear of writing is shared by many SLCC students. But Clint Gardner, director of the Student Writing and Reading Center (SWRC),



Students utilize the Student Writing and Reading Center at Taylorsville Redwood Campus.

insists that "we can all learn how to communicate effectively and efficiently in writing."

The SWRC helps that happen. In fact, Gardner cites it as their motto: "To help people succeed as students and improve as writers."

The SWRC provides free writing and reading tutoring and is open to all students at SLCC. The center works with students on any type of writing, not only English papers. Some students even bring in personal writing such as stories and poetry, scholarship essays and resumes. The student-directed service seeks to help writers by giving feedback and one-on-one advice as needed when they write. Students also come in with a variety of readings to talk about in order to develop a deeper understanding of their texts.

Students interested in visiting the SWRC may make appointments either

in person or online, or may walk in for first-come, first-served tutoring. An average session is roughly 25-30 minutes long. Students are encouraged to use the service multiple times over the course of writing a paper and throughout the semester.

The SWRC offers tutoring throughout the week at the Redwood, South City, Library Square, Miller and Jordan campuses, as well as online. Hours are yet to be determined for fall but can be found at the SWRC website, slccswc. org.

#### Locations

\* Redwood: AAB 129, 801-957-4893

\* South City: 1-137, 801-957-3206

\* Jordan: JSTC 206, 801-957-2852

\* West Valley: 123, (no phone)

\* Online: slccswc.org, 801-957-4842

# SLCC works to remove the barrier of childcare for parents

#### **Nicholas Bowne**

Contributing Writer

Student parents searching for affordable day care that fits into their class schedules have access to Child Care and Family Services at Salt Lake Community College.

Through a mixture of voucher assistance and grants offered at SLCC, the college can provide its childcare services at a low cost or free of charge. Holly Garcia, the program director, said not being able to afford childcare is a common roadblock for parents pursuing their education.

A report by the U.S. Government Accountability Office found 52% of college student parents drop out of school before earning their degree.

"Between the grant and the voucher assistance option, the cost could be very little if anything at all," Garcia said.

Childcare services prioritize access to parents attending classes at SLCC, followed by faculty and staff. If there's additional availability, the program then offers its services to community members.

No matter the family situation, the childcare services office aims to foster safe environments and connections between children, their parents and its staff, Garcia said.

"We provide all information and a tour of our facilities in person," she said, "that way parents can feel comfortable."

Childcare services provide care for children as young as six months up to 12 years old.

Jeni Harris, the morning acting director

of the program, said their main objective is to help children "reach milestones" by teaching them to read and monitoring their development regularly.

Garcia said childcare services' comprehensive program is designed to make parents feel comfortable knowing their child is well cared for, so they can continue their own studies or work in academia.

The cost of childcare services varies based on how often parents bring their children to one its three facilities, located at the Taylorsville Redwood, South City and Jordan campuses.

More information about childcare costs, voucher assistance and the CCAMPIS grant through the South City Campus, which can potentially reduce childcare fees by up to 68%, can be found at slcc.edu/childcare/index.aspx.



child is well cared for, so The Tim and Brenda Huval Child Care Center at South City Campus

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# Students in need find support at the DRC

#### Submitted by Student Services

Students with disabilities can find support at SLCC through the Disability Resource Center (DRC). The DRC's purpose is to both facilitate access and inclusion and provide reasonable accommodation for students.

A variety of individualized accommodations and resources – including assistive technology, testing accommodations, access to early registration, campus event access and more – are available to students through this

office. The DRC also provides training, education and support to college administration, faculty and staff.

Students seeking accommodation may apply for services by filling out the DRC New Student Application at slcc.edu/ drc. Once the application is received, the DRC will contact the student to set an informational meeting appointment. This appointment starts an interactive process with a DRC advisor to determine eligibility for services under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Students are responsible for providing the DRC with documentation from a licensed professional who is familiar with the

student's limitations. This documentation should describe their disability and its current impact on the student's education. The DRC advisor can answer questions about obtaining this documentation during the informational meeting.

Once a student is found eligible for services, DRC advisors work to ensure equal opportunity and access for the student's education. Student

> accommodation is based on documented student needs and is individualized for each class. DRC students meet regularly with DRC advisors to review their accommodation for each semester, and advisors notify faculty of any approved accommodations. The DRC is the only department in the college that can determine a student's eligibility for services under the ADA.

The DRC enthusiastically invites students with disabilities to seek assistance and guidance through the office. For more comprehensive information, visit the DRC website or call the office directly at 801-957-4659.



A student uses an all-in-one desktop magnifier in the Disability Resource Center at the Taylorsville Redwood Campus.

# International Student Services: your home away from home

#### Submitted by International Student Services

International Students Services (ISS) is available to assist students from countries and cultures all over the world and help them feel a sense of belonging at Salt Lake Community College.

Students of all ethnicities, genders, identities and cultures are welcome in the ISS office, where the staff is happy to lend a helping hand for everything, from visa questions to admission concerns to assisting with navigating the difficulties of adjusting to American culture. International students are essential to the SLCC community, and our office strives to maintain communication with students and

get to know them individually, as well as find ways we can better encourage their success.

Students and guests who have questions concerning the international admissions process, how to get a visa, or whether they can change their status from their current visa to the F1 visa should make an appointment with our admissions advisor, Mark Johnson, at 801-957-4521.

Current international students who have questions about employment opportunities, their current SEVIS status, changing from their F1 visa to a green card,

> or concerns should make an appointment with our advisor, Michael Hasfurther, at 801-957-4737. Hasfurther spent an extended period in Asia teaching English and takes the time to make sure he fully understands students and fully addresses



# Ready to assist

International Student Services is ready to assist you Monday- Friday from 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m., in STC 232 on the Taylorsville Redwood campus. Appointments are strongly encouraged.

questions and concerns.

ISS has two international student diplomats who connect with and advocate for our international students. Our diplomats also host planned events, based on student suggestions, to bring international students from all backgrounds together. Recent events included a hike up Living Room Trail and a visit to the Natural History Museum of Utah.

Staff in the office aim to create a space that can be a home away from home, where students can come when they need to share a laugh, meet new people, or have a problem to resolve. Please call ISS at 801-957-4528 with any questions, concerns or inquiries, or to make an appointment to see us in-person.

Follow us on social media to stay up to date on events and announcements.

- \* Facebook: SLCC International Student Services
- \* Instagram: @slccisa



International students at the Taylorsville Redwood Campus, near the office of International Student Services.

# Programs and mentors are ready to help veterans

#### **Sean Stetson**

When Dan Withrow left the Army in 2017 after six years of service in the airborne infantry, he was unsure of what to do next.

"I had an identity crisis," he said. "I had a specific set of skills, and I felt like I had value, but then none of those skills translated to any jobs. I feel like I became a veteran statistic I never thought I was going to be."

So, when the pandemic hit in March 2020, Withrow decided to take advantage of the time and try to rediscover what he wanted for his post-military career.

He left Flint, Mich. in July 2020 and traveled to 11 states, eventually making it to Utah where he enrolled at Salt Lake Community College as a video production major last fall.

"I love traveling, learning and experiencing new things," Withrow said. "I am still searching for my identity, but SLCC has definitely made me feel comfortable, with a friendly environment with both students and faculty."

For other veterans, the pandemic's effects on school were more pronounced. Jefferson Norrell, an Army veteran and general studies major, said the shift to online classes delayed his plans to transfer to the University of Utah's physical therapy program. He hopes to finally transfer this fall.

"I had numerous technology problems, and the lack of in-person classes made it difficult for me to learn, given my learning style," Norrell said. "I've been so happy to return back to class that it's been a noticeable difference in my grades from online learning to in-person."

Dr. Michael Foster, a contracted employee from the Department of Veteran Affairs who leads the college's VetSuccess program, echoed Norrell's points.

"For veterans, online learning just didn't work well for them. So many are taking breaks until they're ready to return," Foster said. "Unemployment is in the record lows, so a lot of veterans are working and saving their GI Bill until things return to whatever normal looks like."

Prior to the pandemic, veterans were



Veterans Jennifer Brown and Jefferson Norrell sit at the newly renovated Veteran Services Center at the Taylorsville Redwood Campus.

required to take at least one in-person class to be eligible for a full housing stipend. But when the pandemic hit, Congress passed legislation that allowed veterans who were forced into remote classes to receive full benefits. That bill, extended by the REMOTE Act in December

2021, expired on June 1. Foster said he believes this will bring veterans back into the classroom.

"I expect enrollment to get back to what it was," he said. "Veterans want to come back to class."

As more veterans return to the classroom, Jennifer Brown, a mentor at SLCC and

former Army soldier, expressed keenness to

"I love helping people," she said. "So anytime I can invest myself in such a way that a person's life is improved is top notch for me, absolutely."

# **Veterans Services has your 'six'**

#### Submitted by Veterans Services

Veterans Services is pleased to welcome students back to school at our newly remodeled office and invites students to visit at the lower level of the Taylorsville Redwood Campus Student Center in Room STC-053.

Staff in Veterans Services are dedicated to assisting and making sure veteran students receive specialized one-on-one service in obtaining VA educational benefits. Staff aim to support students in every way they can throughout the semester, so students not only successfully complete each term but also graduate.

In-office amenities at Veterans Services include:

- \* One-on-one meetings with a veteran-specific academic advisor
- \* Free one-on-one math tutoring
- \* Access to the computer science computer lab
- \* Free printing
- \* A VETSuccess on-campus counselor to connect you to other VA benefits
- \* An accessibility advisor who provides assistance with classroom accommodations, testing and other services
- \* One-on-one peer mentoring
- \* A safe space for you to visit and discuss any difficulties in times of need For more information, visit slcc.edu/veterans.



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# Tutoring resources available and accessible for students

#### **Ashlee Astin**

Contributing Writer

Students in need of academic help can get unlimited sessions with a Salt Lake Community College tutor, all for free.

Both the Student Writing and Reading Center and STEM Learning program at SLCC offer in-person sessions and online coaching through services like Zoom without having to make an appointment.

Clint Gardner, director of the Student Writing and Reading Center, said there are many benefits of visiting the center for students who are struggling in class.

"We see a lot of students who come in here who may not be confident in their writing or reading abilities," Gardner said. "When they work with us, after a while, they become more and more confident."

The program offers tutoring and allows students to improve their writing skills in a comfortable learning environment.

"What we have found is that different people find different [tutoring settings] more accessible," Gardner said.

If a student is not able to visit on-campus for in-person tutoring, online services such as Zoom calls or asynchronous meetings are SLCC tutors can meet with students in-person and via zoom.

also available. Students can also submit work to receive feedback on their writing.

The center isn't the only tutoring program on campus, however. The STEM Learning program offers tutoring, workshops, project research and online services for all students.

Santosh Balijepalli, the STEM projects manager, said many students have a misconception that tutoring is just about solving specific homework problems. Instead, their goal is to help students understand underlying concepts.

"What we do here is break down the concepts behind it and try to inquire the students to ask some probing questions and create some interesting enthusiasm in the subject," Balijepalli explained.

He wants students to feel comfortable in their learning environments. The online or in-person tutoring options provided by the STEM Learning center, he said, allow them to find resources needed to succeed without feeling stressed when it comes to their studies.

These programs work together through the College Reading and Learning Association, which allows tutors to earn their certifications. Through the program, students can become certified tutors to help their fellow peers with any concepts they might be struggling with.

For more info about tutoring offered through the STEM Learning program, visit slcc.edu/stem/tutoring/index.aspx. Info about the Student Writing and Reading Center can be found at slcc.edu/swc.



# Perfect fit: a degree for students seeking more options

#### Jonnathan Yi

Contributing Writer

Most college students aren't sure what they want to do when they start school.

More than 50% of incoming college students in the United States are undecided about their major, according to a 2019 survey from Ellucian, a major software company that focuses on providing services for higher education.

To help students struggling choose between two different studies, Salt Lake Community College created the Interdisciplinary Studies

degree, which allows students to construct their own academic experience and customize it to their needs.

David Hubert, associate for provost Learning Advancement, explained how the new degree program allows students to build their own degree by choosing courses that relate to their specific interests.

"So, for instance, if you're quite interested in, let's say, business and Spanish, and we don't have a degree for business in Spanish, you can craft your own path to an associate's degree in the Interdisciplinary Studies

program," Hubert said. "We do want to make that available to them."

The University of Utah, Utah Valley University and Weber State University, Hubert said, have similar design-your-ownmajor programs students can then transfer into.

provides **SLCC** other opportunities for students seeking a degree that will transfer to a career, including Career and Technical Education (CTE), as well as transfer programs in which students can transfer their associate's degrees to another university to

complete a full bachelor's degree and beyond.

The college's general education courses can also help students prepare for life by providing a more well-rounded education.

Sam Butler, a first-year biology student, said he's hoping to complete his associate's degree at SLCC and then transfer to an university and, eventually, apply to medical school.

"My biology professors so far have been awesome," Butler said. "And [I] like chemistry as well, along with math. All the STEM classes that I've been into have been awesome."

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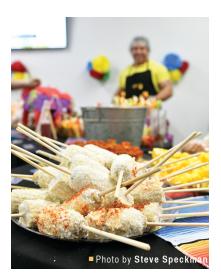
# >>> Diversity in Action

As Utah's most diverse institute of higher education, Salt Lake Community College aims to encourage, celebrate and support diversity across its campuses. SLCC does this through a variety of clubs and organizations that hold events – from Native powwows to showcases of food and art – and by providing resources to students from across the many communities reflected across the college. Learn more at slcc.edu/inclusivity.

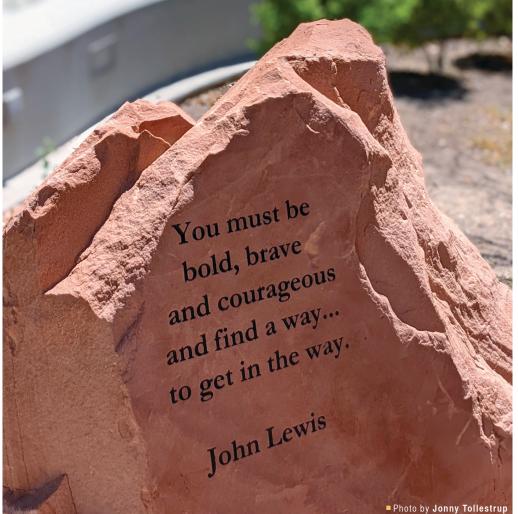
—Jonny Tollestrup



A display at the Redefining Chicanidad event



Food served at the Redefining Chicanidad event



Above: A quote from the late civil rights leader John Lewis, in the Peace and Justice Garden at South City Campus Right: Lauren Hamilton-Soule, president of SLCC's Queer Student Association, participates in a protest for all-gender restrooms at SLCC.



Above: Attendees of the 2022 spring powwow showcase Native-American dress. Below right: Low-rider bike on display at Redefining Chicanidad event at West Valley campus.







Dancers perform at the Juneteenth celebration at SLCC in June.



International students near the office of International Student Services on the Taylorsville Redwood campus.

A new mural at SLCC's office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs

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# Former SLCC student helps new generation find their footing

#### **Zane Smith**

Contributing Writer

Ulysses "Sione" Tonga'onevai's time at Salt Lake Community College has come full circle.

Tonga'onevai, a SLCC alum, now serves as director of SLCC's Office of Diversity & Multicultural Affairs (ODMA) and said he's eager to work at the school where he got his start more than 15 years ago.

"[I] wanted to reconnect with that experience and use it as a way to give back to the institution," he said.

After graduating with an associate's degree from SLCC, Tonga'onevai moved on to the University of Utah, where he completed his undergraduate and graduate work, including a doctorate of Philosophy in Education, Culture and Society.

A first-generation American Tongan with Polynesian ancestry, Tonga'onevai has roots in southern California but grew up on the westside of the Salt Lake valley.

Tonga'onevai is now taking that knowledge and background to support underrepresented

students who have been historically marginalized and may not know where to start with their college education.

He, along with the ODMA office staff, supports students who may need help in taking that first step.

Once students are on campus, his office's main goal is to help them develop a sense of belonging, support their academic goals and provide access to resources that might help them along their educational journey.

"Check in early and often" is Tonga'onevai's personal slogan.

Tonga'onevai said he wants to avoid students falling off the radar and shared how his own experience contributed to his success story.

Office staff provide support and educational resources through a multifaceted approach to a college student's identity, through age,

gender, race, religion, ethnicity, class, sexual orientation, nationality and disability.

Alisi Niupalau, assistant

director at the ODMA office is one of those staff members who tries to help students succeed. Niupalau said she encourages students to be proud of not only their heritage but of the things that make them individuals.

"[I] want to celebrate and recognize people of all different identities," she said.

The office's main location sits at the student center on the Taylorsville Redwood Campus, but they have coordinators who rotate between all campus locations.

There are a number of clubs that work in tandem with their office to host all kinds of events.

These clubs include SLCC's Black Student Union, the Asian Student Association, Latinx Student Union and the Queer Student Association.

For more information about ODMA or upcoming events, visit slcc.edu/diversity.



# Multicultural, DACA, gender and sexuality resources abound

#### Submitted by Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs

Salt Lake Community College is committed to creating a safe and welcoming campus community that celebrates the diversity in students' identities. The Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs (ODMA) provides students with opportunities for engagement and support at SLCC, the most ethnically diverse institution in the Utah System of Higher Education.

ODMA works to advance an inclusive learning environment that advocates for equity, values and celebrates diversity, fosters respect, and elevates student retention and academic excellence. ODMA has three locations, all of which students are welcome to visit.

The main **ODMA** space is located at the Taylorsville Redwood Campus Student Center in room 236. Here you will find the multicultural success coordinators who work to support students in a culturally relevant way. The Multicultural Student Council (MSC) and peer mentors, who are student leaders, can support and help connect students to leadership opportunities.

The center has a lounge area where students can relax, engage in meaningful conversations or watch a movie. There are study spaces and computer stations, in-house tutors and a conference room that can be reserved for meetings.

The Gender and Sexuality Student Resource Center (GSSRC) is

located at the South City Campus,



room 1-140. The GSSRC works for, and with, womxn and LGBTQ+ students. Through holistic support, programming and events, staff here engages the college community in topics and issues surrounding gender and sexuality. Staff members encourage students to visit the center to engage with others, decompress and connect with college and community resources.



Finally, the **Dream Center** is located at the West Valley Campus. The Dream Center is a space for students who identify as undocumented (with or without DACA), asylees or asylum DREAM CENTER seekers, children of undocumented

immigrants, or others who come from a mixed-status family. The Dream Center offers advising, mentorship and scholarship and writing support.

Join ODMA in planning events, celebrations and training to continually create a welcoming and inclusive campus community. Or follow them on social media: @slcc\_diversity, @slccgssrc, @slccdreamcenter.

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# Ready to run: New Bruins cross country team finds its coach

#### **Sean Stetson**

Digital Editor 🔽 @SMS4988

This past May, Salt Lake Community College found its coach to lead the school's new cross country program and track-and-field competitions. Isaac Wood, who holds an extensive coaching background at cross-country programs across Utah, will lead the Bruins this upcoming season.

"I love growing teams from the ground up, and I am excited to begin a tradition of excellence," Wood said in a write-up on the SLCC athletics webpage. "There is incredible talent in the state of Utah



Isaac Wood will lead SLCC's new Cross Country team.

that will benefit greatly from having a junior college option for them to begint heir college running careers."

Wood began as a team manager with Brigham Young University from 2007-2013 before becoming an assistant coach at Weber State University from 2014-2016. Wood then returned to BYU in 2016 to serve as the director of operations for track and field.

"I've been able to learn under and coach with some of the best coaches in the country, people like Ed Eyestone, Diljeet Taylor, Paul Pilkington, Karen Harvey," Wood said. "I have molded my training philosophies based on my experience with them."

#### Salt Lake gets a fresh look

Following his hire, the program unveiled the new cross country, track-and-field singlets in a tweet earlier this month. The new singlets easily identify the Bruins with the words "Salt Lake" displayed across the front in yellow letters, set against a light-blue backdrop.

"I liked having 'Salt Lake' on there instead of 'SLCC," Wood said when responding to a user on Twitter. "I don't want there to be any questions [about] where we come from when we're

running at meets."

The Bruins began practice Aug. 1 in preparation for their fall schedule.



The first iteration of the Bruin singlets.

# Nationally ranked teams and more

#### Submitted by the Athletics Department

Although Salt Lake Community College already has seven nationally ranked sports teams and a growing e-sports team, changes coming in the fall 2022 season will give students and other fans greater variety and opportunities to come support student athletes.

The Athletics Department is excited to add men's and women's cross country this season, under the direction of Head Coach Isaac Wood. Additionally, a brand-new soccer field at the Taylorsville Redwood campus opens this fall, and a brand-new baseball field at the Jordan Campus is set to open in spring 2023. This past year, all teams – including volleyball, basketball, soccer, baseball and softball – went to regionals, and three advanced to nationals.

Students can attend all home athletic events for free with a OneCard to support student athletes. Just show your OneCard at the door to receive your free code. You will be able to use this code to get a free ticket through our online ticketing system for all home games through our website slccbruins.com. Concessions are also available at home games, including hot dogs, popcorn and other snacks.

The website also houses sport schedules, team rosters, athletic stats, ticket purchasing and livestreams of most games, but this fall, we will be debuting our new SLCC Bruins application for iPhone or Android devices with these same capabilities. Keep an eye out for our official announcement of the SLCC Bruins app.

For more updates from the Athletic Department, visit these social media pages:

Twitter: @BruinAthletics Instagram: @slccbruins Facebook: SLCC Athletics

### **Bruins in action**

#### **Cross Country**

\* The brand-new men's and women's cross country will participate in the NJCAA Nationals in Tallahassee, Florida on Nov. 12.

#### Volleyball

\* Volleyball starts their season Aug. 19 against Western Wyoming Community College in the Ufirst Intermountain Invitational. The team will also travel to Odessa, Texas on Aug. 25 to participate in the Odessa Invitational.

#### Women's basketball

\* Women's basketball starts their season Oct. 14. The team will travel to Wyoming twice in November, competing in back-to-back tournaments. The first is the Western WYO tournament in Rock Springs, Wyoming on Nov. 4, and the second is the Casper College tournament in Casper, Wyoming on Nov. 18.

# Bruin Lyndsey Madrigal earns first-team, All-American in softball

#### **Sean Stetson**

Digital Editor 🔽 @SMS4988

Earlier this month, the National Junior Ccolleage Athletic Association announced that Salt Lake Community College freshman Lyndsey Madrigal earned national honors.

The NJCAA named Madrigal to the All-American team, earning placement on the first-team list. Madrigal was one of 16 players chosen for first-team, and among those 16, she was one of only six freshmen to make it.

"I was honestly surprised when I found out that I was selected first-team, All-American," she said. "I felt like I had a good season but didn't think it was that good."

Madrigal batted .462 on average, ranking No. 50 in the nation during the 2022 spring season, according to the NJCAA.

"We recruited Lyndsey because of her power and how aggressive she is at the plate," said Head Coach Cyndee Bennett. "She never gets cheated on any swing. She's just too good."

Early in last year's fall scrimmage schedule, when the Bruins played the top teams in Division I softball, Bennett said she knew Madrigal held something special.

"When Lyndsey hit a ball deep off the wall at BYU this past fall, I knew that she was immediately ready to play college softball," Bennett said. "We couldn't be happier for her and her first-team, All-American selection. She's a good leader for this team going forward."

Madrigal walked 32 times and ended with a .552 onbase percentage, two figures that placed her No. 20 and No. 19 in the nation, respectively.

"I feel like my greatest strength is that I'm able to recognize balls and strikes really easily," Madrigal said. "I also like to be really aggressive early in the count,

especially when leading off an inning to hopefully get something started."

Madrigal also led the Bruins with 16 home runs, netting a No. 51 national placement during the 2022 campaign. However, Madrigal said she does not want to be known as just a power hitter in the lineup.

"I also hit for average," Madrigal said. "I set... the tone when I lead off hitting, so I think that's what makes me different."

Madrigal, who graduated from Carbon High School in 2021, thanked those who helped her succeed this past season.

"I owe everything to Coach Bennett, Assistant Coach Tara Bendt for believing in me, my amazing teammates, and most importantly, my father Cip Madrigal for always being there for me," she said.

#### Looking ahead to 2023

All 14 freshmen who played for the Bruins softball team last season will return this year, making the team one of the most experienced Bennett has worked with.



SLCC softball player Lyndsey Madrigal stands on first base during a game during a game against College of Southern Nevada on April 30. Madrigal became a first-team NJCAA All-American in her freshman season.

"They had a lot of opportunities to play [last season], so we are going to have a lot of experience this upcoming season," Bennett said. "I have really high expectations for next season. I'm really excited."

Leading the charge will be now-sophomore Madrigal, coming off her freshmen campaign.

"I really want to win a region championship," she said. "We are going to have a really strong class next season. This is the best team chemistry I've ever played with, and we are going to have so much experience."

The off season did not hold any mandatory commitments until August. Some players, including Madrigal, took the time to get ready for next season in various tournaments throughout the summer.

Bennett planned to use the down time for a combination of recruiting and relaxing.

"Being at a two-year school, we do have quite the roster turnover where half the roster every year is gone," Bennett said, "which makes my job both challenging and fun at the same time."















The purpose of this scholarship is to provide financial assistance to students and credit union members whose values and goals reflect the credit union and our outstanding community. In order to qualify for this scholarship, you must be a member of UFirst Credit Union and be currently enrolled in an accredited 2 year or 4 year university or college. Each year, UFirst Credit Union awards \$20,000 in scholarships to collegiate students. Those funds are awarded to twelve different individuals: two scholarships in the amount of \$5,000, and ten scholarships in the amount of \$1,000. Each regular semester (Fall and Springl), UFirst will award six scholarships to qualified applicants. This means that if you are not selected to receive a scholarship in the current semester, you may apply again during a subsequent semester. Awardees may only receive one scholarship over the course of their collegiate career. Scholarship funds will be deposited into the recipients' accounts to be used as they deem necessary for their schooling needs. Awardees are determined by a committee of UFirst Credit Union employees. Selection is made without regard to applicant's race, color, national origin, religious belief, sex, marital status, age, sexual orientation, or disability. Must qualify for membership and must have a valid SSM/ITN to join. Membership requires a \$10 minimum deposit which must be maintained in a savings account. All applicable taxes, including any federal, state, or local tax liabilities are the sole responsibility of the winner(s). Applications must be submitted by November 30, 2022. Recipients will be awarded January 3, 2023. UFirst Credit Union may use the name or likeness of scholarship awardees for marketing purposes and/or social media. Other restrictions may apply. Scan QR Code or see our website for full details. Federally insured by NCUA.

# Bruin Scholars program helps students transition to SLCC

#### **Marcus Webster**

Contributing Writer

When Belen Castro Ruiz first enrolled at Salt Lake Community College, it was difficult to adjust to college life.

"Most of my friends didn't want to go into higher education, so I felt alone," said Ruiz, a second-year student majoring in education.

So, Ruiz joined the Bruin Scholars, a program designed to support first-generation, undocumented, transitioning-out-of-foster care and nontraditional students, as well as students who could want help figuring out higher education. It gave her the chance, she said, to feel connected to her education and her peers.

"Bruin Scholars introduced me to resources that helped improve my college experience and social life," she said.

Erin Stirling, assistant director of the Orientation and Student Success office, said Bruin Scholars exists to help students who would otherwise not feel like they belong in higher education.

"We're here to holistically help students and be their support system," Stirling said. "We want students who want to receive that extra help, and we aim to provide that at each campus."

Bruin Scholars has dedicated staff and peer mentors to guide students toward academic success, providing opportunities for students to connect with each other and hosting events to enhance incoming students' sense of belonging, Stirling explained.

Students can participate in the program's events at the Taylorsville Redwood, South City and Jordan campuses.

After a quick application, students participating as Bruin Scholars will be expected to complete English and math requirements until the requirements for their program of study have been met and attend at least two campus events outside of the classroom.

Additionally, they will meet with a Bruin Scholars advisor to set academic goals and check in throughout the semester, giving participants an increased support system to ask questions to and connect students to the right resources.

Student peer mentors will also organize weekly student success group sessions, like study sessions, where students can collectively work on assignments and engage in tutoring.

Sofia Herrera, a peer mentor technician for Bruin Scholars, said she values how her work with the program makes a difference. Peer mentors contribute to the program by creating and hosting events that encourage social interactions. These can vary from study sessions, skill workshops, holiday parties, transfer events and graduation celebrations.

"We want to be the glue



Bruin Scholoars at play.

that connects students from marginalized groups to the college," said Herrera, who is studying social work. "Sometimes, it feels like college isn't built for us, so we want to create that sense of community here."

Bruin Scholars applications can be found on the Orientation and Student Success website, or students can also learn more by visiting their office.

# Something for everybody can be found at the Mega Fair

#### **Patrick Kennedy**

Contributing Writer

Next month, the Fall 2022 Mega Fair will kick off at Salt Lake Community College, providing an opportunity for students to find their niche.

The biannual fair showcases the more than 60 clubs and groups at the college. Such as the animation club, chess club and robotics club, and student associations like the Asian Student Association, American Indian Student Leadership and Black Student Union.

Anita Lui, coordinator of student clubs and organizations, said the college excels at connecting large numbers of students across the community.

"It's kind of like a combination of club rush," she said, adding that the fair takes into account a large, non-traditional population.

"A lot of the clubs are recognizing and being mindful and intentional of how we can be inclusive of everybody and not just the traditional students that we normally think of when you think of who's going to be involved," she said.



The fall 2021 Mega Fair

Students can also start their own club or organization if they do not find their niche through existing groups. Those looking to do so can submit an application at slcc.edu/thaynecenter.

Lui said joining a club or organization can bolster student resumes and college applications, as well as provide an opportunity to learn leadership skills and network with other students.

Additionally, certain groups have the opportunity to interact with external groups and organize school events.

Jevahjire France, president of the Black Student Union (BSU), said students involved with the group communicate with national movements and organizations such as Black Lives Matter, and meet weekly for discussions

Over the summer, the BSU organized the college's first annual celebration of Juneteenth, a long-celebrated but recently-enacted federal and state holiday that commemorates the emancipation of African Americans. The celebration included cultural performances, acknowledgements and community speakers.

"It was a good time. I was grateful to celebrate what I think is one of the most important moments in American history, and it's not talked about enough," France said. "Black history is American history."

Each club and organization has its own fees, but Lui said some groups offer financial assistance.

The Fall 2022 Mega Fair will take place from 10 a.m.–1 p.m. at the Jordan Campus on Sept. 6; South City Campus on Sept. 7; and Taylorsville Redwood Campus on Sept. 8.

# How to get the most out of Career Services

#### Submitted by Career Services

Career Services offers resources to help students and alumni research and develop which direction will be most beneficial throughout their education and future careers. This office can help students better understand who they are, what they want to do professionally and what steps they need to take to get there. Meeting with a career coach early and often is the most crucial step toward achieving this goal and feeling confident in one's career direction.

Specific services include:

**Exploring careers:** SLCC offers degrees and certificates in a variety of areas across multiple disciplines. We can help you explore career opportunities related to your major.

Not sure what to major in or what career to explore? No problem, we have multiple resources like Focus2 (see QR code) available to help you learn more about your skill set.

Resume and cover letter assistance: Career Services can help you write and refine your resume and cover letter. From first-time job seekers to those with years of employment experience, we are available to help make sure you are representing yourself as effectively as possible for the positions and advancements you are seeking.

**Interview preparedness:** Students can set up a meeting with a career coach or peer mentor to participate in a mock interview to help prepare for upcoming job or

program interviews.

**Campus internship program:** This program provides students with career development opportunities to work on campus up to 20 hours a week and be paid \$15 per hour.

Internship/work for credit: Students in many majors can receive credit towards their degree and design course work around current or future employment or internship experience. Students can enroll in cooperative education, or CO-OP and apply for elective credit or major credit.

**Network with employers:** Career Services creates multiple opportunities for students and alumni to connect with employers and apply for jobs, including at the fall and spring job fairs, employer showcases and employer information sessions throughout the semester. Log into Handshake for information on future events.

Job search: Along with our Job Fairs and Employer Showcases, Career Services provides Job and Internship Postings with multiple companies through Handshake (see QR code). You can search job and internship opportunities posted specifically for SLCC students and alumni or more generally. You can also search for opportunities within the Salt Lake valley, around the state and across the country. You can create a resume, load it in your account, and if you choose, make it available for employers to search.

**Job search preparedness:** Assistance in updating LinkedIn and Handshake accounts as well as guidance in

navigating your personal social media accounts.

Handshake: SLCC students have access to Handshake, a service through which students can create a profile to search for career and job opportunities and learn about career-related events held by major companies and the college. Many major universities use Handshake, and students who transfer can take their account with them without having to create a new account.

**Career boutique:** Students can borrow complimentary professional clothing, such as shoes and other accessories, for job or career interviews. Donations to the career boutique are also accepted at the Career Services office on the Taylorsville Redwood Campus.

For more information, visit our website at slcc.edu/careerservices.





Handshake QR code

Focus2 QR code

# Your on-campus backyard

- Free Garden admission for University of Utah students
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# Why I love SLCC

#### **Alexie Zollinger**

Opinion | Staff Writer @@alexiewritesslc

At Salt Lake Community College, I have found a community that encourages me to do my best and be proud of the content I create. With that comes a certain satisfaction in the hard work I've put into my education.

Something I really love about SLCC is that I feel the professors and faculty have a deep understanding of the challenges facing students right now. I haven't run into many professors who weren't aware of the culture and societal pressures facing students, such as medical emergencies, financial concerns, family issues and unforeseen circumstances.

When I got caught up in a schedule conflict with work, I was forced to drop a class. My professor was very understanding of the pressures I was facing trying to manage working and attending classes. When I figured out the scheduling conflict, I was able to join again by contacting the dean and was welcomed back by my teacher and classmates.

The pressures on individuals bought on by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic have not gone unseen by faculty. Safety has felt like a high priority, and when students and faculty came back to campus, the general feeling was that the community would do what was necessary to keep in-person learning. The school had accessible testing, and its availability was written on every whiteboard in my classrooms.

Because balancing work and school while trying to maintain a resemblance of a social life turned out to be incredibly stressful, I reached out to the Center for Health and Counseling to meet with a counselor and start sessions. I was able to see a counselor in less than a week, and I spoke about some of the general stress of student life during an introductory session for only \$15. The accessibility of care through the school means a lot to me, especially in a time where quality mental health treatment can seem far-fetched and unaffordable.

The college encourages flexibility to make sure its large population of working students can receive the education they desire while also being able to manage tuition and the stress of working. I shared classrooms with single mothers who finish class and run to the other side of town to work a full-time job. Yet, they are still able to manage both pursuits because of the accessibility of their education.

The work ethic of SLCC students is admirable, and it encourages me to keep up the hard work and gives me a feeling of appreciation for the pursuit of knowledge. The students at SLCC are

here because they have a deep-rooted desire to learn, and their determination to follow through displays that.

School was never my passion – at least that's what I told myself when I was learning things that didn't particularly enthuse me. But when I got into the specifics of my program, I was suddenly surrounded with similar-minded people who hold a passion for journalism and discovery. The journalism and digital media program at SLCC is energetic and pushes students to be driven and self-motivated – something I need in order to succeed.

Through this school and program, I have found my footing for the future - in writing, with friends, with professors and in my career. Reporting can be a hefty process, but it's getting smoother, and I can rely on my editors at The Globe, my professors at SLCC and my fellow student journalists to help me learn and grow in the best direction.



Globe staff writer, Alexie Zollinger.

# SLCC raises the starting wage for on-campus work

#### **Jonny Tollestrup**

Assignment Editor 💟 @jonnytalkz

Salt Lake Community College students working on-campus jobs saw their pay increase to \$14 per hour, just under double the federal minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour as of July 1.

"We know if [students] work on campus – and can stay on campus and can network that way – they're much more successful, much more likely to compete," President Deneece Huftalin said during a meeting with the Utah Board of Higher Education in March.

According to a study from Georgetown University, almost 70% of college students work while in school, earning an annual average of \$16,000 per year for a 29-hour work week. A student at SLCC, for example, would earn \$22,620 working the same hours under the college's new starting wage.

Huftalin also said SLCC would begin using federal funding to open up more on-campus jobs for students.

Ella Aho, director of Career Services, told KUER 90.1 in March that they've seen a dip in student employment during the COVID economy. Aho believes that raising wages, simplifying the hiring process and offering additional flexibility can bring students back to campus for work.

"You can't have that at McDonald's, so they're willing to maybe make \$2 an hour less because of the benefits and the flexibility that makes their lives a lot easier," she said.

SLCC's raising of its starting wage followed the announcement that the college would increase tuition and student fees by 4% and 5.62% respectively, effective through spring 2023.

For more information about jobs available on campus for students, visit SLCC's student employment page at slcc.edu/student/employment/index.aspx.



Student Paulina David works at the South City Campus library.

shows offered

Extra

to students because

without it, that type

of entertainment can

be hard to justify

expenses come with the

looming knowledge of

always going to be

there to help you;

you're going to have

to start paying them

back at some point,"

"The loans aren't

financially.

student debt.

# **Entertainment on a budget at the historic Grand Theatre**

#### **Patrick Kennedy**

Contributing Writer

For Salt Lake Community College students, a night out at the Grand Theatre isn't just affordable: it's free.

Seth Miller, artistic executive director at the Grand, said other professional theaters in downtown Salt Lake City, like the Eccles Theater, provide amazing productions, but college students can't always afford hundreds of dollars for a ticket.

"We're trying to keep it as affordable and as accessible as possible," Miller explained. "You're not going to spend a lot of money when you come here. You can come dressed casually as we are just trying to make everybody feel comfortable and make theater accessible to everybody."

The performances are free for SLCC students but also affordable to the general public. Ticket prices start at \$27 per ticket with discounts for seniors and veterans. Miller encourages students to take advantage of the free shows.

Alycia Grymes, a second-year SLCC interior design student, said she's interested in the



Performers rehearse the musical-comedy "Head Over Heels."

Grymes said.

This fall, Grymes said she's interested in viewing the upcoming dark comedy "Dead Certain," which premieres at the Grand in October.

"Plays are my favorite," Grymes said. "I like to go to the Hale Center Theatre for improv and things we have all seen before like 'Matilda."

The Grand Theatre isn't just for students looking for free entertainment but also those wanting to get involved.

"We get a mixture of students and amateurs, veterans and professionals," Miller said. "Anybody's welcome to audition for our shows."

For those interested in behind-the-scenes work, Miller said there are many opportunities within production work, including set design, lighting and costumes.

"Just because you might not be able to act doesn't mean you might not be great at one of these other areas," Miller said. "If you love theater, and you really want to be a part of it, explore all the different areas."

The classic art deco theatre was built in 1928 as part of the original South High School, and except for a few electrical and seismic upgrades, it has maintained its original appearance for nearly 100 years.

The theatre underwent cosmetic repairs over the summer to get ready before "Dead Certain," which is based on a book and screenplay. Miller explained the performance is a dark comedy that premiers Oct. 6 and runs through Oct. 9.

Anyone interested in reading more about upcoming shows, auditioning or getting involved in the production can visit grandtheatrecompany.



# Library ditches Dewey decimal for Library of Congress system

**Andrew Christiansen** 

Contributing Writer

By the beginning of this fall semester, Salt Lake Community College's library will switch from the Dewey decimal classification, a 10-class numerical system, to the more widely used Library of Congress classification, a 21-class numerical and alphabetical system.

Angela Beatie, assistant director of library public services at SLCC, said it does not make sense to teach students the Decimal system when they are likely to transfer to universities that use LCC.

According to a 2019 Technical Service Quarterly study, approximately 81% of academic libraries in the United States use LCC, including the J. Willard Marriott Library at the University of Utah, where SLCC students make up about 40-45% of all incoming transfer students, per data from the university.

"It is a barrier if we want our students to be successful in higher ed and on, so having a familiarity with the system that they're going to see would be really beneficial," Beatie said.

Ann Richins, assistant director of content services at SLCC, said they have learned from feedback that the transition from one system to another can be jarring.

"It's like learning a new language," she said. "We're suddenly like, 'Yeah, you're a new student [at the U], good luck finding what you need.' So, we're trying to better support all students."

#### Fruition

Jon Glenn, director of library services, has been in library management and administration at SLCC since 2002 and said the switch has been debated for as long as he can remember.

"While every library director has leaned towards reclassifying to LCC, none could commit to the change," he said. "The costbenefit analysis involved looking at a combination of funding, staffing, time and the level of disruption it [would] have on students."

Initially, the library did not obtain sufficient funds through the college's Informed Budget Process to shift to LCC. But following a gradual funding increase starting in 2018 from the Utah Academic Library Consortium and help from the Donohue Group Inc., the library could finally proceed with the change.

Donohue, which provides cataloging services to libraries, updated bibliographic

records. Without this, Richins said, the switch to LCC would have taken several more years to complete.

Amy Scheelke, a librarian at the Markosian Library on the Taylorsville Redwood Campus, used to work at Utah Valley University's library where LCC is used, expressed excitement for the change.

"It will be a really good thing for our students," she said. "It organizes certain topics in a way that is easier to find."

#### Inclusivity

Glenn said smaller academic libraries still struggle with the idea of switching from the decimal system to LCC because it's a complicated, expensive and time-consuming effort. Still, Glenn said the library made the change, in part, to offer a more inclusive space.

"[We] wanted to make our system more equitable," Glenn said, "which isn't really a question of which system was originally more biased, but rather which system ... can be more easily improved upon."

Glenn said any classification system is rooted in bias by its creator and the time it was created, adding that the decimal system and LCC were developed in the United States during the 19th century by academic scholars who were white, male and Christian.

According to the *Los Angeles Times*, the American Library Association approved a resolution in 2019 to remove Melvil Dewey's name from one of the organization's top awards for librarians, citing his known history as a racist, anti-Semite and sexual predator.

"DDC was created with well-defined categories and hierarchies, which somewhat

locked in the worldview of its creator and gave it less flexibility," Glenn said. "LCC was built for a very large and exponentially growing collection."

Glenn said the library is consulting with individuals traditionally marginalized by



SLCC's library plans to switch from the Dewey decimal classification to the Library of Congress classification by the beginning of this fall

both systems to help improve terminology.

The library is also using the classification change as an opportunity to no longer use the very top or bottom shelves, increasing accessibility of the collection for anyone with mobility issues and improving browsability. As a result, the library will pare down its collection by about 5% each year from 2016 to 2021, Richins said. The library currently contains approximately 43,435 items.

#### **Transition**

Noting that the transition to LCC will be difficult for staff unfamiliar with the system, Beatie has begun to hold special trainings. Once the project is completed, the next challenge will be to educate and help students find the items they need, Beatie said. This will involve staff taking on more of a teaching role and the library performing educational outreach on the new collection.

Beatie also said the library is planning to utilize its website to make announcements and create quick guides on how to find items in the new system, with major online catalogue improvements coming in the fall.



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# First Congolese all-refugee entrepreneur program graduates

#### **Ariel Widerburg**

Staff Writer @arieljensen01

The first all-refugee class of the Everyday Entrepreneur Program completed a major milestone last fall, and in February, celebrated with a graduation ceremony.

The class, which had 15 students, studied through The Mill at Salt Lake Community College, which provides space, education and access to resources for those wanting to start a small business or grow an existing business.

It all started when Congolese student Bennett Muhoza approached Beth Colosimo, SLCC's executive director of business development resources, during one of The Mill's leadership classes to ask if a class could be taught exclusively to a group of Congolese refugees.

"I went to Beth and told her that others in my community would love to know how to start their own business," Muhoza said.

Colosimo was able to secure funding for the 12-week class through a training fund from Salt Lake County, estimated at \$10,000. The class convened once a week at the Miller Campus in Sandy and ran from October to December.

Colosimo said the Everyday Entrepreneur Program started a few years ago when they identified gaps in the marketplace.

"We all have heard about the tech community that is so vibrant in Utah, but where I felt we were missing the mark was with the mom-and-pop small startups," Colosimo said. "We wanted to focus on underserved communities or populations that want to start their basic house cleaning services, lawn care services, taco trucks, landscaping, anything that is a kind of a low barrier to entry."

Colosimo's passion for small businesses stems from her six-year ownership of Wasatch Home Furnishings, which has made her sympathetic to the amount of labor and dedication required to launch a startup from the ground up.

"I went through the trials and tribulations of what it means to start a small business," Colosimo said. "Small businesses are the backbone of America and what makes our communities so vibrant and interesting."



The cohort of Congolese refugee students accept their certificates of completion from The Mill's Everyday Entrepreneur Program in February 2022. The students completed the 12-week course last

Colosimo said they were able to validate the students' company ideas with genuine client input, establish a business plan, create a brand, expand their network and launch their business within the course, but it was not without difficulties.

"I falsely assumed that because these refugees had been in the country for years that their English was better than it was," Colosimo said. "But there were students in the class willing to translate and we found ways to make it work."

At graduation, the students presented their business ideas, with Muhoza sharing her idea for a commercial cleaning company. Muhoza fled to the United States from the Congo in 2014 to escape the country's ongoing war. She received financial aid from local, refugee community services and started going to school to learn English, but she was forced to discontinue her studies after a few months because she needed to work to pay her bills.

"Language was the most difficult challenge for me," Muhoza said. "Working actually helped me ... because you can listen to others talk and pick up the language that way."

She quickly, however, became dissatisfied with the long hours and low pay of her job, a sentiment she said is echoed by others in her community.

"We wanted a better life: one where we could spend time with our families and appreciate the things and people we care about," Muhoza said. "My community is always striving to grow, but there is a real lack of resources available for the refugee population."

Muhoza urged other refugee communities to seek their own version of the American dream.

"It felt so good to see my classmates graduate. I know this is not something that came easy for them, but I am so grateful they stayed," Muhoza said. "We must create our own businesses and be our own bosses if we are to provide for our families today and in the future."

While this was the first of its kind, Colosimo said the success of the program has led them to focus on more communities, including Hispanic, Black, women and veteran-owned businesses. Colosimo is also currently teaching this curriculum at the state prison.

"We're really trying to identify different populations that would benefit from starting their own business," she said. "They may have other roadblocks to employment, or they just want to chase their own American dream."

You can find out more on how to register for classes at themillatslcc.com.

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# Utah Woman of the Year mentors Salt Lake-area immigrants

#### **Cristian Martinez**

Editor-in-Chief @CrisM\_0

A woman from Venezuela came to Luz Gamarra in January with a request: bring Englishas-a-second-language classes to Salt Lake Community College's annex in Herriman, where the woman lived.

Gamarra, the lead academic adviser for humanities and ESL students at SLCC, told the woman she needed to gather at least 10 signatures from residents wanting the program in Herriman. (The annex there offers general-education classes to Salt Lake County's southwest corner). The nearest campus offering ESL classes was at SLCC's Taylorsville location, nearly 16 miles away.

Four months later, the woman returned with more than 60 signatures. Gamarra coordinated with the ESL department, and soon, classes were on the Herriman Annex course schedule for fall semester, which begins Aug. 23.

"We're so happy," Gamarra said. "We are here to respond to the necessities of our communities."

#### Gamarra's work

For Gamarra, the work is personal. Back in 2004, arriving in Salt Lake City from Peru with two graduate degrees but unable to speak English, she was in much the same situation.

"Looking back, it seems that school members did not know how to work with [non-English speakers]," Gamarra said.

In her 12 years at the college, Gamarra has helped hundreds of ESL students primarily through peer mentoring programs, such as Amigos Mentores ("mentor friends") and ESL Legacy Mentors, which pairs new students with current and past students. Gamarra calls this "the chain of success."

Her work has led to national recognition. In March, USA Today honored Gamarra in its "Women of the Year" project for her significant positive impact on her community.

#### **Cultural shock**

As a student in Peru, Gamarra earned her master's and doctorate studies in law and political science. When she moved to Utah, she got one consistent answer whenever she asked about how her degrees could be applied in the workforce: "You need to start over."

Gamarra said she reluctantly accepted the advice because she did not speak English and found herself in unfamiliar academic circumstances. Wanting to learn the language, Gamarra enrolled at SLCC in 2005, starting with ESL classes. Two years later, she earned an associate degree in social work.

She went to the University of Utah to apply for a bachelor's degree, where a staff member told her she had been given wrong information. "[They] told me that there had been no need to start with an associate degree," Gamarra said in Spanish. "I could have immediately applied for a master's degree."

Gamarra said "many immigrants like me were going through the same thing ... they didn't have the accurate information." Learning that, she said, spurred her to action.

#### Peer mentorship

After earning a master's in social work, Gamarra returned to SLCC as an adviser and supervises ESL Legacy Mentors,

a peer mentoring program that began in September 2019 and now helps over 300 students.

Often, she said, new ESL students — most of whom were born outside the country and experience language barriers — feel nervous to ask for help.

"Creating activities where students can feel a sense of belonging, connect and make friends – for me that is the key," Gamarra said. "Many times, the cultural shock of having to learn English can isolate us."

Gamarra said about 80% of students who walk into her office only intend to learn English, believing that school is not for them. SLCC graduate Cinthia Gonzalez was one such student.

Gonzalez, also from Peru, moved to Utah in January 2020. She loved the state but found it hard to integrate. She decided to take ESL classes and met Gamarra.

"My initial goal was just to learn English ... and then to get a job – to do things for myself," Gonzalez said.

While taking ESL classes, Gonzalez became more involved in the college and acted as president of ESL Legacy Mentors and remained a student mentor afterwards. She said the program changed how she viewed education.

"The group showed me that I could study something more," said Gonzalez, who graduated from SLCC in May and plans to transfer to Utah Valley University to study construction management.

#### Mothers and daughters

Gamarra said the USA Today honor was not a solo effort. She dedicated the award, she said, "to those grand women who have



USA Today honored SLCC staff member Luz Gamarra as their Utah Woman of the Year.

helped me, accompanied me and continue to accompany me."

Those include students, professors and colleagues — as well as her daughters and her mother, who as a widow worked to support Gamarra and her siblings.

Gamarra's daughter Elizabeth, 23, graduated from SLCC in 2014 at age 16 and received the college's inaugural Rising Star Award, which recognizes alumni who "have made a profound and positive impact in their communities and beyond."

She recalled when her mother began to create peer mentorship programs.

"It was nice to see my mom form some sort of community at SLCC where I could see myself reflected," she said.

Elizabeth Gamarra – a Fulbright Scholar, Oxford Consortium Fellowship recipient, Rotary Peace Fellow and TEDx speaker – said she mentored five Latina women, as part of her mother's early efforts to create peer mentorship. It was, she said, a "transformative experience."

"They ended up helping me more," she said. "It was the first time I saw Latina women super united."

# OneCard: a student's key to SLCC discounts, transit and more

#### Submitted by Jeren W. Canning, OneCard manager

More than a piece of plastic and more than an ID, the SLCC OneCard provides access to nearly all aspects of the college. The card is available to students, staff and faculty for no upfront cost. With a tap or swipe of the card,

it grants the user access to several amenities, including workout facilities at various campuses and the Lifetime Activities Center at Taylorsville Redwood Campus (TRWD). Holders are also able to attend SLCC athletic and student events, checkout materials from the campus libraries and print up to 50 pages per semester for free at computer labs.

To get your OneCard, bring your government-issued identification to the ID Center upstairs in the Student Center at TRWD or to the Info Desks at South City Campus (SCC) or Jordan Campus. Staff at these locations will take your picture, and you can

walk away with your new OneCard within minutes. Students may also request a OneCard online by following the instructions available at slcc.edu/onecard.

The online process includes taking your own photo, selecting a delivery option (either having your OneCard sent through the mail or picked up at a campus) and submitting the request via e-mail. Those who choose to pick up their OneCard at an ID center can receive it as quickly as the next business day. Students at the Herriman, Library Square, Meadowbrook, Miller, Sandy, Westpointe and West Valley campuses are encouraged to use the online submission option and should indicate in the email a preference for where you would like your OneCard sent.

In addition to their benefits, you can use your OneCard for the following services:

**Bruin Bucks**: Need to print documents after you are out of free prints? Not a problem. Simply deposit money into your Bruin Bucks account on your

OneCard at conveniently located phil machines located at SCC, Jordan Campus and in TRWD's Markosian Library and Student Center. Bruin Bucks deposits can also be made through cashiering and at the ID centers. Bruin

Bucks can be used securely for purchases at the bookstore, library, mailroom, printing services, testing center, LAC and Fresh Seasons Cafes.

UTA EdPass: One of the greatest benefits of the OneCard is the free UTA EdPass. Your activated OneCard serves as your pass to use UTA buses, TRAX, FrontRunner and streetcar services. Simply tap your card on the reader as you enter and exit your transportation. Students must be enrolled in at least one class for the UTA pass to be activated each semester.

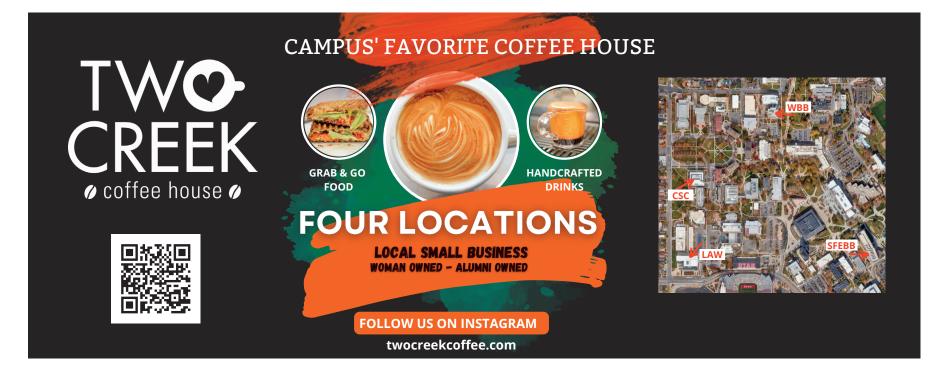
Dining Services: New this year, students can also use their Bruin Bucks at the self-serve kiosks to order their meals at Fresh Seasons Cafes at both the TRWD student center and the Miller Campus CART cafe. Cafes are also coming soon to the Jordan Campus High Tech Center and SCC South Side Bodega. In the meantime, snacks are available for purchase at the Micro Market convenience shop in the Huval Student

Be sure to download the new Transact Mobile Ordering application on your smartphone so you can order Fresh Season Cafe meals on the go. Once downloaded, search for "SLCC Dining," select your app icon and login using your SLCC username and password. From there, select your food, customize it by adding or subtracting ingredients, and pay for your order. You will be notified when your order is ready for pick-up. The app is currently only available for orders at the TRWD and Miller campuses, but availability is expected to expand to Jordan and SCC soon.



The SLCC OneCard grants students access to resources and activities on and off campus.

Center on Jordan Campus.





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