

# The **GLOBE**

Student Voices and Views for the SLCC Community



## Champions

Bruins emerge victorious in JUCO baseball world series, pg. 17

## No blueprint, no problem

First generation students forge their own path, pg. 14

## Behind the scenes

Change shaped by SLCC's peer leaders, pg. 8





## A message to students from President Greg Peterson



### Welcome to Salt Lake Community College!

I'm so glad you've chosen to join the Bruin family! At SLCC, we believe in opening doors – doors to opportunity, to growth and to brighter futures not only for our students, but for their families and communities. By choosing SLCC, you're stepping into a space full of possibility.

Here, your education is supported by more than 3,000 dedicated faculty and staff who are ready to walk alongside you as mentors and champions. You'll find a place where your potential is nurtured in the classroom and beyond.

We know that life doesn't pause for college, and that's why we offer a wide range of resources to help you along the way including free transit passes, low-cost healthcare, discounted childcare, the Bruin Pantry and more. Ask your advisor to learn what's available or check out the "raise your hand" option in the MySuccess portal.

The more you put into your SLCC experience, the more doors you'll open for yourself. Find your community here by joining one of our 60+ student clubs or by attending a few college events. You'll be surprised at how these connections can enrich your journey.

On behalf of everyone at SLCC, I wish you the best of luck! I can't wait to see everything you'll accomplish this year and the lasting impact you'll make – on your future and ours.

Go Bruins!

Greg Peterson, EdD

President

Salt Lake Community College



Salt Lake Community College, President, Greg Peterson, EdD.



## Letter from the editor



The Globe, Editor-in-Chief, Ashley Orduna.

Hello Bruins! I'm Ash Orduna, the current editor-in-chief at "The Globe" student news. Welcome all returning and new students. As I look back on my time here at Salt Lake Community College, I am filled with so much gratitude to everyone I met along the way. Being a part of SLCC and "The Globe" has been such a memorable experience, becoming a student here has changed my path for the better and I wouldn't have been able to do it without the support and confidence others had in me and the confidence I am building in myself. I sincerely hope that all of you find a similar experience while here at SLCC.

As you continue forward, always remember to be curious and confident. Learn how to communicate through being known. Communication is going to be your biggest tool while getting through not only college but life. You can't build relationships without allowing others to see and hear who you are. Allow yourself to receive clarification and feedback, allow yourself to exist as you are.

A lot of times I really shut myself out of participation and relationships because I was nervous to ask, nervous to respond or nervous to be wrong in who I was, but your experience will be much better when you build relationships with professors and peers. When you allow yourself to communicate and show up as yourself, you can engage much better and the experience will be richer. Revel in all your accomplishments, no matter how small or mundane they may seem. Most of all, take care of yourselves. Education is the biggest tool that we can have as members of society but if we do not care for ourselves, we cannot use all that we've learned to create the world we want. Curiosity is what led us here and will allow us to continue forward. I wish you all luck in your journey through SLCC and beyond.

Sincerely,  
Ashley Orduna

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# GLOBE Student Staff

Advice from our staff of student journalists.



## Ashley Orduna

Editor-in-Chief

  @angelbabybloos

Not everything is life-or-death serious. Having fun and being professional and serious can go together. A lot of times I took the fun out of certain things for myself because I was worried about needing to “look” or “be” serious and professional. In turn that made me over worry and overthink, and my experiences and results took a hit because I wouldn’t allow myself to show up as myself and have fun and just live in the present. Expect less and receive more; life is more achievable and fun when you are as serious as it needs to be while being who you are and trusting in your abilities.



## Pearl Ashton (she/they)

Assistant Editor

 @pear\_ashton

I loved my time at Salt Lake Community College. This school was there for me when I was at my highest and lowest. My advice for incoming students is to take everything in stride. The professors are there to support you- they want you to succeed. Get involved- I know everyone tells you that, but it is worth it. You can meet so many cool people if you put yourself out there. Be true to yourself and you will find your people. Biggest piece of advice- join “The Globe” at SLCC!



## Elliot Davis

Copy Editor

- Have structure in how you approach your academic career - this includes carving out study-time, picking classes that align with your extracurricular schedule and not taking more classes than you can handle.
- Trust the process - going to school is a herculean task, and that’s okay. Anything that is worth doing usually takes a great deal of time, effort and dedication; college is no exception. You will have good semesters and bad semesters, and that is to be expected. If you don’t give up and you keep going, you will achieve your academic goals.



## Teresa Chaikowsky

Assignment Editor

Welcome to SLCC! I’ve loved being at a community college. I like the size of classes, the ease of parking and the resource fairs.

- Join a few groups or clubs and check out SLCC resources available (It’s a great way to get to know people and find out more about SLCC).
- Have work-school-life balance-work, homework and fun. Some weeks one will be more than the other. Other weeks, they will be perfectly balanced. Treasure each of them.



## Gerardo Galvez-Zamora

Digital Editor

 @gerald\_sweatshirt

My favorite moment as a student journalist was the day Rachel Aubrey, faculty advisor for “The Globe,” asked me to join. This reaffirmed my drive and pushed me to be more confident in my writing and the work I had already completed. Thanks to this early motivator, I know I will continue to reach new heights in my journalism career.



## Lucas Davison

Staff Writer

My advice for incoming students is to not let your worry or fear stop you from trying new things! I had the joy of being able to come back to school and joining a club or participating in an activity is SO much fun. I wouldn’t consider myself extroverted by any means, and yet what made my time at SLCC even better the second time around was participating in “The Globe.” If you have something you want to do and you have even a small amount of time to do it, you should do so! Life is too short to regret it later.



## Bonnie Fox

Staff Writer

My advice to students is as follows:

- Read one book. It could be a book you come across in your classes, or something a friend recommends, or something you have seen online, or it could be something random you find when you go to a bookstore. It might be something unexpected or something you have wanted to read for a long time.
- Go to one SLCC performance. Dance. Drama. Music. A poetry slam. A musical. A comedy.
- Go to one SLCC celebration. The Pride Picnic. Juneteenth. Latinx Heritage Celebration. Black History Month. Womxn’s Heritage Month. Convocation.
- Go to one SLCC sports event. Baseball. Men’s Basketball. Women’s Basketball. Beach Volleyball. Cheer. Cross Country/track.
- Go to one event. Hop Into College. Education Fair. Health Fair. Flu Shots. Together We Thrive. Stress Less Week. A workshop on transferring to the college of your choice.



## Violet Stocking

Staff Photographer

My first piece of advice is to make sure you understand the process of earning a degree well enough to create a solid academic plan. Things like credit hours, AS vs AAS degree types and transferring to a university can be confusing. If you are not sure how exactly it all works, don’t be shy, ask an academic advisor or teacher.

My second piece of advice is to explore different time management systems and tools till you find what works best for you.

You’ve totally got this!

## The GLOBE

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Teresa Chaikowsky

**The Globe** is an open campus forum student newspaper published regularly online at globeslcc.com during each semester (excluding holidays) and printed once a year. The Globe editors and staff are solely responsible for the newspaper’s content. Funding comes from advertising revenues and some tuition. For questions, comments or complaints call 801-957-3066, email us at globeslcc@slcc.edu or visit globeslcc.com.

# Student Summer Writers



**Emmie DaBell**  
*COMM 1130*  
Emmie Dabell took the Journalism and Media Writing course, COMM 1130 this summer and wrote articles for "The Globe."



**Nancy Garcia**  
*COMM 1130*  
Nancy Garcia is majoring in communication at SLCC and she works as a barista. She also enjoys listening to music and hanging out with her friends.



**Thabatta Martins**  
*COMM 1130*  
Thabatta Martins is a student at SLCC, majoring in pre-health sciences and community health. She enjoys spending time with her dog and camping.



**Grace Barratt**  
*COMM 1130*  
Grace Barratt is a student at Salt Lake Community College studying communication. She enjoys skiing fresh snow, traveling to new places and eating delicious food.



**Hunter Dietzel**  
*COMM 1130*  
Hunter Dietzel is a journalism and digital media major at SLCC. He enjoys playing the guitar and writing about mixed martial arts.



**Sydney Slater**  
*COMM 1130*  
Sydney Slater is a journalism and digital media student at SLCC. She enjoys cartoons, games and good company. She shares two cats with her wife.



and teaching. He can be found in an educational setting all year round.

**Adam Jensen**  
*COMM 1130*  
Adam Jensen is a veteran coach of speech and debate at Viewmont High School. He enjoys meeting new people, learning, helping others



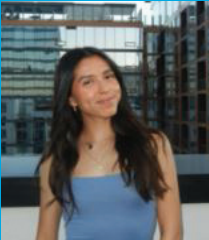
and cross country, and spending time with family and friends.

**Elayna Loveridge**  
*COMM 1130*  
Elayna Loveridge is majoring in communication at SLCC and works for the Division of Services for People with Disabilities. She enjoys running track



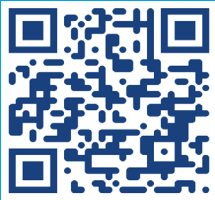
games and hanging out with their pets.

**Olivia Smith**  
*COMM 1130*  
Olivia Smith is a journalism and digital media major at SLCC. Smith has lived in Salt Lake City, Utah for approximately three years. Smith enjoys playing video



Cynthia Garcia is a communication student at SLCC and at the University of Utah. She enjoys dancing, reading and hanging out with her friends during her free time.

To read more articles by our student writers go to [globeslcc.com](http://globeslcc.com).



radiology program while also working towards a major in communication. She likes to cook and go for hikes often with family and friends.

**Marianna Guerrero**  
*COMM 1130*  
Mariana Guerrero is a full time dental assistant at a private dental practice; Guerrero also studies at SLCC trying to get pre-requisites done for the

## Important dates for the Fall 2025 semester

- »» Aug. 26 classes begin

»» Sept. 1 Labor Day (no classes, college closed)

»» Sept. 4 last day to add classes

»» Sept. 16 last day to drop classes with 100% refund

»» Sept. 19 tuition due

»» Oct. 16-17 fall break (no classes, college open)
- »» Oct. 28 last day to withdraw (no refunds)

»» Nov. 26 Thanksgiving break (no classes, college open)

»» Nov. 27-29 Thanksgiving holiday (no classes, college closed)

»» Dec. 11 last day of classes

»» Dec. 11 last day to apply for Fall graduation

»» Dec. 13-18 finals



# Successful alumni reflect on benefits of attending SLCC

**Em Hadlock**

Contributing Writer

Since becoming a community college in 1987, Salt Lake Community College has had numerous graduates. After graduation, students can transfer schools or enter the workforce and contribute to society.

These graduates become part of a unique group known as alumni.

SLCC alumni work in industries that include software, engineering, healthcare and photography. Each alumni have a unique skill set they acquired while at SLCC, which help them contribute to their field, community and their personal lives. Some of those alums shared what they learned along the way.

## Be 'open minded'

Ethan Paul is a current Brigham Young University student who works in software. He graduated with a communication and media studies degree from SLCC.

"I originally tried to apply to BYU and got rejected," Paul said. "My dad had gone to SLCC so he ... had nothing but good things to say about it and he was like 'it was a good way to just get ... through that first section of school and not spend a crazy amount of money.'"

After he graduated and enrolled at BYU, he founded Yardbird, a company that helps other software companies.

"We make ... marketing ... and interactive product demos for software companies," Paul said. "We go in and... make the demo more interactive so people don't just have to see the futures, but they can feel the outcomes that the software can bring."

Along with establishing Yardbird, Paul gives back to the community.

"I served a two-year mission in Costa Rica for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints," Paul said. "And then spent a little of time helping with the foundation Share Parents of Utah."

Some days can be rough for people, so Paul described what motivates him each day.

"One of my tricks and goals every day is just...you're gonna have to work no matter

what' so it's just locking in, figuring it out and be at work when you're at work," Paul said.

Additionally, Paul shared advice he would give his younger self going through SLCC.

"Soak it all in and just be super open minded," Paul said.



SLCC alumnus and Yardbird founder Ethan Paul at his workspace. Paul is currently a student at Brigham Young University.

## 'Stay curious'

Peter Ramos is a mechanical engineer and a software developer. He graduated with a computer science degree from SLCC.

"I was doing a full-time job and full-time school," Ramos said. "Math is my weakness so to overcome this ... I made sure that I [visited the] library on campus a lot for assistance with my math problems."

Along with math being his weakness, Ramos opened up about what has been the biggest challenge in his career.

"Looking for a job, especially right now, the job market kind of sucks," Ramos said. "In my field, computer science, I think it's just the whole market sucks."

Ramos hasn't had too much opportunity to give back to society. Although, he shared how his education may help him in the future to do so.

"My education in computer science has given me an [understanding of ethics] ... and potential impact in artificial intelligence," Ramos said. "I hope, maybe, I can use my skill...from that artificial intelligence."

Ramos shared what his lifetime goal is when asked if he would mentor people.

"I wanna do ... software business at the same time or [an] AI business," Ramos said. "Because that is the future."

After talking about the future, Ramos shared what is a piece of advice he would give himself if he could go back in time.

"Trust that you'll grow more than you expect," Ramos said. "Stay curious... keep pushing, and don't forget to get enough sleep."

## Set goals

Mary Anne Douglas, who works at Intermountain Healthcare, graduated with a surgical services degree from SLCC. Douglas shared her thoughts about her alma mater.

"I just felt I got a real good foundation in that program," Douglas said. "Some programs that are now debunked were just there to make a buck. They were not there to teach, and Salt Lake Community College was there to teach."

Douglas offered some advice to SLCC graduates entering the workforce.

"Go to people that are in that job and ask them what it's like, ask them how much they make, ask them what the stressors are, ask them if they like it," Douglas said.

Douglas feels that her career has made a positive impact on others.

"Well, I know people that are walking around that I was a part of the surgery team," Douglas said. "I've done some national speaking. I've tried to always be professional and give my ideas and share my ideas."

Even though Douglas has done some national speaking, she still has some goals to achieve.

"I'm trying to immerse with another healthcare system and I'm trying to put the structure together," Douglas said. "I'm organizing my recipes, believe it or not. I have a goal to write a cookbook!"

Douglas shared how proud she was of her accomplishments at a young age with little help from her family.

"That I became a surgical technologist," Douglas said. "I did it at a young age trying to take care of myself."



# Stories through photographs exhibit the **humanity** therein

**Lucas Davison**

Staff Writer

This past summer, inside the downtown Salt Lake City Public Library, Amplify Utah's "In Their Words" exhibit was on display. This storytelling project is rooted in the belief that every person in the community has a story worth hearing and sharing.

The feel of the exhibit was serene and hopeful, with a sense of community when looking at the people in the photographs and reading about the circumstances they experienced. Some of the subject's experienced tragedy, others a simple turn of fortune.

Some of the photos are in black and white, and others are in full color. They all show the human experience. It reminds viewers to treat each other with a touch of humility.

Kelly Hannah, one of the two photographers at the event who took the horizontal perspectives, described his experience.

"Sometimes it's tricky at first, but with a friendly 'Hello, my name is Kelly, can I come talk to you for a minute?' most times an invitation in and starting a dialogue, most of the folks that I chatted with the comments I got were 'thank you for the time,'" said Hannah.

Steve Speckman, the photographer, shot from a vertical perspective.

"I was a journalist for a long time, I was used to going in and getting stories on deadline – [it] doesn't work that way with these guys, you have to build trust. It's a long, drawn-out process that you have to be committed to, and I enjoyed that process. I enjoyed sitting down with people and getting their stories," Speckman said.

The exhibit offers a new method of speaking with the unhoused community. Amplify Utah is firm in its mission to treat marginalized communities with humility and respect.

Olivia Webster, a graduate student when the project began in late 2023, kept this mission in mind when she came up with her methodology for it.

"The point, really, is to create a model for storytelling for disenfranchised communities that was ethical and very focused on

humanization and support," Webster said. "Anything that was hyper community-based I looked at and I studied."

Webster was adamant that the exhibit be credited to Marcie Young Cancio. Young Cancio is the founder and executive director of Amplify Utah and the progenitor for the exhibit.

The goal of Amplify Utah is to boost the voices of communities that are not normally heard in local media — that goal was what drove Young Cancio to create the exhibit.

"This [project] took time," said Young Cancio. "We spent about a year and a half spending time with the community, getting to know folks, taking photos, wanting to make sure that we weren't just going in, taking a photo, asking a question and then leaving and they never see us again."

All of the Amplify Utah exhibit contributors remarked that they still keep in contact with as many of the unhoused people that they spoke to as they could. They didn't want them to feel used and put under a microscope for the people at the exhibit.

Young Cancio remarked that many unhoused people are used to media personalities coming into their communities, taking what they need from them and leaving, making every relationship feel transactional; they didn't want to do that.

In fact, one of the people featured in a photo, Benjamin, was in attendance at the exhibit opening. He was in good spirits, taking in

the photographs of people, some of whom he knew personally.

"I like what they've done with it, how they've shown our uniqueness and being able to take time to understand people who are homeless and people who have had a lot of life struggles and being able to just ... be understanding and not judgmental," Benjamin said.

Benjamin leads a morning Tai Chi class for the community and for people experiencing homelessness. He said it's a huge part of his life and has helped to resocialize him.

He remarked that seeing the exhibition was beautiful, humanizing and was "what we needed."

Photos and stories from the exhibit can be found at [amplifyutah.org/in-their-words](https://amplifyutah.org/in-their-words) and is currently available for display by local organizations and other community spaces at no cost.



A black and white, vertical picture of "Benjamin" on display at the Salt Lake Public Library in June 2025.



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# Campus board initiates change for accessibility and inclusivity

**Pearl Ashton**

Assistant Editor [@pear\\_ashton](#)

The Salt Lake Community College Equality & Representation Board, run by students, is dedicated to improving physical spaces across all campuses by relaying other students' needs and concerns to the administration.

"We deal with most of the things students immediately think of when they think of anything outside of class," said Dean Stewart, vice president of equality & representation at SLCC.

## Bathroom signage

The board recently completed its bathroom signage initiative, which began in 2021. The initiative tackled inclusivity and accessibility for campus bathrooms.

Evan Welch, a computer science major and peer leader with the board, said the initiative has gone through three phases.

"The initial phases were...gathering data on everything, speaking with the administration to figure out what was feasible. Phase two... they had a couple of restrooms that were designated...as inclusive ones. Along with the temporary signage," said Welch. "For phase three, they actually have constructed more purposefully inclusive restrooms. They've installed permanent signage...and are planning on maintaining that going forward."

The signage has gone through numerous iterations.

"They were very confusing stickers. They were brightly colored. The imagery was kind of confusing to people," said Peter Moosman, the coordinator for the Gender & Sexuality Student Resource Center at SLCC.

The final version of the stickers, released in April 2025, feature a QR code that people can scan to find accessible, single-stall, or alternative restrooms on campus.

"Ultimately, the goal is to communicate to people that you're safe to use the restroom," said Moosman.

Part of the inclusive restroom initiative included changing SLCC's building code so all future buildings include at least one multi-stall, all-gender restroom. The restroom also includes a lower sink for wheelchair users, a stepping stool for little people and two exit

points, so no one feels cornered or uncomfortable.

"We were very intentional, not only for trans folks, but thinking about accessibility," Moosman said. **Prayer and meditation rooms**

The board has been collaborating with SLCC facilities on a larger physical spaces initiative to improve the prayer and meditation rooms which have been less than adequate according to recent reactions.

"We've been speaking with [SLCC student success advisor] Dr. Kamal [Bawar] to get input from certain groups of students on what they want to see in a meditation room or a prayer room. We've spoken with facilities to look for potential spaces where we could install or relocate prayer and meditation rooms because some of them don't have access to plumbing," said Welch.

Plumbing is necessary for prayer and meditation rooms because of Wudu, the purification process that Muslims perform before prayer. Wudu involves washing one's hands, mouth, nose, face, hair, ears and feet.

"Our expansion of physical spaces has included a heavier focus on meditation rooms, focusing on...ablution [body washing] stations specifically," Stewart said.

## Financial aid

The financial aid initiative includes enhancing the website navigation and consolidating financial aid departments.

"They are training the staff so that more people [staff] know more about [financial aid] stuff, so people don't have to get bounced around as much," said Welch. "They're working on the speed of processing and they're trying to get more done ahead of time so that the turnaround time isn't weeks later than it should be."

According to Welch, the average wait time is five to 10 days to hear back from the financial aid department. The goal is to reduce the wait time to 48 hours and to allow students to rate their experience with the website.

The financial aid department is working towards more spacious and private offices to



Part of the inclusive restroom initiative included changing SLCC's building code so all future buildings include at least one multi stall all gender restroom.

accommodate long lines and private financial conversations.

"So we've worked with financial aid for pretty much this entire year to really fix or at least gather input about financial aid from the students to kind of make [the experience] a little bit easier, not as horrifying for a lot of students," said Stewart.

## Ask for help

The Equality & Representation Board wants students to feel welcome at the Thayne Center. Sabrina Espinoza, a peer leader and sociology major, encourages students to ask for help.

"We were trained on our leadership [and] training to help students," said Espinoza. "If they need to be led somewhere to a certain service, if they need help, if they have a question about anything, we're trained to lead them directly to the office that they should go to."

Stepha Peñaloza Delgado, a peer leader and graphic design major, said that help is available for more than just classwork.

"There's also a lot of peer leaders who are bilingual, and they speak Spanish as well. We are here to help our students," said Peñaloza Delgado. "We are here to help with classes, everything."

For more information on the Equality & Representation Board, call 801-957-4555.



# Students needed to help care for campus cat colony

**Ashley Orduna & Pearl Ashton**

Globe Editors

Students aren't the only ones showing up to campus ready to learn. Community cats have been found living at different Salt Lake Community College campuses causing lots of discussion.

Marilyn Briggs, a self-proclaimed cat lady, takes care of the cat colony which resides on SLCC's Miller campus.

What started as weekend feedings, to help the original caretaker – a previous SLCC worker – turned into a daily responsibility after she had been asked to take over the cats following the original caretaker's health issues.

"I haven't missed a day in five years," Briggs said while discussing the cat colony.

Jose Loeri, a Summer Bridge Coordinator at the Taylorsville Redwood campus, started volunteering with the cats in November after seeing a message in "SLCC Today" about helping feed the cats.

"[Volunteers] split up days and places so we can head out and feed the cats, [to] make sure that their water is warm because it's so cold right now," said Loeri. "When the shelters get wet on the inside or if the wrapping on the outside of the shelters is damaged [...] we would be the ones that would come around and help fix it."

The set up for the cats includes two different shelters for them to hide out in, which are made from Styrofoam coolers wrapped in an industrial tarp, some straw and a feeding station.

"They really are feral, you know? It isn't like you can really find a home for them," Briggs said, "And there's a bunch of cat people, there's cat groups on Facebook, but everybody is so overwhelmed," she continued while describing the problem with trying to relocate the cats off campus or taking the cats to shelters.

SLCC partners with WhiskersUtah, a nonprofit started by Jessica Virgos to manage and assist with both the Taylorsville Redwood and Miller campus cats. The colonies have been well maintained over the past years. Currently all the cats are doing well and are healthy.

Briggs expressed concern over whether the cats could continue residing on the campus. Stating that she

had received complaints as well as receiving unclear verdicts on whether the cats on the campus are allowed to be tended to the same way as the Taylorsville Redwood campus cat colony.

"There are arguments and thoughts on if the cats should be fed [or] if they should even be around," said Loeri. "It's the same kind of argument that happens when it comes to cats in neighborhoods. Some people think of them as a nuisance, even though they're not really bothering anyone."

According to Virgos, the Miller cats are under the same agreement as the Taylorsville Redwood campus cats. This agreement grants permission for the shelters and feeding station currently at the Miller campus as well as allowing the feral colony to be tended to for the remainder of the cats' lives.

Briggs is currently funding feeding the cats herself but hopes that a student group might be able to receive donations if they were to take over.

"They could get donations; they could take turns feeding ... I think if it was a student thing and the campus was behind it; we wouldn't have all this hatred or whatever you'd want to call it," said Briggs.

Loeri, a former SLCC student, didn't hear about the cats until he started working for SLCC last year.



Community cat at the feeding station at Miller campus.

"I was a student here in 2016 to 2018 ... and I didn't know then that you could volunteer to help out the cats," said Loeri. "Being staff [now], I actually have to look at my emails, so I saw the call out for it."

Loeri believes that empathy is important when it comes to discussions around cats on campus.

"You may not get anything from helping the cats or even like animals around your neighborhood or anything like that, but just knowing that you helped another living being be able to survive a little longer, because the world was cruel as it is, you know, that's something that is worthwhile," said Loeri.

According to an "SLCC Today" newsletter, volunteer caregivers are needed "... to ensure the cats are fed and have fresh water, a rotating schedule for caregivers is used, with backups in case someone is unavailable."

This call to action is for anyone who would like to volunteer. To keep consistent volunteers, there is hope that SLCC staff will take part in volunteering.

Anyone interested in donating supplies, making monetary donations, or becoming a volunteer, contact [gina.chase@slcc.edu](mailto:gina.chase@slcc.edu).



Community cat station, consisting of a wooden shelter with a boot mat underneath for feeding purposes.



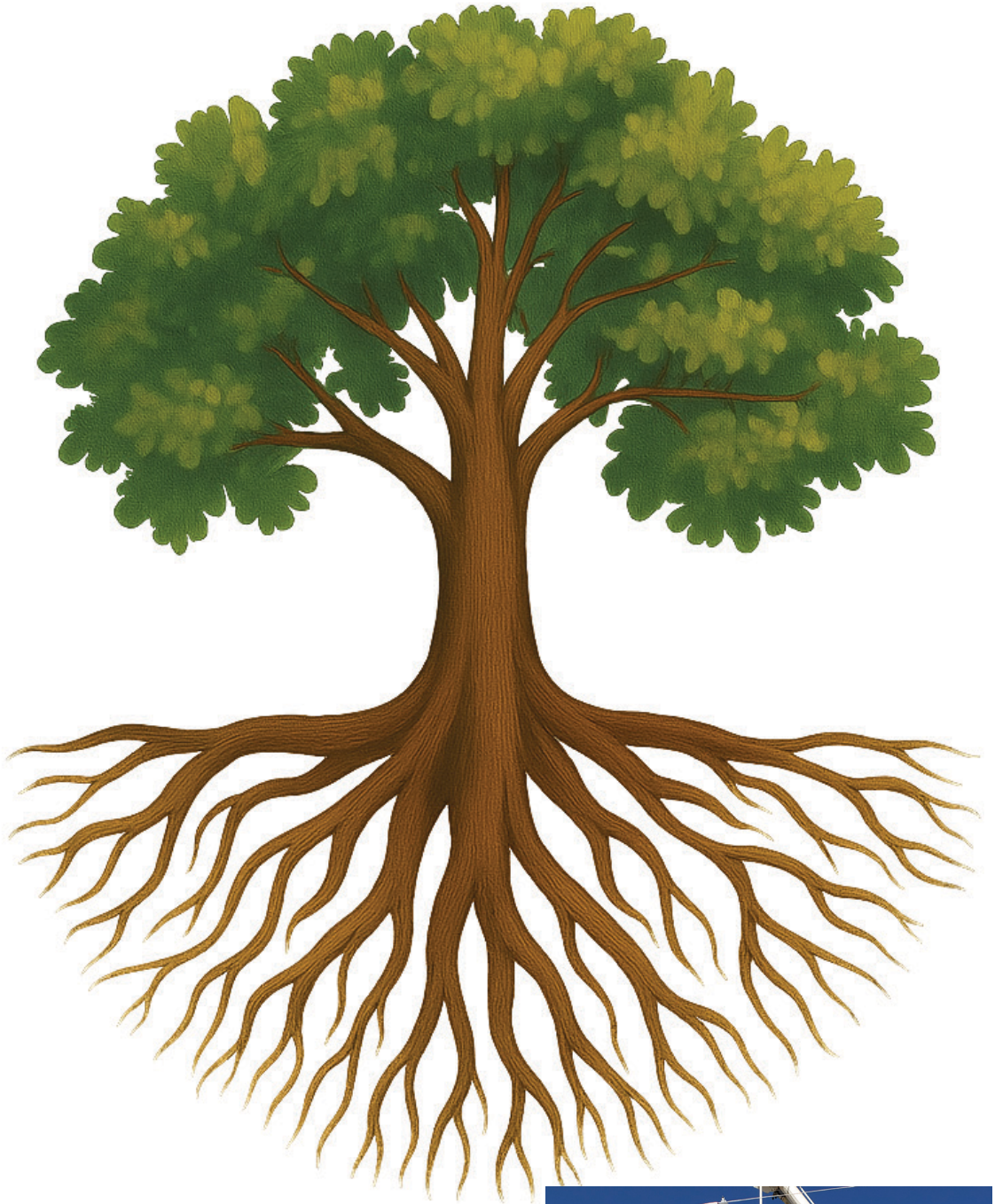
# >>SLCC: Rooted in Success

In 2025 3,385 students graduated from Salt Lake Community College. A mix of student drive and a college that fosters a culture of continuous growth, helps build an environment where students don't just succeed, they thrive.

—Ash Orduna



From mound to mentorship: During her first season at SLCC in 2023, Taylor Hagen, varsity pitcher appeared in 26 games for the Bruins, logging five complete games in 16 starts. She received All-Region 18 first-team honors after ending the year with a 5.03 ERA and 75 strikeouts over 101.2 innings.



“I’ve always dreamt of being that guy who is honored for certain things, but when it actually happened, it felt surreal in a way,” said JaQuavious Harris, member of the SLCC Men’s Cross Country and Track & Field teams.

Harris individually set National records at NJCAA races in 2024, being named Athlete of the Year, winning the Team Title and being the record holder for SLCC.



Left: Located on the Jordan Campus, SLCC’s two-year dental hygiene program has been thriving for 29 years — with current faculty and students confirming its successes. According to Wendee Shorter, program manager at the college’s Dental Hygiene Clinic, the program admits 24 students annually in January. Rachael Ivie, a first-year student, experienced a scenario where she could apply her classroom knowledge during clinic hours.

According to Ivie, a patient with constant sinus issues had come in for a panel image. The panel images showed signs of sinus irregularity. The patient was then able to take the panels to an ear, nose and throat doctor where she learned she needed surgery to fix it.

“It was exciting to know I was helping the patient with the care they needed,” Ivie said.



On May 23, 22 graduates of SLCC’s lineworker pre-apprenticeship program celebrated with a skills competition at SLCC’s pole yard in Sandy.

SLCC is the only pre-apprentice program for lineworkers in the state. Students in this program area consistently include veterans. Graduates will now seek four-year apprenticeships to complete their training for the highly skilled linework. Once hired, the electric company will cover the cost of their training as well as their salary.

The program has an 80% placement rate for its graduates and offers both full-time and part-time programs, according to department literature.



# Getting through summer semester with structure and resources

**Nancy Garcia**

Contributing Writer

Salt Lake Community College staff and students offer recommendations to help students be successful when balancing summer classes with vacations, work schedules and personal responsibilities.

Gavin Harper, director for SLCC Online, has seen first-hand how students struggle, but manage their classes by creating structure.

“Use a planner or calendar to map out deadlines. Summer is likely a more accelerated term, so work can build up quickly,” Harper said. “Learning how to set a pace that works for you is really important. Don’t hesitate to ask for help.”

While many campus services stay busy year-round, some resources often go unnoticed.

“Our virtual library services are a hidden gem,” Harper added. “Many students don’t realize they can chat with a librarian, access databases or get research help—all online.”

SLCC has numerous tools available for students who may feel like they’re falling

behind or need additional support and flexibility, such as advisors, tutoring and the Health and Counseling Center. As students navigate challenges, it’s important to remember that advisors and staff are here to help.

Cynthia Bonsall, assistant director for academic advising at SLCC, helps students decide what classes to take.

“If students overschedule summer, I would recommend that they use college tutoring resources if they find they aren’t keeping pace with information—primarily in math and writing courses,” Bonsall said.

Teia Bradfield, a hopeful dental hygiene student who enrolled in chemistry and communication classes for the summer has had some stressful experiences. Bradfield is not only an SLCC student but a dancer at Projection Dance Company and works long hours.

“My summer classes can often be the hardest ones for me,” Bradfield said. “I just have so much going on, but I know that I have to take these classes to succeed.”

Maintaining balance is key for students



■ Photo by Violet Stocking

An SLCC student using a weekly planner.

dealing with stress.

“For me, spending time with family and friends is how I de-stress,” Bradfield said. “I like going hiking and making sure I plan out my days, so I can make the most of them, for time to study and do well in the classes, it’s just about finding that balance.”

Some students might just need a change in scenery to get the work done.

“I love going to the library,” Bradfield said. “It’s a great place to study because I feel like I get more done when I’m not at my house. Oddly enough I tend to get more done.”

## Perspectives on the ups and downs of AI in the classroom

**Adam Jensen**

Contributing Writer

As college communities are consistently using Artificial Intelligence for assistance in writing or grading, some students and professors at Salt Lake Community College are not all for it. They raise ethical and practical concerns of misinformation, fairness and integrity in the classroom and beyond.

Generative AI programs such as ChatGPT have created art, music, speeches, court cases, book reports, news stories and much more by allowing humans to put a few “ingredients” into a prompt. Large Language Models (LLMs) then respond in “human-like” fashion.

“I was told to use ChatGPT once on an assignment to help me ‘brainstorm’ ideas for a paper,” said Kaysha Norton, an English major at SLCC. “The paper was on a subject that I knew very well, so I only used it to complete my assignment, and I noticed that a lot of the information on there was either wrong or opinion.”

This sentiment is shared by SLCC English Professor Colleen Marie Knowlton-Davis.

“I spent weeks crafting my AI guidelines for my syllabus,” she said.

Knowlton-Davis doesn’t like AI for more than doing simple research or possibly making presentations appear cleaner. She believes that the

“underfunding” of college students makes AI somewhat of a draw to many students who feel the pressure of taking 15 credit hours a semester and working full-time just to earn a degree.

She’s not the only one who feels that way. Andrea Malouf, SLCC English professor explained her belief that there are legitimate uses of AI but having them write assignments isn’t one of them.

“You can use it as a springboard to find sources, but not for writing your paper,” she said.

It’s not just professors who express concerns about AI. Students have their own worries about their professors using AI.

Norton said that when teachers use AI to quickly check to if the paper was AI generated, sometimes the checker will get it wrong. This happened to her sister once.

“She gets extremely frustrated with the way that it grades, and with the way that the teachers use it, often getting deducted on things that she wouldn’t have been beforehand,” she said.

The Michigan Institute of Technology has recommended their faculty to not use AI checkers as those same checkers have flagged the Constitution of the United States as mainly written by AI.

While each professor is allowed to create their own AI policy, it is important to note SLCC’s Acceptable Use of College Computing Resources policy as well.



# Pacific Unity Association; empowers members to thrive

**Olivia Smith**

Contributing Writer

Salt Lake Community College's Pacific Unity Association is a vital source of cultural pride and belonging for its students.

PUA leaders say the club offers more than just community; it's a lifeline. With weekly study sessions, cultural showcases and outreach events, the group empowers members to embrace their heritage and thrive academically.

"We can do more and be more by showing up and getting an education," said PUA President Alasini Sellesin-Duenas.

PUA was founded to unite Pacific Islander students and allies, but the group welcomes members of all backgrounds.

"PUA has been my rock through college life," said Sellesin-Duenas, who has been part of PUA for two years, alongside Treasurer Mason Gonzalez.

"It's definitely impacted my academic journey. As someone in a leadership position, PUA has taught me time management, organization and how to advocate for my community in academic spaces," Sellesin-Duenas said.

The Pacific Islander community is close-knit on campus. The group encourages students to feel pride in their culture and develop long-term friendships, according to Gonzalez.

PUA is a regular participant in SLCC's cultural celebrations, including heritage months.

"Last year, SLCC had the opportunity to represent the island of Tahiti," Gonzalez said.

However, since H.B. 261 was passed, which imposed anti-DEI cuts on colleges and universities, clubs at SLCC — including PUA — are experiencing funding cuts.

"Advisors have to volunteer their time outside of work hours

because of the bill, because of that, they can't support us as much as they used to in the past," said Gonzalez. "This club was supported by the SEEA Department and because of this bill [H.B. 261] they are not able to financially support us."

Despite this, Sellesin-Duenas has big goals for the club, she hopes to see more collaboration with other student organizations, mentorship for new students, scholarship opportunities and improvement of the club's social media usage.

"Most of all, I want the next generation of Pacific Islander students at SLCC to know there's a space for you here, and it's powerful," Sellesin-Duenas said.

Gonzalez discussed his desire for SLCC to create a Pacific Islander class.

"I think it would be really cool to learn more about the islands and the culture," Gonzalez said. "I also think it would be cool to have opportunities to do a study abroad in one of the islands."

SLCC Bruins can get involved with PUA by attending meetings — which take place every Wednesday from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Student Engagement, Experience And Achievement Conference Room — or by following their Instagram account @slccpua.

"Bring your culture, your curiosity, and your heart — we'd love to have you be part of our growing family," Sellesin-Duenas said.



■ Photo courtesy of Mone Langi

PUA drumming workshop (left to right): Katherine Figuel, Amelia Vainuku, Roman Mulitalo, Zen Gatoloai, Mone Langi, Emma-Jane.



# Overcoming barriers: the journey of first-generation students

**Jacqui Beckford**

Contributing Writer

At Salt Lake Community College, first-generation students carve out their place in higher education. These students are often navigating financial stress, limited family guidance and academic pressure.

SLCC offers resources such as the Student Engagement, Experience and Achievement office, TRIO Program, Center for Health and Counseling, SLCC Dream Center and the Summer Bridge Program to help students succeed.

These services not only provide academic support but also build community and offer students a sense of belonging.

First-generation college students are the first in their families to attend college. Their parents or guardians did not have the opportunity to pursue higher education, so these students are paving a new path.

**'They don't always understand what I'm going through'**

Latifah Klanyana, a computer science major originally from Uganda, is the oldest of three siblings and the first in her family to attend college.

"My parents didn't go to college, so they don't always understand what I'm going through," Klanyana said. "But they still encourage me, and that keeps me going."

Despite the challenges, Klanyana finds strength in the campus programs designed for first-generation students.

**Building community through support programs**

Alexis Garcia, a graphic communications major with ties to Mexico, shared how difficult

her first semester was.

"I didn't know how to navigate college, and there were issues with my application," Garcia said.

She credits the SLCC Summer Bridge Program for helping her transition smoothly.

"The Summer Bridge Program helped me find community," she said. "It connected me with people who understood what I was going through."

**'Once I found out, everything changed'**

Another graphic communications major, Mone Langi, whose parents migrated from the Pacific Islands and emphasized the importance of education.

"I didn't know about the resources like the TRIO Program available to me at first," Langi said. "Once I found out, everything changed. I was able to get the support I needed."

Langi encourages other students to ask questions and seek help early on. One of the most helpful resources for him has been the SEEA office.

"SEEA, which was previously known as ODMA, or the diversity office, has been a big part of my support system," he said. "The people who work there are passionate about helping students succeed."

Langi said that building a network within the SEEA office has helped him feel more connected on campus, while his family continues to support him outside of school.

**'We aim to create a sense of community'**

Brenda Santoyo, the Manager of the Dream Center, which provides support for immigrant and first-generation students, explained how the Dream Center helps first-generation and immigrant students



Photo by Mone Langi

Alexis Garcia, first generation, graphic communications student at SLCC.

navigate the college experience.

"Immigrant students often face additional struggles because they are not familiar with the U.S. education system, and many first-generation students face similar challenges," Santoyo said.

The Dream Center provides services such as scholarships, financial aid guidance and emotional support. Santoyo said access to these services helps students focus on learning instead of worrying about administrative issues.

"We aim to create a sense of community, especially at a college where many students may feel disconnected due to a lack of on-campus housing," she said.

**'We're here to make that process easier'**

Kamal Bewar, a first-generation student success advisor in the SEEA office works directly with students to guide them through both academic and personal challenges.

"First-generation students often don't have the same college

experience or family support that others might have," Bewar said. "We provide guidance on things like registration, tutoring and financial aid to help them succeed."

He added that many students juggle full-time jobs or family responsibilities, which make it difficult to seek help.

"College can be overwhelming, and many students are working full-time or taking care of families, which makes it hard to find time for academic support," he said. "We're here to make that process a little easier and ensure that students feel supported."

Although these support systems exist, there are still challenges in getting the word out.

"It's a struggle to reach all students," Santoyo said. "But word of mouth helps a lot, and we try to keep our doors open to anyone who needs assistance."

Despite these challenges, these students and staff members are committed to helping first-generation students succeed.



# SLCC professor compares AI usage to microwaves

**Emmie DaBell**

Contributing Writer

Anne Canavan, Salt Lake Community College Associate Director of the Student Writing and Reading Center who has been teaching college English for more than 20 years, sees AI as just the latest wave in a long history of technological shifts in education.

She thinks of AI as just another “microwave.” When microwaves became widely available around the 1980s, the general population thought ovens and stovetops would become relatively useless, but that’s not what happened, according to Canavan.

“What do we use microwaves for now? We use them to reheat food that we have created on other technologies, or for very specialized tasks,” she said.

Canavan believes AI will end up being used in much the same way: helpful for certain tasks but not a replacement for human thinking and creativity.

Currently there is a growing concern that over-reliance on AI could lead to a lack of human writing, thinking or creativity. This is a concern echoed by SLCC psychology major Simmone Pannunzio.

“I feel like I’m here to learn and gain a skill,” she said.

Pannunzio explained that she only uses AI when she is falling behind or needs help understanding a topic, not for an entire assignment.

“I just don’t want to have someone give me the answer because I’m trying to learn a little bit at least,” Pannunzio said.

While Pannunzio is hesitant about the use of AI, Canavan is concerned that other students are relying on it too much for creative writing and research. Canavan believes students use AI to sound smarter, but AI lacks all sense of personality and creates monotoned text.

“I love my second language speakers because they have these lyrical, poetic ways of describing things I would have never thought of,” Canavan said. “And that’s the kind of thing AI wants to scrub out.”

Along with writing, AI is “extraordinarily bad at research,” Canavan said. AI has the ability to materialize sources due to perceived patterns. These sources may look credible, but they are not real. Experts are calling this phenomenon AI hallucinations, according to International Business Machines Corporation.

Shannon Vallor, a University of Edinburgh AI and data ethics professor, has written about the ethical concerns of AI. She believes there are two types of AI: narrow and generative AI.

Narrow AI is designed to handle specific tasks and can be both helpful and harmful, Vallor wrote. Generative AI, on the other hand, fabricates information by design.

“It generates something new based on the patterns in the training data and that’s why you can’t stop it from fabricating or hallucinating, because that’s what it’s doing all the time,” Vallor said in a lecture

given at the Santa Clara University of Law. “Every output is fabricated, some of them just happen to also be true.”

When a student turns in an assignment with AI hallucinated research, Canavan said she approaches them with compassion and eagerness to understand why the student felt the need to go to AI for help.

“And in some ways, I do tend to make AI kind of the bad guy,” Canavan said. “I’m like, yeah, AI lied to you. What? It was

supposed to be my friend.”

Canavan advises students to avoid AI hallucinations by doing personal research and having enough information to fact check their sources. Pannunzio agrees.

“Misinformation that can be fed online, can get its way into AI, and then maybe people can get some misinformation from there instead of just doing their own research,” Pannunzio said.

Canavan herself uses AI for basic tasks such as speech-to-text and grammar corrections, but even then, she remains skeptical of its reliability. Students need to have at least a base level of understanding to use AI appropriately, Canavan said.

“My grammar checkers, I agree with them about 70% of the time and the other 30% I’m like, nope, you are dumb and wrong and I’m going to do it my way,” Canavan said.

Canavan encourages students to be sure to check with faculty members before using AI in assignments.

Considering SLCC does not have an overall AI policy use, Canavan advised students should always ask about how professors define AI and how they allow for the use of it in assignments. Canavan advised to understand each professor’s policy, to avoid any miscommunication.



Photo courtesy of ProStockStudio

AI can be a helpful tool for both educators and students when used appropriately.



# Pizza pick-up provides quick and easy food option on campus

**Delaney Barnard**

Staff Writer

Salt Lake Community College announced the launch of a new dining option for students, faculty and staff at the Taylorsville Redwood Campus.

“Herb & Dough” is an innovative pizza pick-up service at SLCC. Offering delicious and convenient meals for busy students and staff.

“This pizza pop-up is such a great addition to the campus,

really quick and amazing quality,” said student Amara Ramiez.

“I am excited about the increased options available at the Redwood Campus. I recently started working at Dough and Herb’ and am thoroughly enjoying it. I hope the dining experience at SLCC campuses continues to enhance,” said Sidney Henrey, “Herb & Dough” employee.

Whether one craves a classic pepperoni pizza, a savory vegetarian option bursting with fresh vegetables or a distinctive

specialty pie that tantalizes the taste buds with unique flavor combinations, “Herb & Dough” offers something to everyone, including gluten-free.

“This service will cater to the needs of our community, ensuring everyone has access to a tasty meal,” said Tony Sage, auxiliary services assistant manager.

Customers can place their orders online through a user-friendly platform, allowing them to browse the menu, customize their pizzas and select their

preferred toppings.

Once their order is placed, customers can choose a location on campus for easy in-between class pick-up on busy workdays.

The welcoming ambiance of the new establishment makes it a compelling choice for a quick meal between classes or for unwinding and sharing a meal with friends.

To download the ordering application, “Transact” or for more information go to [slcc.edu/foodservices/index.aspx](http://slcc.edu/foodservices/index.aspx).



■ Photo by Delaney Barnard

“Herb & Dough” in the Salt Lake Community College Taylorsville Redwood campus cafeteria, offers students, faculty and staff a dining experience focused on quality, taste and nutrition.



# BruCru wins junior college baseball world series championship

**Bonnie Fox**

Staff Writer

Salt Lake Community College's 2024-25 Bruins baseball team brought home its first national championship under Coach DG Nelson. Student Affairs celebrated the team with pizza and speeches on June 5 at the Alder Plaza at Taylorsville Redwood campus.

Pitcher Dan Brousseau recounted what it was like to be in the dugout for the final play of the last game—the moment when the Bruins' right fielder caught a pop-up, which resulted in the Bruins winning the Junior College World Series National Championship.

"We knew we were the champions," said Brousseau, a sophomore who graduated with a degree in general education this spring. "We mobbed the field and dogpiled—one last time. Everyone was cheering. There was water everywhere."

Not everyone who wanted to be at the game in Grand Junction, Colorado could attend. Brett Perozzi, SLCC's vice president for student affairs, watched with others at the home of a staff member who had access to the televised game.

"The pictures of the dogpile were amazing," Perozzi said. "I am super proud of the coach and players."

Brousseau believes the spirit of brotherhood was the key to the team's success.

"We just clicked. We bonded as brothers. We were like family," Brousseau said.

The #BruCru, as they call themselves, were underdogs in the series seeded at No. 8. They upset No. 1 Walters State of Morristown, Tennessee, 9-6, to win the title.

Like Brousseau, Nelson attributed the team's victory to team spirit. "They had a belief in one another and a desire to get the job done," said Nelson. "They never let their spirits get too high or too low."

The Bruins were the lowest-seeded team in JUCO World Series history to take home the National Championship.

"When they were down, they didn't quit," Nelson said.

Nelson spoke at the luncheon of how humbling this experience has been.

"I think of all the teams that came before this one, players who have given the game their all," said Nelson, who has been at SLCC for 23 years. "This win is for them, too."

Nelson said he sees the victory as one that belongs to the entire SLCC community.

"We have 'community' in our name, and that is what I am proud



Photo by Teresa Chaikowsky

Bruin baseball players celebrate with SLCC faculty and staff following the team's first JUCO World Series championship during a party on June 5 at the Taylorsville Redwood campus.

of SLCC for—it's a community—and part of a community," Nelson said.

Right fielder Hudson Manwaring also believes team spirit lifted the BruCru to victory.

"Everyone enjoyed being around each other. We just had good connections," said Manwaring, a sophomore graduating with a degree in business.

"It was exciting [when we won]. It was unreal," Manwaring said.

Nelson had advice for students competing in sports.

"Take care of academics first. It opens so many more doors," Nelson said.

Nelson believes this advice could apply to all athletes—and for that matter, all students.

"If your life is in order off the field [and] off the court, then you can focus when you are playing," Nelson said.

Manwaring also had some advice for students—athletes or not.

"Keep working and have confidence in yourself and your abilities."



# Everything's F.I.N.E; club aims to network, build community

**Gerardo Galvez-Zamora**

Digital Editor  @gerald\_sweatshirt

Building connections, crafting stories and finding community in the world of film can be challenging, but Salt Lake Community College's film club F.I.N.E (Film Industry Networking Events) is here to change that.

The F.I.N.E Club, is aiming to bring film students together in a space dedicated to networking, collaboration and community building.

Founded by first-year SLCC students, President Aislinn Beals and Vice President Elizabeth

Simmons, F.I.N.E was created to address a gap that they both felt for students seeking more networking opportunities and connections within SLCC's film program.

Simmons shared on "SLCC Live!" how the club began.

"It started with a conversation... both Aislinn and I felt there weren't a lot of events going on for us, and networking is such a big part of filmmaking. We realized many of our peers barely knew each other and we wanted a space to bring people together and talk about our passions, which is film."

The F.I.N.E club kicked off

its first networking event on Oct. 30, 2024, with a blended classic meets modern Halloween-themed double feature of "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" and "Nope."

The event was hosted in SLCC's very own state of the art digital sound stage – an immersive set up of LED panels designed to transform the sound stage into any environment.

The club's mission is to connect students with complementary skills, while embracing the aspect of a learning experience.

By hosting a platform open to collaboration and growth within SLCC's film community, the club

hopes to connect directors with writers, cinematographers with producers and more.

Beals emphasized the importance of creating a space for students to learn to communicate and share ideas even if one feels outside their comfort zone.

"I want it to be a place where students learn to articulate and refine their ideas," Beals said. "It's a platform for working out creative visions and building confidence through practice."

The club's debut event provided a welcoming environment that encouraged students to interact with the film including yelling profanity towards some characters in "The Rocky Horror Picture Show."

This made for a memorable screening and engaging experience.

As a message to students considering joining the club, Beals encouraged students to step out of their own comfort zones.

"Don't be afraid to meet new people and explore film in ways you haven't before...this club is about pushing those boundaries. You'll find that people are often more approachable than you might think, and film is something everyone should try at least once."

With each future event, F.I.N.E strives to create an evolving space for networking, personal growth and collaboration opportunities, helping students discover their voice within SLCC's fast-paced film community.

As the club continues to grow, Beals and Simmons hope it will continue to provide an environment for sharing skills, building relationships and inspiring students to actively engage in their creative craft.



■ Photo by Gerardo Galvez-Zamora

A behind-the-scenes look at SLCC's state-of-the-art LED sound stage, the perfect backdrop for F.I.N.E's double feature event on Oct. 30, 2024.



# Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers; diversity and opportunity

**Dayanna Alejandra Pérez**

Staff Writer

After being reactivated by Edgar Guzmán, Oscar Rodríguez, Estephany Carrillo Moy, and Hau Moy Kwan, the club SHPE has remained active for two semesters, supporting Hispanic students in the Salt Lake Community College community.

Ten years ago, Hau Moy Kwan moved from Venezuela to the United States. In Venezuela, she worked as a university research professor and helped students receive internships, which were a requirement to graduate in her country. However, when she arrived in the United States, she realized internships are not always necessary to graduate.

As a professor, Moy worked with a diverse student population, although she noted that it was a challenge to see more Latino students in STEM careers.

“For me, Latino representation is very low in STEM,” Moy said. “Since we were young, we were afraid of math, that motivated me to help our community.”

In 2022, Moy received the Teaching Excellence Award for her dedication and motivation. She was also a finalist for the Women in Tech Award. This helped her build professional connections. Soon Moy learned about SHPE and with the help of Kino Hurtado and the Engineering Department, she received tickets for 15 students to attend the SHPE National Conference.

## Leadership and motivation

Salvador Vergara Olachea, an electrical engineering student, joined SHPE in the fall of 2023. He is now the club’s vice president. He took classes with Professor Moy, who told him about the benefits of SHPE. After attending a conference, he decided to join the club.

“It was a way to empower ourselves and get more opportunities and experiences for the future,” Vergara said.

Oscar Rodríguez, SHPE’s treasurer and a computer science student, is part of a club’s leadership team for the first time. “I love our purpose. For example, the workshops give me a feeling of service to the community,” Rodríguez said.

## Beyond engineering

Piero Solís, a chemistry student and SHPE’s secretary, learned about the club from Edgar Guzmán, SHPE president, who invited him to SHPE meetings.

Although Solís previously couldn’t attend meetings due to schedule conflicts, he will now be in his first semester as an active member. “SHPE is a big help for me as an international student because of the opportunities and networking it offers,” Solís said.

Any students enrolled in STEM are invited to join SHPE, the club is not exclusive to engineers only. This diversity brings new ideas and makes teamwork stronger.

## Expansion and visibility

SHPE has stayed active through social media and marketing. On platforms like Discord and LinkedIn, they connect with students, promote meetings, events and volunteer opportunities.

Estephany Carrillo Moy, an electrical engineering student and Media/Outreach officer, shared her vision.

“Through our platforms and communication, I want to inspire more people to join, participate, and take advantage of everything SHPE offers,” Carrillo said.

In addition, Moy stated “We didn’t know SHPE works with more than 350 companies nationwide for all students.”

For Moy, SHPE is not only about having fun, but also about building leadership, developing communication skills and managing challenging situations.

The club also shares its message with high



SHPE's main goal is to empower and support Hispanic students in STEM by offering professional development, mentoring, networking and academic opportunities.

school students, explaining what SHPE is and its purpose. They have also participated in community activities, such as visiting senior centers and collaborating in events like SheTech, which promotes the inclusion of women in STEM.

“Involving them in technology shows [them] it is not something scary. It can be fun and challenging, and that helps reduce the fear of a STEM career,” Vergara said.

## SHPE mission

SHPE’s main goal is to empower and support Hispanic students in STEM by offering professional development, mentoring, networking and academic opportunities. The club’s focus is to close the representation gap in these fields and provide resources to help every member achieve their academic and professional goals.

Most of all, their mission is to inspire and motivate others.



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