

College of Health and Human Sciences | Fall 2022 Newsletter



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

When I reflect upon my work at SJSU I recognize that I am surrounded by hope. Hope appears in Greek mythology and can be found throughout a myriad of cultures and religions. Hope is especially important in difficult times.

We have tens of thousands of hopeful students who show up every day engaged in their educational experience, contributing and learning in community-partnered practicums and internships, and doing so while often balancing one or multiple jobs. The students hope for many things but among them is to be the first in their family with a college degree, be a role model to their own children or siblings, or to obtain a degree in order to help others in need and change the world. Hope has been found to be important to recovery and healing.

Once again there is a flurry of activity. Our students are busy wrapping up their semester and preparing for finals. Faculty and staff are all doing what is needed to support our students to a successful completion of the fall and, for some, a successful completion of their time here at SJSU. Fall Commencement marks

the nexus of both the ending and beginning of our students' continued journey as lifetime learners, thinkers, and leaders.

In the College of Health and Human Sciences our students and faculty are making an impact within our communities and industry. In this newsletter you will catch just a glimpse of the award-winning efforts that take place all year long both on and off campus. We live our mission to improve lives and address the barriers resulting in health and behavioral health inequities through our teaching, scientific research, and community engaged collaborations.

I invite you to read about the incredible accomplishments taking place in the College of Health and Human Sciences. You will see that there is hope present throughout.

"You may not always have a comfortable life and you will not always be able to solve all of the world's problems at once but don't ever underestimate the importance you can have because history has shown us that courage can be contagious and hope can take on a life of its own." – Michelle Obama

Sincerely, Dr. Audrey M. Shillington, Dean

New Director of Packaging Revamps & Expands Program

By: Jacqueline J. Bergman

Founded in 1981 by Don Betando of the Division of Technology, San Jose State University's (SJSU) Packaging Program was the first of its kind west of the Mississippi. Flash forward to the present, SJSU is one of eleven distinguished academic institutions in the U.S. offering degrees in Packaging, including a B.S. in Nutritional Science with a Concentration in Packaging and a minor in Packaging. Graduates of the SJSU Packaging program gain employment at many of the world's premier companies including Apple Computer, Hewlett-Packard, Cisco Systems, and Applied Biosystems among many others.

Although the <u>early history of the SJSU Packaging Program</u> was painted with peaks and valleys of successes and challenges, the program has been on a steady upward trajectory for the past 15 years thanks to the collective strokes of progressive leaders such as the late <u>Don Betando</u>, Jorge Marcondes, and <u>Herbert Schueneman</u>. Gifted with the same eye for innovation as his predecessors, new Packaging Program director <u>Edmund Tang</u> has plans to take the program to new heights.

After receiving his bachelor's and master's degrees from the Industrial Systems Engineering Department at SJSU, Tang started a position as a Test Engineer in 2005 at WESTPAK, a world recognized test laboratory. After working full time for four years, he began an appointment as Adjunct Professor at SJSU in 2009. Thirteen years later, Tang got word of the open position of Assistant Professor and Director of Packaging in the The Nutrition, Food Science, and Packaging Department at SJSU. Tang jumped at the opportunity to apply his vast experience and passion for teaching, mentorship, and the packaging industry to revamp the same packaging program where he cut his professional teeth.





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At the end of the day, I want all students to graduate [from the Packaging Program] with confidence, competence, and industry connections needed to thrive int he real world.

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A major component of Tang's vision for the future of the Packaging Program is to "welcome industry partners with open arms." Tang's plan to expand industry partnerships is well underway as he has already revitalized and established nearly 20 partnerships in a variety of industries in the high tech, medical and pharmaceutical, foods, cosmetics, and testing spaces. Some industry partnerships include Google, Facebook, Genentech, Gilead Sciences, Stryker, Foster Farms, Del Monte Foods, and Benefit Cosmetics. The benefits from these relationships range from guest lectures, field trips, exclusive internship opportunities, and the ability to use a professional lab.

When asked what he enjoys most about the packaging industry, Tang's answer is simple. The people. "The industry is small... it's a tight-knit, down-to-earth community where everyone knows everyone." Tang goes on to share how he's continually inspired by the humble and generous nature of the packaging community, "everyone is so supportive and eager to give back to the future generation."



Tang's teaching philosophy fosters a welcoming, student-centered learning environment where students feel heard, valued, and respected. As is the case within the packaging industry, Tang believes there is no room for ego in the classroom. He explains to students, "nothing is wrong with questioning authority if it is done in a respectful manner." Meaningful peer discussion and connection continues outside the classroom through field trips to Google Headquarters or industry conferences like PACK EXPO. Tang explains, "[field trips] give students the opportunity to break bread with their peers and view them not simply as classmates, but as colleagues and friends that will last a lifetime."

In addition to creating a culture of respect and camaraderie in the classroom, Tang has expanded the curriculum with two new classes, Hazardous Materials Packaging (PKG 160) and Advanced Laboratory Testing (PKG 168), with plans of creating a third. Additional plans include creating a mentorship program and advisory board to help foster SJSU student-industry connections, and much more. There is no stopping this packaging mastermind!

When summarizing his goals for the program Tang shares, "At the end of the day, I want all students to graduate [from the Packaging Program] with the confidence, competence, and industry connections needed to thrive in the real world".

Through his boundless vision for innovative industry partnership, commitment to student mentorship and empowerment, and his charitable, down-to-earth approach, Edmund Tang embodies the ideal SJSU faculty archetype.

The Nutrition, Food Science, and Packaging Department is proud to have Tang on the team as we cheer this inspirational Spartan on from the sidelines!

Learn more about the <u>SJSU's Packaging Program</u> and <u>potential career paths</u> online.

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Formative Inquiry: Faculty Experiences in the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program

By: Andrew Carter



In an increasingly polarizing social, political, and cultural climate—one where debate flashpoints around the validity of evidence, "alternative" facts, and unfounded scientific claims are commonplace—the importance of generating research that is just, empirically-based, and systematic, is more pressing than ever. A key component toward addressing these challenges involves instilling such values in the next generation of researchers. At SJSU, the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP) seeks to advance these efforts by engaging undergraduate students in an immersive research mentorship experience early on in their career.

Dr. Charles Park (Department of Public Health and Recreation) is part of a dynamic and talented cohort of faculty mentors in the program who are providing tailored research instruction to undergraduates across campus. As a second year UROP faculty mentor, Dr. Park sees his participation in the program as a way to further his passion for working collaboratively with undergraduates who are still developing their research interests and career trajectories. "To be a good researcher, the earlier the student engages and gets to know the research, the better opportunities [they will have]. I love to help students understand everything about the research process, from the literature review, IRB

application, to writing a manuscript, to the publication."

Aligning with Dr. Park's vision, UROP focuses exclusively on first and second year and transfer students to expose them early to the dynamic SJSU research culture and offer multi-level support via individualized faculty partnerships, peer mentoring, and the participation in a cohort model—where they progress through a shared learning experience and engage in community building and social networking. During his time in the program, Dr. Park has witnessed the value of this model firsthand, and recognizes the unique assets that this student population comes equipped with when it comes to research. "They are really motivated to learn new things. I see the attitude and mindset that is open to anything from the undergraduate students. They have really great potential to become great researchers in the future."

Dr. Park is currently working with two students. One student is a freshman and a Biology major and the other a junior who just transferred to SJSU and is majoring in Public Health and Recreation. They are working on a project exploring the differences in perceptions of mental health among Korean immigrants living in the Bay Area. We are curious if there is a difference in these mental health perceptions based upon changes in legal status (e.g., student, HI working visa, permanent working status). Both students, who are from first-generation immigrant families, share a personal interest in the research and are able to draw on their individual experiences as they work collaboratively during the academic year; specific tasks they will undertake include writing a literature review, submitting a human subjects protocol to the Institutional Research Board (IRB), completing a human subjects research [CITI] training, interviewing participants, transcribing and analyzing data, and preparing an abstract based on the project findings for an academic public health conference.

Overall, Dr. Park sees UROP as a way for SJSU students to get a head start on professional development and gain exposure to the myriad career options available to them. "UROP provides a wonderful opportunity for students to develop their preparation for their future career. For example, help them to write their CV, how to communicate with faculty effectively, and have a good interview. All of these processes are really unique for undergraduate students who are engaging in UROP."

UROP is supported by the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and housed in the Lurie College of Education, and directed by faculty in the College of Health and Human Sciences. For faculty and students interested in UROP, open enrollment will begin Spring 2023. If you have any questions about the program or would like additional information, please contact Dr. Andrew Carter at andrew.carter@sjsu.edu



Celebrating Families!: Evaluation Research and Student 298 Projects

By: Destiny Santana & Edward Cohen

Dr. Ed Cohen heads up a multi-site evaluation of Celebrating Families! (CF!), a family-based intervention designed to improve parenting and family relations, and reduce parental substance use problems that have been linked to violence in the home. CF! has been implemented in many sites in California and other states – among them multi-service agencies, family treatment courts, child welfare agencies, domestic violence programs, residential treatment programs, and school districts. It is unique among family-based prevention programs since it was specifically developed to address the interface between substance use

problems and violence in the home. The intervention also focuses on improving resiliencies of individuals and families in multicultural settings. It has been adapted for Spanish-speaking families, and has been implemented by at least three Native American tribal authorities nationally. There are versions of CF! for families with children ages 0-3, 4-12, and 13-17. Pre- and posttest outcome surveys from a multi-site evaluation have shown that the program improves parents' understanding of their child's needs, parental self-efficacy, parenting skills, and family relationships.

Dr. Cohen has involved student research assistants in this project each year since 2016. In his 2021-22 capstone research class, there were six students pursuing CF! related research. Mary Prado studied the cultural adaptation of the program for California sites serving Latinx and Native American families. Cynthia Navarro and Yasmin Lara monitored new program implementations funded by a grant from the California Office of Child Abuse Prevention. Natalie Cline and Kristin Jones assisted with the development and analysis of data from a survey of graduates of Parisi House, a residential program for women and their children where CF! is part of the milieu program. Jennifer Escalera conducted a literature review summarizing how the theories supporting similar family-based interventions are translated into program curricula.

This year, Student Research Assistants will continue implementation research of new sites, and future plans include analysis of child welfare reunification and recidivism data, as well as seeking grant funding for sustainable research projects in collaboration with other researchers in the field of family-based prevention.

Dr. Ed Cohen is a Professor in the School of Social Work and Interim Associate Dean of Research and Faculty.



Congratulations for winning the Best Social & Sustainable Innovation at this year's Silicon Valley Innovation Challenge

- Nathan Anico Department of Public Health and Recreation
- Matt Broyles Department of Mechanical Engineering
- Ermina Francisco Department of Accounting and Finance

Dr. Lamont Williams launches Siempre Sports Academy for SJSU Students

By: Lamont Williams

Fall 2022 marked the launch of a valuable sport-centric professional development workshop series programmed specifically for SJSU students interested in pursuing a career in the world of sport. Siempre Sports Academy, founded by Dr. Lamont Williams (Assistant Professor, Department of Kinesiology - Sport Management & Culture), serves as an opportunity for students to engage with various industry professionals from every major sport team in the Bay Area. The workshops are designed to educate students on the skills necessary to compete in the job market, as well as provide a space to network with other underrepresented students and professionals to gain insight on utilizing their 'diversity' as an asset. Each workshop features a different contemporary focus, thoughtfully curated to support underserved students and provide an avenue for real-world knowledge acquisition directly from industry professionals who are scouting for the leaders of tomorrow. In a nutshell, Siempre Sports Academy is focused on closing the knowledge gap AND giving SJSU students an edge in the job market, one workshop at a time.

Dr. Williams began developing the Siempre Sports Academy as a part of the Assigned Time for Exceptional Levels of Service to Students

Program. The first event, titled, "So, You Want to Work in Sports?" was completed in partnership with the National Football League's San Francisco 49ers in September 2022. The event was hosted at the Black Oak Casino Resort Club in Levi's Stadium, where students were invited to attend a panel on the various opportunities available for working in the world of sport. The speakers for the first event included Sara Salam (Director of Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging – National Hockey League's San José Sharks), Austin Moss II (Director of Player Engagement – San Francisco 49ers), and Corry Rush (Vice President of Football Communication – San Francisco 49ers). Dr. Williams moderated the discussion, which featured topical questions for the panelists and a Q&A portion for students to ask the panelists questions of their own. Following the event, students were invited to join the panelists in further discussions related to their particular interests during the post-event mixer!

The Siempre Sports Academy will continue to offer workshops in partnership with major sport teams in the Bay Area to increase employment/internship/volunteering opportunities for students interested in working in the world of sport.

For more information, please visit <u>www.savantlamont.com/ssa</u> and follow Siempre Sports Academy on LinkedIn and Instagram (@siempresports).





One might think that being part of the Aerospace Studies Department at San José State University is limited to having an impact on local Bay Area cadets who seek a future as officers in the Department of the Air Force (DAF). Though that statement is true, we also have an impact on cadets across the nation.

Each summer we are called upon to train and evaluate the future leaders of the DAF during what, in AFROTC (Air Force Reserve Officers' Training Corp), we call Field Training. This year's Field Training took place in Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. Those that have been in the southern part of the United States during the summertime (90+degree weather, 100% humidity, mosquitos & large sized insects) know that it's probably not the ideal place to spend a summer vacation.

Field Training is a rigorous boot-camp-style program of physical training, weapons training, survival training, and deployment skills. Aerospace Studies Department faculty members, Captain Victor Salum and Staff Sergeant (SSgt) Dat Trinh, had the opportunity this past summer to train and evaluate the leadership potential of cadets who attended universities from all over the country – UCLA, Purdue, Boston University, University of Miami, Auburn,

Clemson, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard to name a few. Each day was a challenge with early mornings to prep for the day, marching in the heat and sometimes the pouring rain, more planning after your work shift to prep for the next day, and continuous evaluation of cadets. Field Training allows cadets to hone their followership, teamwork, and most importantly, leadership skills. The program is designed to evaluate military leadership and discipline and determine potential for entry into the AFROTC upper-class, also known as the Professional Officer Course. One of the toughest parts of Field Training is having to tell a cadet that they do not meet the standards of the program and having to send them home after all the time that they have devoted to the AFROTC program. But that is the purpose of Field Training, to seek those that have the potential to become future Air or Space Force officers and dismiss those that do not meet the standards. Successful completion of Field Training is mandatory for completing the AFROTC program and obtaining a commission in the Air Force or Space Force.

But as Colonel Corey Ramsby, AFROTC Commander, mentioned to cadets who graduated Field Training this past summer, "You're only half-way to the starting point." That starting point is what cadets work so hard to be, a commissioned officer in the US Air or Space Force.

Not Your Average Summer Vacation

By: Capt Victor Salum & SSgt Dat Trinh

Second Career Nursing, and the Impact of Loving One's Community

By: Maya Carlyle

Bree Casas (she/they) joined The Valley Foundation School of Nursing (TVFSON) as a student in 2020 as a pathway to a second career, and began making the most of her time in the school; from student group participation, to sharing their thoughts on Nursing's simulation labs.

Shortly after the interview, I had the honor of watching Bree's December graduation be pre-celebrated during the Native American/Indigenous students graduation celebration in May 2022. Fall of 2022 finds her a senior nursing student in her last semester, and Bree seems poised to continue on as a compassionate leader in the nursing world.

MC, interviewer: First and foremost, Bree ~ thank you so much for joining me today. To jump right in -- what made you think about pursuing nursing?

Bree Casas: I always love that question.

Originally my path was in education and teaching, specializing in Special Education. But, then, I [] made the switch to nursing.

[] For me, I have a younger brother who had a speech and language delay. And he was, quite frankly, always sick, constantly sick and needing to be hospitalized.

The drive to pursue nursing... really, I think it was the time I spent with my younger brother. Just in and out of the healthcare system and trying to navigate all these different things, for him and with him, really made me want to switch to nursing and I think that's also why I want to specialize in pediatrics because it's amazing. It makes me really excited to see people in general succeed, but definitely children... and again, goes back to my brother.

He has now graduated college and has a bachelor's degree – he was able to overcome so much, personal challenges and a world not set up for his needs, and all of that just with the proper support, and people on his side.



MC, Interviewer: Why did you pick SJSU, and <u>The Valley Foundation School of Nursing</u>, for your nursing education?

Bree: Well, I grew up in Hollister. My first Bachelor's I got in sociology at UC Santa Barbara and after that... and, I was ready to move home.

And, I think the second part was because I am a second-career, second-bachelor's nurse, and I had just heard so many great things about the San José State programs, specifically, and how many opportunities there were with it being centrally located in the Bay Area. Hearing about people being hired at great hospitals and other healthcare places -- the opportunities were so impressive to me.

And I thought; well, maybe I can do it too. []

MC, Interview: As a student nurse, I believe you are involved at several levels in the university and in the community. What are some of the ways that you are involved?

Bree: Oh, wow - yeah.

One of the big ones I'm involved with is CNSA, which is the California Nursing Students' Association. I'm on the State Board as the Breakthrough To Nursing Director, as well as the San José State University chapter Breakthrough To Nursing Director, which is really fun to have that kind of overlap. I focus on recruitment and retention for non-traditional nursing students, nursing students of color, and students from lower income backgrounds. I find that really fulfilling, I enjoy making those connections [].

Some other things I'm involved in are the Public Health Nursing Club; I'm the president, and a lot of our fundraisers started out as things I proposed – like, this semester [Spring 2022] we've been doing our big book drive for lower income K-to-12 schools. Last semester [Fall 2021], in combination with CNSA, we ran a period poverty and menstruation donation drive where we were able to donate hundreds of pads to six Eastside High School District schools.

Denise Arevalo, a classmate of mine, and I spearheaded the project, working with Community Health Partnership and School Health Clinics of Santa Clara County. We met with (Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors member) Cindy Chavez's team to talk more about period poverty and its impacts.

It was just so interesting to get on the policy side of healthcare issues, and being invited into different conversations and meetings, because sometimes even when the money is there, we realized the action wasn't happening – so even though the schools were getting funded they weren't receiving adequate menstrual supplies for the students.

So, I think I'm also headed in that direction, because I'd never realized that we could make a difference in policy on such a local level.

MC, Interviewer: What about some of your on-campus involvement?

Bree: The School of Nursing's parent college, the College of Health and Human Sciences, has a <u>CEED group</u> (Committee to Enhance Equity and Diversity), and I was really excited to join that. I am currently the only student that serves on this committee, and I love being a part of a group that addresses systemic inequities in education.

MC, Interviewer: Do you peer-mentor, as well?

Bree: I have a mentee, if that's what you mean. And, when I do have free time I like to help tutor other nursing students that are in earlier semesters, like, in med-surg and pediatric theory.

Oh, also! I am, just, really proud of all the work that I do with <u>BILSNOC</u> — that's a big one. Black, Indigenous, Latinx & Student Nurses Of Color. Dr Sheri Rickman Patrick is our faculty advisor, and has been great to work with.





And I thought; well, maybe I can do it too.



This particular club came about after me, and another student, did some research with Dr Michelle Hampton on a couple of things, like 'sense of belonging' and 'culture within the program.' We found that a lot of students of color felt that they didn't really have a place where they could connect with other students of color, especially during COVID-19. So we decided to pursue that.

We're a small, new club, but I feel that those members that we do have are very excited to be able to connect with one another.

Bree was recently second author on an article published in the <u>Evidence-Based Nursing</u> journal, October 2022 issue.

In "Professional discrimination toward nurses increases nurse silence, threatening patient safety outcomes," the relationship between discrimination and hesitance to act on potentially patient-saving actions were explored. While the impact of discrimination has been widely documented, this study found that nurses who had experience in the professional landscape – such as reporting having been prevented from adequately voicing concerns to their superiors – became less communicative, thus potentially risking patient safety. In this way, the environment created by nursing leadership and interdisciplinary superiors has the capacity to create hesitancy and silence, and to inhibit bedside nurses' interventions in patient safety.

Of the article, and work that went into it, Bree stated: "As someone that is passionate about advocacy in the nursing profession, this was very important for me to write about. To me, advocacy is an extension of social care and essential to ensure that all our patients' needs are being met."

Read more of the interview, and get to know Bree Casas a little better, here: https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/second-career-nursing-impact-loving-/

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Learn more about SJSU's School of Nursing.

Celebrating Accomplishments of the OT Faculty and Students in 2022

By: Luis Arabit

The Occupational Therapy (OT) department has much to rejoice in 2022. At the recently concluded Occupational Therapy Association of California (OTAC) 2022 Conference held in Santa Clara on Oct 27-30, SJSU OT faculty and students bagged honors and awards from the OTAC and the California Foundation for Occupational Therapy (CFOT).

Dr. Melisa Kaye was chosen to be the recipient of the CFOT Research Grant in the amount of \$7,000. Her research is on examining the factors contributing to resilience and coping in local families with young children during the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Kaye is very grateful to the CFOT for this generous grant. She stated "it will provide support to our diverse, low-income and disproportionately impacted local families and children" while addressing the occupational and social injustices stemming from the pandemic.



Dr. Hiral Khatri was awarded the Susan J. Harris Entrepreneur Award from the OTAC. The award recognizes an OTAC member who through outstanding professional entrepreneurship has contributed to the occupational therapy profession in California. Dr. Katri mentioned that she feels humbled, honored, inspired, and accomplished to have received the award stating "This award is a great responsibility to give back to the community."



Professor Alison George was awarded the Janice Matsusuyu Outstanding Service Award from OTAC. The award recognizes an OTAC member who has made significant contributions which impact the association and its objectives. Dr. Deborah Bolding received the Award of Excellence from the OTAC. The award recognizes an OTAC member who has made significant contributions to advancement of OT in areas of therapeutic practice, research, education, administration, organizational and community service.





Congratulations also goes to our SJSU OT students who were recipients of the 2022 CFOT Scholarships: Thao Pham, Nicole Orr, Michael Benson, Lauren Worley and Sienna Kuykendall.

Congratulations to all the students and faculty for being awarded seed money from the CFOT. Kudos to all SJSU OT students and their research advisors, Dr. Megan Chang, Dr. Chiao-Ju Fang and Dr. Katrina Long who presented OTAC poster sessions. Sincerest gratitude to all the SJSU Student Occupational Therapy Association (SOTA) group of students who volunteered their time and energy to make the 2022 OTAC conference a success.

In addition, Kudos are also to the SJSU OT faculty who presented podium sessions at the 2022 OTAC conference: Dr. Winifred Schultz-Krohn, Dr. Courtney Boitano, Michelle Tipton-Burton, Dr. Gigi Smith, Rochelle McLaughlin, Dr. Melissa Kaye, Christine Haworth, Dr. Kathryn Wise, Dr. Deborah Bolding, Dr. Hiral Katri, and Dr. Luis Arabit. Furthermore, Professor Cesar Arada, SJSU OT Academic Fieldwork Coordinator has been appointed as the California Ambassador for the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT).

We close the year 2022 celebrating the great accomplishments by the SJSU OT faculty and students. Congratulations to all!



Recognizing Department of Audiology Student and Faculty Accomplishments in Fall 2022

By: Shaum Bhagat

A number of positive developments in the Department of Audiology have occurred during the Fall 2022 semester. Doctor of Audiology student Danielle Hall received an award from the Academy of Rehabilitative Audiology for her work in creating a visual presentation for patients or professionals concerning a topic in Aural Rehabilitation. The focus of Danielle Hall's visual presentation concerned hearing aid selection, and information

regarding different hearing aid devices was included in the presentation.

The Food and Drug Administration has recently established rules concerning over the counter (OTC) hearing devices. While these are devices, they are not conventional hearing aids. Ms. Hall's visual presentation provides information to help distinguish the conventional hearing aids typically available for hearing aid candidates.

Assistant Professor Adam Svec hosted a hearing screening event as part of the Transforming Communities initiative, co-sponsored by the CHHS Committee to Enhance Equity and Diversity (CEED) on November 1st. Dr. Svec was assisted by three Doctor of Audiology students, and several community members received a hearing screening test. Dr. Svec also awarded the Hearing Industry Research Consortium grant for a research project in partnership with two colleagues, Dr. Marc Brennan of the University of Nebraska and Dr. Laurel Carney of the University of Rochester. Dr. Svec will serve as the Principal Investigator for the project, and funding for the project will begin in January of 2023.



We wish to recognize the ongoing accomplishments of our Doctor of Audiology students and faculty members in the Department of Audiology. We look forward to celebrating student and faculty achievements and marking the passage of program milestones in the year ahead.

SJSU | COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES

Thank You For Your Continued Support! sjsu.edu/chhs/giving

Our Social Work Recent Grads Continuing Their Journeys

By: Destiny Santana and Peter Allen Lee

The School of Social Work had about 250 bachelor's and master's degree graduates in Spring 2022, and they are already on their way impacting our communities to advance the well-being of others. Where are they and what are they doing? Here are a few examples of their journeys.



Imani Savage received her A.A. in Administrative Justice at Sierra College and a B.S. in Criminology at Fresno State University, and recently received her Master's of Social Work (MSW) at San José State University. Imani, a Title IV-E training and stipend program student (program students receive financial support in return for a two-year commitment to work in a public California child welfare agency) will be working as a Child Welfare Social Worker for Contra Costa County. One of her goals is to start the clinical licensing process as soon as possible. Imani is one of several MSW Program graduates who had previously been a Title IV-E trainee who now works at a CA county public child welfare agency.

Mia Jaurigue is one of our BASW graduates and a recipient of the Mental Health Training Scholarship sponsored by the County of Santa Clara Behavioral Health Services. Mia celebrated this huge accomplishment with all of her family and friends who have encouraged and lifted her up! She started the MSW Advanced Standing program as part of the second cohort of our accelerated program.

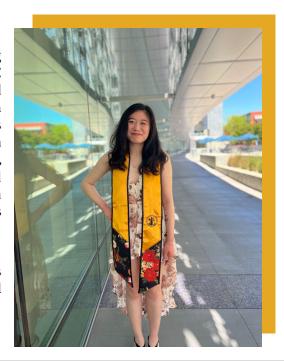




Emmanuel (Manny) Pimentel is a USAF veteran and First Generation graduate. He and his cohort made history by being the first group to graduate from the new SJSU School of Social Work Advanced Standing Program. Advanced Standing provides exceptional Bachelor of Social Work graduates the opportunity to complete a social work master's degree through an accelerated program in one year. Manny is excited to work as a Child Welfare and Attendance Specialist with Salinas Union High School District in Salinas, CA. He will be completing his Pupil Personnel Services Credential (PPSC) soon and plans to specialize in providing social work in educational settings.

Jennifer Tai is an MSW graduate and completed her PPSC. She is continuing her educational and professional preparation in a Post-MSW program at UC Berkeley pursuing her clinical license and getting experience in the Social Services and Counseling and Psychological Services departments within UC Berkeley University Health Services. After licensure, Jennifer wants to support and give back to foster youth and youth with mental health challenges. As a former foster youth with no biological family support, the community support she receives from friends, peers, professors, field instructors, and mentors has been of tremendous help. The MSW program meant a lot to her, as it allows her to receive the education and experiences to give back to others.

We are so appreciative and excited for our alums, graduates, and students as they make a difference in our world. SJSU Social Work: Stand Up! Stand Proud! Stand Together!



Meet Our New CHHS Faculty

Dr. Matthew BejarAssistant Professor
Department of Kinesiology

Area of Research: Organizational diversity and inclusion in exercise and sport psychology; Exercise adherence in POTS and mTBI patients



Dr. Jacqueline Bergman
Assistant Professor
Department Nutrition, Food Science
& Packaging

Area of Research: Explore the interrelationship between psychosocial and physiological factors and health-related behaviors such as food intake in marginalized groups



Dr. Yang HuAssistant Professor
Department of Kinesiology

Area of Research:
Neuromechanics, Exercise
Technology, Investigate cortical
control of mobility and balance in
humans



Dr. Nayoun LeeAssistant Professor
School of Social Work

Area of Research: Racial/ethnic resilience of minority groups in the U.S., Examine the mental and behavioral health in adolescence and emerging adulthood



Dr. Edmund Tang
Assistant Professor
Department of Nutrition, Food
Science and Packaging

Area of Research: Physical testing of materials, products, and packages to determine how they will perform during real life simulations



Dr. Mi ZhouAssistant Professor
Department of Nutrition, Food
Science and Packaging

Area of Research: Food marketing policy and practice and the influence on people's diet choices and nutrition communication among diverse populations





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Thank You to Our Contributors!

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