

SJSU HONORS X

An Interdisciplinary Program Unlike Any Other

[Website](#)

2023-24 HonorsX Experience

July 26, 2024

Sarika Pruthi
Huyen Pham
Maleah Neumann

Academic Innovation & Institutional Effectiveness | San José State University

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Office of Academic Innovation &
Institutional Effectiveness
San José State University



Adobe

HonorsX: An Interdisciplinary Program Unlike Any Other

Program Overview

About Us
▼

Curriculum
▼

HonorsX in Action
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Testimonials

Frequently Asked Questions

Apply



Program Description

HonorsX

is an interdisciplinary program focused on an integrative approach to problem-solving.

Founded in Fall 2020, the program is focused on “Honors” as a mechanism to jump-start societal transformation by seeking unconventional students from underserved populations.

Student teams develop knowledge and skills from outside their major, build networks with faculty, peer and industry mentors, and prepare for advanced study and professional careers.

Industry Mentorship

Innovative courses co-taught by faculty from different disciplines

Opportunity to build skills, knowledge, and networks outside of major

Students from underserved populations

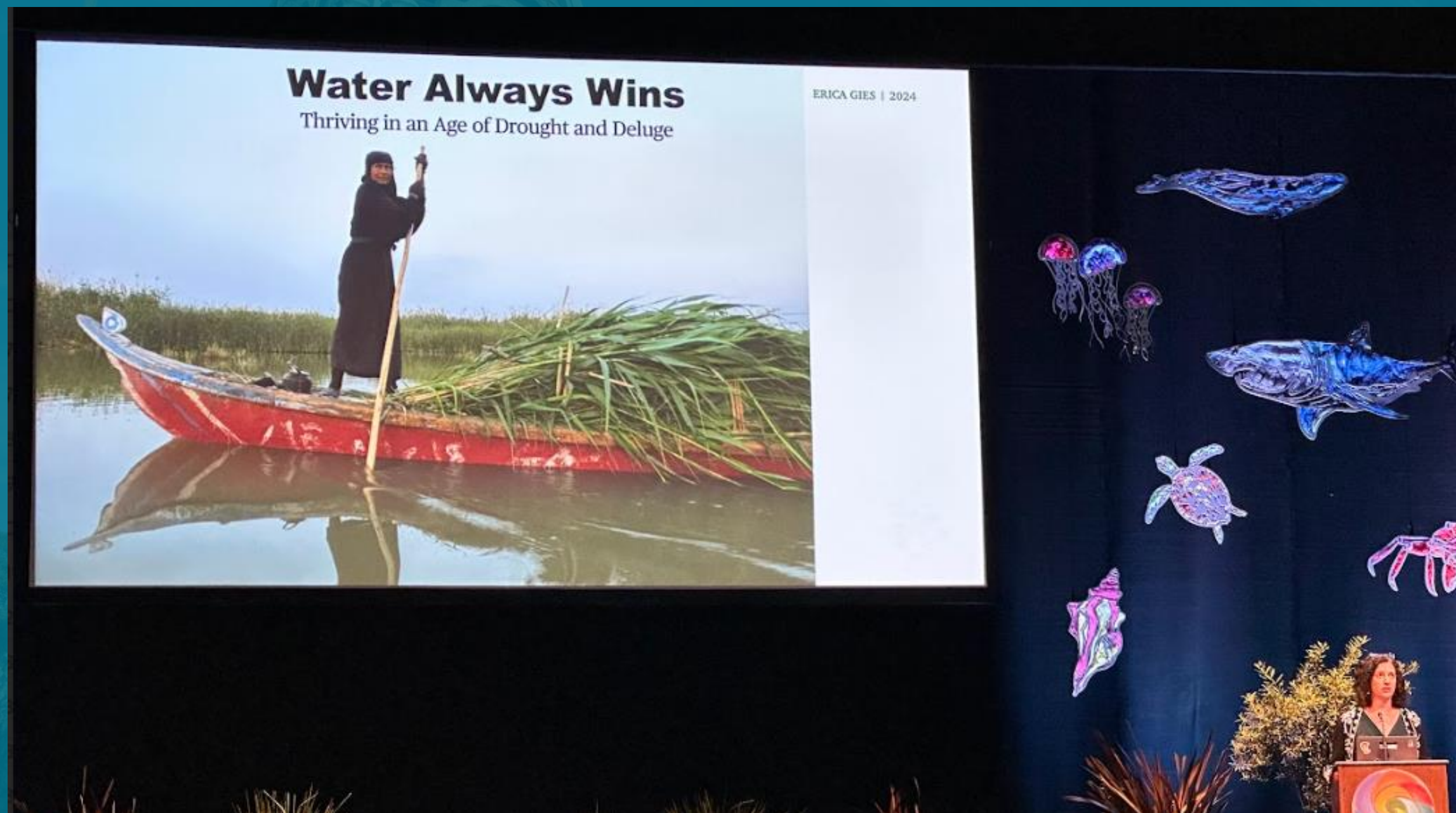
Team-based problem-solving for social change

Advanced research, internship and study opportunities

Adobe Digital Learning

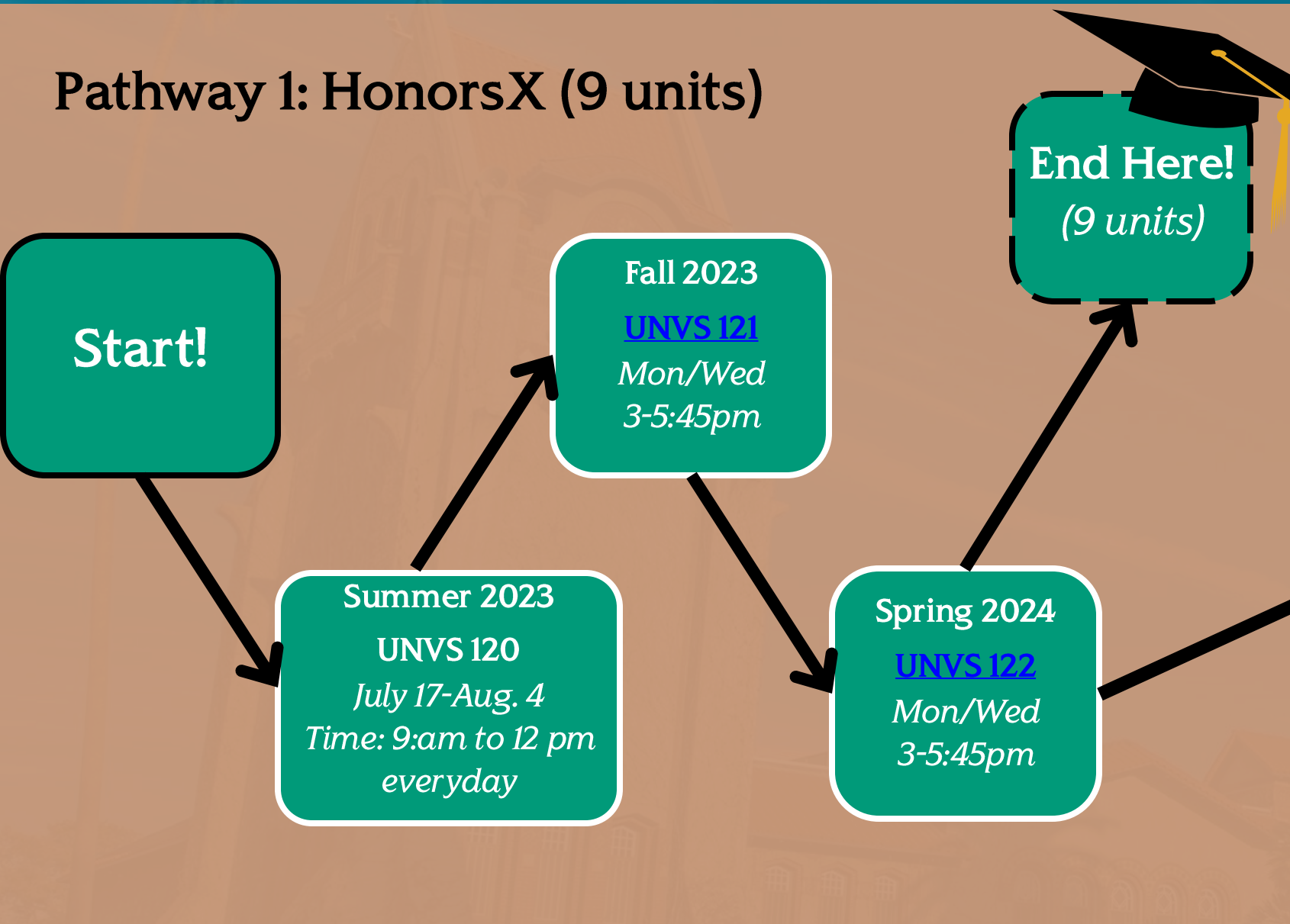
Student research grants

2023-24 Theme: Developing Sustainable Societies



2023-24 Curriculum

Pathway 1: HonorsX (9 units)



Any Major Requirement
Related to Sustainability
(3 Units)

Independent
Study with Faculty
(3 Units)

Internship Study
with Faculty
(3 Units)

Any GE or Elective
Course Related to
Sustainability.
(3 Units)

Electives
(Up to 6 Units)
after
completing 9
required units

UNVS 101
(3 Units)

UNVS 123
(3 Units)

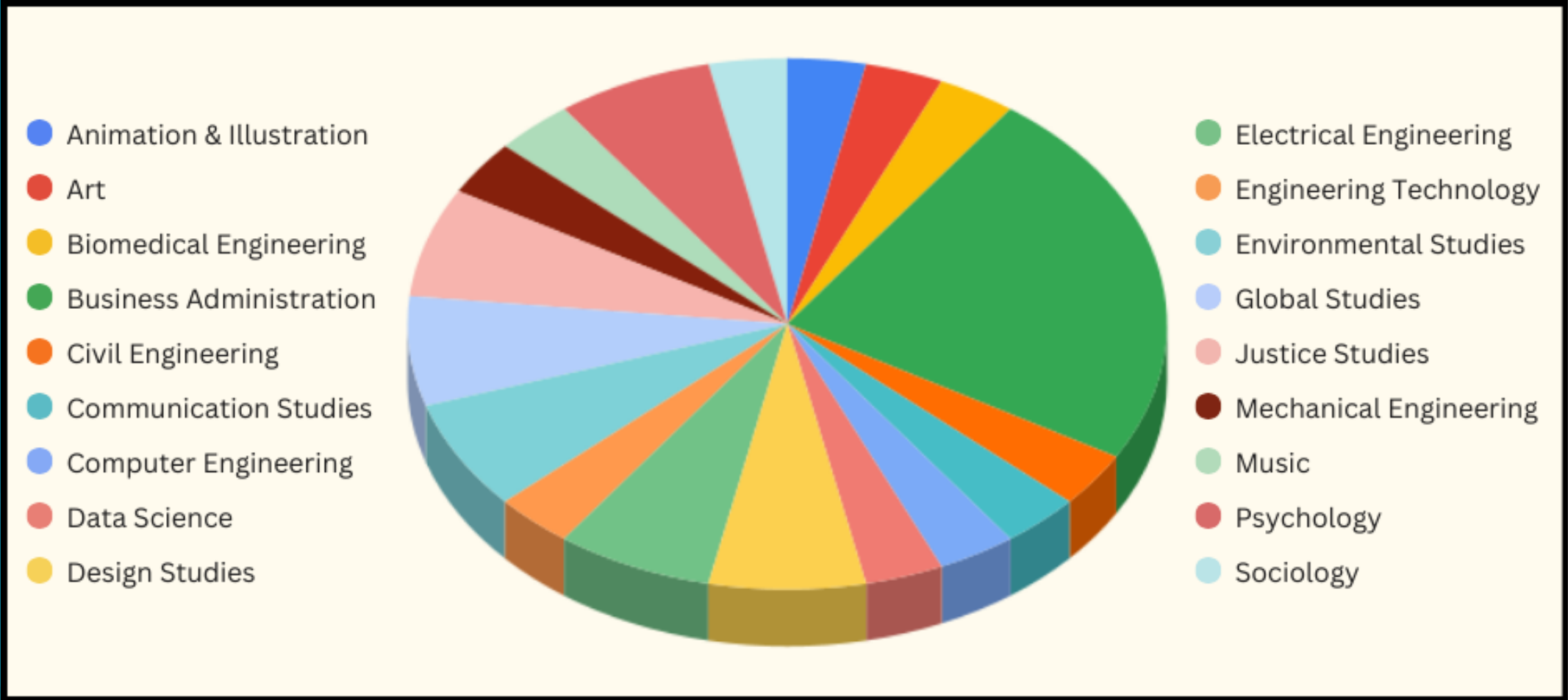
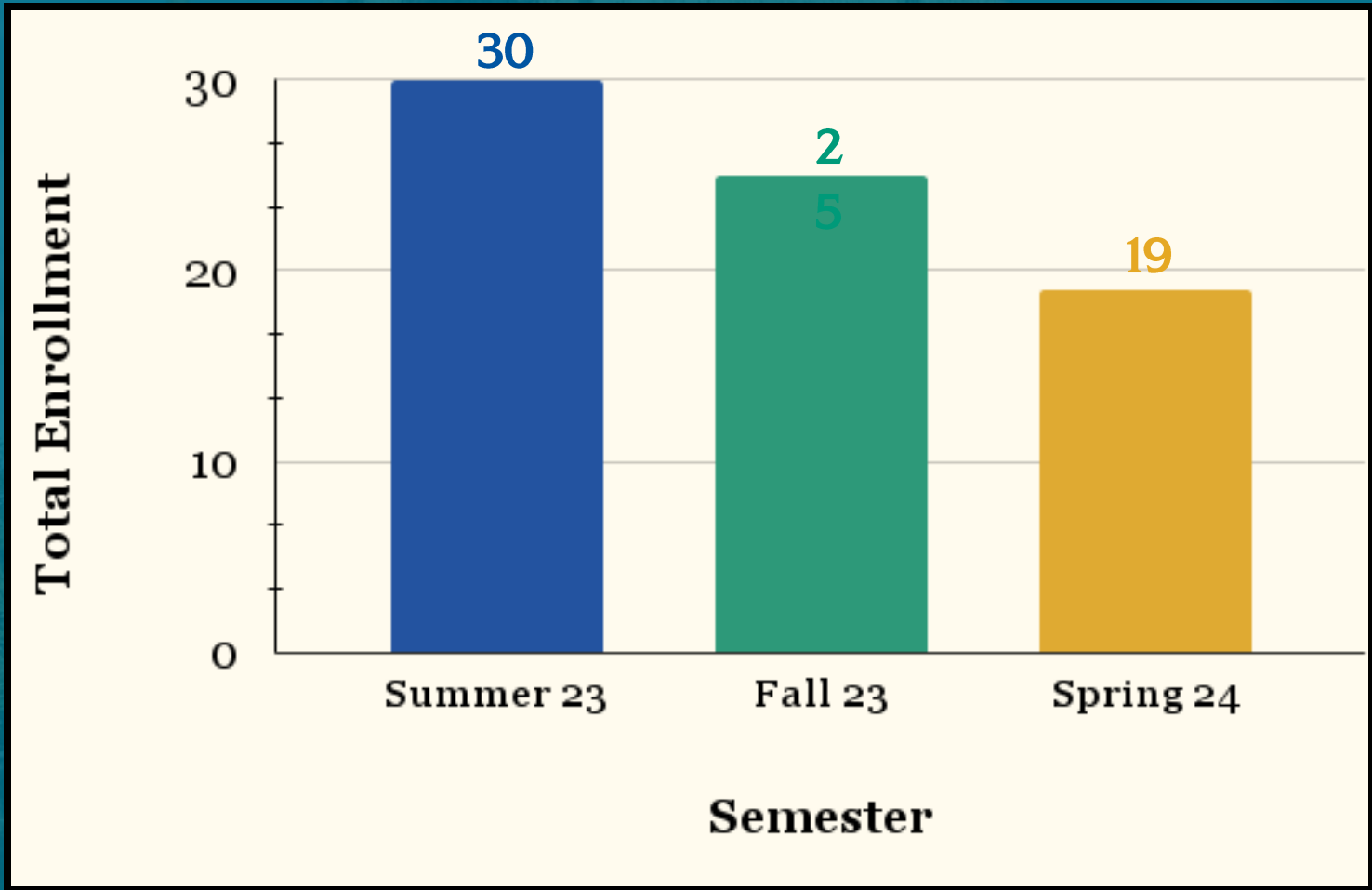
UNVS 124
(3 Units)

Pathway 2: Minor in Interdisciplinary Studies (9 HonorsX + 6 Elective Units)



2023-24 Enrollment and Diversity of Majors

Enrollment By Semester



22
Majors

"I believe this [interdisciplinarity] did really well in the program, being able to work with students from different majors and collaborate on similar interests towards a singular goal helped me balance my complex problem solving skills."

- Kaysha Ragocos, B.A. Design Studies

HonorsX Team



Program Team



Maleah Neumann

Student Assistant



Huyen Pham

HonorsX Coordinator



Ronald Rogers, Ph.D

Vice Provost

*Office of Academic Innovation &
Institutional Effectiveness*



Sarika Pruthi, Ph.D

*Co-Founder and Interim Director, HonorsX
and*

*Associate Professor
School of Global Innovation & Leadership
Lucas College & Graduate School of Business*

Student Assistants



Charishma Reddy Bandla Gunasekar

MS, Engineering Management, 2024

College of Engineering



Swarda Deshmukh

MS, Engineering Management, 2024

College of Engineering



Silky Nigenda

BA, Psychology, 2024

College of Social Sciences

Advisory Board



Ruma Chopra, Ph.D

Dean

*School for Cultural and
Social Transformation
University of Utah*



Jennifer Rycenga, Ph.D

*Professor Emeritus
College of Humanities & Arts*



John Delacruz, Ph.D

*Associate Professor
Journalism & Mass Communications
College of Humanities & Arts*



Nidhi Mahendra, Ph.D

*Professor
Communicative Disorders & Sciences
College of Education*



Walter Adams, Ph.D

*Assistant Professor,
Biological Sciences
College of Science*

HonorsX Partners



Emily Chan

*Director of Research Engagement,
Office of Research
Division of Research and Innovation*



Asha Weinstein Agrawal, Ph.D

*Professor
Urban & Regional Planning
College of Social Sciences, and
Mineta Transportation Institute*



Erik Johnson, Ph.D

*Lecturer, Department of Humanities
College of Humanities & the Arts*



Egbe-Etu Etu, Ph.D

*Assistant Professor
Marketing & Business Analytics
College of Business
and
Mineta Transportation Institute*

2023-24 Faculty



Watch How HonorsX has Impacted Students ([YouTube](#))



2023-24 Instructional Faculty

[Keenan Norris, Ph.D](#)

*Associate Professor, English & Comparative Literature
College of Humanities & the Arts*



Keenan Norris is a novelist, essayist and scholar. His latest novel is *The Confession of Copeland Cane*, the winner of the 2022 Northern California Book Award. His essays have garnered the 2021-22 National Arts & Entertainment Journalism Award in Music, Theater and Performing Arts and the 2021 Folio: Eddie Award. His debut novel *Brother and the Dancer* received the James D. Houston Award in 2012.

[Ellen Middaugh, Ph.D](#)

*Associate Professor, Child & Adolescent Development
Lurie College of Education*

Ellen Middaugh's research is guided by the question, "How do youth become effective advocates for themselves and their communities in the digital age?" She is interested in how the internet and participatory media enable and constrain civic participation. Dr. Middaugh conducts research on how youth use social media to express public voice and build community, youth practices as they encounter misinformation and hostility online, and educational interventions designed to help support informed, ethical and empowered civic engagement. Her research focuses on youth broadly but with special interest in the experiences of those who may be excluded or misrepresented by powerful civic institutions.



HonorsX Faculty Forum, Fall 23

October 19, 2023

1:00 to 2:30 PM

MLK Library, Room 225 (Hybrid)

36 Attendees

The campus community was invited to hear about equity-minded admissions and interdisciplinary problem solving in HonorsX from the 2023-24 instructional faculty Dr. Ellen Middaugh, Lurie College of Education, and Dr. Keenan Norris, College of Humanities and the Arts.

Drs. Middaugh and Norris shared their respective experiences of teaching and mentoring the second student cohort. The event was held in a hybrid modality (in person and via Zoom).

SJSU HONORS X
An Interdisciplinary Program Unlike Any Other

Are you working towards equity-minded admissions?
Are you curious about interdisciplinary team teaching for problem solving?

**JOIN US AT THE HONORSX
FACULTY FORUM 2023!**



Keenan Norris
Associate Professor
English & Comparative Literature
College of Humanities & Arts



Ellen Middaugh
Associate Professor
Child & Adolescent Development
College of Education

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19
1:00PM - 2:30PM
HYBRID (MLK 225 OR VIA ZOOM)

[Register Here](#)

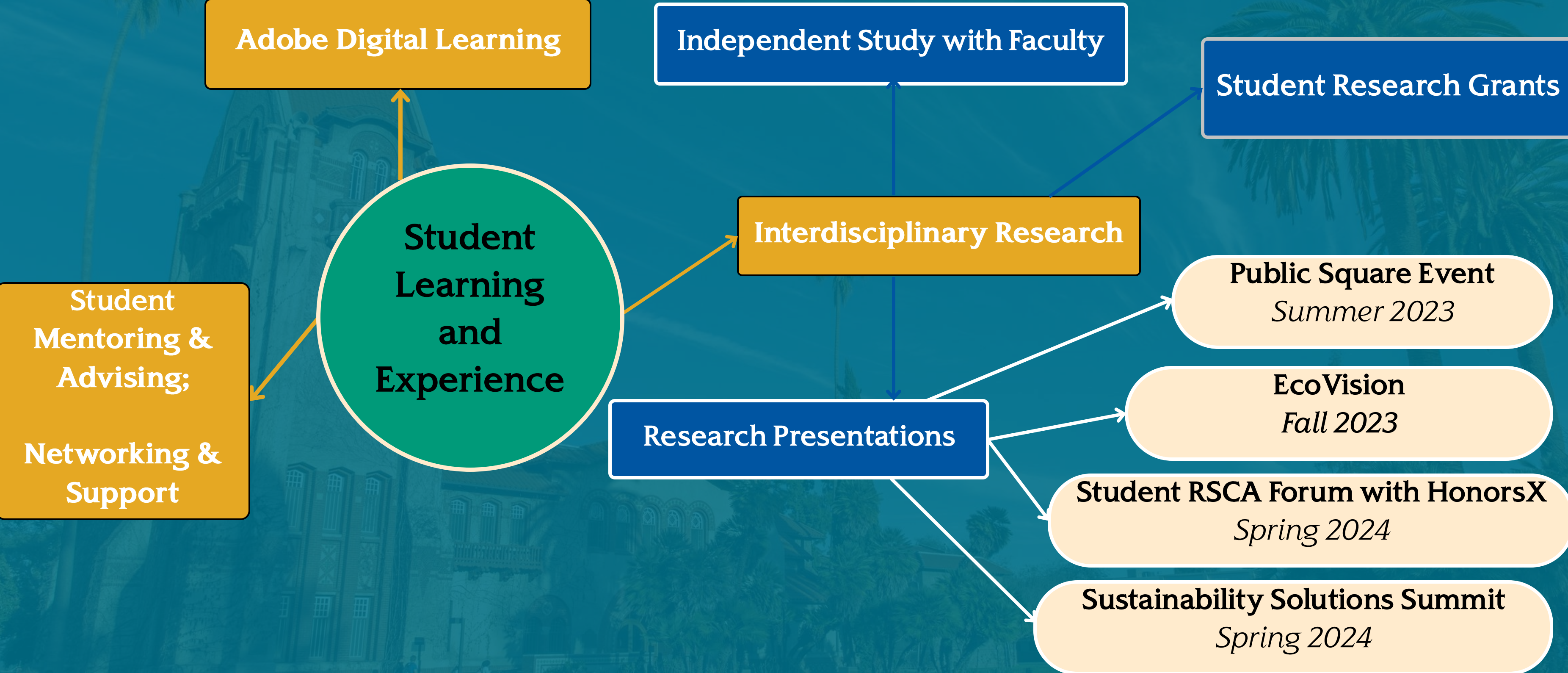
This event is for administrators, faculty, and staff only.

✉ honorsx@sjsu.edu  [sjsu_honorsx](https://www.instagram.com/sjsu_honorsx)  go.sjsu.edu/honorsx

Office of Academic Innovation and Institutional Effectiveness

2023-24 Student Learning & Experience





Interdisciplinary Research



“The research component of my project really pushed me outside of my comfort zone....”

-Stephanie Montoya Arevalos, B.S. Business Administration

HonorsX Student Research Grants, 2023-24

Faculty Lead:
Dr. Ellen
Middaugh

Each student qualified for \$500 small student research grant from Adobe towards developing sustainable societies in AY 2023-24.

21 Student
Awardees

Students wrote grant applications to ‘apply’ for funds individually or as a group. Applications were submitted via a class participation assignment by Nov 1, 2023.

Grant
Proposal
Template

Students reported the research findings by May 1, 2024. Funds were used to support access to materials, transportation, time or participant incentives.

\$500
Per Student

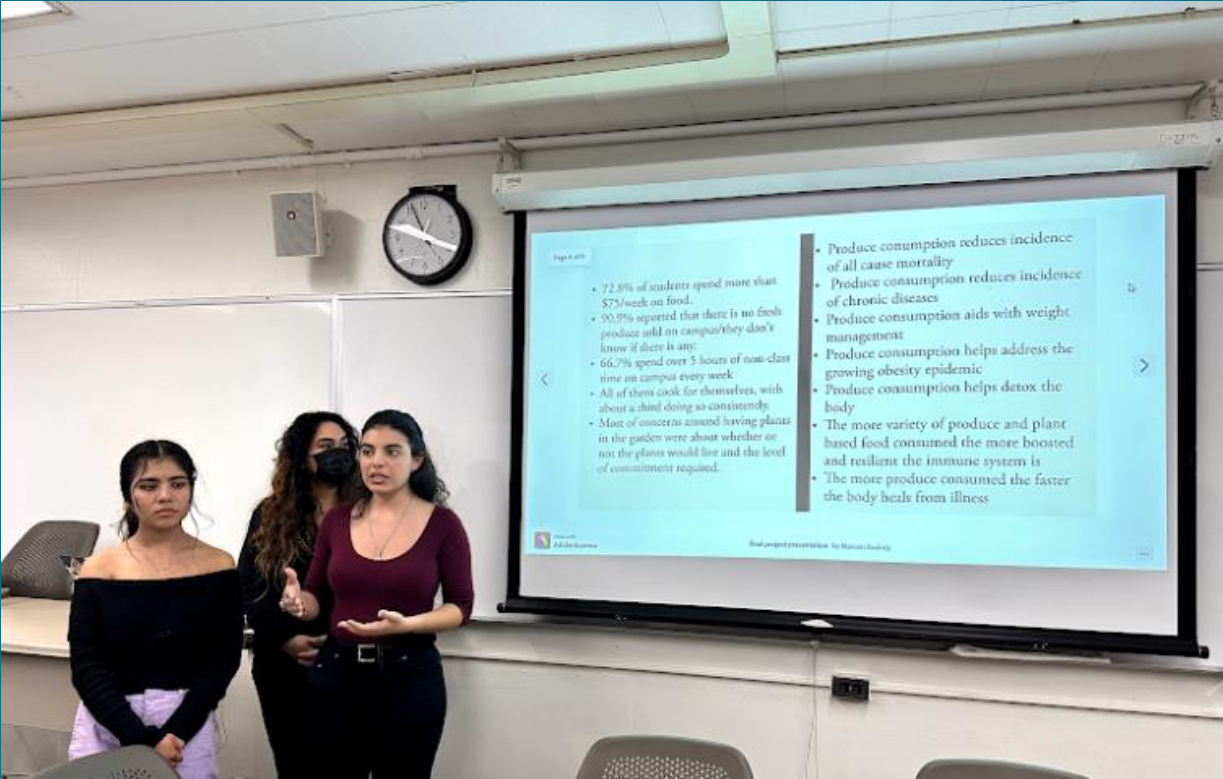
Research Presentations



"I enjoyed the culminating events. I feel they prepare me for future projects and public speaking opportunities."

-Stephanie Montoya Arevalos, B.S. Business Administration

HonorsX Public Square Summer 2023



HonorsX Public Square, Summer 2023

July 28, 2023

10:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Sweeney Hall (SH) 431



Held both in our classroom and also along the San Jose State campus's central outdoor concourse, the HonorsX Public Square event was our summer showcase for the collaborative, multimedia group projects of our HonorsX students in 2023-24.

Modeled upon the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Public Square, HonorsX Public Square served as an invitation to our students to create public-facing works that displayed their visions for a more sustainable future.

Public Square presentations took many forms, from mapping and statistical analyses to writing-based productions, film and audio-based work, and more directly performative works.



EcoVision, Fall 2023



Are you excited about interdisciplinary problem-solving?
Do you want to learn about the HonorsX vision for social change?

Join us at
EcoVision 2023!



Register Now!



Staff, faculty, and students!
All invited to attend!

Monday, December 4
4:15 to 6:30 PM
Sweeney Hall (SH) 431

 honorsx@sjsu.edu  [sjsuhonorsx](https://www.instagram.com/sjsuhonorsx)  [sjsu.edu/honorsx](https://www.sjsu.edu/honorsx)

Office of Academic Innovation and Institutional Effectiveness

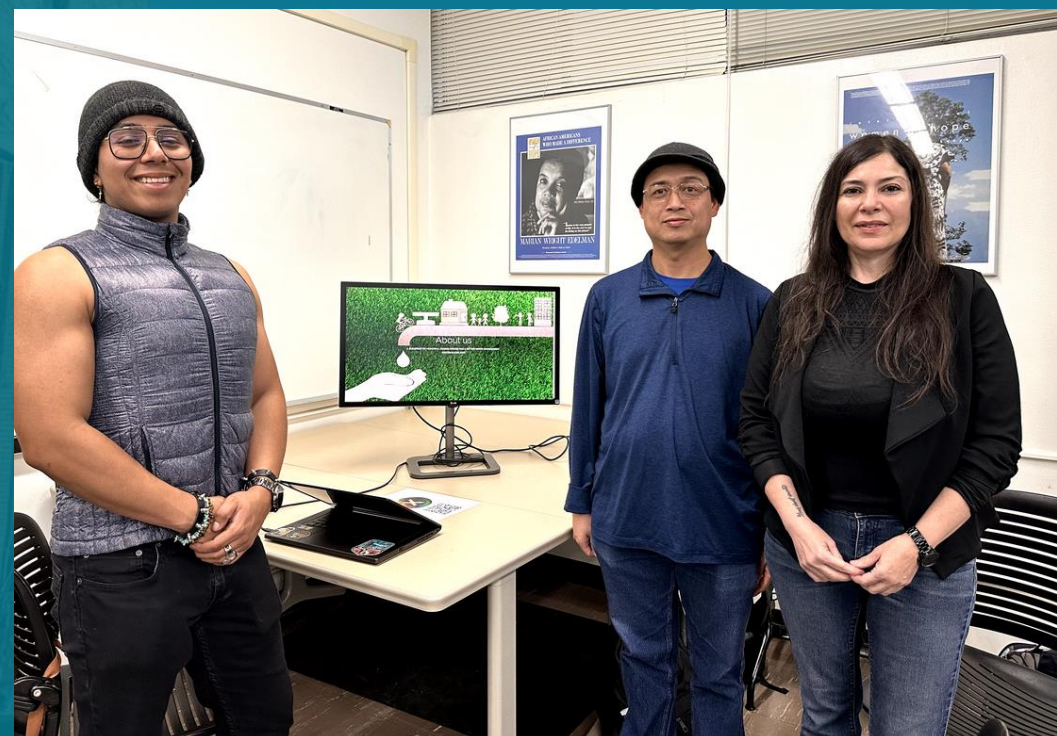


EcoVision, Fall 2023



Supported by a dedicated faculty team from the Colleges of Education and the Humanities & the Arts and mentors from the industry, EcoVision was centered on the theme of sustainability.

The event showcased our students' “deeply researched and rigorously honed proposals for a sustainable environmental and social world, from urban gardening to public transportation and climate justice-focused media”.



December 4, 2023

4:15 to 6:30 PM

Sweeney Hall (SH) 431

15 Guests



SJSU Student RSCA Forum with HonorsX Spring 2024

Student RSCA Forum, Spring 2024

Who are We, 2030? Envisioning Sustainable Societies

SJSU HONORS X

An Interdisciplinary Program Unlike Any Other

Register Here!



Interdisciplinary student teams!
Original research to inform solutions!

April 16, 2024
12:00 to 1:00 pm
Student Union Room 3A



Contact HonorsX!





Office of Academic Innovation & Institutional Effectiveness | honorsx@sjsu.edu
Office of Research, Division of Research and Innovation | officeofresearch@sjsu.edu



SJSU Student RSCA Forum with HonorsX, Spring 2024

As part of [SJSU Research Week \(April 15-19\)](#) and in collaboration with the Office of Research, Division of Research and Innovation, and the MLK Library, the [HonorsX](#) interdisciplinary community of students, faculty and partners from industry, government, and nonprofit sectors showcased the power of interdisciplinary thinking to propose solutions to our most pressing societal issues.

As part of their work on the theme “Who are We 2030? Envisioning Sustainable Societies”, students presented original research to inform their solutions and understand the needs and priorities of stakeholders.

April 16, 2024
12:00 to 1:00 pm
Student Union 4A
(Hybrid)
50 Attendees



HonorsX Sustainability Solutions Summit, Spring 24



Five student teams who had been working together all year presented their final sustainability initiatives on topics ranging from transportation, access to high quality food and water, building public support for sustainability, improving access to public green spaces, and urban greening. Each group identified and invited stakeholders with specific “asks” to advance their sustainability goals.



May 1
3:00 to 6:00 PM
Student Union Ballroom

HonorsX Sustainability Solutions Summit: Awards



Most Equity-Focused Solution

This award is presented to
Angelica Chavez



Best Original Research

This award is presented to
Shuttle X
Alexander Melgar, Grayson Lam, Victoria Ayyoub Lama



Most Interdisciplinary Solution

This award is presented to
Project X
Jesus Perez, Stephanie Montoya Arevalos, Yoshi Aryen, Jorge Hurtado

May 1, 2024

Sarika Pruthi

Sarika Pruthi
HonorsX Director

Ronald Rogers

Ronald Rogers
Vice Provost, Academic Innovation
& Institutional Effectiveness



Independent Study with Faculty, Spring 24



Student:	Angelica Chavez, Justice Studies
Project:	Transit Passenger Harrasment Study
Sponsor:	Mineta Transportation Institute
Credit	3 units



“Honors X helped me to decide what I want to do with my degree, I got to work with Mineta, and I know that what I do moving forward has meaning and can apply to my major with ease.”

-Angelica Chavez, B.S. Justice Studies

Independent Study with Faculty, Spring 24

Faculty Advisors



[Asha Weinstein Agrawal, Ph.D](#)

Professor

*Urban & Regional Planning
College of Social Sciences*



[Egbe-Etu Etu, Ph.D](#)

*Marketing & Business Analytics
College of Business*

Angelica's Responsibilities

- Analysis & Coding of 'Thousands of Tweets' (Twitter)
- Recording Findings
- Searching Databases
- Meeting Weekly Milestones

Adobe Digital Learning

“...It [HonorsX] has taught me a lot about how the industry works. I also plan to use Adobe portfolio in the future.....that was super useful.”

-Ryan Dobson, B.S. Business Administration

“All tools affiliated with Adobe Digital were new, and I am still learning Adobe tools!”

-Michelle Torres, B.S. Business Administration

“Adobe digital media tools have been helpful in developing infographics and other means of publication for our group work....”

-Kaysha Ragocos, B.A. Design Studies

Adobe Instructional Team, 2023-24



[Lyric Kochendorfer](#)
*Adobe Student Ambassador
SJSU*



[Raymond Lam](#)
*Adobe Trainer and
Instructional Designer
SJSU*



[Tina Korani, Ph.D](#)
*Adobe Education Leader
Assistant Professor,
School of Journalism & Mass Communications
College of Humanities and the Arts
SJSU*

Required Adobe Instruction & Support, 2023-24

UNVS 120, Sum. 23	
Session (#)	Date
Instructor: Raymond Lam	
1	7/31
2	8/1
3	8/2
4	8/3
Instructor: Dr. Tina Korani, H & A	
5	8/1

Purpose: To create knowledge products (social media posts, flyers) to support project goals using the Theory of Action.

UNVS 121, Fall 23	
Session (#)	Date
Instructor: Lyric Kochendorfer	
1	9/11
2	10/9
3	10/16
4	11/27

UNVS 122, Sp. 24	
Session (#)	Date
Instructor: Raymond Lam <u>Office Hours</u> : Fri. 9 am - 12 pm	
1	3/6
2	3/13
3	3/20

Required Adobe Instruction & Support, 2023-24

Spring 2024

Students learned to build 'assets' like graphics, photos/ videos, etc. to embed in their portfolios.

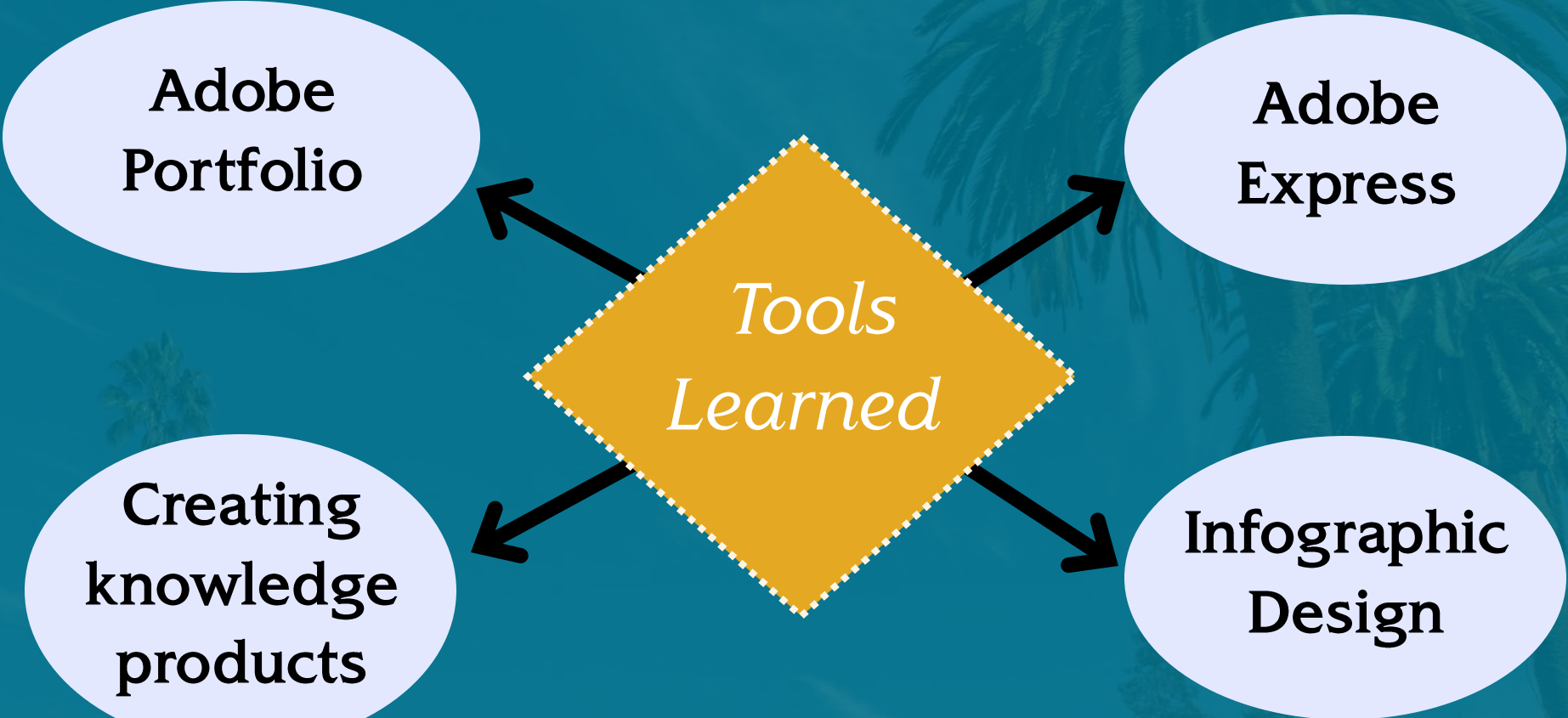
Fall 2023

Mon. 9/11: Students did pre-work gathering information and fact checking and put that information into an infographic.

Mon. 10/9: Students created social media posts and flyers to support their goals following from their theory of action.

Mon. 10/16: Students reviewed [‘What Will Football Look Like...?’](#) and used Adobe tools for innovation.

Mon. 11/27: Students built portfolios using Adobe Portfolio.



Summer 2023

Students learned Adobe creative tools and participated in a design sprint to choose a format for their climate story. The final stories were shared on the HonorsX Website and used to engage HonorsX mentors, partners and the SJSU community in Fall 23.

Optional Adobe Instruction & Support:

HonorsX-Adobe Express Demo Workshops, Sp. 24

CHHS
students

EOP
students

HonorsX
students

Student Lead



Nathan Anico

B.S., Public Health

*Former HonorsX Student and Peer Mentor, 2023-24
College of Health and Human Sciences*

26 Workshops

View Log ([PDF](#))

The workshops demonstrated how students can use the power of Adobe Express and other tools under the Adobe Creative Cloud.

Nathan introduced what Adobe Creative Cloud offers and what certain software such as Adobe Express can do. He shared and explained the process.

He demonstrated the tools that he had used in his coursework to inform fellow students to do the same.

Interdisciplinarity of Professional Branding

Create a Professional Resume and LinkedIn Banner through Adobe Creative Cloud

With **HonorsX** Peer Mentor and **Adobe** Student Ambassador, Nathan Anico

Sign Up Here
<http://tinyurl.com/23zm5uvn>

Location: MLK Library, Room 225
Time: Thursday, February 22, 12-1:15pm

Student Mentoring & Advising, Networking & Support

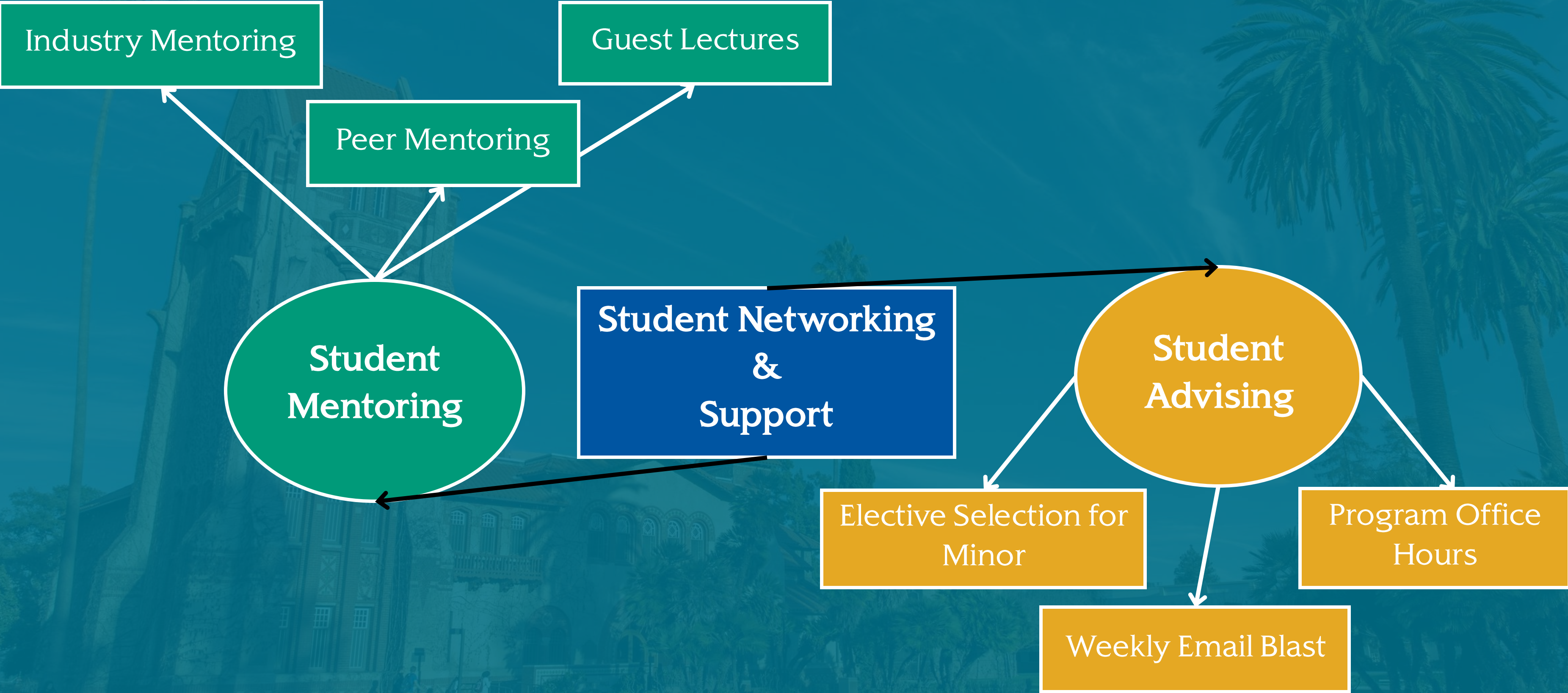
“I would say the mentors...have helped my group so much in solidifying our goals and project ideas.”

-Kaysha Ragocos, B.A. Design Studies

“I loved working with Parinaz. I made a lifelong friend in her. Her wisdom helped keep me on track”.

-Angelica Chavez, B.S. Justice Studies





Student Mentoring



Industry Mentoring

“I also really enjoyed speaking to mentors that are in different work fields than what I am aspiring to work in, it helped me gain perspective and understanding from stances other than my own.”

-Kaysha Ragocos, B.A. Design Studies

2023-24 Industry Mentors



[Debbie Andres](#)

*Assistant Director of Sustainability & Utilities,
Stanford University*



[Dave Gallon](#)

Managing Director, Flexigo



[Faith Legendre](#)

*Pioneer/Connector,
Open Sustainability Collaborative*



[James Veale](#)

*Co-Founder & Head of
GTM, GreenToken by SAP*



[Greta Brownlow](#)

*Senior Environmental Director,
Ascent Environmental*



[Michael Alston](#)

*gRED Clinical Program
Director, Genetech*



[Parinaz Zartoshty](#)

*Director of International Student
& Scholar Services, SJSU*

Peer Mentoring



2023-24 Peer Mentors (and HonorsX 2022-23 Alumni)



Isa Zhou

BS. Biomedical Engineering, 2024

College of Engineering



Nathan Anico

BS. Public Health, 2025

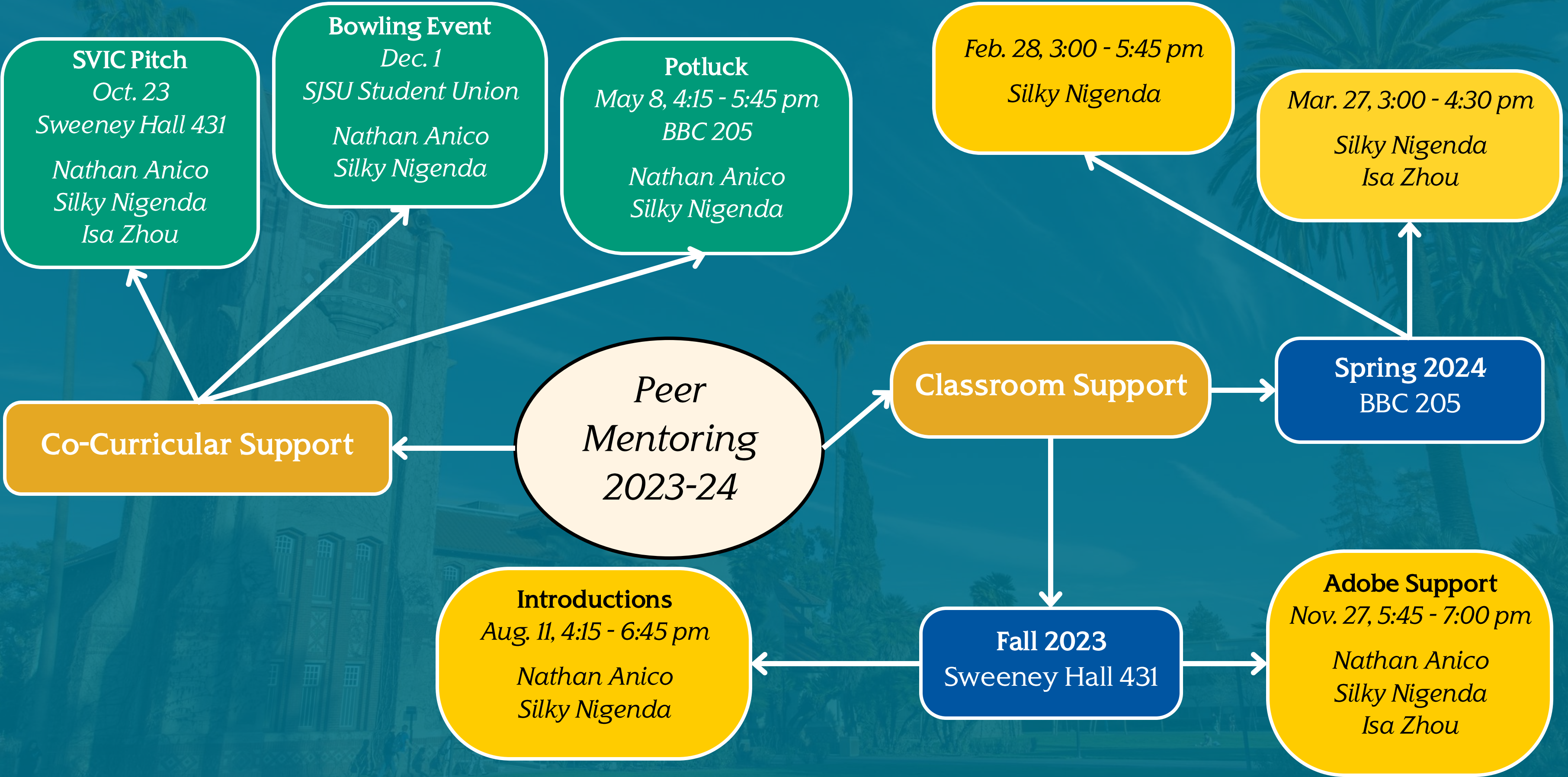
College of Health and Human Sciences



Silky Nigenda

BA, Psychology, 2024

College of Social Sciences



Guest Lectures in HonorsX



“Exposure to historical and relevant cultural topics, political and economic impacts, and human and natural disasters. Having guest speakers who are writers, experienced researchers, educators, and affiliated with environmentally sustainable practices.”

-Michelle Torres, B.S. Business Administration

“They helped to expand my view on the world.”

-Richard Rojas, B.A. Art

“I really enjoyed speaking with the guest speakers and hearing their stories.”

-Stephanie Montoya Arevalos, B.S. Business Administration

Guest Lectures (5), UNVS 120, Sum. 23

Guest Speaker	Title	Date and Time of Visit	Location/Mode	Topic/Title of Talk
Faith Legendre	Sustainability Consultant	N/A	Recorded Video	Journalism and Sustainability Consulting
Leslie Rabine	Prof. Emeritus UC Davis	July 17 Morning	Zoom	Fast Fashion, Introduction and Critique
Kerry Rohrmeier	Assistant Professor, SJSU	July 18 All Day	In-person (Downtown SJ)	Walking Tour and Geography Lesson in Downtown San Jose
Lowell Berry	Volunteer & Outreach Programs Manager, Our City Forest, SJSU	July 19 Morning	In-person, (Clark Hall)	Our City Forest on 'Urban Forestry
Spencer Dutton, Ph.D	Building Energy and Air Quality Researcher, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, CA	July 25 Morning	Zoom	Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory Innovations in Low Energy Cooling Systems

Guest Lectures (6), UNVS 121, Fall 23

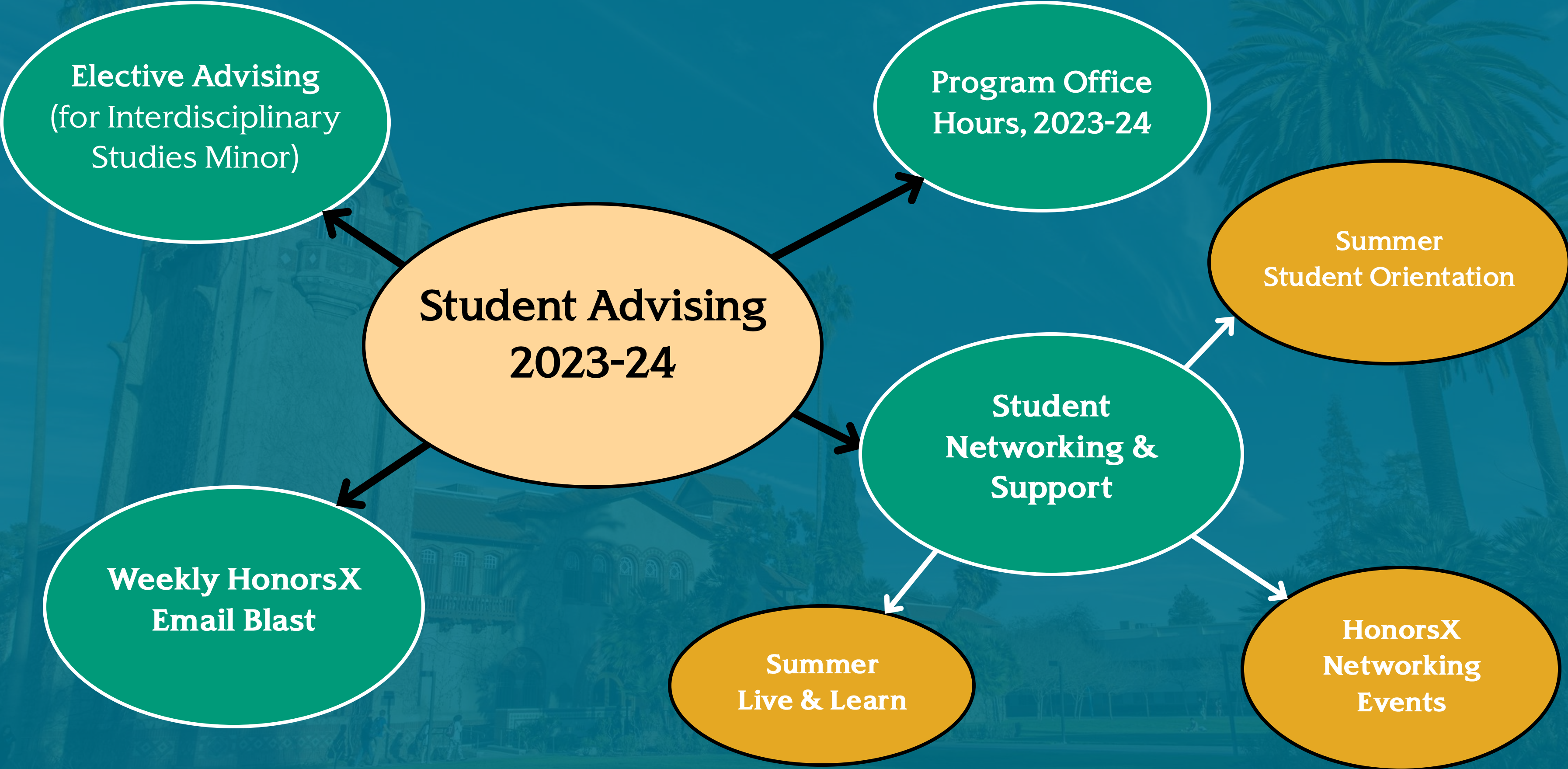
Guest Speaker	Title	Date and Time of Visit	Location/Modality	Topic/Title of talk
Deborah Eubanks	Public Speaking Coach, Strictly Speaking	Aug. 28 4:00-5:30 pm	In-person (SH 431)	Public Speaking
Karen Philbrick	Director, Mineta Transportation Institute (MTI)	Sep. 18 4:15-5:15pm	In-person (SH 431)	Head of Mineta Transportation Institute;
Tina Swanson	Senior Scientist, Project Drawdown	Sep. 25 4:00-5:30 pm	In-person (SH 431)	Project Drawdown
Jahnvi Mange	Sustainability Consultant	Oct. 16 4:15-5:45 pm	In-person (SH 431)	Design thinking
Gabriela Chavez Lopez	Executive Director, Latina Coalition of Silicon Valley	Oct. 23 4:15-5:30 pm	In-person (SH 431)	Political Participation and Media Messaging
Maria Cruz	Director, McNair Program, SJSU	Nov. 6 5:00-5:15 pm	Zoom	McNair Scholars Program

Guest Lectures (7), UNVS 122, Spring 24

Guest Speaker	Title	Date and Time of Visit	Location/Modality	Topic/Title of talk
Carlos Jiminez	Assistant Professor	Feb. 7 3:00-4:30pm	Zoom	Radio Indigena Founder; Documenting Lives of California Farmworkers
Natalie Baszile <i>Best</i>	Best Selling Author of Queen Sugar and We Are Each Other’s Harvests	Feb. 14 3:00-4:30pm	In-Person (BBC 205)	Celebrating African-Americans Farmers, Land and Legacy
Caroline Kraus	Lead Educator, New Roots Institute	Feb. 21 3:00-4:30pm	Zoom	Introduction to New Roots Institute and the Problematics of Factory Farming
Ruth Nolan	Professor of English & Creative Writing, Palm Desert, CA	Mar. 13 3:30-4:30pm	Zoom	Reflections on Career as a Firefighter and Poet
Teo Grossman	President, Bioneers	Mar. 27 3:30-4:30pm	Zoom	Introduction to Bioneers Conference 2024
Dustin Mulvaney	Professor, SJSU	Apr. 10 3:00-4:30pm	In person (BBC 205)	Sustainability in Solar Supply Chain
Chris Feliciano Arnold	Author of The Third Bank of the River: Power and Survival in the Twenty-First Century Amazon	Apr. 17 3:00-4:30pm	Zoom	Power and Survival in the Twenty-First Century Amazon

Student Advising





Elective Advising, 2023-24 (for Interdisciplinary Studies Minor)

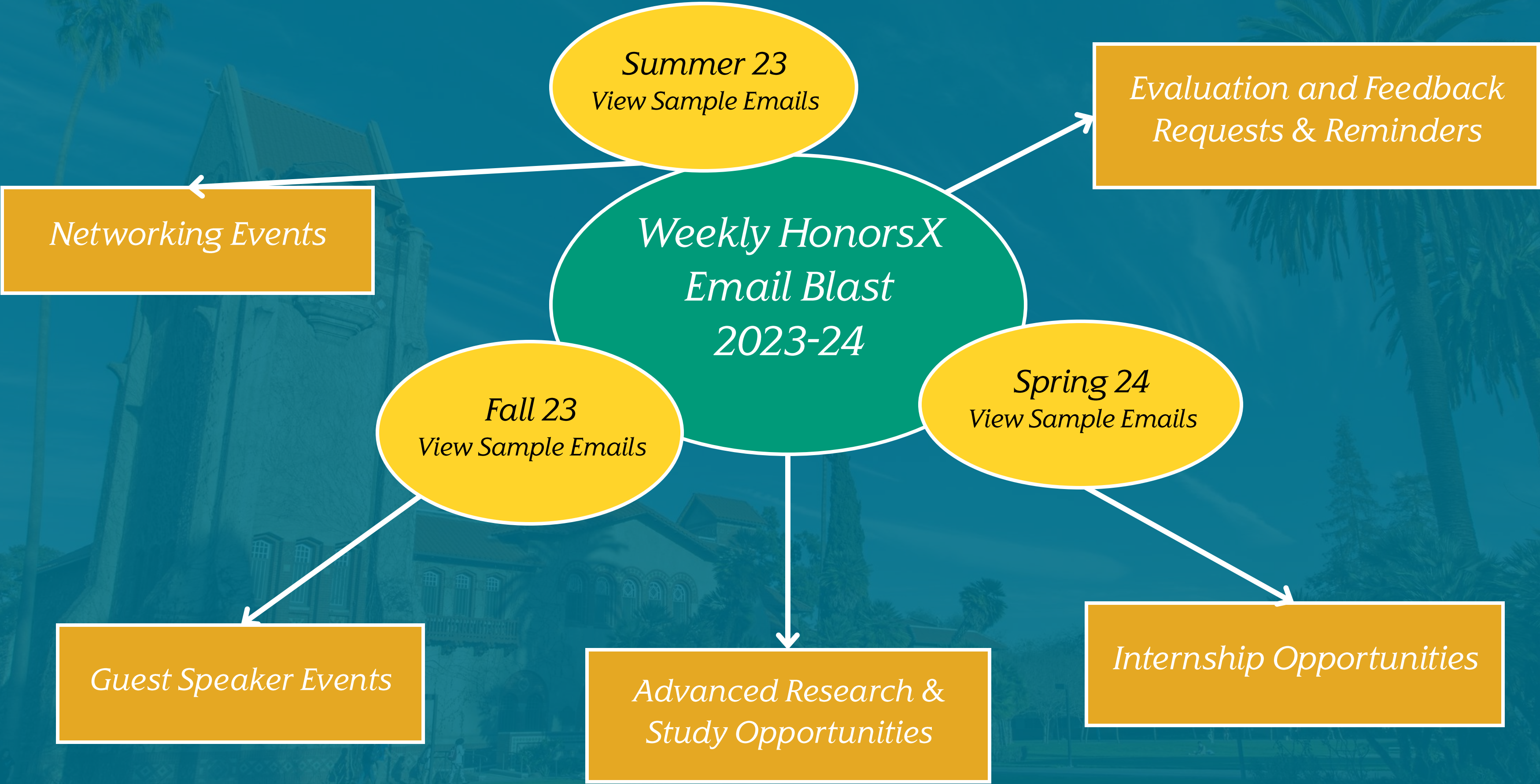
*HonorsX Elective Courses Selection
Suggested Elective Courses*



[Erik Johnson, Ph.D](#)

*Lecturer, Department of Humanities
College of Humanities and the Arts*

- [HUM 177A](#) - Advanced Honors in Integrated Science, Social Science, and Humanities (6 units)
- [HUM 177B](#) - Advanced Honors in Integrated Science, Social Science, and Humanities (3 units)



Program Office Hours, AY 2023-24



Fall 23

Oct. 23 - 24
11am - 1pm

Spring 24

Mar. 13, 20, Apr. 24
10am - 11am



Student Networking & Support



“I learned how to think outside the box, how to network with individuals of unfamiliar backgrounds, and how to work with effectively with a team.”

-Stephanie Montoya Arevalos, B.S. Business Administration

Summer Student Orientation

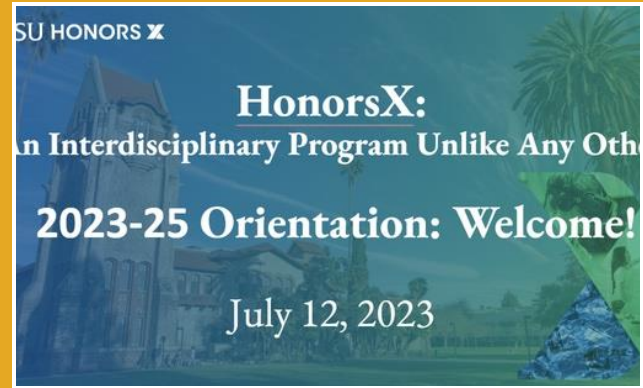
Student
Networking
&
Support,
2023-24

Summer Live & Learn

[Extra-co-curricular activities were] “memorable, fun, festive, inspiring, enjoyable, and ingenious.”
-Michelle Torres, B.S. Business Administration

HonorsX Co-curricular Events

HonorsX Student Orientation, Summer 23



Ellen Middaugh

Co-Hosts



Sarika Pruthi

July 12
10 to 11:00 am
Virtual (Zoom)

34 Students



Keenan Norris



Nathan Anico



John
Delacruz

*Invited
Guests*



Ronald Rogers

Orientation Program

- *Opening Remarks*
- *Meet & Greet:*
 - *Getting to Know You*
 - *Q&A*
- *Why HonorsX?*



Live & Learn Summer Experience

UNVS 120, Sum. 23

July 17 to August 4
(Hybrid)

Summer Residential
Experience
SJSU Dorms
July 17 to 21

Chance to
get a 3D
model of
yourself!

PC VR
(Google
Earth,
Games)

Quest VR

KLEVR Lab Visit
MLK Library,
2:00 pm, Thurs. July 20

Student Lead:
Max Rothe, MS, CoEng.

TiltFive AR
Glasses

AI Art
Demo

PSVR 2
(Game
Demos)

Start UP World Cup
Silicon Valley Regional
Event
5 to 8:30 pm, Thurs.
Aug. 3

Karaoke Night
I-House, SJSU
7:30 to 10 pm, Wed. July 19

Student Lead:
Abdul Sohail Ahmed
MS, Data Analytics, CoSc.



Live & Learn Residential Experience

SJSU Dorms, July 17 to 21, 2023

Date	Activity	Time	Location
<i>Mon, July 17</i>	Orientation / Breakfast Housing Check-in	7 - 9 am 3 - 5pm	Campus Village 2 (CV2)
	Lunch Dinner	12-1pm 5-7pm	Walking distance from SJSU
<i>Tues, July 18</i>	Breakfast Lunch Dinner	7-9am 12-1pm 5-7pm	Dining Commons
<i>Wed, July 19</i>	Breakfast Lunch Dinner	7-9am 12-1pm 5-7pm	Dining Commons
<i>Thurs, July 20</i>	Breakfast Lunch Dinner	7-9am 12-1pm 5-7pm	Dining Commons, Walking distance from SJSU
<i>Fri, July 21</i>	Breakfast Lunch Checkout	7-9am 12-1pm 2pm	Dining Commons N/A

Bioneers Conference, Spring 24



March 28-30
Berkeley, CA



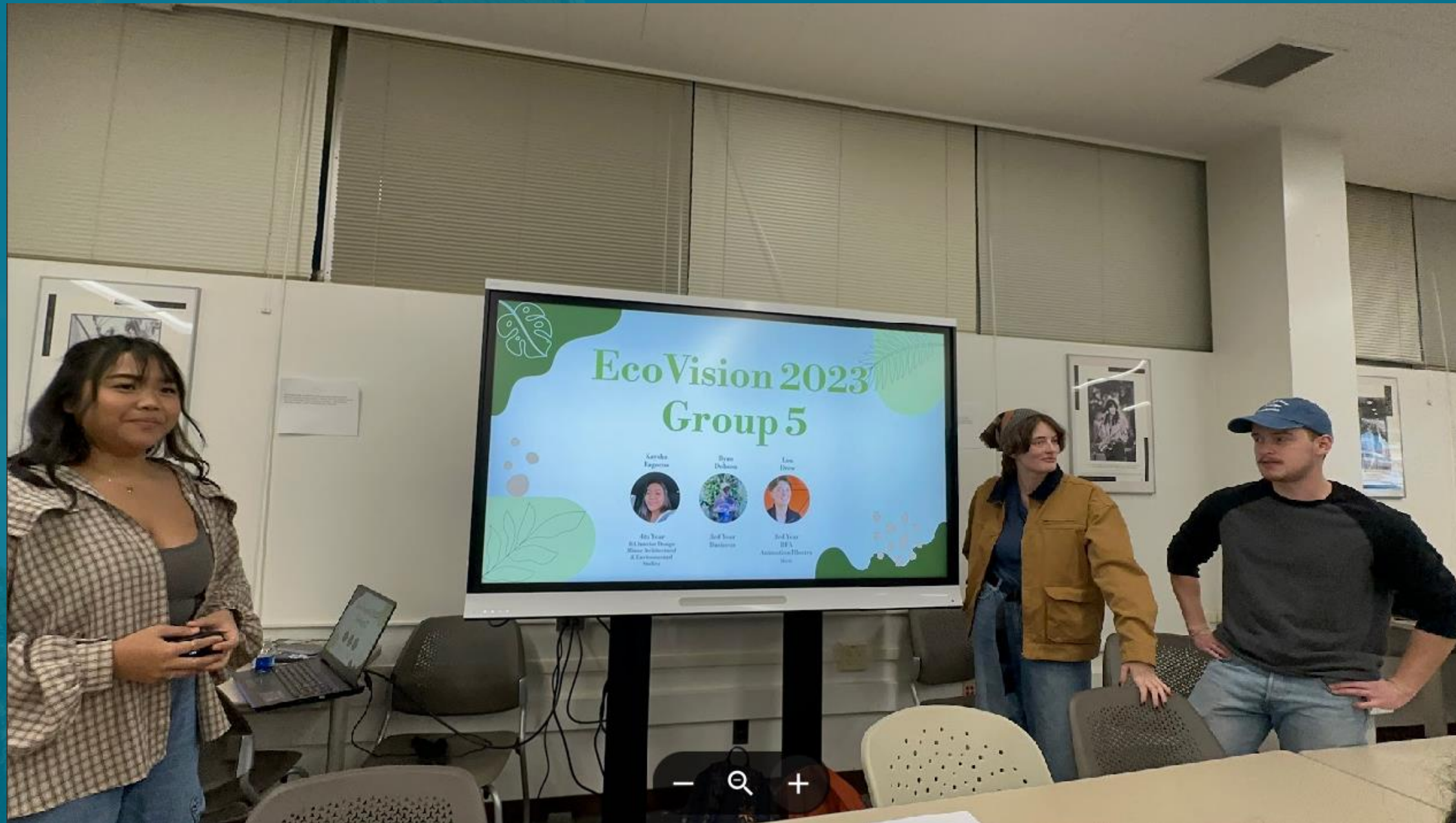
HonorsX students were invited to attend the 35th Annual Bioneers Conference, courtesy of Dr. Keenan Norris, HonorsX 2023-24 instructional faculty.

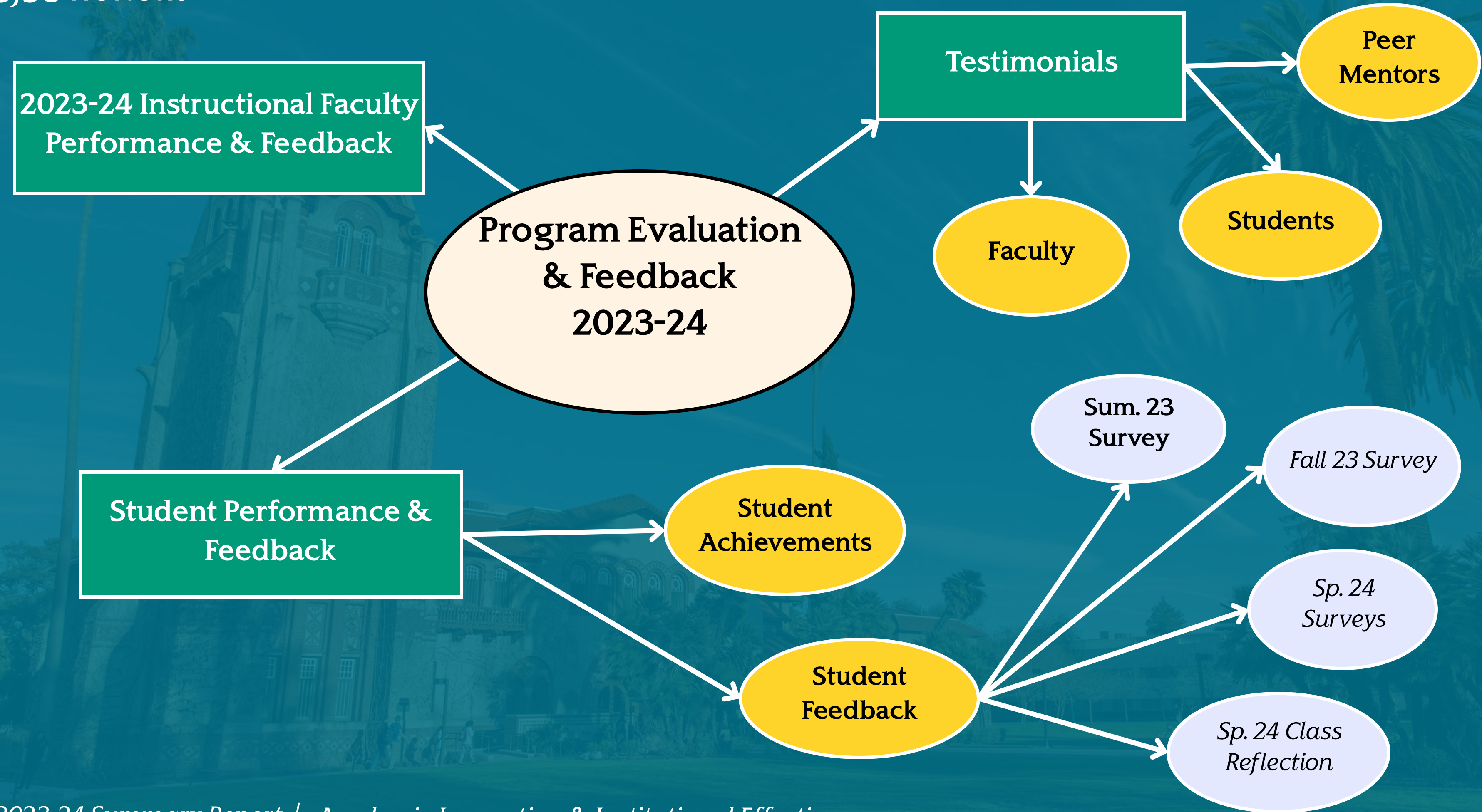
Each student attended at least two events to learn about a wide range of sustainability issues such as climate action, clean tech, social justice and environmental education among others, and build connections with industry leaders and experts.

Students had the opportunity to network and connect with industry leaders, including Bioneers President Teo Grossman.



Program Evaluation & Feedback

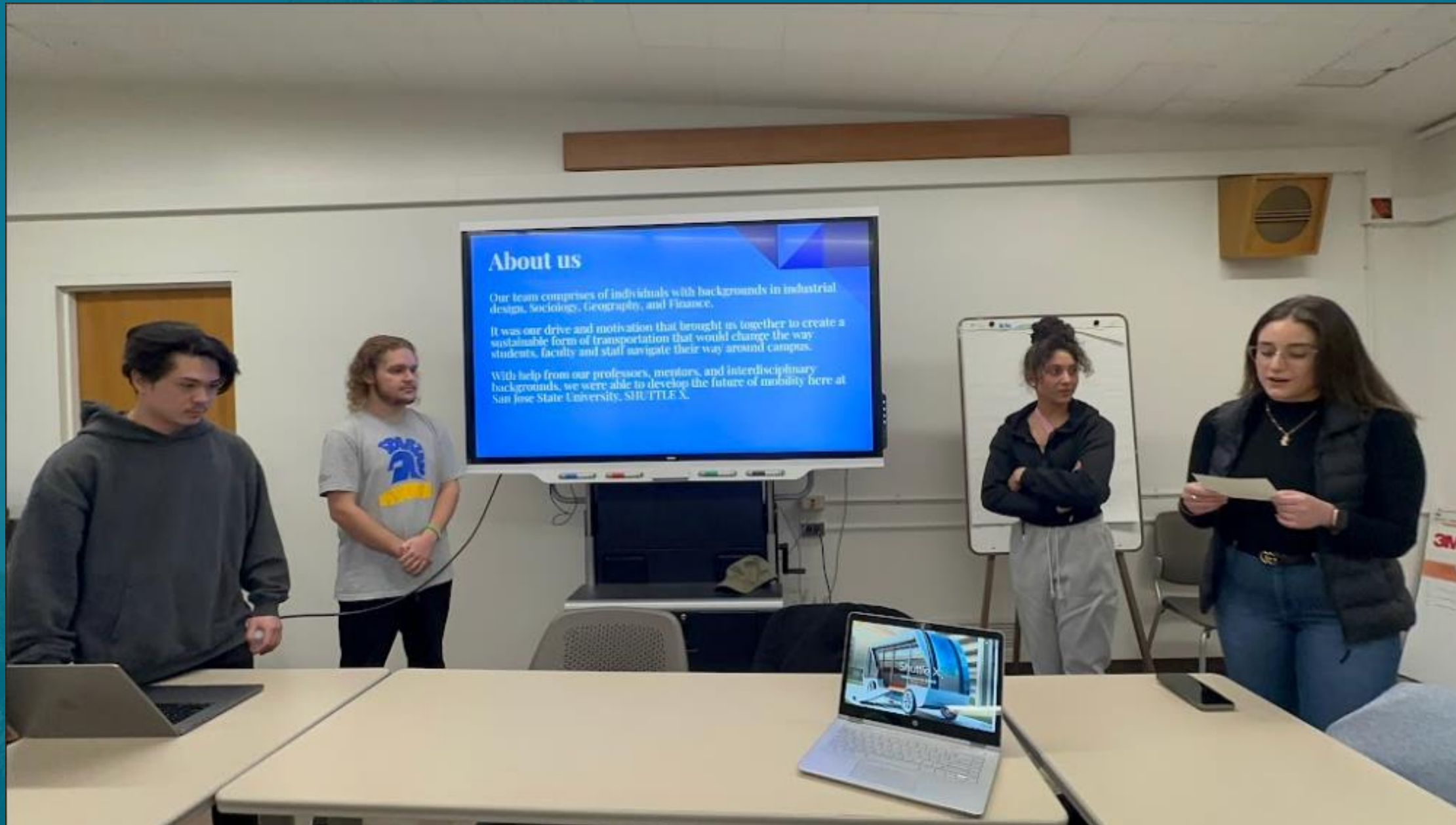




Faculty Performance



Student Achievements







**Minor in
Interdisciplinary
Studies**

**10 declared as of May
28, 2024**

*Biomedical
Engineering
Internship*

*Spartan X Event
Planning Club,
SJSU*

Thomson Global Business
Leadership Program, SJSU
(application in progress, May
24, 2024)



STARS
(Summer Training
Academy for
Research Success)
Program
University of San
Diego (UCSD)

April

*New Roots Institute's
Leadership Academy*

*Independent
Study with Faculty,
Sp. 24*

*Green Teams
Internship
Applications (2),
Sp. 24*

Student Feedback Surveys, 2023-24

Summer Reflection, Aug. 23
of Responses: 10

Mid-Semester Reflection, Fall 23
of Responses: 7

Exit Survey, Sp. 24
of Responses: 6

Mid-Semester Reflection, Sp. 24
of Responses: 3

**Student In-Class Reflection,
Wed. May 8, 2024**

Survey Findings: Takeaways

“How to research, the value of research, the art of storytelling, how to stand for what you believe in.”

“We have been learning about sustainability in rural environments. We also went over agriculture and climate disasters.”

“I really enjoyed my time working in HonorsX.”



“Complex social problems intersect, and it takes a well-rounded team of open-minded individuals to unite and help solve them. It is possible to utilize your strengths from your major and apply them to cement the foundation upon which to build. It is invaluable to view your situation from the perspective of another. This can breathe new life into your work.”

“.....I feel like I am understanding the purpose of each guest and am making clear connections toward our final goal and projects.”



“I am learning more about how people are taking initiatives to be more sustainable.”

“As a transfer, it really helped me adjust and get used to campus.”

Survey Findings Cont'd: Takeaways

“Overall it was a memorable experience for which I am eternally grateful. I learned a lot and will reflect on my learning material as I move forward in my academic career. Thank you for the opportunity.”

“It was fun.”

“It has broadened and refined my academic work and prowess.”

“Currently in this spring semester, I have learned about the importance of storytelling and having focus on projects and means of keeping purpose.

We have had multiple guest speakers that have come and explained their work from factory farming, agricultural change, and experiences through critical situations.

I have also learned and developed finer skills on research methods from our guests and the importance of history and storytelling.”



“I learned how to communicate and collaborate with others in addition to supplementing my major with other curriculums into one great project allowing me to have knowledge and expertise in research and data analytics.”

Survey Findings: Suggestions for Improvement

“.....structure some days where work sessions are placed at the beginning of class as those are the best times for me to meet with my group in person and allow me to ask questions to our professors....”

“Continue adapting to student schedules. It is incredibly difficult to have this three semester course mixed in with other necessary classes.”

“Have more fieldtrips.”



“Use less lecture and more conversation.”

“Class should be more than once per week given the expectation of the work we put into the program.”

“Not much instruction was given on how to research. How to research should be part of the instruction process. Not everyone who entered the cohort knew how to perform research at this level.”

“I think the class shrank largely due to lack of information regarding what else is needed to get the minor, as well as busier schedules for the main majors.”

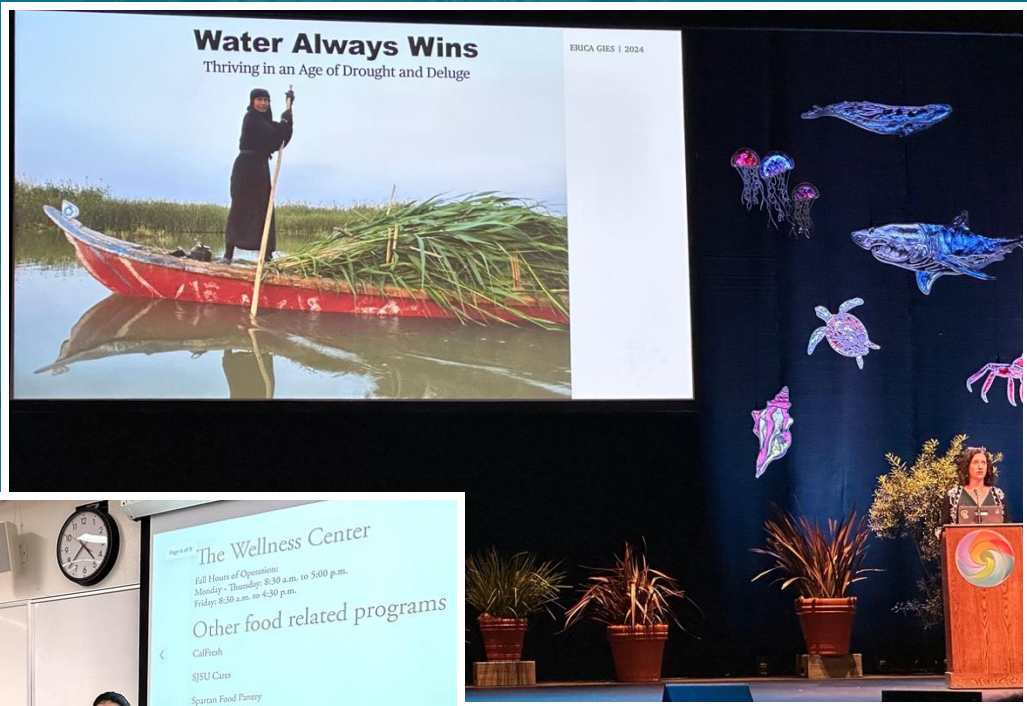
“I would like more direction as to where they [faculty] would like us to be in regards to our project.”

“I know attendance is not mandatory, but it would be helpful if they enforced/rewarded attendance.”

Survey Findings: Other Comments

“....I think I could try and dedicate more time outside of class to communicate with others in the class, and watch all of the recordings rather than play catch up with those around me.”

“I enjoyed the class discussions and group projects the most. The class should definitely incorporate both.”



“I could work with the professors during their office hours to ask and reflect on some feelings I have about the material.”

“I would like them [faculty] to continue bringing in guest speakers.”

Testimonials



2023-24 Faculty Reflections



Listen to the HonorsX instructional faculty - Dr. Ellen Middaugh, College of Education, and Dr. Keenan Norris, H & A - reflect on their journey with HonorsX in 2023-24 ([YouTube](#))

Student Testimonials



“When you graduate, you're not going to work with people of the same discipline, (instead), you're going to be in spaces where there is engineer, finance, or art majors; HonorsX exposes us to that and to learning how to work with different perspectives and finding common grounds, which you'll have to do once you graduate and begin your career.”

Stephanie Arevalos, B.S. Business Administration

“HonorsX is a great curriculum. You get to meet so many new people, you make new connections, you get new opportunities, you get to do funding and research, and actually provide a change to not only the university but the local city as a whole.”

Richard Rojas, B.A. Art



Absolutely! HonorsX is unique, and we have special privileges. It is a coveted class of chosen individuals who make up a special task force. Our voices are listened to and sought after if we step up and do the work. There is so much potential to make major impacts in our communities. It is very empowering and worth the time, effort, and challenges.

Michelle Torres, B.S. Business Administration

Student Testimonials (Cont'd.)



HonorsX has contributed immensely to my long-term professional and career development goals. It has affirmed that I would rather follow altruistic passions by starting from step one and working towards goals with equals - despite if we may see ourselves as opposites. Rather than focus on misunderstandings,

disappointments, or escalating challenges - being helpful to others does not mean I should nurture dependency. Finding the balance to assist and empower others who can also help themselves - is how HonorsX showed me I can be of service to others. It is not about saving or rescuing others per se. I seek to contribute my knowledge and expertise so those with limitations can rise above them if they are willing to improve their situation. Individuals who have suffered difficult conflicts need nurturing and healing. HonorsX has provided a broad range of circumstances when an individual may be outnumbered - yet is abundant and capable of contributing positively and constructively to many.

Michelle Torres, B.S. Business Administration



"It's less of a typical structured class and its more of a safe space for students to openly express their ideas, create anything they want, and actually bring it to life and should be implemented in our schools everywhere."

Victoria Ayyoub Lama, B.A. Sociology

"Group work on a continuing project. I also really enjoyed city exploration during the summer course, it really helped me understand the needs of those in this community. I also really enjoyed speaking to mentors that are in different work fields than what I am aspiring to work in, it helped me gain perspective and understanding from stances other than my own."

Kaysha Ragocos, B.A. Design Studies



Mentors' Testimonials

“Being a peer mentor was a constant self-reflection experience. I found myself looking back at my experiences and feelings whenever I interacted with the students. Witnessing their newfound confidence and sense of belonging was truly inspiring and reinforced the importance of creating a supportive and inclusive environment within the program. This experience deepened my appreciation for the mentorship role and affirmed my commitment to fostering a culture of growth and collaboration among my peers.”

Silky Nigenda, B.A. Psychology



“Watching the current students participate in the HonorsX magic made me reflect on my own experiences in the first cohort and reminisce on my past experiences. Being a peer mentor allowed me to play a crucial role in providing advice during the challenging team-building and ideation process characteristic of working in an interdisciplinary team. At the end of the day, I acknowledge to the students that there will be chaos trying to mend together strands of expertise and knowledge from each student and their respective major coursework, but I inform them that it is through this chaos where meaningful interaction and intersections occur to foster the most effective sustainable innovation occurs.”

Nathan Anico, B.S. Public Health

“It was a pleasure to participate in the program this year, and I can see how dedicated you and your team are to the continuous improvement process, so I’m sure each iteration will be better.”

Dave Galen, Founder, Flexigo



“I have had a good mentoring session with each group.”

**James Veale,
Founder, Green Token by SAP**

HonorsX 2024-25

Program Theme: AI for Sustainability



2024-25 Instructional Faculty



Alejandro Artiga-Purcell, Ph.D

*Assistant Professor, Communications Studies
College of Social Sciences*

Dr. Alejandro Artiga-Purcell is an Assistant Professor in the Communication Studies Department at San José State University. He holds a M.A. in Development Studies from the International Institute of Social Studies in the Netherlands, and a Ph.D. in Environmental Studies from the University of California, Santa Cruz. For over a decade, Alejandro’s research and advocacy work have focused on the successes and limitations of water justice social movements and the social and environmental consequences of extractive development in Central America. His work centers environmental justice that embraces diversity and coalition-building with underrepresented and vulnerable populations.

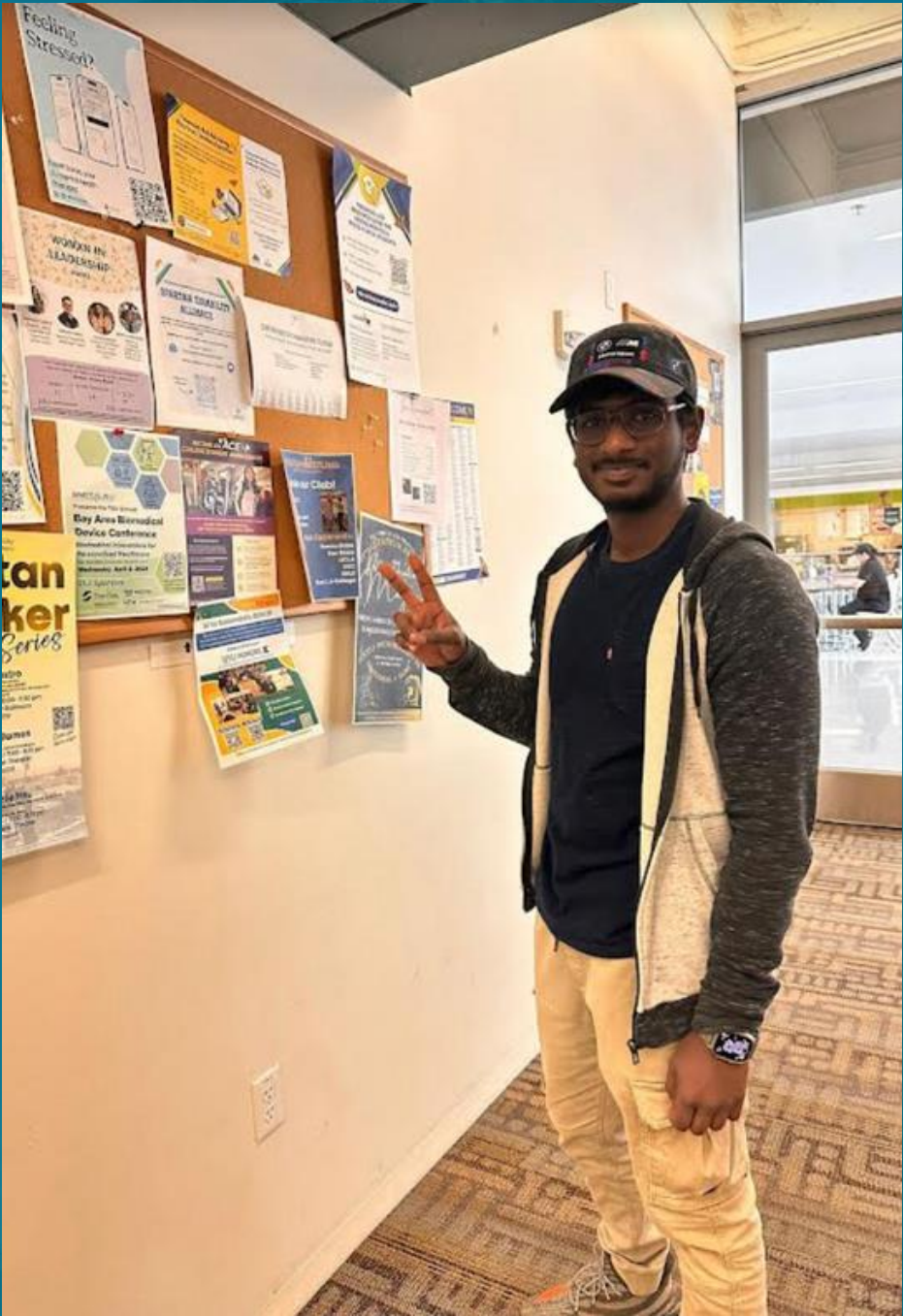
Tina Korani, Ph.D

*Assistant Professor, Journalism and Mass Communications
College of Humanities & the Arts*



Tina Korani is an assistant professor of media design at San José State University, co-founder and faculty advisor of the School of Journalism and Mass Communication’s Immersive Storytelling Lab, and Adobe Education Leader. She conducts research in the areas of educational technology, digital and creative literacies, human-computer interaction, and inclusive design. In her creative practice, she explores innovative uses of technologies to foster learning and her goal is to examine how these innovations can improve, augment, and support the learning experience.

2024-25 Marketing & Promotions



HonorsX Website

View the [Website](#)

New in AY 2023-24

View Edit Log

- *Event Listings & Descriptions*
- *New Promo Videos (2)*
- *23-24 Photos*
- *New Infographics (Diversity of Majors, HonorsX Curriculum)*
- *Student Achievements & Testimonials*
- *New Page Layout & Classification*

Sustainability in Action

2023-2024 Topic: Developing Sustainable Societies

In partnership with Adobe, HonorsX students dive into the topic of sustainability and expand their understanding to bring real-world issues to life and create sustainability reports using Adobe applications including Adobe Audition and Adobe Express.



Super Cool

- Joshua Lynch Stattenfield
 - Business Administration, Concentration in Management, BS
- Mariam Roshdy



Shuttle X

- Alexander Emil Melgar
 - Geography, BA
- Grayson Wai Lam
 - Design Studies, BA
- Victoria Hannan Mhanna Hanna



Sustainability Through Us

- Kaysha L Ragoc
 - Design Studies
- Lou Johanna En
 - Animation & Illustration

Silky Nigenda, B.A. Psychology, 2022-23

"This unique opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals who appreciate the value of diverse perspectives and share a passion for change became my anchor, marking the beginning of my journey."



In partnership with Adobe, students bring to life their creative solutions to real-world issues using video apps within Creative Cloud, including Adobe Express, Adobe Audition, Adobe InDesign, Adobe Premiere Pro, Adobe Rush, Adobe Portfolio, and many others.



[About Us](#)
[Curriculum](#)
[HonorsX in Action](#)
[Testimonials](#)
[Frequently Asked Questions](#)
[Apply](#)

HonorsX in Action

HonorsX presents students with opportunities to network with peers and professionals from different disciplines and industries. With competitions and programs occurring annually across campus, HonorsX students are highly encouraged to step foot into a new world to indulge in expanding their experience and knowledge outside of their regular classroom settings.

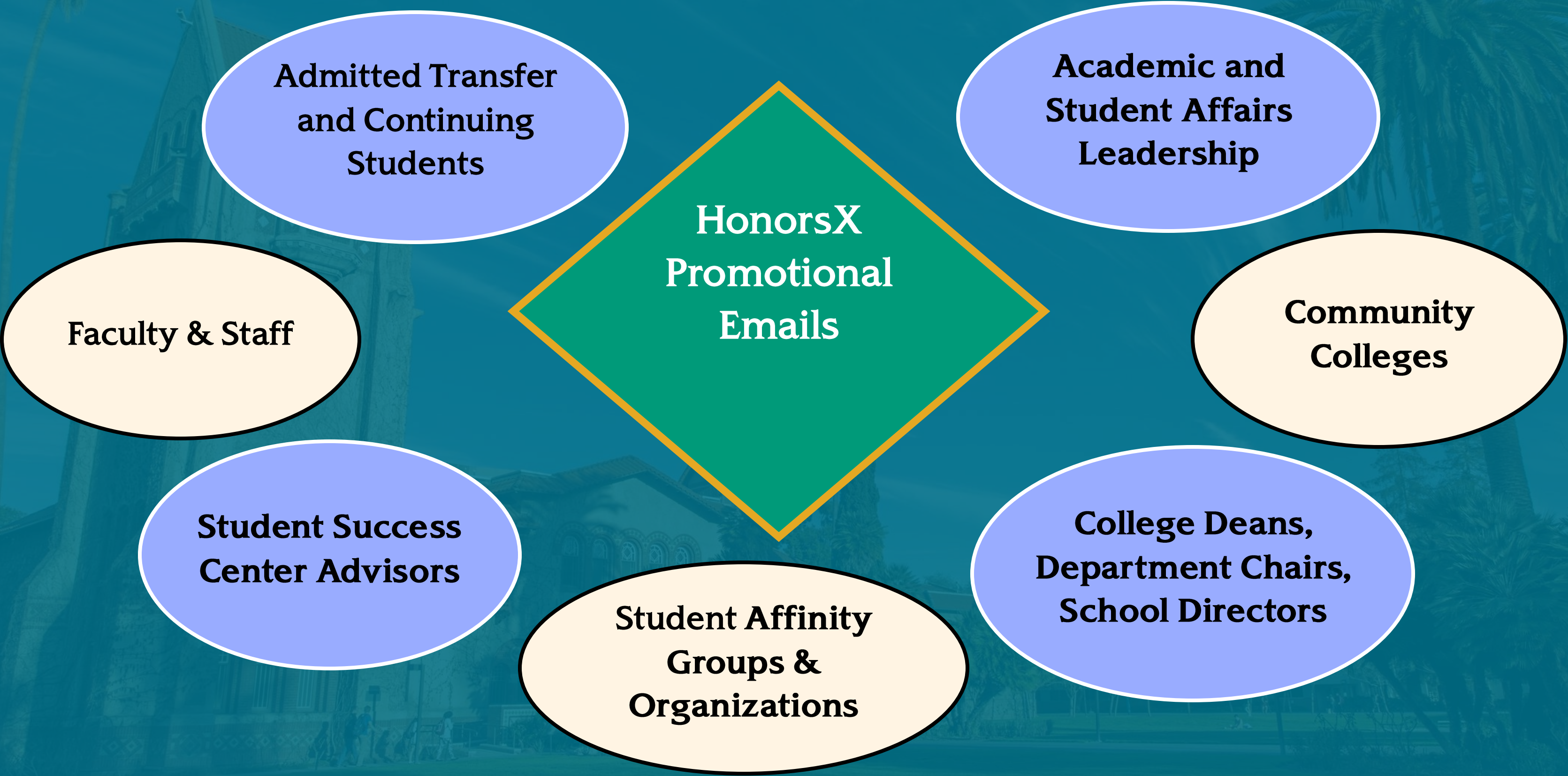
Events/Competitions HonorsX Students Has Participated In:

- Silicon Valley Innovation Challenge (SVIC)
- Silicon Valley Business Plan Competition (SVBPC)
- 35th Annual Bioneers Conference
- 2nd Annual Research Week: Student RSCA Forum with HonorsX

Tabling, AY 2023-24



Promotional Emails, AY 2023-24



Promotional Videos, 2023-24

Videographer:

Teri Graziani

*Multimedia Producer and
Specialist/Video Producer,
Center for Faculty Development*



View Video ([YouTube](#))

Participants:

Dr. Keenan Norris
Peggy Hogan Hatfield
Jhony De Oliveira

Oct. 2023

Participants:

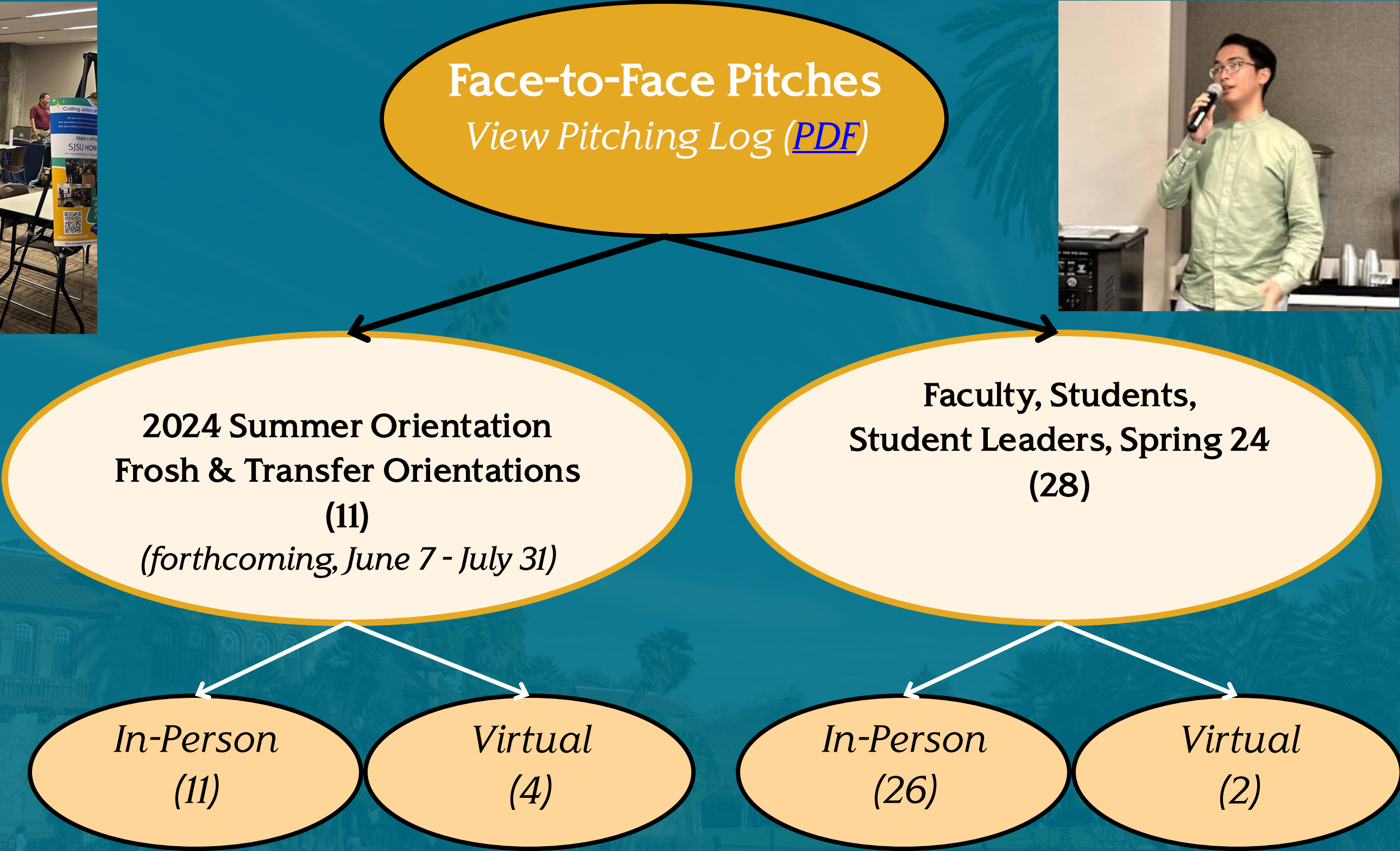
Dr. Ellen Middaugh
Dr. Keenan Norris
Nathan Anico
Victoria Ayyoub Lama
Stephanie Montoya Arevalos
Richard Rojas

Feb. 2024

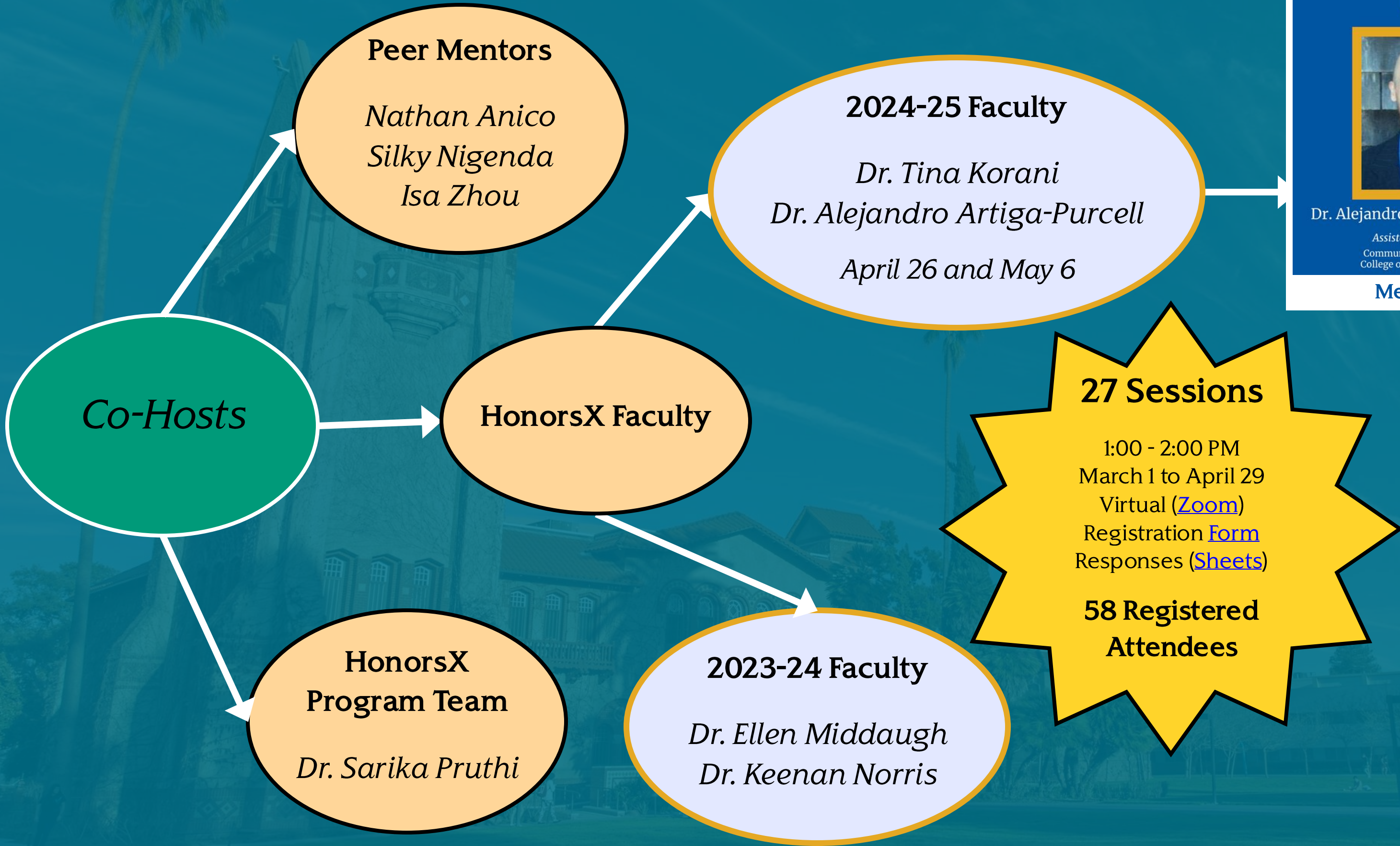


View Video ([YouTube](#))

Face-to-Face Pitches, Spring (28) and Summer 24 (16)



Info. Sessions, Spring 2024



HONORS X

2024-25 HonorsX Faculty



Dr. Alejandro Artiga-Purcell
Assistant Professor
Communication Studies
College of Social Sciences

Dr. Tina Korani
Assistant Professor
Journalism and Mass Communications
College of Humanities and the Arts

Meet the Faculty! 1:00 - 2:00 PM

SJSU HONORS X
An Interdisciplinary Program Unlike Any Other

**AI for Sustainability!
Info Session**

Are you excited about an interdisciplinary Education?
Do you want to solve problems for tomorrows world?



@DOCS.GOOGLE.COM

- 15-Unit Interdisciplinary Minor
- No Minimum GPA required
- No prerequisites
- All majors welcome

Info Session Time Slots
March 1 - April 29, 2024
Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays
1:00-2:00pm (30 minutes slots)

Register Now!



Student Testimonials

Event Invites

Promotional Posts





LinkedIn
102 followers

Posting Schedule: *Every Wednesdays*

Featured

Post

Do you want to solve social problems of your choice using AI...
AI for Sustainability 2024-25

Make a difference!

SJSU HONORS X

Fall 2024 Applications Now Open
Deadline: May 31, 2024

3 Required Courses!

- ✓ All majors invited
- ✓ No prerequisites
- ✓ No minimum GPA

Link

HonorsX: An Interdisciplinary Program Unlike Any Other

sjsu.edu

What is HonorsX? What does it have to offer? Learn more about the new SJSU interdisciplinary studies minor now.

Link

Be the difference

SJSU HonorsX: Be the Difference

YouTube

What makes HonorsX unique from other honors program? Hear what our students have to say about the impact has had on their SJSU experience.

Activity

102 followers

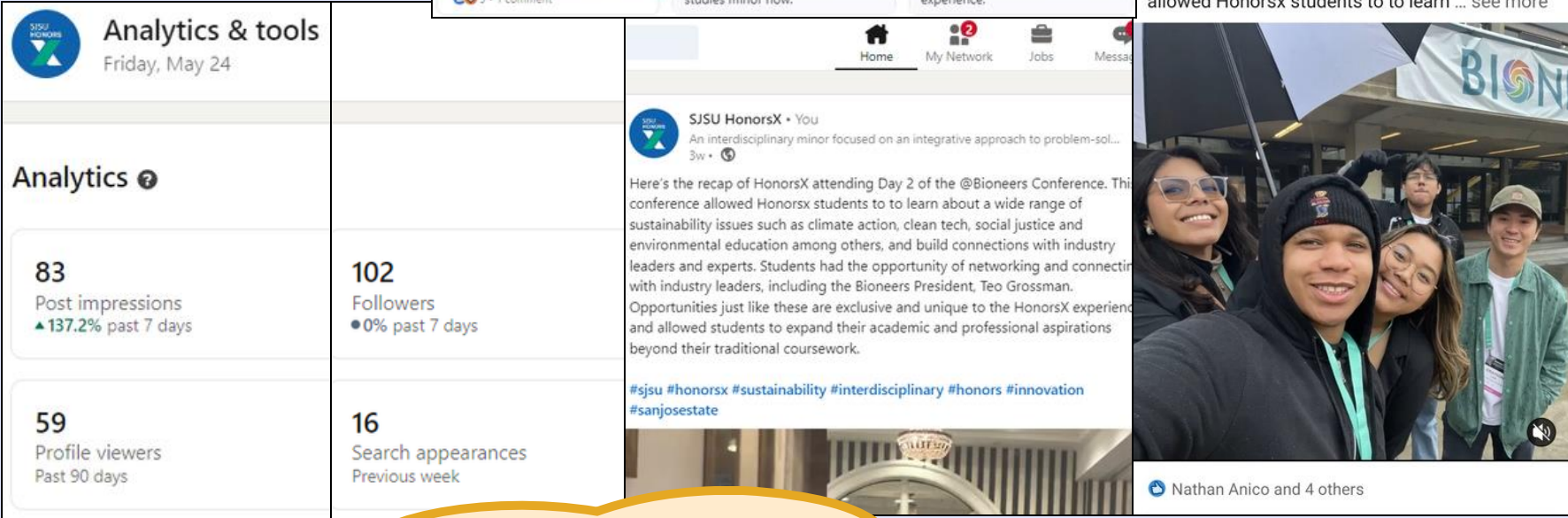
Posts Videos Images Events

SJSU HonorsX • Following

An interdisciplinary minor focused on...

1mo •

Here's the recap of HonorsX attending Day 2 of the @Bioneers Conference. This conference allowed Honorsx students to to learn ... see more





Instagram
377 followers

Posting Schedule: *Every Mondays and Fridays*

Overview

You gained 44 more followers compared to Nov 26 - Feb 23.

Accounts reached	1,256	-63.7%
Accounts engaged	100	-1%
Total followers	381	+13%

sjsuhonorsx

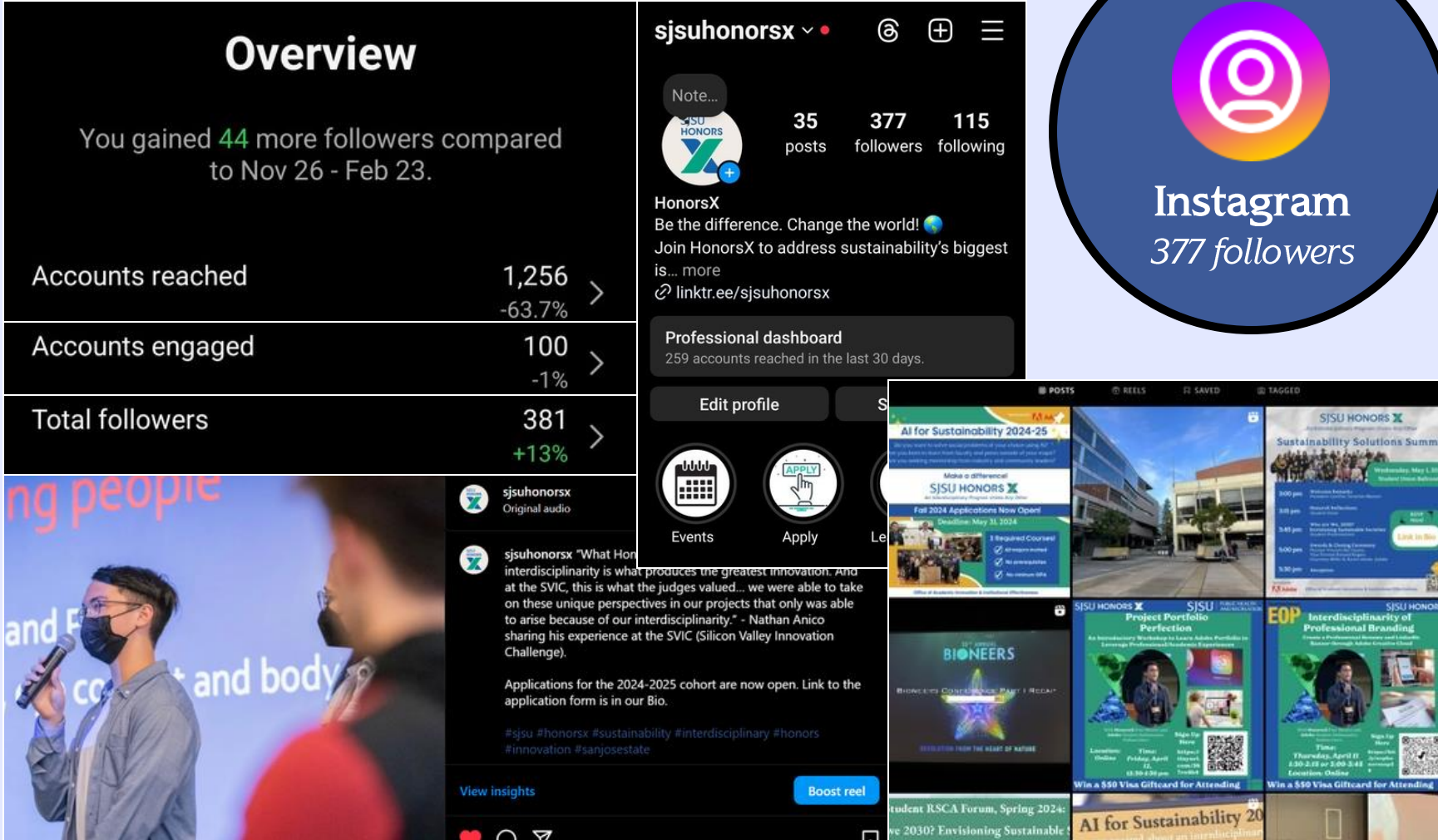
35 posts 377 followers 115 following

HonorsX
Be the difference. Change the world! 🌍
Join HonorsX to address sustainability's biggest is... more
🔗 linktr.ee/sjsuhonorsx

Professional dashboard
259 accounts reached in the last 30 days.

Edit profile

Events Apply



View Social Media Posting Log
([Spreadsheet](#))

2023-24 Summary Report | Academic Innovation & Institutional Effectiveness

Make a difference!

SJSU HONORS X

An Interdisciplinary Program Unlike Any Other

Do you want to solve social problems of your choice using AI?
Are you seeking mentorship from industry and community leaders?

2024-25 Theme:
AI for Sustainability

3 Required Courses!

- ✓ All majors invited
- ✓ No minimum GPA
- ✓ No prereqs

\$1,000
(per student)
Research Grant!

*courtesy
Office of the Provost!*

Apply for Fall '24!

Contact Us!

Office of Academic Innovation & Institutional Effectiveness

Adobe

SJSU HONORS X

An Interdisciplinary Program Unlike Any Other

2024-2025
"Developing Sustainable Societies"

- An interdisciplinary minor
- Teams of students from different majors propose new solutions to social problems
- New, innovative courses co-taught by faculty from different majors/colleges
- Mentorship from industry professionals and experts
- Network with peers, faculty, and experts from different fields
- Acquire practical skills to establish start-ups, apply for graduate school, internships, and fellowships

Scan to learn more!

sjsu.edu/honorsx/ honorsx@sjsu.edu

No minimum GPA requirement
No prerequisites
All majors invited

Office of Academic Innovation & Institutional Effectiveness

Contact Us!

SJSU HONORS X

An Interdisciplinary Program Unlike Any Other

Meet the 2024-25 Instructors!

Are you excited about an interdisciplinary education?
Do you want to solve problems for tomorrow's world using AI?

2024-25 Theme: **AI for Sustainability**

- Build knowledge, skills, networks outside your major
- Solve social problems of your choice using AI
- Learn from faculty from different majors
- Receive mentorship from industry and community leaders
- Learn AI and acquire practical skills for graduate school, internships and fellowships

3 required courses: F24, Sp25, F25 No prerequisites!
No minimum GPA! All majors welcome!

Apply for Fall '24

\$1,000
(per student)
Research Grant!

*courtesy
Office of the Provost*

Adobe Office of Academic Innovation & Institutional Effectiveness

View HonorsX FAQs ([PDF](#))

SJSU HONORS X

An Interdisciplinary Program Unlike Any Other

Do you want to solve social problems of your choice using AI?
Are you seeking mentorship from industry and community leaders?

2024-25 Theme:
AI for Sustainability

Apply for Fall '24!

\$1,000
(per student)
Research Grant!

*courtesy
Office of the Provost!*

What is HonorsX?

- 3 required courses
- No prereqs., No min. GPA
- Student teams from different majors
- Innovative courses co-taught by faculty from different majors
- Mentorship from experts
- Build research, digital and practical skills

Contact Us!

Office of Academic Innovation & Institutional Effectiveness

Adobe

2023-24 Summary Report | Academic Innovation & Institutional Effectiveness

Thank You!

honorsx@sjsu.edu