A Message from the Dean

Dear Friends of the SJSU King Library,

By the time you’re reading this newsletter the Fall 2022 semester at SJSU is in full swing. SJSU students have returned to classes, faculty are conducting their teaching and research, and the library is as busy as it’s ever been. For me, this is my first fall semester in San José and I am greatly enjoying the activity and energy around campus.

In this issue you will read about an exciting collaboration with our partners at San José Public Library about the untold stories and histories of San José’s East Side (page 8). You will also read about the Digital Humanities Research Institute — a new initiative in partnership with San Diego State University designed to build foundational and interdisciplinary knowledge and skills in digital humanities (page 10).

The library is truly a cornerstone for academic exploration and opportunity, especially for our students. This is why programs like our Library Research Scholars Program (page 20) and student employment opportunities help showcase the direct transformational impact the library has on our students. I hope you enjoy our special feature on Cristine Nguyen, a former student assistant who worked at the library for nearly five years (page 22). I am also thrilled to introduce our new faculty and staff who bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise to their various roles (page 26).

Join us at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library this fall for our events, the many cultural and artistic exhibits, or simply drop in to experience the energy and beauty of the library.

I hope that you find this newsletter informative and inspiring. Our library team amazes me every day with their dedication to student success and their commitment to providing the best library experience to all in our SJSU community.

Michael Meth
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Events & Exhibits

SJSU’s Annual Author & Artist Celebration
Details coming soon!
Spring 2023
The San José State University Annual Author and Artist Celebration honors SJSU faculty and staff who have published books or other significant works during each calendar year.

University Scholar Series
This series provides a unique opportunity for showcasing the important research and scholarly activities of SJSU faculty members. Register at library.sjsu.edu/uss or watch previous lectures on SJSU ScholarWorks at scholarworks.sjsu.edu/uss.

The State of the State: Regional Writing About the Past, Present, and Future State of Planet California
Presented by Dr. Keenan Norris, Department of English and Comparative Literature
Presented on September 14, 2022.
Watch recording at library.sjsu.edu/uss.

Challenges to Collaboration in Knowledge Intensive Work
Presented by Dr. Elisa Mattarelli
Wednesday, October 12, 2022 12-1 p.m.

Framing and Decoding Public Narratives in the Debate over Race-Conscious Affirmative Action
Presented by Dr. María Ledesma
Wednesday, November 16, 2022 12-1 p.m.

25th Annual Art of Remembrance Altar Exhibit
Hosted by the AAACNA Studies Center
October 10 - November 4, 2022
Children’s Room, First Floor
AAACNA Studies Center, Fifth Floor, SJSU King Library
Held annually in the AAACNA Studies Center in partnership with the San José Multicultural Artists Guild and San José Public Library, this highly anticipated exhibit will be returning in person on King Library’s fifth floor — highlighting traditional and contemporary visual arts by local and Bay Area artists celebrating Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead).
Visit library.sjsu.edu/artofremembrance for more information.

Digital Humanities Research Institute
Hosted by SJSU King Library and San Diego State Digital Humanities Center
October 11 & 12, 2022
Online
Through a series of lightning talks, the DHRI will showcase critical components of digital humanities praxis, including project and data management, ethical collaboration, digital pedagogy, along with digital methodologies and tools. Read more about the DHRI on page 10.
Speakers include Dr. Katherine Harris, Director of Public Programming for College of Arts and Humanities (SJSU) sharing expertise in building digital humanities curriculum, Dr. Sureshi Jayawardene (Africana Studies, SDSU) discussing StoryMapping, and Dr. Chelsea Thompo (Digital Media Arts, SJSU) exploring research into visual culture.
Register at tiny.sjsu.edu/dhri.

Desis of Silicon Valley Speak
San José Public Library: Educational Park Branch
October 23, 2022 1-2 p.m.
Contribute your unique voice to this inclusive collection of stories from Desi (Indian) voices across Silicon Valley by participating at one of the events hosted by San José Public Library and project lead Librarian Mantra Roy.
This event is free and open to the public. No registration is required. Learn more about the project at tiny.sjsu.edu/desisspeak.

Visit library.sjsu.edu/exhibits for more information about future exhibits or visit library.sjsu.edu/events to learn more about future events.
In partnership with the San José Public Library California Room, the Africana, Asian American, Chicano & Native American Studies Center presents, “East Side Dreams: The Untold Story of East San José,” a multifaceted exhibit featuring the complex development of the East Side community.

The origin of East Side San José was a space targeted by city leaders to house manual labor workers for the agricultural fields and canneries. This essentially continued the practices of segregation known as Jim Crow. However, despite its beginnings, the East Side became a vibrant community of people, cultural practices, and much more.

Today the East Side is a prominent residential area composed primarily of Mexican and Vietnamese residents. The site is known for many important Mexican American organizing efforts, including those of leaders such as Cesar Chavez, the Community Service Organization, and other civic groups like the GI Forum. Previously, the community’s nickname “Sal Si Puedes” (escape if you can) reflected the neighborhood’s substandard housing, unpaved streets, and lack of sidewalks.

Like the rest of Silicon Valley, the East Side continues to grow in racial and ethnic diversity as the population contributing to San José’s status as the tenth largest demographic area of the U.S. It has grown beyond its expected borders and its original racial and ethnic formulation. The community houses residents, old and new; workers and owners; locals and immigrants. One unequivocal reality is that the East Side is a lasting community.

“East Side Dreams” is an homage to its residents who through their commitment have accomplished more than the expectations from past city leaders. Drawing on the wealth of resources in the region and the local colleges and universities, the East Side community became a bedrock for activists of labor, K-12 education, art and culture, civic and political representation. “East Side Dreams” tells a story about the East Side, primarily Mexican Americans, but it is also the story of San José and the greater United States — a land rich because of its multicultural and multilingual heritage.

This exhibit has been made possible in part by a grant from the Social Science Research Council and the American Rescue Plan: Humanities Grants for Libraries.
On October 11-12, 2022, SJSU King Library will sponsor and host the California State University's (CSU) first Digital Humanities Research Institute (DHRI) in partnership with San Diego State University’s (SDSU) Digital Humanities Center.

The DHRI is designed to build foundational knowledge about digital humanities as a first step to incorporating digital humanities practice and skills into research and curriculum across the disciplines at both universities. This is also the goal of SJSU King Library’s burgeoning Digital Humanities Center, currently under development with the help of an NEH Challenge Grant.

Through a series of lightning talks, the two-day DHRI will showcase critical components of digital humanities praxis, including project and data management, ethical collaboration, digital pedagogy, along with digital methodologies and tools. In addition to building a shared understanding of digital humanities, the institute will provide opportunities for networking and mentorship.

Interested in attending?

Register at tiny.sjsu.edu/dhri. Members of the SJSU community interested in getting started in digital scholarship can apply to be a DHRI mentee and get connected with an expert practitioner. Apply at tiny.sjsu.edu/dhriapply.

New Read-and-Publish Agreements Aid Open Access

SJSU King Library continues to leverage our electronic subscription agreements to negotiate for better publishing conditions and opportunities for SJSU faculty authors.

Called transformative or read-and-publish agreements, these contracts combine traditional subscription agreements with important additional benefits for authors. SJSU faculty can now publish their work open access in top journals, enabling worldwide impact by removing publisher paywalls for content.

Current read-and-publish agreements include: Elsevier, Cambridge University Press, American Chemical Society, and IGI Global. Each with their own unique publishing agreements and benefits, these read-and-publish agreements broaden SJSU faculty options and their scholarly impact.

For example, in the new Elsevier agreement, SJSU and CSU authors are able to publish in over 2,000 Elsevier journals without having to pay an article processing charge (APC). Publishers typically charge faculty authors thousands of dollars in APCs for each article they wish to publish open access. While our read-and-publish agreements cover those costs for select publishers, SJSU does not currently offer any funding to help defray costs for faculty authors publishing open access in other journals or seeking to publish open monographs. Please consider giving to the University Library to support the establishment of a campus-wide Open Access Fund.

To learn more about the DHRI or the Digital Humanities Center, please contact Associate Dean of Innovation and Resources Management Christina Mune at christina.mune@sjsu.edu.

To learn more please visit tiny.sjsu.edu/openaccess. Please contact Associate Dean for Research and Scholarship Emily Chan at emily.chan@sjsu.edu if you have any questions or would like to learn more about our efforts to support scholarship.
Breaking Digital Access Barriers

SJSU King Library has successfully completed its first year of the Digital Inclusion Hotspot Project (DIHP), a project funded by a $150,000 Institute of Museum and Library Services CARES Act Grant. DIHP provides underserved and financially challenged SJSU students access to hotspots — devices that offer unlimited high-speed internet connection anywhere, anytime.

Such access is especially critical for students engaged in online and hybrid learning, a necessity during the COVID-19 pandemic. DIHP also connects participating students to a dedicated librarian and a student technology trainer, who together offer information and digital literacy support through Canvas, SJSU’s learning management system.

DIHP coordinators conducted a survey at the end of the first year of the project to better understand how the project affected participating students. Investigators Adriana Poo, Christina Mune, and Sharon Thompson presented their findings at the American Library Association Annual Conference, on June 25, 2022 in Washington, DC.

The survey revealed 67.7% of students who participated in the program were first-generation students and a majority found the hotspot speeds faster than the available internet at home.

Almost 71% of students reported that DIHP hotspots improved their ability to access library resources, and 68% reported that the hotspots improved their academic performance/achievement.

“With Wi-Fi the world is at your fingertips. You can do research, chat with peers, get tutoring, read books, and look for other resources in your surrounding area for help,” said one SJSU student.

For more information on the program, contact the DIHP’s Primary Investigator Christina Mune at christina.mune@sjsu.edu or Adriana Poo at adriana.poo@sjsu.edu.

Exploring Library User Experience

Michael Aguilar, outreach and user engagement librarian, received a competitive Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity (RSCA) Seed Grant to research student engagement and perceptions of the library during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Data was collected through a campus-wide survey which received over 1,200 unique responses. Initial analysis shows a correlation between utilization of the library with higher perceptions of the library’s contribution towards students’ sense of belonging and academic success at SJSU.

Another component was to develop a pool of users the library can draw from for future studies. Over 400 students indicated their willingness to allow the library to contact them for future library usability studies.

Sharesly Rodriguez, user experience (UX) librarian, received a similar RSCA Seed Grant to research Kingbot, an artificially intelligent chatbot developed by the SJSU King Library team. Kingbot answers library and basic research questions. This will provide insight into understanding the overall student user experience with library chatbots and their effectiveness in meeting students’ information needs.

Sharesly hopes the study will provide ways to improve Kingbot to better support SJSU students and other campus departments on seeking to implement the technology.
NEH Challenge Grant: Digital Humanities Center

After a very successful first year, SJSU King Library’s Digital Humanities Center (DHC) enters its second year of development and fundraising for our NEH Challenge Grant.

The DHC continues to gain momentum through an event series created to inspire and immerse students and faculty in digital skills and humanist inquiry. Events include the Digital Humanities Research Institute (page 10), workshops on creating interactive digital StoryMaps, and hands-on sessions where participants 3D scan a version of themselves into the Metaverse.

During year two of the grant, the DHC will begin to build a data center supporting the computing and storage needs of digital scholars across campus and in our community.

Help support year two of the NEH Challenge Grant with a gift to support the development of a Digital Humanities Center in the library. Gifts will be matched dollar for dollar by NEH to help the library meet its challenge goal each year.

Dr. Harry Edwards Collection Endowment

From his early days as a student-athlete to later becoming a world renowned activist-scholar, Harry Edwards’ life and work demonstrate that sport is a window to society, revealing a broad range of social and political concerns that affect us all. Located in SJSU’s Special Collections & Archives, the Dr. Harry Edwards Collection includes historic photos, autographed books, Olympic Project for Human Rights memorabilia, and correspondence from such luminaries as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and President Barack Obama. Learn more about the Harry Edwards Collection on page 16-17.

SJSU Special Collections & Archives Endowment

Located on the fifth floor of SJSU King Library, the Special Collections & Archives consist of primary sources that document local, regional, and California history, with a focus on San José State University and South Bay history, politics, culture, literature, and art. With many periods represented, the archival collections cover the region’s transition from early agricultural production to the emergence of Silicon Valley; regional and national policy shaped by local political leaders and community changemakers; and LGBT community activism, the peace movement, and women’s rights.

Gifts to these endowments will help in the growth, preservation, and future development of current and ongoing collections and initiatives pivotal to enriching the research, learning, and activities of the university community.
San José State University alumnus, renowned sports sociologist, and professor emeritus of UC Berkeley Harry Edwards reached a milestone of giving to SJSU that resonates with his contributions to society.

“San José State was ground zero in the movement that changed, not just American perceptions, but the world’s perceptions of the significance and importance of sport and modern culture,” says Edwards, ’64 Social Science, ’16 Honorary Doctorate, who first witnessed how sports impact social change during the Civil Rights Movement at SJSU.

To support his vision, Edwards has established the Dr. Harry Edwards Collection Endowment that funds a showcase of historical memorabilia in the Dr. Harry Edwards Collection at SJSU King Library.

Edwards first established his archive at the SJSU King Library in 2016. In 2018, he contributed a second donation for the “Power of Protest” exhibit, a selection of images, posters, buttons, and objects honoring the 50th anniversary of the 1968 Mexico City Olympics.

“The Dr. Harry Edwards Collection covers the intersection of his life’s work, which is athleticism, civil rights, and sociology,” says Craig Simpson, director of Special Collections & Archives at the SJSU King Library. “The endowment he has created, as well as the generosity of others who have contributed to it, sets the foundation for Special Collections’ overall objective, which is to support the teaching and research needs of San José State.”

By sharing personal correspondence, photographs, buttons, broadsides, and even clothes of historical significance, Edwards is making history available to anyone who wishes to view it — and supporting the maintenance and digitization of his materials to ensure access for years to come.

Want to make a difference?
Give to the Harry Edwards Collection Endowment at giving.sjsu.edu/edwards.
Remembering Norman Y. Mineta

Born in San José on November 12, 1931, Norman Y. Mineta left a long and enduring legacy when he passed away at the age of 90 on May 3, 2022.

A proud Japanese American who had been interned with his family during World War II, Mineta went on to a groundbreaking political career: appointed to San José City Council in 1967; elected mayor in 1971; elected to the United States House of Representatives in 1975 and serving until 1995; nominated as Secretary of Commerce under President Bill Clinton in 2000; and nominated as Secretary of Transportation under President George W. Bush in 2001.

Among his proudest accomplishments was serving as co-sponsor to the American Civil Liberties Act of 1988, which granted reparations to surviving Japanese American internees, as well as a formal apology from President Ronald Reagan, who signed the Act into federal law.

Nearly 400 boxes in size, the Norman Mineta Papers comprise approximately 10 percent of the total holdings at SJSU Special Collections & Archives (SC&A). The collection’s scope covers primarily Mineta’s service as mayor and congressional representative, and its contents include Legislative Office Files, Transportation Files, and ephemera from various political campaigns.

The Mineta Papers are a significant centerpiece to the impressive array of Political Papers at SC&A. In October 2018, Secretary Mineta was honored by SJSU King Library, in partnership with the Mineta Transportation Institute, with an exhibition of his materials in the SC&A Reading Room and an accompanying event celebrating his life’s work and the collection that documents it.

The Mineta Papers are available for viewing and research in the SC&A Reading Room.

Remembering Associate Librarian Paul Kauppila

After celebrating Associate Librarian Paul Kauppila’s retirement and reminiscing about his 20-year career at SJSU King Library on December 7, 2021, it was shocking and saddening to hear of his untimely passing on April 11, 2022.

Kauppila was librarian for the film and theatre, journalism and mass communications, music and dance, and political science departments. He also oversaw the library’s government documents collection. Active as a scholar, Paul frequently reviewed books on music, musicians, and popular culture — helping to contextualize the value of others’ contributions to the literature and assist librarians in their collections building decision making. An expert in music, Paul contributed to reference works on lesser known artists, ensuring their contributions were acknowledged and consequently elevating their stature. His interests were varied; he published peer-reviewed articles on Jamaican ska, garage bands in San José, and librarianship, particularly on the joint library’s operations.

Because of his 20-year career at SJSU, his institutional knowledge was consistently accessed and he was involved in many achievements including the move from Clark Library to our current location in SJSU King Library in 2003 and his contribution to the King’s Dream Team Guinness world record for reading out loud for 74 hours, 49 minutes and 37 seconds, which was confirmed in 2004.

Kauppila served on many recruitment committees for tenure-track librarians and served on evaluation committees — all very important and formative for shaping the library faculty population. Lastly, he was an active and ardent supporter of the California Faculty Association (CFA) and ensured library faculty were highly aware and involved in the union’s activities.

We will remember Kauppila’s generous spirit, love of music and popular culture, and professional contributions. He will always be in our hearts, memories, and songs.
Elham Baharlouei, Eleanor Rideout, and Inaya Rehman, the University Library’s current cohort of Library Research Scholars, continue to progress in their research fellowships. The extension of the program through the summer months has provided students with greater opportunities for enhanced research design.

Library Research Scholars Continue to Excel

Elham Baharlouei
‘23 Graphic Design and 2022 Regina M. Legard Fellow

Baharlouei is researching the effects the COVID-19 pandemic has had on student perception. Perception is the psychological process of becoming aware of objects, relationships, or events and plays an important role in processing external stimuli into knowledge and understanding. Currently, Baharlouei is working on an experiment design with the goal of submitting an Institutional Review Board application and completing her experiment during the fall semester.

Inaya Rehman
‘24 Psychology

Rehman is researching the relationship between self-efficacy and social isolation among undergraduate students in the Bay Area during the COVID-19 pandemic, and the role this relationship has played in students’ academic success. This work has the potential to provide valuable insights on the effects of pandemic-related restrictions on academic performance, and how educators can better support students as they transition into college. Rehman is currently working to submit a research application to SJSU’s Institutional Review Board (IRB), with the intention to administer the survey during the Fall 2022 semester.

Eleanor Rideout
‘26 Animation/Illustration

Rideout is researching how autobiographical novels can be used to represent the lived experiences of individuals with marginalized identities and help advance social movements. Rideout is currently analyzing relevant scholarly literature and autobiographical graphic novels written by authors from marginalized communities. Additionally, Rideout is creating a list of potential authors to contact for interviews and planning the interview guide or detailed interview questions that will be asked. She is hoping to conduct the interviews during the fall semester.

This program is made possible by the generous support of our donors. To support future undergraduate students in gaining valuable research experience please consider giving to the Library Research Scholars fund at library.sjsu.edu/giving-library.
Meet Cristine Nguyen (they/them), ’22 Child and Adolescent Development, a former student assistant in the dean’s office since their first year at SJSU in 2017. In this role, Cristine contributed to the library as a reliable, multi-talented student with a positive mindset who was always ready to tackle tasks regardless of complexity.

Nguyen provided excellent organizational and clerical support, but their openness to learning made it possible for them to work on a wide range of projects. One example of this was when Nguyen helped create a visually appealing and informative infographic — which reignited their passion for graphic design.

Creative opportunities like this one led Nguyen to create a portfolio of work and eventually earned them a graphic design position for a non-profit on campus serving middle school kids.

Working at the library contributed to their professional development and to the overall success of their academic and personal journeys.

Struggling with imposter syndrome, Nguyen’s work experience at the library helped them build confidence in their skills.

Nguyen is currently a resident teacher at ACE Esperanza, a charter school located in San José, where they will be gaining instructional knowledge under the guidance of experienced teachers.

Thanks to generous donations made towards the Student Assistant Program, students like Nguyen can explore professional development opportunities, gain confidence in their work, and learn how to advocate for themselves.

“Working at the library definitely carried me through college. Having a supportive job that understood my needs and provided security so I could focus on my academics was important to me.”

“The work I was able to do with the library and the guidance I received from my supervisor Sylvia Ruiz really helped me see value in myself and the work I do.”

“Sylvia’s mentorship will stick with me for the rest of my life. She gave me support in so many different ways, but I think I am most thankful for how she gave me a voice.”

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VIRTUAL REALITY

We are excited to announce that the University Library was featured in the digital Summer/Fall 2022 Washington Square magazine. From virtual reality to research assistance, SJSU’s Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library is redefining how students, faculty and staff, and the greater community experience libraries. Below are a few highlights from the article. Read the entire digital feature at go.sjsu.edu/kinglibrary or use the QR code below:

As libraries transform, emerging technology ensures we meet the demand of our users.

“Virtual reality opens up ways for students from different disciplines, such as art, music, engineering and design, to work together on virtual experiences that cross over all their areas of study. And we’re just getting started,” says Technology Labs Coordinator Jon Oakes.

Oakes runs the King Library Experiential Virtual Reality (KLEVR) Lab, which offers an interactive, experiential environment to develop their own projects using tools like VR gaming computers, a Playstation 4 Slim, Oculus Rift, and HTC Vive.

“It's not just about playing games and using software; we show them how to create their own VR experiences.”

INFORMATION LITERACY

How can faculty ensure that students understand how to best access library resources?

The SJSU King Library’s information literacy program offers customizable training by discipline. Subject-area librarians are available to collaborate with faculty and students to create research guides and offer targeted training on how to take advantage of library resources.

This service, says SJSU Engineering Lecturer Shawn Tran, offers two major benefits: It trains students how to maximize library resources specific to their majors or fields of study — and it instills a critical understanding of how to find, assess and rely on accurate sources.

“The information literacy program plays a pivotal role in educating students about services and resources that the SJSU library offers and supports faculty in providing needed workshops on important topics,” says Tran.
Meet the Library’s New Faculty & Staff

Dawn Hackman
Health and Human Services Librarian

Dawn will work with the Valley Foundation School of Nursing, Department of Audiology, and the doctorate program for Occupational Therapy. Most recently, Dawn was a medical librarian at the University of Minnesota. Dawn is a Distinguished Member of the Academy of Health Information Professionals and was a BioMedical Informatics MBL/NLM Course Fellow. She earned her master’s degree in archives management from Simmons College and a bachelor’s degree in German from University of California, Los Angeles.

Essy Barroso-Ramirez
Research Services and Social Sciences Librarian

Essy will work with the Departments of Communication Studies and Political Science and provide discipline-specific support to these communities. Essy most recently served as a Youth Services Librarian and a Library Branch Manager for the Santa Cruz Public Libraries system. Essy holds a master’s degree in library and information science, a bachelor’s degree in public health from SJSU, and an associate of arts degrees in bilingual-bicultural studies, communications, health science, liberal arts, and Spanish.

Estella Inda
Research Services and Social Sciences Librarian

Estella will work with the Departments of African American Studies, Journalism & Mass Communications, and Hospitality, Tourism, & Event Management to integrate library resources into teaching, learning, and faculty and student research. Estella brings a wealth of experience to SJSU, including tremendous familiarity with the San José Public Library, where she worked for 19 years. Estella earned her master’s degree in library and information science and bachelor’s degree in sociology from SJSU.

Monica Keane
Digital Collections and Metadata Coordinator

Monica will be cataloging, creating metadata, and coordinating projects for digital library collections. Previously, Monica served as a reference librarian at Foothill College. While completing her master’s degree in library and information science at SJSU, she worked in SJSU’s Special Collections & Archives. She has a doctorate in comparative literature from UC Davis, where she specialized in late medieval Italian literature, and a master’s degree in Italian studies from McGill University.

SJSU King Library has welcomed four new library employees this fall.