

# Southern States University

HELLO SSU  
COMMUNITY!

Spring 2018  
Newsletter

As we continue in the Spring Quarter, SSU is grateful and inspired to serve all of you who help deserving students realize their dreams through education. Through such dedication, our University makes a difference in the social mobility of so many students across the world. We know that through education we help students prosper! We have a lot of great new news. Please stay updated by following us on social media.



2855 Michelle Dr #380, Irvine, CA  
92606

## NEWPORT BEACH NEW CAMPUS LOCATION

Starting July 1st, the Newport Beach Campus will be located at 2855 Michelle Dr #380, Irvine, CA 92606. We hope you look forward to your new campus location. If you have not had the time to visit, please feel welcome to stop by our office. We we would be more than happy to give you a tour.



## SSU ACCREDITATION NEWS

Secretary of Education Orders Restoration of ACICS as a Federally Recognized Accrediting Agency as of December 2016 and Outlines Next Steps in the Compliance Review Process

On Tuesday, April 3, 2018, the Secretary of Education issued an Order notifying ACICS that the U.S. Department of Education has restored ACICS's status as a federally recognized agency as of December 12, 2016. The Order comes in response to the recent ruling from U.S. District Judge Reggie B. Walton that the U.S. Department of Education violated the Administrative Procedures Act by "failing to consider various categories of relevant evidence" in its decision to withdraw ACICS' recognition as a nationally-recognized accreditor. The case was remanded back to the Secretary of Education.

Michelle Edwards, ACICS President, issued the following statement regarding the Order:

"We were gratified by the court's ruling requiring the Department to review evidence submitted by ACICS documenting many meaningful reforms implemented by the organization. And we appreciate the timely response by the Department, reinstating our recognition as of December 2016 and outlining the next steps in the compliance review process. The Department's decision ensures that students currently attending ACICS schools are not negatively impacted pending the Department's ongoing review process. In the last two years, ACICS has implemented significant reforms designed to address concerns, strengthen the accreditation process and, ultimately, enhance our ability to hold schools accountable for meaningful student outcomes. These efforts are comprehensive and ongoing, and we look forward to working with the Department to ensure we are not only in full compliance with current requirements but also in a position to become, over time, a leader among accreditors."



## WASCUC ACCREDITATION

Last year, Southern States University applied for Eligibility from the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WASCUC). In December 2017, WASCUC reviewed the application and determined that the University is eligible to proceed with an application for Candidacy and Initial Accreditation. A determination of Eligibility is not a formal status with the WASC Senior College and University Commission, nor does it ensure eventual accreditation. It is a preliminary finding that the institution is potentially accreditable and can proceed within five years of its Eligibility determination to be reviewed for Candidacy or Initial Accreditation status with the Commission. Questions about Eligibility may be directed to the institution or to WASCUC at [wascsr@wascsenior.org](mailto:wascsr@wascsenior.org) or (510) 748-9001.

Achieving "Eligibility" completes the first of three major phases in the regional accreditation process.

Note this is parallel and in addition to SSU's national accreditation held since 2010 from the Accrediting Council for Independent Schools and Colleges (ACICS).



Graduating with Honors

### Scholastic Honors

SSU values students for their academic achievements. The following are scholastic achievements that are now being recognized as of the start of the Spring 2018 quarter:

#### Chancellor's List

At the conclusion of every quarter, students who earn a GPA in that respective quarter of 3.8 or above will be placed on the Chancellor's List with a notation on their transcript.

To see the latest list,  
<https://ssu.edu/wp-content/cat/SSUCLS2018.pdf>

**The high caliber of scholarship achieved by these students enhances the quality of education for all of our students at our learning community. I congratulate them for their contribution to scholarly life at Southern States University.**

**- John D. Tucker, Chancellor**

Graduate degree students who earn a GPA of 3.8 or above will earn "Honors" at graduation, including the notation on their transcript.

Undergraduate degree students who earn a GPA of 3.5 to 3.7 will graduate earning Latin honors of "Cum Laude", including the notation on their transcript.

Undergraduate degree students who earn a GPA of 3.8 to 3.9 will graduate earning Latin honors of "Magna Cum Laude", including the notation on their transcript.

Undergraduate degree students who earn a GPA of 4.0 will graduate earning Latin honors of "Summa Cum Laude", including the notation on their transcript.

# Class of 2018 Commencement Ceremony



Congratulations, SSU graduates! We are very proud of what you've accomplished. Each of you, regardless of your background, you have made sacrifices along the journey to graduation, showing discipline, dedication, and a strong desire to succeed.

SSU wishes you all the very best in meeting your highest aspirations, and we hope you'll join the SSU Alumni Association.

Membership in the Association is an excellent way to show support for SSU and to remain connected to your alma mater.

Again, congratulations, June 2018 graduates, on this milestone achievement. And please know that we're here to help you in any way we can as you begin new life phases.

Save the date ! June 24, 2018. We are doing our best to have the best graduation ceremony with a special guest. Stay connected.

On the right there is a small glimpse of where your graduation ceremony will take place.



# Uri Singer and Fabio Golombek are both professional Film-makers who will be providing their expertise in the new Film and Media Studies Certificate Program at the Newport Beach Campus.

Uri Singer Founder & CEO



Film & Media



Fabio Golombek Founder



## PASSAGE PICTURES

Uri Singer is the founder and CEO of Passage Pictures. His diverse background and life experiences make him a distinguished Producer and entrepreneur with a unique vision. Early in life, he became a successful inventor and developed several innovative products in Brazil, where he also opened and runs a few companies. He has always loved films, so he asked himself "why not make them?" That decision led him to produce his first feature film "Bed & Breakfast" in 2010, which he co-produced alongside Ted Melfi. Since then, he's been devoted from inception to end of every project and has produced eleven films - from securing finances to packaging and delivery. He won an award for best producer at the LABRFF - 2012 and the Sundance Alfred P. Sloan Feature Film Prize for "Marjorie Prime" - 2017. He is a member of the PGA and prides himself on completing all movies on time and budget. He strongly believes that passion projects can have a bigger audience. Singer is dedicated to finding compelling stories.

## FJ PRODUCTIONS

Founder of FJ Productions, Fabio is the coordinating producer for The Hollywood Reporter TV (Starz & HBO) and Red Carpet Reporter. He is also the executive producer of the Award winning show Planeta Brasil (TV Globo International), producer of shows such as Shape Up, Shop the World, Martial Arts 360 and Zen Zone. From 1997 to 2001 he was responsible for the Brazilian production of the Cart Racing Series as well as production of Acqua TV, Operação Sydney, En Forma con Adrián Fernandez and La Carrera a La Olimpiada. From 1994 to 2001, he produced several TV Shows both in the US and Brazil; SBT Reporter (SBT TV), Música Brasileira (Multishow) and Beautiful Brazil (ICN Channel), Nine Ball Show (CNT). Fabio is a member of the PGA, IDA and NALIP.

## NEW CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS IN FILM & MEDIA STUDIES

### Certificate in Film and Media Studies

The Certificate in Film and Media Studies program is designed to give students the knowledge, skills, and abilities to begin a career in a film studies related field.

This certificate program provides the foundation of technical, entrepreneurial, and management principles for professionals working or expecting to find work in the ever-changing global media landscape.

The curriculum includes courses in film industry perspectives, media production and

### Certificate in Advanced Film and Media Studies

The Certificate in Advanced Film and Media Studies program, at the graduate-level, is designed to give participants advanced knowledge, skills, and abilities to begin or advance their career in a film studies related field.

This certificate program provides a firm grasp of entrepreneurial and management principles for professionals working or expecting to find work in the ever-changing global media landscape.

The curriculum includes courses in film industry perspectives and businesses of film, TV, and Transmedia. A total of six courses build strong foundation skills in core subject areas and develop analytical, critical, and creative thinking.



## Student Success

The Student Success Center at Southern States University is here for the sole purpose of helping students achieve academic success. Our team of caring staff and peer tutors are dedicated to helping each and every student reach their scholastic goals.



## EVENTS

- SSU Welcome Party: Saturday, April 21, 12-2pm, SSU Newport Beach
- Cinco de Mayo Celebration: Tuesday, May 8, 4-5pm, Tio Leo's Restaurant, San Diego
- SSU Open House: Wednesday, May 9, 1:15-2:15pm, SSU San Diego
- SSU Lunch Talk: Derivatives, May 26, 1-2pm, SSU Newport Beach
- NO CLASSES: Memorial Day on Monday, May 28
- SSU Lunch Talk: Personal Branding, May 29, 4-5pm, SSU San Diego



## CAREER-RELATED WORKSHOPS

### SAN DIEGO

- DATE: 06/07/18
- TIME: 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
- LOCATION: San Diego Campus, Room 222

### NEWPORT BEACH

- DATE: 06/09/18
- TIME: 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. LOCATION: Newport Beach Campus, Room 120

### Office Hours:

Monday - Friday : 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

## LIBRARY WORKSHOPS

### SAN DIEGO

- May 5: APA & Writing Workshop, 10am-2pm
- June 2 APA & Writing Workshop, 10am-2pm

### NEWPORT BEACH

- April 28: APA & Writing Workshop, 10am-2pm
- May 12: APA & Writing Workshop, 10am-2pm
- May 26: APA & Writing Workshop, 10am-2pm

### ONLINE

- April 21: APA & Writing Workshop, 10am-2pm
- May 19: APA & Writing Workshop, 10am-2pm
- June 9: APA & Writing Workshop, 10am-2pm

Services offered to SSU Students:



- ▶ Faculty Mentoring
- ▶ Individual Tutoring
- ▶ Free Workshops

# STUDENT SUCCESS

## Meet with your librarian

- Monday-Thursday: 4:30-6:30 pm in San Diego.
- Saturday 10-2: Online every Saturday; rotate between San Diego and Newport Beach campuses.
- Available for appointments, please email.



**Confused?**  
**We are here to help**  
*First we listen...then we advise*

**SPRING 2018**

### MEET OUR STUDENT AMBASSADORS/TUTORS

SAN DIEGO - ONLINE -LAS VEGAS:

Begum Nur Demir -  
 bnurdemir@ssu.edu

Patrick Puska -  
 ppuska@ssu.edu



Campus	Day/time	Place	Contact
San Diego	Tuesdays, 4:30-5:30pm	Room 203, Faculty Office	Patrik Puska (ppuska@ssu.edu)
Online	Saturdays, 10am-2pm	Moodle, Email, Skype	Cheryl Cyr (ccyr@ssu.edu)
Newport Beach	Thursdays, 2-4 pm	Campus	Beate Berg (bberg@ssu.edu)
Las Vegas	Thursdays, 3-5 pm	Campus	Bill Doyle (bdoyle@ssu.edu)

<https://www.ssu.edu/resources/library/>



NEWPORT BEACH:

Andre Bezerra -  
 abezerra@ssu.edu

Eric Ferreira  
 eferreira@ssu.edu



## ACADEMIC ADVISORS

SAN DIEGO  
 LAS VEGAS/ONLINE:

Ms. Flor Lorenzo.  
 florenzo@ssu.edu.  
 Office Hours: 9am-6pm

NEWPORT BEACH  
 CAMPUS:

Mr. Kimi Ho,  
 kho@ssu.edu,  
 Office Hours: 9am-6pm

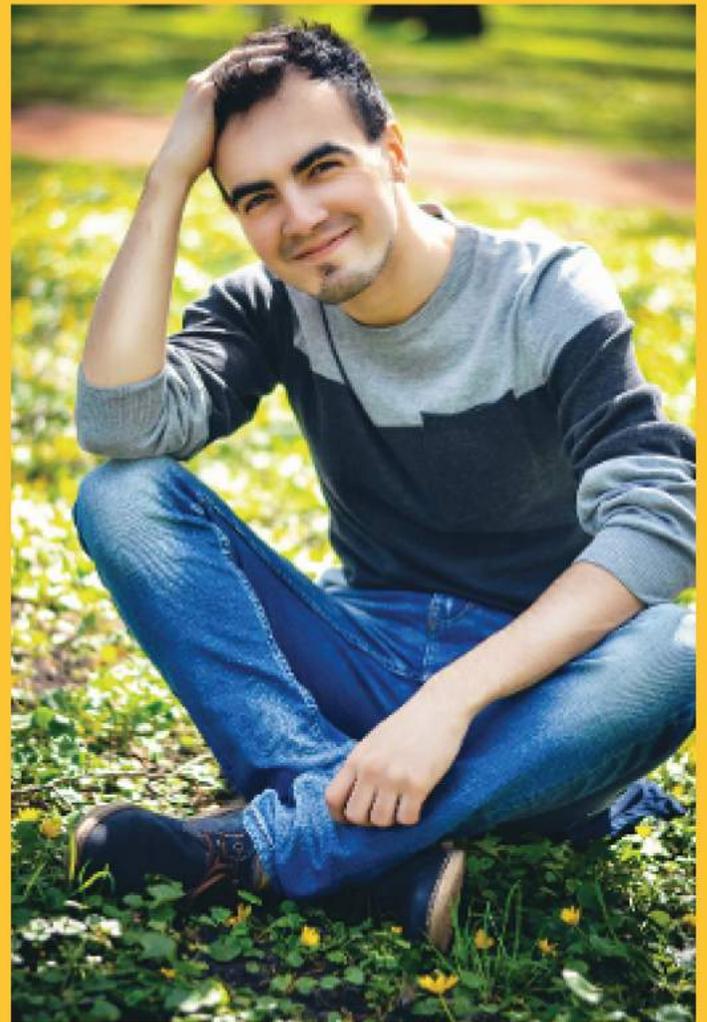
*Advising  
 Matters*



# THIS MONTH'S FEATURED STUDENT!

## Patrick Puska

Southern States University was my first choice in choosing a college to study in. I was pleased that SSU specializes in graduate programs like the Master of Business Administration degree program, which is very close to my personal development. In addition, I was thrilled to discover that SSU welcomes international students from all over the world. SSU is located in California, a state associated with progress, economic development and innovation that offers opportunity for learning the most up-to-date approaches and tendencies in business activities. Despite all of my fears of living and studying abroad, in a foreign country, currently, I can state that I do not regret anything. Today, I am proud to be an MBA student at SSU, learning different aspects of business that are a part of the MBA multifaceted curriculum. So far, I've become acquainted with basics in Financial Accounting, Marketing, Statistics, Business Research and Quantitative Fundamentals, and there are other subjects ahead that I am looking forward to. I have no doubt about the priceless knowledge that I will receive upon my completion of this program. It will allow me to become proficient in multiple business aspects and relate it to the demands of our modern highly competitive world. To all current and prospective students, I would like to wish you to believe in yourself.



"I made friends with people from countries from all over the world such as Brazil, Thailand, the United States, and South Korea." SSU offers a diverse cultural atmosphere making SSU a really special place to study at."

# SAN DIEGO

## CINCO DE MAYO



## TACO TUESDAY



# SOUTHERN STATES UNIVERSITY

## NEWPORT BEACH

## SOCIAL EVENTS

St. Patrick's Day: Saturday, March 17,  
1-2pm, SSU Newport Beach  
SSU Welcome Party: Saturday, April  
21, 12-2pm, SSU Newport Beach

- Cinco de Mayo Celebration: Tuesday,  
May 8, 4-5pm, Tio Leo's Restaurant, San  
Diego





## COMPANY TOUR WITH ALUMNUS ORAL YILMAZ

SSU had the privilege of touring Armada Tile and Stone in Miramar, which serves as a 9,000 sq. ft. showroom and point. Our host was "AI" Yilmaz. The several businesses We learned several about Oral and Stone, such as the Armada Tile and after graduating from some valuable advice aspiring to become We would like to hospitality, and for this company tour a



factory distribution SSU's alumnus Oral company is one of that he owns. interesting facts Armada Tile and fact that Oral started Stone only 5 years SSU. He also provided for SSU students entrepreneurs. thank Oral for his assisting us in making success. For more

info. on Armada Tile and Stone, please visit the following link: <http://armadatile.com/>.



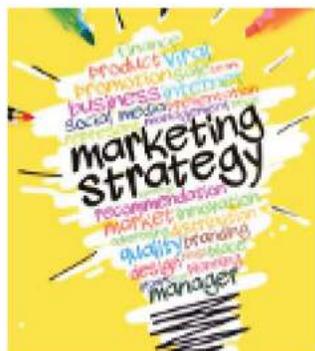
### YUKI MUN, DBA

Lunch Talk - Personal Branding  
**Tuesday, May 29, 4:00 - 5:00 pm, San Diego Campus Online**



### KARILAITINEN

Lunch Talk - Introduction to Derivatives  
**Saturday, May 26, 2018 from 1:00-2:00 pm 1601 Dove Street, Suite 105, Newport Beach Campus Room 102**



### SSU OPENHOUSE

Degree & New Certificate Programs  
**Wednesday, May 9, 1:15 - 2:15 pm, San Diego Campus Online**



### ARMADA TILE & STONE

Company Tour  
**Friday, May 25, 2:00 - 3:00 pm, 8840 Miramar Road, San Diego, CA 92126**

# STUDENT AMBASSADORS

We are delighted to announce that for the Spring 2018 quarter we have these four outstanding students that are currently serving as SSU's Ambassadors & Tutors:

## Andre Bezerra

Andre Bezerra is a current MBA student at the Newport Beach campus. He completed a Bachelor's degree in Business and a Certificate in Information Technology from the University of Fortaleza, Brazil. He has worked in the IT field dealing with telecommunications systems and software development as a Project Manager in various industries such as the oil and gas, media, and financial sectors. Andre speaks Portuguese and English.



## Patrick Puska

Patrik Puska is a current MBA student at the San Diego campus. Patrik has worked in several capacities in language translation, foreign affairs, and travel/cultural event planning. He graduated with a Bachelor's of Arts Degree in intercultural communications from Minsk State Linguistic University, Belarus. Patrik speaks Slovak, Russian, English, and Spanish.



## Begum Nur Demir

Begum Nur Demir is a current MBA student at the San Diego campus. Begum has worked in the legal field in turkey in business, bankruptcy/dept enforcement, and criminal case areas. She graduated with a bachelor's degree in Law from Yasar University, Turkey. Begum speaks Turkish and English.



## Eric Ferreira

Eric Ferreira is a current MBA student at the Newport Beach campus. Eric is a Litigation Attorney and graduated from FMU-Faculdades Metropolitanas Unidas, São Paulo, Brazil. He then specialized in Civil Litigation at PUC-Pontifícia Universidade Católica, São Paulo/SP and Business Law at FGV-Fundação Getúlio Vargas, Rio de Janeiro/RJ, Brazil. He has experience in case study analysis, strategy and disputes in corporate law, intellectual property, contracts, consumer law, civil liability, and real estate law. Eric also speaks Portuguese and English.



## SSU ALUMNI HIGHLIGHT

One day while working in my home country, I decided the best way to have a better future for me and for my family was to first improve my English and further my education. It did not take long for me to decide and execute my new plans. Some have said this decision was a big risk, but I knew it would result in a lot of rewards and it did.

I arrived in San Diego on 4th of July 2010. Before I arrived I did not know I arrived on one of the most important days of the year. Today, the 4th of July is not only a celebration of Independence Day but also my arrival date and the day my life completely changed. When I first came to the United States of America, I attended a language school to improve my English. Within a couple of months, I decided not to spend more time on English. Instead, I decided to pursue my degree, which led me to the Southern States University (SSU) MBA program.



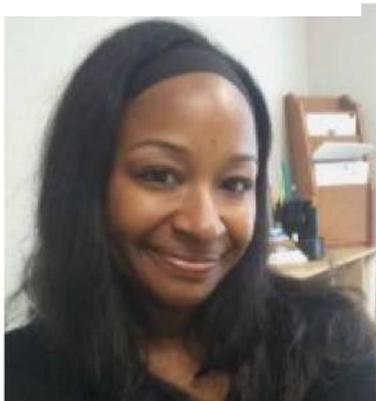
Oral Yilmaz

# NEW SSU EMPLOYEES

## 1 Admissions & Career Services Manager Brittany McKnight

Brittany McKnight holds an M.A.E. in Postsecondary Educational Leadership from SDSU, a B.A. in Middle Eastern and North African Studies from UCLA, an A.A. in Arabic and University Transfer Studies from Grossmont College, and certificates in Cultural Competency, and Teaching English as a Second/Foreign Language (TESL/TEFL) from SDSU. She has held several positions in Higher Education, such as Student Advisor, and Academic Program Coordinator, and has worked in both Secondary and Postsecondary Education, as well as several other fields. She is passionate about Education, has a preference for student-centered approaches, and a strong commitment to student success.

[bmcknight@ssu.edu](mailto:bmcknight@ssu.edu)



## 2 Student Advisor Flor Lorenzo

Flor Lorenzo graduated with a political science Bachelor of Arts degree from Cal State University, San Bernardino. She has worked with political actors while in college such as Senator Connie

Leyva and Congressman Pete Aguilar. While in college she also studied abroad in Uppsala University, Sweden where she began her project on the Syrian Refugee crisis later presented at UC Berkeley Clinton Initiative Global University meeting in 2016. Flor also attended Carnegie Mellon University where she became a PPIA Fellow.

[florenzo@ssu.edu](mailto:florenzo@ssu.edu)



## 3 IT Specialist Michael Elgendy

Michael Elgendy is pursuing a BS in Computer Science while working at SSU. He maintains professional experience in web development, server infrastructure, networking, and game/architecture design.

[melgendy@ssu.edu](mailto:melgendy@ssu.edu)



## 4 University Librarian Cheryl Cyr

Cheryl Cyr has worked in Academic and Technical libraries since earning her Masters of Information Resources and Library Science from the University of Arizona in 2009. Prior to becoming the University Librarian for Southern States University she was the lead Librarian for the CW2 Christopher G. Nason Military Intelligence Library in Fort Huachuca, Arizona.

[ccyr@ssu.edu](mailto:ccyr@ssu.edu)



## 5 Career Services Coordinator & VA Specialist Quinton Wimberly

Quinton Wimberly served in the United States Navy for 6 years as a Hospital Corpsman (medic). While in the military, he served in several leadership positions pertaining to education/training, health records, and outpatient clinics. After his honorable discharge in 2013, he pursued an AA in Social and Behavioral Sciences and in Psychology from Grossmont College. While at Grossmont, he served as a Veteran education specialist, using his expertise and knowledge of the VA education/community college systems to help fellow veterans pursue their educational aspirations. In 2017, he pursued his BAsC in Applied Psychology from SDSU. Today, he is currently enrolled at Touro University Worldwide in order to pursue an MA in Educational Psychology. In his words, "I have a passion for helping people and firmly believe that education is the key to a better life."

[qwimberly@ssu.edu](mailto:qwimberly@ssu.edu)

