2022 Student Staff Newsletter

Note from Dean of University Libraries

Karim Boughida has been appointed dean of Stony Brook University Libraries, effective September 15, 2022. Karim is an internationally regarded leader in data & library/information science. He is a frequently invited speaker for national & international conferences & seminars, & serves on several boards. His previous role was the dean of University Libraries at the University of Rhode Island. He has led several campus-wide initiatives & strategic partnerships, including a makerspace, the first Artificial Intelligence lab in the world in a library, an XR (extended reality) lab, a launch lab for innovation & entrepreneurship, the acquisition & development of Dataspark as a data analytics unit, & the coordination & establishment of data science teaching & research programs. He also expanded engagement with regional & national organizations. Karim holds a master’s degree in library & information science from the University of Montreal, & a bachelor’s degree in library science from the University of Constantine in Algeria. He is fluent in English, Arabic and French. I am delighted to join Stony Brook University, a top research university that is truly committed to diversity, equity & inclusion. I am looking forward to working with the dedicated and amazing library staff & faculty, & community to make the libraries more inclusive, adaptive & innovative. I am honored to be the lead for taking the libraries to the next level. I have immersed myself in "what is SBU." I met with many administrators, students, faculty, & staff. I contacted the Undergraduate Student Government to get to know them & inquire about their library expectations. These meetings will help us collectively shape the future vision of the library & prepare the library's strategic plan.

Dear students: I look forward to advocating for you & supporting you during all academic years. My advice for you: Think about your new identity in life. Explore new things & ask lots of questions. Einstein said, "The important thing is not to stop questioning."

University Libraries Distinguished Student Employee Award

Jhordyne is pursuing a double major in Economics & Sociology & plans on attending law school. She has been working as an Office Assistant in the Library Dean’s Office since January 2019 where she has developed strong customer service, communication & analytical skills. She is flexible, interacts well with her peers & is a dedicated team member. She is willing to volunteer to assist other areas of the library when they are in need of additional help to meet hard deadlines. She created a "How To" users guide to assist new library student staff on how to use Solar. She has created the Library Administration Student Staff monthly Newsletter. Jhordyne also worked with the University Libraries Anti-Racism task force. Jhordyne is civic minded & has joined her fellow classmates in a walk out to address Black Lives Matter, Immigrant Lives Matter, & Democracy Issues. She is one of the founders & is the President of the National Black Law School Association, Pre-law chapter at Stony Brook University. She has interned at the "Center for Civic Justice" whose mission is to provide services, support & coordination for programs & opportunities that cultivate, develop & empower active & engaged Seawolves to positively contribute to the betterment of their communities through awareness, advocacy & action. She has been serving as a Student Fellow at "Columbia Law School" a program that provides first generation, lower-income, & minority students in New York City access to LSAT prep, law school application process counseling, & mentorship from attorneys & law students. Jhordyne joined the Politech team in the virtually integrated program, where she analyzed legislations used to reconstruct racial gerrymandering that suggests better ways to redistrict without suppressing minority votes. She is a mentor for Pre-Law students within the EOP program & she has been inducted into the Chi Alpha Epsilon Honor Society. Congratulations Jhordyne on being the 2022 University Libraries Disguised Student Employee Award Recipient!
Dorothy Award - (Spring Semester)

Julio has been working for Access & User Services since Sept. 2018. His knowledge & work ethic has led him to float to all areas of Access & User Services. Julio requires minimal supervision, he has a strong work ethic & carries himself in a professional manner. Julio's work is accurate, he is always punctual & he is dedicated to his position. He provides excellent customer service & will go the extra mile to assist library patrons. He is a natural leader. He's willingly shares his knowledge & helps train new student staff. He delegates effectively when asked to supervise a task. He comes in ready to work. He is proactive & self-driven, always looking to take on new challenges & responsibilities. He has closed the libraries on several occasions & adheres to & enforces all library closing procedures. Julio continued working during the pandemic & could be counted on to cover needed shifts. Julio greatly contributed to EOP by serving as a mentor & success coach to incoming EOP freshman students, holding weekly meetings, helping them pick their classes & discuss time management & procrastination. He helps them acclimate to life on campus, providing information on mental health services available on campus, scheduling Q&A sections with various groups. Julio received the EOP “Outstanding Senior Award”. Julio served as a Model Senator through the Model New York State Senate Session Project. This is an annual leadership development program run by the Edward T. Rogowsky Internship Program in collaboration with the Puerto Rican & Hispanic Task Force of the New York State Legislature & the State University of New York. Julio is active in the Latin American Student Organization. He is a member of the SBU Dance Team, & is a member of the Phi Delta Psi Fraternity. Julio was involved in walk for Leukemia & walk for Alzheimer’s. He is majoring in Political Science & Economics & plans on attending law school. He sees his intended career as a way to connect with people from all walks of life, & he hopes to help people in more ways than what already exists. Julio expresses a desire to be an agent of change & work in government & possibly run for the senate. Congratulations of being one of the Dorothy Award Recipients!

Dorothy Award - (Spring Semester)

Shivani has been working for Access & User Services since January 2019. Her primary department is Health Sciences Library. She’s a Physics major with a minor in Applied Mathematics & Statistics. She is knowledgeable in Library Circulations policies & procedures, she performs basic information & reference interactions with patrons, & assists with Interlibrary Loan Services. She serves as a role model for other library student employees. She assists with training & orientation of newly hired student employees. Shivani is an exemplary member of our team. Shivani is on the E-Board & is the event coordinator for the SBU Buddhist Club where she teaches meditation to de-stress & the traditions of Buddhism. She is a member of the astronomy club, & the Society of Physics & is responsible to bring in guest speakers to enrich the club’s experience & also to help with possible networking opportunities. Shivani interned at Brook Haven National Laboratories where she collaborated on a research project on National Synchrotron Light Source II where she worked on x-ray fluorescence data to stitch together images of elements found in a sample under investigation using Python programming, & then creating an RGB overlay of those elements. Shivani interned at Brook Haven National Laboratories where she collaborated on a research project on National Synchrotron Light Source II where she worked on x-ray fluorescence data to stitch together images of elements found in a sample under investigation using Python programming, & then creating an RGB overlay of those elements. Shivani interned at Brook Haven National Laboratories where she collaborated on a research project on National Synchrotron Light Source II where she worked on x-ray fluorescence data to stitch together images of elements found in a sample under investigation using Python programming, & then creating an RGB overlay of those elements. Shivani interned at Brook Haven National Laboratories where she collaborated on a research project on National Synchrotron Light Source II where she worked on x-ray fluorescence data to stitch together images of elements found in a sample under investigation using Python programming, & then creating an RGB overlay of those elements. Shivani interned at Brook Haven National Laboratories where she collaborated on a research project on National Synchrotron Light Source II where she worked on x-ray fluorescence data to stitch together images of elements found in a sample under investigation using Python programming, & then creating an RGB overlay of those elements. She is a TA for Physics & an Undergraduate Fellow, she helps students with course related materials & campus resources. She participates in the SBU Hackathon, a 24 to 48 hours programming competition where she worked with teams' members from other colleges & Universities on technologies that can solve a problem that is impacting the world such as the environment & health issues. Shivani plans on pursuing a Masters in computer science. Congratulations Shivani on being one of the recipients of the Dorothy Award!
Dorothy Award - (Spring Semester)

Subika has been working for Access & User Services since June 2019. She is working toward a double major in Psychology & Sociology with a minor in Writing & Rhetoric. She is familiar & efficient in all public service locations. Her responsibilities include room checks, shelving, shelf reading, sorting, straightening & edging, scanning articles & providing excellent customer service. She packages & opens postal service, UPS & ELD mail, scanning articles, pulling microfilm & completing various steps of the interlibrary loan workflow in ILLiad & ALMA. Subika is reliable & maintains a high standard in the quality of her work & accuracy. She is extremely motivated, punctual & is very dedicated. She is hardworking, responsible & her professional attitude are qualities the University Libraries values. Subika has helped in the training of new student staff. She is willing to work in any area she is assigned & has provided needed coverage at the Health Sciences Library. Subika continued working in Access & User Services & ILL during the COVID-19 pandemic. She was able to work during the summer weekends keeping the library open & helped during transitional stages of professional employment & the increasing workload due to students returning to campus from the pandemic. Subika received the Access & User Services Student Assistant of the Month for April 2021 for thorough & consistent work. She also works at the COVID testing sites across campus & in the hospital COVID Center to ensure our campus remained safe, because she wanted to be part of dealing with the virus, the measures to contain it & prevent it from spreading. She has been able to juggle these responsibilities all year & is still willing to take on additional shifts if needed. Her work ethic is impressive & she takes pride in doing an excellent job. Subika has served her community as VP & secretary of the Hispanic Heritage’s peer tutoring program, “Students United for Safe Schools” focusing on anti-bullying presentations. Subika plans on continuing her education upon graduation & pursuing a career in Forensic Psychology. Congratulations Subika for being one of the recipients of the Dorothy Award!

Dorothy Award - (Fall Semester)

Emely has been working for the Library Dean’s Office since August 2019. She serves as a student supervisor & sees her role as a bridge between the student staff & library administrators. She oversees the work area & makes sure it’s presentable for anyone visiting the Dean’s office. She supervises the updating of assignments in Trello, the creation of posters & flyers for library workshops & events, the student recognition monthly newsletter, the assembly of swag bags & makes sure deadlines are met. She creates a team atmosphere & is open to ideas from the other student staff. Emely served on the University Libraries Anti-Racism Task Force Social Justice Project. She is a member of SBU Diversity Professional Leadership Network Program. She served as a Peer Leader for Cristo Rey where she helped guide & assist new students to smoothly transition from high school. Emely scheduled monthly meetings with her mentees to educate them on important issues such as bullying, self-care, time management, developing positive study habits & learning how to utilize school resources. She participated in the SUNY Downstate Exploring Health Careers Program, which covered the various fields in medicine. Through her local church she found wonderful opportunities to serve her community by tutoring, visiting nursing homes & independent living facilities. She helped in her local soup kitchen. Emely served in Guatemala with Hoops for Hope, where she fundraised for lower income communities & building basketball courts to engage the community in learning teamwork and cultural exchange. She is a member of the SBU Community Service Club, making crafts for children who are hospitalized at SBU Hospital. She also is involved with CITI training where they learn ethical research. She served as a mentor for YAI, a center for people with disabilities. She also TA’s Chemistry through the EOP/AIM program. Through her community involvement Emely gained a passion for helping others & wants to fill the gaps in medicine & make healthcare more affordable for underrepresented communities. Emely is a Health Sciences major & plans a career as a PA in the field of OB GYN. Congratulations Emely on being one of the Dorothy Award Recipients!
Dorothy Award - (Fall Semester)

Eugene has been working in the Library Dean’s office since July 2021. Eugene serves as a Student Supervisor & manages the updating of documents, oversees the creation of banners and trains new student staff. He also handles special projects and served on the University Libraries Anti-Racism Task Force Social Justice Project. He is working towards his BS in Respiratory Care with a Specialty in Polysomnography. Eugene has sought out many opportunities to gain experience in both the healthcare setting & in leadership roles. He served as a volunteer at NY-Presbyterian Lower Manhattan Hospital Medical Surgery Unit. Eugene has taken on numerous leadership roles over the past couple of years. As the dean’s representative for respiratory care, Eugene relays recommendations to the dean’s committee from the junior year class & attends leadership, diversity & general conferences on a regular basis. He serves in a public relations role for the Health Technology & Management Club. Eugene is responsible for monitoring the club’s social media networks & helps to bring awareness about the club to others. He speaks directly to members about the health science major & assists them through their college experience. In his local community Eugene helped host a job fair focused on finding affordable housing for hundreds of people. He also participated in a local soup kitchen to help feed those in need. He’s completed clinical rotations in Basic Respiratory Care at LI Community Hospital, Pulmonary Diagnosis Clinic SB University Hospital, Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation Clinic at SBU Southampton Hospital, Polysomnography testing at Jamaica Hospital & Perinatal & Pediatric Clinics at LI Jewish Hospital. Eugene participated in research where he studies Circadian Rhythm Sleep & analyzed the different stages of sleep & arousal on an epoch. Eugene is a strong leader & participated as a Success Coach for Let’s Get Ready project in NYC, Student Affairs Fellowship (DOSA), Fam Chair of the Taiwanese Students Assoc., Treasurer of the Distressed Children & Infants International where he fundraised for the Pakistan Flood Relief Program. He’s treasurer of the Health Technology & Management Club. He TA’s Chemistry II Lecture & Chemistry 1 Lab for 30+students, he hosted breakout rooms & Guides them through problem solving and ensures the testing integrity & protocols. Congratulations Eugene on being one of the Fall Dorothy Award Recipients!

Rachel works in Access & User Services since August 2021. She provides assistance at the service desk, she performs stack maintenance, collection management & serves the patrons & community members visiting the University Libraries. She began assisting with circulation services at the service desk & has developed into a student employee who can manage the desk with minimal supervision. Rachel’s supervisor states: “she displays natural leadership skills & assists in training new student staff. She is willing to share her knowledge & delegates effectively when asked to supervise a task. Rachel has a strong work ethic & commitment to professionalism & customer service, showing initiative & the ability to think critically across a number of tasks & she approaches her work with a positive attitude.” Rachel is a double major in Business Marketing & English. She served as an intern with Meltek, a marketing startup company whose mission is to save people money on their electricity bill & reduce the amount of pollution in the environment. Rachel ran their social media accounts to promote customer engagement & updated & renovated the company website. Rachel had the opportunity as an Executive Intern for Target, analyzing data & utilizing the data to provide better customer service. As a Marketing & Publicity Intern for Hachette, one of the top 5 books publishing companies in the world based in NYC, she assisted the publicity director in publicity campaigns for new books. Rachel is a TA for EOP/AIM summer program in writing. She creates lesson plans, grade assessment & provides academic support for incoming freshmen. Rachel was the Public Relations Officer for C-STEP, a program which provides underrepresented students in the STEM field, with assistance in order to help them succeed in college. Rachel plans a career in Marketing upon graduation. Congratulations Rachel on being one of the Dorothy Award recipients!
Star Recognition Awards (Spring 2022)

Saimon has been working in Access & User Services since Aug 2018. He has worked in all locations of Access & User Services including the Health Sciences Library. Saimon is pursuing a degree in Health Sciences, with a concentration in Healthcare Administration & a minor in Spanish. Saimon plans on attending medical school. Saimon is a dedicated employee, he is quick to take on new assignments & is willing to cover additional shifts for his coworkers. He’s a welcome & knowledgeable presence at the front desk, providing outstanding customer service. Saimon is active in the EOP program, mentoring underclassmen. He has been inducted in the Chi Alpha Epsilon National Honor Society. Saimon is a resident assistant at Tulman Hall. He collaborates with other RA’s to put together events for a diverse group of students, & provides residents with opportunities to meet new people. He schedule events to de-stress such as “painting with Bob Ross”, Trivia nights, Anime night, & cultural food night. He has scheduled Zoom hosted events, collaboration workshop with the career center for resume building, & with the Center for Prevention & Outreach, in the following training programs: Red Watch Band, QPR for suicide prevention, & Green Dot, participants learn how to recognize risky or potentially violent situations & practice skills & strategies for intervening to prevent or address what's happening. Saimon is the president of the Phi Delta Psi Fraternity. He volunteers at the palliative care unit of University Hospital. He is an ambassador for the Stony Brook Alumni of the Future & serves as an official representative for the office of alumni relations fostering interaction among students, alumni, administrators, parents & friends. Saimon is the recipient of the Dominican Day Parade Scholarship & the Black & Latino Alumni Scholarship. Saimon is an active member of his community & volunteers at the food pantry located at his local church, organizing & distribution of pre-packaged food boxes to clients of the "West Side Campaign Against Hunger." He also interprets the paperwork to sign up to receive groceries for Spanish speaking individuals. Saimon has shadowed a neurosurgeon at Mt. Sinai hospital & in the future he plans on conducting medical missions worldwide to help the economically disadvantaged. Congratulations Saimon on receiving the Star Recognition Award!

Star Recognition Awards (Fall 2022)

Nasif has been working for Access & User Services since September 2019. He handles himself in a respectful & professional manner, he’s friendly with everyone & is an important part of our team. He assists his supervisors with training new student staff by giving tours & having them shadow him during room checks & patron interactions at the circulation desk. He is one of our most reliable student staff. Nasif is flexible & handles change easily, he was able to roll with the punches upon his return to campus with the changing & new policies implemented due to the pandemic. Because of his maturity & sense of responsibility he has closed the libraries on several occasions, he makes sure patrons clear the Reading Rooms safely, makes sure the books are sorted accordingly, furniture is put back exactly in its original location, white boards are wiped down & cleaned. Nasif brings a personable & upbeat attitude to every single shift & this has a directly positive impact on patrons and co-workers. Nasif is a Biology major and plans a career in pediatric cardiology. He is a proud Seawolf. Nasif interned at New York Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Hospital pediatric unit where he experienced the most challenging moments of patients’ lives. He also interned for Pathways to Healthcare, a one year externship for underrepresented students interested in exploring a wide array of career opportunities in healthcare. He volunteered in the pediatric & pharmacy both inpatient and outpatient departments & with UNICEF’s clean water campaign. He shadowed the Chief Resident for Emergency Medicine & at the end of this internship he was asked to come back. Congratulations Nasif for receiving the Star Recognition Award!
Star Recognition Awards (Fall 2022)

Samantha has been working in the Library Dean’s office since August 2021. Samantha is a double major in Psychology & Health Sciences with a concentration in Emergency Critical Care. She serves as the VP of programming & ritual as well as the secretary for the Alpha Sigma Alpha. She is able to fulfill the responsibilities of the President in their absence. She coordinates programs & events, oversees committees & assists committee chairs to plan educational programs & activities. She also planned & executed an officer’s retreat which would be to establish broad chapter & specific officer goals & objectives. Samantha established a Polar Plunge to fundraise for the Special Olympics, & encourages volunteers to sign up as big sisters for Girls on the Run. She is also VP & secretary for Global Medical Brigades Organization, where she maintains the minutes of all general body meetings, maintains all records of membership, attendance & service to the club & keeps secure & handles club email by informing members about meetings & other important dates & arranging meetings with club program associates. The Brigade went to Panama to bring supplies to those in need. In addition Samantha is a member of the Pre-Nursing Society & participated in a medical assistant internship at Mount Sinai Beth Israel Hospital. She has the opportunity to shadow doctors & nurses & provided assistance when appropriate in the emergency room, various admission floor units, ICU & pediatric units. She learned phlebotomy, hospital protocols, the importance of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), & received a well-rounded experience in various roles of different healthcare workers during her internship. She also gained more insight on both the administrative and clinical side of the hospital. Samantha has a passion for science & empathy for children & plans a career in pediatric nursing. Congratulations Samantha for receiving the Star Recognition Award!

Star Recognition Awards (Fall 2022)

Yorleny has worked for Cataloging & Metadata Services since August 2021. She processes print monographs & serials, diligently applying security strips, stamping & adhering the call number labels. She has a strong attention to detail which is key for her position. She is dedicated, thorough & works independently. Yorleny volunteers for her local public library’s children’s reading program where she tutored young Spanish-speaking children in English comprehension using a reward based approach. She also volunteers as a member of the Seawolf team for the Department of Recruitment, helping students navigate campus. Leading tours of campus for prospective students & their families, she sets up Zoom meetings with other schools to provide information about SBU. She is a member of the E-board for the Linguistics Club. The club engages in a wide variety of activities to further explore the field of Linguistics by answering questions & providing information. They had a bake sale with cookies decorated in IPA symbols, an involvement fair, & a work-a-thon to provide a relaxing environment for students to study. Yorleny is the event coordinator for the Latin American Student Organization. She coordinates the general body meetings, sets up various events & workshops & books the event space. LASO collects needed items for kits provided to children in need & also provides various volunteer opportunities. She coordinated a workshop to address colorism, racism & discuss unity through wisdom, pride & the advancement of Latinx culture. She coordinates social events such as banquets, Staller movie night, sip & paint. Yorleny plans a career in speech pathology. She wants to impact the everyday lives of others to communicate & advocate their wants & needs. There’s a great need for bilingual health care providers who are compassionate & understand the culture & who can identify differences between standard difficulties of learning a new language versus language disorders is so important in the field of speech pathology. Congratulations Yorleny on being a recipient of the Star Recognition Award!
19th Annual Student Staff Appreciation Award Ceremony and Student Social

We came together virtually to celebrate the Stony Brook University Libraries 19th Annual Student Staff Appreciation in Celebration of the Library Student Staff. We acknowledged some of your accomplishments and presented the Spring Dorothy Awards and the University Libraries Distinguished Student Employee Award to this year’s recipients. This virtual ceremony and student social is our way of saying THANK YOU for all you do throughout the year, for your dedication and hard work for the University Libraries.

2022 - Student Employee of The Year Nominees

We’d like to acknowledge Subkia Jafri - Access & User Services for being nominated for the 2022 Student Employee of the Year Award & Daisy Gallardo, Julio Vaca - Access & User Services, Morin Hussain - Library IT for being nominated for the Outstanding Professionalism Award & Edward Yeboah - Library IT for being nominated for the Outstanding New Employee Award. The student employee of the Year and subcategories nominations are sent to the selection committee who consider nominations from all departments throughout campus. Congratulations to this year’s nominees for being considered for these prestigious awards.

All Star Certificates


Carpe Librum Bookplates: Exciting New Opportunity for the Graduating Library Student

The Bookplate Program is fairly a new program created to honor graduating student staff & to recognize your tremendous contribution to the University Libraries. It’s a way for the student staff to be part of the library even after their graduation. Students can select an item from the circulating items in the collection that has some meaning to them. To be eligible the student should have worked at least 2 semesters & be currently working for the University Libraries. This is an optional program so not all graduating students staff may be represented. The bookplates are on display in the Central Reading Room. The following graduating student staff for Spring and Summer 2022 who participated in the program are as follows:

Access and User Services
Saimon Acevedo
Shara Akanda
Alondra Araujo
John DiFonzo
Macy Geiger
Emily Jiang
Leslie Nunez

Library Dean's Office
Shivani Mish
Riliwan Naifu
Husbaan Sheikh
Julio Vaca
Tingyi Zhong

Preservation
Sebastian Holguin
Chelsea Mawugbe

Special Collections & University Archives
Alyssa Ortega
Samantha Felix
Fall Dorothy Awards Ceremony Recognition

The Fall Dorothy Award Ceremony celebrates the accomplishments & hard work of the libraries student staff. We recognized the three Dorothy Award recipients & the three student staff receiving the Star Recognition Awards.

End of Year Student Staff Appreciation

The University Library Faculty/Staff want to wish the library student staff success on your finals and say thank you for the great job you do!! A special acknowledgement to Karim Boughida for sponsoring this year’s goody bags and thank you to staff who brought items. Thank you: Susan Chen, Pam Di Pasquale, Ken Doyle, Raquel Lynn, Mona Ramonetti, & Jeanne Quagliata for taking time out of your busy day to assemble the goody bags (photos contributed by Pam Di Pasquale)

Special Thank You

University Libraries Distinguished Student Employee Award

The award was established by Library faculty / staff in 2004 to reward outstanding work and commitment to the University Libraries by Library student staff. It is supported by library staff and individual donations. This year’s award was made possible by the generous donation of Hanne Tracy (a retired University Libraries staff). Thank so much Hanne for considering our student staff in such a special way and making this

Dorothy Award

A very special Thank You to the anonymous donor of The Dorothy Award. Without your continued support, the award would not be possible.

Articles written by: Pamela Di Pasquale
Newsletter Editing by: Jeanne Quagliata
Photos by: Library Student Staff (unless otherwise noted)