

 **October 2024** 

# SJSU School of Social Work

# Newsletter

## Social Media



[Instagram](#)



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Created by and for MSW  
students



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[School of Social Work Evaluation,  
Suggestion, and Feedback Form  
\(Anonymous\)](#)

# Indigenous Peoples' Day

October 14th, 2024


During the month of October, we celebrate Indigenous Peoples' Day. This holiday celebrates and honors Indigenous people in America, commemorating their history and culture. We honor the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe, whose ancestral lands San Jose State University is now standing on. Acknowledging and honoring our Indigenous tribes allows for healing and positive movements towards the future.

At San Jose State University, we have a Native American Indigenous Student Success Center (NAISSC), where you can find services, events, and information to support our Indigenous populations. If you are interested, please click the link to learn more about the NAISSC!

**NAISSC**



**Photo: Indigenous Peoples' Day celebrations in San Francisco (2024)**



# CSWE Annual Program Meeting

## Indigenous Knowledge Sovereignty & Environmental Justice

CSWE's Annual Program Meeting is coming to Kansas City, MO, in 2024. Join us October 24–27 for the annual event everyone in social work education looks forward to, students and faculty alike. Registration is now open! Happening at Kansas City Convention Center (Kansas City, MO).

To register and learn more, please click on the link below.



**APM Registration**



**It's time to act.**

*Indigenous Knowledge Sovereignty  
and Environmental Justice*

CSWE 70th Annual Program Meeting | October 24–27, 2024 | Kansas City, MO

**Register  
Now**

Kansas City Convention Center

**CSWE's 70th Annual Program Meeting (APM)**



# The School of Social Work

## Monica Tudorache

We are excited to share that one of our own has been accepted for the 2024 Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting. Monica will be presenting her capstone project! Below is a statement from Monica on this amazing achievement!

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"I'm thrilled to share that my capstone project, titled "Integrative Therapies: Psilocybin's History and Clinical Applications in Mental Health," has been accepted for presentation at the 2024 Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Annual Program Meeting. This opportunity advocates for innovative therapeutic approaches and represents a significant milestone in my journey as a social work professional.

My interest in psilocybin's role in mental health care stems from my passion for exploring holistic and alternative approaches to therapy. In my capstone project, I delve into the history, research, and potential clinical applications of psilocybin in treating mental health conditions, aiming to shed light on how this integrative therapy can offer new avenues of hope and healing. Developing this project was both a challenging and rewarding experience. Exploring the complexities of psychedelic research and the possibility of integrating it into a comprehensive framework for mental health practice requires extensive study and dedication. However, each step deepened my understanding of how psilocybin could be a powerful tool for clinicians and clients alike.



# The School of Social Work

Monica Tudorache

(continued)

**Being accepted to present my project at the CSWE Annual Program Meeting is a tremendous honor and an opportunity to contribute to the ongoing conversation about evidence-based, innovative practices in social work. It validates the importance of exploring emerging therapies and opens doors for further discussions on how we, as social workers, can incorporate these tools to enhance mental health care access.**

**This accomplishment would not have been possible without the guidance and support of my professors, mentors, and colleagues at SJSU, particularly Professor Nayoun Lee, who encouraged me to pursue my passion for research and integrative therapies. I am especially grateful to my family and friends for believing in me throughout this journey. I hope my presentation will inspire others to explore unconventional paths in social work, ultimately enhancing the profession's ability to meet the diverse needs of our communities. This journey has reinforced my belief in the transformative power of integrative therapies, and I look forward to continuing this work in my future practice."**

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# The School of Social Work

## Monica Tudorache



**Congratulations Monica!**



# The School of Social Work

## CSWE Minority Fellowship

The CSWE Minority Fellowship is designed to provide training for those who are passionate about meeting the mental health and/or substance use disorder needs of racial/ethnic minority communities. While the application process for this fellowship is now closed, you can learn more at the link below. There is also a way to sign up to be notified for when the applications will be open again.

Please join us in celebrating our community member, Olivia Aquino, who has received the CSWE Minority Fellowship this year! Congratulations Olivia!

We also want to celebrate one of our previous MSW student who received the Council on Social Work Education's (CSWE) Minority Fellowship last year! Michael "Mikey" Li would like to share a bit about himself and his aspirations on the next page!

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CSWE Minority Fellowship Info



# The School of Social Work

## Michael Li

**Michael “Mikey” Li was part of the MFP 2023-2024 Masters cohort and recent San José State University MSW graduate. He currently works at Asian Health Services in the Specialty Mental Health Division, providing mental health services to community members within Alameda County, including Oakland Chinatown. As a queer second-generation Chinese American, he is invested in giving back to the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities within the Bay Area.**

**Mikey was first introduced to community mental health as an administrative staff member at Asian American Recovery Services in 2017 and later transitioned to providing substance use counseling from 2019–2022 with Family Children Services. He hopes to utilize his professional training to work against stigmas towards both mental health and substance use challenges—particularly within the AAPI community. Mikey hopes to eventually attain licensure and engage in more macro-based work. He also hopes to focus on providing support for the LGBTQ+ community in the future. He expresses gratitude being a MFP Fellow as the program presented many opportunities for professional development. In addition, he appreciates how the program builds on culturally inclusive frameworks to advance social justice in our current systems.**

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# **The School of Social Work**

**Michael Li**



**Congratulations Mikey!**

# **The School of Social Work**

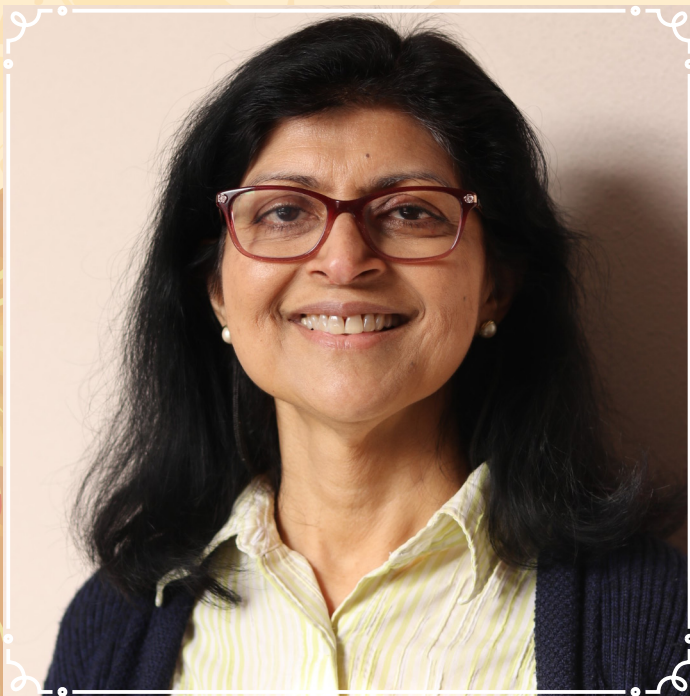
## **Faculty Highlight**

### **Dr. Soma Sen & Dr. Sadhna Diwan**

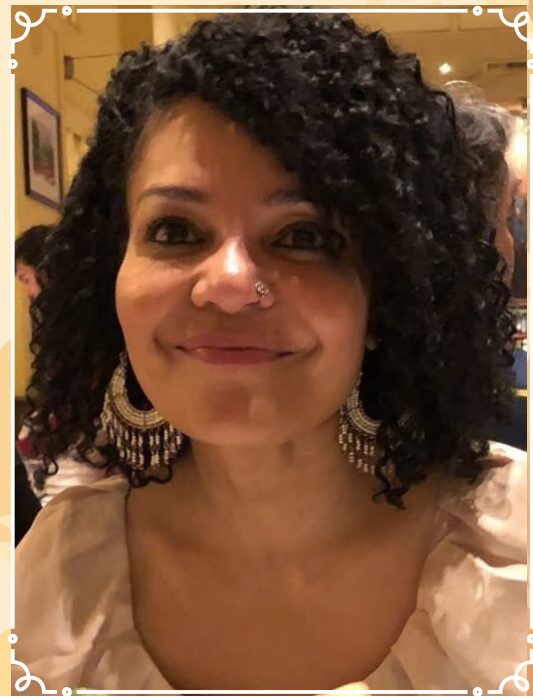
**Our faculty members Dr. Soma Sen and Dr. Sadhna Diwan had the honor to attend and present at the Fourteenth International Conference on Health, Wellness & Society at Malmö University, Niagara, Malmö, Sweden.**

**Their presentation proposal, “Exploring Intersectional Stigma Of HIV And Aging: An Ecological Perspective For Practice”, aims to improve the health and wellbeing of older adults living with HIV. Using Deep Ecology as a framework for social work interventions, Dr. Sen and Dr. Diwan propose new ecology translated into practice as a way to address this improvement for older adults.**

**To learn more, please see the presentation attached below. Please join us in celebrating this amazing accomplishment! Thank you again Dr. Sen and Dr. Diwan for representing SJSU School of Social Work through their amazing work!**



**Sadhna Diwan**



**Soma Sen**

**PDF of Presentation**

# The School of Social Work

## Upcoming Events

The College of Health and Human Sciences will be hosting an ice cream social on October 23rd, 2024. This event will be taking place on the ISB Lawn, from 12pm-1:30pm. The School of Social Work will be tabling for this event. Please stop by to connect with the community and learn more about SJSU resources!



The poster features a teal background with a central yellow scalloped-edged area containing the event details. At the top of this area is the SJSU logo and the text 'SJSU | COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES'. Below this, 'Ice Cream SOCIAL' is written in a pink cursive font. The center is decorated with illustrations of three ice cream treats: a blue and yellow popsicle, a chocolate cone with a cherry, and a purple and yellow ice cream bar. A pink banner at the bottom left says 'New Date!'. A pink sign on the right says 'FREE ICE CREAM! (While supplies lasts)'. The event date and time are listed in a dark red bar at the bottom, and a list of participating departments is in a teal bar at the very bottom.

SJSU | COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES

# Ice Cream SOCIAL

**FREE ICE CREAM!**  
(While supplies lasts)

**New Date!**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23**  
**12PM-1:30PM**  
**@ISB LAWN**

- AEROSPACE STUDIES
- AUDIOLOGY
- KINESIOLOGY
- NURSING
- NUTRITION & FOOD SCIENCE
- OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PACKAGING
- PUBLIC HEALTH AND RECREATION
- SOCIAL WORK
- AND MORE SJSU RESOURCES!



# SWGSA

## Convocation Committee

**Are you interested in being a pioneer in making the 2025 Social Work Convocation happen? Join the convocation committee!**

**Without BASW and MSW student support, input, and collaboration, convocation won't occur. Joining this committee gives you the opportunity to build hands-on experience in event planning, organizational skills, leadership, and communication skills!**

**MSW students in their first and second years are welcome to apply. BASW students not graduating are also welcome to apply. Applications close October 31th.**

**The Convocation Committee will meet through Zoom on October 28th, November 7th, November 25th, December 5th from 6-8pm.**

**\*Note: The October 28th and November 7th meetings will cover the same information. The November 25th and December 5th meetings will cover the same information. You can select the date that works best for you.**

**For questions or concerns, please contact  
[SWGSA.graduationchair@gmail.com](mailto:SWGSA.graduationchair@gmail.com)**

**[Apply Here](#)**

**[Meeting Zoom Link](#)**

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# SWGSA

## Convocation Committee

### WHAT DO WE DO?

We will be organizing the 2025 graduation ceremony in collaboration with USWA so that our graduating class can enjoy their day in peace! The goal of the convocation committee is to make the convocation happen! Without student involvement and support, the convocation won't occur.

Some of our tasks include but aren't limited to...

- Securing a venue
- Hiring vendors
- Sending mass communication
- Hosting monthly committee meetings
- Securing guest speakers
- Special accommodations
- Floor management

This is a great opportunity to support your program, make friends, build up your resume, and prepare for your own graduation!

Questions? Email us at [swgsa.graduationchair@gmail.com](mailto:swgsa.graduationchair@gmail.com)

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## Newsletter & Social Media Submissions

Are you interested in being featured in the next newsletter or social media posting? Please fill out the interest form below. We would love to showcase individuals within our community!

**Interest Form**