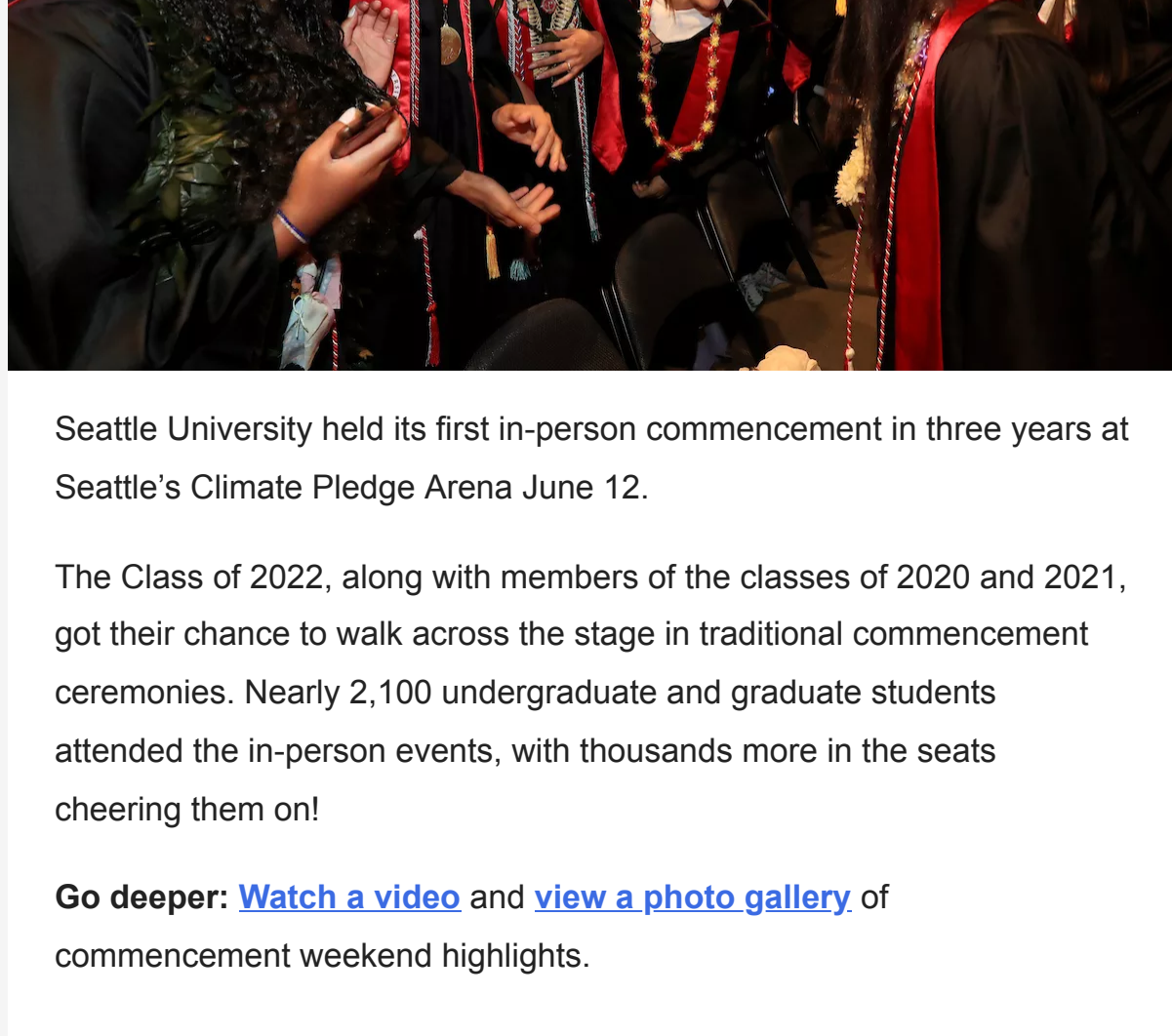


# Inside Seattle U

By Seattle University Newsroom • Jun 30, 2022  
Smart Brevity® count: 3.5 mins... 942 words

**Top news from Seattle University**, a staple of Seattle's economic, social and cultural fabric—offering students unparalleled access to leading businesses, nonprofits and professional networks.

## 1 Big Thing: Congrats, SU Grads!

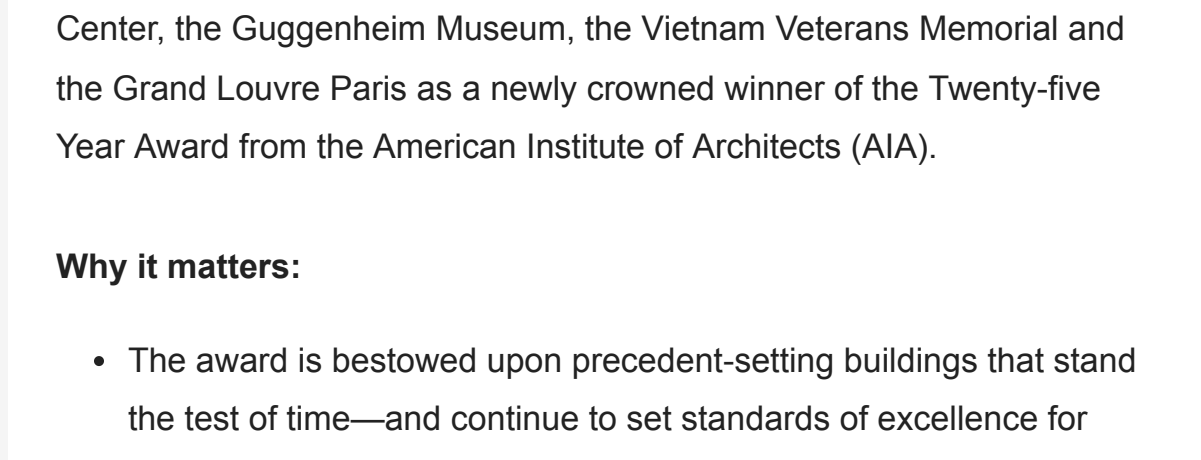


Seattle University held its first in-person commencement in three years at Seattle's Climate Pledge Arena June 12.

The Class of 2022, along with members of the classes of 2020 and 2021, got their chance to walk across the stage in traditional commencement ceremonies. Nearly 2,100 undergraduate and graduate students attended the in-person events, with thousands more in the seats cheering them on!

**Go deeper:** [Watch a video](#) and [view a photo gallery](#) of commencement weekend highlights.

## 2. Chapel of St. Ignatius Receives Vaunted 25-Year Architectural Award



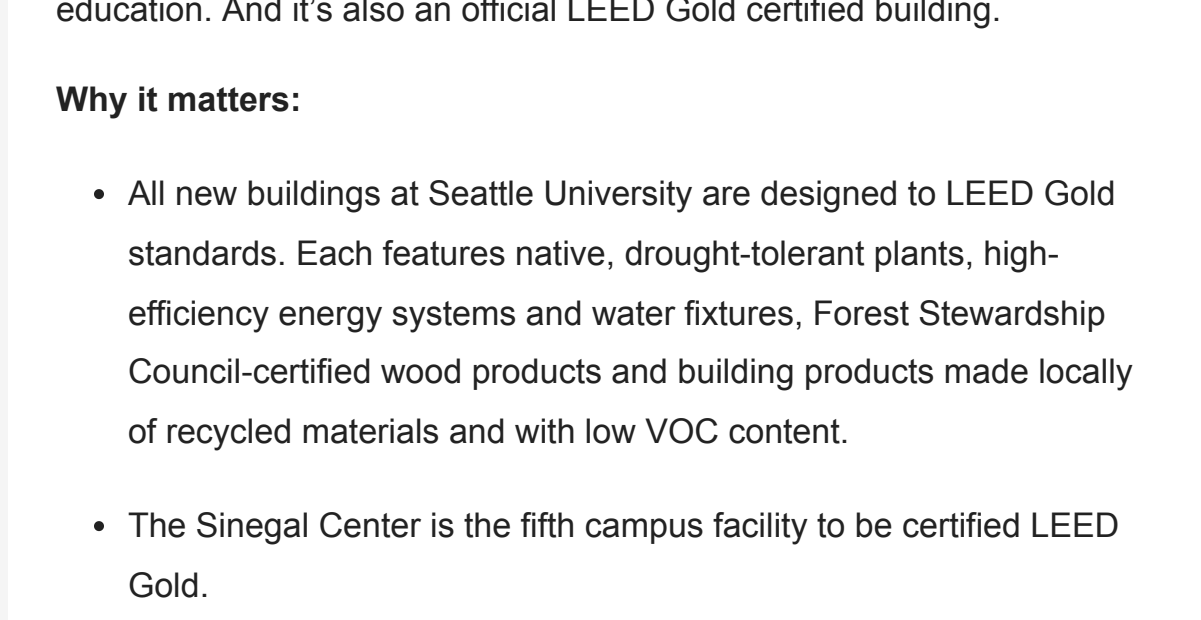
The Chapel of St. Ignatius joins an illustrious list that includes Rockefeller Center, the Guggenheim Museum, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and the Grand Louvre Paris as a newly crowned winner of the Twenty-five Year Award from the American Institute of Architects (AIA).

### Why it matters:

- The award is bestowed upon precedent-setting buildings that stand the test of time—and continue to set standards of excellence for architectural design and significance.
- In designing the chapel, internationally acclaimed architect Steven Holl was captivated by Ignatian philosophy and challenged by the notion of how to translate light and darkness into a sacred space.
- This year the Chapel of St. Ignatius celebrates its 25th anniversary.

**Go deeper:** [Read more](#) about the award and [memories](#) shared by visitors of the chapel over the past quarter century.

## 3: The Singal Center is Golden



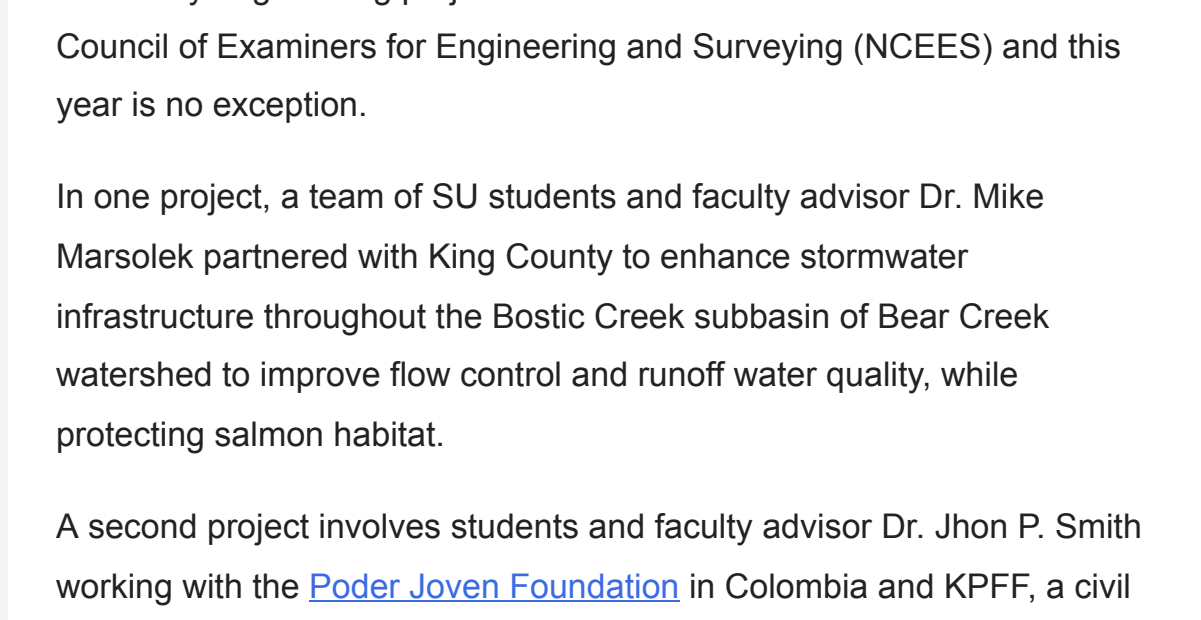
Seattle University's Jim and Janet Singal Center for Science and Innovation is a state-of-the-art facility representing the future of STEM education. And it's also an official LEED Gold certified building.

### Why it matters:

- All new buildings at Seattle University are designed to LEED Gold standards. Each features native, drought-tolerant plants, high-efficiency energy systems and water fixtures, Forest Stewardship Council-certified wood products and building products made locally of recycled materials and with low VOC content.
- The Singal Center is the fifth campus facility to be certified LEED Gold.
- **Green Honor:** The lush grounds of the Singal Center—punctuated by the Kubota Legacy Garden—earned a merit award from the Washington Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (WASLA), recognizing outstanding achievements in landscape architecture.

**Go deeper:** [Read more](#) about this designation and check out SU's other [LEED Gold buildings](#).

## 4. Engineering Meaningful Change



A rendering of a 14,000-square-foot, two-story building that will serve children near Medellin, Colombia.

It has become something of an annual rite for at least one Seattle University engineering project to receive an award from the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) and this year is no exception.

In one project, a team of SU students and faculty advisor Dr. Mike Marsolek partnered with King County to enhance stormwater infrastructure throughout the Bostic Creek subbasin of Bear Creek watershed to improve flow control and runoff water quality, while protecting salmon habitat.

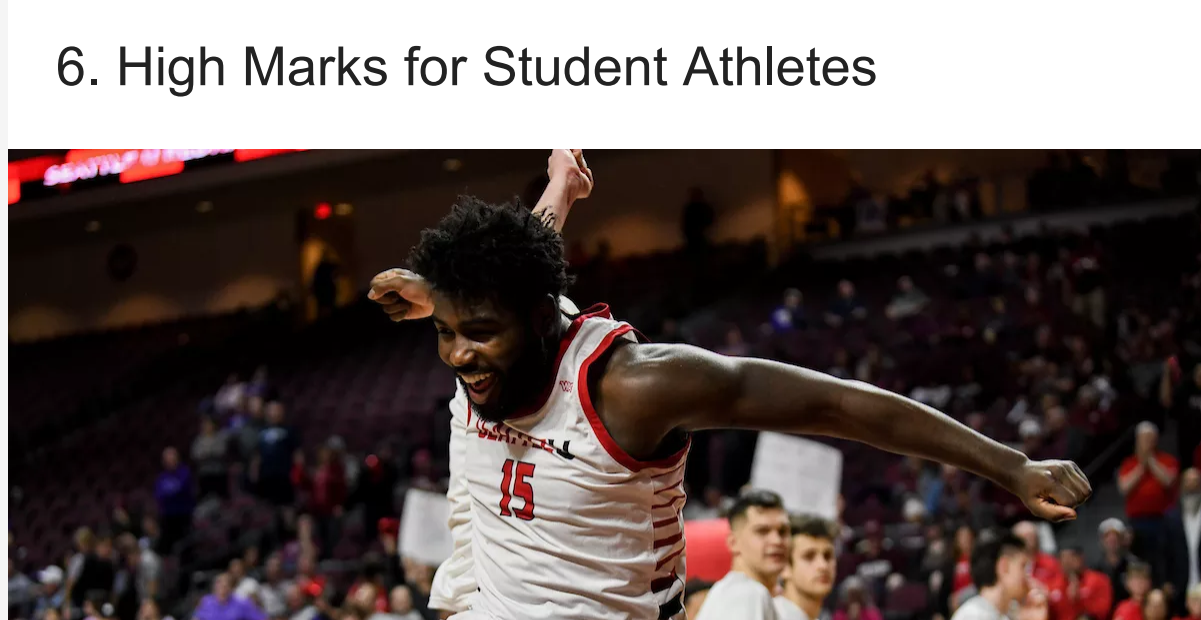
A second project involves students and faculty advisor Dr. Jhon P. Smith working with the [Poder Joven Foundation](#) in Colombia and KPFF, a civil engineering company in Seattle, on the structural and architectural design of a 14,000-square-foot, two-story reinforced concrete building near the city of Medellin. Poder Joven—which translates to "Power of Youth"—serves children who are victims of the humanitarian crisis in Colombia.

### Why it matters:

- No university in the country has received more NCEES awards than Seattle University—not even close. Since 2009, a total of 22 SU projects have earned the awards, with 20 of these going to Civil and Environmental Engineering projects.

**Go deeper:** [Read more](#) about the projects and awards.

## 5. A Lifetime of Achievement



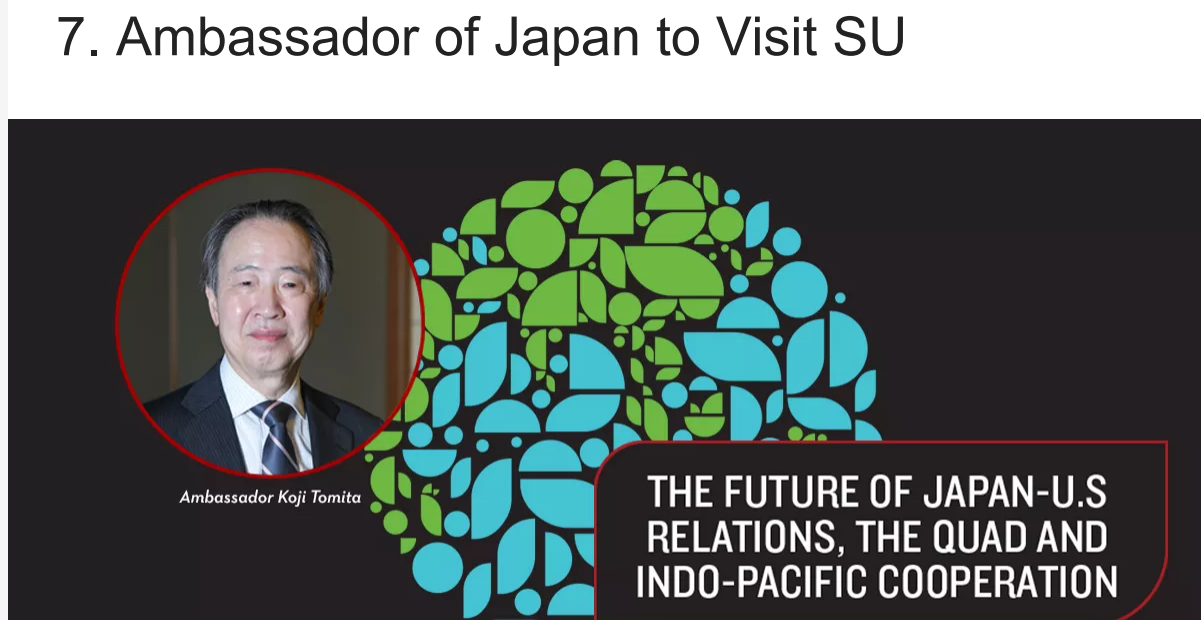
College of Nursing Dean Kristen Swanson, PhD, RN, FAAN, was recently honored with an award recognizing her longstanding leadership in nursing education, research and patient care.

Swanson is the recipient of the 2022 Lifetime Achievement Award from University of Colorado (CU) College of Nursing Alumni Association.

The dean, who is an alumna of the CU Nursing PhD program, is a highly regarded nurse-scholar whose "Theory of Caring" has been adopted internationally as a theoretical framework for research, health care delivery and nursing education.

**Go deeper:** [Read more](#) about Dean Swanson's work and the award.

## 6. High Marks for Student Athletes



For the 10th consecutive term, Seattle University Athletics completed spring quarter with high academic marks as 16 teams achieved grade point averages over 3.0 in the term. Collectively, student athletes recorded a 3.301 GPA—and 3.335 GPA for the full academic year.

### Why it matters:

- Women's golf posted a 3.79 GPA, the top mark in Athletics.
- A total of 50 Redhawks earned a 4.0 GPA for the quarter.
- 70 student athletes logged at least a 3.9 GPA and more than 76 percent achieved a 3.0 GPA or higher.

**Go deeper:** [Read more](#) about the academic success of SU athletes.

## 7. Ambassador of Japan to Visit SU



Koji Tomita, the Ambassador of Japan to the United States, will visit Seattle University to discuss in detail the present and future of Japan's relationship with the U.S. and the larger Indo-Pacific region.

At the invite-only event on June 30, the ambassador will discuss U.S.-Japan relations and the renewed focus on the Indo-Pacific region showcased in the [Indo-Pacific Economic Framework](#) (IPEF).

### Why it matters:

- The [Consulate General of Japan in Seattle](#), an integral partner in bringing Ambassador Tomita to SU, is hopeful attendees will gain a deeper understanding of the issues facing the U.S. and Japan.
- "We are honored to host Japanese Ambassador Tomita on our campus, especially because Seattle is a major global gateway," says Provost Shane P. Martin. "Events such as these with high-level international officials bring prestige to our university and city."

**Go deeper:** [Read more](#) about the ambassador's visit.

## 8. Feeding Time

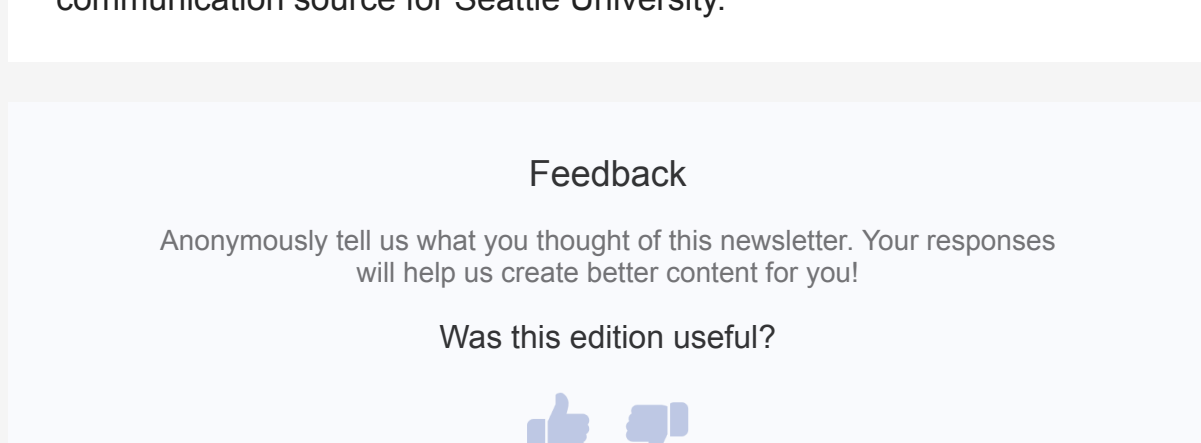


Photo by JavyGo/Unsplash

Seattle University's Grounds Department is providing sustenance to animals at Seattle's Woodland Park Zoo.

The Grounds team is helping to keep bellies full at Woodland Park Zoo (WPZ) as its animals have recently been feasting on prunings from campus.

### Why it matters:

- Recognizing the university's pesticide-free and organic practices, "WPZ reached out to SU asking for branches from campus landscapes, trees and shrubs to add to their 'browse' for animals that rely on leaves, shoots and bark for their diet," Grounds Manager Shannon Britton explains.
- The goal is to continue this partnership year-round.

**Go deeper:** Learn more about SU's sustainable practices at [Grounds and Landscaping](#).

**Spread the Word:** Visit [The Seattle U Newsroom](#), the official news & communication source for Seattle University.

### Feedback

Anonymously tell us what you thought of this newsletter. Your responses will help us create better content for you!

Was this edition useful?

