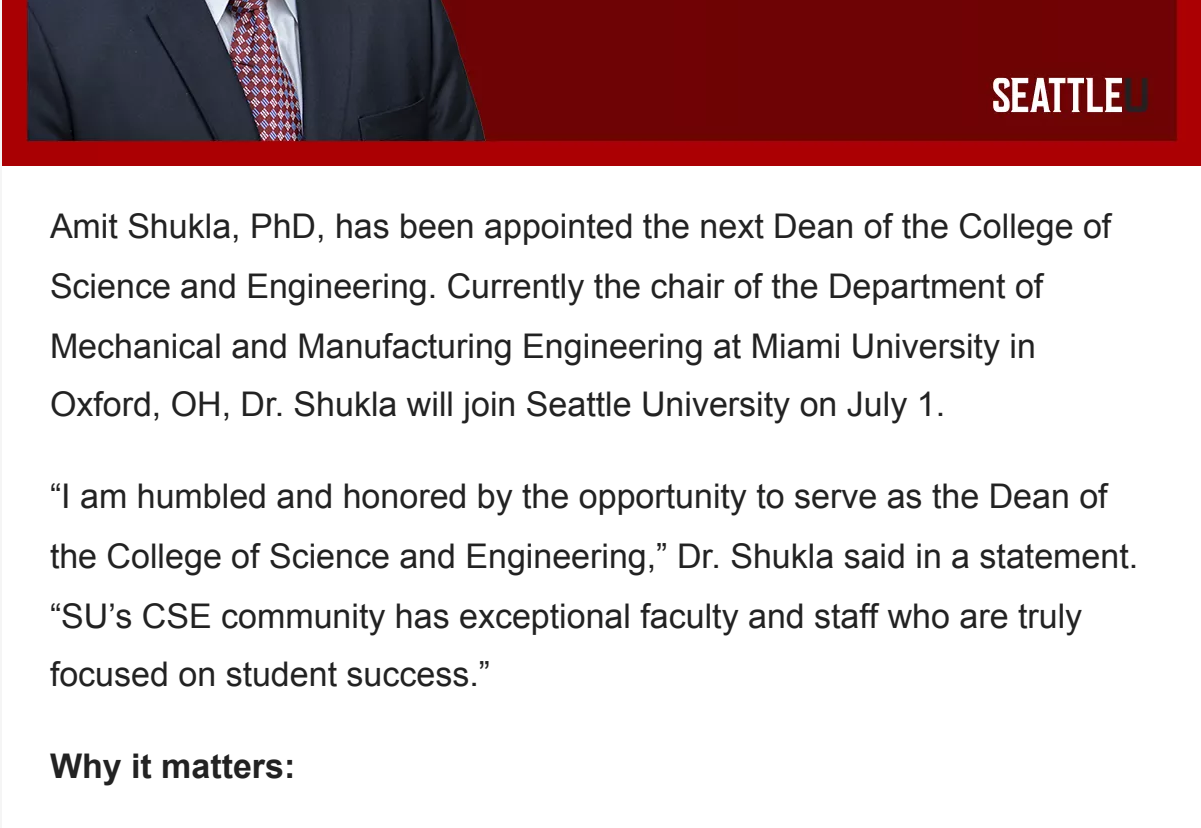


# Inside Seattle U

By Seattle University Newsroom • Mar 31, 2022  
Smart Brevity® count: 4 mins... 1000 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: Welcome Science & Engineering's Next Dean



Amit Shukla, PhD, has been appointed the next Dean of the College of Science and Engineering. Currently the chair of the Department of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering at Miami University in Oxford, OH, Dr. Shukla will join Seattle University on July 1.

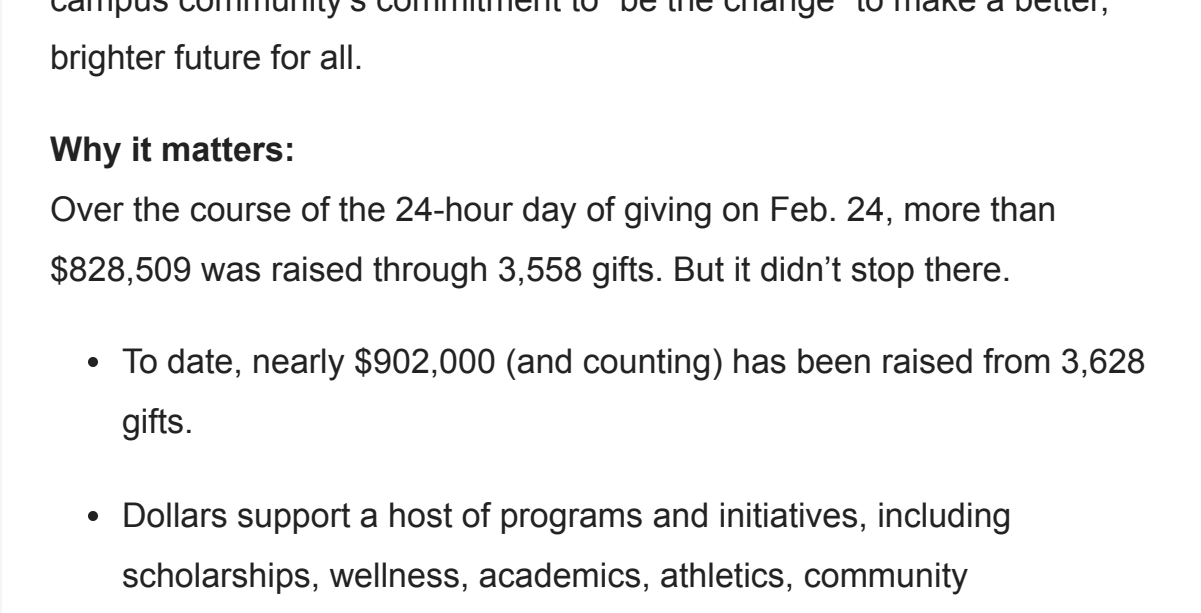
"I am humbled and honored by the opportunity to serve as the Dean of the College of Science and Engineering," Dr. Shukla said in a statement. "SU's CSE community has exceptional faculty and staff who are truly focused on student success."

### Why it matters:

- Dr. Shukla is an academic and administrative leader, committed to innovation, transparency, collaboration and inclusion.
- Founding director of the Miami University Center for Assistive Technology, which identifies socially relevant problems and develops engineering solutions by engaging students in interdisciplinary research.
- Recipient of Miami University's Inclusive Excellence Award in 2021.

**Go deeper:** [Read more](#) about Dr. Shukla's appointment.

## 2. A Truly Historic #SeattleUGives



Thanks to the overwhelming support and generosity of so many, this year's [Seattle U Gives](#) was a resounding success, proof positive of the campus community's commitment to "be the change" to make a better, brighter future for all.

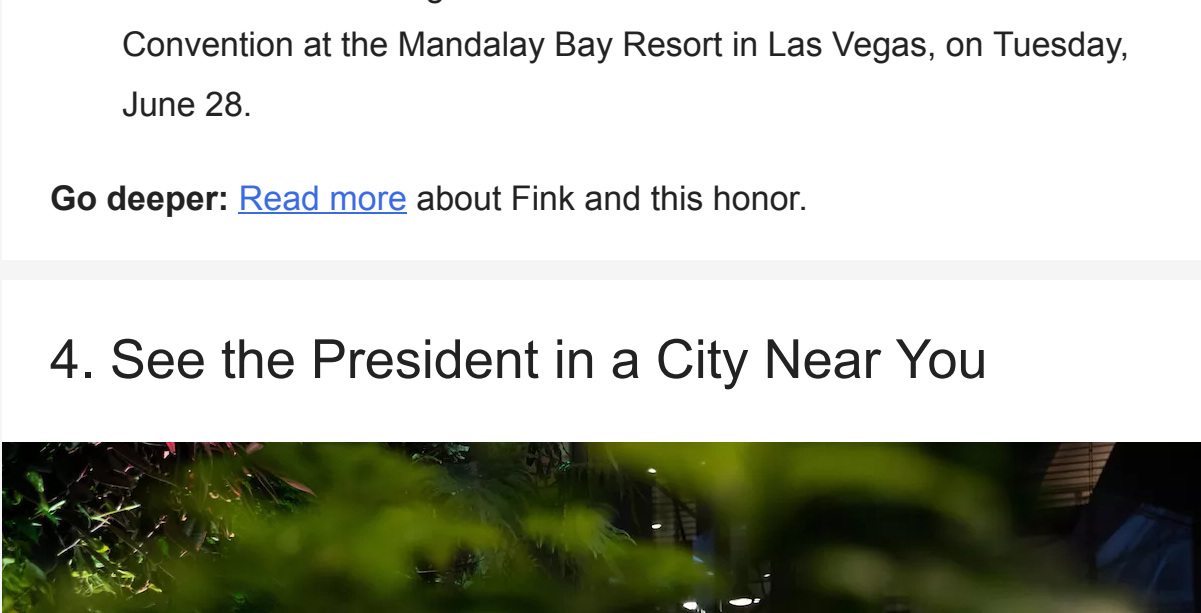
### Why it matters:

Over the course of the 24-hour day of giving on Feb. 24, more than \$828,509 was raised through 3,558 gifts. But it didn't stop there.

- To date, nearly \$902,000 (and counting) has been raised from 3,628 gifts.
- Dollars support a host of programs and initiatives, including scholarships, wellness, academics, athletics, community engagement and more.

**Go deeper:** [Learn more](#) about the importance of each and every gift.

## 3. SU's Shaney Fink Among the Top Athletic Directors in the U.S.



Seattle University's Director of Athletics Shaney Fink is among the winners of the 2021-22 National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) Cushman & Wakefield AD of the Year Award (ADOY).

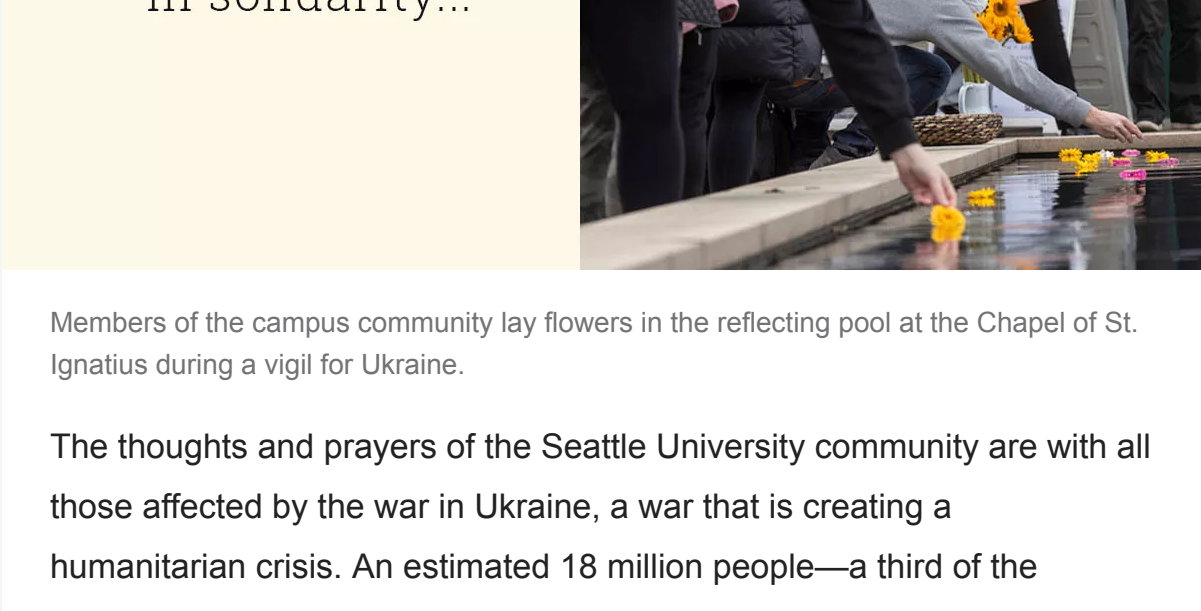
"This award reflects the great work of our Redhawks coaches, athletics staff and student-athletes within a university where student experience is prioritized and valued," says Fink. "I am honored to be recognized and thrilled to share this honor with the entire Seattle U Athletics Department."

### Why it matters:

- Under Fink's leadership, there have been 14 WAC team championships and 10 WAC individual championships.
- Winners will be recognized at the 57th Annual NACDA & Affiliates Convention at the Mandalay Bay Resort in Las Vegas, on Tuesday, June 28.

**Go deeper:** [Read more](#) about Fink and this honor.

## 4. See the President in a City Near You



"Meet 22 in '22": President Eduardo Peñalver speaks to guests at the California Academy of Sciences in the Bay Area, the first stop on his visits around the country.

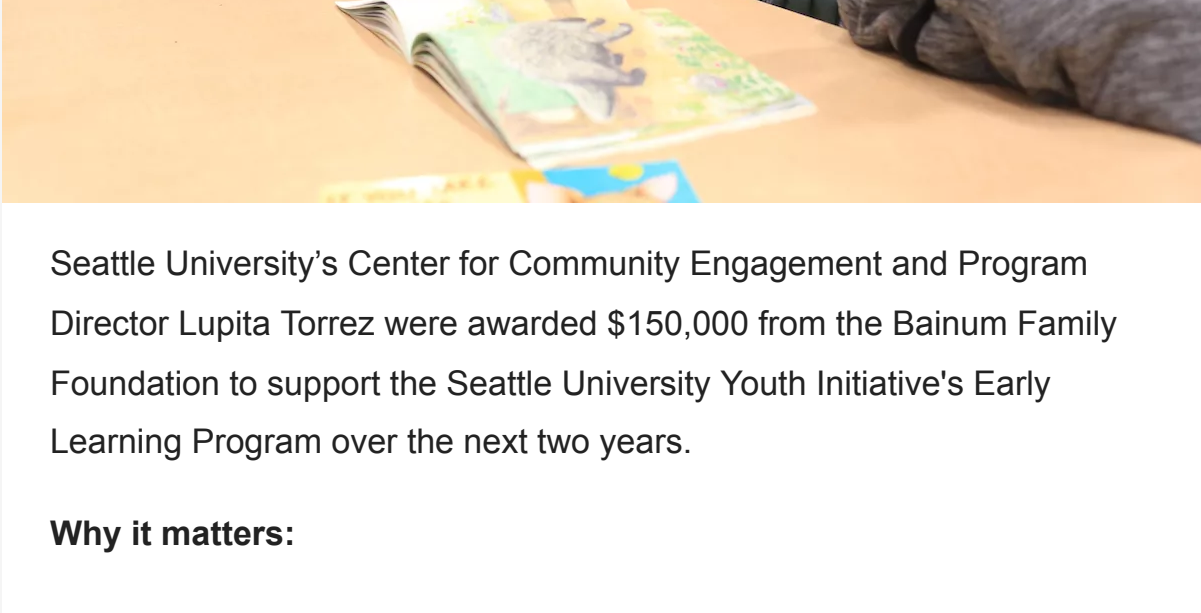
Since his inauguration as the 22nd president last September, Eduardo Peñalver has been committed to building relationships with the Seattle University community. On March 15, President Peñalver kicked off in the Bay Area the first in a series of visits with past, present and future Redhawks in cities across the country.

### Why it matters:

- Each stop includes an "anchor event," which is geared toward students and their families, alumni, donors, friends and college counselors.
- Admissions opens each event with an admitted students reception.
- Next stops: April 5 in Portland, Ore., and April 22 in Washington, D.C.

**Go deeper:** [Learn more](#) about the presidential tour.

## 5. Rallying Support for Ukraine



Members of the campus community lay flowers in the reflecting pool at the Chapel of St. Ignatius during a vigil for Ukraine.

The thoughts and prayers of the Seattle University community are with all those affected by the war in Ukraine, a war that is creating a third humanitarian crisis. An estimated 18 million people—a third of the country's population—will need humanitarian assistance.

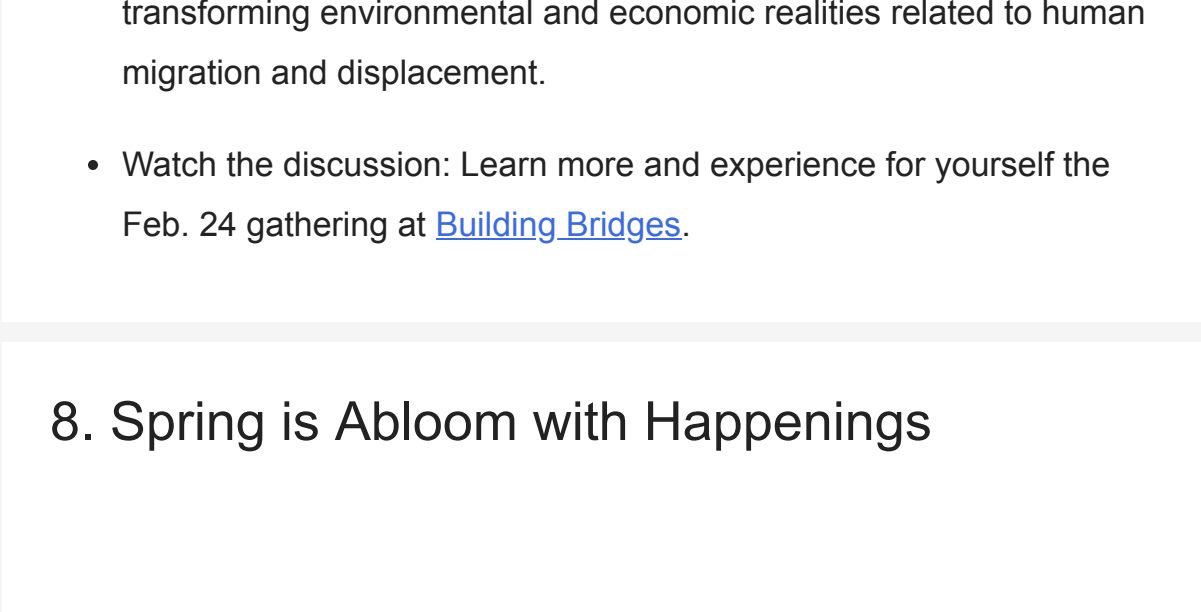
### Why it matters:

Here are ways you can offer your support to the people of Ukraine:

- [Jesuit Refugee Service](#) explains the coming refugee crisis and how you can help.
- When a crisis hits, [Caritas Internationalis](#) is already on the ground. This is the case in Ukraine and surrounding countries taking in thousands of refugees.
- The [Red Cross](#) is providing life-saving aid to those in need—both in Ukraine and in neighboring areas.

**Go deeper:** [Read more](#) on SU's message of support and resources available to assist the campus community and the people of Ukraine.

## 6. Award will Support Seattle U Youth Initiative Early Learning Program



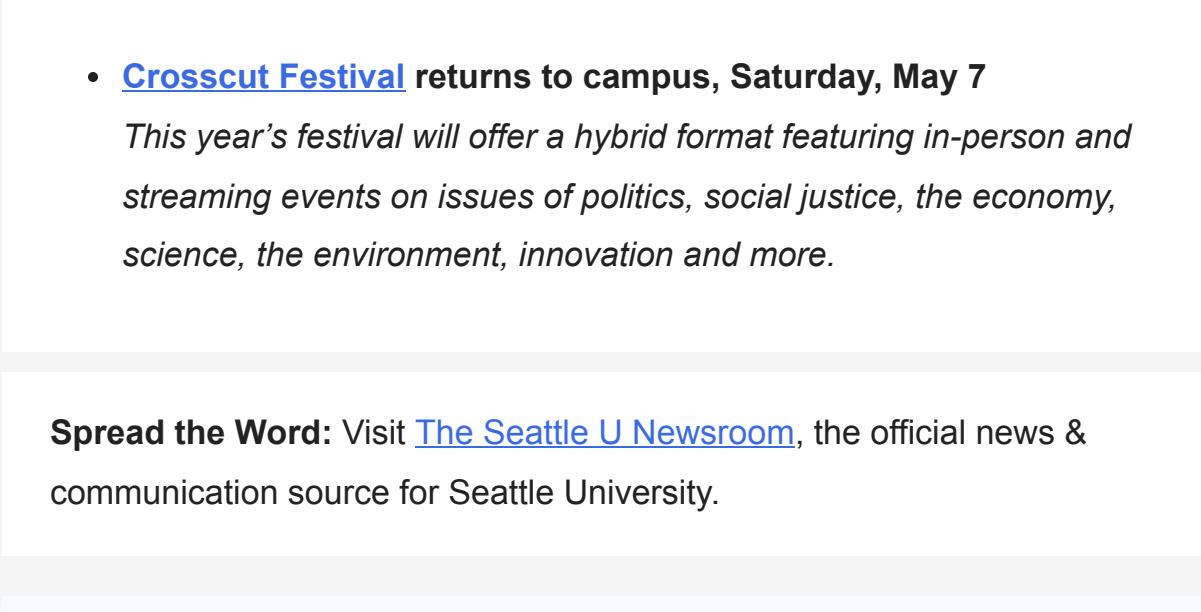
Seattle University's Center for Community Engagement and Program Director Lupita Torrez were awarded \$150,000 from the Bainum Family Foundation to support the Seattle University Youth Initiative's Early Learning Program over the next two years.

### Why it matters:

- The Early Learning Program partners with families, teachers, administrators, care providers and the community to collectively ensure children are ready to flourish in kindergarten and thrive in life.
- Early learning work is organized into three capacity building strategies—school readiness, early learning connectors and community learning circles.

**Go deeper:** [Learn more](#) about the Early Learning Program.

## 7. Historic Encounter: SU Students Engage in a Dialogue with the Pope



Two Redhawks—Shala McKee, '22 (Cultural Anthropology) and Afrikaan Sahra, '24 (Computer Science)—participated in a dialogue with Pope Francis, "Building Bridges North-South" with university students from North, Central and South America.

[In a Q&A](#), Sahra reflects on the day and his biggest takeaways from this once-in-a-lifetime experience.

### Why it matters:

- The pope and students focused on the issues of the times, highlighting migrants and children of migrants who are committed to transforming environmental and economic realities related to human migration and displacement.
- Watch the discussion: Learn more and experience for yourself the Feb. 24 gathering at [Building Bridges](#).

## 8. Spring is Abloom with Happenings



Environmental Studies student Gabriela "Gabby" Batinich, '23, created this year's winning logo design for Earth Month.

As the calendar flips to April, **Seattle University will celebrate Earth Month with a series of events leading up to Earth Day on April 22.** [Check out](#) the slate of offerings including a month-long EcoChallenge, lectures and panel discussions on climate and sustainability topics and more.

### Save the Date

Mark your calendar now for two upcoming events at Seattle U:

- **Mayor Bruce Harrell at Pigott Auditorium, Monday, April 11**  
*Sponsored by the [Institute of Public Service](#), [Seattle Mayor Bruce Harrell](#) will engage in conversation about public safety and homelessness, downtown revitalization, housing affordability and more. [Reserve a seat](#).*
- **Crosscut Festival returns to campus, Saturday, May 7**  
*This year's festival will offer a hybrid format featuring in-person and streaming events on issues of politics, social justice, the economy, science, the environment, innovation and more.*

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