



upcoming events

Now through December 10
**Study Nights at
Mosher Alumni House**
5-11 p.m.

January 13
The Community Housing Office
presents the **Rental Faire**
11 a.m.-2 p.m., Corwin Pavilion

February 10
UCSB Arts and Lectures presents
The Omnivore's Dilemma author
Michael Pollan
8 p.m., Granada Theater

February 24
UCSB Arts and Lectures presents
comedy improv troupe
The Second City
8 p.m., Campbell Hall

*Arts & Lectures tickets may be
purchased by calling (805) 893-3535
or at www.artsandlectures.ucsb.edu.*

important dates

Now through December 11
Fall Quarter Final Exams

December 12-January 2
Winter Break
Students must be out of residence
halls by 10 a.m. on Dec. 12.
Students may return to residence
halls after 1 p.m. on Jan. 2.

January 3
Winter Quarter Begins

January 17
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
UCSB Closed

January 18
**Last day to declare
winter graduation**

January 24
Last day to add classes

January 31
Last day to drop classes

February 21
Presidents' Day
UCSB Closed

Student Housing Options for 2011/2012

A big part of any college student's experience is not only where they go to school but also where they live while at school. As fall quarter ends, your son or daughter may begin thinking about housing options for next year. There are a wide variety of options at UCSB and in the surrounding community. Many students continue to live in the residence halls beyond their first year, while some students opt to move off campus to the nearby communities of Isla Vista, Goleta, and Santa Barbara. As a parent, you can help by talking with your student about the different choices that are available.

UCSB Residence Halls and Dining Services

Housing and Residential Services offers a variety of living spaces in the residence halls designed for continuing students, from singles, doubles, and triples (pending availability), to suite-style living. Within these communities, educational programming is specifically geared towards continuing students' academic and personal success. Residence halls are ideal academic environments for many students, as they include study spaces, in-hall classrooms, and quiet hours. Additionally, professional staff are on hand to assist with any needs that arise and to help link students to appropriate campus resources.

UCSB Dining Services offers fresh, healthy, high quality, all-you-care-to-eat dining, which includes salad bars, fresh fruit and vegetables (local and organic whenever possible), a variety of entrees and cooked-to-order specialties, and homemade desserts. Daily specials and recipes are shared on the UCSB Dining Services Facebook page.

Housing also provides over 800 student jobs and leadership positions. Residents have the opportunity to expand their skills and build their résumés through many positions, such as serving on the Executive Council of the Residence Halls Association. The Residence Halls Association is a national award-winning student leadership governance program that organizes student-run social and educational programs, conferences, and scholarships.

Housing in the residence halls is not guaranteed; however, priority consideration is given to students who turn in their contracts by January 15, 2011. For more information or to sign a contract, students should visit www.housing.ucsb.edu/hchoices/reshalls-assignservices.htm or call (805) 893-5513. The residence halls require a nine month contract which includes your student's room, dining, utilities, cable TV, high-speed wireless internet, housekeeping, and furnishings.

Off-Campus Housing Options

If your student hopes to move off campus, there are many options including privately owned residence halls, and privately owned apartments and houses in the surrounding communities. UCSB's Community Housing Office (CHO) assists students who wish to find housing in Isla Vista, Goleta, or Santa Barbara. CHO, located in room 3151 of the University Center, provides rental listings, advice, move-in and move-out videotaping to help protect security deposits, and landlord/tenant and roommate dispute resolution. CHO will be hosting programs in the residence halls in January to educate students about finding housing, choosing compatible roommates, and the basics of landlord/tenant law. Students can also learn more about available housing options at CHO's annual Rental Faire on January 13, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. in Corwin Pavilion. More information about CHO is available at www.housing.ucsb.edu/hchoices/cho-general-info.htm. Additionally, students and parents are always welcome to contact CHO at (805) 893-4371 or ucscho@housing.ucsb.edu.

UCSB Dining Services offers an "Off-Campus Meal Plan" for students who live off campus. The plan allows them to eat in the four on-campus dining commons. More information is available at www.housing.ucsb.edu/dining/mealplan.

Please encourage your student to make informed housing and roommate choices!

Life in the Residence Halls: A Student's Perspective

"I choose to live in the residence halls because they provide comfort and a focused academic environment without distractions. Additionally, I love not having to always cook for myself because I have the option of going to one of the four dining commons which are open at convenient times and up until midnight. The sense of community and comfort around the residence halls is also amazing. There is always something to do because our resident assistants and Residence Halls Association are constantly putting on amazing programs. Lastly, our maintenance staff does a great job of making sure that our rooms, bathrooms, and lounges are clean and comfortable to live in. During my four years of college, living in the residence halls all four years has been one of my greatest decisions."

- Jose Magana
2010-2011 President
Residence Halls Association

CLAS Sign Ups Begin 1/3

Remind your student to sign up for Campus Learning Assistance Services (CLAS) for winter quarter. Students may begin registering for tutorial groups on the first day of classes—Monday, January 3 at 9 a.m. Tutorial groups are a great way for students to improve their academic performance and are usually offered for lower division math and science courses. Groups generally meet twice a week. Attendance is required. Students should enroll on-line in advance at <https://my.sa.ucsb.edu/clas>. There is no charge to enroll in a CLAS tutorial group. More information is available at www.clas.ucsb.edu or (805) 893-3269.



What to Expect During Winter Break

Returning home for the first extended period of time after leaving for college can be challenging for both students and their families. Students who now have complete personal independence must adjust to how life was before college. Parents must adjust to having another person around the house again. Here are some tips for a smooth and enjoyable break with your student.

- Talk with your student about her or his plans and expectations during break. Let your student know if you expect him or her to attend specific family gatherings or meals, resume household chores, or run errands.
- If you want to set a curfew for your student, try to compromise. It is reasonable to expect respect for other family members' schedules and sleep hours, but keep in mind that your student has been able to set her or his own schedule for the past few months.
- Allow your student to reconnect with high school friends. Don't feel rejected if you think she or he is spending more time with friends than family. Many students struggle with the difficulty of maintaining these long-time and newly long-distance friendships and relationships.
- Don't stop everything you are doing while your student is home. It is important that you continue with your daily life and commitments. Your student may feel stressed if it seems like you are waiting around for him or her.
- Respect the person your student has become in the first few months of school. Your student may have made some lifestyle choices that you don't agree with, but showing your support goes a long way in making your student's break enjoyable for all.

*Happy Holidays and
Happy New Year
to you and your family
from Student Affairs!*

Theft Prevention Tips

While statistics show that UCSB is a relatively safe environment compared with larger, urban college campuses, it is not problem-free. By being aware of this and taking a few extra steps, your student can prevent theft and ensure that his or her property is safe while she or he is on campus and away from UCSB. Here are some reminders to share with your student.

*Tips with * are especially important for your student to follow before leaving for winter break.*

Preventing Residential Thefts

- *Your student should always lock the doors and windows and take the key when leaving his or her room or apartment.
- *Additionally, your student can secure windows by placing a stick in the tracks or bolts in the frames.

Protecting Valuables

Unfortunately, thieves frequent areas where students leave valuable items unattended. These include Davidson Library, the Recreation Center, and study lounges.

- While looking for a book, using the restroom, or taking a break, your student should not leave valuable items, such as computers, unattended in the library.
- Consider buying a cable lock for your student's computer or installing an anti-theft program on her or his laptop.
- Photograph and record the serial numbers of valuables. Permanently mark the items with your student's driver's license number. If the item is found, police officers are able to easily recognize it as a license number and return it to your student. Additionally, sharing your driver's license number is not an identity theft risk. Engravers are available at the police station and front desks of many residence halls. This will increase the chance of recovering valuable items if they are stolen.
- *Encourage your student to take valuables with him or her during a holiday break or when your student's residence will be unoccupied for an extended period of time.

Securing Bicycles

Several hundred bikes are stolen at UCSB each year, but thefts can be prevented.

- Students should lock the frame and both wheels securely to a bike rack.
- *When leaving for a holiday break, your student should bring his or her bike indoors.
- Register the bike—it's required and it increases the chance of recovery if stolen.



There's Still Time to Support Student Affairs

Thank you for your ongoing support of student success at UCSB! Your support has provided student internships through the Mental Health Program, student scholarships, opportunities for students to tutor local elementary school students through the Educational Opportunity Program, and much more!

To make a year-end gift to Student Affairs, visit our on-line giving site at www.sa.ucsb.edu/giving/sa/. Or, send your check payable to "UC Regents" with the particular area you wish to support written in the memo line (examples of additional options are the Wellness Program, Career Services and Campus Learning Assistance Services) to:

Student Affairs Grants and Development
University of California
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-5015

We appreciate your heartfelt gifts during these difficult times and we send you and your family warm wishes for the season.

Upcoming Events at Career Services

Career Services has planned four exciting job and internship fairs for students during the winter and spring quarters. Encourage your student to take advantage of these great opportunities to learn more about available jobs and internships!

Care Expo: A Non-Profit, Volunteer and Internship Fair

January 20, 12 p.m.-4 p.m.

Corwin Pavilion

Local area non-profit and government agencies will visit UCSB to recruit students for volunteer, internship, and career opportunities.

Winter Career Fair

January 27, 12 p.m.-4 p.m.

Corwin Pavilion

This career fair features employers who have demonstrated a commitment to diversity in their recruiting and hiring practices and is open to all students.

Summer Job Fair

March 2, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Career Services Walkway

Students who attend are seeking a temporary job or internship working for summer camps and local and Los Angeles-based companies for the summer.

Spring Career Fair

April 12, 12 p.m.-4 p.m.

Corwin Pavilion

This annual event is open to all students and features regional employers seeking students graduating in June.

For more information about Career Services, visit <http://career.ucsb.edu/>.



Disabled Students Program

Every year, many temporarily and permanently disabled students attend UCSB. Student Affairs' Disabled Students Program (DSP) ensures that these students always receive the same core academic support services as other students at UCSB.

The office provides services to students with documented long-term or temporary disabilities, including those that are both visible (mobility issues, blind or low vision, deaf or

hearing loss) and hidden (learning, ADD/ADHD, psychological disabilities, and chronic or acute health issues).

DSP provides a wide variety of academic accommodations for students. These may include note takers, exam accommodations, and technological equipment such as speech screen readers, Braille printing, assistive listening devices, and voice recognition equipped laptops, as appropriate.

All students can help support DSP by reporting issues or hazards on campus that may affect those living with disabilities, including elevator outages, pathway obstructions, and other equipment problems. Another way your student can support disabled students at UCSB is to apply for a position as a paid note taker.

Students are responsible for initiating services by contacting DSP and providing documentation of disabilities. For more information, call (805) 893-2668 or visit <http://dsp.sa.ucsb.edu>. DSP advisors are available for consultation in the DSP office (2120 Student Resource Building).

If you wish to support the mission of the Disabled Students Program, please contact Student Affairs Grants and Development at (805) 893-7713.

Helping Your Student Get Ahead

Over the holiday break, you and your student may talk about fall quarter's ups and downs. Is your student pleased with her or his grades and current study habits? Does your student feel like he or she has succeeded in obtaining a nicely balanced academic, personal, and social life?

Even if fall quarter was successful for students, they often feel that a few adjustments and new habits can make them thrive even more in college. Here are some tips for getting ahead at UCSB that you can pass along to your daughter or son.



- Attend instructors' office hours from the beginning of the quarter. Don't wait until your grade slips or final exam week. Get to know your instructors and take advantage of the help and guidance they are willing and able to provide.
- Stay caught up on reading, studying, and assignments. Don't allow yourself to get behind.
- Fully utilize Campus Learning Assistance Services (CLAS) by attending an academic skills workshop or course tutorial. Read more about CLAS on page 2 of this issue or at www.clas.ucsb.edu.
- Feeling stressed? Don't hesitate to visit Counseling Services for stress management tips or a 20-30 minute session in an alpha wave egg chair or massage chair. Allow yourself a break each day where you focus on your own mental health.
- Devote some non-academic time to yourself. Work out at the Recreation Center, plan to attend a wellness event (<http://wellness.sa.ucsb.edu>), or hang out with friends.
- Remember to ask for help. If you are struggling with any aspect of your academic, personal, or social life in college, talk with a mentor, advisor, or someone on campus. Faculty and professional staff are here to support you and want you to succeed!

The Gaucho Parents Gazette is published by the Division of Student Affairs and UCSB Parent Services.

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