Discovery Days Welcomes New Gauchos

New students are invited to kick off the new year during Discovery Days 2008 with a full calendar of events designed to introduce students to the campus through workshops, programs and socials as they prepare to begin classes on September 25. During the days between Move-In Weekend and the first day of classes, UCSB coordinates hundreds of campus events and gives students the chance to become familiar with the campus, meet other new students, visit academic departments, and take care of campus business. Discovery Days 2008 brings together all aspects of the campus so that new students’ days are filled with meaningful activities and offers them the chance to take the first steps in their transition to UCSB.

A highlight of the week’s activities is New Student Convocation on Monday, September 22, at 3 p.m., during which students will formally gather together and be welcomed to the University by Chancellor Henry Yang and keynote speaker Céline Cousteau. All new students were mailed a copy of the Discovery Days Calendar to their home address in early September. The calendar is also available on-line at www.sa.ucsb.edu/orientation/ddays.

Alcohol Education for New Students

If you haven’t done so already, the start of fall quarter presents a perfect opportunity to initiate a conversation with your son or daughter about alcohol and drug use in college. Research consistently indicates that parental involvement is an important protective factor when it comes to alcohol use among college students.

In fact, UCSB requires all newly enrolled first-year and transfer students to complete an on-line alcohol education course within the first five weeks of their first quarter. The on-line course, provided by MyStudentBody.com helps students examine personal beliefs, risk behaviors, and consequences, while delivering prevention education through engaging interactive tools, flash animation peer stories, and student-friendly information pieces. The course provides students with detailed information such as how alcohol is processed by the body; how to cope with peer pressure; how to moderate drinking; and signs and symptoms of alcohol poisoning.

Although not all students will choose to use alcohol in college, alcohol abuse and experimentation is an issue that affects every college campus. The goal of UCSB’s alcohol education requirement is to ensure that all incoming students have the basic information they need to make safer choices with regard to alcohol use.

Be sure to remind your student about the on-line alcohol education requirement and follow up later with questions about the content of the course. Was it interesting? What did your student learn? Here are some additional tips for staying informed and keeping the lines of communication open around this important topic:

• Ask your son or daughter his or her opinion regarding current news items related to alcohol. Be prepared to accept whatever that opinion might be.
• Get informed. Know the alcohol policies at UCSB and learn about the alcohol regulations, penalties, and interventions (you can find details at http://alcohol.sa.ucsb.edu).
• Ask about the social life on campus. Is your son or daughter finding a variety of positive ways to meet new friends and get involved? The UCSB After Dark Web site (http://www.sa.ucsb.edu/osl/afterdarkcalendar/) provides a weekly listing of late night social and entertainment events that are alternatives to the college party scene.
• Set clear and realistic expectations regarding academic performance and discuss the impacts of college alcohol use on academics.

For more information on UCSB’s alcohol and drug prevention efforts visit http://alcohol.sa.ucsb.edu, call the Alcohol and Drug Program at (805) 893-5013, or contact Associate Dean of Students Debbie Fleming at (805) 893-4094 or Debbie.Fleming@sa.ucsb.edu.
Experience UC Santa Barbara at Parents' & Family Weekend

Attending class lectures, cheering on athletic teams, and soaking up the sun at Campus Point will all be a part of your student’s life here at UC Santa Barbara. You and your family can participate in these and many other activities during Parents’ and Family Weekend, an event designed to showcase all our campus has to offer and give families the true UCSB experience.

Come explore our unique campus and learn about its many facets. Climb the rock wall, complete a ropes course or work out at the Recreation Center. Learn about internship opportunities and how to help your student select a major and career path at a Career Services workshop. Cheer on our volleyball and water polo teams! Have breakfast with Chancellor Henry Yang or dinner at the Faculty Club. Discover what makes UCSB so stimulating, impressive, and special.

Parents’ and Family Weekend will likely be the first time you will see your student after Move-In Day. The event is a wonderful way to reconnect with your student, learn all about his or her life on campus, and spend valuable time as a family.

All family members are invited to the event—grandparents, aunts, uncles, siblings and more! There are even exciting events planned specifically for younger brothers and sisters—a hands-on introduction to marine biology at the touch tanks, climbing the Recreation Center rock wall, and listening to ghost stories at the MultiCultural Center, a bilingual event.

Parents’ and Family Weekend is October 24-26, 2008. Families can attend any combination of days during the weekend. At check-in, be sure to stop by the Gauchos Parents table and learn more about the wonderful resources available for you. Next, visit the Multipurpose Room in the nearby Student Resources Building to learn about our Wellness Program and other health services available to your student.

More information will be sent to your home address. Contact Julie Miller at (805) 893-7382 or visit www.ia.ucsb.edu/pfw for more information.

Making Move-In Day Meaningful

Moving into a new residence hall, meeting a new roommate, and saying goodbye can undoubtedly be a stressful and busy day for new students and their families. After unpacking the car, rearranging the furniture, and helping your student make his or her room a new home-away-from-home, take a few moments to enjoy all that UC Santa Barbara and the surrounding communities have to offer your student. Here are some suggested activities to celebrate this new chapter in your lives and make Move-In Day memorable for everyone in your family:

- Take a family photo at a UCSB landmark such as Storke Tower or our basketball stadium, the Thunderdome.
- Visit the Isla Vista Food Co-op (6575 Seville Road) to stock your student’s room with healthy and organic snacks.
- Take a walk together around the lagoon or to the end of the pier at nearby Goleta Beach.

Students will be moving into their assigned residence halls on September 20 and 21. Roommate, residence hall rooms, and Move-In date and time assignments were included in the Move-In packet your student received from Housing and Residential Services. If you have any questions regarding Move-In Day, contact Housing and Residential Services at (805) 893-2760.

Move In Phone Numbers

| BARC/Billing Office (805) 893-3756 |
| Counseling Services (805) 893-4411 (24 hr. hotline) |
| CSO Escorts (805) 893-2000 |
| Gauchos Parent Services (805) 893-3643 |
| Housing & Residential Services (805) 893-2760 |
| Registrar’s Office (805) 893-3592 |
| Student Health (805) 893-3371 |
| Other Phone Numbers: __________________________ |

Campus Learning Assistance Services

Easily one of the most widely used Student Affairs services at UCSB, Campus Learning Assistance Services—or CLAS, as it is known on campus—helps over 7,000 students each year to achieve their academic goals through free academic skills workshops and tutorial services that complement University courses.

Study skills workshops help students learn memory techniques, exam strategies, time management, and reading efficiency and comprehension. Tutorial groups are offered for primarily lower division courses in biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, probability and statistics, and economics. The groups meet one to two times per week and follow course lecture content. Instructors answer student questions, provide supplemental instruction, and assist in exam preparation. Drop-in services are also available for these subjects.

Writing services are available one-to-one or on a drop-in basis and assist with thesis development, organization, clarity, and much more. Drop-in foreign language services assist with fluency, literacy, and language acquisition skills.

Registration for CLAS programs begins September 25 at 9 a.m. Students can sign up with their student ID number on-line at http://my.sa.ucsb.edu/clas or in-person at the Student Resource Building, Room 3210. Students may contact the CLAS office at (805) 893-3269 for more information.

Campus Learning Assistance Services is hoping to expand their programs to serve even more UCSB students. If you wish to support the CLAS mission or any other service provided by UCSB Student Affairs, please contact Laurie Hoyle in Student Affairs Grants and Development at (805) 893-5037.