

Campus Connection

A Student Affairs Publication
for Parents & the Campus Community

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA | FALL 2014, VOL. 16, NO. 1



COURTESY PHOTO

Solar panel construction on top of Lot 22 on the UC Santa Barbara campus.

UCSB Facts: Did you know ... ?

- The Student Affairs Division is in the final stages of the Renewable Energy Initiative Student Fee funded Lot 22 solar array project. The solar panels will be online in late November, generating around 650,000 kWh!
- The Recreation lighting project and the planned installation of LED lighting in the division's remaining buildings will result in a reduction in lighting energy consumption of up to 70%.
- By 2020, Student Affairs is committed to being zero-net-energy operationally.
- The median time to graduate for UCSB freshmen is 4 years.
- 86% of UCSB graduates are employed full-time or pursuing graduate education within 1 year of graduation.
- 71% of undergraduate classes have fewer than 30 students.

Meet the Class of 2018

4.15

Average GPA for admitted freshman

81K

Number of undergraduates
who applied to UCSB

183K

Record number of applications
received by the UC system for the
2014-2015 school year — that's a
total of 148,450 freshman and
34,822 transfer applications

7%

Percentage increase in freshman
applications to UCSB this year

43%

Percentage of this year's freshman
class who are "first-generation" —
the first in their families to attend
a four-year college

SCHOLARSHIP | LEADERSHIP | CITIZENSHIP

A New Chapter for Isla Vista: University Efforts and Community Improvements

As has always been the case, the University takes a keen interest in the neighboring community of Isla Vista (IV). However, in the wake of a number of serious incidents that happened in Isla Vista this past school year, the University has taken additional steps to strengthen its relationships with community partners including Santa Barbara County, the Isla Vista Foot Patrol, and Santa Barbara City College, with the goal of improving safety in the campus-adjacent community.

This fall, many UCSB students returned to or took up residence for the first time in Isla Vista. The University has taken a number of immediate steps to increase the security of our students who live in this community and is working on long-term solutions to shape the culture in IV through cultural and academic programs that offer alternatives to students and enhance the community. Early last spring the University augmented financial and human resources support to the Isla Vista Foot Patrol and partnered with other UC campuses to increase police presence. Additionally, the University continues to meet with County officials to collaborate on addressing safety issues. Many enhancements have already been made. Lighting has been dramatically improved, sidewalk expansion is underway, portions of the cliffs have been temporarily fenced (with a permanent solution in the works), and County officials are exploring additional local ordinances to address safety. Furthermore, our

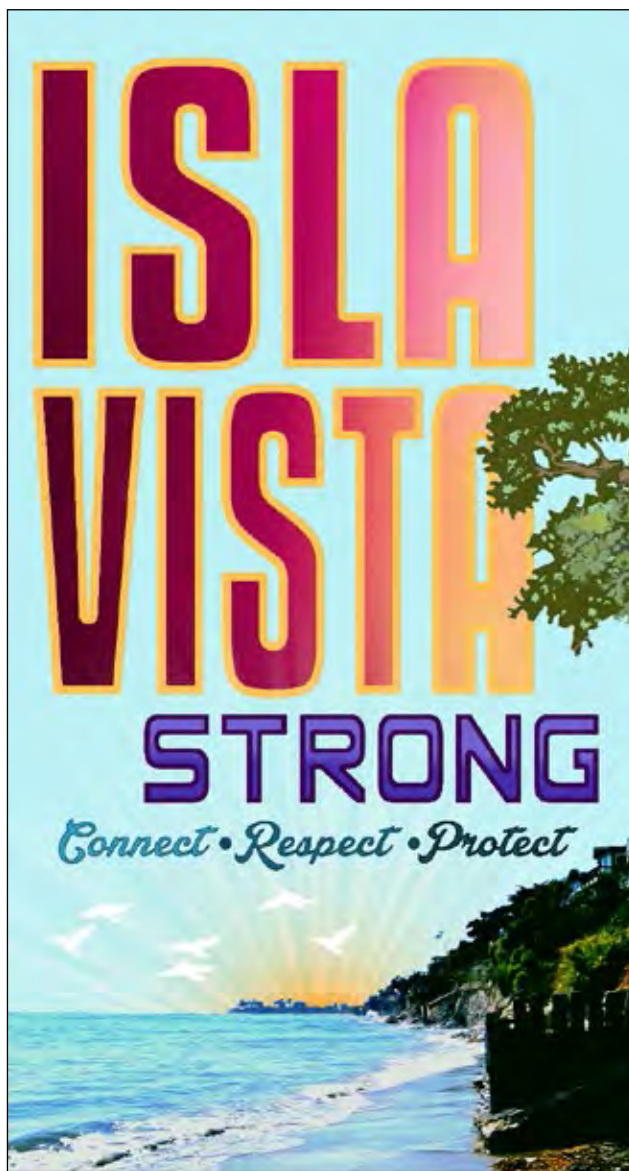


ILLUSTRATION BY SOPHIA BARKHUDAROVA

Division of Student Affairs remains committed to increasing late-night alternative social programming both on campus and in Isla Vista, and continues to support grassroots efforts to develop an IV Community Center, improve communication, and explore local governance options for Isla Vista. Finally, the University is also examining the feasibility of master-leasing specific properties in Isla Vista. This would increase the University's presence and student services in the community without increasing density.

In addition to these new initiatives, the University will be continuing our long-standing Isla Vista safety programs including parental notification for off-campus alcohol and drug citations or arrests; quarterly safety emails to all students; sexual assault awareness and prevention campaigns; required alcohol and drug education programs for new students; hazing education for campus organizations; and performing arts programming that brings lectures, films, and live events to Isla Vista at low cost for students.

Parents can partner with the University in these efforts as well. Students living in Isla Vista may need encouragement to speak up and report safety concerns to their property managers. Parents can also encourage students to call the Isla Vista Foot Patrol to report crime or suspicious behavior. Similarly, students should be encouraged to tell a University official if they are worried about a friend, neighbor, or acquaintance, and to intervene if they see someone who needs assistance. Finally, research

suggests that conversations with parents about alcohol and drug use, the dangers of posting inappropriate pictures or personal information online, and taking basic safety precautions, are an effective way of getting young people to make better choices. For additional information on the University's efforts in Isla Vista and to view recent memos to the campus community, please visit the Office of the Chancellor website at <https://chancellor.ucsb.edu>.

Dear Parents,

Each Halloween, out-of-town visitors converge on Isla Vista to participate in an un-hosted, unsponsored street party. The University is working with Associated Students, the IV Safe Committee, the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Department, the County of Santa Barbara, the City of Goleta, and local businesses on a Halloween campaign called *Keep it Safe, Keep it Local*. The intent of the campaign is to discourage the large number of out-of-town visitors and to promote awareness of Halloween-related safety issues among UCSB students. To provide UCSB students with safe late-night alternatives to being in Isla Vista, Student Affairs and Associated Students will be hosting activities on campus from 10 p.m.-2 a.m. on both October 31 and November 1, including a concert at the Events Center on Halloween night, requiring a UCSB ID.

With the goal of deterring out-of-towners and increasing safety during Halloween for our students, and with support from our sister UC campuses, the UCSB Police Department expects to triple the number of UC officers in Isla Vista during Halloween and will promote a zero tolerance approach to enforcing laws and ordinances in the community throughout the weekend. Overnight visitors will be prohibited in campus-owned housing and there will be no visitor parking allowed on campus. Parking restrictions in Isla Vista and Goleta will also be implemented. UCSB students who wish to move their cars on to campus for the weekend may purchase an Annual Night and Weekend Parking Permit from UCSB Parking and Transportation Services for only \$26.25 plus \$5.95 shipping and handling fee. Apply for permit at www.tps.ucsb.edu.

Please join with the University in our efforts to keep Halloween safe and local by talking with your son or daughter about Halloween safety and security. Please reinforce our messages that discourage out-of-town guests and the hosting of open parties in Isla Vista that attract people from out of the area. Additional information about Halloween can be found at www.UCSBHalloween.com.

Sincerely,

Debbie Fleming
Senior Associate Dean, Student Life



UCSB Community takes 'I Heart UCSB' Pledge

The *I Heart UCSB* campaign is a student-led initiative, established in 2013, with the goal of improving UCSB's internal image and celebrating Gaucho traditions with unity and renewed pride. During the 2014 summer, student leaders expanded the campaign to include the *I Heart UCSB Pledge*, written by students, for students.

I am committed to the pursuit of intellectual and personal growth and I uphold the academic integrity of the UC Santa Barbara community.

I respect the rights and dignity of others. I strive to understand and be inclusive of the diverse backgrounds, identities, and expressions of all members of the community.

I understand my actions impact my community, my peers, and myself. I take responsibility for my well-being and safety by not engaging in dangerous or excessive behavior and I intervene when the safety of others is being compromised.

I recognize that it is a privilege to be a Gaucho and I represent the UC Santa Barbara community everywhere I go.

I pledge to honor these values with pride.



www.youtube.com/watch?v=VHrpq2oTju8&feature=youtu.be

When Students Return in Fall: a Time of Transition

This fall students may notice a renewed sense of community around campus and in Isla Vista. Summer provided a time for reflection and rejuvenation after what was arguably UCSB's toughest year. Though we are still a community healing from the events of last May, there is a strong sense of Gaucho pride and hope as we start the new academic year. Many students will return to UCSB ready for a fresh start and excited to jump back in to all our community has to offer. Others, however, may be feeling apprehensive about returning or experience some anxiety a few weeks or months into the school year. Your acknowledgement of these feelings, should they arise, will be an important part of helping your son or daughter cope and move forward. If your student seems to be experiencing stress, encourage your student to:

- Talk with others, particularly friends and family
- Structure his or her time and establish a predictable routine
- Eat well-balanced meals and stay hydrated
- Alternate exercise with relaxation
- Avoid tobacco, alcohol, drugs, and excessive caffeine, which may lead to unpredictable emotional responses
- Get plenty of rest and sleep
- Accept the fact that he or she may feel differently than before the events of last May. Structured routines and a healthy lifestyle can help students regain motivation and concentration for studying.

Students who witnessed or were personally affected by the events in May might have reoccurring thoughts, dreams, or flashbacks. These are normal and will decrease over time, but may temporarily increase when returning to UCSB or to Isla Vista.

While some level of distress is normal, students who continue to feel a high level of distress for an extended period of time should seek help from a professional on campus. Please remind students that counseling is available through our Counseling and Psychological Services at no additional cost. For referrals or help reaching out to your student, please contact Student Mental Health Coordination Services or Social Work Services. Phone numbers are listed at right. If your student is concerned about a friend or neighbor, encourage them to call Student Mental Health Coordination Services for assistance.

Students new to UCSB may sense the impact of the events of last May as well. They are joining a community who is in the process of healing. Though not present for the events of last school year, incoming students likely watched media coverage and will hear continuing students talk about their experiences. Interacting with continuing students will give them a more personal understanding of what happened and will help them understand the impact it had on the campus community. Some may find this reassuring while others may feel anxious about what they hear. Talking about it with friends and family members will help. Your student may also need your reassurance that what happened last year is an uncommon occurrence and a reminder that counseling resources are available to help students address any feelings of unease.

We encourage you to call any of the services listed to the right if you have questions or concerns about your student. Please share these numbers with your son or daughter and encourage them to utilize these services as well.



Pathways to Healing

Pathways to Healing is a centralized resource to support students in the ongoing process of healing from the tragic events of spring 2014. UCSB recognizes that some students are still profoundly affected by the events and some may have feelings resurface as they return to campus and Isla Vista. Others may not continue to be affected by the tragic events, but want to learn how best to support their friends who are grieving.

Please visit the Pathways to Healing website at <http://caps.sa.ucsb.edu/pathways> to find:

- Links to support resources on campus
- Information about grief
- Self-care and grief management recommendations
- Calendar of activities that support healing, including support groups and drop-in workshops

CAMPUS RESOURCES

Student Mental Health Coordination Services (SMHCS)

(805) 893-3030

<http://www.sa.ucsb.edu/distressedstudentsguide>

Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS)

(805) 893-4411

www.caps.sa.ucsb.edu

Student Health Service

(805) 893-5361

<http://studenthealth.sa.ucsb.edu>

Social Work Services

(805) 893-3087

<http://studenthealth.sa.ucsb.edu/socialwork.aspx>

Parent Liaison, Dean of Students Office

(805) 893-4521

Finding a Balance and Thriving

Health & Wellness wants your UCSB student to realize their own potential. We are here to help students cope with the stresses of college life, be productive, and contribute in meaningful ways to their community. Finding balance with their academic, social, and physical lives is our focus. Using research-based strategies to improve their well-being is our goal. Here are some of the services we hope your Gaucho will utilize to thrive at UCSB:

- Weekly [health workshops and internship trainings](#) are open to all UCSB students, covering topics such as Healthy Eating and Living, Alcohol and Other Drugs, Sexual Health & Relationships, and Wellness/Positive Psychology.
- [Education 191W: Health & Well-Being](#) is a 4-unit academic class offered fall, winter, and spring quarters that explores public health theory and research-based skills for improving well-being.
- Campus-wide events are hosted 4-8 times each quarter. Events include [Dog Therapy Day](#), [Love Your Body Day](#), [Free HIV Testing](#), and many others. Last year, we hosted 20 campus-wide events.
- Weekend [Field Trips](#) are a great way to meet others and explore campus, Isla Vista, and Santa Barbara. Last year, we organized 27 field trips. We hope you will join us the next time you visit.
- Weekly [Fruit Bowl Project](#) delivers FREE fruit to more than 15 locations around campus twice a week. Last year, we distributed over 12,000 pieces of fruit.
- Weekly [Wellness Centers](#) provide health information, referrals, and FREE massages to students at three on-campus locations and at Santa Catalina Residence Hall. More than 3,300 professional massages were given last year.

Want weekly updates, healthy recipes, and information to send your Gaucho? Like us on [Facebook](#), follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Tumblr](#), check out our [videos](#), and visit us at wellness.ucsb.edu.

Congratulations to the Class of 2014!

From the Thunderdome to the Faculty Club Green, watch the video and slideshow as more than 5,700 graduates celebrate their graduation from UCSB on Commencement weekend.

- <http://www.news.ucsb.edu/2014/014278/highlights-2014-commencement>
- <http://vimeo.com/98481871>
- <http://www.news.ucsb.edu/2014/014273/commencement-slideshow>

A Year in Review: 2013-2014

From Convocation to Commencement, it was a year of triumph and tragedy, fresh starts and farewells to students who will never be forgotten. Join us for a video retrospective of 2013-14 at:

- <http://vimeo.com/101312632>



News from the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships

On July 1, 2013, California Governor Jerry Brown signed historic legislation that aims at keeping higher education affordable for California residents. Beginning in the 2014-15 academic year, California's Middle Class Scholarship program will offer scholarships to undergraduate students attending a UC or a CSU with family incomes up to \$150,000.

The California Middle Class Scholarship program will be implemented in phases over the next 4 years and will reduce tuition costs by up to 40% for families making under \$100,000 and up to 10% for families making under \$150,000. The amount awarded will vary by income and will be determined after any other federal, state, and institutional need-based grants, including the Pell Grant and the Cal Grant, are awarded. Awards will also be limited by the funding available and the number of students state-wide who are eligible.

UC and CSU received notification from the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) in early October regarding the students who will be awarded scholarships. After receiving notification of eligibility from CSAC, UCSB's Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships will automatically update students' financial aid award letters in late October.

For more information on how to apply and eligibility requirements, please visit www.csac.ca.gov.

News from Career Services

There are over 100 employers registered for this year's Fall Career Fairs, which will be held on two days (Wednesday & Thursday, October 22 & 23, 2014) from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in Corwin Pavilion.

Day 1 (Oct. 22) is "All Majors Day" and will host employers from various industries, including the non-profit sector. This is a general career fair with opportunities of interest to all students. There will be many employers recruiting on campus that day: The American Conservation Experience; CA State Auditor; E&J Gallo; Enterprise Rent-A-Car; Granite Construction; Lieberman Research Worldwide; Hillstone Restaurant Group; Macy's; Oracle; Social Security Administration; Verizon Wireless; Young's Market Company; and many more.

Day 2 (Oct. 23) is "Science, Technology, and Engineering Day." Students studying in these areas or seeking jobs using their technical skills are encouraged to attend this event. Many employers plan to visit campus for this event: Advanced Vision Systems; Applied Medical; Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement; HG Data; Intel Corporation; Lockheed Martin; Microsoft; National Renewable Energy Laboratory; Northrop Grumman; Raytheon; The Walt Disney Company; Western Digital; and more.

Networking with employers is all-important during a career fair. Employers are more likely to hire a student that they themselves would want to work with, so students are encouraged to be friendly, professional, and polite. In addition, attending a career fair allows students to connect with other students who may know of companies that are hiring individuals with their skill set. Career fairs offer hands-on practice for students looking to expand their ability to quickly build rapport with recruiters and to make valuable connections. The most prepared students who conduct research on participating employers and who arrive at the event dressed in professional attire have an excellent chance of getting an interview on the spot and positioning themselves for employment.

About Career Services



DAVE PALMER PHOTO

A student shakes hands with a potential employer during a Career Fair.

Career Services helps UCSB students identify and fulfill their career goals. We serve as the bridge between the college experience and employment or graduate school where students will apply what they have learned. By providing comprehensive resources, programs, and counseling, we assist students in achieving their goals, making smart career decisions, and connecting with employers.

Our career counselors provided one-on-one counseling to over 1,300 students during 2013-2014 and 84% of these students reported feeling more confident as a result of their counseling appointment. Our counselors offer caring, individualized career counseling and guidance designed to meet the changing needs of students and the job market. Our career counselors assist students with exploring majors, career direction, utilizing LinkedIn for networking and career exploration, searching for jobs and internships, developing strategic interview skills, and professional communication and document preparation. For more information about Career Services, please visit our website at <http://career.sa.ucsb.edu>.

Student Testimonial

"I found the help I needed at Career Services where I honed my interview skills and learned how to conduct myself in a professional setting with other professionals. Career Services counselors pointed me in the right direction and helped me with many issues I encountered coming from another country and culture. I have completed two internships, held an on-campus job, and am now in the middle of my third internship!"

— Nelson Rony, senior, Economics major



Move in Weekend Marks A New Beginning

When UCSB moved to Goleta in 1954, 122 men and 359 women lived in the residence halls. Today, more than 5,000 students live in the UCSB residence halls! As you can imagine, Move-in Weekend calls for considerable planning and preparation. This year, more than 450 Housing & Residential Services (H&RS) staff and student volunteers were on hand to greet and assist those students moving into campus housing. Move-in weekend also marks the beginning of Week of Welcome which celebrates the start of the new academic year through an annual tradition of welcoming new and returning students and inspiring a sense of Gaucho pride. This year, more than 50 programs were offered with the goal of introducing students to resources and services and giving students the opportunity to participate in intriguing, informative, and exciting workshops and activities while glimpsing campus culture and making new friends.

Safety Escorts Available on Campus and in Isla Vista

UC Police Department sponsors the CSO Escort Program, a free service provided to students on campus and in Isla Vista during evening and early morning hours. The escort service, which is based on the “buddy” system, offers a safer mode of transportation by providing another person to travel with a student to his or her destination. CSOs are not bodyguards in a physical sense, but they are responsible, trained individuals who are equipped with digital radios which allow them to be in constant contact with police dispatch and to contact a police officer when needed.

Escorts are available for anyone, male or female, and calling for a CSO escort is encouraged if a student is walking or biking alone on campus or in Isla Vista during evening and early morning hours. Once an escort is requested, the dispatcher will ask for the student’s name, location, a room number, if applicable, whether the student is walking or riding a bike, and the specific destination. The CSO Escort Program is only one of the many services that the

Community Service Organization provides, but it might possibly be the most important.

The CSO Escort Service can be used by simply calling the police dispatch through the escort phone line at (805) 893-2000. Urge your student to enter the CSO phone number in his or her cell phone, so that it is readily accessible. Escorts can also be requested through the red emergency phones located on campus. To learn more about the CSO Escort Program, visit www.police.ucsb.edu/cso.

UCSB Alert

UCSB Alert is a system that allows University personnel to quickly distribute critical information to registered UCSB students, faculty, and staff. UCSB Alert sends text and email alerts to users to keep them informed in the event of an emergency. Students are automatically registered with UCSB Alert. If you wish to receive these alerts, please have your student add your email and/or cell phone to their account. For more information, please visit <https://alert.ucsb.edu>.

UC Focus on Preventing Sexual Violence

UC President Janet Napolitano has made it clear that the University of California has no tolerance for sexual violence or sexual assault and wants to ensure that UC is the national leader on these issues. To build upon the extensive work already done by campuses in this area, the President has established a Task Force to improve the University’s current processes, develop recommendations, and implement strategies across the UC system. UC Santa Barbara is represented on the Task Force and in each of the five work groups that have been established to develop leading best practices for all areas of sexual violence prevention, response, and reporting.

UC Santa Barbara is entering the final year of the 2011-2014 grant cycle as a recipient of VAWA (Violence Against Women Act) grants, which have helped us to increase the resources available to our students. Prior to the current grant, our campus was part of the UC systemwide flagship grant from 2008 to 2011. In April, Assistant Secretary Catherine Lhamon, who heads the Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights, visited the University to recognize and commend our campus programs. During her visit, Assistant Secretary Lhamon praised UCSB’s response to the challenges presented by sexual violence in our campus community. UCSB students can seek support, advocacy, and information on reporting options from confidential advocates at (805) 893-4613 or at wgse.sa.ucsb.edu/CARE.



Campus Learning Assistance Services (CLAS) Helps Students Stay on Track and Succeed with Academics

Many students who have a history of excelling academically suddenly find themselves faced with the heightened expectation of university level work. In addition, students often find managing their time in the shorter quarter system to be even more challenging. CLAS is here to help.

CLAS is the on-campus tutoring center that offers support services at no extra cost. Every year, over 50% of all undergraduates use CLAS – an impressive number for a service that is optional. A closer look at the services offered demonstrates that CLAS is in high demand.

CLAS offers group instruction, one-to-one tutoring in the drop-in centers, and appointments for select services and academic skills services. Instructional groups are offered primarily for lower division core math, engineering, science, and economics courses. Drop-in services are offered for economics and accounting, engineering, foreign language, math, science and writing. Study skills workshops are available in a variety of relevant study areas, such as time management. One-to-one appointments are offered for English as a Second Language, study skills, and writing.

The full workshop schedule, specialist and drop-in lab hours, and further information about services offered can be found at <http://clas.sa.ucsb.edu>. Students sign up for services at <https://myclas.sa.ucsb.edu>.

Whether your student feels stressed about schoolwork or just wants to get a better handle on academics and time management, CLAS is the place to start.



Meet UCSB's New Veterans Services Coordinator

Kevin Hagedorn, UCSB's new Veterans Services Coordinator, has just arrived at UCSB. During his first week on the job, his desk, his computer, and the student center he will oversee were being relocated. No stranger to change, he used his telephone to start booking appointments and began meeting the students he cares about — UCSB veterans and military affiliates. Even while he was helping the students to create a new space, Kevin agreed to answer a few questions.

Don Lubach (Associate Dean of Students): You've moved around a bit. What was it like during your first days here at UCSB?

Kevin Hagedorn: Well, it beats living in Iraq... or Los Angeles for that matter. It's been a great start so far. Everyone on campus has been incredibly welcoming and encouraging of the efforts to make this university a place where veterans and their families feel welcome and supported.

Don: I saw you meeting some brand new Gaucho veterans during Orientation. What are they hoping to accomplish at UCSB?

Kevin: It's been really amazing getting the opportunity to meet the incoming class of veterans. What really

floored me are the academic ambitions of these folks. They are biting off some of UCSB's most difficult academic challenges and they already have their sites on graduate and doctorate programs. To see my fellow veterans working hard to make an impact on our campus, and eventually the larger world, is incredibly inspiring.

Don: The UC Office of the President is very interested in the success of our veteran scholars. What is happening at the UC that affects your work and our students?

Kevin: Janet Napolitano, the UC president, has made supporting veterans at UC one of her administration's primary goals. Right now student veteran service providers across the state are collaborating to develop and implement best practices and policies to ensure we are addressing the needs of returning veterans. A lot of people in high places, including our nation's president, have a vested interest in ensuring veterans' academic success. This generation of veterans is part of a national legacy of citizen-soldiers who return to their communities and continue their civic service. Education is a critical part of that experience and we are fortunate to live in a time when our leaders are following through on that commitment.

Don: What are you most looking

forward to as you start your UCSB career?

Kevin: Besides Freebirds burritos? I'm looking forward to helping make our veteran resources the Cadillac of student veteran programs. Right now we have a brand new expanded Veteran Resource Center and an incredibly supportive team of staff and faculty including Kirsten Olson, psychologist and veterans' services coordinator and Susan Derwin, director, Interdisciplinary Humanities Center. As a member of this team, I am looking forward to continuing to develop the services we offer and to bringing more veterans to UCSB.

Don: Do you have any advice for the parents and loved ones of our veteran scholars?

Kevin: Just to appreciate every moment of this new journey. It takes a lot of luck, determination, and sacrifice to get here. The burden of military service is a hardship our families inadvertently share and the rewards born of that struggle are ones we must consciously never take for granted.

We invite you to come check out the Veterans Resource Center (VRC) in Building 434, Room 123. Kevin's office is next to the VRC in Room 125. He can be reached at kevin.hagedorn@sa.ucsb.edu or at (805) 893-4724.

[MARK THE DATE/REMINDERS]

- **Flu Shots** available on campus.
- **Parents & Family Weekend 2014** will be held on October 24, 25, and 26 to welcome hundreds of Gaucho families to explore our campus and get a firsthand look at life at UCSB. Family members will have the opportunity to attend classes, hear faculty presentations, take part in campus area tours and activities, and meet UCSB faculty and administrators, including Chancellor Henry T. Yang and his wife, Dilling Yang. Registration and events information can be found at <http://www.ia.ucsb.edu/ParentsFamilyWeekend>. If you have questions, email parent@ia.ucsb.edu or call the Office of Public Events at (805) 893-2117.
- Save the date for **Commencement 2015** to be held on June 13-14. Full details will be posted as they become available at <http://www.ia.ucsb.edu/commencement>.

Don't let the bug get you!



Flu Shot Fridays
Student Health 1:30-3:30
Beginning October 10th
GIU Insurance - no charge • Outside Insurance - \$30
Flu shots are your best protection.

GIVE volunteers pose for a picture at the 24th Annual GIVE project furniture drive.

COURTESY PHOTO



GIVE Project Gives Back to the Community

Every June, thousands of UCSB students move out of their residence halls and apartments and generate tons of trash. Each year, GIVE reduces tons of waste that would otherwise litter the streets and campus and end up in the county landfill. GIVE provides students with a convenient way to donate, rather than toss, reusable and recyclable goods. The project educates students about this cost-effective and efficient approach that supports their local community. The donations are sold at a giant two-day GIVE sale and 100% of the sale's proceeds benefit organizations and projects that improve the quality of life in Isla Vista.

The 24th Annual GIVE project, organized by Student Affairs in collaboration with Housing and Residential Services and several other UCSB departments and local organizations, was a great success this year! GIVE processed over 49.5 tons of goods that were recycled during move-out. AS Recycling collected over 300 pounds of electronic waste from all GIVE collection sites located in residence halls on campus, university apartments, and Embarcadero Hall in Isla Vista. The AS Food Bank received 1,324 pounds of donated canned and packaged food for distribution to university students and their families in need. This year,

205 GIVE volunteers spent 1,448 hours collecting, sorting and selling the donations. Proceeds of the sale, \$43,120, were distributed to 13 Isla Vista non-profits and community improvement projects identified for support by the GIVE volunteers.

Major sponsors of GIVE 2014 included Associated Students Community Affairs Board, Associated Students Finance Board, the Community Affairs Board Foundation, the Isla Vista Community Relations Committee, Isla Vista Tenants Union, UCSB Housing and Residential Services, and The Green Initiative Fund. Additional support was provided by MarBorg Industries, Goodwill Industries, the Santa Barbara Independent, and UCSB departments, including Community Housing, Office of Student Life, Parking and Transportation Services, Physical Facilities, and community volunteers.

For Melissa Albarenga, a UCSB graduate and former GIVE Student Coordinator, "The GIVE project is an amazing opportunity to give, buy and give again! We're helping the environment, as well as giving back to our Isla Vista community!"

For more information about GIVE, volunteering, and beneficiaries visit www.sa.ucsb.edu/giveiv.

How to Minimize Student Loan Debt

Navigating student loans can be tricky and confusing, so we often see students accept all their offered loans before knowing how much they will actually need for the academic year. To prevent over-borrowing, it is recommended that parents counsel their son or daughter about how to create a budget and regulate their spending, to only borrow what they need, and to understand the different types of loans before they accept them.

If a student's financial aid exceeds what he or she owes at the beginning of each quarter, a refund is issued to help pay out-of-pocket expenses. Students who have monthly budgets with designated funds for food, rent, and entertainment are less likely to overspend, which in turn means they are less likely to over-borrow.

Students and parents can refer to www.studentaid.ed.gov for more financial aid loan information.

Before applying for any loan, students should take note of the following tips:

- Apply for private scholarships and look for other ways to save (like becoming a resident assistant) before considering loans
- Borrow federal loans before private loans — they usually have lower interest rates and more repayment options
- Borrow federal subsidized loans before unsubsidized loans — federal subsidized loans do not accrue interest during school attendance
- Keep track of how much is borrowed each year — students and parents can refer to www.nsls.ed.gov to view their federal loan history
- Use a loan repayment calculator to approximate post-graduation debt — one great estimator can be found at www.studentloans.gov.

POINTS OF PRIDE

■ U.S. News and World Report's guide, "America's Best Colleges" the most widely read college guide in the country, ranks UCSB number 10 among all public universities.

■ UC Santa Barbara jumped seven spots in this year's National Universities Rankings by Washington Monthly magazine. UCSB is ranked number 15 in the 2014 list published in the September/October issue of Washington Monthly magazine. In addition, UCSB is ranked number 13 in Washington Monthly's "Best Bang for the Buck" rankings.

■ In its 2014 ranking of top 500 universities, Leiden University ranked UCSB number 8 in the world in terms of impact in the field of the sciences.

International Students: Expanding Education through Cultural Exchange

All incoming UCSB students are plunged into a challenging academic and social environment, no matter how well prepared, and that transition is even greater for a growing number of international students.

International students must adapt quickly to a new culture and often to a new language, far from the familiar. The University has a variety of programs to help international students thrive as part of the UCSB community.



The Office of International Students & Scholars (OISS) welcomes incoming international students with International Student Orientation — a program that includes sessions on immigration requirements, academic integrity, building healthy relationships, and handling cultural adaptation issues.

The majority of first-year international students this year are from China. UCSB Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) is especially fortunate to have two Mandarin-speaking psychologists (Isabella Lin-Roark and Jeremy Roark) who are able to reach out and support Chinese students who may be unfamiliar with counseling as part of stress management and wellness.

Housing and Residential Services trains resident advisors to mediate conflicts that may come up when students from different cultures find themselves sharing a room. Learning to share space and respect differences is all part of the experience.

While international students remain a small percentage of the overall student body, their presence helps create a more diverse, empathetic, and worldly campus. Established friendships and academic networks that reach around the globe are part of what attracts world-class scholars to UCSB, while at the same time opening opportunities for our students and faculty to travel and bring new knowledge back to UCSB.

Look into Education Abroad, Expand Your View

"Studying abroad is optimal for encouraging students to expand their horizons," states UCSB parent Esther Liu whose daughter Jessica studied in Italy on UC's Education Abroad Program (EAP). By participating in EAP, your son or daughter has the opportunity to enhance his or her undergraduate experience while continuing to fulfill graduation requirements in one of 40+ EAP countries.

Esther notes, "While they are away from the familiarity and comfort of home and exploring a new environment, students learn to be more independent and open their minds to other cultures and languages. They realize there are a variety of other ways to go about doing things and looking at the world. After studying



abroad, a student becomes more of a world citizen with a broader global perspective."

Because EAP is a UC program, students continue to receive financial aid and may apply for EAP scholarships. Esther remarks,

"Expenses abroad were a challenge for our family, but with planning we figured out how to use our limited resources to learn/travel/grow to the best of our abilities!"

When asked about her favorite memory, Esther mentioned, "It has to be my visit with Jessica in Italy over spring break. It was wonderful to see her 'in action': living, speaking and interacting with her surroundings as an honorary Italian!" Esther concludes, "Trust your student's ability to learn and grow, pray A LOT, talk over Skype, visit him/her if possible ... you will not regret it!"

Encourage your child to experience this once in a lifetime opportunity. To learn more about the Education Abroad Program, visit <http://www.eap.ucsb.edu>.

Giving at UCSB

Thank you to our generous donors who support Student Affairs at UC Santa Barbara!

Tax-deductible, charitable gifts to Student Affairs enable us to enrich and expand our vital, student-focused, and exemplary programs and services.

Gifts provide scholarships to recognize students' academic performance and reduce their student loan debt. Other gifts help our 500+ registered student organizations sponsor successful events, such as last year's cotillion dance on the beach, Dream Scholar workshops, or the Model UN conference. Parents, alumni, friends, foundations, and businesses make gifts to sports clubs, CLAS tutoring, career mentoring, counseling, health and wellness, cultural programs, childcare. The list goes on!

To learn more about how your gift can make a difference for students at UC Santa Barbara, please contact Catherine Boyer, director, Student Affairs Grants and Development: catherine.boyer@sa.ucsb.edu, (805) 893-5037, www.sa.ucsb.edu/giving.

Campus Connection is published by the University of California, Santa Barbara, Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, to provide news and resources to the families of UCSB students and the broader campus community. The University of California, Santa Barbara, and the Division of Student Affairs recognize the diversity of our society and the many important people who have become "parents" to our students; these include stepmoms, stepdads, uncles, aunts, grandparents, siblings, friends, and others who play a significant and supportive role in the lives and successes of UCSB students.

[SMILE!]



BRANDON JAMES PHOTO

Health & Wellness interns share some Gaucho love quarterly with their "Love Your Body" campaign. To learn more about other programming, visit wellness.ucsb.edu.

Staying Connected

UCSB Campus Calendar: <http://events.as.ucsb.edu>

UCSB Home: <http://www.ucsb.edu> or call (805) 893-8000

Campus Connection: <http://www.sa.ucsb.edu/parents/StayInformed/index.aspx>

Campus Learning Assistance Services: <http://www.clas.ucsb.edu> or call (805) 893-3269

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Educational Opportunity Program: <http://www.sa.ucsb.edu/eop> or call (805) 893-3235

Gaucho Parents website: <http://www.sa.ucsb.edu/parents>

Health & Wellness Program: <http://wellness.sa.ucsb.edu>

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Office of Student Life: <http://www.sa.ucsb.edu/osl> or call (805) 893-4569

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Orientation Programs: <http://www.sa.ucsb.edu/orientation> or call (805) 893-3443

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UCSB Crime Statistics: <http://www.sa.ucsb.edu/Policies/CleryAct> or call (805) 893-7884

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