Meet the Class of 2016!

New Student Convocation 2012

“Students are not empty vessels that we, your professors, will fill up. You already have experiences and talents, and you are developing skills. It is my responsibility to expose you to knowledge, and to get you to thinking about what we do not yet know or understand.”

— DR. KATHY FOLTZ
Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology
Convocation Faculty Keynote Speaker

Veterans Resource Center Opens | Support for Dream Scholars | New GauchosFYI
Meet the Class of 2016

Greetings go out to 6,350 new Gauchos

The UCSB Office of Admissions experienced a significant increase in applications for fall 2012 as UCSB’s reputation expanded around the globe. More than 68,800 smart young people submitted their academic and personal histories for consideration — 55,249 freshmen and 13,569 transfer students. The total was 4,311 more than last year, an increase of 8.7 percent.

The freshman applicants reported an average GPA of 3.72. One third of applicants had a GPA above 4.0. The average total score on the three-part SAT exam was 1,754 (up four points from last year). After the evaluation period from November to March, 24,622 freshman applicants were offered admission to UCSB, or about 44 percent of the applicants. The GPA for this admitted pool was 4.07.

The incoming class this fall will comprise about 4,750 freshmen and 1,600 transfer students, an increase of around 650 and 200 students, respectively, compared to fall 2011. While it may appear that the campus is increasing overall enrollment, more students are actually graduating in less time, freeing up additional seats for the incoming classes.

Among the enrolling students, approximately 42 percent are the first in their family to attend a four-year college. About 29 percent are identified as underrepresented minorities, adding to the increasing diversity of the UCSB campus.

The University of California (UC) system in total received a record 160,939 applications — 126,299 from freshman and 34,640 from transfer applicants. All nine UC undergraduate campuses experienced increases in freshman applicants and, with the exception of UC Merced, all UC undergraduate campuses experienced decreases in transfer applicants.

In reviewing the year’s work on admissions, UCSB Director of Admissions Christine Van Gieson shares that, “In addition to strong academic credentials, our incoming students also present a wide range of accomplishments outside of the classroom. UCSB has admitted an extraordinarily talented new class.”

INTRODUCING THE NEW CLASS

UCSB is one of nine UC campuses that saw increases in the number of freshman applicants.

More than 68,800 undergraduate applications were submitted to UCSB.

Applications were up 8.7% — or 4,311 — from last year.

The average GPA of the 24,622 freshman applicants offered admission was 4.07.

Of the 6,350 new enrollees, about 42% are “first-generation” — the first in their families to attend a four-year college.

The entire UC system received a record 160,939 applications for the 2012-2013 school year — that’s a total of 126,299 freshman and 34,640 transfer applications.
Eac'h year, UCSB recognizes a handful of graduating students who demonstrated excellence both inside and outside the classroom and made extraordinary contributions to campus life. This year’s University Awards Ceremony, which took place on June 15, continued this long tradition by honoring 56 students with some of the university's most prestigious awards. Three remarkable graduating seniors received the university's top awards for their scholastic achievement, their extraordinary service to the university community, and their personal courage and persistence. This year’s ceremony also featured the presentation of the new Yonie Harris Award for Civility in Public Discourse in honor of retiring Dean of Students Yonie Harris, whose 28-year service to our campus exemplified the principles of free speech, civility, and open-mindedness that this award recognizes.

HARRISON E. WEBER received the Thomas More Storke Award for Excellence, the campus's highest student honor, for outstanding scholarship and extraordinary service to the university, its students, and the community. An outstanding honors student with a 3.73 GPA, Harrison earned a bachelor's degree with distinction in his major in history of public policy. A highly effective Associated Students (AS) president, Harrison made significant contributions to University of California (UC) systemwide and campus practices and policies in areas that range from student healthcare services, capital planning, and judicial affairs to student political engagement. As AS president, he created the position of vice president for public health and, as the undergraduate chair of the UC systemwide presidents, he co-authored a letter outlining concerns about proposed changes to student healthcare and insurance. Harrison took a leadership role in advocating for a new student engagement center in conjunction with a possible re-envisioning of the University Center. As student advocate general, he lobbied to implement restorative justice practices that resulted in the formation of a restorative justice implementation committee this past academic year. Harrison also brokered an unprecedented agreement between UCSB students and the administration that promised non-violent protests in exchange for the recognition of students’ right to engage in free expression around volatile political issues. Perhaps most importantly, Harrison led the systemwide charge asking President Yudof and the UC Regents to reconsider a tax on student fees established through referenda that support student services. Harrison plans on pursuing a joint degree in law and public policy or public service.

SETH R. GORELIK was the recipient of the Jeremy D. Friedman Memorial Award for outstanding leadership, superior scholarship, and contributions to undergraduate life on campus. Seth was recognized for increasing the visibility of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) at UCSB to the immense benefit of students, faculty, and staff across the disciplines. Earning a bachelor's degree in geography and a GPA of 3.72, Seth pursued his passion through both academic achievement and extracurricular involvement. He worked in the Department of Geography as a student intern for the Visualization & Image Processing for Environmental Research (VIPER) Lab and a research assistant for the Earth Research Institute, in addition to concurrent responsibilities as a grader for the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences at Santa Barbara City College. At UCSB, Seth was also vice president of the Geography Club. His most impressive achievement was as a student assistant in the Map and Imagery Lab at UCSB’s Davidson Library where, with superior technical skills, he led the integration of important GIS technologies into the daily work of the library and the creation of digital data from a wealth of older aerial photography materials, allowing for remote access to map information and a more seamless user experience. Seth has been credited with both launching a movement within the library and opening up productive new avenues for academic research at a time of unprecedented interest in mapping technologies.

ANTOINETTE L. MORELAND-CARTER was the recipient of the Alyce Marita Whitted Memorial Award for her endurance, persistence, and courage in the face of extraordinary challenges while pursuing an academic degree. Separated from her family at a young age, Antoinette spent her early childhood in different homes and lacked the traditional support network available to most students. Given that fewer than 2 percent of foster youth will attain a bachelor's degree, Antoinette’s accomplishments are nothing short of awe-inspiring. Antoinette graduated with a bachelor's degree in sociology and left a legacy for former foster youth — or “Guardian Scholars” — at UCSB. Demonstrating leadership and commitment to serving her peers, she co-founded and co-chaired UCSB’s Guardian Scholars organization, which provides support and programming for its members, raises awareness of foster youth issues, and initiates outreach to high school students in the foster youth system. Reaching out beyond UCSB, Antoinette was a founding member and secretary of the Santa Barbara County chapter of the California Youth...


AFIYA N. BROWNE was the recipient of the newly created Yonie Harris Award for Civility in Public Discourse, which honors graduates who best exemplify the principles of free speech and respectful dialogue and who foster a campus climate of civility and open-mindedness. A passionate yet diplomatic leader, Afiya dedicated her time at UCSB to advocating for social justice and civil cross-cultural dialogue. She distinguished herself for the maturity and humility with which she navigated sensitive political issues among students, staff, and community stakeholders. As a user group coordinator for the MultiCultural Center (MCC), Afiya facilitated the interaction of 50 campus organizations and worked with the MCC Council to raise awareness of issues pertaining to students of color, the queer community, and marginalized religious groups. She took a leadership role in resolving volatile issues around racial and cultural identity and media representation on campus, promoting a climate of inclusion among diverse student communities and guiding them toward positive outcomes. Afiya also helped to build community among students of color as freshman representative and co-chair of the Black Student Union, program director for the Women of Color Conference, and mentor coordinator for the Santa Rosa Black/African-American Scholars Floor through the Dr. Clyde Woods Mentorship Program. Afiya did this while carrying a double major in Black studies and sociology and participating in the prestigious McNair Research Scholars Program, through which she received the Clyde Woods Recognition Award for her excellence in academic achievement and her contribution to the McNair Scholars community.

Housing’s “Green” Points of Pride

- The San Clemente Villages graduate student apartment complex was awarded its second Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) gold-level certification from the US Green Building Council. This makes the 385,000-square-foot project the largest university housing facility in the nation to be double-certified at the gold level. At the time of its opening in 2009, San Clemente Villages was certified with LEED Gold for New Construction. With the new distinction — LEED Gold for Existing Building Operations & Maintenance — San Clemente becomes the first residential project anywhere to achieve LEED Gold in both categories.

- This past January, all four UCSB Dining Commons were honored by the Green Business Program of Santa Barbara County for satisfying stringent standards and achieving Green Business Certification.

- The hundreds of college residence halls that competed to save energy in the nation’s second Campus Conservation Nationals (CCN) decreased energy use by a whopping 1.7 million kWh of electricity and nearly $160,000. Launched by the Alliance to Save Energy in partnership with Lucid Design Group, the US Green Building Council, and the National Wildlife Federation, the CCN competition brought together nearly 250,000 students from 150 colleges and universities across the United States and Canada to save energy and water in their residence halls. Six of the Alliance to Save Energy’s 16 California Green Campus Program schools participated in CCN: UC Santa Barbara, Humboldt State, UC Berkeley, UC Merced, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, CSU Fullerton, and Cal Poly Pomona. The CCN Green Campus League award for most effective outreach and biggest energy savings went to UC Merced and UC Santa Barbara.

DID YOU KNOW?

UCSB was ranked #10 among all public universities in the nation by US News and World Report (2012).

UCSB serves as the largest employer in Santa Barbara County and an important engine of innovation and economic activity in California.

UCSB is ranked #12 in the nation for the number of alumni who have served as volunteers for the Peace Corps since its inception in 1961.

SOUND OFF! The UCSB Libraries have opened up the world of historic sound recordings by mounting thousands of digitized cylinder recordings on an immensely popular website at http://cylinders.library.ucsb.edu.
Over two million US troops have deployed overseas during the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan over the past decade. Now that the US is actively drawing down combat operations and the missions known as Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom are transitioning into Operation New Dawn, hundreds of thousands of service members are being discharged from the military. Many of those are attending college.

California has the largest population of veterans (two million) in the country, with approximately 30,000 living in Santa Barbara County, according to recent census data. Many of these veterans served on active duty as full-time soldiers, marines, sailors, and airmen and many more in the Active Reserves and National Guard. Some veterans remain in their units while they attend classes at UCSB, facing challenges when required to attend military training or deployment.

At this time, most veterans are eligible for adequate benefits to pursue higher education. The Servicemen’s Readjustment Act of 1944, signed into law by President Roosevelt and known more commonly as the GI Bill of Rights, authorized funds for the education and training of military veterans returning from World War II. The benefits included in the GI Bill were modified several times over subsequent decades. In 2008, the Post-9/11 GI bill was introduced, providing a more comprehensive benefit package that gave veterans the kind of financial support they needed to successfully attend colleges around the nation.

“It’s been a real up-hill challenge to develop systems to support the new Post 9/11 GI Bill,” says Gina Funderburgh, UCSB’s VA certifying official, “yet the benefits to our most deserving veterans have made such a difference in their ability to be successful academically.” Funderburgh and her staff in the Office of the Registrar work directly with all veterans and dependents of veterans receiving GI Bill benefits on a quarterly basis. Funderburgh has been a champion for student veterans for the past 12 years and was instrumental in creating the veteran-friendly campus that we have today, including the Veterans Resource Team (VRT).

The VRT, which is overseen by Student Affairs executive staff Drs. Katya Armistead and Don Lubach and chaired by Dr. Kirsten Olson, is composed of representatives from numerous campus departments and the Student Veterans Organization (SVO). It also works closely with University of California Office of the President (UCOP) representatives to develop systemwide improvements in services for student veterans. Additionally, the VRT provides training to staff and faculty at UCSB and beyond through its “Boots to Books” and “Troops to College” series and collaborates with community agencies such as CalVET, the Ventura Vet Center, Vietnam Veterans of America, Independent Living Resource Center, Inc. and other local veterans’ groups. The VRT also offers a mentoring team to assist veterans with the transition from military to higher education and targeted outreach efforts address military sexual trauma and the needs of women veterans.

Collectively, UCSB staff and students have accomplished all of the best practices for working with veterans in higher education as recommended by several public and private entities.

This summer, UCSB is pleased to announce its latest veterans’ support initiative, the opening of the new Veterans Resource Center. Located in building 477 (rooms 105 and 109), the center provides student veterans with a dedicated study space, two meeting areas, wireless internet access, and resources with information on housing, career support, mental health, and VA services. Beginning this fall, the Veterans Resource Center will also host drop-in hours, during which students can receive assistance from the veterans services coordinator and VA-work study students. According to Victor Marta, SVO president and navy veteran, “priority housing, priority registration, and now the Veterans Resource Center are just a few of the important things the SVO has advocated for and that have been accomplished in the past few years. These benefits are so essential for veterans transitioning into college life.” All UCSB veterans are encouraged to visit the new space and take advantage of the many resources available to them.
During the 2011-12 academic year, the UCSB Dream Scholars workgroup was formed to better understand and address the experiences of undocumented and AB 540-eligible students on our campus. While sharing a common goal of developing campus resources and processes to address student needs related to persistence, retention, and graduation, committee members represent different entities across campus that work directly with Dream Scholars or with policy areas that impact them. Their goal is to look at University of California systemwide, state, and federal policies and implement a campus plan that is both compliant and supportive of the needs and confidentiality of UCSB students.

Areas of current focus are the implementation of legislation AB 130 and 131. AB 130 allows Dream Scholars to apply for grants and scholarships funded from private sources. The implementation of AB 131 will allow students who qualify for AB 540 nonresident tuition exemptions, including those who are undocumented, to apply for Cal Grant awards and for grants and scholarships awarded by California public colleges and universities. This new law will take effect on January 1, 2013, with respect to University of California institutional aid and during fall 2013 with respect to Cal Grants.

Of current interest to the committee and Dream Scholars nationwide are Secretary Napolitano’s announcement of the Deferred Action Process (www.dhs.gov/deferred-action-process) and the possibility of federal work permits for undocumented students. The political and personal impacts of these changes are still unfolding and students will need to decide for themselves whether to pursue these options.

Dream Scholars workgroup members can, however, assist students with understanding residency as it pertains to fees, as well as options around careers, housing, financial aid, scholarships, advising, mentorship, wellness, and general support. Students with questions on these topics can contact the relevant party below. In addition to staff and faculty, UCSB’s IDEAS (Improving Dreams Equality Access and Success) student organization is actively committed and engaged in supporting current and incoming Dream Scholars. For more information about IDEAS, visit http://osl.sa.ucsb.edu/OrgList.

**DREAM SCHOLARS WORK GROUP**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cuca Acosta</td>
<td>Admissions &amp; Outreach Services (Co-Chair)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lupe N. Garcia</td>
<td>Student Academic Support Services (Co-Chair)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roane Akchurin</td>
<td>Housing &amp; Residential Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayra Alcala</td>
<td>Housing &amp; Residential Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ralph Armbruster</td>
<td>Chicani@ Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelly Barsky</td>
<td>College of Letters &amp; Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Basile</td>
<td>Office of the Registrar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR DREAM SCHOLARS**

- Scholarships for Undocumented Students: www.finaid.ucsb.edu/Scholarships.aspx
- UCSB Student Affairs’ Money Matters Guide: www.sa.ucsb.edu/MoneyMatters/Resources/ab540.aspx

Carla Corral, Counseling and Psychological Services
Ozzie Espinoza, Educational Opportunity Program
Diane Fujino, Asian American Studies
Lily Maestas, Career Services
Erick McCurdy, Billing Office (BARC)
Maritza Mejia-Wilson, Orientation Programs & Parent Services
Mike Miller, Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships
Linda Nurra, Dean of Students Office/Student Life
Burt Romotsky, Student Health Service
Lisa Slavid, Housing & Residential Services
Martin Stokes, Office of the Registrar
In the past two years, the Resource Center for Sexual & Gender Diversity (RCSGD) and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Resources have significantly changed the way they serve students. The shift in approach can best be summarized as moving away from doing for students to the philosophy of doing with them. While continuing to provide the same resources, hosting programs, facilitating sensitivity training, and offering individual support to students, much of the work happens behind the scenes through a focus on leadership development for RCSGD student staff and student organization leaders.

In the fall of 2010, the first LGBT Leadership Council meeting, comprising representatives from all of the active queer student organizations, took place at UCSB. The RCSGD, which provided administrative support and structure the first year, has since taken a less prominent role as student organization leaders have stepped up to carry on the work. From the success of that first intergroup collaboration, a fall training for incoming LGBTQ leaders was created. This training focuses on the logistics of leadership, covering a range of topics from registering with the Office of Student Life to securing funding for events. In the spring of 2012, the first Emerging Leadership Institute (ELI) was held to continue the mission of student leadership development by focusing on individual leadership competencies.

In addition to housing two career staff members and seven undergraduate student interns (each assigned to an area for which they hold leadership responsibilities), the RCSGD offers a successful volunteer program that provides four to five volunteers each year with ongoing opportunities for leadership development through departmental trainings and programs, as well as participation in marketing and outreach efforts. “We’re very proud of our student volunteers,” says Joshua Moon Johnson, director of LGBT Resources, adding that “The RCSGD’s mission is to support and prepare our leaders to work in the broader community as well. It’s exciting to see that many of our former students have become resident assistants, student organization executive board members, UCSB Pride committee chairs, and even RCSGD staff members.”

Information about ongoing trainings and initiatives, including volunteer and other programs, can be found at www.sa.ucsb.edu/sgd and by contacting RCSGD staff for more information.
For the past 6 years, UCSB has required all freshman and transfer students to complete an online course as part of the University’s comprehensive approach to education, prevention, and safety. This fall 2012, UCSB is introducing an expanded approach to this first-year requirement that will integrate some new evidence-based interventions. The online portion of the mandate will utilize the highly acclaimed, interactive program AlcoholEdu in combination with Haven, a sexual assault prevention module. In addition, UCSB will launch GauchoFYI, an in-person, interactive 90-minute workshop in small group settings led by trained peer facilitators and supervised by professional staff.

The online AlcoholEdu and Haven courses, which are mandatory for all freshman and transfer students, include sections on alcohol, drugs, and sexual violence aimed at helping students make safer and more responsible choices. AlcoholEdu utilizes a personalized, custom approach for each student depending on their gender, attitudes, behaviors, and readiness to change their behaviors. All responses collected by the module are confidential, with the exception of a student’s name, identification number, and completion status, indicated by a passing score of 75% or higher in each section.

The new GauchoFYI, on the other hand, is currently required only for freshmen, who must attend one 90-minute peer-facilitated workshop within the first six weeks of fall quarter. GauchoFYI workshops will be held at UCSB Student Health Service, where students will receive important health and safety messages that are specific to the UCSB and Isla Vista communities.

In order to successfully complete the first-year requirement for 2012, transfer students must complete only the online courses, while freshmen are required to complete both the online and in-person components. Failure to meet these requirements may result in a block being placed on a student’s registration that would prevent him or her from enrolling in classes in future quarters. Details about the new student requirement, including how to sign up for GauchoFYI sessions, were sent to students’ university email accounts this summer.

In addition to the courses for students, UCSB offers AlcoholEdu for Parents, an online resource designed specifically for parents of students who are required to take AlcoholEdu. The course begins with an overview of AlcoholEdu and provides talking points around alcohol for parents to use in conversations with their students. To access AlcoholEdu for Parents, visit http://parents.alcoholedu.com and enter the following login ID: P110705PARENT.

Parents or students who have questions about the new requirements for students can call (805) 893-2914 or email shs.alcohol@sa.ucsb.edu for more information.
Student Health Reminders

■ Student Health Services’ comprehensive and accredited health care facility, which is available to all UCSB students, offers care on both an appointment and walk-in basis every weekday. Available staff, who offer a broad range of expertise, include physicians, psychiatrists, consulting medical specialists, nurse practitioners, registered nurses, physician assistants, pharmacists, dentists, physical therapists, dietitians, and optometrists. In addition, advice nurse and social work visits are available without charge to all students. Students can visit http://studenthealth.sa.ucsb.edu to obtain more information, to confidentially send a question to an advice nurse or their clinicians, and to make online appointments. General questions can also be directed to studenthealth@sa.ucsb.edu or (805) 893-5361. Information on how to obtain local care when Student Health is closed (most evenings and weekends) can be found at http://studenthealth.sa.ucsb.edu/AfterSheet.aspx.

■ Flu shots are now available. These are an important strategy to prevent illness in fall and winter, as influenza can start as early as October. Along with other immunizations, flu shots are available daily, without appointments needed, from 10-11:30 a.m. and 1-3:30 p.m.

■ UCSB’s Student Health Insurance Program (UC SHIP) allows students to seek healthcare early and often when the need arises. There are no visit fees for UC SHIP students and medications are provided for small co-pays. Students seeking a general health assessment and prevention tips to maintain lifelong wellness can also schedule annual “well person” exams. Referrals for outside care must come from Student Health providers, who will coordinate care to ensure the best outcomes. UC SHIP includes dental and vision coverage through Delta Dental and Blue View Vision, which allows students to use both UCSB optometrists and dentists and community providers in those insurance networks. More information on these and other insurance benefits can be obtained at http://studenthealth.sa.ucsb.edu/UCSHIP/ucship.aspx or by contacting the Student Health insurance office at insurance@sa.ucsb.edu or (805) 893-2592. ■

SAFETY TIPS: BIKING, WALKING, JOGGING, AND SKATEBOARDING ON CAMPUS

We encourage the UCSB community to be active, however ...

■ UCSB roadways are not to be used by pedestrians, joggers, or bikers except when crossing at designated crosswalks.

■ Pedestrians must stay on the provided walkways.

■ Pedestrians and skateboarders are not allowed on bikeways (serious accidents can result).

■ Wearing headphones while walking or jogging is discouraged. It is prohibited for bicyclists and skateboarders.

The campus community has a number of great jogging paths including the beach, the trails around the campus lagoon, the walkway from San Clemente to Santa Catalina, and other campus walkways.
Last fall quarter, Housing & Residential Services gathered teams of staff and students to tour UCSB’s residential living facilities and brainstorm how to improve them – an initiative focused on creating what they’ve called the “WOW Factor.” As a result, new patio furniture was added at Anacapa, San Nicolas, Santa Cruz, and Santa Rosa residence halls, resulting in raving feedback from students. But of course it’s hard to go wrong with comfortable study space, stunning views, fresh air, and high-speed WiFi!

UCSB’s Commencement 2012 ceremonies, which recognized over 5,900 members of the class of 2012 and welcomed 40,000 visitors to our campus, were highlighted for the first time ever by high-definition live webcasts, with connections made from over 20 countries around the world over the course of the weekend. Anyone interested in next year’s Commencement ceremonies, which will take place June 9-16, 2013, can follow the updates posted at www.ia.ucsb.edu/commencement.

This year’s GIVE project, coordinated by Student Affairs Division staff in collaboration with Housing & Residential Services and community volunteers, raised $26,000 for charity and diverted approximately 17 tons of waste from local landfills. The event, which encourages students to donate their unwanted items at the end of the year was advertised as a “zero waste move-out” aiming, among other things, to educate students on how unwanted items can be donated and recycled. The GIVE staff and volunteers received donations of furniture, kitchenware, bedding, books, media, clothing, electronics, and other items, which were organized by volunteers and sold at a rummage sale on June 23 and 24. Collected food items were donated to the Associated Students Food Bank for UCSB students. Sale proceeds were divided up among local non-profit organizations and all unsold items were donated to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Associated Students Community Financial Fund offers UCSB undergraduate students grants of up to $400 per student per fiscal year (July 1–June 30). Students seeking these grants must attend one Community Financial Fund Financial Literacy Workshop, complete a one-page essay stating why they need the grant and how their need is a priority over others, and complete a financial literacy quiz with a score of 70% or better. Please note that grants are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis and approval is based on a student’s financial aid status. More information is available at the Associated Students’ Ticket Office or at http://cff.as.ucsb.edu.