Associated Students: Committed to Making a Difference

Does your son or daughter enjoy working with people to make a difference in his or her community? UCSB Associated Students (AS) is the place on campus where undergraduates get involved, make a difference, and gain skills that they will use to make positive contributions to their communities throughout their lives. Initiatives undertaken by students working through Associated Students at UCSB and around the country have had a significant impact locally and internationally. The successes of their efforts are a testament to the enduring truth of Margaret Mead’s oft quoted call to action, “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world." Current AS President Miguel Lopez strikes a similar chord when he says, “The legacy of student organizing and government is such a beautiful and rich part of our campus history. We would not have many of the things we have today were it not for the students that were here yesterday thinking about those of us here today and those that will come tomorrow.”

UCSB Associated Students is governed by four executive officers and a 25-member legislative council elected each spring quarter by the undergraduate student body. In addition, AS boards and committees address a wide range of issues and work directly in the university and larger communities. KCSB, UC’s oldest radio station, allows students to present programs and music not heard on commercial radio. AS businesses provide services to students, including a ticket office, publications service that produces class contacts, and a bike shop that provides repairs and free maintenance training to UCSB students and staff. Administrative support is provided by an experienced professional staff committed to promoting students’ interests.

AS’s greatest strengths are its diversity and its commitment to developing leadership skills. President Lopez has advocated for underrepresented communities on campus. He is a strong supporter of UC outreach programs and has lobbied against rising student fees. The student government is currently working on a variety of issues, including the redevelopment of Isla Vista and ways to manage the impact of statewide budget cuts on current and future students. Here are some of the many ways that AS makes a difference in the campus community:

- The AS Community Affairs Board places over 2,500 student volunteers in community service organizations each year. These students are devoted to serving the local community. Their service puts them in direct contact with community members whose personal histories are often very different from their own. These contacts can be life changing for both parties.
- AS Program Board events are produced start to finish by students. They include concerts, movies, and special events. Program Board also sponsors a variety of community events, many of which actively seek to include underrepresented groups.
- The AS Women’s Commission represents and advocates for women. It publishes the annual Herstory, empowering women by providing a literary space for sharing their experiences. It also sponsors “Take Back the Night,” a yearly community event that calls attention to the reality of violence against women.
- The Student Commission on Racial Equality (SCORE) works to ensure that UCSB provides a positive and supportive environment for students from diverse cultural backgrounds.
- The AS Legal Resources Center provides free legal advice for students. It is currently implementing an internship program that will give interested students valuable experience by working with local law offices.

UCSB Associated Students is about building community and developing leaders in a safe, supportive environment that encourages creativity and the lively exchange of ideas. The benefits of participation are absolutely guaranteed to last a lifetime! Associated Students can be contacted at (805) 893-2566.

Can you hear me now? Reaching out and making connections is the way of life for busy Associated Students executive officers. Clockwise from upper left: Jewel Love, AS external vice president for statewide affairs; Logan Green, AS external vice president for local affairs; Miguel Lopez, AS president; Denise Aceves, AS internal vice president
Helping Students Invest in Their Futures

As graduation draws near, the prospect of getting a job and beginning a career looms ever larger for students and their parents. Given the economy, this is an especially challenging time to embark on a career. But UCSB’s strong academic programs, combined with excellent services delivered by professionals and peers in Counseling & Career Services (C&CS), help students to successfully navigate the transition from college life to the world of work.

Career preparation actually begins when students are freshmen. C&CS offers career counseling and advising, testing, and workshops that help students identify their strengths and articulate their interests, then choose majors in line with both. As students progress, C&CS assists them in securing part-time employment, obtaining internships, and joining professional associations. These opportunities provide students with hands-on career preparation, connect them with role models, and involve them early on in networking. Juniors and seniors take advantage of C&CS’s workshops that develop job search, resume writing, and interview skills; participate in the campus interview program, which brings high-profile employers to campus to interview student candidates; access GauchoLink’s extensive, online job listings;

and attend on-campus career fairs conducted by organizations such as the Business Economics Association.

Large numbers of students have discovered C&CS’s exceptional services. Each year on average, C&CS handles more than 1,500 appointments and 4,500 “drop-ins,” has workshop attendance in excess of 5,500, and logs a staggering 20,000 plus contacts in the Career Resource Room and over 750,000 contacts electronically. To compete more effectively with colleges in urban centers in terms of connecting graduating students with jobs, UCSB hopes to create a job developer position. A job developer would enhance UCSB’s public relations and marketing efforts with well-established and highly respected firms and corporations, as well as with emerging companies at the forefront of the many new career fields made possible by technological innovations. The job developer also would work directly with students to develop their job search skills so that students are highly polished and successful in transitioning into their careers of choice.

At present, C&CS lacks funding for this important position. If you are interested in supporting Counseling & Career Services on behalf of current and future UCSB students, please contact Dr. Dennis Nord, director of C&CS, at (805) 893-4411 (mord-d@sa.ucsb.edu) or Valerie Otten, director of development, at (805) 893-8542 (valerie.otten@ia.ucsb.edu).

Gift Enables UCSB to Launch Year-Round Adapted Recreation Program for the Disabled

UC SANTA BARBARA has received a $75,000 contribution from the Bialis Family Foundation of Santa Barbara to establish a recreation program serving children and adults with physical and developmental disabilities.

The gift to launch the UCSB Adapted Recreation Program comes from the foundation’s Clara Project, which is helping agencies throughout Santa Barbara County create and expand existing programs to enrich the opportunities available to people with disabilities.

“We are very confident that the adapted programs provided by UCSB’s Recreation Department will substantially enhance both the quality and the variety of activities available to disabled participants throughout the Santa Barbara area and beyond,” said the donors, Gary and Ellen Bialis, in correspondence about the gift.

The new program will expand sports and recreational activities for children and adults both on campus and in the surrounding region by offering year-round sports and recreational activities tailored to the special needs of participants. UCSB will collaborate with local agencies and municipalities to maximize available resources, enhance opportunities, and avoid duplication of services.

“We are extremely grateful to the Bialis family for their generosity and commitment,” said Jon Spaventa, director of the UCSB Physical Activities and Recreation Department. “Their wonderful gift will allow us to develop a dynamic program of adapted recreation for the greater Santa Barbara community.”

Beginning next summer, the campus will assume leadership of the Junior Wheelchair Camp, working in partnership with the City of Santa Barbara. An adapted recreation program will follow in the fall. Several all-day Saturday sports clinics are also being planned during the program’s first year for children from Santa Barbara, Ventura, Kern, and San Luis Obispo counties.

“We are pleased to know there will be an adaptive recreation program at UCSB,” said Diane Glenn, director of the campus’s Disabled Students Program. “This is a great opportunity for students with disabilities to become more involved in sporting activities, and it is a privilege that UCSB will be able to offer these opportunities to community members as well.”

The Clara Project was named in memory of Gary Bialis’s aunt, who was born with cerebral palsy during a time when the only option for people with severe disabilities was being placed in an institution. Clara, who died in 1970, inspired the Bialis family to strive to create and fund programs to enrich the lives of those with disabilities.

For more information about the new program, contact the Recreation Department at (805) 893-2181.

GauchoLink

Parents:
Post Your Job Openings or Internship Opportunities on GauchoLink

GauchoLink is a free online job listing service which offers a wide range of options for students to connect to employers including an on-campus recruiting program and job listing service for employers seeking to hire interns; part-time or seasonal employees; or full time, permanent staff. For more information and to list a job, please visit www.career.ucsb.edu or call (805) 893-4418.

Campus Connection

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 parents and families of UCSB undergraduates.

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 stepmothers, stepfathers, uncles, aunts, grandparents, siblings, friends and others who play a significant and supportive role in the lives and successes of UCSB undergraduates.

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If you need this document in an alternative format, please call 805-893-7884.

www.sa.ucsb.edu/parentnewsletter
Driver Education

EVERY PARENT’S WORST NIGHTMARE is a phone call in the middle of the night. Sadly, last summer three such phone calls resulted from tragic traffic accidents that claimed the lives of three UCSB students. In each of the accidents fatigue and driver distraction played significant roles. Three intelligent students with bright futures and unfulfilled potential died too soon.

Some accidents are beyond the control of the driver, but the facts that follow demonstrate that many are the result of a combination of factors based on age, inexperience, and poor choices. In a 1997 report from the National Traffic Safety Council, traffic accidents killed 5,477 young adults (passengers and drivers ages 15-20). Forty-one percent of fatal crashes involving young adults occur between 9:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. Almost one quarter of those who died in speed-related crashes were in this age group, and over 60% of those who died were not wearing seat belts. Two out of three teenagers killed in auto accidents are males. We think all parents will agree that these are sobering figures revealing the vulnerability of our college-age sons and daughters.

We expect that you have had countless conversations with your sons and daughters about safe driving and the need to make wise choices, and we encourage you to continue to do so. A large part of students’ resistance to changing behavior is their sense of immunity to such tragedies. Young people honestly think nothing bad will happen to them. Ultimately they will make their own choices; but hopefully as they do, they will hear your words of caution. One father told us he wrote his sons a long letter about safe driving habits. His fundamental advice—first drive the car and consider everything else secondary.

This father’s advice is reminiscent of a recent freeway billboard showing a man driving and writing on a notepad. The caption reads, “World’s Deadliest Office, Just Drive.” Driving at night and without adequate sleep might elicit “World’s Deadliest Bedroom, Just Drive.” Driving and eating would be “World’s Deadliest Restaurant, Just Drive.” Many automobile accidents can be avoided. Educate your sons and daughters on the importance of driving safely and increase the likelihood that they will achieve those bright futures.

FAQs: Financial Aid Questions

My son or daughter has not yet applied for financial aid for the 2004-2005 academic year? Can he/she still apply?

YES! Students applying after the priority filing deadline of March 2, 2004, will only be considered for the Pell Grant, Direct Loans (subsidized and unsubsidized), and the Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS). In addition to applying using the paper version of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) which is available at all high schools, colleges, and universities, students may also apply at www.fafsa.ed.gov. UCSB’s school code number is 001320.

If my son or daughter has already applied for financial aid, when will he/she receive an offer of financial aid?

The financial aid award notification process takes place electronically. Your son or daughter will be notified of his/her award on the UCSB Financial Aid Web site at www.finaid.ucsb.edu/AidStatus/index.asp. If additional information (e.g., tax returns) is required, your son or daughter will be sent an e-mail in April or May directing him/her to check the aid status on the Web site. Students are urged to respond to the Request for Additional Documents (RAD) within thirty days of notification since no further action of students’ eligibility will occur until all requested documents are submitted. Once this information is received, a financial aid package is created and your son or daughter will be sent another e-mail directing him/her to view the Financial Aid Award Letter (FAAL) on the Web site. Generally, students will be notified of their aid eligibility by September 15, 2004, the fall quarter fee deadline.

What scholarships are available?

UCSB awards its limited allocation of scholarship aid primarily to continuing UCSB students who file the FAFSA by the March 2, 2004, priority deadline and who meet the dual criteria of financial need and academic merit. UCSB students who have filed a 2004-2005 FAFSA will be automatically considered for the restricted scholarships that UCSB has to offer. Additionally, there are links to free scholarship search engines on the scholarship section of the Financial Aid Office Web site (www.finaid.ucsb.edu). Please note any scholarships received reduce a student’s need and may necessitate a reduction in the financial aid package; however, the first aid category that would be reduced is student loans.

How does my son or daughter receive his/her financial aid?

All aid is disbursed quarterly and credited to students’ BARC (Billing, Accounts/Receivable, Collections) accounts with the UCSB Billing Office if the student is enrolled in at least six quarter units. The aid that is credited to BARC accounts will be applied to existing charges such as quarterly fees and university housing (if applicable). If the aid credited to the student’s BARC account exceeds the charges, the UCSB Billing Office will mail a refund check. If a student does not live in UCSB-owned residential housing but instead lives in facilities such as Tropicana Gardens, Fontainebleu, or in the local community, he/she will need to use the proceeds of his/her refund check to pay for non-university housing. If the aid credited to the student’s BARC account is insufficient to pay all “now due” charges, the student is responsible for paying the difference by the fall quarter fee deadline of September 15 (refer to the fall BARC statement and pages 2 and 3 in the fall quarter 2004 Schedule of Classes).

What is the PLUS Loan?

The PLUS Loan is the Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students. Because it is not a need-based loan, parents may take out a PLUS Loan on behalf of their dependent undergraduate student to help fund educational expenses. A PLUS Loan may be a component of a student’s financial aid package. In most cases parents use a PLUS Loan to cover the “parent contribution” portion of their student’s financial aid eligibility. The interest rate is variable (currently 4.22%) and is capped at nine percent. Each applicant must pass a credit check to have his/her PLUS loan approved.

Is financial aid available for summer quarter 2004?

Summer Session financial aid (grants and loans) will be available only to eligible continuing UCSB undergraduate students who attended spring quarter 2004, are in academic good standing, have a complete 2003-2004 FAFSA on file with the UCSB Financial Aid Office, and submit a Summer Session 2004 Financial Aid Application. These applications will be available in the Financial Aid Office and on the Web site (www.finaid.ucsb.edu) beginning April 1. The priority-filing deadline for the Summer Session 2004 Financial Aid Application is April 30, 2004.

UCSB Briefs

• Together We Build was the theme of the second annual student staff divisional event which brought together a cross section of student staff employees representing twenty-four student service departments, Student Affairs professional staff, and the vice chancellor and his executive team, for an evening of mentoring and networking. This annual winter quarter event allows the Student Affairs Division to take the pulse on current student issues, needs, trends and concerns; and gives divisional student staff a chance to understand how integral they are to both the division’s service delivery and service development.

• An electronic newsletter is sent on the first of each month to all freshmen from the Office of Student Life’s director of First Year Programs and Leadership, and to all sophomores from the student & parent liaison. These e-newsletters are designed to provide students with information on events, classes, and deadlines relevant to them as either freshmen or sophomores and pertaining to their academic, social, and personal experiences at UCSB.
Gaucho Graduation At a Glance

Schedule of Ceremonies:

• Sunday, June 6, 2004 - 11:00 a.m.  
College of Creative Studies, Campbell Hall
All Saturday (June 12) and Sunday (June 13) ceremonies take place on the Faculty Club Green.
• Saturday, June 12 - 9:00 a.m.  
Science and Mathematics
• Saturday, June 12 - 1:00 p.m.  
Engineering and Science
• Saturday, June 12 - 4:00 p.m.  
Social Sciences I
• Sunday, June 13 - 9:00 a.m.  
Social Sciences II
• Sunday, June 13 - 1:00 p.m.  
Arts and Humanities
• Sunday, June 13 - 4:00 p.m.  
Graduate Division

Students must make a commencement reservation for an open and available ceremony in order to participate in commencement. Special note: Parents, please remind your student that declaring candidacy for an official degree and making a commencement reservation are two separate actions on the GOLD system.

Please keep in mind that hundreds of graduating seniors will be inviting thousands of family and friends to the commencement ceremonies. Students participating in the College of Letters and Science ceremonies should limit their number of guests to a maximum of six to help maintain sufficient comfort and decorum.

For more information, call the Commencement Hotline at (805) 893-8289 or visit the Web site at www.instand.ucsb.edu/commencement. For accommodations information visit www.eventsandleisure.com. Book hotel rooms soon; space is limited!

Grad Faire

A Grad Faire will be held April 14 - 15 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. in the University Center lobby. Various campus department representatives and vendors will be available to answer commencement questions. Check out the Graduation Center on the UCSB Bookstore web site at www.bookstore.ucsb.edu/graduation/graduation.html.

Grad Gift: Gaucho for Life

Need a special graduation gift idea for your son or daughter? Why not give the gift that will last a lifetime? A life membership in the UCSB Alumni Association. Benefits include career connections, job postings, networking, Coastlines publication, travel tours, alumni directory, and locator service. More information can be found on the Alumni Web site at www.ucsbalam.com.

Campus Services Center

Debuts at FT

A recent collaboration between the Division of Student Affairs and the College of Letters and Science has resulted in establishment of a pilot on-site Campus Services Center in the main lobby of Francisco Torres (FT) Residence Hall. Student residents now have convenient access to resources and advice provided by professional and peer staff members from key campus services. Available in late afternoon and early evening hours the Campus Services Center is intended to complement the work of live-in professional staff and students. Academic advisors, health educators, and professional staff from the Office of Student Life and Educational Opportunity Program answer questions and provide information and referrals to approximately 600 students. The Campus Services Center also supplements existing programming with additional on-site workshops provided by Counseling & Career Services, Campus Learning Assistance Services, and the Women’s Center.

Staying Connected

UCSB Campus Calendar: http://events.sa.ucsb.edu/calendar/
UCSB Home: http://www.ucsb.edu or call 805-893-8000
Campus Connection Newsletter: http://www.sa.ucsb.edu/parentnewsletter; e-mail: Newsletter@sa.ucsb.edu
Campus Learning Assistance Services: http://www.clas.ucsb.edu or call 805-893-3269
Associated Students: http://www.as.ucsb.edu or call 805-893-2566
Counseling & Career Services: http://career.ucsb.edu or call 805-893-4411
Division of Student Affairs: http://www.sa.ucsb.edu or call 805-893-3651
Educational Opportunity Program: http://www.sa.ucsb.edu/eop or call 805-893-3235
Financial Aid Office: http://www.finaid.ucsb.edu/ or call 805-893-2432
Housing & Residential Services: http://www.housing.ucsb.edu or call 805-893-2760
Office of the Registrar: http://www.registrar.ucsb.edu/ or call 805-893-3592
Office of Student Life: http://www.sa.ucsb.edu/osl/ or call 805-893-4569
Orientation Programs: http://www.sa.ucsb.edu/orientation/ or call 805-893-3443
Student Health Service: http://www.sa.ucsb.edu/studenthealth/ or call 805-893-3371
UCSB Bookstore: http://www.bookstore.ucsb.edu/ or call 805-893-3271