BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE:
The Student Resource Building

The Division of Student Affairs is pleased to announce that the much-anticipated groundbreaking for the campus’s new Student Resource Building (SRB) is scheduled for spring 2004. The initial idea and momentum for the SRB sprang from student leaders who were keenly aware of the need for an improved facility that would house expanded support services while providing space for student-initiated activities. The students so believed in the SRB that they voted to assess themselves fees to help pay for its construction.

When the SRB opens its doors in early 2006, UCSB students for the first time will have access to key student retention and success services located centrally in one state-of-the-art facility. At SRB, students will receive tutoring through Campus Learning Assistance Services (CLAS) and advising and mentoring through the Educational Opportunity Program. They will participate in Rape Prevention Education programs and use the resources in the Women’s Center library. Fraternities and sororities will receive guidance and support from Greek Affairs in the Office of Student Life. International students will come together with students from California’s many ethnic groups for programs offering insight into our multi-cultural society.

Our challenge to the SRB architects was to design a building that would house key student service departments while attracting and welcoming all kinds of students in spaces that would promote—but not force—encounters and meaningful connections between students. We believe the SRB will be a place where students discover who they are as individuals, as groups, and as a larger community.

—Dr. Yonie Harris, Dean of Students

Because the SRB will house support services rather than academic programs, it is ineligible to receive capital project monies allocated by the California Legislature. We are deeply grateful that students elected to support the SRB through their fees. It is from a combination of student fees, Student Affairs operating funds, and generous support from alumni, parents, friends, corporations, and foundations that the SRB will be constructed, equipped, and fully furnished. Funding is still needed, for example, for computers in the open-access lab, furnishings in the student lounges, and media equipment in the multipurpose room. Gifts to establish program endowments and a student-initiated activity fund also are essential.

To find out more about the SRB and how you can help, please contact Valerie Otten, director of development for academic programs and student affairs, at (805) 893-8542 or via email at valerieotten@ia.ucsb.edu.

The three-story SRB will house:
- Campus Learning Assistance Services
- Orfalea Family Children’s Center
- Early Academic Outreach Program
- Educational Opportunity Program
- Education Program for Culture Awareness
- Graduate Division Satellite
- Office of International Students and Scholars
- Office of Student Life
- Resource Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity
- Women’s Center
- Conference and Meeting Rooms
- Kitchen
- Multipurpose Room
- Open-access Computer Lab
- Student Lounges
Highlights of UCSB Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Prevention Initiatives

Under the leadership of the UCSB Alcohol and Other Drug and Violence Prevention Task Force UCSB continues to collaborate with community members, the County of Santa Barbara, and local law enforcement on a number of initiatives to reduce high risk drinking by UCSB students in the community of Isla Vista. The following are highlights of current efforts:

**Parental Notification** – Since September 2002 parents of UCSB undergraduates who are arrested or cited in Isla Vista for alcohol or other drug offenses now receive letters notifying them of the arrest or citation. These letters also provide information on resources available to assist UCSB students. Between September 2002 and June 2003 UCSB sent 327 parent notification letters. Comparison with data on the number of UCSB students arrested and cited for AOD offenses during the previous fall quarter (prior to implementation of parental notification), shows a 45% decrease in UCSB students arrested or cited after implementation of parental notification.

**Extension of Jurisdiction** – UCSB is now in the third year of extending jurisdiction of the campus conduct system to students off campus who are charged with violence, threats of violence, sexual harassment, stalking, and hazing. Since jurisdiction has been extended over campus six students have been sent to hearing and all six were suspended from school.

**Community Safety Ordinance** – This new ordinance was approved by the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors in summer 2002 and actively supported by the university. The Community Safety Ordinance allows the Isla Vista Foot Patrol to close down parties that create a public nuisance; that is, parties where many large open parties take place. This effort is underway to ensure their leases prohibit kegs and large parties and that rental property owners are responsive to Foot Patrol letters under the Property Owner Notification Program.

**Keg Registration** – The IV AOD Council is also pursuing an important change in California State law. Currently kegs purchased in Isla Vista are identified by an easily removable paper tag. The IV AOD Council and the university are asking that the state Alcohol Beverage Control agency institute a more permanent identification and tracking system on kegs. This will allow law enforcement to more easily identify people who have purchased kegs and hold them accountable for how the kegs are used.

**Conditional Use Permits** – In collaboration with the County, the IV AOD Council and the university are pursuing a conditional use permit for new businesses in Isla Vista who wish to sell alcohol. These permits set conditions on how alcohol can be sold (e.g., requiring that food sales be the primary basis for a new business).

**Orientation Presentations** – Freshmen attending Orientation this summer heard a more direct message from UCSB about alcohol use, community membership, campus standards, and student responsibility. New students at each Orientation session were joined by their parents for an address by the dean of students and an academic dean from the College of Letters and Science. In addition, parents were provided with information about the dangers of high risk drinking among college students in the “First Year Issues” presentation that takes place during Parent Orientation.

**21st Birthday E-mails** – For the second year, UCSB students turning 21 will receive an e-mail from the vice chancellor for student affairs containing happy birthday wishes and encouragement to celebrate responsibly. The e-mail, with its practical tips for celebrating safely, has been positively received by students.

**Residence Hall Peers** – In addition to ongoing peer education efforts on alcohol and drugs offered through Student Health Service, a new effort has begun this year to establish health advocate chairs in the residence halls. Students elected to this position serve as liaisons between residence hall students and professional health educators at Student Health Service. Health advocate chairs regularly communicate health needs and concerns expressed by students and plan educational programs on a variety of health issues, including alcohol and other drugs.

**Brief Motivational Interviewing** – UCSB health professionals and residence life staff are among the many people on campus being trained to provide brief non-judgmental interventions with students, a technique that has proven effective among college students in reducing alcohol use. By asking a few well-chosen questions about alcohol use, brief motivational interviewing helps change behavior by encouraging self-reflection.

For more information about UCSB’s comprehensive efforts to reduce high risk drinking and its negative consequences among students and in the community of Isla Vista, please contact Ian Kaminsky, director of alcohol and other drug programs, at (805) 893-2633 or Debbie Fleming, associate dean of students, at (805) 893-4094.

**Del Playa Property Owner Association** – Under the leadership of the Isla Vista Alcohol and Other Drug (IV AOD) Council (a community based coalition) efforts are being made to organize owners and managers of rental properties on Del Playa, the street in Isla Vista where many large open parties take place. This effort is underway to ensure their leases prohibit kegs and large parties and that rental property owners are responsive to Foot Patrol letters under the Property Owner Notification Program.

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**Alcohol-Free, Alternative Social/Cultural Programming** – This year in addition to ongoing Weekend Spotlight advertising in the Daily Nexus student newspaper, the Office of Student Life is offering mini-grants to student groups wishing to organize student-initiated weekend social programming. Funding for these events (ranging from $300 to $1000) comes from a new mandatory student fee passed by students in spring of 2003. In addition, several prominent faculty members are working with student affairs administrators to bring more cultural activities to the community of Isla Vista as another alternative to the large open parties that dominate the social scene.
Faculty-in-Residence: A Unique Living & Learning Experience

Dr. Apostolos Athanassakis, a professor of classics for the last thirty-five years, was appointed the first faculty residential learning director at UCSB in May 2003. His new duties include a fifty-percent time appointment as the new faculty-in-residence at Manzanita Village, assisting in the development of a living/learning community. Professor Athanassakis, who grew up in a Greek community about the same size as Manzanita village, is charged with enhancing the scholarly and intellectual life of the housing complex’s 800 residents through organized programs that include other faculty as well as outside speakers.

Professor Athanassakis began his UCSB career in 1968, living in the neighboring community of Isla Vista. During his early years at UCSB, he worked for the Bank of America building and experienced civil unrest on campus in opposition to the Vietnam conflict, including 800 students commandeer the main administration building. These events had a profound impact on Dr. Athanassakis and on the way he views his work with students. In addition to the impact he has had over time through lecture classes, Professor Athanassakis believes in and values the role he can play in students’ lives by being part of the community in which they reside. “I believe students are our hope for the future. I want to invest in that hope,” states Dr. Athanassakis.

One of his primary goals is to address the issue of student cynicism. In addition, Dr. Athanassakis accepted the new position in order to make a world impact. “By teaching students to live cooperatively and collaboratively, we make this a better world.” He goes on to say, “I want to touch the hearts of the people. The more isolated and self-driven they are, the worse we will be. The more collaborative and cooperative, the better off we all are.”

When asked how he will measure his success in this new role, he states, “I would like to see students helping each other, and more volunteerism dealing with larger humanitarian issues, such as homelessness and illiteracy. There are many illiterate residents right here in Isla Vista. I would like to see students who help a sick or old person across the bicycle path or street, and students who have a lively interest in society and politics. I would love to walk into Manzanita Village and find students sitting and reading, and engaging in discussions on world issues, engaging in what many people have entitled ‘socialization.’”

Dr. Athanassakis lives exclusively in a Manzanita Village apartment (in Pendola House, Los Robles Quad), complete with living room, bedroom, and kitchen. The residential program runs on an annual contract for a maximum of three years.

Financial Aid Dates, Deadlines & Details

December 15, 2003 – Fees for winter quarter 2004 must be paid or deferred with the Billing/Accounts Receivable Office by 4 p.m. on this date. If your son or daughter is a financial aid recipient, aid (except some parent loans) will be automatically credited to his or her BARC account, which requires an enrollment minimum of six units. Students can review their BARC account status on the GOLD system. For more information on this process, refer to pages 12 and 13 in the Winter 2004 Schedule of Classes.

January 1, 2004 – The 2004-2005 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) can be filed with the federal processor. To be considered for financial aid, your son or daughter must re-apply each year and list UC Santa Barbara, school code #005320, in Step 6 of the FAFSA. The FAFSA is available at all high schools, colleges, and universities across the U.S. It can also be filed electronically on the Internet at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Electronic filing of the FAFSA is recommended.

Note: If your student filed a FAFSA for the 2003-2004 academic year, the federal processor will automatically send a “renewal” FAFSA in the mail in late January or early February. If your son or daughter does not receive the “renewal” FAFSA in the mail and the March 2 deadline is approaching, he or she can file a regular FAFSA or file a FAFSA on the Internet.

March 2, 2004 – This is the priority-filing deadline for UCSB financial aid and for Cal Grants. Students who file after this deadline will be considered only for federal Pell Grants and student loans. Students who file the FAFSA should obtain a “certificate of mailing” from the U.S. Post Office as proof of meeting the priority-filing deadline.

Special Information for Cal Grant Recipients: Students who receive a Cal Grant stipend are required to take at least 12 units per quarter or their Cal Grant stipend will be reduced proportionally. If your son or daughter is a Cal Grant recipient, please remind him or her to enroll in at least 12 units during winter and spring quarters in order to receive the full Cal Grant stipend each quarter.

March 15, 2004 – Fees for spring quarter 2004 must be paid or deferred with the Billing Office by 4 p.m. If your son or daughter is a financial aid recipient, aid (except some parent loans) will be automatically credited to his or her BARC account as long as your student is enrolled in a minimum of 6 units. Students can review their BARC account status on the GOLD system. For more information on this process, refer to pages 12 and 13 in the Spring 2004 Schedule of Classes.

April 15, 2004 – This is the deadline to file the 2004-2005 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) using estimated income tax information. In order to meet the March 2, 2004, priority-filing FAFSA deadline, do not wait to file the FAFSA until your taxes are prepared. Educational tax credit information can be accessed at the following web site: http://www.fafsa.org/publications/2000/grevhopecc111698.html.

For more information on financial aid, please visit the UCSB Financial Aid web site at www.finaid.ucsb.edu or call the Financial Aid Office at (805) 893-2432. The office, located in 2003 Saasb, is open from 9 a.m. to 11:50 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Reality Porn Unwelcome in Isla Vista

Unfortunately, an exploitative new “business” practice has made its way to Isla Vista—reality pornography companies that have begun targeting college communities across the nation. These companies exploit college students—both male and female—by making videos for profit that include footage of students in various stages of undress or engaged in sexual activity. One method of securing participants is for a company to “rent” a student apartment for a “party” where availability of alcohol helps to encourage behavior that will provide marketable footage. At the beginning of fall quarter, the vice chancellor for student affairs, Michael Young, and dean of students, Yonie Harris, sent an e-mail to all undergraduate students warning them about these companies.

At present the campus is working with local authorities and law enforcement to pursue any possible legal remedies. From the campus point of view, such practices are exploitative, unwelcome in the community, and damaging to our students and the image of the institution. UCSB’s student government agrees. On October 8, the Legislative Council of UCSB’s Associated Students passed the following resolution: “We the 2003-2004 Associated Students Legislative Council of the University of California, Santa Barbara, promote good citizenship and responsible behavior by opposing predatory porn companies that exploit and compromise the future of the students of the University of California, Santa Barbara.” Also, student leaders involved in UCSB fraternities and sororities have publicly denounced this type of exploitation, as have other groups.
Tips for First Time Renters

The Community Housing Office (CHO) will sponsor a series of educational workshops in January 2004 to orient students to the rental community. CHO’s programs educate students on all aspects of rental housing—finding a place to live, understanding leases and housing law, engaging in successful roommate relationships, and much more. Student peers will share their personal experiences renting in the community. Parents as well as students are encouraged to attend the workshops to learn the basics of rental housing and ask indepth questions.

The Community Housing Office will be introducing its new edition of the Rental Housing Survival Guide at the workshops. The Guide is a wealth of factual information, “insider” tips, warnings, and assurances. CHO is especially proud of this year’s Guide, which features a new colorful, user-friendly format. It includes several useful sample forms, including a model lease and tenant application.

Many parents wonder what they can do to assist as their son or daughter becomes a first-time renter. CHO suggests beginning conversations with your son or daughter over the holidays about where he or she might live next year. Encourage your son or daughter to communicate openly throughout the process. Parents will very likely be asked to co-sign a lease, taking financial responsibility for payment of rent. Consider speaking to the parents of other roommates before entering into a legal contract with them. Many leases contain a “joint and several clause” that obligates tenants—and co-signers—to pay the total rent amount if other tenants pull out of the lease.

Students should feel free to drop by the Community Housing Office any time for personalized assistance. The office is located on the third floor of the UCen, Room 3151, or visit the CHO web site at www.housing.ucsb.edu/cho_community.htm, or call the office at (805) 893-4371.

UCSBBriefs

*NEW STUDENT CONVOCATION*, now in its fourth year, provided new freshmen and transfer students with a formal beginning to their UCSB experience and the chance to hear advice from United States Poet Laureate Billy Collins. Collins delivered the Convocation keynote address to nearly 4,500 new students, staff, and faculty on the afternoon of September 15, 2003, and later addressed a capacity crowd during an evening reading at Campbell Hall presented by UCSB Arts & Lectures.

*GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS* that enable a student to participate in commencement ceremonies have changed. In order to participate in commencement 2004, your son or daughter needs to have 164 units completed or in progress during spring quarter 2004. Please remind your student to plan his or her unit load for the remainder of the year accordingly. Students should be mindful that reserving a commencement ceremony space and declaring candidacy for a degree are two separate actions on the GOLD system.

COMMENCEMENT 2004 dates have been set for June 6 (College of Creative Studies) and June 12 and 13, 2004. General information will be available this month on the Commencement web site which can be accessed at www.instadv.ucsb.edu/commencement. Students are asked to limit their number of guests to a maximum of six. Tickets are not required for commencement ceremony seating. Parents are advised to make Santa Barbara hotel and restaurant reservations early. Please visit the web site for local accommodations, dining suggestions, professional commencement photography information, and much more.