Room at the Top: UCSB Purchases Francisco Torres

UCSB purchased the privately held Francisco Torres residence hall located in Isla Vista on December 23, 2002. This purchase provides UCSB and Housing & Residential Services with a wonderful opportunity to expand its programs in residential life, dining services, and residential operations. This acquisition reinforces UCSB’s commitment to the Santa Barbara community by providing university-owned housing to all UCSB freshmen.

Built in 1966, Francisco Torres is situated on nineteen acres and comprises two high rise buildings—one ten stories tall and the other eleven stories—providing for a total of 1325 bed spaces. The facility includes a 25-meter swimming pool, lighted tennis courts, sand volleyball court, and half-court basketball area.

College Park, the current property manager of Francisco Torres, will continue to manage the facility and run day-to-day operations for the remainder of this academic year. Housing & Residential Services will assume full management on June 30, 2003. Plans include, at a minimum, a review of the organizational structure and staffing levels; an evaluation of operating procedures in maintenance and dining services; evaluation of the condition of facilities and equipment; and review of information technology requirements, programming issues, and plans.

Concurrent with the transition plan, preparation for a major refurbishment of Francisco Torres will continue. From July to December, 2003, one tower will be closed for up to thirty weeks for a complete refurbishment. The second tower will begin refurbishment in January, 2004, and will be completed by September, 2004.

Housing & Residential Services looks forward to working with the Residence Halls Association (RHA) to develop a strong residence hall government at Francisco Torres. Current interest halls will be evaluated and Francisco Torres staff and residents will be asked about what programs and activities they feel have been most successful and what suggestions they have for 2003-04.

Take It, Don’t Leave It—Annual UCSB Move-Out

While it may seem premature to be talking about your son’s or daughter’s moving out of his/her current residence hall room or apartment, the university is already planning for “move-out” in June. Although not a coordinated event, move-out has some major impacts on the campus and surrounding community.

At UCSB and in Isla Vista nearly 20,000 people change residence every year. This phenomenon results in almost six hundred tons of materials that end up in the Santa Barbara County landfill. To help reduce the impact each year, the university and the County of Santa Barbara already take the following measures:

• daily patrols by solid waste management trucks for the two weeks preceding the end of the spring quarter to pick up extra garbage;

• a large community garage sale called G.I.V.E. (Great Isla Vista Extravaganza) that sells and recycles three hundred and twenty cubic feet of clothes, small appliances, furniture, and reusable household items; and

• an educational handout for students developed and distributed by the UCSB Community Housing Office.

In addition, university staff would like to enlist parents’ help in several important ways:

• Ask your student if there is anything you can take home now or early in spring quarter (e.g., winter coats, an extra TV, or other appliances that are unneeded).

• Encourage your son or daughter to donate unwanted items early in spring quarter. He/she can do this by contacting local charities such as:
  - Alpha Thrift—805-962-1123
  - Catholic Charities—805-965-7045
  - Santa Barbara Rescue Mission—805-966-1316
  - Transition House—805-966-9668
  - Jewish Family Service of Santa Barbara—805-957-1116.

• Ask your student to donate to G.I.V.E. by contacting 805-893-4979.

• Encourage your student to volunteer through the office of Isla Vista Liaison Catherine Boyer at 805-893-4979.

• And, finally, remind your student that tossing re-useable or recyclable materials in the landfill will eventually cost all of us!
Experience: The Key to Entering the Job Market

Out-of-classroom experience is the “hidden curriculum” on campus. Employers who hire students seek experience as well as academic training when making hiring decisions. This experience can be in the form of employment, internships, or leadership positions in clubs, intramural sports, or fraternities and sororities. The magic combination of experience and education best positions students for successfully entering the job market when they graduate. Summer jobs are an excellent way for students to start to accrue this experience; and opportunities abound, even in a tight job market.

Several campus departments, such as Housing & Residential Services, UCSB Bookstore, Dining Services, and Physical Activities & Recreation, hire students to work during the summer. As there is no central location that coordinates student hiring for the entire campus, students are encouraged to visit the individual departments that interest them to inquire about possible summer openings. Many departments select their summer student staff members by March or April.

Counseling & Career Services (C&S) has partnered with monsterTRAK to provide Santa Barbara employers easy access to student employment. Typically there are thirty to fifty part-time jobs listed daily on monsterTRAK, most in the local area. To access these online listings students should go to www.career.ucsb.edu and click “Register with monsterTRAK.”

C&S maintains an extensive listing of local area internships—approximately five hundred in the Santa Barbara, Isla Vista, Goleta areas. About forty percent of these internships are paid, and the remaining are volunteer positions. These are the resume builders that impress employers when students begin applying for jobs after graduation. Students can access these internships through monsterTRAK on the C&S Website.

C&S sponsors an annual Summer Job Fair which draws employers from all over the country. Many employers are seeking temporary help such as camp counselors and park staff. The fair is usually held in early April; students should watch for ads in the Daily Nexus for the exact date and location.

Students are encouraged to drop by Counseling & Career Services to speak to one of the career employment peers for help in finding and applying for internships. C&S maintains a large library of books, brochures, postings and directories to assist students in their internship application process.

UCSBriefs

• Campus Learning Assistance Services (CLAS) recently opened the CLAS Isla Vista Study Center located in Embarcadero Hall, the university’s newest lecture facility. Aiming to bring tutorials and a quiet study atmosphere to students living in Isla Vista, CLAS runs daily tutorial groups in math, science and economics. Monday through Thursday evenings students transform the classrooms into study centers. Tutors are on hand to assist students with writing or studying strategies, and also assist in the small, open-access computer lab. The CLAS computer lab also hosts daytime classes offered by the Student Information Systems and Technology Department.

• In addition to the normal pressures of college life, some students find themselves dealing with obstacles related to medical, academic, financial, social, and family factors. A one-year pilot social work program is now providing additional support to these UCSB students. Licensed clinical social worker Burt Romotsky addresses the most complex student situations that require coordination of multiple campus and community services. The campus social worker’s role is to help students identify and access what they need to maximize their performance and adjustment while at UCSB. In an effort to support students, UCSB’s social worker can do the following: complete a psychosocial assessment by meeting with the student and, with the student’s permission, consulting parents and service providers; link the student with appropriate UCSB and community resources and services; provide ongoing support and advocacy; monitor the student’s progress towards achieving goals; and assist students who are leaving UCSB in locating and obtaining continued services.

Students are eligible for services without cost. Burt Romotsky has over twenty years of experience providing medical and mental health social work services. He welcomes and encourages parental involvement and questions. His office is located in Student Health and he can be contacted directly at 805-893-3380 for information and/or appointments.

• UCSB students turning twenty-one may be surprised to receive a personal birthday greeting from Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Michael Young. The concept of sending an e-mail “birthday card” to students before their 21st birthday originated in the Alcohol and Other Drug Workgroup at UCSB. The idea was inspired by the success of several other colleges that use birthday cards to encourage students to celebrate responsibly by reducing their risk. Recent research at Michigan State University, where educational birthday cards are mailed to students, shows that students who received the cards were less likely to get drunk and less likely to drink shots of liquor to celebrate. The UCSB e-mail includes tips such as making arrangements for getting home safely before going out, avoiding drinking games, and including a meal or food as part of the celebration. Parents can also contribute to a safer twenty-first birthday celebration by urging their son or daughter to celebrate responsibly if they choose to celebrate with alcohol.

Celebrating 25 Healthy Years

Twenty-five years ago, before the advent of word processing, voicemail, e-mail, and the Internet, UCSB’s Health Education Department (HED) was created as the educational arm of Student Health Service. Developed initially to train students as birth control discussion leaders, the Health Education Department has emerged as a vital force in college health care. UCSB now offers credit-bearing peer programs in cold care; blood pressure and cholesterol; stress and laughter; relationships; sexual health; eating disorders; nutrition; theater-based health education; alcohol and other drugs; and leadership and community health for athletes, Greeks, and resident assistants.

Considered a leader in the prevention field, UCSB’s HED established the first Alcohol & Other Drugs Awareness Program and the initial Eating Disorder Program in the University of California system in the early 1980s. In the early 1990s, HED introduced curriculum infusion (CI) to UCSB as a way to integrate substance abuse prevention information into a variety of academic courses offered by UCSB faculty. Currently, the health education department sponsors CI projects in communication studies, dramatic arts, film studies, art studio, English, history, sociology, women studies, psychology, writing, geography, law and society, and in the Graduate School of Education.

Over the years, UCSB’s Peer Health Education Program has received national recognition and numerous awards for its outstanding programs, presentations, and internship classes. Today, dedicated peer educators are actively involved in working with coalitions of students, faculty, staff, and government officials to create environmental changes that will directly influence health on campus and in the community. Twenty-five years of experience has transformed UCSB’s health education department into an innovative leader in the field of prevention serving as a model for other colleges and universities.

If you need this document in an alternative format, please call 805-893-7886.

Website: www.sa.ucsb.edu/parentnewsletter
Campus Preparedness to Identify and Respond to Biological Terrorism

On Feb 10, FBI Director Mueller identified colleges and universities as potential “soft targets” for terrorist activities. While the issue has currently become very high profile in the media, it is important to remember that the risk of death from terrorism remains extremely low. Compared to the risks involved in normal daily activities, such as driving a car or participating in sports, this risk is minimal. However, in an attempt to respond to concerns and questions, university officials present the following information.

Q. What is the university doing to help prevent terrorism on campus?
The campus Police Department currently is on alert, which means that officers are being particularly vigilant with regard to certain kinds of activities and situations that might be associated with a terrorist threat. Uniformed police officers have increased their presence in the core of the campus and have also increased the frequency of foot patrols through the residence halls. There is also heightened security at large public events on campus such as bag checks for attendees at selected events.

Q. Is the university prepared to respond to an incident of large-scale terrorism?
The kind of illness or injury anticipated would require a response that is fairly typical of, but on a larger scale than, a standard public health response to a communicable disease. Our campus community has an infrastructure in place (via the programs of the Student Health Service, the Division of Student Affairs, the Office of Residential Life, the Department of Environmental Health & Safety, and the Police Department) to work under the direction of the County Public Health Service. This allows us to deploy necessary medical interventions in an efficient and timely manner.

Q. Is the local community prepared to respond to terrorism?
In Santa Barbara County, the Public Health Department and Office of Emergency Services (OES) operate with state-of-the-art baseline public health response plans in place. In addition, they have been working for more than a year to coordinate and enhance local terrorism preparedness.

OES has convened a countywide Terrorist Workgroup comprising law, fire, and health officials, as well as military and federal intelligence representatives to further these efforts. Specific response plans have been formulated. The Public Health Department is also actively involved in the State and Regional Terrorism Response Planning Groups, which have direct links to the Center for Disease Control and FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency). These two agencies, along with the FBI, would be responsible for managing small-scale incidents. Any university response to a terrorism event would be conducted under the direction of the Terrorist Workgroup.

Q. Does the university plan to use smallpox vaccine as a preventive measure?
Currently, the only recommendation for smallpox vaccine is for small numbers of emergency medical personnel and first responders. At this time, the recommendation does not apply to any campus service providers.

Q. In the event of a major disaster on the UCSB campus, how could I obtain information about the status of the campus and students?
Communication is critical in any emergency situation. While communication within an area struck by a disaster will be limited or nonexistent, individuals may still be able to call outside of the immediate area by cell phone or even using a standard telephone or pay phone. Your family should develop a point of contact where all family members could call with an update of their status. This number should be for an out-of-state relative or friend. In addition, for family members outside of the Santa Barbara area, the following UCSB emergency information line will contain campus specific information: 1-900-200-UCSB (not accessible on cell phones or pay phones; please use a standard phone).

Campus emergency updates will also be available on the web site beginning April 1. The priority-filing deadline for the Summer Sessions 2003 Financial Aid Application. These applications will be available in the Financial Aid Office and on the web site beginning April 1. The priority-filing deadline for the Summer Sessions 2003 Financial Aid Application is May 2, 2003. Answers to these and many other questions can be found on the Financial Aid Website at www.finaid.ucsb.edu.

FAQs: Financial Aid Questions

My son or daughter has not yet applied for financial aid for the 2003-2004 academic year. Can he/she still apply?
YES! Students applying after the priority filing deadline of March 3, 2003, 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), students may also apply online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. UCSB’s school code number is 001320. Students are encouraged to apply now to ensure aid is available in time to pay fall quarter charges by the September 15 fee deadline.

How will my son or daughter be notified of his/her eligibility?
New for 2003-04: The financial aid award notification process will take place electronically. Your son or daughter will be notified of his/her award on the UCSB Financial Aid Website at https://www.finaid.ucsb.edu/AidStatus.

Is financial aid available for summer?
Summer Sessions financial aid (grants and loans) will be available to eligible continuing UCSB undergraduate students who attended fall, winter, or spring quarter of the 2002-2003 academic year, are in academic good standing, have a complete 2002-2003 FAFSA on file with the UCSB Financial Aid Office, and submit a Summer Sessions 2003 Financial Aid Application. These applications will be available in the Financial Aid Office and on the web site beginning April 1. The priority-filing deadline for the Summer Sessions 2003 Financial Aid Application is May 2, 2003. Answers to these and many other questions can be found on the Financial Aid Website at www.finaid.ucsb.edu.

Summer Sessions Offers Unique Advantages
Summer Sessions offers your son or daughter several unique advantages during the summer quarter. In their own words, students share a few reasons for attending summer session at UCSB.

• Save money—unit fees for UC undergraduates are capped at eight units and there are no out-of-state fees. “The rates are cheaper and it gives me a chance to focus on one class...”
• Graduate sooner—make up a missed class or finish some general education (GE) requirements. “I decided to attend summer so I do not have to be here for five years.”
• Enjoy learning—focus on a few subjects at a time while attending less crowded classes. “I wanted to take courses for personal enrichment and interest while saving money.”
• Get to know UCSB—Summer Sessions offers open enrollment allowing UC students can enroll on any campus. “I wanted to experience taking a course at an entirely different institution...”

For detailed Summer Sessions information including a copy of the current catalog contact Summer Sessions at:
UCSB Summer Sessions, 2214 SAASB
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-2010
Phone: 805-893-2047 FAX: 805-893-7306
E-mail: info.questions@summersessions.ucsb.edu
Web: www.summer.ucsb.edu
Commencement Planning 101

Schedule of Ceremonies:

- Sunday, June 8, 2003 — 11:00 a.m. College of Creative Studies
  Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall

All Saturday (June 14) and Sunday (June 15) ceremonies take place on the Faculty Club Green.

- Saturday, June 14 — 9:00 a.m. Science and Mathematics
- Saturday, June 14 — 1:00 p.m. Engineering and Science
- Saturday, June 14 — 4:00 p.m. Social Sciences I
- Sunday, June 15 — 9:00 a.m. Social Sciences II
- Sunday, June 15 — 1:00 p.m. Arts and Humanities
- Sunday, June 15 — 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 graduating seniors will be inviting thousands of family and friends to the commencement ceremonies. Students should limit their number of guests to a maximum of six to help maintain a high level of comfort and decorum.

For more information, call the Commencement Hotline at (805) 893-8289, send an e-mail to commencement@sa.ucsb.edu, or visit the Website at www.instadv.ucsb.edu/commencement. For accommodations information visit www.santabarbaraca.com. Book hotel rooms soon; space is limited!

Grad Faire

A Grad Faire will be held April 16 - 17 from 10 a.m. - 3 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 Bookstore Website 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 Website at http://www.ucsbalum.com.