Munger Responds to Architecture Criticism: UCSB Stands By Design

Atrakka Iyer
County News Editor
Asmi Shasta
Asst. News Editor

The resignation of architectural consultant Dennis McFadden resulted in nationwide attention on the construction of Munger Hall — the dorm building that has prompted questions over its design. The building now houses 6,400 students and opened by Fall Quarter 2022.

McFadden specifically cited team members’ issues with the building’s unique design. In his resignation, McFadden detailed that the architecture of Munger Hall: the building will be "a sort of floating box" outside from inside the building. The eight-person living units being completely "sealed" with no external windows and the complete lack of access to the natural light, artificial lighting and mechanical ventilation.

Staff Fencers

Taylor Clark
Staff Writer

UC SANTA BARBARA — The UC Santa Barbara Fencing Team Clinches Big West Victory After Removing Halloween Barricades in Record Time

Varun Iyer and Sierra Vakili are trying out for the fencing team next year. "I'm just so thrilled, I knew our team had it within them, and we’ve had just a great crop of fencers this year," UC Santa Barbara is known far and wide as a top fencing school, with more miles of fencing erected and deconstructed each year than any other school — even Harvard and Stanford! I think our fencing team also has the opportunity to appeal to a unique sense of pride for their work. Unlike other schools, which construct and deconstruct fences as a game or sport, Gauchos fencers have the opportunity to contribute to their university by fencing those with fencers, but of course, they can’t escape. Silly fencers!"

Taylor Clark
Staff Writer

UCSF Boxing Team Clinches Big West Victory After Removing Halloween Barricades in Record Time

A spectator is haunting Isla Vista — the specter of police occupation.

"It is self-evident that Halloween is one of the most popular holidays of the year, and with good reason. Halloween is, by its very nature, an opportunity for people to escape the stress and mundanity of modern life — a time when people are temporarily encouraged to take on a new identity and wanted free license to whisk themselves away from the basal concerns of daily life, through their 9 to 5, cloaking themselves in a persona of their choosing. It’s a holiday for candy, friends, late nights, spooky movies, celebrations, and of course, more candy and maybe even some hitchhike beverages."

Under the right circumstances, Halloween represents a beautiful opportunity for building community in solidarity around the shared themes of things like homework and low-wage jobs to encourage social interaction among students through cooking together with homeowners," Estrada said.

Despite the stated amenities, some UCSB students have questioned the building's contribution to the housing crisis. "The university should prioritize the construction of additional housing — and that means 25,000 students until 2025 and beyond," San Diego County and community coalition Oversight Now.

"I think the building will be a huge success," Munger told the LA Times. "If this building fails, it will be the first Munger building that fails."

Munger added that he isn’t surprised with the criticism given the building’s unique design. "You’ve got to get used to the fact that the most popular people in our society," he added. Mark Baker of the UCSB is accused of violating the university’s lease agreement. The building — funded by Billionaire and philanthropist Charles Munger — is part of the university’s goal to substantially reflect the lighting levels and color temperature of natural daylight.

The Nexus will continue covering the Munger Hall development.

The building has become the center of controversy due to its unique design. In his resignation, McFadden specifically cited team members’ issues with the building’s unique design. The architecture of Munger Hall: the building will be "a sort of floating box" outside from inside the building. The eight-person living units being completely "sealed" with no external windows and the complete lack of access to the natural light, artificial lighting and mechanical ventilation.

The Nexus will continue reporting on the Munger Hall development.
Regeneration: Environmentalist Paul Hawken Restores Hope on the UCSB Campus

Marimah Bagdayi

Paul Hawken, an environmentalist and entrepreneur, spoke about the importance of regenerating the Earth during the Oct. 24 UC Santa Barbara Arts & Lectures event “Regeneration: How to Repair the Earth in Our Lifetime.”

The lecture was one of many that the university’s campus-wide Creating Hope campaign, a list of initiatives through UC connection, promote emotional well-being, joy, and compassion, and positive change within the UCSB community.

The event began with the opening of the exhibition “Regeneration: How to Repair the Earth in Our Lifetime,” an interactive display on the first floor of the UCSB Student Activities Center, one of the most visible locations on campus. The event was co-sponsored by UCSB Arts & Lectures, the UC Santa Barbara Stearns Center, and the UCSB Office of Sustainability and Environmental Science & Management.

Hawken was previously invited to speak at a book launch event for his book, “Regenerating the Earth: Ending the Climate Crisis in One Generation,” as well as the Nexus News 2020-21 editor, Atmika Iyer, and Nexus News staff writer, Jesus Posada. The Nexus News 2020-21 edition was dedicated to this topic.

Hawken began the lecture by explaining the concept of regeneration. “Regeneration is about more than just changing the environment itself,” he said. “It’s about changing the way we see regeneration, how we think about regeneration.”

Hawken explained that regeneration is not just about reversing the damage done to the environment, but also about changing the way we interact with it. “We need to look at the Earth as a living organism, not as something that we can control or manipulate,” he said. “We need to recognize that the Earth has its own intelligence, and that we need to learn to listen to that intelligence.”

Hawken emphasized the importance of understanding the Earth as a living organism. “We need to recognize that the Earth has its own intelligence, and that we need to learn to listen to that intelligence,” he said. “If we don’t learn how to communicate with the Earth, we will continue to cause harm to the planet.”

Hawken also discussed the importance of sustainability and the need to make sustainable choices in our daily lives. “We need to make choices that support the health of the planet, and that support the well-being of future generations,” he said. “We need to make choices that support the health of the planet, and that support the well-being of future generations.”

Hawken’s lecture was one of many that the university’s campus-wide Creating Hope campaign, a list of initiatives through UC connection, promote emotional well-being, joy, and compassion, and positive change within the UCSB community.

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The housing crisis has pushed many students out of Isla Vista and into cities like Goleta or Santa Barbara.

Alex Hartmann said that Isla Vista has 2,100 parking spots, two exits and 34 parking spots, two exits and primarily windowless rooms. He said that the dormitory — funded by the county and then later by UCSB — was built as a temporary solution to ease the housing crisis but that it has become the norm. ‘That’s like a perfect storm, isn’t it?’ he said.

‘We are anti-capitalist, anti-imperialist. We support abstraction on all fronts, that’s the military industrial complex and the police,’ she said. ‘We are huge advocates for getting cops off of not only campus but out of marginalized communities and low-income communities because police heavily target those communities.’

Guerreros added that she enjoyed the solidarity she felt between the organizations attending the event. ‘We’ve gotten a good amount of people interested in our work. And it’s really nice to see that not only we’re working, but others as well, kind of come together in support of this,’ she said.

For Clark, the events success showed that students and community members had the capacity to enjoy Halloween and keep one another safe without the police presence.

‘I think we’ve accomplished our goal of showing that it really isn’t necessary to have the hyper-militarized police presence we’ve had in Isla-Vista-Halloween,’ she said.

As a community, we have the capacity to put the people we love first.

‘All of our resources right now, through tax dollars through tuition, that are being funneled into the cops, really are more of an anathema to the type of safe environment that we’re trying to create.’

The housing crisis has pushed many students out of Isla Vista and into cities like Goleta or Santa Barbara. 

Holly Rusch

Community Engages in Mediation With UCSB for Violation of the Long Range Development Plan

The festival, hosted by a coalition of student and local organizations, had live music, speakers and community artists selling local arts.

SYDNEY HAUPT / DAILY NEXUS

The housing crisis has pushed many students out of Isla Vista and into cities like Goleta or Santa Barbara.

According to the campus police, the housing crisis has pushed many students out of Isla Vista and into cities like Goleta or Santa Barbara.

The festival, hosted by a coalition of student and local organizations, had live music, speakers and community artists selling local arts.

SYDNEY HAUPT / DAILY NEXUS

The housing crisis has pushed many students out of Isla Vista and into cities like Goleta or Santa Barbara.
The shelter is currently housing residents who, with a few exceptions, are not moving to permanent housing or are facing serious obstacles to sober living rehabilitation.

The community response to the shelter has been generally positive, with community members donating food, table and other goods.

The community has no legal right to turn a house into a home,” Hartmann said in a statement to the Nexus.

The shelter has a maximum capacity of up to 50 beds, depending on COVID-19 protocols, and the facility is not open to drop-in services or housing. All of the current residents of the shelter are locals in Isla Vista.

“All of the current residents came from encampments in Isla Vista or the surrounding Goleta area, which was the goal of the project — to close dangerous encampments, to save safe and dignified temporary housing, while residents incrementally realign their lives, and get them door to door to permanent housing vouchers, with a plan to move into permanent housing,” Hartmann said.

This facility operates as a “low-barrier shelter” so means there aren’t many limitations to qualify for the facility, and the use of alcohol and use are permitted on site. “The goal of the facility is to be a first step in temporary housing option for individuals experiencing homelessness, so as to stabilize their lives through employment and housing options and wrap-around on-site care to help transition them into permanent housing,” the press release from June 15 read.

The shelter is a 20-room, dorm-style building with bed areas, multiple bathrooms and showers, and dining area. All furnishings are provided by state and federal funding.

There have been no calls for law enforcement since the shelter opened, and several people have been NIU for disruptions of any kind, and others have been dealing with getting the building off the ground, according to Hartmann.

The shelter ... over ... the use of alcohol, and that’s something that I’m really proud of,” said Meckler.

The UC president’s office and UC representatives finally began meeting with the UC-AFT on April 17, 2019, formally beginning negotiations. Since then, the two sides have engaged in time-consuming and non-economic issues and side discussions.

Every summer, my friends and colleagues spend time here, and let me know that there had been discussions among the program faculty on whether or not the shelter had represented the next year,” Meckler said.

“These rumors were vague,” she continued. “They seemed unfounded, since I thought I was doing a pretty good job. And they were a little bit before I became director, so I didn’t know what I was going to do if I did become director.”

According to Meckler, the annual job vacancy she faced was the result of budget cuts that had led to a continuing appointment, which had led to a pull back and delay in relocation to her current position.

“We don’t consider their workload the paramount issue,” Meckler said. “They are here to address the problems that we’ve identified.”

What they were essentially saying is that they want to be a precarious, extremely lucrative contract for more than a decade, and now they are in a position to retaliate against me and basically get rid of me in the process,” she said. “I don’t think I ever had a trial,” she said. “It’s pretty incredible. And I have to say, that the kind of it I have seen gross disrespect, marginalization, wage theft, that are essentially the same things that are going on.”

Meckler is fighting to change that system as President of the University Council-American Federation of Teachers (UC-AFT), a union that represents lecturers and librarians at 10 University of California campuses.

After three years of bargaining and negotiations with UC management yielded little success, the UC-AFT is preparing for a strike. The union is seeking for a stable, reliable process and increased compensation amongst other demands, and members of the union are truly going to walk out of the classroom until an agreement is reached.

Three years ago, Meckler helped lead what she called the “largest community engagement effort in UC-AFT history,” personally knocking on doors of 20,000 homes in an effort to hold town hall and listening sessions. The union conducted 450 pop-up clinics on demand from the UC Office of the President and the union to organize their efforts.

Meckler has said that UC President Michael V. Drake on Oct. 19, imploring him to lend their support to the strike: 12 other California politicians have joined in the call to UC President Michael V. Drake on Oct. 19, imploring him to lend their support to the strike.

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UC Santa Barbara and local governmental organizations, including the Isla Vista Recreation and Park District and the Isla Vista Community Services District, put on sanctioned events for students to take part in during Halloween weekend.

### I.V. Theater Showings
The I.V. Theater is playing a series of showings on Tuesdays from Nov. 2 to Nov. 16, free of charge. The following films will be displayed on the following days at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.: "The Forever Purge" on Nov. 2, "The Hitman’s Wife’s Bodyguard" on Nov. 9 and "Jungle Cruise" on Nov. 16. I.V. Theater is also showing the following Magic Lantern films for $5 per ticket: "Old" on Nov. 1, "Free Guy" on Nov. 5 and Nov. 8, and "The Suicide Squad" on Nov. 19 and Nov. 22; all showings will be held at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Finally, a late night double feature of "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" on Nov. 5 at midnight will also be shown for $5 per ticket.

### UCSB Recreation Center
The Recreation Center hosted Hallowheels on Oct. 29 from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., where participants skated, listened to the disc jockey, watched movies, ate pizza, joined a silent disco, made s’mores, decorated masks, painted pumpkins and more.

### Student Organizations
The Salsa, Bachata and Kizomba club hosted its fourth annual Halloween Dance Spooktacular on Oct. 30 from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the University Center Hub. Activities included a costume contest, performances and dance lessons.

### Associated Students
The Associated Students Program Board held its annual Delirium event on Oct. 30 beginning at 8 p.m. at Storke Plaza. This year’s Delirium was headlined by Denzel Curry and featured DoeChii.

### I.V. Community Services District
The Isla Vista Community Services District (IVCSD) created a $10,000 grant program for local organizations putting on Halloween events to use in their programming. The Isla Vista Food Cooperative, the St. George Youth Center and the Associated Students External Vice President for Local Affairs used IVCSD funding to sponsor a costume contest, pumpkin carving and Haunt the Loop, respectively.

Asumi Shuda and Atmika Iyer contributed to this article.
UCSB Students Advocate for Campus Grocery Shuttle

Kyra Schimpf  
Staff Writer

A group of UC Santa Barbara students are gathering student input in order to advocate for the creation of a grocery shuttle which would serve students living on campus, in Isla Vista and in Goleta.

Amongst the grocery shuttle advocates are third-year communication majors Romi Basenally and Lian Basenally and fourth-year communication majors Rudy Bates, Nathan Chenrezita and Jonathan French.

The group of students came up with the idea while taking the community engagement course of Walid Afifi, a professor in the communication department. According to UCSB’s GOLD website, his course asks students to develop a campaign or project that will make a positive impact on the community.

“What do we do is we need to identify an issue in the community and then implement a project to create structural change,” Benasuly said. “And I wanted to implement something like this.”

The project is currently in a research phase, and the group of students hopes to create a campus grocery shuttle that have successfully created campus grocery shuttles.

“What we want to do is to have a UCSB-only grocery shuttle that will pick up students, ideally in Isla Vista but also in areas on campus where students might not have as many meal plans, like freshmen, or those in San Rafael housing,” Benasuly said.

“We’re still doing research to know for sure which grocery stores, but it would just take them straight there instead of having to use the bus route which makes a lot of stops. This would only be for UCSB students, so hopefully, students will feel safe and people will be encouraged to actually use the shuttle.”

The shuttle is planned to cover a series of pick-up and drop-off spots, currently, the group is considering picking up students at the following locations: the intersection of Sabado and Camino Corto, the intersection of Pico de Loro and Camino Pescadero, the intersection of El Colegio and Camino Del Sur.

According to current plans, the shuttle will stop at the following grocery stores: Trader Joe’s, Smart and Final, and the upcoming Vons, Trader Joe’s, Target and Indo China Market. Trader Joe’s was the fan-favorite amongst those surveyed, according to Benasuly.

“And then we would see how successful, then we would want the state to provide funding for it.”

According to the students’ current plan, the bus will run on Sundays. The students would like for the project to be funded by UCSB’s Associated Students (A.S) or the Financial Advisory Board, which helps manage the funds of A.S. Advocates of the shuttle hope that it will be free for UCSB students and faculty.

“A year later, we’ve collected all the data and worked out the logistics and things like that, it would be funded by Associated Students or the Financial Advisory Board,” Benasuly said.

“And then we would see how the pilot program goes. If it’s successful, then we would want the state to provide funding for it.”

“The project is currently in a research phase, and the group hopes to create a campus grocery shuttle that can successfully implement.”

Isla Vista Halloween Passes With No Halloween-Related Arrests

Almikha Iyer  
County News Editor

During Halloween weekend, between Oct. 29 and Oct. 31, the Isla Vista Foot Patrol handed out 17 citations – 13 of which were traffic related and four of which were alcohol related, according to a press release from the Santa Barbara Sheriff’s Office. Though two people were arrested during the span of those three days, both arrests were for outstanding warrants and were not related to Halloween partying.

Over the course of Halloween weekend, the UC Santa Barbara and Isla Vista communities see an increase in policing and regulation as a result of previous Halloween weekends, which drew crowds greater than 10,000. Crime statistics and attendance numbers for the annual weekend have declined drastically since 2013, which saw over 200 arrests and nearly 250 citations.

On Oct. 29, there were 15 citations and seven incipient reports. On Oct. 30, there were zero arrests, eight citations and one incipient report. On Oct. 31, there were seven arrests, citations and nine incipient reports.

As a statement to the Nexus, the Isla Vista Foot Patrol’s (IVFP) Community Resource Deputy Justin Schroeder said there were no citations from Sunday to Tuesday relating to violations of the festival ordinance issued every Halloween prohibiting loud music being played at residences from 6 p.m. to 7 a.m. during the weekend, but it did educate some residents who were unaware of the festival ordinance and playing loud music.

The press release called Halloween weekend in Isla Vista “unsuccessful.”

Schroeder said that Halloween 2021 in Isla Vista was similar to Halloween 2020 in activity levels.

“This year was almost exactly the same as last year. From talking to people over the past few weeks, it sounds like almost everyone is in UV does their Halloween parties the weekend before and then goes back home or heads downtown for the actual Halloween weekend,” Schroeder said in a statement to the Nexus. “The haunted house that I.V. parks did was very well attended and I think the UCSB concert had 2,800-3,000 people, so residents were definitely taking advantage of the provided activities.”

On Saturday, many student organizations gathered near Lighthouse Park to gather in a festival style and to protest against the heavy law enforcement presence – which includes IVFP, the UC Police Department and other UC campus officers. The goal of the 100-person strong, campus organizations, people selling earrings, stickers and more.

Schroeder also thanked residents for participating in small gatherings and the planned sanctioned Halloween events.

“Really our only comment would be thank you to everyone for keeping Halloween a local and safe event. There were a number of small house gatherings that looked fun, but no large out of control parties so that was great,” Schroeder said. “I was also excited to see so many people at the sanctioned events instead of the mega parties like in years past. We were able to drastically reduce our staffing levels from previous years also so that was great.”

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UCSB Hosts Eighth Día de los Muertos Celebration

Over 300 UC Santa Barbara students, faculty and community members celebrated Día de los Muertos on Nov. 2 with food, music and cultural performances outdoors by the Student Resource Building.

A coalition of organizations collaborated on the event, including the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), Latinx UCSB Networking Association (L.U.N.A.), the UCSB Department of Chicano/a Studies and Undocumented Student Services.

Student organizations Marginalized Groups United for Justice, Education, and Representation (M.U.J.E.R.), the Phi Iota Alpha fraternity and La Escuelita also worked on the event and were each provided with a table to set up an altar.

The annual holiday, which originated in Mexico and is observed across Latin and Central America, pays reverence to the dead through hosting festivities and arranging elaborate altars with flowers, photographs, food offerings and decoration.

Organizers served tamales, sweet bread rolls called "conchas," salad, Mexican hot chocolate and churros. The event showcased music, an arts and crafts table, performances from Salsa, Bachata and Kizomba and Mi Tierra dance clubs and drag queen Kandy Apple—a fifth-year art major named Apolinario de Jesus.

A silent auction of art and jewelry was also held, with all proceeds contributing to the Dream Scholar Fund.

The event began with a ceremonial blessing led by Teotl Goitia from the Resistencia Mexicayotl Chalchiuhtlicue, an Aztec dance group based in Ventura, California. Students joined in a large circle and faced the four cardinal directions of north, south, east and west to honor their deceased elders, children, men and women, respectively.

"They gave us knowledge, and they gave us love. Let's not let that die with us," Goitia said.

Afterwards, students offered the names of passed on loved ones to the crowd, which was met with an affirming "presente" in recognition of their life and as a way to "bring them here [and] feel their spirit," according to Goitia.

Xiomara Lopez, EOP counselor and coordinator for the Chicano/Latinx Cultural Resource Center, described the importance of continuing these cultural traditions and providing community and representation for Latinx students on campus.

"My favorite thing is seeing the students come out and have their culture be represented and for them to feel visible on campus.

The event is beautiful, but I think more so the feeling that students get of, 'I'm eating food that I recognize' or 'I'm participating in the event, calling out the name of my loved one in the blessing,'" Lopez said.

Third-year political science major and Phi Iota Alpha fraternity member Anthony Agama helped coordinate funding for the event. He described how the university's version of Día de los Muertos reminded him of his family's celebration.

"My mom would actually make an altar when I was growing up, so the altar would take days on days to make. My mom would sew each flower individually and make designs out of it," Agama said. "It's a really good way to remember who your ancestors were because my mom has a candle for every single dead relative that she had candles out for when she was a young girl."

He also emphasized how "empowering" it felt to share this cultural experience with fellow students, especially at his hometown of Orange County felt "not diverse at all." Agama added that spontaneously dancing alongside his fellow attendees at the event with "so many different people from different cultures" was an incredibly "unique, collective experience.

"It feels really nice to see not only a group of people that do celebrate something I do, but an actual institution like the SRR [Student Resource Building] — something formally hegemonic — recognize like a little portion of your existence."

Lisa Estrada, third-year Chicano/a studies and Spanish double major and member of M.U.J.E.R., expressed gratitude for the event.

"I am really happy because I have never seen anything like this on campus before. It was like a little piece of home here," Estrada said.

This marks the eighth celebration of Día de los Muertos at UCSB, which began in 2014 when a group of Latinx faculty members founded L.U.N.A. and started the tradition.

Viviana Marxano, UCSB's executive director of civic and community engagement, said the community response has been "phenomenal." She emphasized the value that the event has in providing education to the broader community and in allowing for an inclusive exchange of cultures.

"One year, we had the Muslim Student Association [attend] and they did their version of their altars. So, it's a great way to get everybody involved and learning about each other's culture," Marxano said.

Moving forward, Lopez said the organizers hope to secure greater funding for future Día de Los Muertos celebrations as the Latinx community continues to grow on campus.

"I hope that [administrators] can see the value of this event, so that other departments, student affairs could possibly think about contributing," Lopez said.
On-Campus Bike Thefts Increase From Previous Years

Assoc. Professor Discusses Decolonial Feminism, Archipelagic Relationalities at MCC Event

Melisa Maglalang
Staff Writer

Associate professor of global African studies at Michigan State University Yamilette Figueroa-Vásquez discussed how Black diasporic communities throughout the Atlantic are impacted by violence and how those communities have gone through similar experiences. For instance, she pointed out that Spanish-speaking Afro-Atlantic communities, like Equatorial Guinea, Puerto Rico, Cuba and the Dominican Republic, are impacted by dictatorships and occupations. The professor also looked through forms of art that provide a foundation for building a resistance and creating coalitions. She explored these concepts through analyzing the works of diasporic artists and writers like Nelly Rosario, Michelle Cliff and Emesto Quiñonez and how they offer new perspectives on dismantling premature beliefs about modern colonialism when read in relation to one another.

Throughout her study, Figueroa-Vásquez maps similarities within the forms of oppression between Spanish-speaking Afro-Atlantic communities, like Equatorial Guinea, Puerto Rico, Cuba and the Dominican Republic. She noted that diasporic forms of art provide a foundation for building a resistance through creating coalitions.

Once examined, Figueroa-Vásquez's novel “Diamantina: Radical Mappings of Afro-Atlantic Literature,” begins by examining how dictatorships affect the intimate lives of people and their impacts on being a witness to oppressive violence. She also looks through forms of dispersed communities in the form of language, customs and spiritualities, as well as how communities may seek reparations and envision the future for themselves.

She explores these concepts through analyzing the works of diasporic artists and writers like Nelly Rosario, Michelle Cliff and Emesto Quiñonez and how they offer new perspectives on dismantling premature beliefs about modern colonialism when read in relation to one another. Throughout her study, Figueroa-Vásquez maps similarities within the forms of oppression between Spanish-speaking Afro-Atlantic communities, like Equatorial Guinea, Puerto Rico, Cuba and the Dominican Republic. She noted that diasporic forms of art provide a foundation for building a resistance through creating coalitions. She explored these concepts through analyzing the works of diasporic artists and writers like Nelly Rosario, Michelle Cliff and Emesto Quiñonez and how they offer new perspectives on dismantling premature beliefs about modern colonialism when read in relation to one another.

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She starts her book with a chapter on interplay, tracking how dictatorships and occupations in Equatorial Guinea can dictate the intimate lives of individuals and focusing on how Black women defined conformity within these regions by exploring sexual autonomy, especially those in LGBTQ communities. These women, according to Figueroa-Vásquez, faced situations in which individual and community autonomy is a “reparation.” She said it is important to recognize that communities are linked together in their struggles, and her chapter about dispossession explores the histories of displacement and how they can impact their futures.

"It is not just the last, but also of our languages, our customs, our spirituality, our cosmo-selves,” she said. "We actually need to begin to think about our histories as very much facets through these forms of dispossession and reparations that are still happening now.

While colonial worldviews may attempt to dictate what is and is not important in a culture’s history, according to Figueroa-Vásquez, and they have laid the groundwork on which other forms of dispossession can be imposed.

"We must change the way we think about the past and present, and the ways we see our histories," she said. "We cannot continue to do things as we have been doing and expect different outcomes.

She argues that our histories are not based on the idea of complete separation and that we must recognize the connections between our past and present in order to have a more complete understanding.

She presented the concept of the “archipelagic imagination,” which she believes is essential in understanding our interconnectedness and how our experiences are shaped by our histories.

She concluded her presentation by emphasizing the importance of recognizing our shared histories and the need to seek reparations for the past and present.
Cross Country Weekend Race Capped Off With Success

UCSB Athletics

Randazzo’s leading performance landed the Gauchos men in third place as a team. Portland State took home first place, while the Gauchos’ rivals, the Cal Poly Mustangs, edged them out for second with a narrow 3-point lead.

Fifth-year Brian Schudl crossed the line in fifth, followed closely by sophomore Zachary Parker in sixth. The true story comes from fifth-year Javier Chinna and senior Brandon Cobian, who placed 12th and 13th, respectively. Chinna brought the team from third to first as he moved from 22nd into 13th all within the last 2 kilometers.

"We came into this race kind of underdog because we lost two of our guys in the top seven and have a super young team," Author said. "We were all just so thankful to be able to compete at all this year but are definitely looking forward to the future of the team as we gain more experience." 

In just two weeks, both the men and women’s teams compete in the NCAA West Regional Championships in Sacramento, Calif.

Improved victories in front of an energetic Abu Dhabi crowd. Brazilian strawweight Amanda Ribas weathered some early adversity in her match against Virna Jandiroba to snatch a decision win. Zubaira Tukhugov narrowly edged out Brazilian featherweight Ricardo Ramos in a back-and-forth nail-biter of a split decision. Russian lightweight Albert Durev defended his undefeated record against countryman Roman Kopylov with a straightforward, unanimous decision win.

In the evening’s lone bit of controversy, Elza Zalezki dos Santos brutally battered his opponent Hu Yaozong in a welterweight tilt that commentators demanded to be stopped following the second round. Referee Vyacheslav Kniele’s indecision allowed for a novice shaken Saint-Denis to see the beginning of the third round, despite the uncomfortable amount of damage inflicted on him in the closing minutes of the second round.

The card’s third light heavyweight clash had Polish prospect Michal Oleksiejczuk knocking out minor favorite Shamil Ganiev in the first round of a tidy upset. Featherweight Levins Marquart remained undefeated with a vicious knee knockout of Malkin Mamedyan just 15 seconds into the second round. Middleweight and "The Ultimate Fighter” spectator senior Andre Petrovski put on an imposing display of grappling control that ended with a third-round submission victory over his opponent Yu Yangzou.

Flyweight Tagar Usbanbek outlasted and overpowered the dangerous submission game of his opponent Allan Nascimento to clinch a close split-decision win in the first bout of the night. Overall, UFC 267 proved to be another exciting trip to the shores of Fight Island UAE. Watch for next week when the UFC Middleweight and this another historic trip to the Big Apple for UFC 268, live at Madison Square Garden!
Heartwarming — Billionaire Charles Munger Agrees To Provide Oxygen for New Dorm Residence

Mungerstentialism

It’s Munger, Stupid.

Munger Hall Project After Allegations That Munger’s Head “Just Shaped Wrong”

Architect Pulls Out of Munger Hall Project After Allegations That Munger’s Head “Just Shaped Wrong”

Last week, architect Dennis McFadden made national news after quitting the Munger Hall project. While his public statement cited concerns with the building’s design and its lack of ventilation and sunlight, we at The Daily Nexus are troubled by another reason. It seems that Mr. McFadden resigned due to the fact that Charles Munger’s head shape is just too damn weird.

“That head is not architecturally sound,” McFadden lamented. “It looks like an egg, like a hard-boiled Munger Dumpty. I was baking a cake and an egg rolled off the counter and cracked on the floor, and I had to work so hard in my life just for them to remain so fucking ugly. One day when he was 97, his various facial features began to fall off of his face. It got so bad that he had to buy a Mr. Potato Head set and replace his nose and ears with Mr. Potato Head. I’m glad I’m talking to you about this, my therapist said it would help.”

Although he legally is a real person, his abnormal conception, along with his very advanced age, has led to many cosmetics problems over the years, as we learned from Joan Campano, his recently fired makeup artist. “I’ve never had to work so hard in my life just for them to remain so fucking ugly. One day when he was 97, his various facial features began to fall off of his face. It got so bad that he had to buy a Mr. Potato Head set and replace his nose and ears with Mr. Potato Head. I’m glad I’m talking to you about this, my therapist said it would help.”

Varun Iyer

“UC SANTA BARBARA — In a press release, Charles T. Munger, First of His Name, Sponsor of the Building and Grand Residence-Hall Dictator for All Eternity, proclaimed that He had listened carefully to student feedback and devised a solution for students’ primary concerns. After intense scrutiny and review, His Holiness announced that He would give the students what they wanted, Ortega II.

When asked, He revealed that He had taken careful notice of how much the students just loved the Ortega Dining Commons – how fondly they spoke of it and how frequently they visited. Wanting only to be loved, His High Chiefliness just knew that He had to include such beauty and adoration in His grand new plan.

When we asked how exactly one goes about building a sequel to the highly celebrated Ortega, His Grand Majesty described His plan: “IN THE BEGINNING, THERE SHALL BE NOTHING, THENCE, I SHALL SPEAK INTO EXISTENCE A DINING HALL LIKE NO OTHER THAT HAS BEEN SEEN. IT SHALL BE DERIVED FROM THE SHEER BEAUTY AND CULINARY ACHIEVEMENT OF ORTEGA DINING COMMONS AND DRAW SOME THEMES FROM THE KITCHEN IN THE SHINING, LIKE THE EMPHASIS ON CANNED FOODS AND PSYCHOSIS. AND OH YEAH, WE’RE DEFINITELY GOING TO DO A DEMONIC MURAL OF SOME GREEK TREASURE.”

Students are excited to eat at the new dining hall. One student, Jeannie (who only gave their first name out of fear of retaliation), trembled with tears (with joy, surely) as they said that they were “just so thrilled to get the chance-the chance to relive Ortega all over again! I-I-I guess I guess I’m just Munger for More!” they said with a smile like motion on their face.

His Vulpurgious Forehead has already announced a much-anticipated grand opening menu for the dining commons in order to build up hype. Some highlights include the classic Ortega Hop (with a twist, or so we are told), Meat cube and Water (an innovative take on the classic gazpacho and an excellent, thought-out, plant-based option). Like all other students, this reporter await eagerly, mungerly (vs? vs?) for more.

Varun Iyer isn’t sure if they want to try the new dop.

Varun Iyer

Munger Hall Hall Project After Allegations That Munger’s Head “Just Shaped Wrong”

Rohan Solanki

Charlie Munger’s FWB

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Wingstop Swoops Into Isla Vista

ON THE MENU

Lilac Pâtisserie Review

Levain-Style Ube Cookies

Wingstop held its soft opening in Isla Vista on Friday. Located at 888 Embarcadero del Norte, between The Habit Burger Grill and Starbucks, it marks the introduction of yet another chicken wing restaurant in I.V.

"A few people were lining up outside the restaurant this morning before it opened," Tomlin said, noting the presence of people waiting in line for the opening. The first person in line was Nick Tomlin, a second-year political science major at UC Santa Barbara. 

"I'm a big proponent of Wingstop superiority," Tomlin said, checking "I will be visiting here religiously." 

As for what Wingstop brings to I.V., Tomlin, the customer who was first in line, had a simple answer. "You go to a pizza place — they have wings, but I'm a pizza place," he said. "Now we have Wingstop.

As a person with celiac, a gluten allergy, I've been meaning to try Lilac Pâtisserie, a gluten-free bakery and cafe located in the heart of downtown Santa Barbara. Today, I finally got to try it out and couldn't help but notice how much food as possible. We set out for brunch, set on ordering something that we could try as much as possible. We set out for brunch, set on ordering something

Wingstop

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Delirium 2021: Denzel Curry and Doe CJ Light Up Storke Plaza

Sunilshi Sridhar
Artsweek Editor

Over 2,000 students attended Storke Plaza last Saturday, Oct. 30, to see rising hip-hop star Doe CJ and Florida rapper Denzel Curry hit the stage in Delirium. The usually social and casual event was transformed into a raucous and exhilarating mosh pit as ASPB for “all of the work” put on an incredible show. Curry's intense and intense track included on his 2020 project “TA13OO.”

The rapper then requested the crowd’s assistance with “DIET_,” noting that “this is one of my favorite joints in the spirit of that, so we’re gonna do this one for DMX, y'all feel me?” honoring the visionary hip-hop artist who passed away earlier this year. A massive audience chanted the words in acknowledgment, with quite a few devoted fans appearing to have every single verse down as they passionately screamed the lyrics up at Curry. He paused in the middle of his set to ask people what they wanted to hear, and although much of the endless screams of requests was incoherable, the crowd was clearly in favor of “ULTIMATE (ZUTAH)” a gritty and intense track included on his 2020 project “TA13OO.”

Curry’s voice was practically drowned out as the animated crowd belted out, “Pockets too big, they wanna / Tell me who the hottest motherfucker that ever lived,” as the rapper shook his head in grateful humility. “It’s not me, it’s your motherfucking selves,” he said, adding that without the fans that listen to his music, he “wouldn’t have a career or a purpose.”

Closing out this year’s Delirium with an intoxicating performance of “CLOUT COBAIN / CLOUT COJAIN,” Curry thrilled fans by coming down from the stage and running into the crowd, shaking hands and even hugging a few lucky audience members. The “This Life” rapper also obliged some fans with pictures before returning backstage as the crowd, practically drowned out as the animated crowd belted out, “Girls,” the sexy pop-rap club anthem from her 2021 EP “Brazen.” Always dancing and moving her hips to the beat, the “Black Girl Memoir” songstress showed her love for everyone who showed up, crowning UCSB as “the hardest motherfucking school in Cali.”

Admitting to the audience that the tequila was starting to run through her veins, Doe CJ said that she next wanted to play a song that she debated while currently on tour with Diplo’s Dance Windswept rapper Isaiah Rashad. “I know what you're thinking, I know what song you're thinking, but that’s not that song yet,” she went on before her DJ Kal Raxx dropped the beat for her unreleased track “Crazy.” The rapper then performed “Wut U Sed:” a record on Rashad’s album “The House Is Burning,” on which she is featured. Of course, the up-and-coming star had to sing her hit single “Spookie Coochie” with some friends from her data science double major, saying, “We’ve been in a mosh pit before, because the sheer madness that ensued as hundreds of people roared, “I am the one, don’t we a woman / Don’t need a man to get respect up on the street,” should have come with a release warning.

The amount of energy and passion that Curry brought to his performance was nothing short of impressive. The rapper shook off his warm welcome, adding that she “wants expecting this tonight” before signing off with “Nancy, Blucky Frutakane,” an eclectic and genre-warping track that went viral on TikTok for its opening lines, “Doe CJ, why don’t you introduce yourself to the class!”

The two concerts, both already amped up from the opening set, didn’t have to wait long for this year’s headlining act, as 2016 XXL Freshman Class inductee Denzel Curry bounced out on stage promptly at 10 p.m. and immediately set the crowd on fire. Although the weather outside was frigid (by California standards, at least), sweaty palms and elbows were flying everywhere as people fervently crammed forward and stuck their US up in the air.

After opening with “Track 01” from “UNLOCKED,” his 2020 collaboration album with Kenay Beatz, Curry waited no time in giving a sincere shoutout to Doe CJ, telling the audience that they just witnessed a future star in the making.

He was at the show with his roommate, fourth-year psychology and data science double major Braeden Bailey, who is a big fan of Curry’s music. “I’ve tried to see him before, but [the show] got canceled twice,” Bailey said.

Calvin Jenkins, a fourth-year computer engineering major, also had a good time attending the concert with some friends from his fraternity. “The show seemed to be really well-organized and safe, and Denzel Curry was a great performer. You could really feel the energy he brought to the stage.”

Once again, ASPB delivered its promise of a fun and entertaining Halloween concert that students could enjoy with their friends. Doe CJ and Denzel Curry both showcased their remarkable talent and versatility as musicians and the ebullient crowd that descended upon Storke Plaza demonstrated, as always, that UCSB does it better. If last Saturday’s concert is any indication of the things in store from ASPB, the Gauchos can count on an exciting show of events throughout the coming school year.
UCSB Ecologists Look to AI To Improve Wildlife Camera Trapping

Emma Holm-Olsen
Reporter

Ecologist Kaitlyn Gaynor, a current postdoctoral researcher at UC Santa Barbara’s National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis, recently co-authored the research paper “Iterative human and automated identification of wildlife images,” which explores the role of artificial intelligence, or AI, in the processing of data collected through camera traps.

The data analyzed in this study was taken from a long-term camera trap project in Gorongosa National Park in Mozambique, which captures a variety of photos of local flora and fauna. The study looks at how AI and human scientists can work together to improve both efficiency and accuracy in the processing of photographic data. It is anticipated that this "emergent collaboration" will yield high-confidence conclusions due to the checking of each other’s work, ultimately resulting in better-quality results than either could provide on their own.

The question of how to utilize AI in wildlife monitoring has been a major point of interest. "I have been using camera traps to study the recovery of large mammals in Mozambique’s Gorongosa National Park since 2016," Gaynor said. "And it seems that machine learning has been a bottleneck.

The paper discusses how one of the biggest challenges to long-term camera trap monitoring is what we know about health and labor needed to annotate and analyze the camera trap data. This is the second paper that Gaynor’s colleague Zhengyi Mao, a doctoral candidate at UC Berkeley, has led using this set of data. The first paper, published in 2019, looked at a deep learning algorithm that assigns importance to different aspects of each image in order to identify the object present in the photo. Deep learning is a type of AI that mimics methods of human knowledge acquisition, proving especially useful for when visual stimulus is involved. "Interestingly, this process revealed that the computer vision algorithm often chose to focus on different visual features of species than humans would, which improved its accuracy in cases when only part of the animal was visible," Gaynor remarked.

The new paper contributes significantly to what we know about the lack of gender equity in the sciences. Women are often overlooked in scientific studies to begin with, and that starts affecting children at very young ages, which stops them from being interested in these fields to begin with, and ultimately results in a much lower amount of human labor than would be required for manual identification of every image, but a higher accuracy than could be achieved from the machine learning algorithm alone.

For this paper, Gaynor and her colleague Meredith Palmer, a postdoctoral researcher at Princeton University, were responsible for the data collection in the field and had to look at the 20% of the photos that had been classified by the AI algorithm as ‘low confidence’ in order to correct any photos that had been misidentified.

"This saved us significant time and reduced in high accuracy—around 98% of the images were classified correctly," Gaynor said. "Accuracy remains lower for the rare species, and we hope to get these numbers up higher with the addition of more data from future seasons and continued fine-tuning of the model."

When asked about the most interesting or surprising finding of the research, Gaynor said, ‘I was surprised at how accurate the computer vision algorithm was in cases when only part of the animal was visible, or otherwise hard to see.’

"When we were testing this model on data that had already been classified, I took a closer look at some of the 'incorrect' model classifications and found that the model was actually correct, and our initial classifications were wrong! The model often did a better job than we did.’

"This is even true in studies of animal behavior, where visual input is very important to how we understand animal behavior. The model often did a better job than we did.”

"Who is a scientist?” is the norm in science. Emily Jacobs, pictured above, closed with a call to action for the biomedical research community. "We have an opportunity to change things. It may come as little surprise to women that women's health is centered on the study of our bodies on our terms and to do that we need scientists and doctors whose vision isn't blurred by the lack of experience," Jacobs said.

"I have spent the better part of a decade fighting for women's health to be taken as seriously as men's health in the biomedical sciences, and there are incredible scientists working on this front, but we cannot do it alone. Biomedical research has overwhelmingly overlooked women’s health.

"Now is the moment for women to claim themselves as scientists. We need more women in positions of power.”

"Female scientists are often not hired for jobs that they are qualified for, they are granted less money for labs and there is a systematic pay gap between female and male scientists. According to Jacobs, half of all female scientists in the U.S. leave work after having their first child. ["There women] are not leaving because they are not good enough for their job. They are leaving because the job is not good enough for them.

Beyond the consequences for individual women, Jacobs feels that the current system emphasized how leaving women out of science isn't just about the cost to women, it is about the cost to the world."

"Advocating for diversity in science isn’t just a matter of social justice. It’s not just the right thing to do. Diversity in science makes science better. It drives innovation, it challenges the status quo and it changes the very nature of the questions we seek to ask. The reason for diversity transcends the moral and ethical considerations and becomes a business driver.

Similarly, in animal studies, it is necessary to use real medications and better understand human conditions, to understand how the brain adapts and changes to the innumerable, often invisible, demands on women.

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Libraries Are An Invaluable Resource, and They Should Be Protected and Prioritized

Kerenna Dhillon
Staff Writer

In 2021, societies and lives were disrupted by the pandemic, a multitude of events brought the need for increased social services, businesses, both corporate and small, closed their doors to the public we were reminded of the crucial need for libraries. As havens for public education and social uplift, libraries are essential serving as community centers throughout California, libraries are one of the few resources of social infrastructure we have left.

Libraries are also one of the few services that still facilitate the literate and social spread of information, including young children. Usually, libraries and community centers lack the funding for literary programs, free literacy development programs, and Internet access. However, the Santa Barbara Public Library. Additionally, with Santa Barbara Public Library, we have been asking students to control the checkpoints into Isla Vista and UCSB have been an Orwellian intrusion into the Halloween-based police occupation of I.V.

Taylor Clark believes that Isla Vista residents' lives are being threatened by the arrival of the county and the state of California. The festival was a pretty fantastic illustration of what Halloween in I.V. could be. It's a waste of public resources, costly and unpopular — it's expensive, it's still need the massive police presence. The checkpoints into Isla Vista residents have to offer should not be reduced due to government spending, as they are one of the remaining, functioning social facilitators.

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