Isla Vista Tragedies Renew Conversations Around Balcony and Cliff Safety

Katherine Swartz
Editor in Chief

If I had one word to describe this, I'd always choose “write.” This letter is my 50th article for the Nexus, and I'm embarking on a career in journalism because thinking gives me joy, and I'm bringing awareness to a cause, shining light on injustice and changing the way people see this world.

"The First Panel and the county are working together to engage property owners, on Del Playa in particular, to address balconies and cliff safety incidents." Hart said. "We're working with property owners, on Del Playa in particular, to address balconies and cliff safety incidents."

How do I conclude on a topic that isn't so finished? That's not for lack of fulfillment. I found my home within the Daily Nexus through all the smart, funny and talented editors who dedicate themselves each and every week to bringing this paper to life. And I've found this to be true for nearly every article I've written or film project. We've worked on campus, in the community, and in everything we produce. But above all, this is a personal honor because I really want to be the editor-in-chief. I answer above all to you, the students of UCSB.

There's no way I could finish every time in college with some perfect bow to wrap it all up - not at school where there's always new classes being taught and new opportunities to pursue. There's just simply not enough hours in the day to do it all. And that is something that I really think is important for students to continue to shine. Emily Koeze. You make the Nexus such a beautiful paper to work on, and I really want to see all the ideas you'll execute next year as managing editor. And there are so many other editors that have made that possible on their own, so you've really been a great joy.

None of this would have been possible without the many (many) Nexus alumni in my corner, including in-editor-chief extraordinary Jorge Merced, Hannah Jackson and Ayesha Hart. They're all an inspiration to me, and I'm so thankful for everything I've learned from them on this team. And to all the other same editors, you've been an inspiration to me.

The Daily Nexus is the highest honor of my personal and professional life. It's professional because we have a responsibility as your student newspaper to hold this university accountable to its students, and it is the safest way for everyone to engage in everything we produce. But above all, this is a personal honor because I really want to be the editor-in-chief. I answer above all to you, the students of UCSB.

Who knows where the time goes? How do I conclude on a topic that isn't so finished? That's not for lack of fulfillment. I found my home within the Daily Nexus through all the smart, funny and talented editors who dedicate themselves each and every week to bringing this paper to life. And I've found this to be true for nearly every article I've written or film project. We've worked on campus, in the community, and in everything we produce. But above all, this is a personal honor because I really want to be the editor-in-chief. I answer above all to you, the students of UCSB.

None of this would have been possible without the many (many) Nexus alumni in my corner, including in-editor-chief extraordinary Jorge Merced, Hannah Jackson and Ayesha Hart. They're all an inspiration to me, and I'm so thankful for everything I've learned from them on this team. And to all the other same editors, you've been an inspiration to me.

The Daily Nexus is the highest honor of my personal and professional life. It's professional because we have a responsibility as your student newspaper to hold this university accountable to its students, and it is the safest way for everyone to engage in everything we produce. But above all, this is a personal honor because I really want to be the editor-in-chief. I answer above all to you, the students of UCSB.
Eight years ago on May 23, 2014, six victims lost their lives and 13 were injured in the Isla Vista tragedy. To honor and remember the victims, UCSB alumnus Albert Zeng led a group of students, professors, and community members who gathered at the garden to form Isla Vista’s first local community memorial. Eight years later, the memorial re-opened to commemorate the eight-year anniversary of the 2014 Isla Vista tragedy.

UCSB alumnus Albert Zeng said the memorial is important to remember the memory of those impacted by the tragedy.

“I feel a sense of peace that I was able to help people remember the people that were affected by it, and we just don’t get to see that,” Zeng said. “It’s always the perpetrators that we remember; we never get to get the attention. I know that the people who were there, they want to make things better and give them a chance to help that is not related to the tragedy, but by creating these more positive connections and more positive connections in the community that’s how you make the community stronger,” he said.

You can never lose these [tragedies] from happening, but the stronger your community, the more healthy the bonds, it does, hopefully, reduce the chances.

Director of UCSB’s Counseling & Psychological Services Brian Ollnow was also in attendance at the day of remembrance.

“We were honored to have students come together to fight. Students worked to pass California’s first toughest gun violence prevention legislation, which was signed into law in 2016. Since then, it has saved thousands of lives,” Ollnow said. “We have to keep the memory of this tragedy and the hope and promise of each one of these students; we have a responsibility to keep it going through data and every tragic event, it’s not as we move forward,” he said.

We were able to get a lot of support and help from the community. Ollnow continued. “We have to remember the hope and promise of the lives that we’re not repeating it, so we aren’t at another memorial, we aren’t at another remembrance.

Fourth-year history of public policy and law major Suge Ceja said that she was surprised that she received a quality education, even given UCSB’s reputation.

“It’s definitely been weird, especially going through college during the pandemic, but I definitely enjoyed my experience here,” Ceja said. “I’ve been getting along with all the people I’ve met, and I definitely got a high-quality education which is kind of weird because I’ve grown up through UCSB being a party school.”

Fourth-year communication and sociology double major Nyla Rae Scott has a self-described “love-hate relationship” with UCSB but said that, overall, her experience has been filled with love.

“So much love for my time here,” Nyla said. “I met so many on-campus co-workers, theRosarito’s Gaucho burrito and the randoms I met freshman year that I still have added on Snapchat,” she said in an email statement to the Nexus. “Constantly bonking into professors and their classes, it does, objectively obliterating the arches in my feet by walking across miles on chilly Friday nights in December, and taking my way into running too one too many campus Instagram accounts was all worth it in the end!”

Nadir wrote that witnessing everything students visit campus has been bittersweet, but she is hopeful their experience at UCSB will be as rewarding as it was for her. “Seeing incoming students touring UCSB with their families has led me to reminiscing on my time here, and I wonder how their experiences will win or lose to ours,” Nadir said. “I’m confident that they’ll find their own unique place in UCSB’s communities and know that they’ll leave here prepared to make a positive change in the world.”

Natalie Gomez and Carolina Geo contributed reporting to this story.
Alexis Atsilvsgi Zaragoza focused on a plethora of issues, from increasing student representation on the Board of Regents to a variety of financial aid policies. 

With the 2022 academic year coming to a close, UCSanBarbara's student regent and 2022-23 alumna Alexis Atsilvsgi Zaragoza reflected on COVID-19 and its impact. 

The year has been nothing short of unconvincing, with instruction and student life changing between in-person and remote structures. Student regent Zip Gan analyzed changing COVID-19 health guidelines impacted by the omicron variant.

**Fall Quarter 2021**

The year began with an in-person fall quarter after 18 months of remote instruction, as students returned to on-campus learning from September 2021. Even amid the omicron variant, UC Board of Regents approved changes to in-person instruction and its surrounding areas. COVID-19 case numbers remained “fairly low,” the Nexus reported, and IV had the second-lowest case rate in the county as of Oct. 12.

UCSB reported 57 positive COVID-19 cases since Sept. 19, with 32 of these cases coming from undergraduate students. The Academic Senate Library reopened its main and student centers floors, along with study rooms, fully back in operation.

Zaragoza said, “The beginning of fall quarter was the administration’s first chance to assess whether another 18 and older in a long-term facility or who is on hospice or territory,” the Nexus noted. “The administration made the decision not to offer a vaccine for high-risk conditions. This was a huge blow, and it’s something that we as student regents need to communicate those issues, and that the student regent comes in and try to figure out, can you offer a pot of money to California residents who are members of federally recognized tribes, or who are members of indigenous tribes and cannot be vaccinated due to underlying health conditions.”

“At first, we were just hoping that the priority was going to California residents who are members of federally recognized tribes, or who are members of indigenous tribes and cannot be vaccinated due to underlying health conditions. Most were worried about a lot of students who are members of federally recognized tribes, or who are members of indigenous tribes and cannot be vaccinated due to underlying health conditions.”

Zaragoza emphasized advocates for Indigenous students at the forefront of her battle. “I really didn’t want to be in a situation where students prior to coming to campus and accessing the Recreation Center and the Dining Commons. I think a lot of kids, especially medical students, need to really know the campus.”

Barrett echoed Minlos, saying that going into midterm season without prior in-person instruction in their courses meant she felt uncertain. “I didn’t quite know what to expect,” Barrett said. “I have never had a class that has been purely remote.”

Winter Quarter 2022

After a quarter of in-person instruction, students returned to remote instruction for the first few weeks of winter quarter following the emergence of the omicron variant, where UCSB just began to randomized COVID-19 testing for on-campus students, as well as a system of randomly selecting and testing vaccinated students. 

“With UCSB initially decided not to extend remote learning through the entire month of January,” the Nexus noted, “they eventually changed the decisions due to a continued rise in COVID-19 positivity rates and the instruction resuming on Jan. 31.

Four-year Japanese major Minlos Akita said in a mass email to the campus that “I feel quite stressed,” Minlos said. “I really didn’t know what to expect [because] we had never yet done any in-person stuff.”

Barrett echoed Minlos, saying that going into midterm season without prior in-person instruction in their courses meant she felt uncertain. “I didn’t quite know what to expect,” Barrett said. “I have never had a class that has been purely remote.”

Winter Quarter 2022

After a quarter of in-person instruction, students returned to remote instruction for the first few weeks of winter quarter following the emergence of the omicron variant, where UCSB just began to randomized COVID-19 testing for on-campus students, as well as a system of randomly selecting and testing vaccinated students.

“With UCSB initially decided not to extend remote learning through the entire month of January,” the Nexus noted, “they eventually changed the decisions due to a continued rise in COVID-19 positivity rates and the instruction resuming on Jan. 31.

Four-year Japanese major Minlos Akita said in a mass email to the campus that “I feel quite stressed,” Minlos said. “I really didn’t know what to expect [because] we had never yet done any in-person stuff.”

Barrett echoed Minlos, saying that going into midterm season without prior in-person instruction in their courses meant she felt uncertain. “I didn’t quite know what to expect,” Barrett said. “I have never had a class that has been purely remote.”

Barrett echoed Minlos, saying that going into midterm season without prior in-person instruction in their courses meant she felt uncertain. “I didn’t quite know what to expect,” Barrett said. “I have never had a class that has been purely remote.”
Sindhu Ananthavel
Deputy News Editor
Nisha Malley
County News Editor

As the academic year comes to a close, the Nexus compiled UC Santa Barbara’s most significant news highlights of the year and the coverage that accompanied them.

COVID-19

This year, UCSB navigated its return to in-person instruction and, with it, the implementation of COVID-19 mitigation protocols, campuswide testing services and its response to the spread of the winter omicron variant.

Students arrived on campus at the start of Fall Quarter 2021 with a mask mandate, vaccination requirements and a daily COVID-19 screening survey in place. UCSB reported low positivity rates in the first month back, although it traded other UCs in the number of on-campus tests administered.

However, some students expressed concerns over the effectiveness of the survey, which asked students to self-report any experience of symptoms.

“We, as a class I attest, there are handfuls of students who look extremely ill,” an anonymous student previously said to the Nexus. “They’re coughing with runny noses, and it’s obvious that they feel on their daily screening survey or probably didn’t even take the time to fill it out.”

Students also shared their experiences with university-operated quarantine housing for students testing positive for COVID-19, citing struggles with changing their isolation status via the green badge system and accessing meals from the dining halls.

In November, the university closed the Linda Vista testing location, keeping the Loma Pailo site open and moving toward the implementation of a drop-off testing system.

COVID-19 cases surged in January with the emergence of the omicron variant, prompting UCSB to shift to remote instruction for the first month of Winter Quarter 2022 and return to in-person learning midway into the quarter.

The sudden shift between learning models elicited negative reactions from the campus community and created complications for international students traveling during winter break.

“The abrupt decision to resume in-person instruction during the tumult of omicron gave us no time to properly adjust or even much time to receive needed support from professors,” second-year pre-biology major Alex Carlin previously said to the Nexus. During spring quarter, UCSB phased out its masking policy in line with the relaxation of mask mandates locally and statewide. It further discontinued the completion of the daily screening survey as a requirement to access campus facilities.

Housing Crisis

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, thousands of students stepped foot onto campus for the first time this year. For many, that experience came with a struggle to find housing, with over 1,000 students waitlisted for university housing with only a month left before the start of the academic year.

UCSB and its surrounding areas faced a historic housing shortage, producing difficulties for students and local residents. The city of Goleta sued the university in December over the issue, alleging that UCSB breached its contract to cap university enrollment at 25,000 until 2025 and to build more housing to accommodate students.

“We have a housing crisis that came at the peak of the pandemic,” said a resident between the students that are returning, people coming to the area because they want to live here and then people not living as densely,” StudentLegal Services Advisor Robs Unander previously said to the Nexus.

Student groups UC Santa Barbara 4 Cost of Living Adjustment, Food Not Bombs and members of the United Auto Workers 2865 union protested the crisis in September, calling for university action.

As a temporary emergency solution, the university partnered with local hotels to accommodate students at a subsidized rate. This housing came with its own slew of issues according to students who spoke to the Nexus about the lack of access to basic amenities and poor communication from the university regarding the accommodations.

UCSB’s limitations with its housing capacity are extending into the upcoming academic year. On April 1, UCSB’s University & Community Housing Services sent a wave of denials to students who applied to live in university housing, leaving many students in a state of uncertainty regarding their living situation for the 2022-23 academic year.

Munger Hall

Of the various on-campus issues at UCSB this year, a planned 11-story dorm building that would house 4,500 students—drive the most contention, receiving national coverage and criticism over its design and implementation.

Architectural consultant Dennis McFadden of the Design Review Committee, a group of five architects and directors of the building’s many windowsless bedrooms and lack of acceptance from outside.

“The basic concept of Munger Hall as a place for students to live is not supportable from my perspective as an architect, a dean and even a human being,” McFadden said in the letter.

Public sentiment took a turn for the worse after the release of McFadden’s letter. An assembly was held on campus on Nov. 5 to protest against its construction.

During spring quarter, Munger Hall, with considerable urgency, was designated as one of 29 by fourth-year economies addressing double major Tommy Yang to demand against the Munger Hall project, ignoring all criticism,” Yang wrote in the petition description.

In November, the Nexus reported that UCSB’s move to the development created in Loma Pelona site open and moving toward the implementation of a drop-off testing system.

Housing Crisis

During spring quarter, UCSB announced its intentions to build a new housing facility, demonstrating empty individual spaces with virtual windows, as discussed in the design. In April, the Nexus uncovered the location of the warehouse holding the mock-up near Santa Ynez Apartments, now furnished and decorated to demonstrate to students and community the building’s possible design.

The university continued by its design in public statements, and an upcoming town hall discussion on the building is planned for June 1.

Crime and Accidents

Warning: This article contains graphic content relating to sexual assault, murder, shootings and incidents of death and traumatic injury.

The UCSB and Isla Vista community experienced a variety of crimes and accidents this year. The Nexus compiled a list of incidents reported on.

September

Sept. 9: Santa Barbara City College Student Peyton McDowell was arrested on four felony charges of sexual assault.

October

Oct. 4: The UC Santa Barbara Police Department (UCPD) arrested a suspect of an oct. 1 for a rape on Sept. 28 and another for a sexual assault Oct. 4, one for a rape on Sept. 28 and another for a sexual assault Oct. 4. The suspect took place in campus housing, and the suspect was arrested and taken into police custody.

Oct. 4: A motorcyclist on Madrid Road. Asinobi was led by the Isla Vista Foot Patrol (IVFP) and members of the University police department named the street near Santa Ynez Apartments, and four arrests occurred. The suspect was not in custody, and an investigation led by the Santa Barbara County Fire Protection District (SBP). Two people were injured. The suspect was not in custody, and an investigation led by the Isla Vista Police Department (IVPD) and four arrests occurred. The suspect was not in custody, and an investigation led by the Isla Vista Police Department (IVPD) and four arrests occurred.

Nov. 23: UCPD issued a timely warning for an aggravated sexual assault that occurred in a campus-affiliated property in Isla Vista on Oct. 9.

November

Nov. 23: UCPD issued a timely warning for an aggravated sexual assault that occurred at a campus-affiliated property in Isla Vista on Oct. 9.

December

UCPD arrested fourth-year UCSB student Luke Hamilton at Santa Ynez Apartments on Oct. 2. Hamilton was arrested on the 6500 block of Del Playa Drive in Isla Vista. He was found to be in possession of a weapon and was arrested on suspicion of armed robbery.

UCPD arrested fourth-year UCSB student Luke Hamilton at Santa Ynez Apartments on Oct. 2. Hamilton was arrested on the 6500 block of Del Playa Drive in Isla Vista. He was found to be in possession of a weapon and was arrested on suspicion of armed robbery.

UCPD arrested fourth-year UCSB student Luke Hamilton at Santa Ynez Apartments on Oct. 2. Hamilton was arrested on the 6500 block of Del Playa Drive in Isla Vista. He was found to be in possession of a weapon and was arrested on suspicion of armed robbery.

UCPD arrested fourth-year UCSB student Luke Hamilton at Santa Ynez Apartments on Oct. 2. Hamilton was arrested on the 6500 block of Del Playa Drive in Isla Vista. He was found to be in possession of a weapon and was arrested on suspicion of armed robbery.

UCPD arrested fourth-year UCSB student Luke Hamilton at Santa Ynez Apartments on Oct. 2. Hamilton was arrested on the 6500 block of Del Playa Drive in Isla Vista. He was found to be in possession of a weapon and was arrested on suspicion of armed robbery.

March

March 11: SBSO responded fourth-year UCSB student Ammar Alahmaro, 21, one man seriously injured. The suspect was not in custody, and an investigation led by the Isla Vista Police Department (IVPD) and four arrests occurred. The suspect was not in custody, and an investigation led by the Isla Vista Police Department (IVPD) and four arrests occurred. The suspect was not in custody, and an investigation led by the Isla Vista Police Department (IVPD) and four arrests occurred. The suspect was not in custody, and an investigation led by the Isla Vista Police Department (IVPD) and four arrests occurred.

UCPD arrested fourth-year UCSB student Luke Hamilton at Santa Ynez Apartments on Oct. 2. Hamilton was arrested on the 6500 block of Del Playa Drive in Isla Vista. He was found to be in possession of a weapon and was arrested on suspicion of armed robbery.

April

April 13: On the weekend of Delphi — an annual unincorporated event — a woman was attacked in Isla Vista held on the first weekend of spring quarter—34 citations and four arrests occurred. The Santa Barbara County Fire Protection District (SBP) and four arrests occurred. The suspect was not in custody, and an investigation led by the Isla Vista Police Department (IVPD) and four arrests occurred. The suspect was not in custody, and an investigation led by the Isla Vista Police Department (IVPD) and four arrests occurred.

UCPD arrested fourth-year UCSB student Luke Hamilton at Santa Ynez Apartments on Oct. 2. Hamilton was arrested on the 6500 block of Del Playa Drive in Isla Vista. He was found to be in possession of a weapon and was arrested on suspicion of armed robbery.

UCPD arrested fourth-year UCSB student Luke Hamilton at Santa Ynez Apartments on Oct. 2. Hamilton was arrested on the 6500 block of Del Playa Drive in Isla Vista. He was found to be in possession of a weapon and was arrested on suspicion of armed robbery.

UCPD arrested fourth-year UCSB student Luke Hamilton at Santa Ynez Apartments on Oct. 2. Hamilton was arrested on the 6500 block of Del Playa Drive in Isla Vista. He was found to be in possession of a weapon and was arrested on suspicion of armed robbery.

UCPD arrested fourth-year UCSB student Luke Hamilton at Santa Ynez Apartments on Oct. 2. Hamilton was arrested on the 6500 block of Del Playa Drive in Isla Vista. He was found to be in possession of a weapon and was arrested on suspicion of armed robbery.

UCPD arrested fourth-year UCSB student Luke Hamilton at Santa Ynez Apartments on Oct. 2. Hamilton was arrested on the 6500 block of Del Playa Drive in Isla Vista. He was found to be in possession of a weapon and was arrested on suspicion of armed robbery.

UCPD arrested fourth-year UCSB student Luke Hamilton at Santa Ynez Apartments on Oct. 2. Hamilton was arrested on the 6500 block of Del Playa Drive in Isla Vista. He was found to be in possession of a weapon and was arrested on suspicion of armed robbery.

UCPD arrested fourth-year UCSB student Luke Hamilton at Santa Ynez Apartments on Oct. 2. Hamilton was arrested on the 6500 block of Del Playa Drive in Isla Vista. He was found to be in possession of a weapon and was arrested on suspicion of armed robbery.

UCPD arrested fourth-year UCSB student Luke Hamilton at Santa Ynez Apartments on Oct. 2. Hamilton was arrested on the 6500 block of Del Playa Drive in Isla Vista. He was found to be in possession of a weapon and was arrested on suspicion of armed robbery.

UCPD arrested fourth-year UCSB student Luke Hamilton at Santa Ynez Apartments on Oct. 2. Hamilton was arrested on the 6500 block of Del Playa Drive in Isla Vista. He was found to be in possession of a weapon and was arrested on suspicion of armed robbery.

UCPD arrested fourth-year UCSB student Luke Hamilton at Santa Ynez Apartments on Oct. 2. Hamilton was arrested on the 6500 block of Del Playa Drive in Isla Vista. He was found to be in possession of a weapon and was arrested on suspicion of armed robbery.

UCPD arrested fourth-year UCSB student Luke Hamilton at Santa Ynez Apartments on Oct. 2. Hamilton was arrested on the 6500 block of Del Playa Drive in Isla Vista. He was found to be in possession of a weapon and was arrested on suspicion of armed robbery.
Continued from p.4

YEAR IN REVIEW: IN PHOTOS

In October 2021, UCSB women’s soccer played their rival, Cal Poly SLO, ultimately losing the match.

Members of UCSB’s UC-AFT union — which represents lecturers and librarians across the UC — protested for higher wages and job security during Fall Quarter 2021.

UCSB students showed support for the men’s soccer team during their yearly matchup against Cal Poly SLO.

Denzel Curry performed at UCSB’s October 2021 Delirium concert.

Members of UCSB’s UC-AFT union — which represents lecturers and librarians across the UC — protested for higher wages and job security during Fall Quarter 2021.

An influx of students walked on campus as UCSB returned to in-person learning fall quarter for the first time since 2019.

2021-22 REGENT REFLECTS

period, but always both identifying as femme in some ways and being queer-identifying are really cool in terms of representation."

Zaragoza advised the incoming student regents to take up space on the board, although it might be intimidating.

"I think the hard part about the regents position is that it’s such a strange place in a way; it’s not something that any of us are used to," she said. "I think a lot of people take a little bit too long, sitting in the back, thinking, ‘OK, I’m gonna get the hang of it soon.’"

Despite the authority that the regents wield, however, Zaragoza said her experiences on the board informed her of the importance and value of student perspectives.

"I always say to all students that we’re the expert in what this board deals with. We’re literally one of the only experts in the room that actually knows recently what it’s like to be a student in the system, what it’s like to experience the system," she said. "Those experiences are so important to the work that needs to be done. You don’t have to know every definition and every acronym and everything else [during] your first meeting, but you are an expert in that you know what the experience is like."

"Try not to take too long, kind of sitting back, telling yourself, ‘Oh, I’ll get it soon,’” Zaragoza continued. “Because the thing is, you already have all the knowledge that you need to be there.”
With instruction moved online at the beginning of winter quarter, students conducted all of their coursework remotely.

Senior Amadou Sow’s run as a Gaucho has come to an end as he pursues professional aspirations. In the game versus Pepperdine, he is seen going up for the dunk while being fouled.

Throughout the weeks of online instruction, campus was largely empty.

With in-person instruction resuming in winter quarter, campus became busy once more.

On March 16, Chancellor Henry T. Yang announced that UC Santa Barbara’s indoor masking mandate would be lifted at the end of the quarter. The announcement went into effect on March 19.

In light of a leaked Supreme Court draft that would overturn Roe v. Wade, protestors marched in support of abortion rights at the Santa Barbara County Courthouse on May 14.

Partygoers on Del Playa Drive celebrated Deltopia, Isla Vista’s annual unsanctioned street party, during the first weekend of spring quarter.

Dayglow concluded their set by performing their rendition of “Everybody Wants to Rule the World” by Tears for Fears, which then transitioned into their track “Run the World!!” an upbeat song that got the crowd jumping and livened up for Extravaganza.

In light of a leaked Supreme Court draft that would overturn Roe v. Wade, protestors marched in support of abortion rights at the Santa Barbara County Courthouse on May 14.

Kristen Stewart posed at the Santa Barbara International Film Festival, where she won the American Riviera Award for her portrayal of Princess Diana in the biopic “Spencer.”

Flo Milli performed at UCSB’s April 2 Warm Up event, put on by the Associated Students Program Board.
It's Satire, Stupid.

Best Drinking Game:
King’s Cup

Daniela Gomez
King of Cup

Being an Isla Vista resident often involves riveting activities, including finding any excuse to drink despite it being a weekday. If you find yourself in this position, King’s Cup is the perfect method to both bring your friend circle together while simultaneously tearing it apart. There’s nothing more fulfilling than holding a deck of cards drenched in seltzers and having to re-explain the rules since everyone claims that it’s “played differently” where they’re from. It’s also the perfect opportunity to weed out the degenerates lurking within your group (those will be the people who are opposed to playing categories because it’s “too hard”). Overall, King’s Cup is a truly unforgettable experience — which is exactly why it’s played so frequently.

Best Study Spot:
Library

Sierra Vakili
David’s Son

Now, this one might come as a bit of a shocker, but the library is one of UC Santa Barbara’s best kept secrets! The library is a little-known joint on campus and a great place if you’re looking for a place with a desk, a chair and some good ol’ peace and quiet. It’s a perfect place for the all the indie kids to sit and stare at 39 open tabs for three hours while still feeling somewhat productive! You might have some trouble finding it, but it’s actually conveniently tucked away right next to the Arbor. Stop by if you’re looking for an indie, underground, hot new study spot that nobody else will know about!

Best Hookup Spot:
The Beach

J. Matteo Wharton
Nude

The people have spoken! And unfortunately, the people are wrong. Putting our student body’s apparent proclivity for exhibitionism aside for the moment, the beach may be the actual worst spot for hanky panky in the greater Santa Barbara area. Imagine being in the throes of pleasure, feeling the sand between your toes and the next day having to explain to a Student Health nurse practitioner why you have sand abrasion rashes on every — and I mean every — square inch of your body. I can name five better hookup spots off the top of my head right now: cuddled up in an egg chair, library stairwells late at night, Chancellor Yang’s driveway, the stage of Campbell Hall between classes and, last but not least, the Daily Nexus editor-in-chief’s office. Do better, UCSB.

Best A.S. Senator:
No Winner

Sierra Vakili
Girlfriend of Former A.S. Senator

Voter turnout was too low, so no winner has been declared for this category. Every A.S. senator is a winner in our hearts!

Best Way To Get to LAX:
Santa Barbara Airbus

Valerie Fu
Smelly

If braving the harrowing experience of merging onto Interstate 5 armed with only your wits and a strawberry matcha latte sounds like it’s right up your alley, then the City of Angels may be the place for you! You just gotta find a way to get there. With a hefty drive separating you from being passed down vaginally by TSA, it’s truly a gush that the Santa Barbara Airbus can sweep you up and dump you at your terminal. Of course, a bus is a bus, so don’t expect any wild Knotts that your spoiled, little heart may desire. However, the unenviable novelties of a bus — the stained velour seats and the smell of Little Tree air freshener — are more than fulfilled by taking the good ol’ Santa Barbara Airbus. Always reliable and always slightly stinky … just like you!

Beach With the Most Sharks:
Sands Beach

Emily Kocis
Shark Week Connoisseur

There’s nothing quite like the subsequent hole in the pit of one’s stomach that opens up after feeling something a little slimy brush past your foot as it rests on the ocean floor. If you’re looking to get a little freaked out by the thought of a whole new ecosystem living beneath your tow-stained feet, Sands Beach is the place for you this summer. Sure, these flocks of leopard sharks are virtually harmless, and maybe brushing up against your leg is their sick and twisted way of trying to make a new friend, but not everyone is cut out to bestie-fy a shark. Sands Beach is your best bet this summer for a quick adrenaline fix or a new shark bestie, depending on where you place on the shark tolerance spectrum.

Best Way To Get to LAX:
Santa Barbara Airbus

Valerie Fu
Smelly

If braving the harrowing experience of merging onto Interstate 5 armed with only your wits and a strawberry matcha latte sounds like it’s right up your alley, then the City of Angels may be the place for you! You just gotta find a way to get there. With a hefty drive separating you from being passed down vaginally by TSA, it’s truly a gush that the Santa Barbara Airbus can sweep you up and dump you at your terminal. Of course, a bus is a bus, so don’t expect any wild Knotts that your spoiled, little heart may desire. However, the unenviable novelties of a bus — the stained velour seats and the smell of Little Tree air freshener — are more than fulfilled by taking the good ol’ Santa Barbara Airbus. Always reliable and always slightly stinky … just like you!

Best Study Spot:
Library

Sierra Vakili
David’s Son

Now, this one might come as a bit of a shocker, but the library is one of UC Santa Barbara’s best kept secrets! The library is a little-known joint on campus and a great place if you’re looking for a place with a desk, a chair and some good ol’ peace and quiet. It’s a perfect place for the all the indie kids to sit and stare at 39 open tabs for three hours while still feeling somewhat productive! You might have some trouble finding it, but it’s actually conveniently tucked away right next to the Arbor. Stop by if you’re looking for an indie, underground, hot new study spot that nobody else will know about!

Best Hookup Spot:
The Beach

J. Matteo Wharton
Nude

The people have spoken! And unfortunately, the people are wrong. Putting our student body’s apparent proclivity for exhibitionism aside for the moment, the beach may be the actual worst spot for hanky panky in the greater Santa Barbara area. Imagine being in the throes of pleasure, feeling the sand between your toes and the next day having to explain to a Student Health nurse practitioner why you have sand abrasion rashes on every — and I mean every — square inch of your body. I can name five better hookup spots off the top of my head right now: cuddled up in an egg chair, library stairwells late at night, Chancellor Yang’s driveway, the stage of Campbell Hall between classes and, last but not least, the Daily Nexus editor-in-chief’s office. Do better, UCSB.

Best A.S. Senator:
No Winner

Sierra Vakili
Girlfriend of Former A.S. Senator

Voter turnout was too low, so no winner has been declared for this category. Every A.S. senator is a winner in our hearts!

Best Way To Get to LAX:
Santa Barbara Airbus

Valerie Fu
Smelly

If braving the harrowing experience of merging onto Interstate 5 armed with only your wits and a strawberry matcha latte sounds like it’s right up your alley, then the City of Angels may be the place for you! You just gotta find a way to get there. With a hefty drive separating you from being passed down vaginally by TSA, it’s truly a gush that the Santa Barbara Airbus can sweep you up and dump you at your terminal. Of course, a bus is a bus, so don’t expect any wild Knotts that your spoiled, little heart may desire. However, the unenviable novelties of a bus — the stained velour seats and the smell of Little Tree air freshener — are more than fulfilled by taking the good ol’ Santa Barbara Airbus. Always reliable and always slightly stinky … just like you!
Report: No One Cares You're Not Passing Your Finals

Sam Franzini

According to a recent study done by the Collegiate Complaining Organization, 97% of those in your immediate surroundings actually don’t give a flying fuck you’re not studying as much as you should be for your upcoming COMM 1 final exam on Monday.

Furthermore, 95% of conversational partners were found to be zoning out while you complained, 93% wondered why you believed yourself to be the center of the universe and 94% were upset you didn’t ask them about how their studying was going, even though they wouldn’t go to such self-flagellating distances as you did.

“There’s a terrible crisis in this country where people unfortunately believe themselves to be the only one in the conversation that matters,” said CEO of the Collegiate Complaining Organization (CCO) Plíes Shaddap in a recent interview. “To try to infuse some humor in the situation, they make self-deprecating jokes about how they’re ‘soooo behind’ or ‘totally gonna fail’ seemingly oblivious to the crucial lack of humor or personality in these jokes,” Shaddap lamented. “This is the true pandemic.”

As finals week rapidly approaches, students are feeling the stress — but talking about them in all the right ways.

First-year student Layla Bayla reports that her roommate has recently been troubling her.

“Every hour, on the dot, she says a random phrase about how she hasn’t been studying. Her go-tos are ‘I BARELY slept last night!’ or ‘HAH! I haven’t even started yet!’ But, recently, she’s throwing in some new ones. She’ll just shout, ‘C’s get degrees!’ and ‘I don’t even care! Quirky alert!’”

Bayla shook her head as she recalled her experience. “At first, I tried to talk with her about it, but it was like Jordan didn’t even hear me. She’d just turn off until the next hour, where she’d continue speaking without me replying. It’s like she’s a robot.”

The recently organized Grow the Hell Up Commission is on a mission to tackle this kind of humor that posits oneself as a lowlife or failure.

“Not only is it bad and unoriginal comedy, but you’re putting yourself down. Don’t speak that negative energy into the world,” organizer D. Lyte said. “If you call yourself a loser, you’re probably right!”

With their recent report, the CCO hopes to extinguish the idea that one has to constantly complain about school or work in order to appear interesting, aiming to show that schoolwork is not the only facet of one’s personality.


Sam Franzini can find many more interesting things to complain about than finals.
Letter From the Editor: My Time With On The Menu

Michelle Lee
On The Menu Co-Editor

I joined the Daily Nexus in April 2020 – aka the peak of the pandemic and inception of Zoom university. Having been laid off from a previous on-campus job and moving back home, I had unprecedented free time and a newfound sense of loneliness that urged me to try something new. I came across a recruitment ad for the Daily Nexus. I eagerly filled out the Google Form, making the decision to join the news team. After having written a few news articles, I came to the conclusion that while I respect the craft of news, it is so much more than just a career path. Food has been and continues to be an integral part of my life. To me, food is family, love and connection. I am eternally grateful for the privilege of reading, editing and publishing offered a new perspective on food that, in turn, enriched my own. Food has been and continues to be an integral part of my life.

As I am American, to me, food is so much more than just what my grandma and my mom prepare when I visit home. “What do you want to eat?” Eating the dishes my grandma and mom prepare is one turn, enriched my own. Food has been and continues to be an integral part of my life. To me, food is family, love and connection.

Above all, my time as co-editor for On The Menu has strengthened my belief that food is so much more than sustenance – it’s a bridge between cultures, an agent for change, a creative outlet, a lens into another person’s life and the list goes on. While my time as co-editor for this amazing section has come to an end, I will carry this belief with me into another person’s life and look forward to seeing what On The Menu accomplishes in the future.

Michelle Lee
On The Menu Co-Editor
On The Menu
Thursday, May 26, 2022

On The Menu
Stephanie Gerson
On The Menu Co-Editor

No matter the occasion, you can always find your way back to Woodstock’s Pizza. In terms of customization, flavor and restaurant atmosphere, other pizza parlors in I.V. just can’t compare. How could you resist their fluffy dough, the perfect cheese-sauce ratio and the plethora of unique toppings? Along with their signature pizza combos such as the Garlic Bird Pizza, Woodstock’s has options for everyone by offering modifications, such as gluten-free crust and Daiya vegan cheese. Plus, they offer the option to craft your own personalized pizza, something that you can’t get at any other restaurant in Isla Vista. If you’re feeling inspired, Woodstock’s also sells individual batches of pizza dough that you can roll out yourself, top with your favorite ingredients and bake in the comfort of your own home. However, the atmosphere at Woodstock’s is so special that you’re going to want to dine on their cozy, outdoor patio with your friends and share a pitcher.

Daniela Gomez
Production Editor

When Isla Vista lost its Subway, it lost its heart ... if hearts were disposable, unwanted and there were two more perfectly operational ones nearby. The sentiment surrounding Subway’s disappearance was mainly that of excitement: What would replace it? For a while, the building was dark and pregnant with the promise of something greater, something more. Finally, on Oct. 29, rising from Subway’s ashes on beautifully fried wings of lemon pepper, Wingstop arrived.

Wingstop is solid. Wingstop is reliable. Wingstop is never going to let you down. Offering both boneless and bone-in, all-flat or all-drum options and upward of 15 flavors, they’re always going to have what you want – as long as what you want is chicken. It’s hard to go wrong with any of their flavors, some of which you can apply to your fries. Lemon pepper fries? Simply out of this world. Alien. Extraterrestrial. Deja Vu is lucky Wingstop closes at midnight, or else it’d be shaking in its “drunchies king” throne.

Wingstop’s pretty reasonably priced too, especially compared to the average I.V.-upcharge. Ten wings for $12 is a pretty solid deal. Swing by on a Monday or Tuesday for their $0.70 boneless wings deal to really save on your suspiciously farmed chicken. In a town with overpriced, inconsistent food, a solid, popular chain like Wingstop is always going to become a staple, and that’s exactly what it’s done this year.

Chace Duma
On The Menu Co-Editor

BEST NEW RESTAURANT: Wingstop

Wingstop is solid. Wingstop is reliable. Wingstop is never going to let you down. Offering both boneless and bone-in, all-flat or all-drum options and upward of 15 flavors, they’re always going to have what you want – as long as what you want is chicken. It’s hard to go wrong with any of their flavors, some of which you can apply to your fries. Lemon pepper fries? Simply out of this world. Alien. Extraterrestrial. Deja Vu is lucky Wingstop closes at midnight, or else it’d be shaking in its “drunchies king” throne.

Wingstop’s pretty reasonably priced too, especially compared to the average I.V.-upcharge. Ten wings for $12 is a pretty solid deal. Swing by on a Monday or Tuesday for their $0.70 boneless wings deal to really save on your suspiciously farmed chicken. In a town with overpriced, inconsistent food, a solid, popular chain like Wingstop is always going to become a staple, and that’s exactly what it’s done this year.

Garret Harcourt
Sports Editor

BEST BEER: Woodstock’s

Have you ever been cruising down Del Playa Drive on a sunny Friday afternoon and thought to yourself, “Wow, where can I grab an ice-cold pitcher with my housemates?” Who hasn’t? There’s only one place in Isla Vista that can hook you up with delicious pizza midway through a Firestone Mind Haze IPA pitcher. At Woodstock’s Pizza, there is never a worry about getting an ice-cold brew any day of the week. You have a social that you need to get to on a Tuesday night, lucky for you, Woodstock’s is just on the way to Del Playa Drive, and hey, they even offer Bud Light on tap! Better yet, the family is here to visit for the weekend, and you don’t want them to think you’re an alcoholic? Well, send them over to Woodstock’s for a relaxing Saturday evening to enjoy some of their IPA pitchers. Oh, you’re not a fan of a nice IPA or an ale on tap? Look no further: Woodstock’s has you covered. In addition to the IPAs and ales they have for their lovely guests, they also provide Boochcraft Organic Hard Kombucha. This is all to say: Get into Woodstock’s, and order a beer today!

Stephanie Gerson
On The Menu Co-Editor

BEST PIZZA: Woodstock’s

No matter the occasion, you can always find your way back to Woodstock’s Pizza. In terms of customization, flavor and restaurant atmosphere, other pizza parlors in I.V. just can’t compare. How could you resist their fluffy dough, the perfect cheese-sauce ratio and the plethora of unique toppings? Along with their signature pizza combos such as the Garlic Bird Pizza, Woodstock’s has options for everyone by offering modifications, such as gluten-free crust and Daiya vegan cheese. Plus, they offer the option to craft your own personalized pizza, something that you can’t get at any other restaurant in Isla Vista. If you’re feeling inspired, Woodstock’s also sells individual batches of pizza dough that you can roll out yourself, top with your favorite ingredients and bake in the comfort of your own home. However, the atmosphere at Woodstock’s is so special that you’re going to want to dine on their cozy, outdoor patio with your friends and share a pitcher.

BEST DRUNCHIES: I.V. Deli Mart

Featuring affordable prices and a convenient location, I.V. Deli Mart offers a wide variety of options for the Isla Vista community. In addition to selling chips, candy, drinks and anything else you could want on a drunken Saturday night, they offer a huge menu primarily consisting of sandwiches and burgers, including the I.V.-renowned “Gaucho Burger.” They also serve bowls and plates containing rice, vegetables and an assortment of protein options. Additionally, they have a vegan and vegetarian menu for plant-based eaters, demonstrating their efforts to serve all I.V. residents to the best of their ability.

BEST DRUNCHIES: I.V. Deli Mart

Featuring affordable prices and a convenient location, I.V. Deli Mart offers a wide variety of options for the Isla Vista community. In addition to selling chips, candy, drinks and anything else you could want on a drunken Saturday night, they offer a huge menu primarily consisting of sandwiches and burgers, including the I.V.-renowned “Gaucho Burger.” They also serve bowls and plates containing rice, vegetables and an assortment of protein options. Additionally, they have a vegan and vegetarian menu for plant-based eaters, demonstrating their efforts to serve all I.V. residents to the best of their ability.

ON THE MENU
Thursday, May 26, 2022

BEST DRUNCHIES: I.V. Deli Mart

Featuring affordable prices and a convenient location, I.V. Deli Mart offers a wide variety of options for the Isla Vista community. In addition to selling chips, candy, drinks and anything else you could want on a drunken Saturday night, they offer a huge menu primarily consisting of sandwiches and burgers, including the I.V.-renowned “Gaucho Burger.” They also serve bowls and plates containing rice, vegetables and an assortment of protein options. Additionally, they have a vegan and vegetarian menu for plant-based eaters, demonstrating their efforts to serve all I.V. residents to the best of their ability.
As 2022 reaches its halfway mark, the year has already boasted acclaimed music albums from a variety of genres. Here are some of the best albums of 2022 so far:

**The Weeknd — “Dawn FM” (Jan. 7)**

This album is the first concept album for The Weeknd, conveying an eerie sense of humanity’s ultimate demise. The album is framed as a radio show titled “103.5 FM,” with Jim Carey as the radio host. Carey’s voice narration along with The Weeknd’s classic ‘80s sound tells the listeners that, although we are going to eventually reach an end, we should sit back and enjoy the ride. Or in Carrey’s words, “We’ll be there to hold your hand and guide you through this painless transition / But what’s the rush? / Just relax and enjoy another hour of commercial free FM.”

**FKA twigs — “Caprisongs” (Jan. 14)**

This album from FKA twigs is also host to another hour of commercial free FM. It’s a shorter than fans had hoped. Isaac’s time in the band was a lot longer than fans had hoped. He was nice to yourself and that you people know that it’s okay to take over me, it’s beginning to see how that goes.”

**Rex Orange County — “WHO CARES?” (March 11)**

In contrast to his other releases, Rex Orange County’s fourth official studio album, “WHO CARES?” focuses on a happier message. Rex showcases the duality of being a human and a singer-songwriter, which can be found within the album title itself. These 11 indie songs on the album all have two consistent messages: change is constant, and be yourself and see how that goes.”

**Black Country, New Road — “Ants From Up There” (Feb. 4)**

Arriving just a year after their highly acclaimed debut, “Ants From Up There” is the second project from English rock band Black Country, New Road. Dropping just four days after lead singer Isaac Wood tragically announced his departure from the band due to mental health struggles, the project arrived to nearly universal acclaim. Praise ranged from the fantastic, dynamic instrumentals, Isaac’s one-of-a-kind lyrics and delivery, and just how creative and refreshing the project was in regards to recent rock releases. Isaac’s incredibly pained, strained vocal delivery on standout songs like “Concorde” and “The Place Where He Experienced the Blaze” combined with the explosive and evocative percussion, heart-wrenching strings and flawless brass performances create such an enveloping feeling of hopelessness and despair that is really present throughout the entire album. The band also experiments a fair bit on the project, such as the absolutely dynamic drumming toward the end of “Snow Globes” and the constantly changing journey that the near 13 minutes of “Basketball Shoes” takes you on. “Ants” is certainly one of the most special projects released in recent memory and is sure to stick with you for a long time, even if you didn’t love the album itself. Here’s hoping that shortens than fans had hoped.

**Rex Orange County — “WHO CARES?” (March 11)**

In contrast to his other releases, Rex Orange County’s fourth official studio album, “WHO CARES?” focuses on a happier message. Rex showcases the duality of being a human and a singer-songwriter, which can be found within the album title itself. These 11 indie songs on the album all have two consistent messages: change is constant, and be yourself and see how that goes.”

**Dead Set performs at Concert for the Coast, held in Anisq’o’yo’ Park.**

**Best of I.V. Bands: Dead Set**

Dead Set is a Grateful Dead cover band consisting of Ashen Kochert on vocals, Albert Dicesare on guitar, Bradley Figgakis on keyboard, Gavin Mentz on bass, Albert Dicesare on guitar, and Scotty Orlando on drums. Justin Menembs on guitar and providing vocals, Marloshs Kushner on guitar and providing vocals and Nico Johnson on drums. The rock band played their first show in September 2021 and have quickly gained a following from Tridge Road to Camino Corto to Camino Linda to Anisq’o’yo’ Park. Dead Set has brought their groovy rock all over I.V. Dead Set has also performed for multiple fundraisers, jam sessions, while raising awareness for events like Stop Manger Hall and Concert for the Coast. Stay tuned for future performances, Dead Set also announced their Instagram (@deadsetlive).
SPORTS

Best of the 2021-22 UCSB Men’s Basketball Team

Preston Esper
Sports Editor

Although the 2021-22 UC Santa Barbara men’s basketball team was not as successful as the previous year’s team, the season had many high points that made this year’s squad fun to watch. With that being said, here are the best of the 2021-22 UCSB men’s basketball team.

Coming off a successful 2021 season, senior forward Amadou Sow had a solid year averaging almost a double-double with a rate of 15.6 points per game and 8.4 rebounds per game; both numbers led the team. Sow also led the team in blocks per game and averaged almost 1 block every appearance.

UCSB's best freshman this year was guard Ajay Mitchell. In his first year as a Gaucho, Mitchell led the entire team in minutes per game (32.1) while also averaging 11.6 points per game and 3.7 assists per contest.

The Gauchos' best game of the year was a 72-45 drubbing of the Cal State Northridge Matadors. This margin of victory was the largest for UCSB against any Big West opponent this season and was a rare showing of total dominance for the Gauchos this year.

In honor of the former UCSB Dean of Student Residents, Margaret T. Getman, and the former Director of Admissions, William J. Villa, these annual awards recognize university staff, faculty, and departments that have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to the general growth and development of students and quality of student life. The nominees and recipients will be honored with a reception on Thursday, June 2nd, 2022, 9:30-11 a.m., at the Student Affairs divisional meeting in Corwin Pavilion.

Margaret T. Getman and William J. Villa Service to Students Awards

Getman Award Nominees are:

Virginia Beaufort
Undergraduate Education

Michael Mahan
Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Sharileen O’Brien
Health & Wellness

Thomas Carlson
Religious Studies

Michael Miller
Enrollment Services

Angela Pitenis
Materials

Heidi Dinnogen
Music

Jennifer Mitchell
Student Engagement & Leadership

Tricia Rascon
Orientation Programs & Parent Services

Adrienne Edgar
History

Allina M. Molarro
Associated Students

Jayne Reimel
Visitor Center, Office of Admissions

Lisa Goto
Student Information Systems & Technology

Laury Oaks
Feminist Studies

Pamela Scott
Residential & Community Living

Samantha Little
Linguistics and Philosophy

Allina M. Molarro
Associated Students

Elizabeth (Lizzie) Soriano
Portola Dining Commons

Villa Award Nominees are:

Career Services

Early Childhood Care & Education Services

ONDAS Student Center

Disabled Students Program

Office of the Registrar

The award and reception are co-sponsored by Housing, Dining & Auxiliary Enterprises and the Division of Student Affairs.
The university community joins together to give praise and thanks to those graduates who have demonstrated excellence during their years here.

The Thomas More Storke Award for Excellence
symbolized by a bronze medal forged by Francis Minturn Segwicik, is given to the graduating senior who has demonstrated outstanding scholarship and extraordinary service to the university, its students, and the community. This year this distinction is awarded to:

Emily Elizabeth Lopez

The Jeremy D. Friedman Memorial Award
is presented in grateful recognition of outstanding leadership, scholastic excellence, and innovative contribution to student and community life at the University of California, Santa Barbara, in memory of Jeremy D. Friedman, undergraduate 1979-83. This year’s recipient is:

Michael Zargari

Alyce Marita Whitted Memorial Award
This award, established in 1993, is presented to one non-traditional graduating senior who has demonstrated endurance, persistence, and courage in the face of extraordinary challenges while in pursuit of an academic degree. This year’s recipient is:

Hugh Darius David Cook

Yonie Harris Award for Civility in Public Discourse
is presented to graduates who best exemplify the principles of free speech and respectful dialogue and who foster a campus climate of civility and open-mindedness. This year’s recipient is:

Vonnie Feng Wei

Michael D. Young Engaged Scholar Award
This award recognized the legacy of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Emeritus, Michael D. Young, particularly his commitment to empowering students toward principled leadership. It is awarded to students who have skillfully integrated their scholarly knowledge and/or values into action. This year’s recipients are:

Kimani Kefla & Ryan Flaco Rising

University Award of Distinction
The following seniors and graduate students have been selected as recipients of this year’s University Award of Distinction, given to students who have contributed greatly to the quality of life by giving unselfish service to others within a particular area.

Cassidy Chen
Carlos Ovadado Gomez
Malika Rajesh Gupta
Valerie Huynh
Enaiya Simone Judkins
Kim Kryshak

Sophia JeHong Lake
Sofia Lyon
Danielle McGary
Jeddon King Mejorado
Kelly Vanessa Molina
Marco Christian Muñoz

Sophia O’Hara
Zena Omar
Lucas Parsons
Victoria Bianca Perez
Rahel Stefan Piscoki
Alexander S. Proksch

Ashley Jean Rusch
Nicholas Ryan Schierman
Nyah Rae Castro Scott
Jessica Simonson
Komal Kumari Sood

Anya Sriram
Katherine Viola Swartz
Shannon Sweeney
Ruiqi Yang
Carly Young

University Service Award
The following seniors and graduate students have been selected as recipients of this year’s University Service Award, given in recognition of unselfish and dedicated service to the University, its students, and the community.

Cecilia Armenta
Jennifer Madelyn Casillas
Abigail Cervantes
Yuval Cohen
Monica Cordova

Julieta Corral Phun
Novia Dattatri
Diana Aurelia Escamilla
Celine Liu
Haochen Long

Teannae Owens
Cesar Alejandro Marquez
Britney Jayleen Martinez-Zavaleta

Christopher Panzin
Kathryn Kelly Quinones
Esmeralda Quintero-Cubillan
Jamileth Rodriguez
Logan Ruggles

Jose Guadalupe Torres-Gonzalez
Eliana Van Doren
Melissa Vinluan
Alexis Xa

Vice Chancellor’s Award for Scholarship, Leadership, and Citizenship
This award is presented annually to one or more graduating seniors and graduate students who embrace the principles of scholarship, leadership, and citizenship—through activities that enhance UCSB’s academic environment, contributions to a consequential project, or extraordinary service to the campus community.

Emily Irene Diaz
Lea Harley
Geovany Abimelec Lucero-Barahona
Bailey Nicole McRae

Stella Roffelsen
Mina Santamaria

Mortar Board Award
The Mortar Board Award is given each year in recognition of the graduating senior having the highest cumulative grade point average in the graduating class, combined with the fewest number of transfer units. This year’s recipient will be announced at the ceremony.

Award winners, their families, & interested faculty & staff are invited to attend the Awards Ceremony on Friday, June 10, 2022 at 3:30pm in Corwin Pavilion.
PLANET PROTECTION PROGRAM

Cosmic impact to the Earth's surface poses threats to the safety of the planet's inhabitants. The Chicxulub impactor, for example, was an asteroid that hit Earth 66 million years ago and was responsible for the extinction of the dinosaurs. The risk of such a dangerous collision, although rare, is not impossible, as it is difficult to predict if and when objects may be on a trajectory toward Earth.

UC Santa Barbara physics professor Philip Lubin has worked in conjunction with UCSB Department of Physics Jr. Specialist Alexander Cohen to propose strategies to decrease the cosmic threat by deflection, or changing the collision course of space objects. Deflection would require knowledge of a collision course much earlier on the object's path.

“The human race has reached a technological state of evolution where it can begin to seriously and methodically control its fate with regards to cosmic threats from asteroids and comets by applying significant breakthroughs in both the detection of these threats as well as new ways of rapid mitigation of these threats,” Lubin said. “This combination allows us for the first time as a species to help ensure our survival and the survival of future generations from this class of threat.”

DELAYING DROSOPHILA

During February of this year, the Montell Lab, led by Duggan Professor Denise Montell of the molecular, cellular and developmental biology department, published a paper in Nature Communications on utilizing reproductive diapause in Drosophila — the common fruit fly — to extend the viability of stem cells. Disparse is when flies halt their reproductive development in response to stress in order to save energy. Montell and project scientist Snehamakar Eswaran, who was lead author of the paper, hope to utilize this natural process to extend the longevity of stem cells. Removing a component called juvenile hormone, a molecule that serves a function in egg production, and then reintroducing it into the flies’ system proved to elongate the flies’ reproductive period, making stem cells more available. The fly serves as a model organism and discoveries about its system can be connected to the more complex human system. Specifically, a method to make stem cells more viable could aid in tissue renewal and regenerating.

C. ELEGANS IN SPACE

We’ve all dreamed about traversing the cosmos as shown in popular movies such as “star trek” and “guardians of the galaxy.” This has been a goal for countless scientists and researchers who wish to match the feat performed by the stars and find new ways to overcome the challenges posed by the great voids of space. Until recently, the only space-faring creatures were those that have been observed and studied by the Hubble Space Telescope and other instruments.

However, by using selective dynamical imaging helps us make movies of the black holes we observe,” Farah said. “If we can make a proper movie of a black hole like Sgr A*, we can watch accretion material fall directly in and have a whole new opportunity to test general relativity and probe the extremes of physics.”

“The black hole by home”

While scientists have long predicted that a black hole resides at the center of our galaxy, the Milky Way, the physical existence of one was only recently confirmed. Joseph Farah, a National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellow at UC Santa Barbara and collaborator at the Las Cumbres Observatory, has worked in conjunction with more than 300 researchers around the world to capture the first image of the black hole at the center of our galaxy, famously known as Sagittarius A*.

Through the Event Horizon Telescope (EHT) project, Farah and his peers have pieced together a single image of the black hole by averaging thousands of images taken by telescopes around the globe, all of which join together to create an Earth-sized telescope. At 27,000 light-years away from Earth, Sagittarius A* is so far from us and so small that scientists can only see it through telescopes of a combination of its distance scientists compare its visibility to seeing a donut on the moon. It is much smaller than M87*, the black hole at the center of the Messier 87 galaxy that had been photographed by EHT in 2019. For this reason, the speed at which the light is warped around the singularity at Sagittarius A* is much faster. Producing an image in rapid motion requires more attention and technical analysis.

Best Hangover Cure in I.V.

Sindhu Ananthavel

Deputy News Editor

On any given Saturday or Sunday morning, you can be sure to find hungover college students flocking to the restaurant in droves and clustering outside for their order with dead eyes and empty stomachs. In the way words it is, this really an oasis in the post-party desert.

The answer is yes. Bagel Café’s offerings are bagel-based, as evidenced by the title, with a variety of toppings: cream cheese, lox, bacon, avocado, cheese, tomato, and lox. Excessive alcohol intake can bring fatigue and nausea in the morning after, and while the pain is short term, it can be extremely exhausting. Sustenance is essential in these situations, and the best place to seek it out is IV Bagel Café.

After a night of drinking, debauchery and subsequent dehydration, taking care of your body is essential. Excessive alcohol intake can bring fatigue and nausea in the morning after, and while the pain is short term, it can be extremely exhausting. Sustenance is essential in these situations, and the best place to seek it out is IV Bagel Café.
I started copy editing at the Nexus in fall of my freshman year. I remember taking selfies with the polaroids on the wall, surprised I somehow made it into this vibrant place of chaotic people. I’m not sure what I thought it would be when I graduated college. There have been good surprises, but also many regrets. And, I’m [OK] with that. But throughout those past four years, the Nexus community has been my one constant. Through a pandemic, rejections, fuck-ups, imposter syndrome. No matter what was going on in life, I always had weekly print nights with the copy staff, where we could pool all our energy, almost irrationally so, into making a beautiful paper. I’ll miss the late nights, eight hours in the office spent reading straight with the copy crew. Getting a sugar rush from gummy worms and collectively losing it after midnight. I’ll miss the hours spent debating every comma, every word choice, every little thing that the readers likely won’t notice, but it’s important to me. I’ll miss reflecting and a companion to college as a continuation of self. To support you — you can learn and put your best self forward. I wish everyone on copy would like to think that we succeeded, and I have every confidence that our team will be able to improve upon our effort. I wish everyone on copy would be when I graduated college. There have been good surprises, but also many regrets. And, I’m [OK] with that. But throughout those past four years, the Nexus community has been my one constant. Through a pandemic, rejections, fuck-ups, imposter syndrome. No matter what was going on in life, I always had weekly print nights with the copy staff, where we could pool all our energy, almost irrationally so, into making a beautiful paper. I’ll miss the late nights, eight hours in the office spent reading straight with the copy crew. Getting a sugar rush from gummy worms and collectively losing it after midnight. I’ll miss the hours spent debating every comma, every word choice, every little thing that the readers likely won’t notice, but it’s important to me. I’ll miss reflecting and a companion to college as a continuation of self. To support you — you can learn and put your best self forward. I wish everyone on copy would like to think that we succeeded, and I have every confidence that our team will be able to improve upon our effort. I wish everyone on copy would be