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## UCSB's Jewish community, administration condemn antisemitic actions in I.V., on campus

Holly Rusch Lead News Editor

Warning: This article contains content related to antisemitic discrimination.

UC Barbara Santa Jewish administrators, community members, public officials and the Santa Barbara Sheriff's County Office condemned antisemitic flyer packets distributed across Isla Vista on Jan. 31.

The packets – distributed in the hundreds and manufactured by a white supremacist hate group - each held several fliers with antisemitic conspiracy theories, hate propaganda and Holocaust denial rhetoric combined with pebbles and rocks. They were found on multiple streets in I.V., including the 68 block of Del Playa Drive, Sabado Tarde Road and Camino Corto, according to Santa Barbara County 2nd District Supervisor Laura Capps' office.

One day earlier, on Jan. 30, an Israeli politics classroom was graffitied with "Fuck Israel" and "From the River to the Sea," which community leaders also decried as antisemitic speech.

Following these two instances, the UCSB Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion sent out an email on Jan. 31 condemning both occurrences. The email stated that the university would not tolerate "the recent distribution of horrific anti-Semitic propaganda against our Jewish community in our campus classrooms and in Isla Vista." The email also condemned recent acts of anti-Black and anti-Asian violence.

statement, Students Supporting Israel, Santa Barbara Hillel, Chabad UCSB, End Jew Hatred, Israeli American Council, Mishelanu and Jewish fraternity Alpha Epsilon Phi (AEPi) also condemned both the chalked graffiti and distribution of antisemitic flyers.

"As proud and outspoken members of our Jewish community, we stand in unified opposition to these hateful antisemitic acts," a statement



A Jan. 31 community meeting at Hillel, a Jewish student life organization, hosts UCSB administrators, police officers, community leaders and students.

signed by Students Supporting Israel, Santa Barbara Hillel, Chabad at UCSB, End Jew Hatred, Israeli American Council Mishelanu and Jewish fraternity Alpha Epsilon Pi (AEPi) read.

"At this time, we call on the UCSB administration to publicly condemn these antisemitic acts on the Jewish community of were in no way antisemitic. UCSB and Isla Vista, and take Israel does NOT represent action to ensure Jewish students receive the same level of support and protection as is provided to students from any other minority NOT antisemitism," SJP said in a

Capps, the Isla Vista Community not antisemitism and not direct In addition to the UCSB Services District and members of at Jewish students but at zionists the Goleta Union School Board, denounced the antisemitic flyers calls for the occupation to end." in a joint statement.

> leaders representing Isla Vista student life organization, hosted and UCSB, we condemn in the UCSB administrators, an Antistrongest possible terms the Defamation League (ADL) antisemitic fliers dispersed in our neighborhoods. We stand in solidarity with our Jewish community, and against hatred and bigotry. Hate can have no home in our community," the statement read.

Though both the university and several Jewish campus organizations condemned both instances as antisemitic, student groups like Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) said the chalked graffiti represented anti-Zionism, not antisemitism.

"The writings on that board Judaism and no matter how much these orgs want to spread misinformation, anti Zionism is group," the statement continued. statement to the Nexus. "Saying Community leaders, including Free Palestine or Fuck Israel is ... From the River to the Sea

A community meeting held "As elected and appointed Jan. 31 at Hillel, a Jewish member and representatives of both the UC Police Department and Isla Vista Foot Patrol to discuss the recent events and answer student questions.

Regional ADL Director Dan Meisel discussed patterns of

antisemitic flyer distribution, which were last seen in the Santa Barbara area in December 2022 in the Mesa.

"If there isn't an ordinance that prevents any fliers from being dropped on doorsteps, then what they're doing is likely not littering because there's First Amendment protection for the distribution of content, even vehemently hateful content," he

UCPD Community Outreach Team Officer Ariel Bournes noted that the patrol deputies gathering the majority of flyers didn't find any specific person or people being targeted during their investigation and discussed the potential of police escorts or Community Service Officers being present at Jewish community events, including Shabbat.

The Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office issued a statement on Jan. 31 to inform the community that they don't condone any form of antisemitism and are actively

**Antisemitic Discrimination** *p.4* 

## A.S. holds winter quarter special election

Sindhu Ananthavel Deputy News Editor

The Associated Students of UC Santa Barbara is holding a special election to install a new internal vice president, following Associated Students President Gurleen Pabla's fall quarter removal of Bee Schaefer. Voting opened on Jan. 30 at 8 a.m. and closes on Feb. 2 at 4 p.m.

The candidates running for the position are third-year political science major Coleton Cristiani, third-year communication major Gabrielle Diaz and third-year economics and communication double-major Sydney Kupsh.

As of 10:41 a.m. on Feb. 1, 574 students casted their votes, A.S. Elections Board said in a statement to the Nexus. The voting threshold is 3% of the UCSB student population, requiring roughly 700 votes.

The Associated Students (A.S.) Internal Vice President (IVP) is one of five executive A.S. positions and holds the primary responsibilities of chairing the Senate, facilitating the distribution of student fees and representing A.S. in internal

placed an injunction on the election results, which will be withheld pending the resolution of a case filed by A.S. Senator Sohum Kalia regarding the election's legitimacy. In the case Kalia v. Stankiewicz, the plaintiff argued that the current election is illegal because the Senate did not formally recognize the IVP position as vacant, which is a requirement to hold a special election. The case will be heard on Feb. 5, Kalia told the

Kupsh is currently an officer in the A.S. Finance and Business Committee and treasurer for the Basic Needs Committee. If elected, Kupsh said she will focus on "uphold[ing] legal code to the highest degree" when chairing the Senate, and ensuring Senators are fully informed on their stipulated duties.

"It is essential for the legislative branch of our student government to have proper training to make informed decisions about student life, fees and everything in between," Kupsh said in a statement to the Nexus.

Cristiani did not immediately respond to requests for comment. Diaz did not immediately The A.S. Judicial Council respond to requests for comment.



The A.S. IVP's responsibilities include chairing the senate and facilitating distribution of student fees.

## Suspended UCSB police lieutenant pleads no contest to hit-and-run DUI charge

Sindhu Ananthavel Deputy News Editor

A UC Santa Barbara police lieutenant was charged with three misdemeanors after a DUI hit-and-run incident in August 2022 and pleaded no contest to driving with .08 blood alcohol content (BAC) or higher during his Jan. 26 arraignment.

Lieutenant Bradley Prows was sentenced to 30 days in jail and three years probation, and was ordered to pay restitution to the owner of the hit car, according to the Santa Barbara News-Press.

UCSB officials placed Prows on administrative leave following the accident, according to the Santa Barbara News-Press. The UCSB Police Department did not immediately respond to requests for comment on Prows' current employment status.

Prows was not on duty at the time, and there were no reported

The accident occurred on Aug. 7, 2022 on State Route 246 at the Fourth Place intersection in Solvang, according to a press release from the Buellton California Highway Patrol (CHP). Prows - driving a 2017 Ford F-350 – attempted to pass the vehicle in front of him when it slowed to a stop in a parking stall and instead collided with its left side. He then failed to yield and drove one mile before being pulled over and placed under

The misdemeanors include hit-and-run property damage, driving under the influence of alcohol and driving withn a .08 BAC or higher. Prows pleaded no contest for the latter charge in exchange for the dismissal of the other two charges, according to the Santa Barbara News-Press.

Rana Sibani of La Mesa drove the car that Prows hit - a 2016 Honda Odyssey - and reported the collision to the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office after Prows neglected to stop. Upon arrival, authorities arrested Prows and requested that CHP conduct the investigation.

## Student charged with felony for arson in residence hall



Tropicana Gardens is a privately managed residence hall that houses UCSB students in its 109 furnished

Nisha Malley County News Editor

The UC Santa Barbara Police Department arrested a UCSB student on Jan. 21 on felony and misdemeanor charges of arson and vandalism in the Tropicana Gardens residence hall.

According to UCSB Police Department (UCPD) Public Information Officer Dan Wilson, the student, Angus Hamilton, burned multiple apartment entry doors within the complex by setting fire to paper fliers affixed to the doors. The arson took place sometime between 1 a.m. and 10:30

a.m. on Jan. 21 when residents began reporting the fires, Wilson

The fires caused minor damage to the doors but did not spread further. UCPD responded to the scene without assistance from the Santa Barbara County Fire Department.

"The fire to the affixed papers caused damage to the doors but the heat sources did not cause the apartment doors to become engulfed," Wilson said in a statement to the Nexus.

Hamilton received a felony charge for arson of an inhabited structure and a misdemeanor charge for vandalism. UCPD booked Hamilton at the Santa Barbara Main Jail with a total bail of \$252,500.

Tropicana Gardens Executive Director Joe Hill confirmed the case as active to the Nexus but deferred further comment to UCPD, the agency leading the investigation.

The Santa Barbara County Superior Court scheduled Hamilton's arraignment for March 1 with judge Raimundo Montes de Oca presiding.

The California penal code classifies arson that causes an inhabited structure to burn as a violent felony, and a conviction is punishable by up to nine years in

## Weekly goings-on in and around Isla Vista

Asumi Shuda Community Outreach

## Graduate Student Resource Center holds 2023 Grad Slam

The Graduate Student Resource Center (GSRC) is hosting a Grad Slam Showcase throughout the month of February starting Thursday, Feb. 2, for graduate students at UC Santa Barbara. Contestants grouped into different disciplines will give three-minute talks about their research for various money prizes.

The event will showcase the following disciplines: engineering, earth and biological sciences, humanities, math and brain sciences, environmental and technology management, chemistry and physics, social science and education.

The event can be viewed by anyone in the UCSB community and attendees can register to attend on Shoreline.

#### UCSB Sustainability holds forum with Goleta Water District

Sustainability UCSB collaborating with the Goleta Water District for a question-andanswer forum on Thursday, Feb. 2, from 1-2 p.m. over Zoom.

Participants can ask questions, as well as voice comments and concerns, about their local water sources and the water district

"Clean drinking water is an essential resource that we all have a right to," the Shoreline description read. "Take back the tap and make your voices heard by joining us in this event."

Prospective attendees can access the Zoom link by registering for the event on Shoreline.

UCSB Sustainability is a group of staff, students and faculty that is working to create a more sustainable campus at UCSB.

#### **Asian Resource Center hosts** mindful meditation session

In collaboration with the Educational Opportunity Program, the Asian Resource Center (ARC) is holding a mindful meditation session for the campus community on Thursday, Feb. 2, from 4:30-5 p.m. at the ARC.

The session will be led by certified facilitator Michael Takahara, who will lead weekly guided meditations.

The ARC holds a space for support and resources for the Asian American and Pacific Islander community at UCSB.

#### Thomistic Institute at UCSB presents lecture on neuroscience and human freedom

The Thomistic Institute at UCSB is hosting a lecture by professor James Madden about neuroscience and human freedom on Thursday, Feb. 2, at 7 p.m. at Buchanan Hall 1920. Madden is visiting from Benedictine College, where he teaches philosophy.

The lecture is free and open to the public, and those interested can register for the event through the Thomistic Institute website.

The Thomistic Institute organizes lectures, seminars and reading groups for their on-campus chapters to promote Catholic intellectual traditions.

#### A.S. Environmental Justice Alliance hosts discussion for Black students about **Environmental Studies** Associated Students

Environmental Justice Alliance (EJA) is hosting a space for Black students to talk about their experiences in the environment department, as well as an opportunity to explore their interests and career goals. The discussion will take place on Friday, Feb. 3, at the African diasporic Cultural Resource

"[This is] a space for Black students to talk about our experiences in the ES department, our niches, interests, and career goals, and give each other advice that we wish we had in our underclassmen years," the Shoreline description read. Food will be provided. EJA at UCSB makes space to discuss topics around environmental justice through events and campaigns.

#### Resource Center Sexual and Gender Diversity LGBTQIA+ housing coordinator hosts drop-in

The Resource Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity (RCSGD)'s LGBTQIA+ housing coordinator Ethan Lord will start drop-in hours beginning Monday, Feb. 6, at the RCSGD lounge. The hours will be held every Monday and Wednesday from 2:45-4:45 p.m.

Students can ask Lord questions about the on-campus housing process, gender-inclusive housing options on and off campus and general advice about being in the LGBTQIA+ community at

Interested participants can sign up for Lord's drop-in hours on Shoreline.

RCSGD is UCSB's LGBTQIA+ center that provides support and resources for LGBTQIA+ communities and education on LGBTQIA+ topics.

#### Women's Center hosts mixer for women in S.T.E.M. regarding burnout

The Women's Center is hosting a "Women in STEMixer" on Monday, Feb. 6, from 3-4 p.m. at the Women's Center. The event will feature an open discussion about combating burnout and provide an opportunity to socialize. Pizza will be provided.

The Women's Center provides education on women's issues

and topics and holds spaces for women's organizations, as well mentorship and external

#### RCSGD hosts community potluck for transgender campus members

RCSGD is hosting a potluck for the transgender community at UCSB on Monday, Feb. 7, from 6-8 p.m. in the multipurpose room (MPR) of the Student Resource Building (SRB).

Participants are encouraged to register on Shoreline and indicate what they will bring to the potluck on the center's sign-up sheet.

"All trans, nonbinary, gendernon-conforming, and questioning people [are] welcome, even if you can't bring anything!" the Shoreline description read.

#### **Filipinx** Association for Health Careers hosts roundtable discussion on career development

The Filipinx Association for Health Careers (FAHC) is hosting its general meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 7, from 7-8 p.m. at Girvetz 1115. The meeting will feature a discussion on topics around academics, professional development, healthcare and humanities.

UCSB FAHC holds a space for support and resources for Filipinx students looking to pursue a career in health.

#### RCSGD and Mental Health Peers discuss mindful practices for LGBTQIA+ mental health

RCSGD is collaborating with the Counseling & Psychological Services' Mental Health Peers to host an event on mindfulness for LGBTQIA+ mental health. The event will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 8, from 2-3 p.m. at the SRB MPR.

"Come join us as we practice mindfulness in traditional and non-traditional ways," Shoreline description read.

## A week in UC student news

Sindhu Ananthavel Deputy News Editor

#### Merced celebrates anniversary groundbreaking

UC Merced commemorated the 20th anniversary breaking ground for the campus' construction in a ceremony held on Jan. 25.

Over 400 guests - majority faculty and staff, some employed when the university first opened - attended the event held at the Dr. Vikram and Priya Lakireddy Grand Ballroom, according to the UC Merced newsroom.

The university broke ground on Oct. 25, 2002, following over a decade of planning by the state and UC system.

Chancellor Juan Sánchez Muñoz spoke at the event, addressing the hard-fought battle to house the UC campus in the city of Merced and commending the staff and faculty who were employed when the university first opened.

"[The founding faculty and staff] worked around the clock to prepare for opening day, wore hard hats while teaching courses in buildings that were still under construction, paved the way forward as UC Merced built student programs and support services and, most importantly, they traveled throughout California to recruit students and convince others to join this academic community," Muñoz said at the ceremony, according to the UC Merced newsroom. Members of the founding

faculty and staff who were in attendance signed a banner commemorating the occasion. UCLA task force findings highlight

and discrimination report

harassment

on Investigatory and Judiciary Processes conducted investigation of the handling of student, faculty and administration incident reports and reported major deficiencies, according to the Daily Bruin. The task force was formed

The UCLA Joint Task Force

by the UCLA Academic Senate and administration in response to campus dissatisfaction with investigative services, task force Co-Chair Clyde Spillenger told the Daily Bruin.

The report - shared in

a campuswide email early this month - found that discrimination and harassment were the most reported incidents among students, staff and faculty. The investigation conducted between 2018 and 2021, and the total number of complaints involving harassment and discrimination rose in that time.

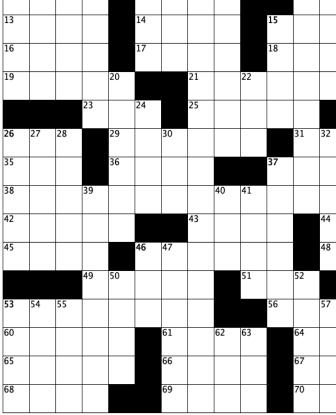
The report also stated that two-thirds of academic departments that responded were unaware of how to process the complaints, lacking the protocol the UCLA Title IX Office and Discrimination Prevention Office employ.

Both offices overwhelmed by referrals and inquiries from other university offices due to the ambiguous procedures for investigating complaints, according to the

UCLA Academic Senate Chair Jessica Cattelino said UCLA must address compliance issues across its campus departments.

"It's not easy to bring a complaint. It's not easy to step forward," Cattelino said. "We're hoping this can take some of the confusion and frustration out of the process for an individual facing a gigantic campus with a lot of different processes."

# **Kyle's Kitchen** WINNER BEST CHICKEN SANDWICH KylesKitchen.com





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"My professor said he fought in the Cold war."

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#### David Litman Crossword Creator

## **ACROSS**

inadequate

systems

1. Catch on video

5. Ticket remnant

9. Hair products 13. Big-screen movie format

14. Prefix with bus or

directional

15. "I kid you not"

16. Give off, as light

17. Insightful 18. Hunter in the sky

19. "Me too"

21. Like well-trained dogs 23. Thing taken on trips

25. Video game stage

26. Speed measurement for

wheels

29. Museum that holds the Mona Lisa

31. Aspiring lawyer's exam 35. Period of time

36. Conditional coding word

37. Cold-weather forest biome

38. Posts like "Which Harry Potter Character Are You?"

42. Break up with someone 43. Twitter purchaser

44. Tree creature in LOTR

45. Type of year

46. Most cunning 48. Pig \_

49. Things you ice 51. Cone's partner

53. Reminders

56. Target competitor 60. Wear away

61. Many reps

64. Transport for rough terrain

65. Land units 66. Great Lake with a spooky

sounding name

67. Cookie that comes in a "Thin" variety

68. Certain sheep and trucks 69. Wall Street letters

70. Put in order

## **DOWN**

1. Knots

2. Nerf darts, for example 3. Used Venmo

4. Praise or glorify

5. Female pig

6. "Didn't need to know

7. What a detective is called in

8. Justin and Hailey

9. Feel Good Inc. band 10. Nobel Prize winning author

Wiesel

11. Safari sight

12. Delivered

15. Lymph 20. Remains (two words)

22. Palindromic woman's name

24. Pineapple company

26. Rise up against 27. Dried plum

28. Japanese automaker 30. Employ

32. L, M and S

33. Spy 34. Flavorsome

37. "YouTube Shorts" is modeled after it

39. Five-digit numbers

40. "What" in Spanish

" (Beatles 41. "Back in the \_ song about the Cold War)

46. Kind of pole

47. Abate

50. Saloon orders 52. Jiu-jitsu centers

53. Rip 54. "Killer" animal

55. Residence with RAs

57. Protagonist, usually 58. Stare

59. One of many on a

Dalmation

\_\_ the season

63. "I told you so!"

Crossword answers will be posted online at

dailynexus.com

## Editorial: The Daily Nexus declines to endorse candidates for IVP in light of Judicial Council injunction, insufficient notice of election

Daily Nexus Editorial Board

The Daily Nexus will not be releasing endorsements for the current Internal Vice President special election as a result of the expedited handling of procedure and active Judicial Council case calling the legitimacy of the election into question.

The Nexus typically releases an endorsement for every Associated Students (A.S.) executive officer election - including special elections to fill vacant executive offices - but the unique circumstances pertaining to this winter quarter's special election have made it impossible for us to

The Nexus' endorsements are intended to inform the broader UCSB student community of each candidate's past accomplishments and understanding of the role they wish to inhabit. The Nexus is well equipped to assess these candidates given our extensive, weekly reporting on A.S. executives, the Senate and their

The A.S. Judicial Council filed an injunction against the release of voting results until a case brought forth by A.S. Senator Sohum Kalia is resolved. The case is contesting the election's legitimacy over alleged violations of legal code in declaring the Internal Vice President (IVP) position vacant after the removal of former IVP Bee Schaefer.

Although it is not the role of the Nexus Editorial Board to dictate internal A.S. matters, the unique circumstances surrounding the 73rd Senate leadership have produced concerns over the legitimacy of the special election itself. Until these concerns are fully resolved, we are choosing to abstain from releasing an

endorsement. "Judicial Council recognizes that delaying a Winter Special Election could hinder the ability of Election Board to hold any Special Election in winter, thus Judicial Council is allowing the election to continue and filing an injunction on the release of the results until a hearing can determine the validity of this Election," the injunction

Kalia is alleging that the results of the special election are void because the A.S. Senate did not deem the IVP position vacant – a stipulation of holding a special election for an executive officer

position per legal code. The position of the IVP was deemed vacant by A.S. President Gurleen Pabla on Nov. 28, who called for a winter special election via executive order. Pabla's executive order said that Schaefer had de facto resigned from the position due to her ongoing strike against A.S. - a claim that Schaefer denied at the time.

Between the sparse number of Senate meetings held this year and the subsequent internal dysfunction within A.S., the student government's expedited response to a special election is understandable. However, given that the Senate never approved the removal of Schaefer, and the legitimacy of the election is currently in question as a result of an ongoing injunction, the Nexus

believes this election should

have been handled with more thoughtfulness in intention and execution.

Several Senators concerns around the legality and function of Pabla's executive order at the time of its publication. A.S. Attorney General Adam Bagul said the unprecedented "breakdown of function" to A.S. proceedings spoke to the "validity and necessity" of Pabla's order.

"The breakdown of function that UCSB's A.S. went through during Fall Quarter made the strict adherence to these portions of AS legal code impossible," Bagul said. "Holding the current Special Election to the typical procedures laid out in legal code is a misnomer, as the executive order that prescribed the Special Election in this case takes precedence over the typical procedures for a conventional term."

The Senate approved the special election time line – created by the Elections Board – on Jan. 18, two weeks before the election.

Per the Elections Board, the timeline was as follows: declaration of candidacy by Jan. 24, supplement and endorsements by Jan. 28 and campaigning beginning Jan. 27. The Elections Board did not confirm the names of the candidates to the Nexus until Jan. 29, one day before voting

The Nexus understands that the circumstances surrounding this year's special election were unique, and the Elections Board and Senate were bound to the A.S. Legal Code Article XI Section 2A stipulation that if a petition is filed after the Senate's fifth meeting, special elections must be held by the fourth week of the following

But this was not enough time for UCSB students - much less the Nexus - to get to know the eligible candidates or be aware that an election was occurring. It also prevented candidates from the normal amount of time allotted to campaign on campus. The Elections Board, as well as A.S. as a whole, should be well aware of the disengagement the greater campus community has with their elected and appointed officials, and be working to remedy this

problem, not furthering it. To the credit of A.S. Senators, they have been provided with very little leadership or training amid the continual internal dysfunction since Fall Quarter 2022. In addition, A.S. executives have had to tend to additional duties beyond their regular responsibilities in response to turmoil within A.S. and the impacts of Schaefer's strike and subsequent removal. The Daily Nexus recognizes that the obstacles posed to the 73rd Senate are difficult to address and overcome without someone placed within the role of IVP.

Ultimately, however, this unique timeline was the responsibility and fault of A.S., and A.S. should have been willing to take unprecedented measures to create transparency for the students it claims to serve.

Furthermore, because the Nexus Editorial Board was given no time to conduct the endorsement process, and the legitimacy of the election itself has not yet been confirmed, we cannot, in good faith, endorse a candidate.

## UAW unions file ULP against UC

Mark Alfred University News Editor

The University of California is attempting to dock the future wages of workers who withheld labor during the largest-ever strike by higher education workers that ended in December 2022.

In response, the three United Auto Workers unions representing the 48,000 workers who went on strike took issue with the UC's intention to deduct wages from future paychecks to compensate for time not worked by striking members, instead of deducting wages from the paychecks that workers received while on strike.

Members of the three unions – Student Researchers United (SRU), United Auto Workers (UAW) 5810 and UAW 2865 - withheld weeks of their labor in support of union efforts to fairly bargain for a better contract with the UC. The strike ended with all unions winning raises and other benefits as part of their new contracts.

The UC Office of the President (UCOP) sent attestation forms self-report documents that help the UC determine whether or not an employee withheld labor and if any wages should be deducted from their pay for the time not worked - along with related guidance to campuses' executive vice chancellors and vice presidents on Jan. 13, according to UCOP Associate Director of Media Relations Ryan King.

The unions did not dispute the university's right to not pay workers for the labor they withheld, but accused the UC of violating California law and filed an Unfair Labor Practice (ULP) charge on Jan. 26 by attempting to deduct wages after the strike's conclusion instead of doing so during the strike. The concerns were sent in



Hundreds march at UC Santa Barbara in support of the UAW unions during the Fall Quarter 2022 highereducation labor strikes.

a cease and desist letter to the UC on Jan. 18, five days after the attestation forms were sent out

"The University's decision to knowingly overpay workers when they were exercising their right to withhold their labor, with the intent to later tell employees that their paychecks are now being reduced even though they are back to work because of their prior strike activity, evidences the University's attempt to chill and discourage workers from exercising their right to strike in the future," the cease-and-desist letter stated.

In the ULP charge, the UAW unions alleged that the university's conduct violates both the Higher Education Employer-Employee Relations Act and regulations prohibiting public employers from deterring or discouraging union membership.

"Veering from regular payroll procedures and practices, the University asserted that it would make these deductions over the course of three months, without getting employee consent or first notifying employees of the actual deduction amounts before money was withheld from their paychecks," the ULP filing read.

The attestation forms reflect the UC's efforts to comply with obligations that stem from its use of state funds and external federal grants, according to King, who did not directly address the ULP charge in his statement to the Nexus.

"The University may not legally pay our employees or gift them funds if they did not provide a service to the institution," King said in the statement. "As we move from gathering information through the attestation process to applying that information to our payroll, we will continue to work with our campuses, employees, and the union on the best way to fairly record that time, provide information to our employees, and align pay to the work performed."

UAW union leadership also took issue with the possibility of graduate student enrollment reductions becoming a way to cover the cost of the future wage increases that the unions won while striking. In a letter to UC President Michael V. Drake, the presidents of UAW 2865 and UAW 5810 - Rafael Jaime and Neal Sweeney, respectively – urged the UC to avoid cuts to graduate student enrollment for the good of the university.

"We firmly believe that educating the next generation of Californians is a project worthy of investment," the letter stated. "Reduced enrollment of graduate students is not only detrimental to undergraduate education, but it means fewer opportunities for graduate education, which is a pathway to high-income jobs for working class Californians."

King told the Nexus that UCOP has not instructed any campuses to reduce student enrollment for the upcoming year and that any speculation on enrollment impacts from the contracts would be premature.

"There is an expected period of implementation where issues are brought to our attention and appropriate processes and procedures are put in place," King said in a statement to the Nexus. "We will continue our conversations with each location to understand where there are needs and how best UCOP can support the implementation of this vital

## AAPI student leaders reflect on Monterey Park mass shooting



Asumi Shuda Community Outreach Editor

Warning: This article contains graphic content relating to mass shootings.

Student leaders from Asian American Pacific Islander organizations on campus reflected on the mass shooting at the Star Ballroom Dance Studio in Monterey Park, its impact on the Asian American community and collective

healing with the Daily Nexus. Occurring in the U.S.'s first suburban Chinatown, the shooting took place on Jan. 21 following a Lunar New Year festival in the city to celebrate the annual holiday. With a group of majority elderly and Asian individuals gathered in the Star Ballroom Dance Studio, a lone gunman fired 42 rounds, shooting more than 20 individuals and killing 11.

The tragedy marked California's third mass shooting of 2023, and Monterey Park – a site that annually hosts one of the largest Lunar New Year events in Southern California - turned into a place of sorrow and fear for the Asian American community.

The UC Santa Barbara Asian Resource Center postponed its Lunar New Year celebration organized in collaboration with various Asian cultural organizations - to Asian American Pacific Islander

president of one

Heritage (AAPI) Month in May in solidarity.

As the

of the major AAPI student organizations on campus, thirdyear communication and sociology double-major and Filipinx cultural, social and political organization Kapatirang Pilipino (KP) President Robyn Violanda said she prioritized providing space for her friends, organization and community to grieve following the tragedy.

"There was a collective shock and mourning ... They just happen so frequently, and you just never know how much it'll affect people," Violanda said. "Especially with this being an incident that's so catered toward a certain community, a community that I'm a part of and care so much about, there's a sense of just wanting to be there and provide support."

Violanda said she, and many other Asian American students at UCSB, considered Monterey Park to be a safe haven for the community.

"This incident has hit so close to home, [as] I know a lot of people are from that area," she said. "It's a weird thing for us to be told to get used to feeling unsafe."

UCSB Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Margaret Klawunn sent a message to the campus community to address the various acts of violence committed toward Monterey Park.

marginalized communities in California, including the shooting at Citing the Monterey Park shooting, a shooting in Half Moon Bay and the arrest and deadly assault

of Tyre Nichols, Klawunn reflected

on these tragedies and their impact

on the Asian American and Black

communities at UCSB.

"These events are heinous, tragic, and should galvanize us to create change so that no more lives are lost at the hands of gun violence, racism and state violence," Klawunn said in a statement. "With commitment, our UCSB community has the work that would one day make this

a reality." Violanda emphasized the urgent need to create a space for community healing at UCSB, where Asian students make up 17.3% of the undergraduate population, in light of this tragedy.

"Discussing this in the context of leading an Asian American organization - a big one at UCSB -I know a lot of us are trying to create and seek a space that [is] centered around community healing," she

Third-year biology major and Vietnamese Student Association (VSA) Co-President Ashlev Pham said she was shocked and heartbroken by the news of the shooting, especially with it occurring on a holiday that she personally holds dear, and in a predominately

"It was so close to Lunar New Year, which is a very serious, very meaningful occasion for me and my family – I've been celebrating it my whole life," Pham said. "Especially that it happened to a group of Asians in a predominately Asian area that we all feel safe in ... I know how much it's impacting us as a community."

Pham expressed frustration over how often such shootings occur and hoped the sheer number of shootings in this year alone would serve as a wake-up call for action.

"I feel like this has been a wakeup call for gun violence ... and the amount of times it's been happening is disappointing," she said. "It strikes fear all the time because we always have the same reaction to it, yet no change is happening."

"It's an alarm, but none of us are waking up," Pham continued.

Similar to Violanda, Pham is currently prioritizing providing

resources and creating a safe community for AAPI students at UCSB following the shooting, emphasizing that solidarity is what is important for the UCSB student community, many of whom are far

"We want to emphasize the leadership and capacity to do the fact that we're here for all of our members," Pham said. "If they need it, we will provide them resources because I know it's hard to ask for help or ask for resources. So, I hope that our members can come to us

> for that." Third-year psychological & brain sciences and communication double-major and Korean American Student Association Co-President Hannah Hwang shared Pham's sentiment of how jarring the timing of the shooting was amid Lunar

New Year. "[Lunar New Year] is a time of celebration and appreciation with friends and family, so hearing that this had happened right on Lunar New Year's Eve was really shocking, and I was really upset to hear about

it," Hwang said. In light of the shooting, Hwang hopes to begin upcoming meetings with moments of silence in solidarity with the victims of the tragedy.

"We [want to acknowledge that] we know that this happened and that we're feeling for them, and we support the people [who] were affected by this," she said.

Violanda advised the AAPI campus community to feel the disappointment, frustration and grief in light of the shooting and emphasized the various communities at UCSB to heal in a safe space.

"Allow yourself to cry and be angry, be frustrated and don't be ashamed of it. Our very existence as a minority in the United States and in a predominantly white institution is a heavy burden, so it's okay to feel frustrated when we see our communities being hurt and targeted," Violanda said.

"Know that we are not alone in suffering ... and there's always people here around us who are willing to listen."

# I.V. Safe coalition starts new chapter under helm of IVCSD

Nisha Malley County News Editor Melea Maglalang Staff Writer

The Isla Vista Community Services District is taking over leadership of Isla Vista Safe – a community task force devoted to addressing public safety issues of gun violence, sexual assault, substance and drug use, Deltopia and Halloween weekends and cliff safety within the local community – as of November 2022.

After over 30 years in office, Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce Dudley officially retired in January and vacated her role as the chair of the I.V. Safe coalition, handing over the reins to the Isla Vista Community Services District (IVCSD).

Dudley spearheaded the formation of I.V. Safe in early 2014 in response to a succession of violent crimes and sexual assaults that afflicted the community. The mass shooting tragedy that followed in May 2014 heightened the urgency of the group's mission to make I.V. safe.

"At some basketball game, there was an act of violence on the courts. There had been sexual assault and there had a been a burglary," Dudley said of the series of crime that occurred in 2014. "I became very concerned about the safety of Isla Vista and I decided I wanted to bring together all the people who were involved with Isla Vista being a safe place."

Dudley brought together members from law enforcement, county agencies, Standing Together to End Sexual Assault, Santa Barbara Response Network, UC Santa Barbara and Santa Barbara City College, among others, to form the coalition.

I.V. Safe operated as an unformalized group without any allocated funding from the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors. Representatives from local agencies and entities met on an as-needed basis to engage in discussion about public safety and collaborate on community solutions

The group initially lacked direct representation for residents of I.V., an issue that was amended with the inclusion of the I.V. Recreation & Park District and, eventually, IVCSD.

With the recent change in leadership, IVCSD discussed the future of the group at its Jan. 24 board meeting, evaluating the efficacy and accomplishments of the group and proposing potential reforms.

IVCSD Director Kirsten Deshler expressed her appreciation of Dudley's work to build a coalition and prioritize the "very serious issues" I.V. community residents face.

"The creation of I.V. Safe from the district attorney came from a really good place, and it was her desire to look at some very serious issues that were happening in Isla Vista," Deshler said.

Deshler expressed some concerns about inheriting a group that she deemed unproductive and ineffective at times.

"I didn't see these meetings as particularly driven by projects, per se. It was more of a social time that people got together and generally talked," Deshler said. "I felt like our time got very, very, very unwieldy and they were not productive in any way, shape or form"

Dudley emphasized that before the creation of I.V. Safe, no singular agency had stepped up to lead public safety efforts for the unincorporated area of I.V. According to Dudley, UCSB, the county and the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office engaged in "finger-pointing" battles to assume responsibility for the college town.

Goleta Union School District Trustee Ethan Bertrand, who attended I.V. Safe meetings from 2015-19, reflected on the instrumental role that the coalition played in compelling local agencies to "take shared responsibility" for improving the community's public safety.

"The best result of I.V. Safe was that it brought county agencies, educational institutions and other community partners together to collaborate on improving public safety in Isla Vista after the tragedy and other events in 2014," Bertrand said.

Since the group's inception, I.V. has seen a major reduction in crimes and a dramatic decrease in activity around Halloween and Deltopia weekends, according to Dudley. I.V. Safe's 2016 "Report to the People" outlined the group's work to improve public safety.

Dudley added that cases of sexual assault remain highly prevalent, but that the presence of Standing Together to End Sexual Assault – a Santa Barbara organization uplifting survivors – and an interpersonal violence investigator, a position established by IVCSD in partnership with UCSB Police Department, have offered greater support and resources for survivors than before

In terms of tangible actions to improve safety, Dudley pointed to increased police presence, increased sexual assault response team presence, rebranding efforts and sanctioned campusorganized events as alternatives to street partying.

Part of the group's strategy included an advertising campaign, funded by the District Attorney's Office and law enforcement agencies, to reform I.V.'s public image. In a staff report, IVCSD General Manager Jonathan Abboud described the rebranding effort as an attempt to shy away from the area's reputation as a "rule-free party town" to an "intellectually stimulating environment."

IVCSD Director Jay Freeman vocalized his criticisms of I.V. Safe's advertising campaign to rebrand I.V. at the Jan. 24 board meeting.

"I want to make [it] clear – I hated that group. I went to the Board of Supervisors constantly with pushing them on the actions that group was taking," Freeman said. "The advertisements that they were putting out, whether they were very extremely propolice or whether they were anticommunity member, some of them that were victim-blaming victims of sexual assault, things that were just misogynistic in nature. It was a horrible set of things."

Dudley recognized past community criticism and deemed the lack of I.V. community input as a misstep in retrospect.

"Some people were offended. They were saying, 'Why are you rebranding our community? We want more input in that.' And I think that was right," Dudley said. "We were appropriately, in my mind, criticized for doing the rebranding without the involvement of the community."

Bertrand said that the group's

prioritization of law enforcement solutions posed another significant challenge to the group's ability to serve the interests of I.V. residents to make the community safer.

"The vast majority of safety issues in Isla Vista are related to substance use, mental health issues, poverty [and] gender violence, and many of these issues need to be dealt with through alternative resources that really address the underlying causes of these issues, rather than just using law enforcement as a response," Bertrand said.

At I.V. Safe meetings, Bertrand said that he and his colleagues consistently advocated for less policing around special event weekends.

"Law enforcement solutions were prioritized over most other public safety options so, at the end of the day, that's the direction that the agencies went," he continued. "But it was important for us to provide that feedback, and, over the past several years, there have been gradual reductions in the response."

IVCSD Director Olivia Craig, a second-year environmental studies student at UCSB, said she found value in gathering entities outside of I.V. to the organization. Craig suggested implementing a public forum aspect to potential meetings to increase productivity and ground the meeting with I.V. residents at the center.

"It would be really useful for Isla Vista to bring stakeholders together and especially from the public . . . if there was a way that we could make a portion of the meeting so that we have public input on public safety issues in Isla Vista," Craig said at the Jan. 24 meeting. "That will allow for more productive discussions with

input from the I.V. community."

"A lot of the time, some of these institutions that are further away from [I.V.] lose track of who they're supposed to be representing," she continued.

Daily Nexus

During the Jan. 24 meeting, Director Spencer Brandt, formerly a representative to I.V. Safe, suggested that, going forward, the group's membership should include more local entities such as I.V. Youth Projects, St. George Youth Center and Associated Students Public Safety Commission.

Brandt also agreed with Craig's suggestion to bring a public forum into the proposed meetings for I.V. Safe and emphasized the importance of giving residents a platform to share their concerns.

"You need to provide a mechanism for people to be able to make their voice heard, especially when there are things happening in the community that public safety decision makers need to hear about," he said. "Our residents are ... our ears on what's going on. [They're] on the ground in a way that any staff member or service provider from any of these agencies can never get quite right."

For the future of the I.V. Safe coalition, Bertrand called for a more "holistic" and restorative approach that incorporates community-led policing alternatives and public health resources.

"We need to take a public health approach because so many of these issues are not law enforcement or criminal justice issues," he said. "Ultimately, by focusing more on prevention and by focusing more on strengthening our community, we will have less issues that we have to respond to."

## ANTISEMITIC DISCRIMINATION Continued from p.1

investigating the fliers, which were manufactured by the hate group Goyim Defense League.

"Sheriff Bill Brown would like to reassure members of the Jewish community that we are actively investigating these incidents and deputies will continue to reach out to Jewish faith leaders and community centers to establish open communication and address any safety concerns," the statement read.

Fourth-year political science major Alexa Grines said she woke up on Jan. 31 with her roommate, third-year political science and communication double-major Tessa Veksler, to a variety of texts from fellow Jewish students about antisemitic flyers. Walking outside, Grines and Veksler – both Associated Students Senators – found a packet of antisemitic hate speech

at their doorstep.

"Tessa and I then spent the next few hours biking around Isla Vista, collecting hundreds of these bags, which was really difficult for us to see. And, from then on, we were advising the Jewish community and being a safe space and an outlet for the Jews in the community," said Grines, who also serves as president of Chabad at UCSB – a religious Jewish organization.

Grines attended the evening meeting at Hillel and said she didn't feel as though UCSB administrators provided an adequate response to protecting and defending Jewish students on campus.

"I really hope that the administration takes more of a stance on it," she said. "I know they sent out a diversity, equity, inclusion email, but that didn't contain an adequate enough response to the situation. So I really do hope that more comes out of this and more protection for Jewish students is available."

Veksler, who serves on the board of several Jewish organizations, said she felt that antisemitism on UCSB's campus was an ongoing issue that was often glossed over by the greater campus community.

"The UCSB Jewish community and the Jewish community at large [have] been speaking out about antisemitism for a long time. Not just specifically since I've been here, but in general, and this is really nothing new," she said. "It's incredibly unfortunate that harassment of Jewish students needs to come to this point for people to finally hear us."

Veksler said that although she was extremely grateful for and proud of the Jewish community on campus, the silence from the non-Jewish community on issues of antisemitism is "deafening."

"I think that it's very telling that it's almost as if people are waiting for something horrible to happen to the Jewish community before they stand up for it. I think it's really important to realize that you don't want to be the person that stands up for us when it's too late. We've been there. We've seen it," she continued.

Veksler authored a resolution that the A.S. Senate will discuss during its Feb. 1 meeting entitled, "A Resolution in Support of the Jewish Community and the Condemnation of Antisemitism." The resolution calls upon the university to implement mandatory antisemitism training for A.S. members and regularly meet with members of the Jewish community, among other

In regards to the "Fuck Israel" and "From the River to the Sea" classroom graffiti, UCSB Assistant Dean & Director for the Office of Student Conduct Joaquin Becerra said during the Hillel event that "there's a couple of different areas in which this may be a violation of the student code," although the individual, or individuals, who wrote the phrases has not been identified.

"Our office responds and student life responds to incidents of hate – even if not police violations – by addressing through restorative justice, mindset and approach in order to educate individuals," he said. "What's going to root out antisemitism in our community? It's through education from stopping individuals reengaging in hateful acts."

Fourth-year Italian and history double-major and AEPi Vice President Nicholas Tassinari said that while he feels safe on campus, he knows other Jewish students do not. He chose to wear a yarmulke and "End Jew Hatred" shirt on the day of the antisemitic pamphleting to show Jewish students they weren't alone in their identity.

"I, myself, feel safe, but I know many Jewish students don't feel safe on campus," Tassinari said. "I want other Jewish students to feel like they don't have to hide or conceal their Jewish identity. I want them to feel [that] it's okay to be Jewish here at UCSB, that we have allies; you have people who will help back you up. I don't want other Jews to feel like there's a problem with being Jewish."

Santa Barbara Hillel Rabbi Evan Goodman, who helped host the Jan. 31 event, said that there are resources Jewish students can utilize, including Hillel, if they're feeling unsafe or alone. "Jewish students are looking for

resources. Jewish students often see themselves as minorities but aren't always seen as a minority by others around them. So, we want Jewish students to know that we are a safe space, that we are here. You know, our staff and our student leaders are here to listen to them, support them. And we want you to know, we're there for them," he said.

Mark Alfred contributed reporting.



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# Thriving Initiative creates mural about recovery for survivors of interpersonal violence at I.V. Community Center

Alex Levin Copy Editor

The Thriving Initiative, a local nonprofit organization dedicated to serving interpersonal violence survivors, recently created a mural painted on the Isla Vista Community Center in collaboration with the Isla Vista Community Services District.

Founded in 2019, the Thriving Initiative provides undergraduate and graduate students with healing opportunities that do not require them to relive their traumas, according to their website.

As a part of that mission, the Thriving Initiative-sponsored mural depicts a woman driving on a colorful highway road along the ocean as the sun sets, as her eyes look in the rearview mirror. The mural itself was designed and created by survivors of interpersonal violence and other community members.

The highway represents the road to recovery and how beautiful that can be, while the eyes in the rearview mirror symbolize the different ways you can look at your past and how you can use it to inform your future. The general motifs of the mural include love, wonder and a sense of acceptance, according to former Thriving Initiative Chapter President and UC Santa Barbara alumnus Vidhisha Mahesh.

The Thriving Initiative's principal program, "Thriving, Not Just Surviving," is a seven-week workshop that guides participants through a variety of activities, such as yoga, reiki and other creative avenues, all with the goal of bringing survivors together through their healing journeys.

"The center of [our] work is creating a space where you're and, instead, you can build a more natural community with survivors of basically any identity," Mahesh said. "We focus on different art modalities and healing modalities that aren't traditional therapy."

The Thriving Initiative debuted its "The Painting Collective: Community Mural" project in Spring Quarter 2022 - an eightweek workshop where a group of survivors designed a mural.

Starting with small, creative tasks like journaling and creating vision boards, the group eventually held discussions among participants about what the mural should look

While this workshop was only designed for survivors of interpersonal violence, in partnership with the Isla Vista Community Services District (IVCSD), the physical painting of the mural included members of the UCSB and I.V. communities.

"The whole message behind this curvy road that this woman is driving down is that this healing path is not linear," IVCSD Community Spaces Program Manager Myah Mashhadialireza said. "It's curvy, it has changes, but the whole journey is the beautiful part and that's something that can be celebrated."

After participants of the workshop finalized the mural design, Thriving Initiative volunteer and lead artist it starts a conversation, which I on the project Paige Baldwinson sketched an outline of the mural, placing numbers in various spaces that correspond to different colors. This system allowed anyone – survivors and community members they do for this community?' And - to come together, pick up a I think for someone who has never paintbrush and color in the painting.

"The intent was that the creation really powerful experience."

not asked to recount your trauma of the mural was really in the hands of the interpersonal violence survivors, and they got to work together and build relationships with each other. But then, on the day of, the entire community came together and helped paint it," Mashhadialireza said.

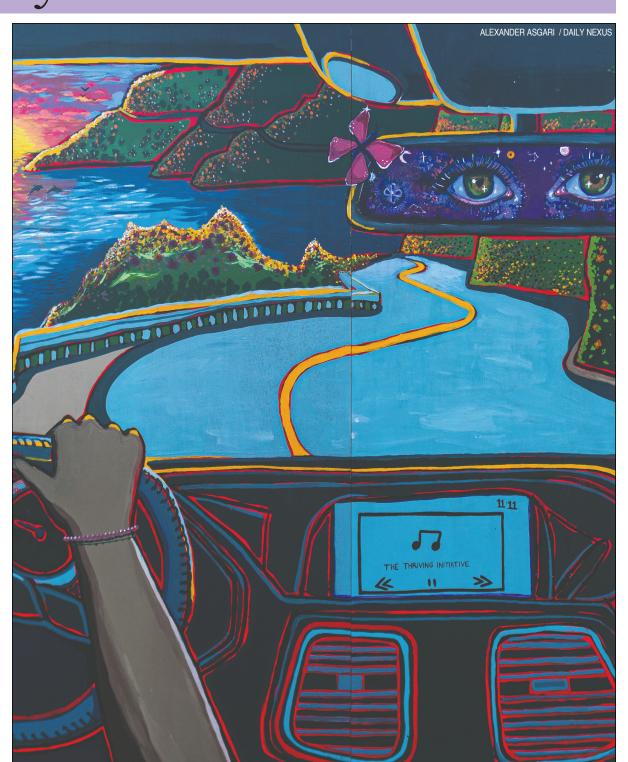
"Nobody knew who was a survivor [or] who was part of the community," she continued. "It was all about creating solidarity around a topic that can normally be a little bit difficult to talk about, without forcing people to experience any form of stress."

The Isla Vista Community Center is situated in the center of downtown I.V., ensuring that students and community members will continuously view the mural's brilliant colors and underlying message for years to come.

"I feel like the image is like an act of resistance in I.V., especially given the prevalence of sexual assault on college campuses, and it's just nice to have it centered in the very heart [of Isla Vista]," Thriving Initiative Vice President of Operations Laura Morales said.

Mashhadialireza said that one of the primary goals of placing the mural in such a central location is to spark conversations about interpersonal violence and healing, especially for people who may not be well-versed in those topics.

"When people see the mural, think is something very powerful," Mashhadialireza said. "They'll say something like, 'Oh, what is the Thriving Initiative? What is their mission? What is something that heard about that before, it can be a



The mural represents recovery, as it depicts a woman driving on a colorful road along the ocean as the

sun sets, with her eyes looking in the rearview mirror.

## UCSB community evaluates accessibility of child care services on campus

Asumi Shuda Community Outreach Editor

From a 245-person waitlist to limited enrollment capacity, various UC Santa Barbara community members evaluated disparities in accessibility of child care services for faculty, staff and

student parents. UC Santa Barbara's Early Childhood Care & Education Services (ECCES) has provided child care services for campus community members since its establishment in 1970. The department operates full-day, yearround programs at two child care and learning centers on campus -Orfalea Family Children's Center and the University Children's

Center. Such disparities around child care have been an ongoing crisis in California and nationwide, with 51,000 parents missing work nationally due to issues of accessing child care, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The University Children's Center in the Student Resource Building is the smaller of the two centers, hosting infants - children aged three to 24 months - and toddlers - children aged 2 years and older. Orfalea Family Children's Center is a larger facility located on west campus, hosting both infants, toddlers and preschoolers.

Both centers are staffed by fulltime professional staff, as well as UCSB students, to maintain the staffing ratios of 1-to-3 for infants, 1-to-6 for toddlers and 1-to-8 for preschool students, according to UCSB spokesperson and Media Relations Manager Kiki Reyes and ECCES Director Annette Muse.

Muse noted that the maximum capacity for both centers cumulatively is 211 children, with the University Children's Center able to host about 44 to 46 children and the Orfalea Family Children's Center able to host about 165 children.

Staffing limitations and physical capacity limitations at the two centers are among the reasons for the waitlist's high number, according to Muse.

Department of Recreation assistant athletic trainer Kelly Walsh said she has held a position on the waitlist for one of the centers for over a year for her 11-monthold son. While Walsh holds out for an open spot, she has resorted to temporary day care options, using paid sick and vacation leave to take time off for child care purposes and relying on family support for caretaking services.

"I got on the waitlist as soon as I learned about it, and I've been on that list for well over a year, and I'm still waiting for a spot," Walsh said.

Despite temporary child care with in-home day care, Walsh was soon given a two-week notice to procure different accommodations. This followed months of phone calls to various home day care and institutional day care options with little to no luck.

"I made calls to dozens, and I'm not even exaggerating, dozens of providers, both [to] in-home day care and established institutional day cares, to find a full-time placement for my son so I can return to work," Walsh said. "It took me months to finally find a small in-home day care situation for him."

Walsh voiced frustration given the time and effort she had to put in to secure the in-home day care in the first place.

"He just didn't even get a chance to settle in ... and now I'm back at it trying to find day care again," she continued.



With limitations on staffing as well as physical capacity for the two centers, there are currently 245 families on the waitlist for the centers cumulatively.

Following the end of the last week, Walsh's son wasn't able to stay in his most recent day care option, and Walsh resorted to asking her mother to take care of her son temporarily. Her husband is taking his paternity leave the week after Walsh's mother departs to give the family a two-week buffer in finding another child care

"Hopefully we can sort something out before the end of next week," Walsh said. "Otherwise, I don't know what I'm going to do."

Since her pregnancy, Walsh has had to use almost all of 15 years worth of accrued sick time - along with vacation time - to be able to take care of her child.

"I'm counting my blessings that I had it all, but I don't know what other women on campus are able to do because I would not have been able to afford to be home with my child without [those extra hours]," she said.

Individuals on the waitlist – who

must pay a fee to get on the list – are accepted into a center based on the flow of children in and out of the centers throughout the year. Muse said that once children age out of the centers and become eligible for transitional kindergarten education between the months of September and April, space is created for families to get off the waitlist.

Third-year art and history of public policy and law double major and teaching assistant at Orfalea Family Children's Center Isabella Millet said the centers have a tiered acceptance system, with children of current UCSB students prioritized first for enrollment.

"Undergraduate students with children are given higher priority, then faculty and then staff, so

I know that they definitely take circumstances into account," Millet said. Reyes emphasized that the number of applicants for the center

varies from year to year and, thus,

could not provide exact numbers of

on the waitlist for the center "We typically get more applications than we have spaces, but it varies from year to year, and when spaces open, we fill them," she said in a statement to the Nexus. "We are commonly able to offer a space to approximately half of those families with infants that are not initially offered a space within nine months."

Reyes said that remaining families on the waitlist after this are typically able to be accommodated within nine months.

Teacher shortages, changes in eligibility requirements and effects of COVID-19 resulted in fluctuations or disparities of accessibility to the centers.

Reyes and Muse noted that there is currently a severe teacher shortage in California, posing a challenge to recruitment for teaching positions at the children's

"We work hard to maintain the maximum enrollment. We are currently recruiting for a few opening teaching positions at the moment, which is not usual, but recruitment is becoming more challenging for us," Reyes said in a statement to the Nexus. "The challenge may grow as the State begins to add resources to transitional kindergarten, which could have the potential unintended consequence of destabilization of the early education workforce."

The California Department of Education changes eligibility requirements for children every academic year. For example, during the 2022-23 school year, children who turned 5 years old between Sept. 2, 2022, and Feb. 2, 2023, were allowed to join transitional kindergarten; however, for the 2023-24 school year, children who turn 5 years old between

how many individuals are typically Sept. 2, 2023, and April 2, 2024 would be eligible for transitional

> kindergarten. Millet spoke to the various disparities in lack of capacity and affordability for child care at

> "I think there's a huge need for more child care - I know a lot of students really struggle with finding child care that's convenient and affordable," she said. "It should also be much more heavily

> subsidized than it is." "I definitely think that there should be a lot more funding being put into expanding the child care center because they just don't have the capacity to meet the needs that the community has for child care,"

Millet continued.

Walsh said the Department of Recreation has been generous in accommodating her situation, giving her extra weeks of emergency paid sick leave from the pandemic and finding other ways to make more time to figure out another child care option for

"They've bent over backwards trying to help me ... but there's only so much you can do," she said.

Walsh emphasized that although there are resources available to search for child care and other temporary options, what she needs is an immediate, permanent solution to ensure that her son can receive adequate child care and that she and her husband can continue to be employed.

"[Searching for child care] is an emotional roller coaster, and I think future parents on campus need to be prepared for that," she said. "You think you've got it settled, and then the rug gets pulled out from under you."

"Don't get your hopes up, and be cautiously optimistic because it's really tough right now."

# ¡O sea, hello! RBD está de regreso: recuerda sus mejores momentos

Angelica Monroy

Todos recordamos esas canciones que nos hicieron sentir inalcanzables.

La telenovela Mexicana "Rebelde" ha sido una pieza central en la vida de muchos - no solo fue un éxito en la televisión sino también en la esfera musical internacionalmente.

Esta historia se enfoca en 6 extravagantes protagonistas que no necesitan introducción pero por si necesitas un refresco de memoria se trata de Mía Colucci, Roberta Pardo, Miguel Arango, Diego Bustamante, Lupita Fernandez y Giovanni Méndez. Corazones rotos, alianzas inesperadas y canciones que inspiraron a toda una generación son las historias que estos personajes dejaron marcados en los corazones de muchos.

Tan poderoso ha sido el Editora de Copia de La fandom de RBD que en el 2021, se lanzó la serie "Rebelde" en Netflix que toma inspiración en la novela original y tienen características muy similares aunque sigue la historia de diferentes personajes.

> Manteniéndose fiel romance, traiciones y buena música, esta nueva serie incluye elementos modernos que no solo la generación pasada de fans sino la nueva también podrán disfrutar.

> Los deseos de millones de fans a través del mundo se hizo realidad cuando a finales del 2022 RBD anunció su regreso como banda a foros y la venta de boletos ha comenzado con mucho éxito en taquillas.

Aquí tengo una lista de los momentos que de alguna manera u otra marcaron mi infancia de igual manera que sé que marcaron las suyas.

**Stickers de estrellas:** 



Este look icónico de Mía fue quizá el más fácil de recrear, la personalidad extrovertida de ella se dio a conocer a través de sus outfits y de los pequeños toques que dejaron a todos sus fans querer imitar.

Uniformes rojos:

Este look, no solo fue el uniforme de la preparatoria donde la historia se desemboca, pero se convirtió en una parte esencial del fandom ya que cada personaje tenía diferentes

accesorios que los distinguía. Para muchos se considera el look oficial que caracteriza a la novela y a sus personajes.

La primera vez que Mía se subió a un camión de transporte público:

Probablemente uno de los momentos más divertidos de la novela. Mía siendo Mía, se subió a un camión junto con Miguel sin saber que los camiones de transporte publico en México no tienen lector de tarjeta y haciendo un "oso" enfrente de Miguel y de las demás personas.

El lenguaje fresa:

Los "omg!", "que oso", "O sea hello", "pinky promise" se volvieron parte de mi vocabulario diario por meses, también se convirtió en una característica específica para esta novela y sus personajes.

"Por favor, ayúdame, mi papá me quiere llevar a París el día de mi cumpleaños":

vacaciones a París como regalo de cumpleaños no es algo que alguien estaría muy en contra a menos que seas Mía Colucci.

Esta escena particularmente famosa en TikTok y en otras redes sociales y son unos de esos momentos que viven "rent free" en las cabezas de muchos.

La banda canta "Rebelde" por primera vez:

Como fieles fanáticos, este momento tenía a los espectadores al borde de su asiento, especialmente después de las peleas y los dramas que surgieron antes de la presentación. Poder ver a los personajes cumplir su sueño de ser artistas es un momento muy especial e importante.

Si después de esta lista de momentos inolvidables de la novela, te da la necesidad de hacer un maratón de "Rebelde" o de escuchar tus canciones Yo no sé ustedes pero unas favoritas no serían los únicos.

## ¿Tengo que hacer cuantos tamales para el Día de Candelaria!?

#### El Mari Achis Estrafalaríamente Slay

Imaginate esto: estás disfrutando de una reunión familiar - tus tías te apapachan, tus padrinos te acaban de dar \$50 a escondidas y acabas de regresar de una caminata con tus primos.

Llegas, hambrienta, con ojos color de rosas en la primavera, y miras con gusto la cena que la familia preparó.

Al final de una cena maravillosa, giras la cabeza hacia tu tía, quien carga la rosca y de repente te cae el veinte: es el 6 de enero, Día de los Reyes Magos. "iPor eso se reunió la familia!", piensas.

Se te hace agua la boca, la que anteriormente estaba seca y mientras tus ojos siguen a la rosca que se acerca, te das cuenta de que tu mamá te está mirando con la intensidad que solamente puede procrear una madre.

De seguida, entiendes lo que quiere decir esa mirada, "Si por

alguna razón, si por la gracia la ansiedad de los tamales y desamparado, peligro de atragantarse en forma del bebe Jesús, tu y solamente tu, te encargaras de cocinar todos los tamales para el Día de Candelaria."

El que le toca el bebe Jesús pasara un mayor dolor de cabeza, ya que ese desafortunado se debe encargar de hacer alguna comida, típicamente tamales y ofrecer su casa para el festejo del 2 de febrero, o el Día de Candelaria.

Ese día se festeja la presentación del bebe Jesús pero también tiene raíces indígenas ya que los tamales son simbolicos de una bendición de los Dioses en forma de lluvia y una cosecha abundante.

Dirías, "¿Todo eso dicho con una mirada?" y de respuesta te diré que sí, mi madre es muy expresionista.

Están repartiendo las rebanadas de pan y al final te llega tu turno. Después de casi tres mordidas deliciosas se te ha desaparecido

de Díos te sale ese maldito, continuas disfrutando de la rosca cuando de repente a mitad de mordida entre tus dientes, sientes la cabecita del bebe Jesús.

> "¡En la madre!", piensas, "¿Me lo trago?"

Estas sudando - inmovilizada, cuando escuchas la voz de tu prima, la metiche gritar, "iMira, a Mari le tocó el bebe!"

Lo siento Mami. "iAl menos no será tiempo por casi un mes!," le aseguras, pero su enojo se siente

Buen trabajo imaginando ese escenario. Casi se siente como si

Y es porque sí lo es.

febrero y la Amapola está repleta de desafortunados, el pollo todavía está en el congelador y los trastes todavía no están lavados. Intento hacer memoria de hace 2 meses cuando mi mamá hizo tamales para Navidad.

Haber – llevaba pollo, tomates,

profundamente. #oops.

fuera verdad.

Ha llegado el día, es el 2 de



cebolla, masa (o sea obvio) ¿y qué

Estoy a punto de sucumbir a la montaña de trastes cuando se me ocurre una idea genial. iHaré dudar de su propia cordura a mi

MARI VILLALPANDO - ORTEGA / DAILY NEXUS

familia entera!

Es broma, mi mamá es experta en eso, mirara el plan desde millas. Bueno, mejor las ordenó desde

Cárdenas y las meto en una olla cálida. De todos modos saldrán

mejor de lo que podría hacer mi

El Mari Achis todavía se encuentra arrumbada con los

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The two No. 1 seeds have advanced to the Super Bowl. Now it comes down to if Jalen Hurts can keep up his regular season magic against superstar Patrick Mahomes.

### **UCSB Athletics**

UCSB men's and women's swimming teams came away with victories at their weekend meets. As for the court, Ila Lane scored 1,000 points for UCSB women's basketball.

## UCSB women's basketball pulls off exceptional comeback victory

Max Combs Staff Writer

The UC Santa Barbara women's basketball team took care of business at home against University of Hawai'i at Manoa in a remarkable comeback performance, defeating the Rainbow Wahine 72-69.

The Gauchos started the game sluggish, allowing Hawai'i to jump to an 11-0 lead in the early stages of the first quarter.

Six minutes into the game, the Gauchos scored their first points with a mid-range jump shot by junior guard Alyssa Marin, which ignited a 10-4 run nearing the end of the quarter.

At the start of the second quarter, the Gauchos began to struggle offensively, scoring just seven points in the first six minutes of second quarter play. The only form of offense ran through senior guard Alexis Tucker, hitting two jumpers as well as one 3-pointer to keep the game manageable.

Soon after, Hawai'i surged ahead further, scoring 9 consecutive points to give them a comfortable 17-point lead nearing the end of the half.

UCSB narrowed down the Rainbow Wahine lead to 12 at the half, as sophomore point guard Callie Cooper connected

on a 3-pointer and layup while senior center Ila Lane knocked down a buzzer-beating jumper to help shift the momentum toward the Gauchos.

Tucker led the Gauchos in scoring in the first half with 11 points, making 5 of 11 attempts from the field. The UCSB players still found themselves down 40-28.

To start the second half, Hawai'i came out firing, connecting on their first 5 attempts of the half to take their largest lead of the game at 51-31. At this point in the game, Hawai'i had a 97% chance to come out victorious.

Quickly, the Rainbow Wahine offense fell into a deep scoring drought, allowing the Gauchos to capitalize late in the third

From seven minutes left in the third quarter until six minutes left in the fourth quarter, the Gauchos mounted a tremendous 32-6 run to take the lead at 63-57. During this run, Hawai'i made 2 of 10 attempts, turned the ball over 7 times, and committed 6 fouls. Meanwhile, UCSB was able to connect on 13 of 18 shots from the field.

With two minutes to go in the fourth quarter, the Gauchos found themselves up by four before Hawai'i drilled a 3-point shot to make it a one possession

During the next Gaucho possession, Lane found herself missing both free throws to give the Rainbow Wahine a chance to take the lead.

During Hawai'i's offensive possession, sophomore forward Alexis Whitfield made a clutch steal and drew a foul to get to the line, where she knocked down both free throws to give the Gauchos a 3-point lead with just under a minute to go.

In the next possession, the Rainbow Wahine tied the game at 67-67 on a 3-point shot, which warranted a UCSB timeout.

After the timeout, Tucker missed a tough look in the paint and Lane was able to fight for the offensive rebound and get the putback to put the Gauchos up 2 points.

UCSB's defense was able to get a stop in each of Hawai'i's last two offensive possessions as execution errors and turnovers cost the Rainbow Wahine in the waning seconds of the game.

In UCSB's 72-69 victory, Tucker led with 23 points while Lane had 15 points and 10 rebounds.

The Gauchos next matchup at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo on Feb. 2 will be livestreamed on ESPN+ at 6 p.m.



Sophomore guard Callie Cooper makes the pass to the post to find Ila Lane.

## Mitchell leads Gauchos to last-second win against University of Hawai'i

Isaiah Ochoa Staff Writer

UC Santa Barbara men's basketball traveled out of state to the Hawai'ian island of Oahu to play the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Rainbow Warriors. With both teams at the top of the Big West Conference, it was a close,

contested match. Sophomore guard Ajay Mitchell hit the biggest shot of the night with a go-head floater as they were down to 1.5 seconds to secure the Gauchos' win of

Senior forward Miles Norris won the tipoff for the Gauchos, but the Rainbow Warriors were first on the board. Three minutes into the game, Hawai'i was up 6-2, but the Gauchos did not go

down without a fight. The Gauchos went on a 14-0 run to lead Hawai'i 16-6 with 12 minutes left in the first half. As play in the first half continued. UCSB maintained their lead over

The Gauchos did not want the Rainbow Warriors to have any hope of cutting the deficit and coming back. As both teams entered the locker room, the Gauchos led 36-27.

Hawaii.

Norris and freshman forward Koat Keat Tong made their presence known by making 5 rebounds apiece, while Mitchell controlled the scoring by leading the team in points with 14.

Coming into the second half, Hawai'i cut the deficit immediately after some turnovers by the Gauchos and made 3-pointers. UCSB called a timeout with 17 minutes left after their lead was reduced to 1 point due to an 8-0 run by Hawai'i that made the score 36-35.

After the Gauchos came back from the timeout, graduate forward Andre Kelly silenced the crowd with a mid-range floater to put them up by 3 points.

As the game continued to wind down, the Gauchos maintained their slight lead until Hawai'i's crowd got their team back into the game. With three minutes left, Hawai'i found themselves up 1 point after a mid-range jump shot made the score 61-62.

UCSB quickly responded when sharpshooter sophomore guard Cole Anderson hit a midrange jumper to retake the lead and make it 63-62. Both teams continued to go shot for shot, making the game come down to the wire.

In the last 28 seconds of the game, the Rainbow Warriors missed their jump shot, leaving the score at 63-64. UCSB grabbed the defensive rebound and called a timeout, where head coach Joe Pasternack had an opportunity to draw up one final play to win the game.

For the final play, the inbound went to Mitchell, where he hit a crossover and drove to his right, out of bounds.

The floater swished, giving the Gauchos the lead at 65-64 with one second left. Hawai'i shot a full-court shot, but it did not go in, giving the Gauchos their fourth win in a row.

Mitchell was the game's star as he finished with 24 points, 5 rebounds and 3 assists. Anderson continued his offensive success and ended with 13 points, becoming the second-highest scorer of the night.

The Gauchos will head back home to the Thunderdome on Feb. 2 to play Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. The game is set to tip off at 7 p.m. and will hopefully add to the historic Blue-Green rivalry between the Gauchos and Mustangs.



Senior guard Josh Pierre-Louis dribbles the ball up the court toward sophomore guard Cole Anderson just before halftime.

## UCSB women's and men's swim teams have successful meet

Isaiah Ochoa Sports Editor

After a two-day swim meet, the UCSB swim team took home wins against the University of Wyoming, the University of Hawai'i and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. The men's Hawai'i Rainbow Warriors 227- daCosta finished third at 3:53.98. 111 but lost to the UNLV Rebels 182-151. The women's team beat the Rebels 172-168 but lost to the Rainbow Warriors 232-116 and the Cowboys 183-168.

The men dominated the meet, finishing first in 9 events. In the 1650-yard freestyle, sophomore Taber daCosta led it off, coming in at 15:23.18.

Sophomore Kyle Brill followed up his teammate by taking the 100-meter backstroke and came in at 49.18. Brill also finished second in the 200-meter backstroke at 1:44.76.

Sophomore Austin Sparrow was victorious, coming in first for the 500-yard freestyle at 4:29.07.

The Gauchos continued their success in the Individual Medleys as they took the top three spots in the 400-meter IM and the top two in the 200-meter IM. In the 400-meter IM Brill finished first team defeated the Wyoming at 3:50.15, senior Dominic Falcon Cowboys 229-104 and the finished second at 3:52.64 and

> The 200-meter IM provided results as Brill came in first at 1:48.00 and Falcon came in second at 1:49.13. Falcon continued the success by finishing first in the 100-meter butterfly at 47.98 and 200-meter butterfly at 1:44.83.

The men did not stop there. Junior Sean Gutowski finished second and third in the 100-meter freestyle at 44.00 and 50-meter freestyle at 20.58, respectively. Sophomore Justin Wong finished second in the 200-meter butterfly at 48.03 and freshman Henry Adamson came in second in the 100-meter breaststroke at 53.75.

The 400-meter IM was the women's best race. Freshman Samantha Banos finished first at 4:23.96 and Sophie Ryan came in second at 4:25.22. Banos also finished second in the 100-meter butterfly at 54.73 and the 200meter butterfly at 1:59.15.

The women did not stop there. Junior Paige Gambetta and freshman Hazel Derr came in second and third in the 200meter backstroke in a photo finish. Gambetta got second at 2.00.03, and Derr got third at

2.00.32. Some other finishes for the women include senior Gillian Flath, who came in third in the 100-meter backstroke at 55.94, and sophomore Tyryn Empremsilapa in the 100-meter

butterfly at 2:03.87. The Gauchos will return home for their next meet on Feb. 3 and 4 to host the UCSB Invite and



UCSB swim begins the backstroke event.

## How powerful is ChatGPT?

Katharine Chi Reporter

the pandemic, online learning has tempted students into abandoning academic integrity. Some familiar programs are Photomath, Quizlet and Socratic, which are designed to help students with troublesome work problems and to assist with studying for the next big exam. Although the creators may have had good intentions while creating these programs, they can easily be viewed as a great threat to academic honesty. Technology is quickly becoming more present in today's education system; a great shift is seen as

to the all-powerful Canvas a program where you can Ever since the beginning of communicate with anyone in school, view grades, take exams, carry out homework and plan your schedule. A big question that teachers and administrators ask is, "How can we stop students from cheating?" Remotely assigned exams can be taken with the assistance of our phones that never leave the palms of our hands. Another approach is hopping on a FaceTime call, making a solo test a group effort. In addition, there are tablet devices, physical notes and new Google tabs that are ready to assist when in need of help. As we become more dependent on technology, a new artificial intelligence (AI) system has attracted great attention. It goes by the name of

ChatGPT.

many grading systems transition is ChatGPT? It stands for Chat Generative Pre-Trained Transformer. According to Techopedia, this complex program works on machine learning algorithms, which are designed to recognize patterns and rules. Techopedia explains how learning algorithms produce learning models that can be applied on data and generate predictions. Techopedia reports that ChatGPT has been trained on a great amount of data from the internet before the year 2022, and with this source of information, the program is able to carry out natural language generation (NGL) tasks with high accuracy. NLG tasks

are a subcategory of artificial intelligence and use machine learning algorithms to analyze data and summarize what even it in a way that

seems like a human wrote it. As a conversational chatbot, the goal is to simulate a human conversation. What is so unique about this program is its power to quickly produce customized essays, resumes, solutions to math problems and general answers to anything one pleases to ask or order. Any time you have a question or a command, ChatGPT can supply a result in the most efficient manner.

What are the capabilities and limitations of ChatGPT? According to writer Maxwell Timothy at MakeUseOf, this program can provide creative, original jokes, songs

stories.

Although the program is highly capable, there are limitations to its ability. According to OpenAI (a non-profit artificial intelligence research organization that was co-founded by Elon Musk in 2015), ChatGPT has been found to "write plausible-sounding but incorrect or nonsensical answers ... The model is often excessively

The program is constantly modified in order to improve performance. One critical issue that OpenAI discusses is when the chatbot responds to inappropriate questions. In response to these questions, the AI trainers work to make the model refuse such requests, but "it will sometimes respond to

> behavior." ChatGPT has its flaws, but it is also a revolutionary creation in terms of past chatbot AI. What does

this mean for students applying college, taking exams, writing essays and carrying graded assignments in general?

Along with its creative abilities, has banned ChatGPT from it can answer complex questions dealing with topics such as dark matter, and it can even help frustrated students with tricky math problems. A skeptic would expect simple one-lined answers, but ChatGPT goes to impress the public by being able to write fulllength essays within seconds.

verbose and overuses certain phrases."

> The education system is trying to figure out how to live with ChatGPT, and that can possibly result in more changes in how harmful instructions we learn and write. or exhibit biased

department blurry.

all devices and networks in its public schools. A department spokesman, Jenna Lyle, said the ban was based on "concerns about negative impacts on student learning, and concerns regarding the safety and accuracy of contents." Another issue that arises is that ChatGPT can encourage students to plagiarize and, thus, inhibit the process of learning and growing critical thinking skills. On the other hand, ChatGPT gives opportunities to learn more about artificial intelligence and this new era of complex technology. Teachers and administrators are trying to find ways to work with ChatGPT without compromising a student's education. Dan Lewer, an educator, proposed a solution of requiring students to submit videos verbally explaining their essays in order to verify authenticity and to grow communication skills.

What should we do? ChatGPT is foreign waters. There is a possibility for more school systems to regulate or even ban the use of the program. ChatGPT is entertaining to interact with and makes one even more curious about its capabilities.

The program can help us brainstorm whenever we feel stuck in the creative department, but it can easily become very dangerous when we plagiarize and claim the work produced by a computer as our own. With how realistic the results are to human-made products, New the differentiation of authentic York City, the human thoughts and ChatGPT education becomes more questionable and

ESMÉ PUZIO / DAILY NEXUS

## UMich Assistant Professor Meha Jain lectures on food security in India at Bren Hall seminar

Meenakshi Manoj Staff Writer

An assistant professor in the School for Environment and Sustainability at the University of Michigan, Meha Jain, presented her research on ways to sustainably increase agricultural production, specifically in India on Jan. 23 at Bren Hall.

Jain proposed remote sensing and geospatial analyses and census datasets as important methods of examining farmer decision-making across India in order to draw conclusions about the relationship between climate change, groundwater depletion and agricultural production. Remote sensing is done by using satellite technology to scan crop areas for different factors such as crop area and groundwater levels. The gathered data, along with satellite photography, and historical data is processed through imagery algorithms to conduct what is known as a geospatial analysis. The census datasets Jain and her team used consist of 20,000 test wells across

India. "You have extreme [groundwater] depletion in [North India], and also South

India ... [India] is expected to face some of the largest impacts from warming temperatures over the coming decade," Jain said.

Jain poses three research questions for which she provides hypotheses, quantified evidence and conclusions throughout her presentation: "What are the impacts of groundwater depletion on agricultural production?"; "Are there adaptation strategies that can reduce the negative impacts of groundwater depletion on agricultural production?"; and "What are the feedbacks between climate change, groundwater depletion, and agricultural production?"

To identify the extent to which groundwater depletion impacts agricultural production in India, Jain and her team used data on groundwater depth from 20,000 test wells across India. Data was aggregated from 2004-13.

analyzed whether Jain farmers can adapt to depleting groundwater levels by planting crops requiring less water, such as maize, than more water-intensive crops like rice. She does this by looking at whether the proportion of area planted under each crop changes per every one meter fall

in groundwater depth.

"Groundwater depletion is associated with small yield reductions and moderate production losses for most winter crops ... Even historical levels of groundwater depletion have caused crop production to decrease."

With regard to Jain's second research focus, her team explored how effectively canal irrigation systems may substitute groundwater usage in depleted areas of India.

Gridded rainfall data was used to account for weather as a control in the analysis of groundwater depletion and agricultural Agricultural production. production was tracked using remote sensing measurements of winter crop areas. Groundwater depletion was measured by compiling village-level irrigation source data (a sample size of 600,000) and projections of groundwater stress.

"We used MODIS satellite data [to identify] which pixels were growing a crop or not growing a crop based on looking vegetation phenologies [and a specific algorithm that accounted for heterogeneity]," Jain said. MODIS is short for Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer.

Jain and her team ran crosssectional regressions with district fixed effects to determine the effectiveness of groundwater versus canal irrigation on winter cropped areas. Factors such as soil type and average household assets at the village level were accounted for.

"Tube wells" and "dug wells" are two forms of pulling groundwater that farmers use for winter crops. Dug wells are known to pull water from shallower depths of around 8 meters and above while tube wells are more intensive and effective, and can pull groundwater from much deeper levels. Tube wells and canal irrigation were compared, and it was concluded that canal irrigation is associated with lower crop areas and is a less reliable irrigation method when compared to dug well irrigated crop areas in the long run. "[Canal irrigation] does really well when it rains a lot [but] groundwater villages are more stable with the amount of production they have,"

Jain said. When the data was analyzed state-by-state, tube well irrigation outperforms canals, particularly across North India. On the other

hand, canal irrigation did better

than or as well as groundwater irrigation in South India. Using data sets provided by the Indian government, Jain and her team analyzed the blocks smaller than the district-level that were categorized as overexploited or safe based on groundwater depth data.

"If all groundwater is lost from over-exploited regions, India could lose up to 20% of winter cropped area ... as an upperbound estimate," Jain said. The main losses are found in the North and West regions of India where most of the winter crop productions are concentrated. This area is known as the Indo-Gangetic Plains, "the equivalent of the midwestern Bread Basket," Jain said. The focus of Jain's last research paper is the effect of climate change on agricultural production.

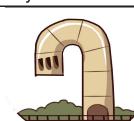
"With increasing temperatures, we expect that crop water stress would likely increase and this is because it would mean that potential evapotranspiration [would increase]," Jain said.

"One way that farmers might be able to offset this increased crop water stress is to increase the amount of irrigation that they're using [which would] likely [lead] to further groundwater declines."

This hypothesis was confirmed using panel fixed effects regressions and year fixed effects, where the change in groundwater levels is the dependent variable and the mean temperature is the independent variable. Potential differences in agricultural or vegetational productivity through time were controlled using the satellite-measure Leaf area index. According to Copernicus Global Land Service, "the Leaf Area Index is defined as half the total area of green elements of the canopy per unit horizontal ground area."

According to Jain, using projectional estimates until 2050, "we see that groundwater depletion rates could quadruple compared to current rates [of around 5 centimeters per year]." Some sensitivity analyses were conducted to see how the results would change, but the overall large magnitude of changing net groundwater levels remains.

Jain's take home message is that groundwater depletion is a rising issue, exacerbated by warming temperatures, that is affecting India's current crop yield and cannot be fully replaced with canal irrigation.



# THE DAILY STENCH

It's Satire, Stupid.

## Help! Chancellor Yang lives inside my cursed lockeť



Fart Tent Locket Scientist

On my hunt to find a new smoke spot, I veered off the gravel path and into uncharted territory. I had hoped for a nice place to sit, a good view and hopefully some raccoons to hold my clammy little hands as I ventured further into the bushes, when I suddenly realized how dark it had become. When I looked back towards the path, I found my way blocked by a huge billboard advertising Gauchobucks that seemed to materialize out of nowhere. I pushed against it, but it wouldn't budge. I began to worry: what if I never made it back, or worse, what if my last meal was from DLG? When I turned around again, I was at the edge of a clearing that hosted a quaint little cottage, with purple smoke coming

from the chimney. When I approached the little wooden door, it suddenly swung open, and I was faceto-face with an old man in a purple cloak and a pointy

purple wizard's hat. He first tooted, then laughed with joy upon seeing me and motioned for me to follow him inside.

"Looking for a place to smoke, eh? Awfully dangerous to walk off the main path, especially late at night with those headphones blasting Mac DeMarco. I can offer you something to keep you safe, but it will come at a price."

When I nodded in agreement, he quickly got to work. He poured a bucket of water into a cauldron and then started mixing the ingredients: three of his own hairs, a faked tax stub, a car accident police report, an eyeball and a fuck ton of weed. As he stirred, the pot bubbled blue, then orange, before it finally settled into a sparkly gold color, which he then poured into a shot The wizard was kind and glass and threw the hell back. gracious to save me that day. Lastly, he asked for the locket I was wearing to finish the spell. When I dropped it in his hands, he jumped up and clicked his feet together and his body rapidly twirled into itself and down into my locket.

The locket sat there, looking the way it always had. But, when I picked it up, I could hear the wizard's voice in my

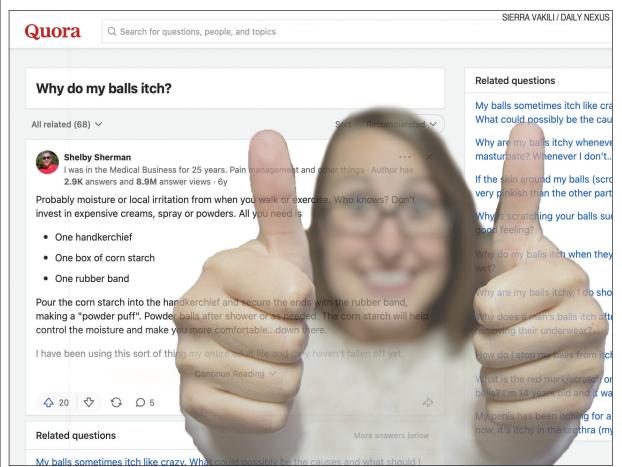
"Go forth! Let's smoke that dope za – or whatever the kids

Now, I live everyday with the wizard in my locket. He guides me in many ways - he's helped me do well in class (he stole the answer sheet to my tests), he helps me drive (keeps running over people) and he always encourages me to rob other students. Many of my friends have told me I'm becoming cruel or unrecognizable, but they just wouldn't understand the bond that me and my locket have. I won't let them take him

This is a true story, Gauchos. Do not stray from the beaten path when you walk around campus ... the wizard will no longer be there to protect you.

Fart Tent got a little too high next to Chancellor Yang's house.

# Opinion: Screw rationality, I trust the brilliant minds of Quora



Osbert Squelch Seeker of Knowledge

"The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing."

Well said, Mr. Einstein, well said. While the Information Age has spawned a plethora of opportunities to transcend political, geographic and linguistic barriers in the curiosity-driven pursuit of collective knowledge, it has also birthed avenues for the inevitable exploitation of during finals week, I have born from the desire for the

truth: Quora.com. they are social. Why use one brain to answer a question when you can use many, many more? From the early hominids of the Pleistocene who investigated that fire, in fact, do be hot to the scientists who concluded that adding lead to gasoline maybe

working together to uncover the truths that lie behind our most burning of questions.

To me, Quora is the embodiment of these undeniably human attributes. Like an agora hosting Socrates and Protagoras for a debate of epic proportions, Quora is a contemporary public forum where we discuss whether drinking Smartwater will raise your IQ. And all of this is just a convenient click or tap away.

Recently, I took a dive into the gullible, desperate and the wonders of the Quora hateful. Thus, in an era where community and submitted misinformation spreads across questions of my own. For digital platforms like panic instance, I asked, "What and curation of collective causes the Santa Ana winds?" always found solace in a place and received answers within minutes (losers, get a life lol). One respondent explained that Humans are as inquisitive as the winds are a product of air masses moving from areas of high to low pressure while another said they're a result of Chancellor Yang farting at the top of Storke Tower. Who doesn't love a diversity of opinions?

I also found that Quora is a wasn't a great idea. We have a perfect place to break down and

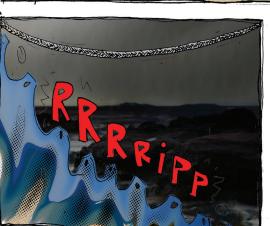
rich and extensive history of explain complex issues using the vocabulary and logic of dunces who peaked in high school. For example, I expect nothing short of an unequivocally factual and unbiased explanation of current China-Taiwan relations from Dean, the "American Entrepreneur" of Nebraska. Who better to elucidate the intricacies of Cross-Strait geopolitics than someone whose profile picture is of them wearing knockoff camo Oakleys in their Dodge Terrorizer pickup that gets three miles a

> gallon? In short, Quora has democratized the creation knowledge like no other platform in the history of the universe. Nowhere else could you find impassioned debates around the dualistic nature of ancient zoroastrianism on one page and inquiries about how to remove one's penis from the end of a PVC pipe on the next. Einstein would be proud.

> Osbert Squelch is definitely not the one who got their member stuck in a PVC pipe.

## 







## Air Bud saves basketball season!

Devin Hernandez Dog Mom

Basketball, Thunderdome and Air Bud - a match made in heaven that is equally as iconic as the combination of recorded lectures and 2x playback speed.

Our winning streak has been preserved against CSU Bakersfield, with the Gauchos going for gold - golden retriever, that is. Last minute, after exploiting an unclosed loophole in the official NCAA rulebook, Charles "Good Boy" Barkley, number 42, shocked the Thunderdome. Saturday night, he earned 8 points, 18 assists and 4 rebounds. Not to mention his perfect record from the free throw line and the number of

lineup reveal how Barkley dished

out life lessons and revealed

belly scratches he received. Interviews with the starting

truths about the players. Captain Xavier Dribble had this to say about number 42: "He made me see things in myself that I was



Only a dog can teach you how to love yourself.

> Captain Xavier **Dribble**

too afraid to see. He taught me to become a better person, not just out on the court but in life. Only a dog can teach you to love yourself."

Benchwarmer turned gamewinner Justin Ball had this to say about his teammate: "I shared with him my trauma from high school. Every day people would pants me to reveal my cartoonish white boxer underwear with red hearts. He didn't even have to say much, he just walked over to me and let me pet his belly." Holding back tears, Ball continues, "I just know that he is going to make the world's best therapy dogtor."

Unfortunately, Barkley will not return next season. Our pal is onto bigger and better things at Vandenberg Space Force Base, where he will be training puppies for a mission to the I.S.S.

Devin Hernandez thinks the best character in every movie is the

## Social media chefs are cooking up a storm



Zoë Lo Co-Copy Chief

I often find myself scouring the kitchen for a late-night snack, and my incessant scrolling of food-related videos is likely to blame. With the growing popularity of various social media platforms, we are seeing an increase in accounts dedicated to cooking and plating dishes. These days, chefs – amateur and professionals alike - are cooking at home in forms perfect for an impatient viewer. Enter a new age of sharing food and cooking in the social media world: TikTok videos and Instagram Reels.

With the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, many found solace in watching - or filming cooking videos from the comfort of their homes. As more individuals turned to the apps for entertainment, chefs took a population forced to lock down as an opportunity to share their cooking with a new audience.

Viewers are shown recipes that radiate a sense of comfort and ease - ones they can replicate at home. To combat boredom, many picked up new hobbies like cooking or baking. Some, like me, enjoy just following along on their phones. Whatever the case may be, I've taken the liberty of rounding up a few of my current order) to watch on the apps.

#### @wishbonekitchen - 1.3M **followers**

Meredith Hayden is quickly rising to fame. The New Yorkbased recipe developer and professional chef initially had a start in the fashion industry and then switched to culinary arts. After studying at the Institute of Culinary Education, Hayden worked as a line cook at SoHo's Charlie Bird before eventually starting her own catering business and brand, Wishbone Kitchen.

Hayden has a slight obsession with diet soda, and I have a slight obsession with her summer vlogs depicting a day in her life as a private chef in the Hamptons. The 27-year-old chef documents a passion for visual storytelling, her crazy long hours cooking up and what better way than through meals and narrates the vlogs with content creation on TikTok? fun anecdotes from the weekend.

Hayden preaches eating whole foods, and focuses her recipes on fresh vegetables while treating meat as a luxury. Her selfpublished cookbook, "Wishbone Cookbook Vol. 2," features a gorgeous heirloom tomato galette on the cover and plenty of other summer recipes inside. In the warmer months, she serves up refreshing dishes like trout lox tartines or bibb salad with lobster and avocado. Don't be fooled

favorite chefs (in no particular by her bright, summer persona though; Hayden also makes a mean red wine braised beef short rib, and the first volume of her cookbook duology is inspired by holiday recipes and other winter

> The young chef has been dubbed a "Walmart Martha Stewart," and she herself has even incorporated the joke into one of her Instagram captions: "martha may stewart reporting for duty #dayinmylife #privatechef."

## @lahbco - 534.7K followers

It makes sense why Nasim Lahbichi, a freshly graduated interior design student during the pandemic, would amass such a following on social media platforms. He, after all, preaches Now, almost three years after his start on the app, Lahbichi shares recipes each week with his 534,700 followers.

Lahbichi infuses into his recipes various Moroccan- and Puerto Rican-inspired flavor profiles – a nod to his heritage. Some are comfort foods, like harira, a Moroccan tomato lentil soup his grandmother used to make. Lahbichi admits his take on these sorts of dishes may not be wholly traditional, but he finds them comforting nonetheless, eating harira every day for dinner in his "soup era." Lahbichi also shares recipes that are "scrumptious meal[s] you can hyperfixate on for a month," like green shakshuka, which, as the name suggests, is full of healthy greens. His version has leeks and kale.

Along the same vein, his newest TikTok series involves sneaking vegetables into more meals. Recently, Lahbichi has discussed both farmers markets and accessibility of produce. While he incorporates fresh ingredients, such as parsnips or artichokes, Lahbichi also acknowledges the difficulties of accessing fresh produce and recognizes the convenience of canned and frozen vegetables. While on the hunt for artichokes, Lahbichi concedes, "jarred is during quarantine, and now easier ... and we love efficiency."

Unlike hidden veggies, Lahbichi is quite transparent about his compensation as a content creator, "so that way brands can't take as much advantage of other creators." Once he found a way to make a living with this line of work, it removed the stress he had with job hunting postgraduation. As he navigates the industry, Lahbichi openly shares the frustrations and joys of working to "curate and create spaces for queer people of color, by queer people of color." At the end of the day, whether Lahbichi explains how to make a matchatini (think espresso martini but matcha) or Greek bougatsa for Pisces season, he cultivates a safe space for a compassionate, cooking community.

#### @thekoreanvegan followers

Joanne Lee Molinaro first went viral for her video on Korean braised potatoes. The Chicagobased lawyer had started her blog, The Korean Vegan, years earlier when she switched to a plant-based diet, and then joined the TikTok platform under the same handle in July 2020. Her content mainly revolved around politics and her life as a lawyer includes cooking after going

Molinaro does voice-overs on her videos, and they are every bit optimistic as they are poignant. As she shares her struggles, Molinaro finds a way to share a heartfelt message to her followers. Sometimes it's about her failing relationships, and sometimes it's about individuals who are not Korean replacing gochugaru with paprika when making kimchi: "It's a bit too easy for them to sacrifice other people's stories because what do they have to lose?"

Whether substitution of ingredients can be infuriating for some, it can also mean better accessibility for another, especially when creating plantbased recipes. On the flip side, Molinaro translates this idea into her work as well: "I veganize Korean food. I Koreanize everything else." She welcomes fusion into her kitchen, walking the line between telling her past and leaving room for the future, and she balances it beautifully.

The rise of social platforms devoted to food has made an integral change in how we consume media related to cooking. Waves of people rushed to their own kitchens, hoping to jump on new trends of making Dalgona whipped coffee, baking sourdough bread or even tackling a spicy vodka rigatoni recipe. The latter was popularly attributed to a certain famous supermodel or a certain famous Italian restaurant in New York City i.e. Gigi Hadid and Carbone. (Molinaro does a vegan version of spicy vodka sauce on her page, BTW.) Whether or not viewers at home actually follow through doesn't matter - some are perfectly content with leaving it up to the experts.

## Kuy teav: A Cambodian noodle soup

Max Yim Staff Writer

I have deeply fond memories of kuy teav. On the days my Yiey (Khmer for "grandma") would occasionally make it, I would easily down three to four bowls of the stuff, gorging myself with countless strings of rice noodles and broth. I remember that smell permeating my Yiey's house and my nostrils filling with that deeply intoxicating aroma I hold deep in my heart. In my anticipation, I would dawdle around the kitchen excitedly while Yiey made my bowl. When it came time to eat, I unashamedly slurped down every last noodle, and then asked for seconds, then thirds, and on a really, really hungry day, fourths. If I didn't make it clear enough, I fucking adore kuy teav, and other than maybe my dog or my family (and that's a strong maybe), it's the thing I miss the most from

home. I can try to fill that hole

in my heart with pho - and don't

get me wrong, I love a good bowl

of pho – but for me, it just doesn't Directions: hit the same way. The general 1. Fill a stock pot with water lack of anything Khmer outside of Long Beach, where I'm from, just makes me miss home more. So I decided to try and replicate that feeling of home and fill that hole in my heart by making my own kuy teav. The following recipe is my recreation of my favorite food.

Yield: 12 servings Time: 4 hours Ingredients:

- 3 pounds pork neck bones • 4 tablespoons fish sauce
- 3 tablespoons sugar
- 4 tablespoons salt
- 3 seeds of star anise
- 3 tablespoons chicken bouillon • 1 onion, roasted
- 2 carrots, chopped up into
- chunks Enough water to fill a stock
- pot 1 package rice stick noodles Bean sprouts, Thai basil, cilantro and lime to your

liking for topping

- and bring to a boil. While it is simmering, add the fish sauce, sugar, salt, star anise, roasted onion and carrots. Once it is boiling, introduce the pork bones and chicken bouillon.
- Reduce the broth to a simmer and maintain at a simmer for about 4 hours. Meanwhile, periodically skim the top of your broth for scum (residual unclean parts from the bone).
- 3. Once the broth is done and fully developed, take it off the heat. Boil your rice noodles according to the directions on the package, add to the broth and serve hot with bean sprouts, Thai basil, cilantro and lime to your liking.

This easy recipe is perfect for the cold winter days. I hope you enjoy this piece of Khmer culture.



# ARTSWEEK

## Tracks of the Month - January 2023

| Artsweek Staff

Need new music to listen to? Here are Artsweek Staff's favorite tracks from this month! Be sure to add these tracks to your playlist as the new year kicks off with new music releases!

#### "Cadillac" by Sun Room

"Classic California kids" is the only way to describe Sun Room, the surf-rock band from SoCal. Their newest song, "Cadillac," was released as a single on Jan. 11. It is the epitome of what you would want a live song to sound like: loud, head-banging and packed with catchy riffs. It's the sound of a garage band – which is exactly what they are. A band that makes music "out of their very hot garage," to be Island"

exact. "Cadillac" starts off slow and progresses to a very fast, upbeat, ground-shaking tempo, and it isn't hard to imagine the band rocking out to this song in

Stella Mullin

their garage.

#### "Flowers" by Miley Cyrus

American pop sensation and former Disney Channel star, Miley Cyrus, released her latest single, "Flowers," on Jan. 12. The funky dance-pop beat and catchy lyrics propelled this hit straight to No. 1 on the Billboard Hot 100 - the first of 2023. Not only is this song exceedingly danceable, but it has also invited various theories

about its meaning from fans. Some believe the chorus is a response to Bruno Mars' "When I Was Your Man."

Others have speculated the George Daniel. Daniel, the song is directed toward Cyrus' ex-husband, especially because The 1975, has produced the release date is so close to tracks for various artists and his birthday. Regardless of the is certainly one to watch in intentions behind the song, the coming months and years. Cyrus continues to dominate Together, Charli and the pop music industry with her Daniel create a knack for captivating audiences in refreshing new ways.

Hannah Rott

"Welcome To My Island" by Caroline Polachek - George Daniel & Charli **XCX Remix** Originally released on Dec. 5 of year, "Welcome My serves an essential introduction to Caroline Polachek's upcoming

studio album,

are operatic in

nature and dreamy

droning

that

with

vocals

chords played on an '80s-inspired synth. The George Daniel and Charli XCX remix, released on Jan. 20, allows for different facets of this track to shine through. In true Charli XCX

fashion, the remix is filled with auto-tuned vocals and exciting word choice coupled with a club influence. Its sonics are, in big part, to the credit of her collaborator and boyfriend

drummer for indie-pop band

Charli feel she's "fallen so hard, In typical Bridgers fashion, it's a total eclipse" and makes nobody's watching. - Isabel Hiestand

> "Emily I'm Sorry" by boygenius



powerful, and catchy dance-pop track chronicling the beginning stages of a relationship.

This entrancing track makes

Boygenius, the alternative-indie supergroup comprised of Julien Baker, Lucy Dacus and Phoebe Bridgers, surprised fans on Jan. 18 with three new songs from their

upcoming album "the record."

"Emily I'm Sorry" encompasses listeners want to dance like a sad narrative, conveyed through conversational prose and imagery that is supported by a mellowed electric guitar and harmonies by bandmates Baker and Dacus. Supposedly autobiographical, this track tells the story of a relationship where Bridgers begs her partner Emily

> by lines like "Emily, forgive me, can we (Emily, I) / Make it up as we go along?" and "I'm twenty-seven and I don't know who I am (Don't know who I am) / But I know

to take her back, punctuated

what I want." The three tracks serve as a striking reintroduction to the trio, leaving filled with more anticipation at every listen.

Isabel Hiestand

"\$20" by boygenius Aside from "Emily

I'm Sorry," boygenius has another hit song on their album called "\$20." The group's combined talents shine the brightest in "\$20," a song that stands out with upbeat instrumentals and lyrics packed with angst and desperation. "It's a bad idea and I'm all about it," Baker boldly proclaims as we follow the protagonist's drive to Reno while they reminisce

about the past and search for gas money, eventually asking the listener to contribute toward their fund. This attitude continues until the song's dramatic climax.

While Baker and Dacus continue the song's themes of survival and fleeing, "You're doing what you can, just makin' it run / Take a break, make your escape," Bridgers takes a different approach by dramatically screaming the song's title and insisting that the listener has had the \$20 the entire time. A loaded track, "\$20" proves that boygenius' newest venture has been well worth the wait.

Kyra Schimpf

#### "Selfish" by slowthai

Released on Jan. 25, slowthai's newest track, "Selfish," is a punkrap hybrid with harsh vocals and instrumentation from the beloved British rapper. "Selfish" will be on slowthai's upcoming album "UGLY," set to release in March. In an Instagram post announcing his new album, slowthai writes, "at a time when i hated myself, creating this album saved me and taught me how to love myself."

previous "TYRON," was released in 2021 and received relatively high praise, so it will be interesting to see how "UGLY" is received. As a longtime slowthai fan, I am incredibly excited for the new album, and I especially hope that the rapper is doing better and that his mental health is

improving. - Lorna Krusel

# The Carsey-Wolf Center showcases the cinema of multispecies encounters

Isabel Hiestand Reporter

The Carsey-Wolf Center hosted "The Cinema of Multispecies Encounters" on Jan. 26, an event held at the Pollock Theater that screened three films: "Blua" (2015), "Laborat" (2014) and "The Masked Monkeys" (2015). Avant-garde in nature, these three works were shocking to

say the least. The event was moderated by UC Santa Barbara's Peter Bloom, chair of the Department of Film and Media Studies. The

event also included Dr. Kim Knowles, a senior lecturer of the Department of Theater, Film & Television Studies at Aberystwyth University, and Dr. Carrie Noland, a professor of French and comparative literature at UC Irvine. Knowles and Noland provided insightful knowledge and a deeper understanding of what the audience had experienced in the films by relating it to their

"I thought it was really interesting ... I think you go into something that is [expected to be environmental, and you

think it is going to be like National Geographic, " third-

year Rachel Burnett said. All National Geographic expectations were quickly smashed by each film. Although each film undoubtedly had its own style, the way that each film displayed human-animal relationships and interactions demonstrated why they were all screened together. The films all exhibited a unique perspective, regardless of whether they emulated the educational animal documentary format we are all used to.

"Blua," unlike the other films,

focused on multiple animals in many different situations. It shifted quickly between scenes with deer, grizzly bears and other species, and let audiences understand the animals in a way they may not typically see

"Laborat" was a research lab video, which began with a tech testing a drug on a mouse and concluded with an autopsy of the mouse. Throughout the film, there was the usage of abstract filters, loud sound designs and dizzying visuals that allow it to be considered abstract.

In "The Masked Monkeys" both masters, as they're called, and monkeys are in the position of the leading roles in the film. Set in Java, the film follows local men who work as masters of monkeys who serve as entertainment in local villages themselves. Knowles and Noland talked

about how the cinematic representation of animals can become more compelling through a motif, as motifs inspire a deeper connection to the animals seen on the screen.

In the discussion of the film "Blua," Noland, who is a renowned scholar on gesture and dance, recognized two poignant moments where the reflected movement between the human being and the animal was documented. The first words that are uttered in "Blua" are, "Can you make him

stand up?" "It is a really strange moment in the film because

you don't know if standing

up is understood by the tiger

[in the] same way standing up

is understood by the people observing him," said in reference to the tiger standing against the thick glass separating him and the school

children taunting him.

Even though the school children may not have realized the tiger did not understand what "standing up" actually meant, audience members may have been able to see the disconnect more easily. However, the way the imitation is ultimately completed by the tiger's personification makes it easier for the audience to build a relationship with the tiger.

The concentration on the action of breath in these films, particularly in "Laborat," lets the audience connect with an animal that is usually seen as a pest. Breathing is a primary factor in life across many living things, and when it stops, that usually means the end of life - something all living beings experience.

When speaking on the sound of the films, Burnett claimed that Pollock "created a very physical experience ... it was supposed to make you uncomfortable."

According to Knowles, the discomfort the film introduces is largely due to the focus on mice's skin as the film attempts to document the lab testing of drugs on mice. It contains close-up shots and crisp, clean audio of a tech cutting humanlike skin.

Knowles then pointed out that the skin and features of these animals, as they are represented

in these films, beg the question:

What is so different about

humans and the animals that

inhabit the Earth with us?

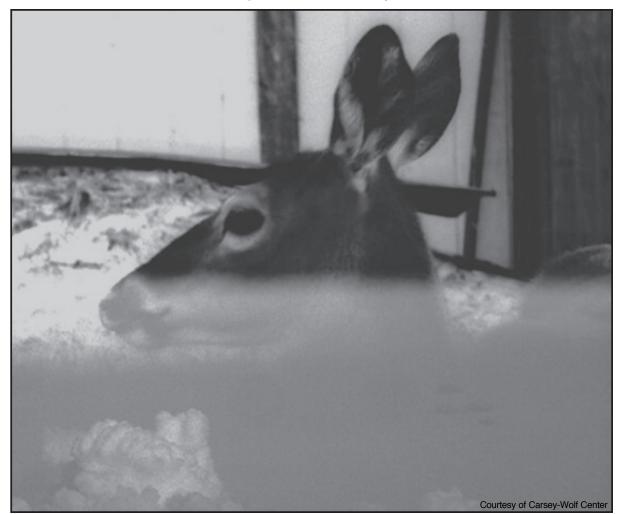
"Hands are quite a common object in experimental cinema," Knowles remarked in response to Noland's observation that in "The Masked Monkey" the first words uttered in the film are,

"it all starts with the hand." The opening shot of the film is that of a human hand, followed by a shot of a monkey's hand reaching out of its cage. Knowles said that in "The Masked Monkey," the hand becomes its character, a controller, a teacher and a giver. The directors Anja Dornieden and Juan David Gonzales Monroy were likely intentional in this juxtaposition to create a connection between their hands and the hands that have control over this monkey.

Knowles underscored how the motifs in these films portray deeper human and animal interaction and discussed how one might think of its representation in cinema and how it might look in the future.

Particularly, when speaking about a scene in "Blua" where the camera is directed towards the owner's hands and her dog's paws, Knowles said,

"Both the dog and the human occup[y] sort of equal parts, equal proportions of the frame," Knowles said in reference to a scene in "Blua" where the camera is directed towards the owner's hands and her dog's paws. "That is surely not all we need to revolutionize, kind of, cinematic representations of animals ... [but] I think there is something quite interesting going on there about how we might represent animals on the



## ASK AJ: HOW TO BE A FUNCTIONING STUDENT

AJ Advice Columnist

12

I haven't attended class since day one and I don't know what to write, let alone how to write. When is my midterm essay due?

It's not a question of "when," but an issue of

I acknowledge that writer's block is a nasty beast. Perhaps your midterm essay is a blank page, the cursor flashing like illegal fireworks over the 67 block of DP on a Friday night. Once you figure out what you want to write about, some angle to your professor's tired old prompt that sparks inspiration, the essay will begin to write itself.

In order to defeat writer's block, you must change your perspective. Don't passively accept what those before you have delineated as an "essay." What is an essay, truly? If you wish to awe your professor, or, let's be honest, your overworked and underpaid TA, you must innovate. Thesis? No, perform an interpretive phrase that embodies your theme. Body paragraphs? Knit a capsule wardrobe of hair collected the communal shower drains. Works cited page? Staple a half-eaten chartreuse crayon to a \$20 bill instead. Allowing your mind to wander opens up a world of possibilities.

However, I don't endorse this approach if you don't have a comprehensive dental plan. Crayon is pretty hard to floss away – or so I've heard. Instead, brainstorming or thinking your way through any and every potential From there, you can narrow the former reveals itself to pack. AwOooooOOOo down your ideas, following be true, proceed. Keep in

details. If writing is getting you down, try a text-tospeech software. Just make sure to dictate your essay in private, or your housemates might be sending in an inquiry about you next

Your essay is due tomorrow, by the way.

are often unable to control their nightly howls. Ensure the conversation is goodnatured and supportive.

If your roommate has always been a howler, it might be time to invest in some Loop Earplugs (not sponsored) to muffle the noise. Is there a compromise

troupe was invented to support capitalism.

By waking up early, you are simply giving them what they want. Think of the poor worms.

What is your go-to Rec Cen workout routine?

and ellipticals. I christen the Rec Cen bathrooms to assert my dominance. My pre-workout is donated to those lifting any less than 400 pounds; they clearly need the help more than Exercising is more about

consistency than anything else. Workout routines and gyms work for some people and not for others. Walk to campus, play frisbee around the seniors napping on the Chem Lawn or take an after-dinner stroll down to Sands Beach. Plan a new hike with your roommates every Sunday, or every other week, depending on how hungover you are.

Please email managing@ dailynexus.com if you are a qualified pickler (piccolo player) interested in joining a Division 1 pickleball team.

AJ, as a famous newspaper columnist and jack-ofall-trades extraordinaire, how do you find worklife balance?

Reader, you flatter me. Please keep compliments coming.

Even if you love every single club or organization that you are part of, recognize that you are still expending energy. The most important thing that's helped me is realizing that I don't have to be productive every single second of the day. Give yourself space to simply do nothing, to honor your emotional limits, make mistakes, eat a protein bar, watch "Psych" or stare at the sky. Especially as midterms approach, figure out a schedule that incorporates nutrition, hygiene and quiet I fold up my Spider-Man all day. Even the busiest Razor scooter and side it people can take a moment



How do I tell my roommate that they howl in their sleep every night at 3 a.m.?

When it comes to howling, honesty is the best policy. For all you know, you might be one conversation away from securing yourself the newest, coolest werewolf best friend. Or at least a werewolf within a human body.

you can make? Perhaps obtaining some soundproof material to wrap around their head before bed is a good investment.

On the other hand, it might be worth checking in regarding their mental health, particularly if their howls are a new development and particularly agitated. Journaling, meditation,

If you truly knew me, dear reader, you would know that I have never set foot in that God-forsaken place. However, please grant me the following space to spin an elaborate exercise tale.

Like Gretel and her little bitch brother Hansel, I leave a trail of protein powder through the dark woods (the path behind the acting out wolf behaviors tennis courts), else I need and somatic grounding to make a quick escape exercises are all potential from the loogie-hocking But first, you need to ways of easing the transition gym bros doing lunges. In time. If you're cramming determine if your roommate to sleep. Offer your support one hand I clutch an extra in the library, take a walk idea in bullet points or by is actually the one howling, and perhaps you'll both large gym towel, and in the outside to experience your recording yourself talking. or if you are the howler. If realize you've found a true other, a dinosaur sippy cup. first breath of fresh air the most interesting points mind that while potentially How do I wake up on across the front desk. "Keep to create and appreciate to add relevant examples or disruptive, sleep talkers time for my 8 a.m. class? her running," I wink, as I stillness.

The signs as midterm essay prompts MARCH 21 / APRIL 19 Don't. The early bird stroll past the StairMasters



Nothing, you're a business major

APRIL 20 - MAY 20 Engrave your essay onto a rock



You don't have any midterms because you withdrew from the university



Track the evolution of mermaids and amphibians in 500 words or less



Why is your professor the best professor at UCSB?





To what extent do I care?: 2,000 words

## OCTOBER 23 - NOVEMBER 21

Analyze and interpret the reasons for every revolution ever in history

## SAGITTARIUS NOVEMBER 22 - DECEMBER 21

Write 50,000 words on every single thing we've learned in class so far. You have 10 minutes

## CAPRICORN DECEMBER 22 JANUARY 19

Write 900 words on an ancient text written before the Big Bang

### AQUARIUS JANUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 18 Describe the significance of the Oxford comma, the Oxford comma and the Oxford



## **U MAIL: NEW MESSAGE**

To: S <s@umail.ucsb.edu>

**Subject:** Is spring coming yet?

Dear S,

O Groundhog Day, the holiday lost in the 21st century. I remember when Groundhog Day used to be about making construction paper pop-ups and learning about the changing of the seasons. A little brown scruff of hodge-podge paper emerges from the snow-covered ground to say, "Six more weeks of winter!" Which is likely misspelled and in a sevenyear-old's handwriting. Now, as my dearest friend, you must know that I still have a soft spot for Groundhog Day, a holiday that I find outdated and just a little bit silly.

I'm sure you're familiar are predicted. with the tradition, based on the deep and longrunning mythology of Dutch Pennsylvanians. The superstition of the groundhogs joins the its wintertime stay a few ranks of unlucky black degrees south. The white

sleeping under moonlight whose touch will distort your features. Groundhog Day also coincides with Candlemas, an ancient Christian tradition celebrating purification after the darkness of winter has ended. Based on no scientific instruction, the appointed groundhog (Punxsutawney Phil) "emerges" from his burrow (where he was supposed to be hibernating) to look for his shadow. If he finds his shadow – or in other words, if it is sunny – spring is declared to arrive early. If it is cloudy and he cannot see it, six more weeks of winter

In the land of endless sunshine, however, when does spring arrive? In Isla Vista, we watch the sunset begin to drift west after cats crossing your path or egrets and their long necks

can be found lulling in the scampering away at the slowly warming sun. When nobody is looking, little squirrels claw through the leaves, bushes of



yellow daisy blossoms in their paws, chomping away at breakfast on the lagoon island. The fuzzy, pink ears of baby bunnies soon show themselves among the brush and succulents before sound of approaching feet. And, when our favorite monogamous mallard couple makes their rounds, proudly displaying their love, we know to soon expect their little trail of ducklings parading behind. After the rains, a

> croaks in the North Campus Open Space. Mushrooms appear from their earthy The nooks. little birds return to their nest with food for their even

littler birds. grasping the I suppose we don't need Punxsutawney Phil here, where animals fall back into their normal routine after the mild winter winds and waves of rain taper.

Nevertheless, this is an ode to Groundhog Day. To the little rodent and

his handler in a top hat, I hope you keep searching for your shadow. Though the science of forecasting has surpassed you, I think there's something special about holding onto this tradition, letting an animal mark the passing of seasons. It signals both our distance and our closeness to the wilderness around us (all in good fun, though through potentially unethical practices).

Send

After all this rambling I feel I should ask you, S, when do you see spring arriving at UC Santa Barbara? Is it during your brisk morning walk, watching the storks and sea birds wade in the tame waters of low tide? Or do you follow the words of Phil, burrowing with blankets and chai for another six weeks?

#1 Punxsutawney Phil Fan,

Maya

VIEWS EXPRESSED ON THE OPINION PAGE DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THOSE OF THE DAILY NEXUS OR UCSB. OPINIONS ARE SUBMITTED PRIMARILY BY STUDENTS.