THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2025 | UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

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Meal swipe rollovers, donations now available for all meal plan holders

Jack Dindia Deputy News Editor

After a decade of student advocacy, UC Santa Barbara's meal swipe program will now allow students to rollover up to three unused meals per week. In addition, students have up to five guest meals each quarter.

This new program is the result of advocacy from UCSB's Young Democratic Socialists of America (YDSA), who sent out a petition in early 2024, gaining over 2,000 signatures. The petition resulted in the University launching a pilot program, where a random sample of 10% of meal plan holders were opted in to test the meal swipe reforms.

UCSB was one of two UC campuses, alongside Berkeley, that did not have meal swipe rollovers. UCSB's meal plans are divided into three types: Gaucho Silver, which includes 10 weekly swipes and

three guest meals; Gaucho Gold, which includes 14 weekly meal swipes and four guest meals; and Gaucho Platinum, which includes 19 weekly meal swipes and five guest meals. Each plan can only rollover up to three unused meal swipes per week, and meal swipe rollovers expire each quarter.

YDSA's co-chairs, thirdyear religious studies and Black studies double major Ciara Johnson and fourth-year biochemistry major Michael Collin, said YDSA's advocacy began in the fall of 2023, when they began by going door to door at on-campus residence halls to survey students' experiences with meal plans.

"We were asking, 'Hey, how many meal swipes do you use per week? Do you ever skip meals on purpose because you don't have any meals in your meal plan? Did you have to go down on meal swipes in order to qualify for EBT and how is that



YDSA advocated for meal swipe rollovers by first putting out a petition signed by 2,000 people.

affecting you?" Johnson said.

After surveying the residence halls, they started their petition and hosted a town hall that garnered more attention for the reforms. The administration then reached out to begin negotiating YDSA's demands, resulting in the University launching the pilot program in the fall of 2024. The pilot program included four meal swipe rollovers each week and three that students could donate to the Associated Students Food Bank.

After a year of the pilot program, Collin said the University approached the YDSA and specified rollovers "[don't] come at much of a cost for the University," so it implemented the program for all students. According to Collin and Johnson, the rollovers do not come at an increased price for meal plans.

lack of meal swipe rollovers was a large part of how the University profited from meal

"They are counting on students to not use all of their meals, so it wouldn't make sense to have it roll over," Collin said. "After [the pilot program] happened, they found that it wasn't really coming at much of an additional cost to have rollover, because most students were using the majority of their meal swipes."

Considering that 48% of undergraduate students and 31% of graduate students face food insecurity, Johnson emphasized the importance of University services that provide food for students.

"It's proven that [the University has the money for it. They're just choosing to not invest it in students and in the student body because Collin spoke about how the they don't have any pushback,"

Johnson said. "Through having the students who are paying for school here actually come together and talk about these things and actually be thinking about, 'What can we do to actually force the University to act as a safe space for us?', then we can actually see some changes happen."

emphasized Collin importance of student advocacy to achieve better fulfillment of students' basic needs.

"I think it goes to show the power of not just students, but all of us as students and workers and members of our community coming together and what we can achieve by making demands of systems and institutions that already exist," Collin said. "We have to come together as a large group of people to demand that [the University] actually takes care of us, our citizens, the people paying taxes and the people paying tuition."

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS EXECUTIVE SUMMER UPDATES



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PRESIDENT

LE ANH METZGER

This summer, the 2025-26 Associated Students head of staff. President Le Anh Metzger focused on improving the association's internal fall quarter projects.

As president, Metzger is responsible for setting the Association's vision for the year, conducting projects alongside her office and serving as the student halls and university-owned

representative on various university committees, among other duties.

Fourth-year communication studies, and Spanish triple major Metzger, who is the former in collaboration with the chair of the Commission on Student Well-Being, aims to streamline communication and Isla Vista Tenants Union. between the numerous Associated Students (A.S.) Associated Students (A.S.) working alongside Student entities and improve their Advocate General Sydney visibility to students.

Metzger assumed the role last spring quarter and said she is "fortunate enough" to have the former president, fourth-year political science and sociology double major Nayali Broadway, as her

"[Broadway] has all the experience and the knowledge, and whenever systems and laying the I need anything, I can just groundwork for her office's ask her. At the end of spring quarter, we had a lot of meetings to kind of onboard me," Metzger said.

Metzger has been working to bring NARCAN Nasal Spray cabinets to all residence

apartments since previous academic year. They will be ready for use during global the upcoming fall quarter. A "Rate My Landlord" site also being developed Office of the External Vice President for Local Affairs

Also, Metzger has been Bivins and her Director of Dream Scholar Affairs to write a letter of support to undocumented and international students that will include campus Metzger resources. emphasized that under A.S. bylaws, Association

staff are not allowed to let Immigration and Customs Enforcement enter A.S. buildings without a warrant. In addition, Metzger's office is looking into creating an additional food grant for undocumented students outside of the \$100 per quarter grant offered by UC Santa Barbara Basic Needs.

"[We're] expressing that discount. Other projects will

we're standing with them [and] we're supporting them," Metzger said. "A.S. spaces are a safe space."

Other initiatives will focus on A.S. transparency, such as a contact sheet for all A.S. entities, a monthly newsletter and bi-weekly coffee with the president at The Arbor. Metzger has also been working to plan the A.S. Kick-Off Fair on Oct. 3 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"I also have seen in my time in A.S. that there's not a lot of visibility of A.S., not a lot of transparency in A.S. and also just not a lot of awareness about what A.S. is," Metzger said. "So that's kind of where some of my external goals have been."

Some of the upcoming projects within her office include collaborating with local nonprofit, Standing Together to End Sexual Assault, on events and promoting the UC's new contract with Adobe, which will offer the Adobe Creative Cloud at a roughly 90%

focus on Isla Vista, such as a farmers market, renovations to the Pardall light tunnel to commemorate the 2014 I.V. massacre and Food Bank pop-ups at the Pardall Center.

Metzger is reviving the A.S. Living History Project, which aims to preserve the "legacy of student activism at UCSB while connecting it to today's movements," according to its recruitment post. Metzger said that committee positions have been vacant for several years and that she aims to strengthen its longevity.

"I think that, especially right now, we really need to uplift our history of student activism and not erase it and not let people forget about it," Metzger said.

To increase collaboration between A.S. entities, Metzger plans implementing a meeting for Boards, Committees and Units quarterly reports, as opposed to chairs presenting

A.S. Updates p.5



Jack Dindia Deputy News Editor

OISS hosts 'All Languages Language Exchange'

The Office of International Students & Scholars (OISS) is hosting an "All Languages Language Exchange" on Thursday, Oct. 2 from 4-5:30 p.m. on the third floor of the Student Resource Building (SRB).

"Students, Staff and Faculty are welcome to join UC [Santa Barbara's1 All Languages Language Exchange to meet fellow linguaphiles and practice your language(s) of choice at this bimonthly cultural exchange event," the Shoreline description read.

Snacks and beverages will be provided.

filmmaker **CWC** hosts Miguel Coyula

Carsey-Wolf Center is hosting a screening of the film "Chronicles of the Absurd" along with a post-screening discussion with its director, Miguel Coyula, on Thursday, Oct. 2, from 7-9:15 p.m.

Through an elliptical narrative in nine chapters, 'Chronicles of the Absurd' reveals the complexities and contradictions of a country that leaves little room for internal dissent," the events description

The event is free for all attendees, but a reservation is recommended in order to guarantee a seat.

Arts & Lectures hosts **Samara Joy performance**

Arts & Lectures is hosting a performance by American jazz singer Samara Joy at the Granada Theatre on Thursday, Oct. 2, from 7:30-9 p.m.

"The voice redefining jazz for a new generation, Samara Joy brings soulful depth and timeless elegance to the stage, with a sound rooted in gospel and shaped by legends like Sarah Vaughan and Betty Carter," the Shoreline description read.

The event costs \$16 for UC Santa Barbara students and \$55-110 for the general public.

IHC hosts screening of 'Weapons'

The Interdisciplinary Humanities Center is hosting a screening of the film "Weapons" on Thursday, Oct. 2, from 8-10:35 p.m. at the Isla Vista Theater.

When all but one child from the same class mysteriously vanish on the same night at exactly the same time, a community is left questioning who or what is behind their disappearance," the Shoreline description read.

The screening is free for students with a student ID and \$5 for community members. Snacks will be provided "on a 'first-come-firstserve' basis."

hosts A.S. Associated **Students Kick-off Fair**

Associated Students (A.S.) is hosting the Associated Students Kick-off Fair on Friday, Oct. 3, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Storke Tower lawn.

"Learn about all the services. events, and opportunities that Associated Students has to offer!" the Shoreline description read.

Food will be provided for attendees, and the event will include a photo booth, petting zoo, music and "freebies."

UCSB Sustainability hosts 'Getting Ready for Winter'

UCSB Sustainability is hosting the "Getting Ready for Winter" workshop on Friday, Oct. 3, from 2-3 p.m. at St. Michael's University Church Community Garden.

"Join us for our Getting Ready for Winter Workshop and learn what to plant, how to prep your soil, and ways to keep your garden thriving through the colder months. From hearty greens to root veggies, we'll help you set up for a season of growth and give your seeds the best chance to flourish," the Shoreline description read.

The event is free for students. IHC hosts free screening of 'The Nightmare Before Christmas'

IHC is hosting a screening of the film "The Nightmare Before Christmas" on Friday, Oct. 3, from 8-9:30 p.m. at Anisq'oyo Park.

"Free screening of Nightmare Before Christmas (1993) in the park! Start the school year of with a bang to this spooky season classic," the Shoreline description read.

The screening is free for all students and community members.

UCSB Sustainability hosts 'Saturday Morning Live garden **Volunteer Day'**

UCSB Sustainability is hosting "Saturday Morning Live garden Volunteer Day" on Saturday, Oct. 4, from 10:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"Please join us for some garden volunteering at the UCSB Greenhouse and Garden Project! We will be weeding out beds and getting them ready for new gardeners," the Shoreline description read. "You can meet us at the Isla Vista Food Cooperative at 10:45am and we will walk over together or you can meet us directly at the garden at 11am."

Arts & Lectures hosts 'Ira Glass - in Conversation with

Arts & Lectures is hosting "Ira Glass - in Conversation with Pico Iyer" on Saturday, Oct. 4, from 7:30-9 p.m. at Campbell Hall.

"Master storyteller Ira Glass, creator and host of the beloved public radio show and podcast This American Life, joins acclaimed writer Pico Iyer for a wide-ranging conversation about storytelling, journalism and the search for meaning in modern life," the Shoreline description read.

The event costs \$15 for UCSB students and \$50-65 for the general

UCSB Sustainability hosts **Seed Saving Workshop**

UCSB Sustainability is hosting a Seed Saving Workshop on Monday, Oct. 6 from 5-6 p.m. at the Storke Family Student Housing Garden.

"Come and learn how to save your own seeds! Seeds will be shared from the [Edible Campus Program] Student Farm! Harvest seeds from our summer vield for your gardens, and drink chamomile tea made with leaves from the farm," the Shoreline description read.

The event is free for students.



Michelle Cisneros Lead News Editor

UC employees sue Trump over funding cuts

Across the University of California, 21 unions and faculty associations representing over 100,000 employees sued the Trump administration for allegedly using budget cuts as a way of suppressing free speech and pushing the administration's agenda on the UC.

"Determined to exert ideological control over the nation's core institutions, the Trump administration is engaged in tactics that violate the central norms of our democracy, the United States Constitution, and duly enacted federal laws," the lawsuit, filed Sept. 16, reads.

The Department of Justice (DOJ) recently fined UC Los Angeles nearly \$1.2 billion for alleged civil rights violations and antisemitism. According to the Los Angeles Times, the DOJ's demands include rejecting foreign exchange students with "anti-Western" views, annual demographic data on university hires and students and a public statement declaring that the identities of transgender people will no longer be recognized, among others.

Over the last several months, UCLA has lost and partially regained hundreds of research grants. UC President James B. Milliken said that outside of the actions the federal government is taking against UCLA, it is investigating and pursuing

actions against all 10 UC campuses, calling it "one of the gravest threats to the University of California in our 157-year history."

"Our top priority now is protecting this institution – its resources, its mission and its values — for the sake of everyone we serve," Milliken's statement read.

UC Berkeley shares 160 names with federal government

Berkeley shared names of around 160 students and faculty members to the Trump administration as part of an investigation into alleged antisemitism. On Sept. 4, the University emailed those identified in the documents that it had given their names to the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights.

According to the Daily Californian, UC Berkeley provided documents to the government over two weeks earlier on Aug. 18. An anonymous graduate student at UC Berkeley said they believed the investigation targeted Muslim and Arab individuals who had publicly voiced support for Palestine. The student alleged that they had been falsely reported for antisemitism to the campus Title IX and Office for the Prevention of Harassment and Discrimination.

"Whenever we teach about Palestine, it usually leads to an investigation. I think they flagged and sent all of that information to the federal government," the student told the Daily Californian.

According to Judith Butler, a

comparative literature professor at UC Berkeley, the University told them that the normal process for complaints had been suspended, meaning all reports were sent regardless of whether they were adjudicated or not. The University declined to share the files with Butler, and it is unknown who was accused of antisemitism and who is named in association.

"We are committed transparency and supporting our campus community while complying with federal investigations," UC Berkeley Spokesperson Janet Gilmore told The Guardian.

UC researchers and public service professionals unionize

In early September, over 7,000 UC research and public service professionals voted to unionize under the United Auto Workers (UAW). The unit, named Research and Public Service Professionals-United Auto Workers (RPSP-UAW). represents research data analysts and research administrators, among others.

According to the Santa Barbara Independent, UC Santa Barbara had the highest voting turnout percentage across the UC system. The union will now elect a bargaining committee to decide its bargaining priorities.

RPSP-UAW has expressed frustration with stagnant salaries despite increasing workloads and a lack of transparency from administrators regarding decisionmaking, according to the union's website.

The Daily Nexus Sudoku

| Andrew Wang Games Developer

					5	4	9
		2		8		7	
7							1
2		5				9	
	9			4		3	6
4		9		6			
8	5		2	7			
	3	4			9		



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or any submissions from

those outside of the UCSB and Isla Vista residential communities.

The Daily Nexus follows the University of California's anti-discrimination codes. Inquiries about these policies may be directed to the director and affirmative action officer at UCSB's Office of Equal Opportunity & Discrimination Prevention, via phone at (805) 893-2701. **Printed at the Santa Maria** Times printing facility.

"The problem is finally gone."

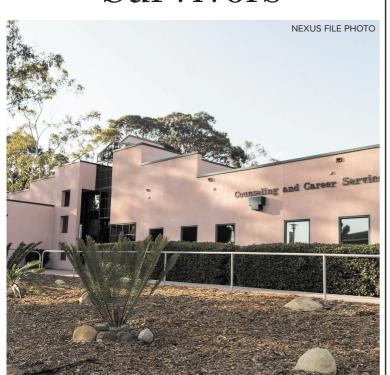
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Resource Guide for Sexual Violence Survivors



CAPS provides students with confidential counseling, support groups and 24-hour crisis phone counseling.

Iris Guo Community Outreach News Editor

In light of several recent incidents, the Daily Nexus compiled a guide of local and university resources available to students and community members who are survivors of sexual violence.

It is recommended that individuals communicate their preferred level of confidentiality when accessing possible resources to utilize or law enforcement involvement.

Sexual Assault Response report. **Team Services**

Sexual Assault The Response Team (SART) is a Santa Barbara County (SBC) organization that provides and coordinates care for survivors sexual assault. SART provides services including forensic medical exams. They also have in-person advocacy, counseling and referrals to other resources. SART also coordinates between the SBC District Attorney's Office, local law enforcement and support to survivors.

Barbara and can be contacted at 805-448-7993.

Standing Together to End Sexual Assault

Standing Together to End Provides Sexual Assault (STESA) is a local nonprofit organization that provides confidential counseling survivors to of sexual assault. STESA provides a 24-hour hotline, which can be reached at 805-564-3696. This hotline provides confidential counseling and information from trained personnel.

STESA also provides survivors with in-person crisis counseling at their office. Any individual can attend STESA's counseling services without appointment between a.m. and 5 p.m. on Mondays through Fridays.

STESA is located at 433 E. Cañon Perdido Street in Santa Barbara and can be contacted

at 805-963-6832. **Medical resources**

Survivors of sexual assault have the option to undergo an examination, which is coordinated by organizations within SART. There are three options for survivors of sexual assault who undergo an examination - a forensic examination, a restricted examination and an anonymous report.

A forensic examination is also commonly referred to as a "rape kit." A forensic examination is performed by a qualified nurse and may include a full body examination and swab tests. It should be conducted within 72-120 hours after the assault due to the physical presence of evidence during this period. After the examination is completed, law enforcement is contacted, who may take statements from the survivor.

A forensic examination can be conducted at the Cottage Health Hospital Emergency Room, which is located at two centers in Goleta and Santa Barbara.

A restricted examination involves a physical evaluation a qualified medical but professional, enforcement is not contacted following it. A survivor's personal information is not associated with the results of the exam, providing them with time to choose whether to press charges.

An anonymous does not involve a physical examination. A survivor would describe the assault, and a member of SART would contact law enforcement through an anonymous

University Services

UC Santa Barbara Student Health Service: Provides students with general medical examinations, medical referrals and treatment. The center also offers psychiatric and social work services but does not conduct forensic examinations.

Campus Advocacy Resources and Education: Provides students confidential counseling and assistance. It also coordinates crisis centers in order to offer services with the university and local agencies and offers SART is located at 345 a 24-hour phone line at 805-Camino del Remedio in Santa 893-4613. It is located at suite 2145 of the Student Resources Building.

Counseling and Psychological Services: students with confidential counseling, support groups and 24-hour crisis phone counseling at 805-893-4411. It is located in

Building 599. **Local Reporting Options** UC Santa Barbara Police Department: Responds to and investigates crimes committed on university campus property. department forwards reports to the SBC District Attorney's Office for further investigation and prosecution. It can provide information also regarding referrals forensic examination. It is located at Public Safety 574, Mesa Road in Goleta and can be reached at 805-893-3446 for non-emergencies.

Barbara County Santa Sheriff's Office: Responds to and investigates crimes committed in Santa Barbara County. The office forwards reports to the SBC District Attorney's Office for further investigation and prosecution. It can also provide information regarding referrals forensic examination. The office is located at 4434 Calle Real in Santa Barbara and can be reached at 805-863-2724 for non-emergencies.

Office of Title IX Compliance Discrimination and Harassment Prevention: Coordinates and reviews the university's response to all reports of sexual violence within the campus community. office assesses each The case and determines whether to conduct a formal investigation. If necessary, the office conducts investigations into Title IX complaints and manages the resolution processes. It also connects individuals with relevant campus resources. The office is located at 3211 Phelps Hall and can be reached at 805-893-2701.

UCSB Admissions Increase Over 10% from Previous Academic Year

Wynne Bendell University News Editor

Santa Barbara UC admitted its largest class thus far with 53,259 firstvear and transfer students for the 2025-26 academic year, an 11.6% increase from the previous year's 47,716 admits total.

This increase follows a University of California (UC)-wide pattern increased admissions, including a record-breaking of California resident first-year admits of over 100,000 students. This is a 7% increase from the 2024-25 academic year.

This increase is due in part to California Governor Gavin Newsom's five-year funding compact with the UC system to grow California resident admissions from 2022 to

a 5% budget increase each year to boost admissions, affordability expand and expand resources underrepresented demographics.

In April, the Trump administration revoked 12 UCSB international student visas, with 11 being reinstated shortly after. Despite these events and growing concern over international students' safety, applications did not fall and UCSB admitted international 10,298 students – a substantial increase from 6,283 students last vear.

The spike in admissions could also be explained by the end of the 2010 Long Range Development Plan (LRDP), which placed a cap on maximum admissions for UCSB until 2025. The

2027. The compact includes LRDP outlined a student enrollment growth rate of 1% per year in order to follow the population growth of Santa Barbara County, all while developing new housing and expansive resources to fill the needs of the rising campus population.

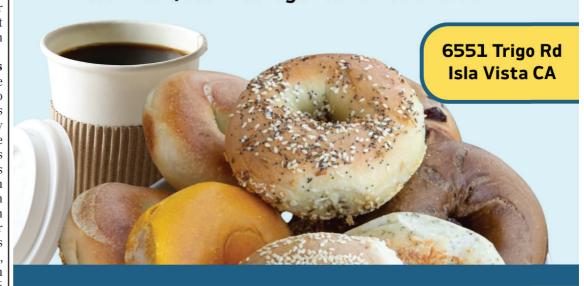
In accordance with the LRDP, the University is working on three major housing projects include the Ocean Road housing project that will provide 540 additional housing units for faculty and staff and the San Benito housing project that will provide 2,224 new undergraduate beds with a planned opening of fall 2027. The last project is to add additional beds to the existing on-campus dormitories known as the Channel Islands Five.



The UC admitted 149,368 first-year students from a pool of 205,348 applicants.



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Turning Point chapter holds Charlie Kirk vigil

Wynne Bendell University News Editor Levi Kauffman Staff Writer

UC Santa Barbara's Turning Point USA chapter held a vigil on Sept. 26 for Charlie Kirk. During an event at Utah Valley University, a gunman assassinated the right-wing conservative influencer on Sept. 10.

Kirk was a prominent figure in the Make America Great Again movement and a strong ally of President Donald Trump. In 2012 he, alongside Montgomery, founded Turning Point USA (TPUSA), a conservative non-profit organization with chapters in high schools, colleges and universities across the country that advocate for traditional conservative values Christian nationalism.

Kirk often hosted events on college campuses, debating students and advocating on behalf of his beliefs, most notably arguing against abortion rights, gun control, LGBTQIA+ rights and diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives. He also commonly spread white supremacist propaganda known as the great replacement, he promoted COVID-19 medical misinformation and voiced criticism of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

With around 150 people seated in Campbell Hall, which the University offered as an option over required security presence according to UCSB spokesperson Kiki Reyes, the vigil began with a bagpiper who played "Amazing Grace." Organizers then played a remembrance video from TPUSA's YouTube channel that highlighted his impact on the contemporary conservative movement.

President of UCSB's Turning Chapter, third-year Point history of public policy and law major Joshua Medeiros, spoke about the personal impact Kirk had on his life after he heard him speak on campus in 2023. Medeiros said Kirk opened him up to Christ, commended

Kirk's commitment to "peaceful open dialogue" and said Kirk was "one of the most gifted minds [he'd] ever witnessed." He then led the audience in a prayer from John 15:13 before introducing Pentecostal Preacher Keith Hudson and his wife, Mary Hudson, to deliver a sermon.

Mary Hudson began by expressing her gratitude at being able to meet Kirk last month where Kirk argued that "we cannot support Islam in the United States of America, because they don't come to assimilate, they come to conquer."

"I told him I really felt in my heart that we should all pray Psalms 91 over him, Psalms of protection you know: 'He that dwells in the secret place of the most high God shall abide in the shadow of the Almighty.' And I could see that he was visibly a little shaken by that, that he had been anticipating an attack against him," Mary Hudson said.

Keith Hudson then began his sermon, expressing his sadness over the loss of Kirk, and said he was one of many "great men of God" who have been lost. He continued by warning the audience that we are living in "the end times," and Christians and conservatives will see more attacks on their beliefs and faith. Keith Hudson ended his sermon with a group prayer.

Dylan Wakayama, former UCSB College Republicans president and current statewide deputy director of California College Republicans, was next to speak. Between sharing two Bible verses, Matthew 5:13 and 1 Corinthians 11:1, Wakayama said Kirk "was able to start an earthquake in which he won hearts, won minds and won souls for our God and our Lord."

Wakayama praised Kirk's faith and pointed to it as the solution for problems in America.

"We have a country to save, and all of us have a part in that," Wakayama said. "Now more than ever, have courage, be the salt, the light and God's imitators and disciples on Earth."



President of UCSB's Turning Point chapter Joshua Medeiros spoke about the personal impact Kirk had on his life.

Afterward, Christy Lozano spoke on behalf of Santa Barbara County Republicans and praised Kirk's argumentative abilities and work as a Christian.

listened and "He he responded with incredible knowledge, insight and wisdom. He truly had a gift for getting to the core beliefs in people and undoing them," Lozano said. "I believe what Charlie was doing was very biblical and a gift from God."

Lozano also called for forgiveness while remembering Kirk. "The devil's biggest enemy is forgiveness, because it brings us together," Lozano said. "Charlie was a true soldier in the army of Christ. He sacrificed his time, his talent, his treasure and ultimately his life."

The vigil then opened up for public comment, in which audience members, many of whom did not identify themselves, spoke to the impact Kirk had on them and the influence his death is having for the "revival" in the U.S.

'[Kirk] had a phenomenal intellect, he could actually keep his emotions to the side

and speak what? Truth. Where do we get the truth? The

Bible," the second speaker said. The third speaker, a rideshare driver who often drives UCSB students, recounted the effect Kirk's visit to UCSB in 2023 had on many of the young men in Isla Vista.

"After Charlie was here, a lot of the young men felt it was okay to become masculine. They don't have to hide it anymore," the third speaker said. "A lot of them come from radicalized leftist families that are seeking a different way."

Charles DiMauro, founder of 805 Patriots, a local conservative event organization behind many political motorcades, spoke next. While DiMauro founded 805 Patriots before meeting Kirk, he said he was inspired by Kirk to make his organization what it is today.

'Meeting Charlie pushed me a little farther than basically seeing what Turning Point was, and hopefully see if I could somewhat turn my organization to somewhere as close as possible to his," DiMauro said in an interview with the Nexus. "[The] main reason I built my organization was to make everyone else stand up for their beliefs: God, Jesus, Trump, our country," DiMauro said in his speech. The last two speakers of the night were Mark Lucas and Ben Corbett, two former TPUSA UCSB chapter presidents who organized Kirk's visit to UCSB in 2023. Corbett recounted meeting Kirk and his contribution to

the resurgence of conservatism and Christianity.

"At the end of the day, [Kirk] spread the gospel. He has spurred this revival." Corbett said. "The enemy has no idea what they did by killing Charlie Kirk. The enemy has no idea because the type of revival that we are seeing is unlike anything I think any of us have ever

When Corbett was finished, the bagpiper rounded the hall, stopping briefly on stage to face the projection of Kirk. Corbett then came back on stage to offer a "call to Jesus" during which one front row audience member stood while Corbett prayed for him.

Josef Masser, a local high school senior who attended the vigil, talked in an interview about Kirk and the goals of the Conservative movement he left behind.

"Charlie Kirk and his organization, Turning Point, has been really relatable to young people, and I've seen that it's really an effective strategy," Masser said. "I'd like to see a return to traditional values in the United States, and I would also like to see more respect for what this country was built off of. So the Constitution, biblical values, that kind of thing."

TPUSA organizers declined the request for an interview.

State Senate bill provision targets unpopular Santa Barbara housing project

Levi Kauffman Staff Writer

A recently approved state Senate bill backed by Santa Barbara Senator Monique Limón has come under scrutiny for a provision that targets a widely unpopular housing project located next to Mission Santa Barbara. Many community members oppose the development for its scale and location, while pro-housing advocates hope to address Santa

Barbara's housing crisis. In June, Governor Gavin Newsom and state lawmakers enacted sweeping reforms to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). CEQA requires proponents of a project to disclose and attempt to lessen its environmental impacts. However, the process started by CEQA-related complaints, some often loosely related to the environment, can take years. The recent reforms exempt almost any proposed lowor mid-rise development in urban neighborhoods zoned for multifamily housing from CEQA, streamlining the development of many urban housing projects.

This month, Senate Bill (SB) 158, backed by Limón, passed the legislature and was written to, among other things, define legal terms in the CEQA reforms and outline how those reforms are to be implemented. At the tail end of the bill, an added provision allows CEQA to still apply to projects that fall within a very specific set of criteria. Specifically, projects that are located in a city with a population of more than 85,000 but less than 95,000, a county with a population of more than 440,000 but less than 455,000 and on a parcel adjacent to a California historical landmark.

This criterion applies directly to the proposed 90-foot apartment building set to be built behind Mission Santa Barbara. Once called "a horrendous nightmare" by Santa Barbara Mayor Randy Rowse, the project falls within Limón's district. Located at 505 East Los Olivos Street, the proposed eightstory development would create

270 units, 54 of which would be for low-income residents, as well as 445 parking spaces and 255 bike spots.

A letter critical of the project, signed by Santa Barbara architects, designers and planners, pointed to a variety of issues. First, the association dislikes the idea of such a large structure next to a historic site. Second, the letter states that the use of Builder's Remedy laws, which developers may use to bypass zoning and General Plan standards when cities or counties are behind on meeting housing needs, has allowed the project to move forward despite safety concerns.

Furthermore, according investigations by Christina McDermott, a reporter with the Santa Barbara Independent, it's unclear who is behind the project. The property is owned by a company called The Mission LLC, but their "managing member" is SoCal Holdings, a different LLC registered in New Mexico. The New Mexico address belongs to the firm New Mexico Registered Agent, a company that offers its address to be listed on public records. The project's owners remain a mystery.

Despite these concerns, Santa Barbara is in desperate need of housing. According to a presentation by the City of Santa Barbara Housing Crisis Ad Hoc Committee, over 8,000 new units are needed, primarily for low-income residents.

Because of the need for more housing and worries that Limón is misusing her power, criticism of the provision in SB 158 and of the senator arose. Limón, already one of the most powerful Democrats in the state Senate, is set to become president pro tempore in November.

Limón provided a statement on SB 158 when the Nexus reached out for comment, stating she "provided feedback" on aspects of bills reforming CEQA, such as tribal consultation, habitat definition for protected species and advanced

manufacturing. Jordan Grimes, the Resilience Manager with Greenbelt Alliance, a Bay Area non-profit that campaigns for the preservation of open spaces and smart growth, was the first to express concern that Limón would use her power to target a project in

"The exemptions in this trailer bill were obviously designed with a specific project in mind. There's only one that makes sense, and it just happens to be a controversial apartment complex in the incoming pro-tem's district," Grimes wrote on Bluesky. "That she would use her power like this is extremely concerning."

Jerry Roberts, a political journalist and founder of Santa Barbara multimedia Newsmakers, a journalism platform based in Santa Barbara, feels Limón is representing the will of her constituents by including the provision.

"I don't see anything wrong with Senator Limón defending and representing her constituents in terms of popular opinion," Roberts said in an interview with the Nexus. "If there is a state law which is attempting to preempt this in a way that does damage and does violence to her community, I absolutely think that's exactly what she ought to be

Roberts also feels that broad state housing policy fails to account for the local communities it is applied to.

"That's what's wrong with all of these state housing requirements, they do not take into effect the [extreme] range of conditions within communities," Roberts said. "Has anyone [in the legislature] given a single thought about where the water is going to come from, where the sewage is going to go, how many schools are going to be created? No. It's just a number of units of housing."

SB 158 is currently waiting on Newsom to sign or veto it by Oct. 12.







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them during Senate meetings. These meetings will occur at the start of to the public.

"It's really useful information, but it only goes to the 20 or so senators," Metzger said. "If anyone's interested, they can just come and hear literally everything about A.S. in one meeting. So I'm hoping it'll really improve the accountability and the visibility of A.S."

Other internal projects Metzger has been working on include planning the A.S. Orientation, Networking, and Empowerment (O.N.E.) Retreat, improving Association's office and creating a web page that houses resources and training for members of the Association.

"I want [the office] to be a space where people, even students, can easily find and feel comfortable entering, so that they can have representatives," Metzger said.

Ahead of the upcoming academic year, Metzger met with Chancellor Dennis Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Michael Miller and the UCSB Police Department, among others. She plans on discussing how A.S. can help maintain student resources that have recently been cut, such as late-night library hours and the physical therapy department.

"I haven't met with the library yet, but we plan to soon, and in that meeting, I hope to ask 'How much does it cost to keep the library open?' ... and 'How can A.S. potentially contribute to that because it's such an important thing to students?'" Metzger said. "Are there grants that we can do to provide the money for that resource for students who need it?"

Metzger concluded by saying that she is "really looking forward" to the upcoming academic year to meet with students and continue working on projects slated for fall.

ENRILALA

Associated Students Internal Vice President Enri Lala has been shaping the Senate into Lala doesn't believe there a project-focused institution is just "one button" they as well as completing foundational work for his long-term goals and reforms.

As the Internal Vice President (IVP), Lala, a fourth-year history and global studies double major, has the responsibility of overseeing the Associated Students (A.S.) 76th Senate and managing its weekly meetings. With this, Lala is maybe something worth has created a project tracker that will house all current Senate projects to push for productivity and efficiency within the Senate.

Lala is in ongoing negotiations with University administration, coordinating the logistics and funding for the planned bike path between the library and the Interactive Learning Pavilion, which he first pushed for in a resolution as a senator for the 75th Senate. While the path will not come into fruition during his term, Lala aims to have the timeline and funding structure completed by the end of the 2025-26 school term.

Many student fees are controlled by the Student Fee Advisory Commission, a campus entity that is chaired by undergraduate students. Another one of the IVP's primary responsibilities is to manage the A.S. budget, including student fees. Lala has appointed fourth-year economics major Tyler Ho to be the A.S. representative UCSB library announced on the commission, a nonvoting role.

Lala is pushing for that role to become a voting position pass-through because fees, which students vote on through A.S. elections, ultimately go to campus he can work with other

departments.

"It makes zero sense that we would have a non-voting every quarter and are open role in that commission. It's a little offensive that that has been the case for so many years," Lala said.

> As for lock-in fees, which are completely A.S. managed, Lala highlighted the fact that in the last 15 years, there have not been any con statements on any lock-in fee initiatives that students have voted on in A.S. elections. Lala wants to make sure the student body is fully informed about what they are voting for and where their money is going.

"It's a simple question of, 'Are our students being informed about where their fees are going?' And that's going to be a huge push. We're looking at that very closely and ways of making that information much more readily available to students come spring election time," Lala said.

Many of the major projects more face time with their Lala has planned for the school year expand on his previous resolutions and projects as a senator. Student housing security has long been a top-priority issue for Lala, and he is committed to continuing conversations and putting pressure on the administration for activity and transparency for the San Benito and Ocean Road housing projects.

Additionally, Lala plans to continue his work on the Michael Ma project, which would bring Bloomberg Terminals – professional business and economics data tools – to campus by the end of the school year. This bill was originally introduced by Lala as a senator to honor a close friend, Michael Ma, an economics student who passed away in a car accident.

One of the 76th Senate's goals is to build a stronger relationship between the Senate and Boards, Committees and Units (BCUs). In order strengthen that relationship, he wants to "make their jobs easier and make sure they get paid for the work they do." One step Lala is taking to honor this is digitizing the honoraria process so that BCU chairs will no longer have to wait months to nick up a physical check for their previous quarter of work.

In its last election, A.S. saw summer, 2025-26 its lowest voter turnout in at least a decade as it struggled with student engagement. can press to increase voter turnout. He believes that they have to prove themselves to the student body through positive material change on campus.

"So half of the equation in my mind is if we do a better job, if we make ourselves present to students they will be like, 'Okay well, this supporting, something worth investing my time in," Lala said.

Lala believes increased transparency is vital to student engagement. He wants to engage in tabling and social media to show students who their executives are and what they are working on.

"I really believe in the power of just standing in front of a camera and telling people what it is that you're doing, as opposed to just expecting them to kind of figure it out themselves or have to go down a rabbit hole to find out," Lala said.

As the University of California system struggling with federal funding cuts from the Trump administration, Lala believes this is an opportunity to "step up and prove [A.S.] to be trustworthy this year by providing those services that, for lack of a better term, the adults are no longer willing to provide.'

Due to these cuts, the decreased hours of operation which Lala and several other members of A.S. worked to respond to. Lala emphasized that he might not have the leverage to directly fight federal funding cuts, but

student leaders to organize around campus-specific issues to provide students with necessary resources. A.S. executives and senators are working to see if they can redirect funds to help supplement library funds.

"It started at the federal level, and it trickles down really slowly, but eventually it hits you very clearly," Lala said. "The impacts of it are just immediate. And I don't need to explain this, but it will hit the most vulnerable students when they need it most, at the most vulnerable time of day."

Lala's previous experiences within A.S. as a communications director in an executive office and as a senator, he has seen how the responsibilities of the IVP can burn out students in the position. This motivated him to fully staff his office over the summer. Lala credits his team for the productivity he has had over the summer, and hopes to continue into the school year.

"I just saw how executive positions, but especially the role I'm currently in, just burn people through ... and I think a part of that was that there was no coherent team built around them that could help set direction and who felt empowered to take on their own projects," Lala said. "And I think that's what I've really tried to invest a lot on these last few months, is people who are both capable and motivated to do that job. And I think that will be the key determinant in making this year successful."

EVPLA E.J. RAAD

Throughout the summer, Associated Students' 2025-26 External Vice President of Local Affairs E.J. Raad prepared for the upcoming year, academic during which he hopes to improve basic needs for students by streamlining the housing process and expanding services in Isla Vista.

External The Vice President of Local Affairs (EVPLA) serves as a liaison between the Associated Students (A.S.) and the Santa Barbara County (SBC) Board of Supervisors, where he represents the student body concerning local affairs and addresses systemic issues present within Isla Vista, such as the housing crisis.

Raad, a third-year political science major, primarily spent the first half of his summer hiring his staff of 10 people, who promptly began working on a variety of initiatives. He and fourthyear political science major Shane Stewart, the EVPLA's housing coordinator, have begun to develop the Rate My Landlord project that Raad conceptualized while

running for the position. The Rate My Landlord website would students to leave reviews on particular landlords and property managers, similar to Rate My Professors. Raad and his team will develop the website throughout the fall quarter, with an estimated launch date in winter quarter.

"It kind of solves this big problem in I.V., where a lot of the time you don't even see the property you're moving into before you move into it, because there's someone living there. And the way the leases start and end is a little weird, and so that way you can actually get a decent idea of what you're going into," Raad said.

Raad will continue hosting sexually transmitted infection (STI) "screena-thons" at the Pardall Center, along with expanding the services to include a recurring $\hbox{``immunization'}\\$ clinic" where students can receive vaccinations for the flu or COVID-19, which he hopes will be available by the end of October.

He also expressed aspirations of further expanding the Pardall Center to include dental care for students, which he hopes will be operational by the winter or spring. In regards to the immunization clinic and dental care through the Pardall Center, Raad said he's "not exactly sure" whether these services will be free or not. However, he said if there were a fee, it would be "very low" and cheaper than other places, including Student Health on campus.

Raad spoke on importance of the Pardall Center, as it serves as "A.S.'s presence in I.V.," and the greater role of A.S. in alleviating student issues.

"I think it's the coolest thing ever, and having [Pardall Center] as this space in Isla Vista where we can distribute services is my number one goal."

Another project Raad's office is working on is the "I.V. Green Project," which would expand UC Santa Sustainability's Barbara "Gardening 101 for Indoor Spaces" workshop. While the project is still very early in development, Raad explained the program would teach students basic planting and gardening skills.

He also spoke on expanding the A.S. Marketplace where students will be able to submit designs for UCSBmerchandise. themed Students will then vote for their favorites, with the topvoted design being turned into merchandise. Raad plans to have the studentdesigned apparel available by January, in time for the UCSB basketball game against California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.

"I know a lot of students like some of the Isla Vistathemed merch that [Island View] Outfitters So being able to have students design their own merchandise and have them vote on it and decide what they think is cool, I think it's a super fun idea," Raad said.

Regarding the University of California in Isla Vista (UCIV), non-police a affiliated organization of representatives student who oversee aid stations on Del Playa Drive and El Embarcadero Road on Friday and Saturday nights, Raad said he hopes to expand the aid further north, closer to El Colegio Road. He said his office is still deciding if they want to place a physical tent there or have UCIV staff members patrol the area.

We want to foster an environment where everyone's input matters, where everyone's voices are heard. Because we all live here. We all have these shared experiences here."

E.J. RAAD

One of Raad's platform points he ran on during his campaign was to provide water filters and mold kits to I.V. renters, which he plans to distribute sometime during the fall quarter.

Raad is stepping into the EVPLA role at a tumultuous time for I.V. housing, considering the Isla Vista Rental Inspection Pilot Program has been in action for the past month and is facing a lawsuit from landlords who argue it is in violation of tenants' rights.

expressed While he concern regarding students who have signed leases for living areas that aren't deemed appropriate, such as living in a garage, he said the SBC Board of

Supervisors clarified that leasing companies were aware of this program over a year ago, and there is likely only a small number of tenants who are living in such environments. He also mentioned SBC and UCSB's rapid rehousing program would rehouse students who are living in conditions the county deems unfit.

Raad continued clarifying that he supportive of the program for trying to improve the living conditions of I.V., as he is "all for having the safest possible housing for students" and that he hopes his initiatives, such as Rate My Landlord, will continue to improve housing conditions for I.V. residents.

Raad also campaigned to create a lease pre-qualifier program, which would make it easier for UCSB students to sign up for housing. Students would upload their information to a website and apply for multiple units with the same application, akin to applying for colleges through Common App. Raad said that this project is a "big undertaking" that may not be finished within his term, as they're currently still in the planning and outlining phase of the process.

Raad has also begun preparing for Deltopia, the sanctioned street festival which traditionally takes place on the first Saturday of spring quarter. His goal for the year is to provide "the absolute most amount of non-police safety and service to students" as possible by expanding UCIV's aid stations and staff members.

"[Deltopia's] really a cultural event in my opinion ... so I'm super in favor of making sure that that's protected and that we can have these conversations with police by making sure that Deltopia itself is protected and making sure that we're providing the most safety services we can," Raad said. "We maintain and protect and preserve Deltopia, but also have it be as safe as it can be because you can have a lot of these safety measures without necessarily needing police intervention."

Considering has just introduced its new chancellor, Dennis Assanis, Raad sees "a lot of opportunity." Raad will be meeting with Assanis later this month and expressed excitement toward being able to introduce many of his new initiatives to a "fresh set of eyes and ears."

As EVPLA primarily focuses on issues within I.V., whose population is not entirely composed of UCSB students, Raad spoke about striking the balance between focusing on issues that affect UCSB students directly along with trying to improve the quality of life for all I.V. residents, whether they're Santa Barbara City College students or families.

"We want to foster an environment where everyone's input matters, where everyone's voices are heard. Because we all live here. We all have these shared experiences here. We all have the good things and bad things that come with living in Isla Vista. And so that's important to me,' Raad said.

Raad concluded by saying that, by the end of his term, he hopes to have made large improvements toward housing and policing issues

"I think being able to leave a legacy where I actually materially improve housing conditions of the students who live here, that would be fantastic," Raad said. "Also leaving a legacy of improving our relationships with the police in the area, being able to foster an environment where we can have safety precautions that are non-police, where we can have a better relationship with the police, where we can have less [maximum inspiratory pressure tests], where we can have Deltopia and have it be safe, but not necessarily have to be super, super policed."

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EVPSA LEIYA KADAH

The 2025-26 Associated Students External Vice President for Statewide Affairs Leiva Kadah has prepared for the academic vear by learning the intricacies of her position, hiring her core staff and preparing campaigns in order to advocate for marginalized communities.

The External Vice a President for Statewide Affairs (EVPSA) represents and advocates for UC Santa Barbara Associated Students (A.S.) at a statewide level, including the federal and state governments, the University of California (UC) Board of Regents and the UC Student Association (UCSA).

fifth-year Kadah, a psychological & brain sciences major, has spent her summer hiring her staff, which still has a few vacant positions. She has also familiarized herself with her position by attending UCSA's Organizing Summit in August, where A.S. students across the UC system voted on campaigns they want to focus on throughout the year.

Given the recent funding from the Trump administration, UCSA is initiating its Fund the UC campaign, which plans to combat the \$500 million cuts to grants at UC Los Angeles and other campuses. The campaign also plans to protect support systems for marginalized communities at each campus. Kadah specified that these systems may be first to be cut.

Kadah also discussed the Racial Justice Now campaign, which aims to maintain racial equality for students on campus and ensure that all marginalized students respected by the UC Office of the President and the UC Regents. Considering last year the state legislature passed a bill to consider more are descendants of enslaved people, this campaign is meant to combat the administration's Trumn cut of diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives.

the UCweVote campaign, which is meant to increase the legislative power of the UC system by organizing non-partisan student voter registration and education. This campaign focuses on growing voter registration for presidential elections, along with midterm and local elections.

"[It's] just getting more civic engagement within students, trying to get them to pay more attention. We last year, but even just paying attention to local politics, things that often affect our communities a bit more intimately than they would on the national level," Kadah said.

Another campaign by UCSA is the ACQUIRE campaign, which plans to focus on improving basic needs for students, such as more accessible transportation and textbooks, advocating for housing needs and providing resources for students suffering from violence or hate crimes.

importance of students having their basic needs fulfilled in order to succeed in their academics.

"I think [basic needs are] unfortunately something that we have to focus on every year, as many of these students are not getting their basic needs met. And also how that hinders their opportunities and experience as students to perform to their best ability," Kadah said.

The last campaign UCSA will be bringing to action this year is the Students Enacting Environmental Defense campaign. This initiative will pursue environmental justice initiatives across the UC campuses through community organization,

education and legislative advocacy. According to Kadah, this initiative mainly focuses on advocating for native and Indigenous particularly communities, respecting their sacred land,

which the UC system utilizes. Kadah is entering the position during EVPSA a transitional period for UCSB and the UC system as a whole. With James B. Milliken stepping up as the new UC president and Dennis Assanis as the new UCSB chancellor, Kadah spoke on the importance of building strong relationship with the incoming UCSB administration.

"There's certain things where we haven't seen UC administration step in as much, so I do expect to take on a bit more of the advocacy role in ways that the UC won't," Kadah said.

She mentioned she is hopeful Assanis will be more open to divestment campaigns, since according Kadah, "every [campus] has expressed that they would be interested."

"Even just speaking on a more UC-wide level, now, every single UC within their student government has passed a resolution saying they would like to divest from BDS [Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions] companies," Kadah said. "And I think when you even go and see how so many of the basic needs of students aren't met, it's kind of ridiculous that we work towards funding things like war internationally, rather than going and focusing on the students who make it possible for these fundings to happen."

Since the EVPSA position operates at a statewide level, Kadah is tasked with not only advocating for the needs of UCSB students, but also working to meet those needs at the statewide level. Kadah plans to hire a have their needs met and are coordinator who would work within UCSA to specifically represent UCSB, elaborated on UCSB-specific issues that may be affecting students at other campuses, admissions for students who such as the housing crisis and food insecurity.

> 2022, In students undergraduate within the UC system faced food insecurity.

"With all the resources UCSA has also established that we have, luckily we have things like the Food Bank that do assist with [food insecurity]. But it is just shameful on the University that many students say that at least once a week they go hungry," Kadah said.

> continued She emphasizing how disabled students may not have the same access to basic needs as an able-bodied student, making them potentially more vulnerable.

"I think unfortunately on had our big national election our campus, from what I've seen and heard from previous student workers and leaders, is that we do face a lot of these accessibility issues," Kadah said. "So that is something I would like to focus on more specifically within UCSB, is just advocating for those students who have often come and spoke about how our ramps are not accessible enough, concerns about if an emergency were to happen, how does one evacuate from the third floor if there's no elevators present or working."

Kadah plans on continuing Kadah spoke on the to create the Disability Cultural Center, which was initiated by the prior EVPSA, Monica Mekhlouf, and would be built on the third floor of the University Center. However, she mentioned this would be a lengthy project and likely wouldn't

be finished within her term. Earlier this month, Kadah attended the Student Labor Organizing Conference hosted by the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) 3299, which aimed to connect different advocacy groups across the state. Kadah said this event helped her gain insight into developing strategies to help marginalized groups on

campus. Given the overlap between the groups, Kadah said she is interested in connecting labor advocacy with student

"I think that developing a very much more working relationship with unions like AFSCME and [United Auto Workers] on our campus ... would not only be beneficial to the laborers on our campus, but students, so that we can work together to advocate for ourselves," Kadah said.

Throughout her term, Kadah's major priority is protect marginalized to communities that are affected by the current administration by ensuring crucial services won't be cut.

"All these different cultural backgrounds that are being impacted by this new administration and the threats that are being made, I [want to be] able to protect them to the best of my ability and put services and programs into place where they did feel like they were being heard and their needs were being met," Kadah concluded.

S.A.G. SYDNEY BIVINS

The 2025-26 Associated Students Student Advocate General Sydney Bivins spoke with the Nexus regarding her plans to implement protections for undocumented students in her office's casework and improve access to student resources.

After joining the Office of the Student Advocate (OSA) as a caseworker in 2023, fourth-year sociology major Bivins is now serving her third year in the office. Student Advocate General (S.A.G.), Bivins is responsible for facilitating communications between students and the University in matters of dispute, as well as educating and advocating for students on issues that affect them.

This summer, Bivins and caseworkers worked on five official cases. Bivins said that one of the main initiatives she has been working on is planning for how her office can offer resources to vulnerable populations in the student body.

Bivins began this work by meeting with the assistant director of the Undocumented Student Services (USS), Gemma Garcia, in order to understand the resources available to students and implement the information in caseworker training.

"I was really wanting connect with the Undocumented Student Services to have them train our case workers on what their office offers to students, the ways in which undocumented students are

specifically vulnerable, what opportunities are available to this population and how formal university processes may be different from those of other students," Bivins

Bivins also aims for her office to collaborate with the USS in a mentorship program in order to host events, such as a "know your rights" event, which would raise awareness and provide resources for undocumented students.

Additionally, Bivins is aiming to educate fellow Associated Students (A.S.) members on this issue through a presentation on A.S. Legal Code at an annual training for all A.S. members during the start of fall quarter. Bivins will present on Policy 34, which states that members of A.S. are not permitted to communicate with federal immigration agencies and that any federal immigration officers must present a judicial warrant to enter A.S. spaces.

"I was looking through the legal code and I found Policy 34, which is a policy that's directly inspired by the UC Regent policy," Bivins said. "It outlines how we, as student leaders, should respond if [Immigration and Customs Enforcement], [Department of Homeland Security or [Customs and Border Protection] attempts to enter our private spaces without a judicial warrant."

Bivins said the reason she wanted to present on the policy is because she is "deeply invested in the protection of students' rights" and aims to ensure that other A.S. members are aware of "what is expected of members of the Association."

A related project that

Everything is being put into place in a way where this office will be like a solid rock for students. not just this year, but in future years."

SYDNEY BIVINS

Bivins has been working on is getting physical signage posted on campus to raise awareness for undocumented students' rights. Bivins said that administrators must grant permission before hanging up signs around campus infrastructure.

In order to make A.S.

resources more accessible to students, Bivins has started to consolidate them in one place on the A.S. website. She said that she made a form for A.S. entities to track services and programs for students.

"We want students to be able to use the services they pay for with their fees, Bivins said.

The last initiative Bivins has been planning for improvements and updates to GoGaucho - a mobile and web application developed by OSA's subtechnology committee which includes an academic schedule, campus map and dining hall menus. Proposed improvements include a course planner and a dining hall feedback system.

A long-term goal that Bivins plans to work on throughout the school year is to demand more transparency from the Disabled Students Program

"Students will go to DSP and bring letters from their doctors or mental health providers and they'll submit all the right forms, but still get denied without a super in-depth explanation as to why," Bivins said. "That's been very distressing for a lot of students that come to our office."

Additionally, Bivins hopes to work with professors to ensure they have clearly written sections about artificial intelligence (AI) usage in their syllabi.

"A big issue that comes into our office is students being accused of plagiarism specifically using AI," Bivins said. "However, there's a lot of professors that don't have specific AI policies on their [syllabi], and the University doesn't actually have a specific policy for AI as of now."

An overarching initiative that Bivins has focused on this summer is maintaining consistent connections with university offices, which will allow for more comprehensive caseworker training and external events. Bivins said that she hopes that these efforts will help OSA become a more robust and reliable resource.

"One thing that I've been ery focused on is the future of this office and shaping it into a stable and consistent resource for both students and the university administrators to turn to when it comes to mediation between the two parties," Bivins said.

Within OSA, Bivins has focused on drafting an informal constitution and guide for future students serving as S.A.G., as well as updating forms and templates for casework.

"Everything is being put into place in a way where this office will be like a solid rock for students, not just this year, but in future years," Bivins said.



Supervisor Capps checks in on rental inspection program

Michelle Cisneros Lead News Editor

On a downcast September Second Supervisor Laura Capps several student program along Del Playa Drive. The group aimed to spread awareness about the program in light of a the previous week.

The rental inspection program aims to address substandard housing conditions in Isla Vista (I.V.) by conducting proactive unit inspections. of a year-long pilot program According to Capps, some in which county inspectors of the most common misconceptions about the program include that tenants will be left without owners to register their housing if they're living in properties via an online an unauthorized unit and that inspectors will check tenants' immigration status during an inspection, both of which Capps hopes to dispel.

Capps, External Vice President for Local Affairs and third-year political science major E.J. Raad and representatives from the The county schedules UC Santa Barbara Campus inspections 15 days in Democrats Labor Caucus and UCSB Lobby Corps passed out fact sheets to residents on Sept. 17. According to the sheet, 87% of I.V. residents are renters, 96% or collegeage and 72% live below the

means that I.V. residents are often first-time renters who aren't fully aware District of tenants' rights and resources.

"What we're trying to do representatives canvassed with this program is flip for the rental inspection the script because - young people, young tenants or low income tenants - they don't necessarily know that the county has a form man falling from the bluffs that you can fill out if something isn't working in your apartment," Capps said. "Instead, this program brings the inspectors to Isla Vista."

The inspections are part assess properties from July through September. The county required property portal, and according to Capps, they had roughly a year's notice about the program.

Notably, tenants will not pay for inspections. UCSB's 2024 settlement with Santa Barbara County (SBC) over a lack of adequate housing funded the program.

advance with a unit's landlord. Landlords are then required to notify tenants of the date, however, tenants reserve the right to decline the inspection. Inspections are relatively quick, according

federal poverty line. This to Capps, and afterwards, landlords are directed to address any violations that were found.

According SBC's to Planning & Development department, inspectors have assessed 22 units on 10 different properties. Six properties have had all of their corrections addressed, with some of the most



A lot of tenants [that are college-aged], they don't know that you have more power than you think,"

LAURA CAPPS

common infractions being inoperative smoke alarms, inadequate bathroom ventilation, broken garbage disposals and holes in a unit's drywall.

Another prevalent issue pertaining to units on Del Playa Drive is whether their fencing is tall enough for county standards. The county raised the fence height requirement to six feet in 2023, as a response to numerous cliff falls. At least 14 people have died from falling off the bluffs in the past 20 years. The most recent cliff fall occurred on Sept. 13, and left a man critically injured.

"It's pretty emotional standing [at Walter Capps Park], because just when I started in office a couple years ago, right here is where a young guy died, and that tragic death opened my eyes to the fact that these deaths were happening," Capps said.

As Capps and students canvassed, they witnessed insufficient fencing at several units. While some did reach the height requirement, others were roughly half of what they needed to be.

Capps emphasized that if a landlord doesn't make the necessary repairs after an inspection and the unit is deemed unsafe, tenants will not be left unhoused. While no one has been evicted because of an inspection, in the event it occurs, students can utilize the University's Rapid Rehousing Program.

Critics of the program, mainly local landlords, believe the program is a violation of tenant's rights. In June, the Isla Vista you think."

Rental Property Owners Association filed a lawsuit against the county for the program. Capps said the lawsuit isn't "going very well" for landlords. A Santa Barbara County Superior Court judge denied a preliminary injection on the program.

"I find [it] unconscionable, that they're spending money on litigation rather than just fixing the places. It's much cheaper to just fix the places than it is to sue the county. That costs a lot of money," Capps said.

Across the several units that Capps and student representatives several tenants said that they knew about the program and had already undergone an inspection. Fourth-year political science major and Lobby Corp Public Affairs Co-Chair Lily Mejia said tenants she talked to either weren't aware of the program or had already undergone an inspection. Third-year biology major and Campus Democrats member Lauren Jansen said tenants were "appreciative" of the information.

"Say there's exposed wiring or something, there's a form, you can do something about it," Capps emphasized. "A lot of tenants [that are collegeaged], they don't know that you have more power than



As Capps and students canvassed, they witnessed insufficient fencing at several units.



The county raised the fence height requirement to six feet in 2023 as a response to numerous cliff falls.







Diversity, equity and inclusion within the 2024-25 Daily Nexus content

Kaavya Saini DEI Chair Lance Sanchez Data Editor

The Daily Nexus stands firmly committed to upholding our values of diversity, equity and inclusion within our coverage and newsroom. In 2018, we initiated our first diversity, equity and inclusion survey to measure these efforts and have since continued seeking ways to expand how we tangibly and transparently reflect on areas of achievement and improvement at the Nexus. This report, the third consecutive one of its kind, serves as a comprehensive reflection of our past 2024-25 academic year of coverage.

We aim to make this data publicly accessible to our readership in line with our commitment to transparency in our practices, coverage and staff demographics. Additionally, this approach places the onus on the Nexus to maintain accountability in journalism, helping us to identify specific shortcomings and overall progress.

Since the implementation of the Diversity Task Force in 2020, our staff has worked considerably to integrate diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) values into the Nexus' coverage. Illuminating these efforts are three tenets ideated in 2020:

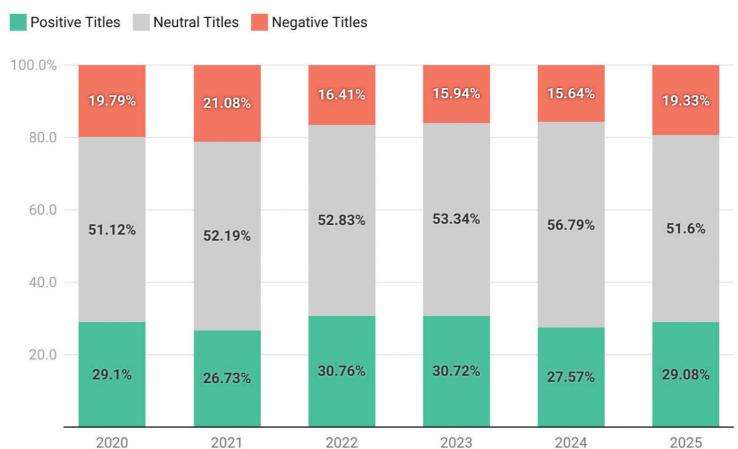
- 1. Ensure that our editorial and general staff reflect the diversity of the UC Santa Barbara community.
- 2. Strengthen representation in our coverage by improving relationships with the campus and community.
- 3. Provide training on diversity and inclusion for all Nexus staff, including writers, editors, content creators, artists and collaborators.

Notable milestones in the history of DEI initiatives at the Nexus include the 2021 addition of the Community Outreach Beat within our News coverage as well as the 2022 creation of the Spanish section La Vista, among others.

Tangible efforts the Daily Nexus has taken specifically during the 2024-25 academic year to improve our coverage and internal organization include increased dissemination of journalistic style guides to staff during Heritage Months, extending directly upon last year's goals. Furthermore, our DEI team expanded from one to three members, allowing for more consistent oversight and integration of inclusive practices across all sections

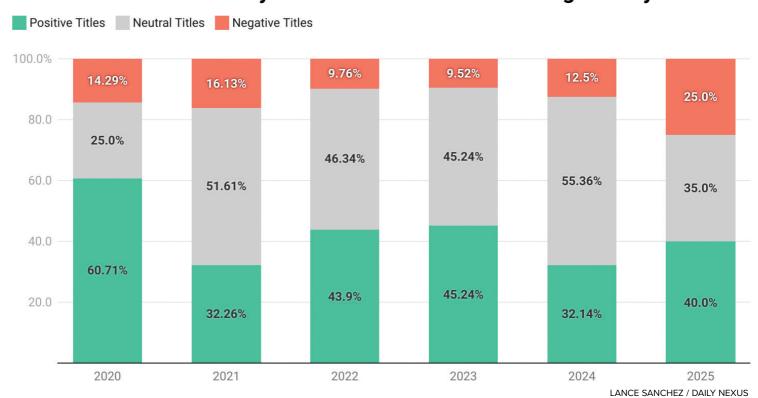
Currently, this team continues to expand upon the early work of the Diversity Task Force. In addition to conducting this annual report in conjunction with the Data section, the team reviews relevant articles to ensure consistency with DEI-conscious language and ethical guidelines, and creates workshops in which staff may reflect upon how Daily Nexus content affects and is

Overall sentiment of all Daily Nexus article titles



Article titles at the Nexus have been predominantly neutral in sentiment in recent years. Titles with a positive sentiment came close to 30% of articles this past year, as compared to around 20% of articles titled with negative sentiment.

Overall sentiment of Daily Nexus article titles containing DEI keywords



While past years have reflected a general trend of titles for DEI-related articles having predominantly positive and neutral sentiments, the past year of coverage saw a notable increase in titles with negative sentiment. However, titles with positive sentiment are approximately 10% more prevalent in articles containing DEI keywords.

perceived by our audience.

This article is a companion piece to our report on DEI within the 2024-25 Daily Nexus staff, which highlights the demographic breakdown of the editors, staff writers and content creators in our newsroom.

To assess trends in DEI-related reporting from 2020 through 2025, the Nexus filtered articles using a curated set of keywords and measured their annual frequency by calendar year. An article was classified as DEI-related if it included

at least one keyword. This follows the same process implemented in last year's analysis, ensuring consistency and comparability across years.

The keywords were chosen to capture a broad range of language tied to diversity, equity, inclusion and social justice. Many directly referenced historically marginalized or underrepresented groups, such as Asian, Hispanic, Latine, Black, Middle Eastern, Indigenous, neurodivergent, transgender, nonbinary and other members of

the LGBTQIA+ community. These terms ensured that reporting related to identity and representation was included in the dataset.

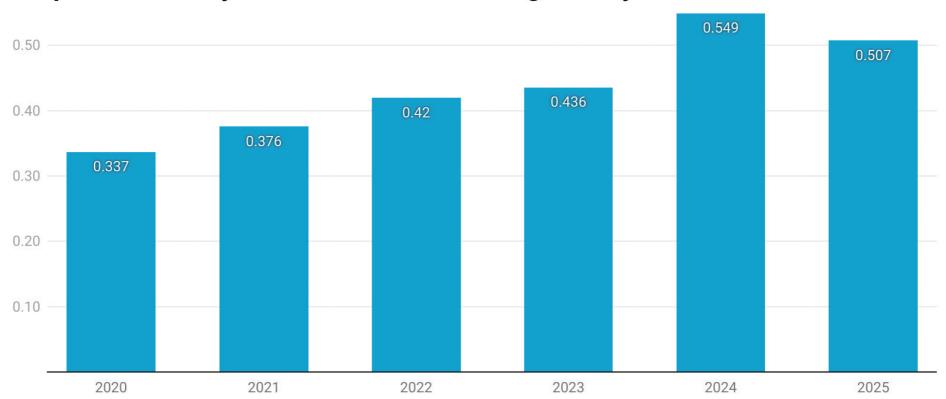
Other terms — such as diversity, equity, inclusion, equality, privilege, microaggression, discrimination, identity and justice — reflected the broader discourse around DEI efforts and institutional initiatives. The list also incorporated words tied to human rights and global conflicts, including Palestine, Gaza, West Bank, Ukraine, refugees, asylum seeker, ICE detention, deportation, occupied

territories, stateless and genocide, which often appear in coverage of displacement, marginalization and systemic inequities.

LANCE SANCHEZ / DAILY NEXUS

Finally, the set included terms related to health and rights, such as suicide, reproductive rights, reproductive justice and human rights, to capture coverage connected to mental health, bodily autonomy and access to care. To maintain accuracy, the Nexus manually reviewed ambiguous terms to confirm their relevance to DEI contexts and expanded the list

Proportion of Daily Nexus articles containing DEI keywords from 2020 to 2025



LANCE SANCHEZ / DAILY NEXUS

DATA

by incorporating a broader superset of DEI-related words.

The Nexus conducted sentiment analysis of article headlines and content to better understand tone and emotional impact. For headline analysis, we used the Natural Language Toolkit's Valence Aware Dictionary and Sentiment Reasoner (NLTK VADER). Originally designed for short-form text such as social media, VADER is particularly effective for headlines because it evaluates polarity (positive/ negative), intensity (strength) and nuance of sentiment. Each word is scored, and the results are aggregated into a compound score that classifies the text as positive, negative or neutral.

It is important to note that sentiment results reflect both the subject matter of events covered and the editorial framing. While VADER can miss contextual nuance, it provides a reliable overview of emotional trends in the data.

Between 2020 and 2025, Daily Nexus headlines overall leaned neutral, with a modest tendency toward positive tones. Headlines specifically related to DEI topics displayed a similar distribution, most often falling within neutral and positive ranges. This pattern suggests that DEI coverage may center on events framed more positively or that such reporting consistently adopts optimistic or constructive language.

For more detailed sentiment analysis, the Nexus referenced the National Research Council Canada's (NRC) Word-Emotion Association Lexicon, which consists of approximately 10,000 frequently used English words and their strengths of association with certain emotions. The eight basic emotions chosen include anger, anticipation, disgust, fear, joy, sadness, surprise and trust.

The Nexus calculated the average proportion of emotion-related words within each article and its title by comparing the number of such words to the total word count of the piece.

The most commonly-evoked emotions within the NRC Word-Emotion Association Lexicon include anticipation, trust and joy. Similarly, anticipation and trust were the two relatively strongest emotions associated with Daily Nexus titles and content, regardless of the presence or absence of DEI keywords in a given article.

As was the case in last year's analysis, anticipation and trust continued to emerge as the most prominent emotions in Daily Nexus titles and content, independent of the presence of DEI keywords.

Moving into the 2025-26 academic year

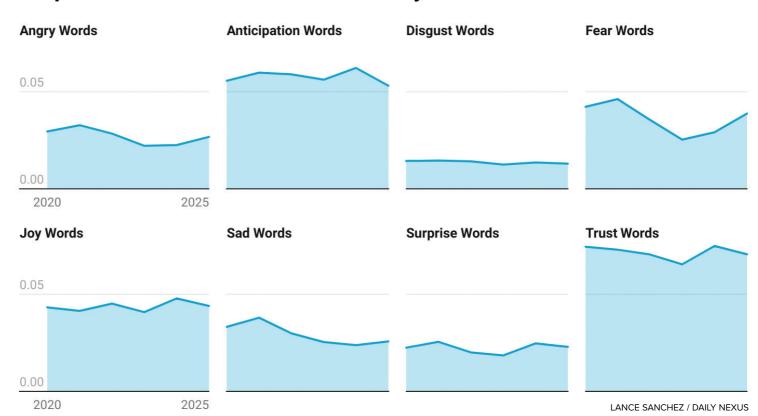
As we move forward into a new academic year, the Daily Nexus remains steadfast in its commitment to DEI in the newsroom despite federal challenges to these values and journalistic integrity at large.

To prepare for the year, the DEI Team has established a new DEI Archive, featuring a comprehensive internal style guide addressing reporting on a wide range of topics, from global conflict to individual mental health. The archive also includes a curated terminology dictionary designed to promote accurate, respectful and peoplefirst language across all coverage. These resources will be sweepingly integrated into newsroom practices over the upcoming year, equipping staff with the tools to report in a manner that is both culturally authentically competent and representative.

Another notable development is the introduction of a dedicated DEI page in the Daily Nexus print edition. This new platform aims to elevate a broader range of historically underrepresented voices, with special issues for DEI-related topics such as Heritage Months. With this initiative, we hope to address gaps in our coverage and make our newsroom more reflective of the diverse readership we serve.

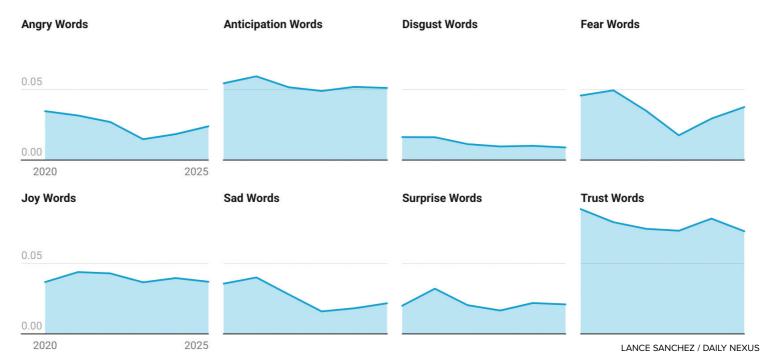
We also recognize the fear and uncertainty many in our community are experiencing in response to elevated Immigration and Customs Enforcement (I.C.E.) activity and the targeting of Latine, immigrant

Proportion of emotion words in all Daily Nexus article titles



Sentiments of anticipation and trust dominated Nexus article titles, followed closely by joy and fear. In contrast, sentiments of disgust were least observed within titles.

Proportion of emotion words in Daily Nexus article titles containing DEI keywords



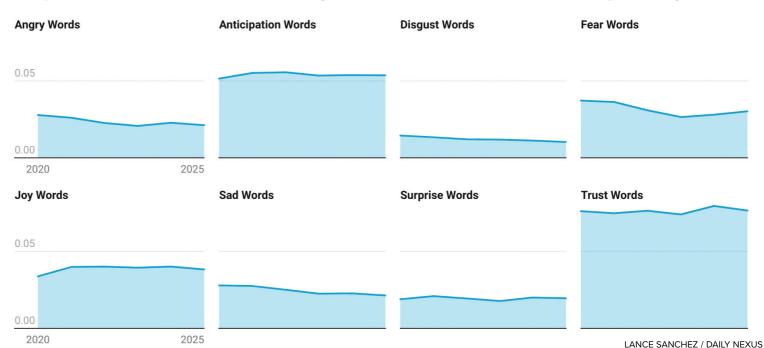
Titles of Nexus articles containing DEI keywords predominantly contained sentiments of trust and anticipation, reflecting a similar trend compared to all Nexus titles from the past year.

Proportion of emotion words in all Daily Nexus article content



Similar to other analyses of Nexus article content and titles, anticipation and trust words were most frequently used within all content,

Proportion of emotion words in Daily Nexus article content containing DEI keywords



Similar to other analyses of Nexus article content and titles, anticipation and trust words were most frequently used within all content, regardless of the presence of absence of DEI keywords.

and undocumented individuals. In response, the Daily Nexus has launched the I.C.E. Sighting Tracker, a resource developed by Editor-in-Chief Anusha Singh and Lead News Editor Michelle Cisneros to provide

timely and accurate information following recent raids in Goleta and the greater Santa Barbara area. We aim to minimize misinformation and remain a trusted, useful source of information for those most

impacted.

We hope this report will provide our readers with insight into the inner workings of the Nexus newsroom, particularly when it comes to areas of achievement and

shortcoming. We look forward to another year of making growth in our coverage an institutional norm as we continue to assess how to best meet the needs of the community we serve.



DEI within the 2024-25 Daily Nexus staff

Samantha Dillon DEI Chair

Lance Sanchez Data Editor

The Daily Nexus conducts annual demographic survey of our editorial board in order to gauge if the Nexus' internal diversity, equity and inclusion goals for community representation are reflected in the diversity of our staff.

Movement toward diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) became a permanent commitment at the Daily Nexus with the establishment of the Diversity Task Force in 2020. Its formation came at a time when global Black Lives Matter movement protests led journalists and institutions across the United States to call for increased integration of DEI initiatives within their organizations. This national movement included members of the Nexus' own editorial staff, who sought to better understand how we serve UC Santa Barbara, Isla Vista and surrounding communities.

The Diversity Task Force initially consisted of 15 editorial staff members such as Opinion or Artsweek editors - who dedicated time beyond their primary roles to meet their original objectives. These objectives consisted of the following:

1. Ensure that our editorial and general staff reflect the diversity of the UC Santa Barbara community.

Strengthen 2. representation in our coverage by improving relationships with the campus and community.

3. Provide training on diversity and inclusion for all Nexus staff, including writers, editors, content creators, artists and collaborators.

Since then, the Diversity Task Force has evolved into two dedicated DEI chair positions. Currently, the cochairs continue to expand the work of the Diversity Task Force. In addition to conducting an annual staff survey in conjunction with Data, the DEI team reviews identity- and representationrelated articles, and workshops conducts on language inclusive use, heritage months and ethical reporting. Along with these responsibilities, the Nexus as a whole builds upon our predecessors on the Diversity Task Force by pursuing yearly DEI initiatives. The 2025-26 initiatives are as follows:

1. The creation and implementation of an U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (I.C.E.) tracker 2. The establishment of the

DEI Archive and Dictionary

3. The continuation of the annual DEI content report and demographic survey for the 2025-26 year

This article is a companion piece to our annual DEI content audit and report. The DEI report, in conjunction with Data, highlights content, language use and representation in the Daily Nexus for the 2024-25 year.

Following our previous demographic survey analysis published in 2024, we are committed to continuing to assess diversity, equity and inclusion within the Nexus staff. In this article, the Nexus will compare the demographics of our staff with those of the general UCSB population, according to the UCSB Office of Budget & Planning. This assessment seeks to provide future Nexus recruitment efforts with insight toward ensuring the voices of our diverse student body are reflected in our newsroom and coverage. Likewise, this survey seeks to promote newsroom transparency to our readership.

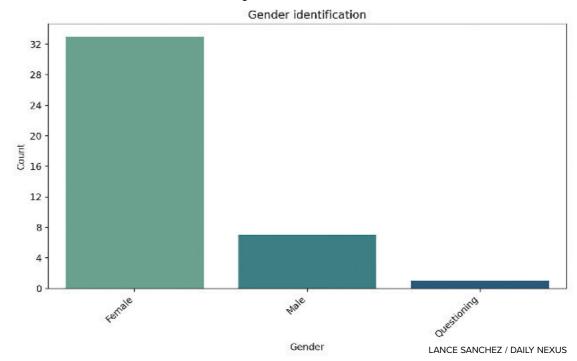
This year, 41 of the Nexus' incoming and continuing editors opted to respond to a demographic survey given in May 2025. Survey respondents were able to select multiple responses or fill in the blank if more than one response, or none of the responses, reflected their background or identity. At the time of this survey's dissemination, the Nexus had 54 editors on the editorial

Here at the Daily Nexus, we have an editing staff that come from a variety of places around the country. The majority of our staff come from California, either the Bay Area or Los Angeles County.

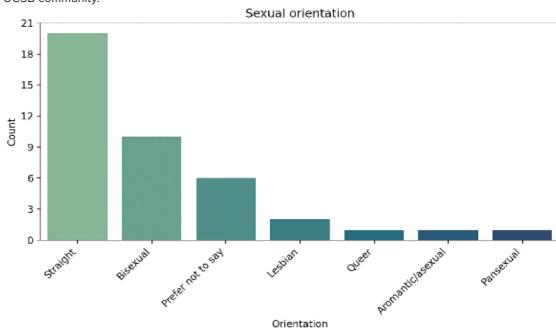
The cultural diversity of the Nexus staff is reflected by the fact that many members can also speak multiple languages, including Spanish, Chinese, Hindi, Japanese, German, Punjabi and seven others.

Likewi demographic data for editors who identified with more than one race was doublecounted, in line with how UCSB counts their own demographic data and how our publication counted the data in our previous survey. Of our 41 respondents, 19.5% identified with more than one race. Those who self-reported one race reported either White, Hispanic or Asian. For reference, approximately 14% of the $UCS\bar{B}$ population are

not White, Asian or Hispanic. In addition to questions posed on last year's survey, the DEI team has implemented questions related to gender identity and sexual orientation. These questions were newly added to further understand the diversity among Nexus



80.5% of The Daily Nexus staff self-reported as female, reflecting 24.5 percentage points more than the UCSB community.



LANCE SANCHEZ / DAILY NEXUS

Of the Nexus' editorial board, the majority self-reported as straight, and 42.9% of staff self-reported as LGBTQIA+.

editors. Among the Nexus staff, 78% of respondents she/her pronouns 80.5% identified as and female. Male representation within the Nexus editors is significantly lower, with only identifying as male and using he/him pronouns. This year, no respondents to the demographic survey identified as non-binary. However, 4.8% respondents also reported the usage they/them or any/all

pronouns. Among 35 respondents who opted to share their sexual orientation, 57.1% identify as straight and 42.9% respondents identify LGBTQIA+.

At UCSB, transfer students make up a third of the student body. However, at the Nexus, only 4.9% of respondents were transfer students.

First-generation students are defined by UCSB as students who are one of the first in their families to graduate from a fouryear institution. From our respondents, only 17.1% were first-generation students.

Among the editorial staff at the Daily Nexus, continuing

Daily Nexus editors' ethnicity

from 2023-24 reports, communication was the most common major. Other popular majors for the Nexus staff included English, political science and statistics and data science.

Many of our editorial staff pursue minors in accompaniment to their majors. The most popular the Daily among Nexus editorial board was professional writing. The second most common minor was applied psychology.

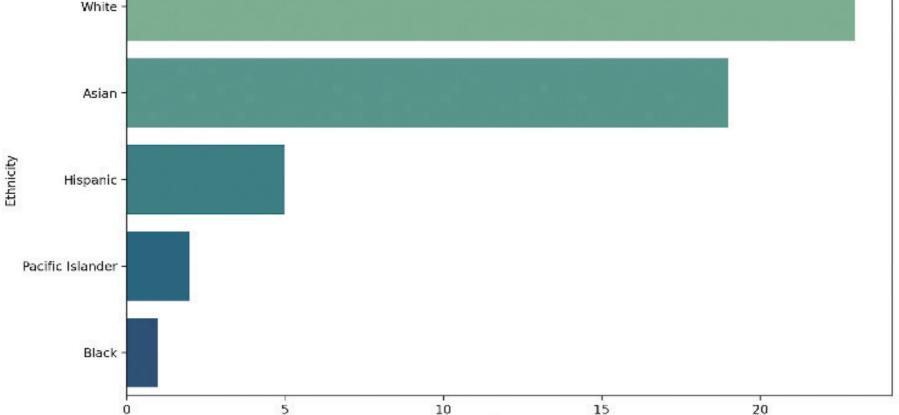
Along with pursuing their college degrees, a majority of the Nexus editors work paid jobs and internships alongside their time commitment to the Nexus. 43.9% of respondents had one job or internship other than working at the Nexus, and 24.3% of respondents had two or more jobs or internships outside of the Nexus.

Apart from the staff's diverse range of majors and minors, they maintain a variety of journalism experience prior to joining the editorial staff. 53.7% of respondents reported having no journalistic experience before joining the Nexus, while 46.3% did.

Our limited data shows that since our last survey, the demographics of our staff are moving towards alignment with UCSB's demographic profile. However, when looking at UCSB's 2024-25 gender identity, first-generation and racial demographics, our editorial staff at the Nexus is not fully representative of the diversity in our student body. Looking ahead, we aim to continue pursuing and improving DEI initiatives within the Daily Nexus. Conducting these staff demographic surveys is crucial to these efforts. These quantitative and qualitative responses help our team maintain transparency with our readership, take ownership of the gaps in staff representation and plan for the future of the Nexus.

As always, addressing these gaps in demographic data is a high priority for both us and our readers. Here at the Nexus, we continue to offer support to all students interested in participating journalism student regardless of background and prior experience.





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The Daily Nexus staff is made up of a diverse range of racial identities. Approximately 14% of the UCSB population are of races other than White, Asian or Hispanic, in contrast to 4.9% of Nexus respondents.

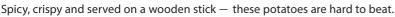
Count

ON THE MENU



Getting zesty at the Goleta Lemon Festival 2025







The award-winning churro is coated in fresh lemon sugar.

Pihu Jain On The Menu Editor

In my opinion, the Goleta Lemon Festival (September 28-29) is the most creative response to the old adage, "When life gives you lemons." Tracing back to the 1990s, the festival has a rich history supported Goleta's once-thriving lemon industry. (Fun fact: Goleta is the home of the first commercially known lemon orchard in California!) For UC Santa Barbara students today, the Goleta Lemon Festival is a back-to-school hallmark, the kickstart to the year with some fresh citrus foods and goods.

Despite the dreary weather that typically plagues Goleta this time of year, spirits have never been higher. In all my years of attending the festival, from sophomore to senior, I have never seen this many people at the festival (though that may just be my rose colored glasses talking). This being my last lemon festival, I wanted to do all the things I hadn't done before for one last citrus-y hurrah.

Though not a lemon dish, the festival's classic potato

swirl was the first thing I found myself craving, and after some casual perusal I landed on the hot and spicy flavor. I recommend splitting the potato swirl with a friend (or two) because when they say it's a whole potato, they don't mean a fingerling potato; they mean a colossal, russet-style potato. This festival food accentuates the best features of potatoes: perfectly crispy, starchy, hot and filling.

Now, after all that hot and spicy (which wasn't all that spicy, to be completely honest), I needed a refreshing drink to wash it all down. And, after all, isn't a lemon festival just a more entertaining, multifaceted lemonade stand? gravitated towards the Rotary Club booth, where, for \$4, you could purchase a small lemonade made with fresh Goleta lemons and pure cane sugar. I prefer a sweeter lemonade, for which this stand was perfect. I also found my friend's matcha lemonade in my hands, sold curiously enough at a barbeque stand. It tasted like a green juice, but without the numerous health benefits. The matcha certainly dominated the lemonade, but when you're at your last lemon festival, it's hard for your mood to spoil.

To top it all off, I snacked on a delicious lemon churro (supposedly award winning, though I'm not sure from where; it certainly wins an award in my books, though). The crisp, delicious chewiness of a regular churro salted with granular lemon sugar gave it a surprising freshness that I quite enjoyed. If there's anything this festival teaches you, it's that many things can be lemon flavored, even the most unexpected (see lemonade above).

On the way out, we were able to grab a photo with Zesty (the festival mascot, a comical lemon). I left the festival with my belly full of lemony goods and my heart with that inimitable Goleta spirit.

It's only hitting me now, as I recall the entirety of the festival, that it perfectly sums up how my years at UCSB have passed so far. No matter the weather, rain or shine, we here in Goleta and Isla Vista always show up, show out and stick together.

you will certainly be missed.



It would be sacrilegious to come to the lemon festival and not grab a cup of lemonade.



Oh, Goleta Lemon Festival, Don't let the green decieve you, this matcha lemonade is pure sugar (but also delicious).

DoorDash at home: Crunchwrap Supreme

Piper Cheney

On The Menu Editor

There's nothing quite frustrating as when you're opening the DoorDash app, only to find that any decent meal is going to run you around \$30. We've all been there: hoping maybe this time you open the app, there will be a once-ina-lifetime deal you can actually justify spending the last sum of your bank account on. Well, I'm here to offer you an alternative: make your favorite DoorDash meal at home! It's cheaper, healthier and so much more fulfilling than an overpriced, cold delivery. Today, I'll give you the recipe for my take on Taco Bell's Crunchwrap Supreme. P.S. it's rumored to be better than Taco Bell itself.

Crunchwrap Supreme Servings: 7 Time: 30 minutes

Ingredients:

- 14 large flour tortillas
- 7 tostadas
- 1 cup sour cream
- 3 tablespoons Cholula hot sauce
- 2 limes
- 3 Roma tomatoes
- ½ white onion
- 1 bunch cilantro
- 1 pack ground beef (or any kind of meat)
- 1 pack Mexican shredded cheese
- 1 bag shredded romaine lettuce

Instructions:

Place your ground beef, or meat of choice, in a pan over medium heat until fully cooked.

- While the meat is cooking, mix together half of a lime, sour cream and Cholula to make the crema.
- Dice the tomato, onion and cilantro into fine squares. Mix the diced ingredients in a bowl with the juice from a whole lime to make the
- To build the crunchwrap, warm up the tortillas (this makes them easier to fold). Spread the crema into a circle in the center of the tortilla. Place your salsa and lettuce on top of the crema in a similar circular
- Place your tostada on top of the veggies, then add a layer of ground beef and cheese.
- Take another tortilla and cut it into the shape of a smaller circle, the same size as the tostada.
- Fold the edges of the large tortilla around the small tortilla until sealed.
- Carefully flip the tortilla onto a hot pan, so the folded side is down. Flip your crunchwrap again and sear until golden brown.
- Serve with more crema and lime!

Check out @otmdailynexus on TikTok for a visual step-by-step tutorial!

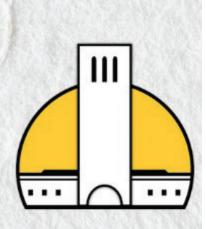
A Crunchwrap Supreme had been a crowd-pleaser for decades. Impress your friends with an even better, fresher version of one at home. Skip the DoorDash and head to Trader Joe's - a homemade meal is always worth your money.



The crunchiest, cheesiest crunchwrap you'll ever have, sorry Taco Bell.

12 Thursday, October 2, 2025 Daily Nexus

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Band party reaches new heights

Serrano Ham Roof Hater

As Isla Vista welcomes back thousands of residents for the start of the new academic school year, students at UC Santa Barbara are witnessing the emergence of a new party culture. Roof sitters have become a prevalent presence at some of Isla Vista's most popular band shows, threatening both the structural integrity of sketchy houses and lowkey killing the vibe.

On Friday, Sept. 19, a band show was shut down by Isla Vista Police Department (IVPD), who cited safety concerns and noise complaints. Some witnesses claim that the sheriffs were responding to a call made by a first-year who was rejected by a girl on the roof, while others claim the call was made by a zooted third-year who had thought he was floating midair

Police officers managed to get through the crowd of people — who were in the middle of trying to figure out which freshmen were pushing them — and promptly told the lead singer to get people off the roof or IVPD would confiscate their instruments.

The lead singer, a recent

graduate of UCSB, was heard asking the police officers several questions, notably: "Wait, you're trying to arrest our tambourine?"

One of the roof guys, whom witnesses itendified as "probably Carter, maybe John or potentially David," gave a brief comment before biking away down Pasado while reading "The Stranger" by Albert Camus.

"I was just trying to feel something up there, and then all of a sudden the crowd's looking up at us and yelling 'Get down,' and I was like, 'But we stay up,'" Carter/John/David said. "When everybody had to leave, people

kept coming up to me and saying I was aura farming, but I'm actually a super genuine person."

Quinn Nelson, a first-year biology major, came to the Daily Nexus with his perspective, even though no one asked him.

"Classic case of roof guys disrupting the social ecosystem," Nelson, who's actually never been to a band party before, said. "Everyone knows roof sitters are police beacons; they just ruined it for everyone."

Some people, despite having to search for a new party at 11 p.m., were mildly impressed with the roof sitters. Briar Corin, a thirdyear writing and literature major, commented.

"Insane aura, though. Imagine being able to shut down a whole party simply because you're existing 12 feet above the vibe."

Dahlia Liberman, one of the residents of the house that hosted the roof squatters, was also quite complimentary of their efforts.

"It's the only time our lights have actually worked. Maybe the weight on the roof forced shit in the house to function properly. Hopefully they'll be back!"

Serrano Ham hopes the tambourine is doing okay.



The Gentle Giant Super Scared

On Wednesday, Sept. 25, rush season began at UC Santa Barbara for sororities across Isla Vista. What was supposed to be a fun traditional event gave rise to a small, localized pathogen that has, according to experts, "mutated beyond containment." Scientists are calling it "The Horde."

We decided to interview selfproclaimed epidemiologist Estee Dee, a sorority alum, who grew fascinated with the spread of diseases after living in Greek life for four years.

"We are facing an unprecedented epidemic of the highest magnitude," Dee commented. "At this rate, we may need to develop a vaccine against Greek life to counteract its contagious spread which may all but consume the human race within weeks."

Early reports describe the infected as "eerily identical": young women in white shirts, moving in synchronized clusters. At first dismissed as harmless, their numbers have multiplied

at terrifying speed. Within days, they have flooded the streets of the small college town in coordinated waves.

"The Horde functions much like a textbook hive-mind contagion," Dee explained. "Individuals quickly lose autonomy within minutes of exposure, quickly adopting identical mannerisms, vocal tones and walking patterns. The white shirt is believed to act as both camouflage and uniform. By then, they are already too far gone to be saved."

The impact in Isla Vista is already being felt, with local

resources being devoured. Restaurants, grocery stores and retail shops are already suffering the consequences. Local businesses such as Freebirds fear they'll never be able to recover.

"They're ravenous," one traumatized Freebirds worker noted, who was on shift when The Horde arrived. "Before any of us knew, all of our food was gone. Devoured. We had no time to react. Months' worth of food is gone, and our workers are in need of psychological counseling. I'm just thankful none of us were infected."

On the ground, we at Nexustentialism risked our lives to interview one infected individual isolated from the rest. Her mutterings were incoherent, with all signs of intelligence gone.

"OMG, are you guys going to that frat party this weekend? Have y'all tried this new Celsius flavor, it lowkey slays?" the sorority girl said.

If you come across anyone like this, the best you can do is simply run.

The Gentle Giant is hiding from The Horde.



SCIENCE & TECH



SIMPLY STATED

Scientific ways to study



Saanvi Tiwary Science Editor

Finding study patterns that work for you can be challenging, especially in a new college environment. However, there are many scientifically backed and proven study methods that are guaranteed to help you succeed academically. Let's talk about some of the most effective ones.

Studying in groups: Distraction-free study groups can be an excellent way to reinforce classroom knowledge. study backing this claim asked 463 undergraduate students across 38 institutions and five majors about their experiences in study groups. Researchers found that many of the study strategies that these groups used, such as quizzing each other, are scientifically backed methods to remember course materials better, promoting active recall. Active recall is the practice of testing your memory by continuously thinking about topics instead of simply reading the materials. Lab studies have shown that repeated testing led to better results that spaced out studying. Group sessions also tend to bring students from similar classes, and disciplines

together, promoting solidified session outcomes.

Trying different study methods: There are a lot of things that go into a successful exam day, but ultimately it does boil down to how we process and absorb information. Everyone is different, but whether you are a visual or auditory learner, for example, there are several foolproof ways to ace any assignment.

One of the most popular methods of studying is known as the Pomodoro Technique. This is a time management technique that is structured by an interval of studying called the "Pomodoro" typically 25 minutes, followed by a five-minute break. The Pomodoros are repeated four times, with the fourth break being longer, typically 15 minutes. The additional time is more effective because studies have shown that self-regulated breaks last longer and lead to more distractions, not only lowering motivation to study but also making it harder to get back on track after the break is over.

A method known as the Feynman Technique, used by Richard Feynman, a Nobel laureate in physics, is an effective method to learn difficult concepts through a deep understanding. This procedure starts with students selecting a concept they are trying to learn and creating a knowledge map. This is then followed by teaching concepts to someone or even yourself as if you had almost no mastery of the subject. The next step is to identify any gaps in understanding and fix them, finishing this sequence off by working on simplifying your explanation further, ensuring that you can explain the concept to anyone, including a child. This final review may seem miniscule, but it really helps solidify your idea to convey the topics effectively. Through repeated review, it can help you gain a deeper grasp of the skills. Many techniques like these exist and is a matter of what works best for you and the way you learn, so don't be afraid to try new techniques to help you find what helps you succeed!

Self-care: Adequate self-care is extremely crucial to success in academia. Not only does this encompass sleep and taking proper study breaks, but also nutrition and physical activity can help ensure that you don't experience burnout during intense periods of reviewing, such as during midterms and finals

weeks. Self-care is important because it is one of the ways we can replenish our mental and physical capacity.

Between 2015 and 2016, a survey was sent out to over 800 medical students spanning over 49 medical colleges. The $\bar{\text{survey}}$ assessed various factors such as perceived stress, self-care and quality of life, like analyzing relationship between self-care and quality of life. Overall, the research indicated that engagement in self-care activities significantly decreased the strength of the relationship between perceived stress and psychological quality of life. Even moreso, sleep supports braindependent memory consolidation during slow-wave and REM stages, enhancing long-term retention of newly acquired information. Chronic stress elevates cortisol, which disrupts prefrontal cortex-controlled executive functions and impairs hippocampal plasticity.

Stress reduction strategies such as mindfulness and controlled breathing have been shown to mitigate these effects. Nutritional status influences neuronal energy metabolism and neurotransmitter synthesis, with adequate glucose availability and

omega-3 fatty acids supporting sustained attention and synaptic function. Aerobic exercise increases cerebral blood flow and regulates brain-derived neurotrophic factor, thereby promoting neuroplasticity and working memory performance. Finally, incorporating brief cognitive rest intervals reduces mental fatigue and improves attentional control during subsequent study periods.

Collectively, these selfcare behaviors maintain the physiological and neurochemical conditions required for efficient learning, memory retention and academic achievement.

In conclusion, effective studying does not only depend on how much time you spend reviewing flashcards or notes but also depends on evidencebased study strategies and self-care techniques such as working with study groups and finding the review methods that work best for you. By combining these approaches early in the year, students can enhance their academic performance and overall well-being. As the new school year kicks off, we wish all you Gauchos a productive, balanced and rewarding term

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Mes Nacional de la Herencia Hispana: Historia y contribuciones a los Estados Unidos

Azucena Sanchez Editora para La Vista

En 1968, el presidente Lyndon B. Johnson firmó una ley que designaba la semana del 15 de septiembre como la "Semana Nacional de la Herencia Hispana," propuesta por primera vez en junio de 1968 por el congresista de California George E. Brown.

Más tarde, en el verano de 1988, el presidente Ronald Reagan firmó una ley que ampliaba la Semana de la Herencia Hispana al Mes de la Herencia Hispana.

Ahora bien, ¿por qué comienza a mediados de mes?

Pues bien, el 15 de septiembre es el Día de la Independencia de cinco países centroamericanos: Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua y Costa obtuvieron que independencia de España en 1821, once años después del Día de la Independencia de México, el 16 de septiembre de 1810.

Les siguieron de cerca Chile, que se independizó de España el 18 de septiembre de 1810, y Belice, que declaró su independencia de Gran Bretaña el 21 de septiembre de 1981.

Por lo tanto, del 15 de septiembre al 15 de octubre, Estados Unidos celebra el Mes

de la Herencia Hispana, que conmemora la historia, el legado las contribuciones de los hispanos y latinos.

Sin embargo, durante años ha habido confusión con los términos "hispano" y "latino," hasta tal punto que hay múltiples que explican la artículos diferencia.

Así que, para que no tengan que leerlos todos, aquí les dejo la definición de ambos términos: El término "latino" se utiliza para describir a aquellas personas con vínculos culturales o ancestrales con América Latina o el Caribe.

No se trata de una identidad monolítica, por lo que también reconoce las herencias africanas, indígenas, asiáticas y otras en pie de igualdad con la ascendenciaeuropea.

El término "hispano," que se utilizaba ampliamente antes, indica una conexión con España o con la lengua española.

Por lo tanto, una persona de Brasil se consideraría latina, pero no hispana, ya que Brasil es un país de habla portuguesa.

Teniendo esto en cuenta, una persona de España sería hispana, pero no latina.

Y una persona de un país latinoamericano de habla hispana podría considerarse ambas cosas.



Volviendo a la historia, la presencia latina en los Estados Unidos se remonta a cientos de años atrás, incluso antes de la colonización española, y ha sido parte integral de la formación de la nación desde la Guerra de Independencia.

Mediante el Tratado de Hidalgo [1848], Guadalupe México cedió a más de la mitad de su territorio a los Estados Unidos, incluidos los estados de: California, Nevada, Utah, Nuevo México, la mayor parte de Arizona y Colorado, y partes de Oklahoma, Kansas y Wyoming.

También renunció a todos derechos sobre Texas, reconociendo al Río Grande como la frontera sur con los Estados Unidos.

Mediante el Tratado de París [1783], que siguió a las guerras entre México y Estados Unidos y entre España y Estados Unidos, Estados Unidos ganó territorios en el suroeste y Puerto Rico.

Laincorporación de la población de esta zona a Estados Unidos amplió aún más la presencia de los hispanoamericanos.

Hoy en día, hay más de 60 millones de latinos en Estados Unidos, lo que representa el 19,5 % de la población, lo que los convierte en el grupo racial o étnico más grande.

Hoy en día, comunidades hispanohablantes/latinas hecho importantes contribuciones a los Estados Unidos, desde la economía hasta la cultura, la política, los deportes y la ciencia.

De acuerdo con el PIB latino de los Estados Unidos ha alcanzado un récord de 4,1 billones de dólares en 2023, lo que demuestra una inmensa producción y crecimiento económicos.

La cultura latina ha influido profundamente en la vida

música, la danza, la literatura y las artes visuales.

Las diversas tradiciones culinarias de la comunidad latina se han convertido en parte integral de la cultura gastronómica estadounidense.

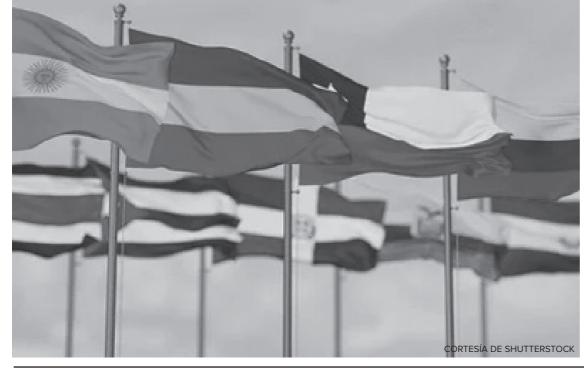
Los latinos también han sido líderes y pioneros en la política, con figuras como Sonia Sotomayor, la primera hispana y tercera mujer en ocupar el cargo de jueza asociada de la Corte Suprema de Justicia de los Estados Unidos.

A la luz de los recientes acontecimientos en todo el país, especialmente con la reciente sentencia del Corte Supremo que permite a los agentes del ICE discriminar por motivos raciales a las personas que consideran inmigrantes, ahora es más importante que nunca apoyar y empoderar a la comunidad hispana/latina.

No solo celebramos este mes, sino todos los días a los más de 60 millones de hispanos y latinos que han formado, inspirado y enriquecido profundamente a esta nación.

Con esto, les deseo a todos un feliz Mes de la Herencia Hispana.

Que siempre llevemos nuestra cultura con orgullo y amor, que sigamos ocupando espacio, representar nuestros colores, y que nuestras tradiciones hablen estadounidense a través de la más alto que las palabras.



Opinión: ¿Por qué la cancelación de Jimmy Kimmel debería preocuparnos a todos?

Sofia Benitez Editora de Copia

El 17 de septiembre de este año, el anfitrión del show Jimmy Kimmel Live! fue censurado y su programa retirado del aire.

La decisión llegó después de que hiciera comentarios sobre la muerte del podcaster político Charlie Kirk durante su programa del lunes 15 de septiembre.

Trump había sido cuestionado sobre cómo sobrellevaba el asesinato de Kirk. Su respuesta fue: "Creo que muy bien" y de inmediato desvió el tema hacia la construcción de un salón de baile dentro de la Casa Blanca.

Kimmel ironizó diciendo que Trump sufría la muerte de Kirk como lo haría un niño con la de su pez dorado.

'Está en la cuarta fase del duelo: construcción", bromeó. El comediante agregó:

"Esto no es como un adulto se lamenta por el asesinato de un amigo. Esto es como un niño de 4 años hace el duelo por su pez dorado, ¿cierto?".

declaraciones provocaron la suspensión inmediata del programa, tras amenazas del director de la Comisión Federal de Comunicaciones de castigar a Kimmel.

Disney explicó que la cancelación se debía a sus comentarios calificados como "inoportunos y, por lo tanto, insensibles" del asesinato de

Charlie Kirk. Sin embargo, el público no estuvo de acuerdo con esta situación y decidió protestar de la única manera que realmente funciona en esta sociedad capitalista: cancelando sus cuentas de la plataforma de transmisión por suscripción Disney+.

Un acto de resistencia al cual también me uní.

Lo que parece un simple caso de censura televisiva en realidad refleja un problema mucho más profundo.

Si un comediante puede silenciado por hacer crítica política, ¿qué significa esto para el resto de nosotros?

Siendo esto un atentado contra la libertad de expresión, la cual está protegida por la primera enmienda, un indicio del estado frágil de nuestra democracia en estos momentos. Estados Unidos ha sido un país enormemente conocido por la libertad de sus ciudadanos.

Nunca antes en la historia se había visto un caso de censura tan público iniciado por el gobierno, especialmente por algo tan mínimo, aunque esto es subjetivo y está sujeto a interpretación personal.

Aunque algo que no se puede discutir es el hecho de que el conductor no se burló de la tragedia sino que sus comentarios eran una burla a la actitud del presidente cuando se le preguntó sobre su estado emocional frente a la tragedia.

Unidos pasando por un momento de mucha tensión política, donde Kirk quien también era conocido por hacer declaraciones polémicas y quien también fue censurado al ser asesinado en medio de uno de sus debates públicos en universidades las cuales fueron las que lo hicieron conocido en un inicio.

Estamos cruzando una delgada línea entre un país libre y democratico y un estado facista, donde opiniones negativas o no bienvenidas sobre el presidente son condenadas y censuradas.

Dicha situación debería banderas rojas levantar sobre el camino que este país está tomando con esta nueva administración. Me preocupa la situación actual del país ya no es lo que solía ser, las limitaciones a la libertad de expresión pueden impactarnos a cualquiera de nosotros en cualquier momento.

La libertad de expresión es una necesidad y una característica de una sociedad progresista, la diversidad de opiniones y la capacidad de pensar libremente nos permite desarrollar un pensamiento crítico y nos mantiene libres e independientes.

Desde el comienzo de esta administración ha habido muchos ataques hacia la educación y la libertad de expresión, como la universidad

de Harvard que ha recibido cortes de financiación por presuntamente una agenda que promueve movimientos antisemitistas. La universidad se ha resistido y demandado al gobierno como respuesta.

El peor enemigo de un gobierno fascista es la diversidad, la educación y la libertad de expresión, porque un pueblo educado es un pueblo libre. Atacar cualquiera de estos pilares representa una amenaza directa a la democracia y debería encender en nosotros todas las alarmas. Si no tomamos en serio estas señales ahora, podríamos llegar demasiado tarde a un punto de no retorno.



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GAMES OF THE WEEK



vs. no. 10 Pacific

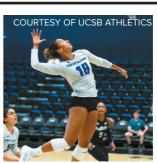
The no. 17 ranked UC Santa Barbara men's water polo team upsets no. 10 ranked University of the Pacific. Senior goalkeeper Levi Lentin recorded his 500th career save.



0-0

vs. Hawai'i

UC Santa Barbara women's soccer faced off against the University of Hawai'i Mãnoa in a defensive showdown. Despite the aggressiveness and multiple yellow cards handed out, neither team scored.



3-0

vs. CSUB

UC Santa Barbara women's volleyball swept California State University, Bakersfield 3-0 in their Big West Conference opener. Freshman outside hitter Gabi Martinez led the team with 11 kills.

Blue-Green Rivalry ends in a draw

Haiden Rogers Sports Editor

On Saturday, Sept. 27, the UC Santa Barbara men's soccer team had their Blue-Green Rivalry match against California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. This meeting between the Gauchos and Mustangs resulted in an eventful 0-0 tie. This is the 12th straight matchup where UC Santa Barbara remains unbeaten at home when playing Cal Poly.

Though resulting in a tie, the

either side of the pitch. The Mustangs brought the pressure first, forcing the Gauchos to step up defensively. Freshman forward Steinar Bjornsson did just that in a tense moment that caught the attention of the 7,447 fans in attendance. A ball that broke through the defensive line and resulted in a shot on an open goal from Cal Poly was saved last minute by a back heel clearance from Bjornsson who had sprinted back to cover with a last-second

Both defenses remained steady and had an answer each time the opposing offense approached. This continued until minute 35 of the game when the players were forced to clear the Harder Stadium field due to lightning. After about a 30-minute weather delay, the match resumed. With 10 minutes left to play in the half, UCSB picked up the intensity on offense. This resulted in two corner kicks and two shots, but to no avail. The halftime whistle blew and the score remained 0-0.

In the second half, the Gauchos continued to pressure the Mustangs. In minute 71, graduate shots on goal within the penalty box that challenged the Cal Poly defense, who did well to block the attempt. Fofanah, who was involved in many attacking moments for the Gauchos, totaled 3 shots in this match.

In the final moments of the game, the Cal Poly offense picked up the pace with motivation to score a stunner and leave victorious. However, freshman goalkeeper Owen Beninga had other plans. Beninga remained composed and in control until the final whistle, which ended finished the game with five saves and a shutout performance.

"Owen is a player that is the future in terms of our goalkeeping, and we've been assuming that we would get him as many games as we could. Tonight was a game where, given the fact that Cal Poly scores probably 90% of their goals on set pieces and drops balls in, he was the right player for us to play tonight," UCSB Head Coach Tim Vom Steeg said.

The now 2-4-3 UCSB men's soccer team faces off against UC Riverside next on Saturday, Oct. 4,



Freshman goalkeeper Owen Beninga jumps to secure the ball.

Gauchos spike past the Matadors

Haiden Rogers

Sports Editor

The UC Santa Barbara women's volleyball team matched up against California State University, Northridge on Saturday, Sept. 27, resulting in a 3-1 win for the Gauchos. UC Santa Barbara won this match despite missing key starter sophomore outside hitter

Eva Travis. "That was huge for us Northridge is going to be a good team in the conference this year. They're super improved from last year. They're playing really good volleyball. We had [Travis] out sick tonight, but we also just had some just sick bodies across the team. So, I was just trying to battle through that, and we did a nice job once we

kind of started to get the rhythm going. Just proud of everyone who came in tonight and stepped up." UCSB women's volleyball Head Coach Matt Jones said.

In the first set, the CSU Northridge Matadors started off strong, winning 25-22. The second set remained close until the end, but the Gauchos claimed victory thanks to a kill from sophomore outside

hitter Emma McDermott to take the lead. McDermott totaled 11 kills in this match and led the Gauchos to win the second set 25-22.

Set 3 was a battle of wits as both teams were tied for the majority of the set. Tied at 25 apiece, the Gauchos scored two in a row with an error from the Matadors, giving them the win in set 3 with a score of 27-25. Set 4, the final set of the match,

remained close in the first half. The Gauchos finished the second half with a 25-21 win, ultimately winning the match 3-1. Freshman outside hitter Gabi Martinez led the Gauchos to this overall match victory with a stunning total of 19 kills. This is a career high for Martinez.

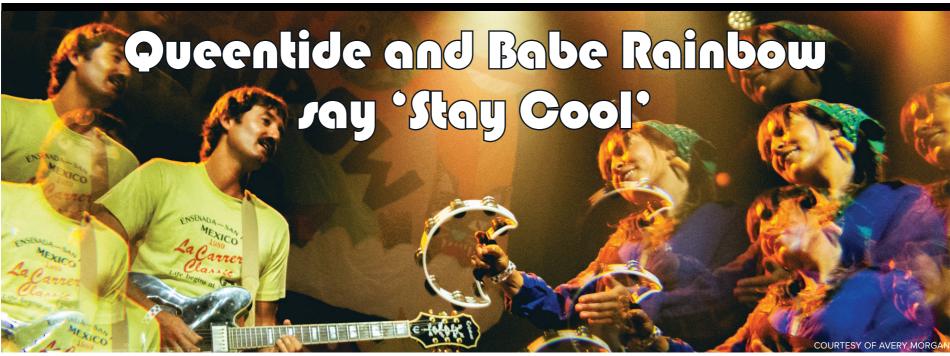
The 10-4 UCSB women's volleyball team will play at CSU Long Beach next on Friday, Oct. 3.



The Gauchos celebrate a hard-earned point.

ARTSWEEK





Queentide, the majority of whose members attended UC Santa Barbara, led an electric set while opening up for Babe Rainbow.

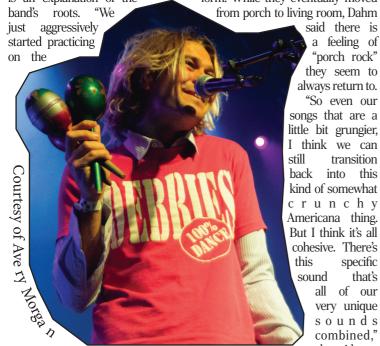
Stella Mullin Artsweek Editor Bridget Keon Reporter

I didn't even have time to spit out my gum before we were brought into the greenroom by Queentide's manager, Jack. It was like a scene from a movie - he checked his watch, told us we had 10 minutes and closed the door.

We were surrounded by the band, each member holding a burrito, as Bela Lafferty, who sings and rocks a tambourine, rolled her eyes and told us not to listen to Jack; we could have as much time as we needed. We were greeted with warm hugs and handshakes, offered a beer and told to pull up a chair.

Their immediate friendliness felt almost natural as a result of our similarities to them: most of Queentide attended UC Santa Barbara, with the exception of Cameron Crabtree, their lead guitarist, who is from Santa Barbara but attended UC Santa Cruz. Formed in Goleta in 2019, the band has performed together on a regular basis ever since, despite living in different cities and having other jobs.

Their genre is referred to as "porch rock," a descriptor that functions as a double meaning. One is an explanation of the



Frontman and vocalist Angus Dowling joyfully shaking the maracas during Babe Rainbow's set.

porch and playing music and learning songs, and me learning Maddy's songs and Maddy learning mine. And that's how we started," Emma Vogan, who sings and plays bass, said.

These porch practices started due to a deadline: Maddy Dahm, who sings, plays guitar and bass, and started the band, had booked a gig at M. Special but had no band yet.

This collection of musicians came together alongside guitarist Crabtree and drummer Ryan Lykins, and they've been making music ever

While the band did not form until after graduation, members of Queentide were involved in the I.V. music scene during their time in school.

Queentide plays homage to their Isla Vista roots. Goleta residents near and far can appreciate the way the band has written songs for Goleta rather than the better-known Santa Barbara. One of their songs, titled "West Goleta," mentions Goleta countless times, as well as a shoutout to Devereaux Slough and finishing by saying the mantra, "Keep Goleta country."

Their style of "porch rock" references both their roots of practicing on one and the unique sound they have come together to form. While they eventually moved

> a feeling of "porch rock" they seem to always return to. "So even our little bit grungier, I think we can transition back into this kind of somewhat crunchy Americana thing.

> > that's all of our very unique sounds combined," she said.

specific

This

collaboration of sound and style speaks to the individuality of the band and their ability to maintain their closeness while navigating the pushes and pulls of post-grad. Playing, on average, one show a month according to Vogan, Queentide performs up and down the coast of California.

They have advice for students, too. In fact, Vogan shared one of her bestkept secrets. "The biggest secret is you don't actually have to leave," she said. She also said the key to a band's continuous success is in passion and dedication.

"Everyone has to really want it if you want to stick together and do it after college," she said. "And just keep it fun and keep it good vibes. That's, I think, the hardest thing about it. Playing music and continuing music is keeping a band together. And a lot of that is a big group, collaborative project," she added.

One of their most recent releases is a single called "burn," which Vogan describes as a deeply collaborative song and her current favorite. "This one we all wrote together, really raw from a jam," she said. "It's a real sprinkle of everybody. It's our chaos all the time," she said.

Their physical stage presence was electric. With waves and smiles from the band, it felt like we just made five new friends. But maybe that's just the magic and chemistry of a place like Isla Vista and the people it produces.

And Queentide was just the opener. While they're energy was enough to headline the entire show, Babe Rainbow hit the audience with a second groovy wave. After the show, we were lucky enough to catch frontman and vocalist, Angus Dowling, around the back. His bandmates, Jack Crowther (guitar), Elliot O'Reilly (bass) and Miles Myjavec (drums), were scattered around the back lot of Ventura Music Hall, unwinding after the high-energy

The band hit Ventura after their show in San Francisco, two of the four California cities on their baby tour. They stopped in Pismo Beach on the way down, hungover and eager to swim, on par with the two things that seem to define Babe Rainbow: rock and roll and the beach.

"Everyone was hungover and we were driving down and we immediately pulled down and walked down the cliffs and just dove in the water. We dove in the water and we were all just swimming around for ages," Dowling said.

Despite their home break being across the world in Byron Bay. Australia, Dowling and the rest of the band cannot seem to get more Californian (except for the thick Australian accents). Playing shows in California goes hand in hand with taking advantage of a surf trip, and they've hit all the spots: Ocean Beach, Costa Mesa, Malibu and Topanga; he even knew about Mollusk surf shop. They wanted to stop at Rincon on the way down, but, alas, they had a show to play.

And a show it was. Combining all the best things that are inherently "Californian" – psychedelic rock, Vans shoes, sun-bleached hair and a dancing crowd - Babe Rainbow is not to be missed. Dowling recounted his favorite song of the evening, "Zeitgeist," released in 2021 on their album "Changing Colours." While the song was originally difficult to play live because of the complicated drum tracks, the band figured out to include an electronic, more simplified drum track, allowing the song to make its live show resurgence.

"You can feel this spacey song. It makes it feel spacey and not in a dark way, but like druggy or something. I've kind of been loving that the last couple shows," Dowling said.

While "Zeitgeist" may have been Dowling's favorite, "Johny Says Stay Cool" was the crowd's favorite. A song that can be heard wafting out of Isla Vista's many band shows, "Johny Says Stay Cool" embodies everything that is I.V. And so, who is Johny?

"I met this old guy in the surf, this English guy, and he asked me to come up to this farm near where we lived to help him put this timber bed together that he couldn't do on his own ... I just started going up there every day," Dowling said.

Johny's vegetable farm, full of spinach, kale, potatoes, guava and citrus trees, became the workplace of the three musicians (Dowling, Crowther, O'Reilly) and the grounds for the friendship that led to one of

industry is going to be

selling out crowds for

generations to come,

it's going to be Paul

McCartney.

Babe Rainbow's catchiest songs.

"It was just a funny moment of your life when it just happens naturally. We were there for years and years, and Jack ended up meeting this girl, and he and her ended up living there for a while," Dowling said.

Babe Rainbow wrote "Johny Says Stay Cool" while living in a squat in Paris - a "nice squat" to be exact. Dowling and Babe Rainbow's first time playing in the States was in 2015, when they were opening for the Growlers, and there they met a French band who invited them to Paris. There wasn't any other option except saying yes.

"We had nothing going on, and we were like, 'Yeah.' They flew us there, and we just chilled with them and ended up staying in this squat in Paris for ages, and it was just the most bizarre time. And that Johny Be Cool' song was made in this random place," Dowling said.

It's no question that Babe Rainbow's songs overflow with the beach bum energy that Dowling exuberates -aproduct of living on the beach and on farms, toasted by both the warm California and Australia suns every day. According to Dowling, the place influences almost all of their songs. Their recording studio, for example, is the reason their songs feel so fresh. On a banana plantation up the creek from another farm, the sound of rushing water can be heard on the other side of the recording studio walls. They go from a swimming hole to recording part of a song and back to swimming.

As the band first came to the Jnited States at 18 years old, they had, as Dowling would say, heaps of advice for students hoping to break into the industry.

"Sometimes I feel like it's good to concentrate on the recording and songs themselves ... But then in another way, you wouldn't get to the same place that you would if you weren't being forced to be on the road ... It's a combination," Dowling said.

As we left Dowling to make our way back to Isla Vista, thanking him for taking time out of his post-show smoke session to chat with two college students, he made sure to tell us to stay cool. Babe Rainbow says

Paul McCartney gets his feet back on the ground at Santa Barbara Bowl

Deputy News Editor

The one and only Sir Paul McCartney performed at the Santa Barbara Bowl on Sept. 26, just three days before he began his highly anticipated "Got Back" 2025 tour. Announced just 11 days before the concert, he was a must-see for all fans of popular music, considering the line for the event stretched all the way down to Alta Vista and East Victoria Street.

The performance featured a range of songs throughout McCartney's career, from the first ever Beatles song recorded, "Love Me Do," to the recently released "Now And Then," along with songs from McCartney's post-Beatles band Wings and a few highlights of McCartney's solo work. The Santa Barbara Bowl was packed with 4,500 attendees who had the best of luck purchasing the first come, first serve tickets, which sold out almost immediately.

McCartney was joined by his backing band of several years now, and the second he walked on stage, he started performing the Beatles classic, "Help!" A song that was primarily written and sung by John Lennon. This was the first time he's performed the song in any form

performed McCartney-solo classic "Coming Up," followed by the Beatles song "Got To Get You Into My Life" and the Wings song "Let Me Roll It." All songs were matched with high-energy visual effects on the screen, with the stage lit with 85-foot candles at 4,000

As the night went on, it began to set in with the crowd just how intimate the performance was. McCartney typically performs in larger arenas, meaning the smaller size of the Bowl resonated with attendees, especially as he performed emotional classics such as "Blackbird."

Near the end of the concert, McCartney began to perform backto-back classics which were perfect representations of the contributions he has made to pop music as a whole. The infamous track "Ob-La-Di, Ob-La-Da" had the crowd joyfully singing along to one of The Beatles' campiest yet catchiest songs of their

He then performed "Get Back" and "Let It Be," two songs which perfectly display McCartney's songwriting talents; with "Get Back" showcasing his advanced understanding of rockand-roll and "Let It Be" standing among many other Beatles songs

which proved to the general public that pop music can be dramatic, mature, emotional and catchy all at

His performance of the Wings song "Live and Let Die" was the most explosive of the night, with pyrotechnics and lighting that made one of the most theatrical songs McCartney has ever written even more dynamic for the crowd.

Following a compassionate performance of "Hey Jude," which had the whole Bowl singing along, McCartney and his band had left the stage, presumably finished with the show. They then came back on for a six-song encore, which was kicked off with a performance of "I've Got a Feeling," including a virtual duet with Lennon from their iconic rooftop performance in 1969.

Next up in the encore was the reprise of the title track of "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band," with psychedelic visuals representative of the album. Afterwards, he performed "Helter Skelter," one of the most electrifying Beatles songs which is considered to be a precursor to metal music, heavily inspiring pioneers of the genre such as Black Sabbath.

The last three songs performed in the encore were "Golden Slumbers,"

"Carry That Weight" and "The End," which are a part of the famous medley on the backside of one of the most critically-acclaimed Beatles albums "Abbey Road." this point in the evening, the emotions were the most heightened they'd been all night; it was almost impossible for any McCartney fan to not be overwhelmed in the best way possible. For someone who has been such a key player in the music industry for over half a century, it was clear to the audience that even at his old age, McCartney's still got it. Considering the level of excitement from the Santa Barbara community prior to the concert, it was clear no one in the crowd ever doubted him. If anyone in the music

Paul McCartney performed an exhilarating set

for the Santa Barbara community.

OPINION TO THE STATE OF THE STA

Letter from the editors: Trump's war on speech is more than just rhetorical



Kira Logan Opinion Editor Lucy Dixon Opinion Editor

For a man obsessed with people who talk about him, it seems surprising how far 45th and 47th United States President Donald Trump will go to stifle speech that mentions him. On the other hand, his narcissism and fragile ego precedes him — to the point of fighting free speech

From the beginning of Trump's re-entry into the White House in 2025, he made it clear that he had scores to settle. Not just with political opponents, but with journalists, comedians, late-night hosts and anyone else who publicly mocked or criticized him. A leader who punishes those who speak against him? As Taylor Swift has said, "I think I've seen this film before / And I didn't like the

In Trump's first presidential term, he often made public, verbal attacks on journalists who dared to speak ill of him. While in office, he never attended the White House Correspondents' dinner, the annual gala supporting journalists who cover the President. He declared trusted news outlets as "fake news," turning his supporters to outlets churning out extremist, often false viewpoints. Now, back for his second term with seemingly even more angst for the media, Trump isn't just speaking poorly about these journalists and public reporters; he's systematically using the machinery of government to punish them, creating an unprecedented and unruly use of power in response to the First Amendment.

If his first term signals anything, it's that this shouldn't be shocking to us — it was only a matter of time before Trump's war on free speech escalated.

Long before the recent Jimmy Kimmel scandal, Trump enacted two huge executive orders with their primary goals focused on suppressing free speech in some regard. Executive Order 14149, "Restoring Freedom of Speech and Ending Federal Censorship," was signed on Jan. 20, 2025. This order masquerades as a free speech defense, when in reality it teeters on the line of punishing platforms that refuse to promote disinformation and silencing federal whistleblowers. Federal agencies are barred from contacting news and social media companies to warn them about spreading misinformation that could potentially harm public health, election security and national security. The executive order isn't defending the First Amendment; it's weaponizing it. It's a gag order in disguise.

If that wasn't enough, Executive Order 14290, "Ending Taxpayer Subsidization of Biased Media," was signed on May 1, 2025. This order slashed federal funding for the National Public Radio and the Public Broadcasting Service, two news networks that the White House claimed "spread racial, woke propaganda disguised as 'news." This not only jeopardizes the livelihoods of writers and journalists at these networks but also limits public access to national news. For example, Stephen Colbert's late-night talk show, "The Late Show with Stephen Colbert," coincidentally got canceled three days after Paramount's settlement with Trump, in light of this executive order.

The administration's most recent strike on free speech sets a dangerous precedent for further, more threatening punishments. On Sept. 15, Jimmy Kimmel, a latenight talk show host and comedian, delivered a monologue on "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" in which he criticized

how the Make America Great Again Republicans were responding to the recent assassination of conservative activist Charlie Kirk. Kimmel claimed that these Republicans were trying to score political points from the killing. His criticism was focused on Trump and the administration, not Kirk —



That isn't freedom. It's authoritarianism wearing a red baseball cap."

despite Kirk having a criticism-worthy career, he focused on sowing seeds of division and hate into the malleable minds of American youth. Shortly after, ABC pulled "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" off of the air indefinitely, claiming the decision came from the extreme backlash and sensitivity surrounding Kirk's killing. The most eerie part of all? Trump celebrated

"Great News for America: The ratings challenged Jimmy Kimmel Show is CANCELLED," Trump posted triumphantly on Truth Social. "Congratulations to ABC for finally having the courage to do what had to be done. Kimmel has ZERO talent."

In short, Kimmel's suspension was a turning point for all media outlets and journalists everywhere: A famous and beloved comedian was nationally punished for making a joke the President did not like.

This is not an isolated event; it was a test case. Kimmel's monologues typically focus on criticizing Trump in every sense of the word. Trump's suspension wasn't about solely punishing one man, but rather it was sending a message to the entire entertainment and larger media industries. Between the lines, Trump is saying that, if you speak up against him, your platform, career and life could disappear.

That message was received; other late-night show hosts responded to this suspension as if it were their own. Jimmy Fallon, Stephen Colbert, Seth Meyers and others all mentioned the suspension soon thereafter on their own networks. An American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) petition condemning Kimmel's censorship was signed by over 400 industry professionals, including actors, comedians, producers and directors. Suddenly, all of Hollywood understood that one wrong word could potentially change the trajectory of your career and they were not having it.

We are entering an era of statesponsored censorship, and history tells us where the beginning of this very dark path leads.

Authoritarians trying to silence comedians and journalists is not a new concept; humor and truth are dangerous to tyrants. Historically, autocrats - like Hitler, Stalin, Mussolini and Putin — have cracked down the hardest on journalists and comedians who insult them or put them in a bad light. For example, in Nazi Germany, comedians who mocked the regime were arrested or exiled. In Stalin's Soviet Union, a stray joke could make you end up in the gulag. In Recep Tayyip Erdoğan's Turkey, satirists were charged with "insulting the president." And in today's Russia, comedians who mock Putin are banned or jailed.

In each of these examples, there is a constant, formulaic pattern: authoritarians turned public commentary and criticism into a national security threat, then labeled satire or fact-based media as "hate speech" or "misinformation." Trump's playbook is exactly the same.

On Sept. 23, 2025, Kimmel (thankfully) returned to the air. Kimmel gave an emotional opening monologue, questioning his cancellation and wondering how this could happen in a supposed free country, one with an amendment meant to protect the right to free speech.

And he's not wrong to be questioning the legitimacy of that amendment under the current administration. Free speech isn't about protecting the popular opinions; it's about protecting the unpopular ones. It's about protecting satire, comedy, parody and criticism — especially when it makes those in power uncomfortable.

Trump's redefinition of "free speech" seems to be speech that only praises him. He'll allow hate speech, conspiracies and threatening language as long as it supports his agenda.

That isn't freedom. It's authoritarianism wearing a red baseball cap.

If we let Trump get away with silencing critics, comedians and journalists, we won't just lose a few jokes. We'll lose our entire country.

In light of all this, we take this space to recognize and reinstate the Daily Nexus' commitment to free speech. We will not back down or hide when things get threatening. The First Amendment won't protect itself.

The editors of the Daily Nexus Opinion section know that democracy is not self-executing.

