The 2014 Nobel Prize in Physics has been awarded to Shuji Nakamura, professor of materials and of electrical and computer engineering at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and two others.

The prize is for the invention of efficient blue light-emitting diodes, which has enabled bright and energy-saving white light sources, and is shared with Isamu Akasaki of Meijo University and Nagoya University, Japan; and Hiroshi Amano of Nagoya University.

According to the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, when Nakamura, Akasaki and Amano “produced bright blue light beams from their semiconductors in the early 1990s, they triggered a fundamental transformation of lighting technology. Red and green diodes had been around for a long time, but without blue light, white lamps could not be created. Despite considerable efforts, both in the scientific community and in industry, the blue LED had remained a challenge for three decades.” The LED lamp “holds great promise for increasing the quality of life for over 1.5 billion people around the world who lack access to electricity grids,” the academy continued.

“I am very honored to receive the Nobel Prize from The Royal Swedish Academy of Science for my invention of the blue LED,” said Nakamura. Speaking to a room full of reporters and students who had gathered in the campus’s Engineering Sciences Building for a press conference on Oct. 7, Nakamura said it makes him happy to see his dream of LED lighting become a reality. “Nowadays we can buy energy-efficient LED light bulbs at the supermarket and help reduce energy use. I hope this helps global warming, too.”

Nakamura earned his undergraduate, master’s, and doctoral degrees at Japan’s University of Tokushima. He is the recipient of numerous prestigious awards including the Nishina Memorial Award (1996), the Materials Research Society Medal (1997), the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers’ Jack A. Morton Award, the British Rank Prize (1998), the Benjamin Franklin Medal (2002), the Millennium Technology Prize (2006), the Czochralski Award (2007), the Prince of Asturias Award for Technical Scientific Research (2008), The Harvey Award (2009), the Technology and the Engineering Emmy Award (2011) and the LED Pioneer Award (2012). He was elected to the U.S. National Academy of Engineering in 2003.


UCSB Materials Professor Shuji Nakamura Wins Nobel Prize in Physics
by Andrea Estrada

A Commitment to Diversity
by Andrea Estrada

UCSB has been officially designated an Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) by the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU). With six Nobel Laureates on its faculty and a ranking among the top 10 public universities in the country, UCSB is the only HSI that is also a member of the prestigious Association of American Universities.

HSI’s are defined as colleges or universities in which Hispanic enrollment comprises a minimum of 25 percent of the total enrollment. Total enrollment includes undergraduate and graduate students, both full- and part-time. The designation benefits all students since UCSB is now eligible to apply for grants from the U.S. Department of Education, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, among others, to fund a variety of initiatives, including support services for all students, faculty development, and the acquisition of scientific or laboratory equipment for teaching.

Continued on page 12
The 2014-2015 academic year brought a series of significant and exciting honors to our beloved UCSB campus. Among the various awards, prizes, and honors garnered by our UCSB faculty is the 2014 Nobel Prize in Physics won by Professor Shuji Nakamura together with two other scientists. Professor Nakamura is a member of the Department of Materials and of Electrical and Computer Engineering (see article on page 1). UCSB is very proud of this exceptional and prestigious prize bestowed on one of our professors. I heartily congratulate Professor Nakamura on this enormous honor he has brought to our campus.

This winter quarter UCSB attained the designation of being a Hispanic-Serving Institution, once again demonstrating our campus’ commitment to diversity. The HSI designation is bestowed on those campuses that have achieved 25% or higher Chicano/Latino/Hispanic student enrollment. The designation means that UCSB is eligible to apply for significant federal grants that have the possibility of improving our campus as a whole and will benefit ALL students, faculty and staff. This designation would not have been possible without the concerted efforts from different entities on campus such as student organizations and their outreach endeavors, the various offices on campus conducting recruitment drives, faculty commitment to serve a diverse population on campus, our outstanding administrators and hardworking staff, and of course Chancellor Henry T. Yang whose strong leadership regarding diversity issues on campus has yielded this exceptional result (see HSI article on page 1).

A third important event transpiring on our UCSB campus is the implementation of the concerns expressed in the Campus Climate Survey that took place during the 2012-2013 school year. We received the results of the Survey on March 2014 and have been working diligently in structuring a committee that can address the concerns articulated by those who filled it out. Chancellor Yang has been particularly busy appointing committees and addressing several issues pertaining to the tragic events that occurred in 2014 in Isla Vista during spring quarter. He has outlined the numerous activities designed to make our campus and the surrounding Isla Vista community a safer and friendlier place to live, work and play. Many of the activities that he and his committees have been focusing on are detailed in the various letters he sent to our campus community in the past few months and that are found on his website: https://chancellor.ucsb.edu/

I have been entrusted to be the Vice Chair of the Campus Climate Survey Implementation Committee which is a twenty-seven member committee. I have divided the twenty-seven members into three major subcommittees, each focusing on the three salient areas articulated in the UCSB Campus Climate Survey: (1) sexual violence, (2) LGBTQ and Under Represented Minorities concerns, and (3) staff morale. The subcommittee members are diligently working on the three major issues cited above. We plan to reach out to the campus community for ideas, recommendations, comments, and so forth that will aid in finding solutions to the issues brought to our attention in the Survey. The UCSB Campus Climate Survey can be accessed at http://campusclimate.ucop.edu/results/index.html. I am very grateful to the members of the three subcommittees who have volunteered their time to work on this important campus project. I thank the campus community for any help they can provide to the three subcommittees working throughout the year on these issues on campus.
A Message from the Chancellor

This year, UC Santa Barbara has reached a milestone in our diversity efforts. I am extremely proud to share with you that our university has been recognized as a Hispanic-Serving Institution by the Hispanic Association of Colleges & Universities, under guidelines set by the U.S. Department of Education. This achievement – thanks to your unwavering devotion and collaborative efforts – reflects our vision and commitment to enhance excellence and diversity on our campus and to provide the best possible educational opportunities for all of our students.

Over the last several decades, we have worked steadfastly to encourage and incorporate diversity in our student body and within our faculty and staff, and we continue to see the fruits of our labor. I have had the privilege of seeing our Hispanic student population grow from 11 percent to 26 percent over the last 20 years – HSI designation requires at least 25 percent. We are also the first among 62 members of the Association of American Universities to achieve this HSI status.

Though this distinction reflects our progress in enrolling Chicana/o and Latina/o students, it will benefit all of our students as well as our entire campus. As an HSI, we are now eligible to compete for additional federal and private grants and funding for student support services, faculty development, scientific equipment, academic tutoring and counseling programs, construction or renovation of instructional facilities, endowment funds for scholarships, and more.

I want to take this opportunity to thank our faculty, staff, administrators, students, alumni, and supporters – all of the dedicated people who have worked tirelessly to make UC Santa Barbara a place that welcomes individuals of all backgrounds.

One way in which we continue to further this mission is through our spring regional receptions. Each year in March, my wife, Dilling, and I have the honor of meeting with outstanding and diverse high school students throughout the state. We join a dedicated group of volunteers, including students, faculty, administrators, and local alumni – sometimes well over a hundred! – who engage with our prospective students at these important events. Our data show that 36 percent of fall 2015 freshman applicants from within the United States are underrepresented minorities. As we look ahead to our next freshman class and beyond, we remain steadfast in our commitment to a diverse and inclusive campus.

I would like to note that one of our key administrators who valued diversity and eschewed intolerance retired earlier this year. Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Michael Young left in January after 25 years of dedicated service to our students and our campus. Dr. Mary Jacob, Senior Associate Dean of Enrollment Services, has been graciously serving as our Acting Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs while we conduct a national search to fill this position.

Now, as we complete this spring quarter and then begin preparing for the next academic year, let us all be reminded that the bar has been raised in terms of our diversity and excellence, and our campus community must set our goals even higher. UC Santa Barbara has made great strides throughout its history, and I am certain we will soar to even greater heights in the years ahead.

Henry T. Yang
Chancellor
Universities are in a perpetual process of renewal and reinvention. The recruitment of students and faculty is a major part of that process. As I write, we are at the height of our recruitment season. We had a record number of undergraduate applications this year, 85,208 applications for fall 2015, an increase of more than 5 percent over last year. Academic quality continues to rise. 37 percent of freshman applications have a high-school grade point average (GPA) of 4.0 or higher. In terms of GPA and SAT, the 2015 applicant pool was the most competitive in UCSB history. At the same time, our applicant pool continues to be remarkably diverse. 56 percent of all applicants for the UCSB freshman class were members of a racial or ethnic minority group. 41 percent of the 19,980 freshman applicants were African-American, Native American, or Chicano and Latino. It is too early to know what the composition of the freshman class will look like, but we expect to build on our reputation for excellence and diversity. Our status as an Hispanic Serving Institution will help us continue to attract a diverse applicant pool and new classes of outstanding students. This year, many of our graduate programs are making a special effort to recruit international students, which will add to our geographical diversity and strengthen our international reputation. We also have 59 faculty searches underway this year. Departments, deans, and the Office of Equal Opportunity & Sexual Harassment / Title IX Compliance review faculty searches with the aim of promoting diverse applicant pools. Our campus is an active participant in the President’s Postdoctoral Fellowship Program, which supports exceptional and diverse scholars and provides opportunities for them to be hired as UC faculty members. In addition, the Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor provides special recruitment funds for new faculty whose work and research fields will advance our commitment to diversity. I am grateful to our staff, faculty, and students for all their work in recruiting outstanding students and faculty.

David Marshall
Executive Vice Chancellor

The Department of Theater and Dance is one of 67 recipients from 9 countries to receive the International Centre for Women Playwrights’ 2014 50/50 Applause Award. They received this honor because over 50% of their 2013-14 season included plays written by women. You can find the full list of award recipients here:

http://www.womenplaywrights.org/award

As part of the award, UCSB’s Department of Theater and Dance has a six month membership to the International Center for Women Playwrights, giving them the opportunity to build relationships with playwrights from around the world.
A Message from the Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity & Sexual Harassment/Title IX Compliance

Over the past year, several student, staff, and faculty representatives from our Campus were appointed and participated, along with representatives from across the UC System and from the UC Office of the President, on the Presidential Task Force on Preventing and Responding to Sexual Violence and Sexual Assault. The task force members include two members of the UC Board of Regents, Bonnie Reiss and Karen Leong Clancy, and representatives from campus police, victim advocacy groups, campus Title IX officers, student conduct officers, systemwide and campus administrators, and an undergraduate and graduate student. The task force will continue the work of developing best practices for all areas of sexual violence prevention, investigation, and response at UC. Two members of our Campus were appointed to serve on the President’s Task Force. They are Professor of Geography, David Lopez-Carr, in his role as the Chair of the Systemwide Faculty University Committee on Affirmative Action and Diversity, and Jill Dunlap, Director of the Campus Advocacy, Resources & Education (CARE) Women’s Center. Debbie Fleming, Senior Associate Dean of Student Life; Dustin Olson, Chief of Police; Briana Conway, Victim Advocacy Specialist in the CARE office; Suzanne Perkin, Acting Assistant Dean of Students, Judicial Affairs; and me, as the Campus Title IX Coordinator and other Campus staff members and students were also invited, and have participated, in the Work Groups over the past year. The Task Force and Work Groups produced 2 reports that were presented to the UC Regents and can be viewed at the UC Office of the President’s web site at http://www.ucop.edu/ethics-compliance-audit-services/compliance/SVSA.html.

These reports included several recommendations, some of which have already been implemented on our campus. Those recommendations include:
• Establish a Consistent “Response Team” Model at all Campuses – Our Campus instituted a Case Management Team late last year, comprised of staff from the Office of Judicial Affairs, Title IX, University Police Department, the CARE office, and the Housing office. Other subject matter experts may join as needed to maintain consistent coordination of reported cases, provide case management for all ongoing cases, ensure all cases are addressed efficiently and effectively, and to coordinate communications with claimant and respondent. The Title IX Officer provides oversight of this team function and Chairs all meetings.

• Implement a Comprehensive Communication Strategy to Educate the Community and Raise Awareness about UC Programs – Chancellor Yang sent out a campus wide message on February 9, 2015 to communicate various changes and programs. This message can be found at https://chancellor.ucsb.edu/memos/2.9.2015.President.Napolitano%27s.Task.Force.on.Preventing.and.Responding.to.Sexual.Violence.and.Sexual.Assault. The overall communication strategy is still in development, but many education programs are already in place.

• Establish an Independent, Confidential Advocacy Office for Sexual Violence and Sexual Assault on each Campus – Our campus has had an established confidential advocacy office known as the CARE office for several years, and has the best staffed CARE office in the UC. The CARE office is within the Women, Gender, and Sexual Equity Department, located in the lobby of the Student Resources Building (SRB).

• Establish a Comprehensive Systemwide Website with Campus Customization Capabilities – In collaboration with the Office of the President, our Campus Public Affairs Office, Academic Affairs Information Technology, and our Office, this web site, which was completed in January of this year, can be viewed at http://sexualviolence.ucsb.edu/.

Additionally, as part of the changes to create consistent organizations and structures on all of our campuses, on January 1, 2015, our Campus altered the student Title IX complaint process by moving oversight of all student Title IX issues and student Title IX complaint investigations into our Office. All complaints by, or about students, that relate to Title IX issues, such as sexual assault, stalking, dating and domestic violence, sexual harassment, and/or gender discrimination, can now be filed with our Office. You may visit the Campus Sexual Violence Prevention & Response website at http://sexualviolence.ucsb.edu/, or you may visit our Office website at https://oeosh.ucsb.edu/sexual.harassment.and.sexual.violence/ for more information about filing a Title IX complaint.

Other recommendations that are still being discussed on the Task Force, and are due to be finalized and implemented by July 2015:
• Adopt systemwide, standard investigation and adjudication standards
• Develop a comprehensive training and education plan
• Initiate/develop a systemwide standard data collection system

Thank you for reading my message. If you have questions about the changes I have discussed or the work on the Task Force, you may contact me at (805) 893-4504 or at Ricardo.alcaino@oeosh.ucsb.edu.
On November 20, 2014, students, faculty, staff and community members gathered together for the 39th Annual Harvest Dinner. This tradition began when Native American students on campus could not make it home during the Thanksgiving break, so a small group of students, faculty and staff gathered together to share a meal and celebrate community. This year, the Harvest Dinner was held in Corwin Pavilion and was attended by 230 guests. This event has become much more than just a dinner, it has become a way for the campus community to celebrate and honor Native American cultural traditions, students and community members.

Guests were treated to performances by the Chumash Coastal Band Family Singers, Flutist Tim Romero, the Chumash Intertribal Singers, and drumming by the Soldier Boyz. Professor of Religious Studies, Inés Talamantez was honored for her passionate and tireless support for Native American students at UCSB and for her work in creating and sustaining the minor in American Indian and Indigenous Studies. Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, Michael Young was also recognized for his support of Native American students and the Harvest Dinner annually over his 25 years of service to UCSB. Suzanne Singer delivered the keynote address this year. Suzanne, a Lab Engineer at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, is from the Navajo Nation. Student organizations such as the American Indian Student Association (AISA), American Indian Science & Engineering Society (AISES), American Indian Graduate Student Alliance, and the American Indian and Indigenous Collective presented their current work on campus.

During the event, a Silent Auction was held to raise money for the American Indian Cultural Resource Center (AICRC) book scholarship, awarded twice a year to a Native American UCSB student. This annual compliment to the dinner resulted in $654 for the scholarship fund this year. Bridget Moffat, a Native American first-year student from Lake Tahoe, was the fall 2014 recipient of the AICRC book scholarship. Bridget is one of the Officers for the American Indian Student Association (AISA) and majors in biology.

This Harvest Dinner was sponsored by the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians, Educational Opportunity Program, Chancellor Henry Yang, Executive Vice Chancellor David Marshall, Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Michael Young, Associate Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity, and Academic Policy Maria Herrera-Sobek, College of Engineering, College of Creative Studies, Graduate Division, Residence Halls Association, A.S. Finance Board, and A.S. Student Initiated Recruitment & Retention Committee.
Dave Whitman recently returned to UCSB as the Director of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Resources. Dave served as a Resident Director at Pace University in his hometown of New York City, where he received his undergraduate degree in Communications and a Master’s in Education with a focus in teaching English. After, Dave moved to the West coast to work at UCSB as both a Resident Director and student organization advisor from 2011-2014, and served the Interim Director of LGBTQ services from January-May of 2014. Most recently Dave had the opportunity to sail as a Resident Director on Semester at Sea’s fall 2014 Voyage, and he embraces every opportunity to experience the world and learn from others. Some of his areas of passion and research include men’s identity development, LGBTQ mental health, mentorship, wellness, and diversity and social justice.

Dave shares his thoughts on joining the UCSB community as the Director of LGBT Resources and the Resource Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity:

The opportunities we have before us to support and challenge the UCSB and larger community to be a safe, welcoming and nourishing environment for LGBTQ and ALL people are truly incredible. I am excited to return to UCSB to work alongside all members of the LGBTQ community as well as those seeking to learn more about the community. Through the ongoing efforts of the RCSGD, in partnership with the campus community, I believe that people’s identities and best selves can truly be fostered in the spirit of love, respect, celebration and learning.

My goals and passions are to provide students with the best support possible to ensure their growth and success. In this role, I want to work with the campus community to create an environment where people can truly thrive. If you have a question, concern, opportunity or idea for the campus, or just want to talk, I am always available. I look forward to seeing as many members of the community as possible at our upcoming events and trainings, organization meetings, around campus, and utilizing the many resources at our center!

Resource Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity
Student Resource Building, 3rd Floor
Email: david.whitman@sa.ucsb.edu
Phone: (805) 893-5846

Feminist Studies graduate student Karen Hanna was selected to be the 2015 recipient of the Graduate Student Travel Grant from the Association for Asian American Studies (AAAS). She will be honored on stage at the Awards Reception on April 25th at the AAAS Annual conference, held in Evanston, Illinois.
Michele Serros (2/10/1966- 1/4/2015)

A memorial celebrating the life and writings of Chicana writer from Oxnard, California, Michele Serros, was held on January 20, 2015, at UCSB. The event was organized by graduate student, Adrianna Simone, from the Chicana and Chicano Studies Department and was attended by over thirty authors, journalists, students, and community and family members who read Serros’ pieces and shared personal stories. Among the attendees were celebrated authors Melinda Palacio (Ocotillo Dreams), Amada Irma Perez, and Maya Chinchilla. The memorial truly captured the spirit of a woman who described herself as an “author, prankster, NPR commentator, President of the Acne & Angst Book Club and The ‘87 Honda Civic Classic Car Club.” Serros was the author of several books of poetry and short stories including: Chicana Falsa and Other Stories of Death, Identity, and Oxnard (1994), How to be a Chicana Role Model (2000), Honey Blonde Chica (2005), and ¡Scandalosa! (2007). She was survived by her husband Antonio Magaña.

Diversity Lecture

Who We Be: The Colorization of America
Jeff Chang
Thursday, January 22, 5 pm

Race. A four-letter word. The greatest social divide in American life, a half-century ago and today. How do Americans see race now? After eras framed by words like “multicultural” and “post-racial,” do we see each other any more clearly? From the dream of integration to the reality of colorization, Jeff Chang examined the cultural history of the idea of racial progress. Jeff Chang is Executive Director of Stanford’s Institute for Diversity in the Arts and author of Can’t Stop Won’t Stop: A History of the Hip-Hop Generation.
In anticipation of UCSB’s designation as a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI), the Associate Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity and Academic Policy, the Center for Chicano Studies, the Office of Research, the Office of Education Partnerships, and the Associated Students, co-sponsored a campus visit and public lecture and discussion on February 4th by Deborah Santiago, the co-founder, Chief Operating Officer, and Vice President for Policy at Exelencia in Education. Exelencia is a national non-profit organization that created the HSI Center for Policy & Practice (HSI-CP2), which provides analysis of Latinos’ educational status and promotes policy that will increase Latino student success. While on campus, Director Santiago met with the Chicana@ Studies Department, Executive Vice Chancellor David Marshall, and other faculty and staff to discuss initiatives tied to HSI status. In addition, campus leaders from Educational Opportunity Program, Early Academic Outreach, Student Affairs, Center for Science Engineering Partnerships, and faculty and graduate students from the Gevirtz Graduate School of Education, and faculty and staff from UC Santa Cruz campus, met to discuss definitions of students’ success and collaborative research opportunities within the UC System. Deborah Santiago’s public lecture, “Unpacking what it means to serve Latinos from an Institutional Perspective,” emphasized the difference between simply enrolling Latino students and serving them to ensure high rates of success. Among the several topics she discussed was the importance of disaggregating student data so that institutions can identify all student groups that need additional support. Dr. Santiago’s visit was timely and instructive as the campus plans for the newly available resource opportunities the HSI status provides.
Tania Israel of The Gevirtz School was named as one of the first group of scholars to be hailed as mid-career Shining Stars by the National Multicultural Summit.

The National Multicultural Conference and Summit, held in Atlanta, GA this January, was an exciting and innovative summit rooted in the values of the group’s founders. As multicultural psychologists, they embrace diversity and reflect on the intersections of oppression and privilege. NMCS 2015 welcomed educators, policy makers, researchers and clinicians to reflect on what has been accomplished and to consider where we need to go.

Dr. Israel is a Professor of Counseling, Clinical, and School Psychology at UCSB. Dr. Israel is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association and Past-President of the Society of Counseling Psychology (SCP). Her honors include the Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Award for Excellence in Mental Health from the California API Legislative Caucus, the Emerging Leader Award from the APA Committee on Women in Psychology, the SCP Section for the Advancement of Women 2011 Woman of the Year Award, and the SCP Section for LGBT Issues Award for Significant Contribution to Social Justice and Advocacy. Dr. Israel served as the Lead Coordinator for the 2009 National Multicultural Conference and Summit. Her scholarship focuses on interventions to support the mental health and well-being of LGBTQ individuals and communities; privilege and oppression; and social justice.
The UCSB McNair Scholars Program supports low-income first generation students in undergraduate research and preparation for doctoral study. A critical component of this preparation is experience presenting and sharing the results of independent, scholarly research in professional and academic venues. The McNair Scholars Program has supported students in gaining these experiences through presentation at national professional conferences in the sciences, social sciences and humanities.

The program is very pleased to congratulate three of our scholars, Richard Mata (mathematics), Christian Suarez (biochemistry), and Benjamin Huffman (chemistry), for stellar performances at national professional conferences in their fields. All three received awards in recognition of the quality of their research and presentation of their findings from the organizations and societies holding the respective conferences.

Richard Mata presented his work on “Dipole – Dipole Energy of Two Stable, Non-Linear Agglomerates of Magnetic Particles in Ferrofluid” at the Society for the Advancement of Hispanics/Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) annual conference in Los Angeles, California, where he received an award for best student presentation in mathematics. Of his experience presenting and being chosen for this award, Richard says: “I was really surprised when I received an award for my poster presentation… I’m proud of my work and what I have accomplished so far, and am honored to have been recognized.”

Christian Suarez presented his work, “Understanding Type 2 Diabetes through the Glucose Transporter and Pancreatic Beta Cell Glycosylation During Starvation,” at the Out in STEM (oSTEM) annual conference in Atlanta, Georgia, where he received an “Award of Excellence” for Outstanding Undergraduate Poster. Finally, Benjamin Huffman presented his work, “Developing a Fluorescent Based Destabilizing Domain System with UnaG and Bilirubin,” at the annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students, where he received an award for best student poster presentation in biochemistry.
"I am extremely proud that UC Santa Barbara has been recognized as a Hispanic-Serving Institution by the Hispanic Association of Colleges & Universities," said UCSB Chancellor Henry T. Yang. “This milestone achievement reflects our vision and decades of collaborative effort and commitment to enhance excellence and diversity at UC Santa Barbara and to provide the best possible educational opportunities for all of our students. During this journey, I have had the privilege of seeing our Hispanic student population grow from 11 percent to 26 percent today, along with many other splendid achievements. For example, our highly regarded Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies became the first to establish a doctoral program in the field. Our faculty, staff, students, and alumni work tirelessly to make UC Santa Barbara a place that welcomes individuals of all backgrounds, and with this designation, we celebrate our shared commitment.”

Said UC President Janet Napolitano, “We’re proud that UC Santa Barbara has joined our Riverside, Santa Cruz and Merced campuses as Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and we look forward to other University of California campuses achieving that distinction. It’s vitally important to the university and state that we provide the same level of access and quality to current and future generations of California high school graduates that past generations have enjoyed.”

David Marshall, UCSB Executive Vice Chancellor, noted, “The designation reflects our longstanding commitment to diversity and excellence. It also will open doors to new opportunities for all of our students.”

As much as the HSI designation means for UCSB, it also represents a degree of success for education in California as a whole. “As a Hispanic-Serving Institution, UCSB is perfectly positioned to play a central role in educating the future leaders of California and in developing much needed research about one of the state’s most important and fastest growing demographic groups,” said George Lipsitz, professor of Black Studies and of sociology. “But it is not just a victory for Latinos. It would be a mistake to make it that small. Everyone benefits from the ways in which the HSI designation bolsters the university’s ability to blend cosmopolitan inclusion with academic excellence.”

“UCSB’s standards for admission are very high, and the quality of our students has been rising steadily,” said Carl Gutiérrez-Jones, professor of English and UCSB’s acting dean of undergraduate education. “To achieve this milestone — having an undergraduate population of more than 25 percent Latino students — is a testament to the success of the pipeline that is preparing all of our youth to compete at the very highest level.”

While the designation of UCSB as a Hispanic-Serving Institution is a great honor, it presents an even greater opportunity, according to Lipsitz. “A changing university in a changing world has the opportunity to explore new possibilities, to develop new research projects, to design new classroom pedagogies, to propose new curricular innovations and to negotiate new definitions of community service that draw on the experiences, energies and imaginations of a diverse campus.”

The HSI designation is, in many ways, both the result of — and a benefit to — UCSB’s outreach efforts. “It shows that we’ve accomplished our goal of making the student population of UCSB more reflective of the California population,” said Lisa Przekop, director of admissions. Among fall 2014 incoming freshmen, Hispanic students were more than twice as likely to be first-generation college students (75 percent) compared to non-Hispanic students (32 percent). In addition, they were more likely to have a diverse language background (only 29 percent are English-only speakers) as opposed to non-Hispanic students (55 percent English-only). What’s more, Hispanic and non-Hispanic students had same high school grade point averages.

“This new designation will help significantly with our outreach efforts,” Przekop continued.

Read More at: http://www.news.ucsb.edu/2015/014916/demonstrated-commitment-diversity
Orange Is the New Black: My Year in a Women’s Prison
Piper Kerman

According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the U.S. prison population is 82 percent male and 18 percent female. We don't hear a lot about the 18 percent, but Piper Kerman is changing that. Kerman is the author of this year's UCSB Reads book, Orange Is the New Black: My Year in a Women's Prison, her best-selling memoir that's also been turned into an Emmy-winning Netflix series. Presented by the UCSB Library and the Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor, the award-winning UCSB Reads program, now in its ninth year, brings the campus and Santa Barbara community together for a common reading experience. During the winter and spring quarters, UCSB Reads has offered book-related panel discussions, readings, and more to engage readers in dialogue about such issues as criminal justice, the war on drugs, and racial and gender identity. Several UCSB professors assigned the book as required reading.

During her 13-month incarceration at a federal women's minimum-security prison for laundering drug money, Kerman learned that as a blond, blue-eyed, college-educated white woman, she was a minority in prison — but also one of the most privileged. She developed sympathy for and friendships with her fellow prisoners; many were in prison due to poverty, abuse, mental illness, or drug addiction.

"The personal narratives are overwhelmingly written by men, but women are the fastest-growing segment in the prison population," Kerman told The Week magazine. UCSB Reads ended with a free public talk by Piper Kerman in UCSB's Campbell Hall on April 15.

An exhibition on the Library's first floor, Girls-in-Justice (on display through May 29) features photos by UCSB art professor and photographer Richard Ross of girls in the juvenile justice system.

For more information about UCSB Reads, visit www.library.ucsb.edu/ucsbreads2015.

New Exhibition: Indigenous Peoples of the Americas: Roots, Resistance, and Resurgence

You can’t miss the canoe when you walk into the UCSB Library. A traditional Chumash plank canoe called a tomol, on display in the Library’s lobby alcove, serves as an invitation to and visual symbol of the new exhibition Indigenous Peoples of the Americas: Roots, Resistance, and Resurgence.

The exhibition, open through June 30 in Special Research Collections (on the Library’s third floor), explores Indigenous heritages and identity, and their modes of cultural and political representation. Taking a transnational and interdisciplinary approach, it also examines the spiritual wisdom rooted in the practices of ancient Indigenous civilizations. A central theme of the exhibition is the resurgence, resistance, and growth of the Chumash community, whose culture embraces the protection of the natural world.

In conjunction with the exhibition, three Chumash people will share how the exhibition relates to their community at 4 p.m. Tuesday, May 19, in the Library's Mary Cheadle Room.

The exhibition was co-curated by Sal Güereña and Callie Bowdish, of the California Ethnic and Multicultural Archives, along with consultants and contributors including local Chumash community members, and faculty and graduate students from UCSB’s Chicana/o Studies Department.
Black Cultural Profiling and the Corporate Management of Dissent  
Tricia Rose  
Tuesday, April 28th, 5pm / MCC Theater

In this talk, Prof. Tricia Rose considers the importance of expressive culture in developing challenges to inequality and why these spaces are in trouble today. She argues that the mainly invisible impact of the corporate takeover of public performance spaces and institutions have stifled creative outlets for public creative challenges to discrimination and injustice. Prof. Tricia Rose graduated from Yale University where she received a BA in Sociology and then received her Ph.D. from Brown University in American Studies. She has taught at NYU, UC Santa Cruz, and is currently Professor of Africana Studies and the Director of the Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America at Brown University.

Really Feeling It: Ambiguity and Sincerity in Egyptian Pop Music & Politics  
Daniel Gilman  
Wednesday, April 14th, 4pm / MCC Lounge

Contemporary Egyptian youth place a high premium on sincerity of emotion as an aesthetic criterion in pop music. The music industry, however, wants to attract the widest possible consumer base, which encourages songwriters to compose vaguely worded, cliché-ridden songs that invoke emotional response without clearly describing an emotional scenario. This dichotomy extends to the realm of political music created during and after the 2011 uprising in Egypt, as youthful activists attempted to make the case for political renewal while at the same time trying to avoid alienating any potential listener. This talk explores the nature of this aesthetic conundrum and explains one of the major problems that activists faced in convincing the larger public to support systemic change. Daniel J. Gilman trained as an anthropologist of expressive culture at the University of Texas at Austin. In 2010, he held a postdoctoral research fellowship at the American Research Center in Egypt; during this time, he witnessed the 2011 uprising in Cairo. Gilman now works in the Washington, D.C. area as an analyst and consultant on Egypt and the Middle East.

Dreaming of Selena Twenty Years Later  
Deborah Paredez  
Monday, May 11th, 6pm / MCC Lounge

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the passing of Selena Quintanilla Perez. How and where does Selena’s legacy persist? What does her continued afterlife—or cultural amnesia about her—tell us about current struggles and triumphs faced by Latinas/os in the United States? Deborah Paredez is the author of the critical study, Selenidad: Selena, Latinos, and the Performance of Memory. She is an Associate Professor of English at the University of Texas-Austin and is a co-founder and co-director of CantoMundo, a national organization that supports Latina/o poets and poetry.
During the 2015 Winter Quarter, Undocumented Student Services, the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, and Associated Students Community Financial Fund partnered together to launch a new pilot financial education program, the Dream Scholar Financial Literacy Workshop Series. This collaboration produced three workshops hosted in the Student Resource Building throughout the Winter Quarter: Financial Literacy 101 – Understanding Your Financial Aid & Loans, Financial Literacy 102 – Understanding Debt, Credit, & Taxes, and Financial Literacy 103 – Managing Your Budget/California Dream Act Help Night & Applying the California Dream Act. Financial Literacy 103 culminated the workshop series by providing hands-on assistance with the California Dream Act application for financial aid.

In this series, Financial Aid Advisor Carlos Torres and AS Community Financial Fund Coordinator Habiba Simjee, co-hosted the workshops. Financial Fund plan to continue hosting these workshops more frequently in the Fall and Winter quarters leading up to the March 2nd financial aid application deadline.

A graduate of Arizona State University, Duarte is the recipient of numerous awards and honors. Her novel “If I Die in Juárez” earned a 2009 American Book Award and a Pulitzer Prize nomination. It won the Southwest Book of the Year Award in the Top Pick category, and was named the Arizona Book of the Year in the category of Best in Popular Fiction. The novel also garnered the Foreword Book of the Year award and the Independent Publisher’s Book of the Year award, as well as receiving an honorable mention in the International Latino Book Awards.

In 2008, Duarte earned first prize in the 34th Annual Chicano/Latino Literary Prize from UC Irvine for her short story collection “Women Who Live in Coffee Shops and Other Stories.”

Born in and raised in the Sonorita Barrio in South Phoenix, Duarte is a recipient of the Women In American History award from the Daughters of the American Revolution, and in 2013 was selected to be part of the Public Broadcasting System’s production “Makers: Women Who Make America.” Twice awarded creative writing fellowships from the Arizona Commission on the Arts, Duarte is also the author of “Writing Through Revelations, Visions and Dreams: The Memoir of a Writer’s Soul.”

The Leal Award is named in honor of Luis Leal, a professor emeritus of Chicana and Chicano Studies at UCSB, who was internationally recognized as a leading scholar of Chicano and Latino literature.
Faculty Feature

Professor John Park

John S.W. Park is Chair and Professor of Asian American Studies. He came to UCSB in 2002, having served two years as an Assistant Professor in American Studies and Asian American Studies at the University of Texas at Austin. He completed his bachelor’s degree in Rhetoric from UC Berkeley, his master’s degree in public policy from Harvard, and his Ph.D. in Jurisprudence and Social Policy from UC Berkeley. At UCSB, in addition to several other positions, he has served as an Associate Dean in the Division of Undergraduate Studies in the College of Letters and Science, and he has also served and chaired the Undergraduate Council’s Committee on Admissions, Enrollment, and Relations with Schools.

Professor Park has written numerous scholarly works about immigration law and policy in the United States, particularly as they’ve pertained to Asian American history and to themes in Anglo American political theory. He has published three books: Elusive Citizenship (NYU, 2004); Probationary Americans (Routledge, 2005), co-authored with his brother, Edward Park; and Illegal Migrations and the Huckleberry Finn Problem (Temple, 2013). All of these works have explored the race-based dimensions of American public law, and they have also examined how citizens and immigrants have responded to these rules in interesting, surprising ways. He is working on two more books—the first provides an overview of how the Immigration Act of 1965 re-shaped American society; and the second considers how young people have had to cope with rules that defined them as “illegal” at various moments in American history.

Professor Park teaches classes in American immigration history, Asian American History, and legal history and legal theory, often from perspectives in philosophy and in comparative ethnic studies. He especially enjoys teaching, every fall, the large lower division course on American immigration law and migration trends after 1965. With his faculty and staff colleagues across campus, he also likes engaging students through organizations like Phi Beta Kappa and the Dream Scholars Resource Team. He loves every aspect of being a professor (except for grading), and he enjoys working with students, staff, and faculty at UCSB. This has been a wonderful place, he says, for scholarly work in ethnic studies, and he has long appreciated the University’s commitment to excellence and to diversity.