



## The New Normal





UC SANTA BARBARA

#5

Public  
National  
University

2022 U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT  
**BEST COLLEGES RANKINGS**

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# Welcome to UC Santa Barbara Magazine.

In these pages you will find stories highlighting our spectacular seaside university and meet some of the people, programs, scholarly pursuits and cultural endeavors that make UC Santa Barbara a world-class institution.

We are overjoyed to have our students, faculty and staff back on campus, to see their smiling faces and to feel their energy and enthusiasm.

Our recent Top 5 ranking on *U.S. News & World Report's* list of the best public universities in the country is a testament to the contributions of our campus community, our devoted alumni and our treasured friends and supporters.

Indeed, we would not be who we are without you, our wonderful alumni. Through networking, mentorship and service, you share your wisdom and experience, uplift our campus and inspire our current students, who will one day follow in your footsteps as lifelong Gauchos.

Your commitment to UC Santa Barbara is also demonstrated through your tremendous generosity. Last year, you, our devoted alumni, donated \$26 million – more than a quarter of all dollars raised. In fact, alumni accounted for nearly half of the total number of gifts our campus received.

We are sincerely grateful for your contributions to our campus and to the world beyond. You make us so proud.

As educators of the next generation of leaders and trailblazers, we also are proud of our designation as a Hispanic Serving Institution, a Minority Serving Institution and an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institution. We also are proud to be one of only 66 research institutions in the U.S. and Canada elected to membership in the prestigious Association of American Universities.

UC Santa Barbara is home to 10 national centers and institutes, and more than 100 research units, and our campus offers unique learning and research opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students. Our faculty includes six Nobel laureates; two Academy and Emmy Award winners; recipients of the Pulitzer Prize, Millennium Technology Prize, National Medal of Technology and Innovation, and Breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics, as well as Fulbright Scholar awards, Guggenheim Fellowships, MacArthur Foundation Chairs, and more. Many more are elected members or fellows of prestigious organizations such as the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, the National Academy of Inventors, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

But our university life extends beyond the classroom and the laboratory. Our campus is also home to top-ranking NCAA Division I programs, including our reigning Big West Champion men's basketball team, our 2016 College World Series participant and 12-time NCAA regional qualifier baseball program, our 2019 NCAA Tournament qualifier women's volleyball team and 14-time Big West champion women's basketball program. Men's tennis, women's tennis, and men's volleyball all earned Big West titles and qualified for postseason play last year as well. In addition, our men's soccer team, winners of the 2006 national championship, competed in the NCAA Tournament as champions of the Big West for the first time since 2010.

From our ground-breaking research and dedicated teaching, to our inclusive and diverse environment, as you will see reflected in these pages, our UC Santa Barbara family is bright and innovative, strong and resilient, and dedicated to making the world a better place. Many of our greatest dreams, aspirations and accomplishments are rooted in the fertile ground of our university.

Once again, welcome to *UC Santa Barbara Magazine* and to our Gaucho community.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Henry T. Yang". The signature is fluid and cursive.

**Henry T. Yang**  
Chancellor, UC Santa Barbara

# Contributors

We asked our featured contributors, “What was one of the ‘New Normal’ discoveries you made or things you came to appreciate during the pandemic?”



## K. Reka Badger '80

*Lunch outside proved to be an enduring highlight of 2020, and with “to-go” the only option, I packed plates, real cutlery and even a tablecloth. Those items now live in the car, so I’m always ready for a picnic!*



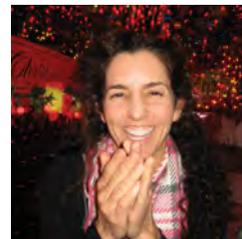
## Lauren Bennett '17

*COVID made me realize how much I value getting outside and being active. Now that we’re integrating back into the world, I make it a priority to take a daily five-mile walk to quiet my mind and fuel my body.*



## Cheryl Crabtree

*As a freelance writer, I already worked from home when the lockdown began. But I live alone and discovered that communication with friends and family via phone and Zoom was essential to maintain a positive attitude during months of isolation.*



## Michelle Drown '89

*Although the pandemic forced the world to stay home, a silver lining of mandatory lockdown for me was the amount of time I got to spend with my dogs. Being able to cuddle and play with them any time I want has been a soothing balm during a harrowing time.*



## Rachel Hommel '08

*I fell in love with evening strolls and park picnics — bringing together friends, dogs, music and amazing food to celebrate life and health. Moments and memories got a lot simpler...and increasingly richer. Go slow. Savor. Repeat.*



## Karna Hughes '95

*As heart-wrenching as the pandemic has been, it’s been a joy to rediscover the vast, beautiful wilderness at home in Santa Barbara. Backcountry trails, secluded beaches, parks — my boyfriend and I are delighted and exhilarated every time we explore them.*



## Matt Kettmann '99

*After a lifetime of loving the ocean, my eyes were opened to the joys of river life during the pandemic: first by using the nearby Santa Ynez River as a means of isolated escape with close friends and family, and just recently by taking a four-day ride down the Green River in Dinosaur National Monument. Talk about finding one’s flow!*



## Shelly Leachman

*Pre-pandemic I was in the gym by 5:30 a.m. every morning. On weekends I was mostly on the go. Forced to change my habits, I learned to appreciate simply being home. I started to enjoy walks. I learned to like sleeping until 7 a.m. And I can now officially make a perfect cup of coffee.*



## Jeff Liang '15

*I have deep gratitude for the essential workers who continued to work through the pandemic so that everyone else can continue their normal routine.*



## Jim Logan

*I discovered, maybe not for the first time, that my love of music does not mean I have any discernible talent to play it. Just ask the guitar I bought three months into the lockdown.*



## Justine Sutton '88

*I discovered the novel that’s been simmering on the back burner of my mind for ten years is still alive and wants to get out into the world! So, my New Normal is the fascinating process of midwifing this book.*



## John Zant '68

*Healthy eating: With more time to plan and prepare meals, my wife, Kathleen Rodriguez '70, and I have been making the most out of our great local organic produce, with wines to match.*

PHOTOS, TOP ROW, L-R: K. REKA BADGER, LAUREN BENNETT, DINO YOURNAS, MICHELLE DROWN; MIDDLE ROW, L-R: RACHEL HOMMEL, EARL ARNOLD, JOANNA KETTMANN, SHELLY LEACHMAN; BOTTOM ROW, L-R: JEFF LIANG, JIM LOGAN, JUSTINE SUTTON, JOHN ZANT



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Art by Yumiko Glover MA '17.  
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## UC SANTA BARBARA

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# On Campus





PHOTO: JEFF LIANG

"Check It Out" by artist Jane Gottlieb graces the West Paseo of the UC Santa Barbara Library. Unveiled in October, the 14 feet x 15 feet piece has both a futuristic and retro vibe, and is composed of eight archival prints on aluminum, assembled to fit snugly together.



## Brain Exercise Initiative

Student Volunteers Help Prevent Memory Loss

BY CHERYL CRABTREE

READING, WRITING and arithmetic: who would have thought these simple tasks could have a profound effect on dementia patients?

Neuroscientist Dr. Ryuta Kawashima's pioneering research in Tohoku, Japan, found that people with Alzheimer's showed marked improvements in cognitive function and mood by doing gentle reading and math exercises for just 30 minutes a day, five days a week.

Kawashima's research led to the founding of the **Brain Exercise Initiative** ([brainexerciseinitiative.com](http://brainexerciseinitiative.com)) (BEI), a nonprofit organization that connects university students with retirement home residents to conduct brain exercise programs that stimulate the prefrontal cortex to prevent memory loss. BEI now has 81 chapters in four countries.

The UC Santa Barbara chapter was founded in March 2020, when the pandemic lockdown began. **Tracy Hou**, current UCSB BEI vice president, was among the first group of volunteers, which numbered 15 to start. At first, the students offered virtual sessions at just two homes. The UC Santa Barbara chapter has grown

to include more than 80 student volunteers who work with nine residential facilities in Santa Barbara County. **Sidharth Barathi** and **Lilly Marco** currently serve as co-presidents.

Both students and residents enjoy the mutual interactions. "It's a win-win," Barathi explains. "It's an opportunity for students to get involved with the community and work with an isolated demographic." Seniors also express gratitude for outside connections and fun, uplifting experiences with a younger generation.

Sessions are offered free of charge two to six times a week, depending on the location. The group also works with several individual participants. All sessions are virtual (via Zoom) at the moment, but the chapter hopes to conduct in-person and hybrid sessions in the future, once it's safe to do so.

Dorie Rodriguez, lifestyles director at Mariposa at Ellwood Shores, says, "The independent and assisted living residents shared that they have experienced more focus and more confidence in their knowledge of numbers, current events and reading." Residents in memory care "demonstrate increased focus when the class is in session, which is very beneficial."

Holly Walling, activity director at Wood Glen Hall, reports that "some



of the residents really do feel it helps with their memory/clarity. Our residents are high functioning – we are an independent and assisted living facility – but many know many know that giving their brain a good workout can sure be helpful!"

For more information about the UCSB chapter of BEI, visit [ucsbbrainexerciseinitiative.wordpress.com](http://ucsbbrainexerciseinitiative.wordpress.com).

## Coming Together for Health Equity

UC SANTA BARBARA GRADUATE DIVISION

IN RESPONSE to the hardships of the pandemic on migrant and Indigenous communities in particular, research teams led by UC Santa Barbara graduate students – collaborating with the NAACP and the Latinx and Indigenous Migrant COVID-19 Response Task Force – are working with local health officials and community members to develop solutions.

## A Class of Its Own

The university breaks ground on its first new classroom building since 1967

BY SHELLY LEACHMAN



A 3-D rendering of the new classroom building now under construction.

# Athletes Give Back

BY CHERYL CRABTREE

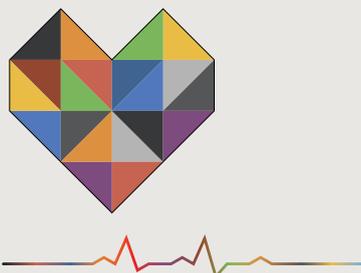
STUDENT ATHLETES at UC Santa Barbara are known for their exceptional skills and hardworking mindsets, but most developed those skills and attitudes long before they arrived on campus, thanks to dedicated coaches and mentors in their communities.

Appreciation for that essential foundation is the main reason UCSB Athletics expects and encourages student athletes to “pay it forward” by helping to train and motivate youth to become successful athletes. These efforts range from multi-day camps at UCSB to clinics at schools and the local Boys and Girls Clubs. The Gauchos Give community outreach initiative sends UC Santa Barbara soccer players to fill in as guest coaches for local soccer teams and gives nonprofit organizations, schools and other youth programs the chance to attend live sporting events throughout the year.

The women’s basketball team is especially dedicated to helping youth at camps and clinics. Head Coach **Bonnie Henrikson** says



these activities are “a way to give back to youth in our community and county and to build relationships with families through basketball.” The activities are also an opportunity to introduce prospective recruits to the beautiful campus and the enthusiastic team. Point guard **Danae Miller** says she really enjoys connecting with the younger players. “We try to inspire them to continue pursuing that dream of playing college basketball and more.”



Being part of the whole, made up of professors, community leaders, students, and volunteers is a unique real-world opportunity for sociology Ph.D. student **Alex Maldonado**, a research team leader. “This has been the most impactful to me, to experience what it is like to be part of something bigger than yourself and to experience the trust and

gratitude developed when you work with someone else to help others in need,” she says.

The work is part of a course in the Department of Counseling, Clinical, and School Psychology, taught by professors **Melissa Smith**, **Melissa Morgan**, and **Maryam Kia-Keating**, which introduces community-based participatory research methods focused on health equity.

“The course promotes social justice and equity, and addresses structural racism, not just by virtue of the readings and amplifying the voices of minority communities, but through action,” says Kia-Keating, professor of clinical psychology. “The students are involved directly with community organizations

and community members, and rather than playing the part of the expert-outsider, their role is as a solution-partner.” Teams of graduate and undergraduate students, for example, developed and analyzed a community survey on attitudes toward vaccines and provided technical support to ensure language access to a virtual public forum in Spanish and Indigenous languages.

“We are so proud of the work our graduate students are doing on behalf of health equity and social justice,” says **Leila Rupp**, interim Anne and Michael Towbes Graduate Dean. “By engaging in research with, and not just for, community members, they are making a difference for marginalized populations throughout Santa Barbara County.”

IN A MOVE it hasn’t made in more than 50 years, UC Santa Barbara has broken ground on the first building dedicated to classroom space since 1967. The project, featuring state-of-the-art spaces and learning technology, was approved by the UC Regents in 2019.

Completion of the four-story building is anticipated for spring 2023.

The building offers modernized lecture halls and classrooms with the latest interactive learning and instructional technologies at the heart of the campus. It will increase the campus’s classroom seating

capacity by 2,000 seats, or 35%. A plan has also been formulated for bicycle traffic and more than 1,800 bicycle parking spaces.

The state-funded project is supported by appropriations from the 2019-20 State Budget Act earmarked specifically for construction of the classroom building.

THEN & NOW

## Wheels of Fun

Between the bicycle-friendly weather, the relatively flat terrain, and the environmentally-conscious ethos on campus, it's no wonder that UC Santa Barbara has long been known for its bicycle culture. More than 10,000 people bicycle-commute between their homes and the university on a daily basis. With seven miles of Class 1 bike paths and more than 20,000 bike parking spots on campus — not to mention designated skateboard lanes — expect to see those wheels keep on turning for years and years to come.

BY LESLIE DINABERG



### Where were you in '62?

This photo of a student dressed for success and riding a bike near the library was taken on October 7, 1962, just four years after the campus moved from the Santa Barbara Riviera to its current location.



### Casual Rides.

Today's students make their way around the League of American Bicyclists' certified Platinum-level Bike Friendly University, where backpacks are now ubiquitous and comfortable athleisure wear is de rigueur both on campus and in many professions.

# In the Words of the Buddha

UC Santa Barbara joins forces with global 84000 project to translate entirety of the Tibetan Buddhist canon

BY SHELLY LEACHMAN

THE BUDDHA is said to have delivered some 84,000 teachings, and the Tibetan Buddhist canon, all told, is more than 230,000 pages long. A global push to translate every word into English – described as a “100-year project” – has been underway for several years. That effort now has a new partner to help move it closer to the finish line: UC Santa Barbara.

The university’s Buddhist Studies program and the nonprofit 84000: Translating the Words of the Buddha, have teamed to launch the Buddhist Texts Translation Initiative at UC Santa Barbara. It’s a major endeavor with enormous, worldwide significance.

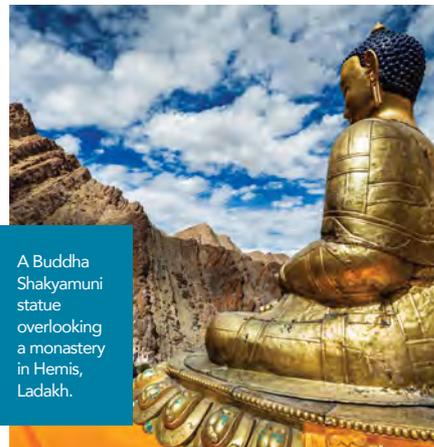
“The study of the scripture is central to the academic study of Buddhism, just as the Bible is to the study of Judaism and Christianity,” says **José I. Cabezón**, director of the new initiative, who holds the Dalai Lama Endowed Chair in the Department of Religious Studies. “But unlike the Bible, the Buddhist canon is vast. In its Tibetan version, it contains 108 volumes. The 84000 Project is a decades-long initiative to translate the Tibetan Buddhist canon in its entirety. The Buddhist Studies program, part of the university’s religious studies department, is excited to partner with the 84000 Project to realize this historic goal of creating an accurate, readable and freely accessible translation of the Tibetan Buddhist scriptures.

“The Buddhist Texts Translation Initiative gives students a unique opportunity to study and translate one of the most important collections of texts in the Buddhist world: Tibet’s scriptural canon,” explains Cabezón. “It prepares them to do independent research on this

understudied collection, and it gives them the experience and expertise to become independent translators of Tibetan sacred literature.”

The translation of Tibetan texts, including scriptures, has been central to the training of students at UCSB, he continues. And in fact several UC Santa Barbara students have already published translations that are available in the 84000 Reading Room, with others underway. The new partnership formalizes existing strong ties between the campus and 84000, and provides support for training a new generation of translators whose work is grounded in the academic study of Buddhism and the rigorous study of classical texts.

“This new partnership with 84000 is a fantastic opportunity for our department, not the least because it acknowledges our strong and longstanding commitment to the academic, critical study of original texts of the various religious traditions,” says **Fabio Rambelli**, chair of religious studies.



A Buddha Shakyamuni statue overlooking a monastery in Hemis, Ladakh.

## BY THE NUMBERS

### Sports Stats

NUMBER OF STUDENT ATHLETES

500

NUMBER OF STUDENT-ATHLETES ON THE LARGEST FALL/WINTER TEAM ROSTER  
MEN’S WATER POLO

41

SECOND LARGEST NUMBER OF STUDENT-ATHLETES ON TEAM ROSTER  
MEN’S SOCCER & WOMEN’S SOCCER TEAMS ARE TIED

36

CUMULATIVE GPA ACROSS ALL TEAMS

3,354

PERCENT OF STUDENT-ATHLETES WITH A QUARTERLY GPA OF 3.0 OR HIGHER

78

NUMBER OF NEW HEAD COACHES FOR THE 2021-22 SEASONS

JACLYN ROSEN, MEN’S AND WOMEN’S SWIMMING; BLAKE MULLER, MEN’S TENNIS

2

TOPICAL SOLUTIONS

## Partners in the Future

JoAnn Kuchera-Morin Joins California 100 initiative

BY JIM LOGAN

THE NEW CALIFORNIA 100 INITIATIVE was built to rock the future with innovative research, policy innovation and advanced technology. **JoAnn Kuchera-Morin** has been three steps ahead of the world for nearly four decades. Bring them together and the possibilities for the state's next century are boundless.

Incubated at UC Berkeley and Stanford University, California 100 is taking a bold, interdisciplinary approach to shaping the future, engaging researchers like Kuchera-Morin, a professor in UC Santa Barbara's Media Arts and Technology (MAT) program and in the Department of Music. Of the 13 areas the initiative encompasses, her team will focus on arts, culture and entertainment.

Kuchera-Morin, the principal investigator, is joined by **Gustavo Rincon**, a Media Arts and Technology researcher, and Jean Johnstone of UC Berkeley, who will concentrate on public policy issues.

Bringing Kuchera-Morin into the California 100 initiative was an inspired move. She is the director and chief designer of the AlloSphere, a three-story wonder of data visualization and



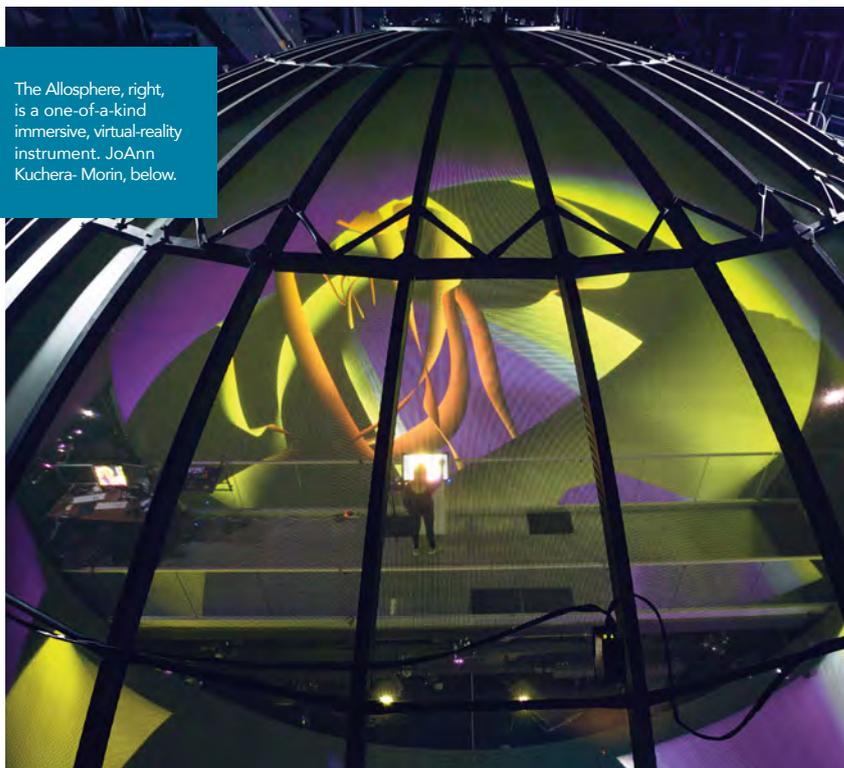
interactivity. Housed in the campus's California NanoSystems Institute, it allows researchers and others to see and hear their data in a three-dimensional, 360-degree immersive experience.

Completed in 2007, the AlloSphere looks like it came

“I can't get five Nobel laureates to put helmets on their heads and communicate to one another about their physics simulations, but

I can bring them into the AlloSphere.”

—JOANN KUCHERA-MORIN



The AlloSphere, right, is a one-of-a-kind immersive, virtual-reality instrument. JoAnn Kuchera-Morin, below.

from the future. Its 26 projectors and 54.1 speakers (really) allow researchers to be surrounded, literally, by visualizations of their data. It's art in the service of science created by someone who has been blending music and technology since the days of floppy disks and big shoulder pads.

“I'll tell you why I built that big thing,” Kuchera-Morin says. “Because you cannot do virtual experimentation in a helmet. I can't get five Nobel laureates to put helmets on their heads and communicate to one another about their physics simulations, but I can bring them into the AlloSphere.”

And with the help of California 100's research sponsorships and engagement with leaders in their fields, she'll help bring the rest of us into the future.

## THE SHORT LIST

# The Beat Goes On

BY LESLIE DINABERG

“LIKE ANY OF YOUR SENSES – the act of listening to a song can conjure up feelings and, in this case, a love of your college days,” says **Darla Bea ‘03** (djarlabea.com). As Stevie Wonder once said, “Music, at its essence, is what gives us memories. And the longer a song has existed in our lives, the more memories we have of it.”

Sporting slews of rave reviews from national wedding websites and voted Santa Barbara’s favorite DJ for six years in a row, Bea has made a career out of homing in on the visceral, emotional connection that tunes play in our lives. “Rock it Properly,” her weekly radio show that’s been running on KCSB since 2007, is a meticulously researched round-up of fun facts and musical magic.

When last year’s All Gaucho Reunion had to go virtual, Bea helped to make it memorable by creating seven different GauchoBeats playlists, curated by decade, from 1939 to the present. From Bill Haley & His Comets’ “(We’re Gonna) Rock Around the Clock” and The Beach Boys’ “Good Vibrations,” to Chumbawamba’s “Tubthumping” and Walk the Moon’s “Shut Up and Dance,” these Spotify playlists of feel-good tunes (alumni.ucsb.edu/events/all-gaucho-reunion#gaucho Beats) brought some much-needed positivity during some rather grim days.

Of her time at UC Santa Barbara, Bea says, “The magic and music were always a thing that drew me out to hear bands play in Isla Vista and at UCSB, and of course I knew I was going to get an excellent education. I just wanted to be part of that.”

A Santa Barbara native who lived at home during college, she says, “I did not have a car, had a bus pass. I spent a lot of time on campus in the library and the bookstore. I loved looking at all the media out there; it was a really good bookstore. And every once in a while I’d have to call my dad to get me because I missed the last bus.”

Known for her colorful wigs, kicky costumes and eclectic mixes, Bea still comes to campus every Sunday to host her radio show, and says one of her goals is to, “expand your narrow way of thinking about music. The world is a lot smaller when you can grasp a culture, or an era, through their music.”



## Bedside Reading

BY ANDREA ESTRADA



All academics share a passion for books, but their reading for pleasure doesn’t necessarily connect to their scholarly disciplines. **Jeffrey Stewart**, professor of Black Studies and author of the 2019 Pulitzer Prize-winning biography *The New Negro: The Life of Alain Locke*, shares some of the titles on his booklist.

**Michael Jordan: The Life** by Roland Lazenby. Rather than being the typical hagiographic or takedown sports biography, Lazenby’s book is a revealing study of the Jim Crow conditions of life in North Carolina that produced Michael Jordan.

**Skye Papers** by Jamika Ajalon. With addictive, mesmerizing prose, Ajalon provides a unique coming-of-age story of a queer Black artist obsessed with the pervasiveness of state surveillance, a metaphor of the death of privacy in post-modern London — and the West.

**Anti-Intellectualism in American Life** by Richard Hofstadter. Hofstadter’s 1962 classic critique of the American Mind reads to me as more relevant today than when it was written in the wake of McCarthyism.

**All That Beauty** by Fred Moten. Moten’s haunting tribute in poetry to Black beauty is so refreshing, as when he writes, “Blackness is the ceaselessly miraculous demonstration that there is no black and white, just sun and shade.”

**The Idea of the Holy** by German theologian and philosopher Rudolf Otto. As one becomes older, one’s thoughts almost always turn toward questions of whether a God or an afterlife exists. Otto brilliantly showed that those are the wrong questions. More important is whether we have an encounter with Spirit in this world.

OFF THE CLOCK

# Previously Committed

BY CHERYL CRABTREE

ON A SULTRY SUNDAY in mid-August 2021, the Santa Barbara Museum of Art celebrated its grand reopening with free public entry and musical fanfare, including a jazz ensemble near the museum steps. Their captivating music – unusual reinterpretations of traditional jazz standards that incorporate Indian and Middle Eastern classical melodies – attracted numerous bystanders who lined the nearby walls and filled seats at Mosaic Locale and adjacent bars and restaurants.

A trio of UC Santa Barbara professors forms the core of the band, aptly called *Previously Committed*. They augment their rigorous academic responsibilities by pouring their creative interests into music. **Sumita Pennathur**, a mechanical engineering professor, plays alto saxophone. **Aashish Mehta**, a political economics professor in the global studies department, excels on the keyboard, guitar and the Indian flute. **Tevfik Bultan**, professor and chair of the computer science department, commands the bass. He also writes most of the group’s music electronically; 80% of the songs are original compositions. The ensemble chose its name, Pennathur explains, “because one day I asked Henry Yang to come, and he said he was ‘previously committed’ (true story!).”

Pennathur and Mehta first met in 2007 through a fellow jazz musician while residing at the Willow Springs apartment complex near the UC Santa Barbara campus. Bultan later joined the duo to form an ensemble. They all share a passion for jazz and backgrounds in performing



classical music from their family homelands in southern and northern India and Turkey.

Other musicians who perform regularly with *Previously Committed* include economic consultant Howard Park, a drummer who, according to Mehta, “can play any instrument”; Kirk Miller, on the tenor saxophone and clarinet; and singer Julie McMurray.

The demands of teaching, academic administration and family present challenges to extracurricular activities such as music but the band members all share a serious commitment to practice and a highly professional performance level. The group practices about once a week, usually a two-hour session on Saturday morning. They perform once a month or so at favorite local venues such as Draughtsmen Aleworks and Captain Fatty’s.

Practice and performances are often a family affair. Pennathur’s son Anthony, a sophomore at Dos Pueblos High School, plays tenor saxophone. Bultan’s daughter, Leyla, a Dos Pueblos junior, sings, plays piano and composes songs, while son Aydin drums and sings. Mehta’s 12-year-old daughter hopes to perform when she’s older. Spouses, children and friends all join in the fun at gigs.

When asked why they remain committed to their music no matter how busy their schedules, band members echo similar sentiments. “It’s the thing that keeps us sane,” Mehta declares. Adds Pennathur, “It’s my release.”

Bultan explains, “It is not entirely clear to me why I love music as much as I do, but I do love it a lot. I love improvising, composing and improvising together with a band as you get to do in jazz. I think musical improvisation is a type of abstract self-expression, and it is fun.”

## HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW?

# On Campus Dining

Test your knowledge of these fun foodie facts

**1. How many meals are served annually in UC Santa Barbara's dining commons and on-site eateries?**

- A. 2 million
- B. 4 million
- C. 6 million
- D. 9 million

**2. How many food service outposts are located on campus (including dining commons, markets and eateries)?**

- A. 9
- B. 15
- C. 16
- D. 20

**3. How many pounds of coffee are consumed at these venues each week?**

- A. 660
- B. 800
- C. 885
- D. 935

**4. What is the most popular food item?**

- A. Grilled chicken taco
- B. Tri-tip
- C. Grass fed burger
- D. All of the above

**5. How many pounds of food waste (pre- and post-) is composted per week?**

- A. 35,000
- B. 41,000
- C. 52,000
- D. 60,000

**6. On average, how many students do the dining commons serve per day?**

- A. 11,623
- B. 11,723
- C. 12,225
- D. 13,120



### ANSWERS:

- 1. C) 6 million
- 2. B) 15
- 3. C) 885
- 4. D) All of the above
- 5. B) 41,000
- 6. A) 11,623

## TRICKS OF THE TRADE

# Golf Tips

BY ANDREA ESTRADA



If you're looking to improve your golf score and maybe work a birdie, eagle, double eagle or albatross into your next game, UC Santa Barbara men's golf coach **Steve Lass**

has some tips and tricks that are more than par for the course.

**1. Practice, practice, practice.** And then practice some more.

My favorite saying for golf is, "Hard work always pays off, not necessarily when you want it to, but in the long run it always pays off."

**2. Take a few minutes to watch the other golfers** — skilled and not — and see what they do. Especially, seek out those who look like they know what they're doing and try to emulate them. That's what little kids do, and kids typically have good golf swings.

**3. Don't try to muscle the golf ball.** Try to feel the weight of the club head in your hands and use gravity and centrifugal force to hit the ball. It's a swinging motion, not a muscle motion.

**4. Think rhythm, balance and tempo.** If you have those elements in your golf swing, it's far better than having great mechanics. Imagine trying to learn a new, complex dance move in one day and then going out dancing that night. You're probably going to look kind of foolish. Instead, pick out a few key elements to the dance and then let yourself flow to the rhythm and the music.

**5. For you beginners, go to the driving range** at least a few times before you venture out onto the golf course. And once on the course, take only one practice swing and then hit the ball. Serious golfers don't hate beginners, they hate beginners who take too long. Play quickly!

Lass's favorite links: Cypress Point Club in Monterey, established in 1928 ("a must-play") and Pacific Grove Municipal Golf Links, originally designed in 1932 ("it's like being in Scotland or Ireland").

Lass's greatest golf experience: Competing in the Chase Pan Am World Amateur Team Play Championship in Rio de Janeiro. "We played at the Gávea Golf and Country Club — one of the top 100 courses in the world," he recalls.

## Where Theory and Practice Meet

The Rinker Undergraduate Teaching Lab is a study in the power of alumni

BY JILLIAN TEMPESTA



PROFESSOR EMERITUS **Robert Rinker** is a former CalTech engineer whose military demeanor inspired affectionate chalkboard drawings of “Bullrinker” – a moose with a buzzcut. As one of the first professors in UC Santa Barbara’s Department of Chemical Engineering, Rinker influenced generations of students. In 2007, to celebrate the department’s 40th anniversary, grateful alumni established the Rinker Undergraduate Teaching Lab Endowment. The endowment was funded fully in 2020 and will maintain in perpetuity the lab’s state-of-the-art teaching capability. The ongoing support of engineering alumni exemplifies the power of alumni engagement.

Alumni enthusiasm for the Rinker Lab did more than raise money: **Dean Rod Alferness** responded by appointing to the lab a full-time professor, **Mike Gordon**, who holds the Founder’s Chair in Chemical Engineering in honor of Dr. Robert G. Rinker. Like his chair’s namesake, Gordon is beloved by students. All aspiring chemical engineers complete the

Rinker Undergraduate Teaching Lab core curriculum.

Students take classes in fluid mechanics, heat transfer, mass transfer, thermodynamics, reaction kinetics, process control and separations. Then, under Gordon’s mentorship, they run these processes in a working chemical plant scaled down to a lab in Engineering II.

“When I started, the lab was in a bad place,” says Gordon. “The experiments needed an update, and there was an opportunity to align the pedagogy with hands-on training.”

In 2011, through the alumni-funded Rinker endowment and other philanthropy, Gordon removed the boiler that powered outdated steam experiments and installed modular experiment units that can evolve with the field. Students now perform new biological enzyme experiments, a prelude to making ethanol for biofuels.

The Rinker Undergraduate Teaching Lab empowers students to learn from their mistakes. How do you design shampoo so it doesn’t rip hair out? What are the properties of hand sanitizer, mayonnaise, eggs?

“Deriving an equation to describe laminar flow in a cylinder isn’t nearly as fun as putting egg whites into a rheometer to see how they move,” says **Isaac Zacharia**, a fourth-year chemical engineering major in UCSB’s five-year materials B.S./M.S. program.

Professor **Mike Doherty** became department chair just before the 40th reunion that catalyzed the Rinker Undergraduate Teaching Lab fundraising effort. He was too familiar with the universal problem of such a lab having no direct line item in the budget.

“It never occurred to me that the answer to the problem of having no budget was to fix it yourself,” Doherty says.

With Doherty’s leadership, over 200 chemical engineering alumni united to modernize the Rinker Undergraduate Teaching Lab. Among them was one of the first UC Santa Barbara chemical engineering students, **Jim Heslin ’73**. For the department’s 50th anniversary in 2017, Heslin and UC Santa Barbara Foundation Trustee **Darryl McCall ’78** offered a joint matching gift to encourage alumni to reach an endowment goal that would fund the lab in perpetuity.

Heslin’s support is rooted in his belief in public education. “I owe my entire professional existence to the University of California,” says Heslin, who went on to law school at UC Berkeley. “All UC graduates must understand that it’s up to them to support the UC system.”

In 2019, McCall made the gift that ensured endowment payments would meet the lab’s ongoing basic needs. Throughout his 12 years of fundraising for the Rinker Lab, he was motivated by helping undergraduates transfer their skills from academia to professions in industry.

“I knew if you gave students the right equipment, there’d be time left to understand the practicalities of things.” —DARRYL MCCALL

McCall, Heslin, Gordon, Doherty and hundreds of alumni have built a lab where undergraduates can practice skills that transfer from university to industry.

“The majority of my class of ’78 have all been successful, but you don’t succeed individually, and the opportunity for philanthropy never ends,” says McCall. “Those of you who consider yourselves successful UCSB alumni: please consider giving back.”

## AWARDS AND HONORS



### Best in Building

Henley Hall recognized for state-of-the-art architecture and sustainability

BY SHELLY LEACHMAN

A YEAR AFTER it officially “opened” for use, the modern, shimmering building that houses UC Santa Barbara’s Institute for Energy Efficiency is earning major accolades for its overall design and for its sustainability features.

Henley Hall has received The American Architecture Award for 2021, a global honor jointly presented by The Chicago

Athenaeum: Museum of Architecture and Design and The European Centre for Architecture Art Design and Urban Studies. The prestigious awards program recognizes the best in new and cutting-edge design in the U.S., and promotes American architecture and design in the U.S. and abroad.

In addition, the building has been certified as LEED Platinum, the top designation awarded by the U.S. Green Building Council within its framework for green building design, construction, operations and performance. LEED is the most widely used green building rating system in the world, and LEED certification is a globally recognized symbol of sustainability achievement and leadership.

The 50,000-square foot Henley Hall is a model of efficiency, with passive features such as solar shading and thermal insulation and active features including demand-controlled ventilation and a 25% reduction in lighting power density. More than 20% recycled materials were used in its construction.

“We designed Henley Hall to be a very energy-efficient building from the ground up, **John Bowers**, director of the institute, says of their goal – now met – to achieve the LEED Platinum rating. “There are many different features, from natural lighting and ventilation to optimum air handling in chemical labs. It is great to have that effort recognized.

“Energy efficiency is key to solving climate change and making U.S. industry more efficient in energy use and expense,” adds Bowers, also a professor of electrical and computer engineering. “Henley Hall is essential to expanding UC Santa Barbara’s contributions to energy efficiency.”

### In the Top Five

U.S. News & World Report ranks UC Santa Barbara No. 5 among the country’s top public universities

IN ITS 2022 listing of the “Top Public Schools,” *U.S. News & World Report* ranked UC Santa Barbara No. 5. Among the “Best National Universities,” which includes both public and private institutions, UC Santa Barbara placed No. 28.

UC Santa Barbara’s College of Engineering is ranked No. 18 among public universities on the *U.S. News & World Report* list of “Best Programs at Engineering Schools Whose Highest Degree is a Doctorate.”

In addition, UC Santa Barbara is ranked No. 5 among public universities — and No. 10 overall — on the magazine’s list of “Best Colleges for Veterans.” Among public universities, UC Santa Barbara placed No. 15 on the “Best Ethnic Diversity” ranking, and on the list of Top Performers on Social Mobility, the campus ranked No. 12.

UC Santa Barbara continues to attract the best of the best. Among prospective freshmen and undergraduate transfer students, academic qualifications and diversity remain exceptionally high. For the 2021-22 academic year, the average high school grade-point average of applicants admitted is 4.36.

“Students admitted showed tremendous resilience while adapting to different learning environments due to COVID-19,” says Admissions Director **Lisa Przekop**. “They showed creativity, compassion, adaptability and intellectual vitality. These students are ready to join the UC Santa Barbara community and they will make positive contributions as we learn from our experiences over the past 18 months.”

UC Santa Barbara has performed exceptionally well in other national rankings, including the *Forbes* annual list of America’s Top Colleges and *Washington Monthly’s* 2021 National University Rankings.

WHAT'S COOKING

## Gauche Grub

BY CHERYL CRABTREE

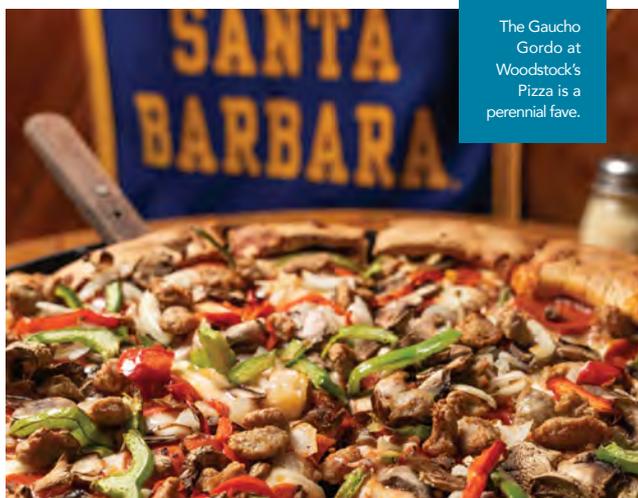
GAUCHO-THEMED dishes and drinks abound at eateries and brewpubs on the UC Santa Barbara campus and in Isla Vista and Goleta neighborhoods. Here are a few of the most popular items and where you can find them.

Head to **M.Special** ([mspecialbrewco.com](http://mspecialbrewco.com)) (6860 Cortona Dr., Suite C, Goleta) to quench your thirst with a Sabado Tarde Special Tangerine Ale, a refreshing brew with a slight aroma and flavor of tangerine. Or quaff a Gauche Mexican Lager – a light beer brewed with flaked corn, tetenang and saaz hops at **Hollister Brewing Company** ([hollisterbrewco.com](http://hollisterbrewco.com)) (6980 Marketplace Drive, Goleta).

Feast on a Gauche Burger – an 8-ounce angus patty with beer-battered onion rings and applewood smoked bacon, Sweet Baby Ray's barbecue sauce, and cheddar cheese on a potato bun at the **Hilton Garden Inn Roof Top Bistro & Bar** ([hiltongardeninn3.hilton.com](http://hiltongardeninn3.hilton.com)) (6878 Hollister Ave., Goleta), or the delectable Gauche Ramen with house-made pork or chicken broth at **Sushiya Express** (955 Embarcadero del Mar, Isla Vista).

**Woodstock's Pizza** ([woodstocksiv.com](http://woodstocksiv.com)) (928 Embarcadero del Norte, Isla Vista) celebrates UCSB with its Gauche Gordo, topped with pepperoni, sausage, freshly sliced bell peppers, onions and mushrooms, and the IV Classic, with pepperoni, sausage, black olives, mushrooms and onion slices. When in IV, also look for **Gauche Tacos**, which usually sets up on the corner of Sueno Road and Camino Pescadero from 6 to 9 p.m. when the university is in session.

Enjoy!



The Gauche Gordo at Woodstock's Pizza is a perennial fave.

60 SECOND SYLLABUS

## New Class Examines Creative Ways to Approach Food Justice

BY CHERYL CRABTREE

IT MAY SEEM SIMPLE, even in first-world countries, to expect access to fresh, nutritious food every day. But in many communities, residents live with food insecurity, waking up most mornings wondering how they will find and pay for meals that support their health, well-being and success.

Two UC Santa Barbara graduate students have proposed solutions to the problem.

**MacKenzie Wade**, a Ph.D. student in sociocultural anthropology with an interdepartmental emphasis in environment and society, researches the changing cultural perceptions of edible insects, and the impact of the food we eat. **Mariah Miller** is working on a Ph.D. in global studies. Her research centers on the changing relationships between business and society

PRAISE FOR PROFESSORS

## Faculty Honors

Members of the UC Santa Barbara faculty are recognized for their outstanding scholarly achievements

**JOE INCANDELA**, vice chancellor for research and professor of physics, is among the newly elected members of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences.

Founded in 1780 by John Adams and John Hancock, among others who believed the new republic should honor exceptionally accomplished individuals and engage them in advancing the public good, the academy is an independent research center that convenes leaders from across disciplines, professions and perspectives to address significant challenges.

**Jeffrey Stewart**, professor of Black studies and **Victor Rios**, professor of sociology, have been named John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Chairs. Both scholars are deeply invested in community engagement and in centering the experiences of Black and Brown people on the margins of society. Their professorships, each of which includes a \$1 million endowment for



in the context of globalization. Miller and Wade teamed up for the UC Santa Barbara Crossroads 2.0 competition, which gives graduate student pairs from different disciplines an opportunity to develop and teach a course in the College of Creative Studies.

Their proposal for Alternative Food, Alternative Economies: Creative Collaborations to Reimagine the Food System beat out 21 competitors, and they spent the summer developing a syllabus for the course they will teach during winter quarter 2022.

“Critical engagement with solutions to food system reform is essential and increasingly important as the environment becomes more precarious and the harmful social impacts of an unsustainable and unjust food system more widespread,” states the course description. “UCSB is becoming an intellectual hub for food system dialogue and change. This course is designed to prepare CCS students to participate in on- and off-campus activities that extend their engagement with the food system beyond their role as consumers.”

“We have been fortunate to have a lot of faculty, staff and student support throughout our course preparation

stage,” they note. They spent the summer learning about the College of Creative Studies goals, structure and student community, and developing a strategic plan for teaching about food systems and food justice on campus.

“We joined a student-run food systems book club through the Edible Campus program, and we meet weekly in one of Isla Vista’s community gardens to learn about the issues UCSB students care about. We met with other food systems educators including **Liz Carlisle** (environmental studies), **Silke Werth** (anthropology) and **Jennifer Martin** (environmental studies) to discuss approaches to food systems pedagogy, receive advice and share our course plans. All of these meetings have worked to transform our syllabus from big ideas to a grounded and creative course which will push students to engage critically with food systems and develop their own solutions in interdisciplinary teams.”

a five-year term, will support their joint project, “A New Eden in Southern California: Promoting Black and Brown Futures in Resilient Communities.”

For their distinguished and continuing achievements in original research, UC Santa Barbara professors **Denise Montell**, **Linda Petzold** and **Glenn Fredrickson** have been elected to the National Academy of Sciences. Membership in the NAS is one of the most prestigious recognitions awarded to a scientist or engineer in the United States.

Montell, Duggan Professor in Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology, was recognized for her contributions to cancer cell biology; Petzold, Mehrabian Distinguished Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Computer Science, was honored for her contributions to theoretical numerical analysis; and Fredrickson, Mitsubishi Chemical Chair in Functional Materials who pioneered computational field theory techniques, was cited for his contributions to soft-matter theory.

**Craig Hawker**, the Alan and Ruth Heeger Chair in Interdisciplinary Science and director of the California NanoSystems Institute and the Dow Materials Institute, and **Rachel Segalman**, the Edward Noble Kramer Professor and professor of chemical engineering and of materials, have been elected to the National Academy of Engineering.

Segalman was recognized for her contributions to semiconducting block polymers, polymeric ionic liquids and hybrid thermoelectric materials. Hawker was cited for his contributions to polymer chemistry through synthetic organic chemistry concepts and the advancement of molecular engineering principles. ▲



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: JOE INCANDELA, RACHEL SEGALMAN, VICTOR RIOS, CRAIG HAWKER, DENISE MONTELL, GLENN FREDRICKSON, JEFFREY STEWART, LINDA PETZOLD

PHOTOS, LEFT TO RIGHT: JEFF LIANG, COURTESY (9)

# On With the Show!



Ballet Hispánico performs its 50th anniversary program on January 21, featuring choreographer Annabelle Lopez Ochoa's *West Side Story*-inspired *Tiburones*.



From concerts and stage performances to gallery exhibitions and film screenings, the curtain is rising on an exciting season of live, in-person performances.

Written by Justine Sutton '88

## UCSB Arts & Lectures

The cultural treasure Ballet Hispánico, Emmy and Tony award-winning actor/ comedian John Leguizamo, pop duo She & Him, Grammy-winning violinist Joshua Bell, some of the greatest instrumentalists in bluegrass history in My Bluegrass Heart, and nine-time Grammy winner and Pulitzer Prize recipient Wynton Marsalis and the legendary Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra: These are just a few of the world-class performers coming to the university and to the Santa Barbara community this season courtesy of UCSB Arts & Lectures.

Many A&L events, particularly the new “Justice for All” series – with speakers like Rise founder Amanda Nguyen and *New York Times* investigative journalist Andrea Elliott — will be live-streamed for ticket holders who prefer to experience them from the comfort and safety of their homes.

## Music

The Department of Music is home not only to the award-winning UC Santa Barbara Opera Theatre, which presents both fully staged operas and selections, but also to 26 music and choral ensembles. Collectively they cover almost every genre there is, from jazz to chamber music to Son Jarocho.

Upcoming performances include the Middle East Ensemble, directed by Scott Marcus, presenting music and dance reflecting the great diversity of cultures found in the Middle East. Focusing especially on music and dance from Iran, their winter concert will feature the orchestra-sized ensemble, chorus and dance company and three guest artists: a Persian singer, a tonbak drummer and a ney flute player. Also slated for winter concerts: the Ensemble for Contemporary Music, the Wind Ensemble, UCSB Chamber Players and Chamber Orchestra, UCSB Choirs, the Music of India Ensemble, the Jazz Ensemble and the UCSB Gospel Choir.

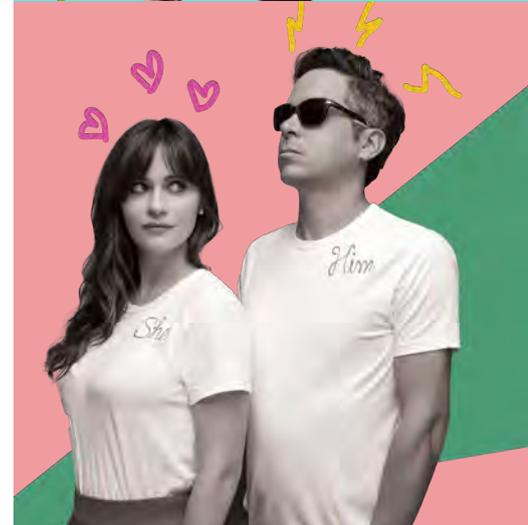
## Dance

On the dance stage, Santa Barbara Dance Theater, the university’s resident professional dance company under the artistic direction of Brandon Whited, will offer a winter program of new original works presented in the campus’s Performing Arts Theater. The UCSB Dance Company, guided by artistic director Delila Moseley, will premiere pieces by guest choreographers Yusha-Marie Solzano, Derion Loman and Joshua Manculich, as well as restagings of works by world renowned choreographers Donald McKayle and José Limón.

Also coming this winter, the theater and dance and the music departments are collaborating on a new, abridged English version of Mozart’s *The Magic Flute*. Directed by the distinguished Isabel Bayrakdarian, a professor in the music department’s voice program, the whimsical staging in Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall will feature choreography and puppets designed by dance lecturer Christina McCarthy.

## Theater

Every year, the Department of Theater and Dance produces innovative, original plays and reimagined classics. This season’s offerings include *Spectral Frequencies*, a ghostly amalgam of scary stories drawn from Australia’s rich legacy of horror radio, devised and directed by Jo Palazuelos-Krukowski; and a timely production of *The Bones of Contention*, written and directed by Leo Cabranes-Grant, which takes place in the aftermath of a pandemic.



## Art, Design & Architecture Museum

The Art, Design & Architecture Museum, which welcomes new director Gabriel Ritter (see sidebar) is unveiling three new shows this fall: "Sound of A Thousand Years: Gagaku Instruments from Japan," "Irresistible Delights: Recent Gifts to the Art Collection" and "From Riggs to Neutra and Niemeyer: Tremaine Houses, 1936-1977."

The museum displays a rotating selection of pieces from its permanent collection of over 8,500 works featuring old masters, American realists and contemporary and multimedia artists, and from the Architecture and Design Collection (ADC).

Among the largest and most-acclaimed architecture and design archives in North America, the ADC features more than one million architectural drawings, historic photographs, writings, scrapbooks and three-dimensional models and objects from renowned architects such as Albert Frey, Irving Gill, Cliff May, Rudolph M. Schindler and Kem Weber. ▲

UCSB Arts & Lectures offerings for the 2021/22 season include (from top): *My Bluegrass Heart*, *Dandara Veiga of Ballet Hispánico*, *Zooey Deschanel* and *M. Ward of She & Him*, and activist *Amanda Nguyen*. Below, an architectural model of the *Von Romberg-Tremaine house "Brünnghausen"* (Montecito, California) by *Martha Gray*, on view at the Art, Design & Architecture Museum exhibit "From Riggs to Neutra and Niemeyer: Tremaine Houses, 1936-1977." Far right, Gabriel Ritter. ▲

PHOTOS, COUNTERCLOCKWISE FROM TOP: BRYAN SUTTON, PAULA LOBO, COURTESY UCSB ARTS & LECTURES (2), TONY MASTRES (2)



## Spotlight: Meet Gabriel Ritter

Gabriel Ritter, an expert in Japanese modern and contemporary art, is the new director of the Art, Design & Architecture Museum, coming to UC Santa Barbara from the Minneapolis Institute of Art (Mia). In addition to overseeing the museum, he will join the faculty of the Department of History of Art and Architecture.

Prior to his five years as Mia's curator and head of contemporary art, Ritter held curatorial positions at the Dallas Museum of Art and at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles, and has curated a large number of influential exhibitions, with an emphasis on the work of emerging and underrepresented artists from the U.S., Europe and Asia.

"I am really excited about the promise the AD&A Museum holds as a teaching institution that, first and foremost, serves students and faculty on campus," says Ritter, who holds a doctorate from UCLA.

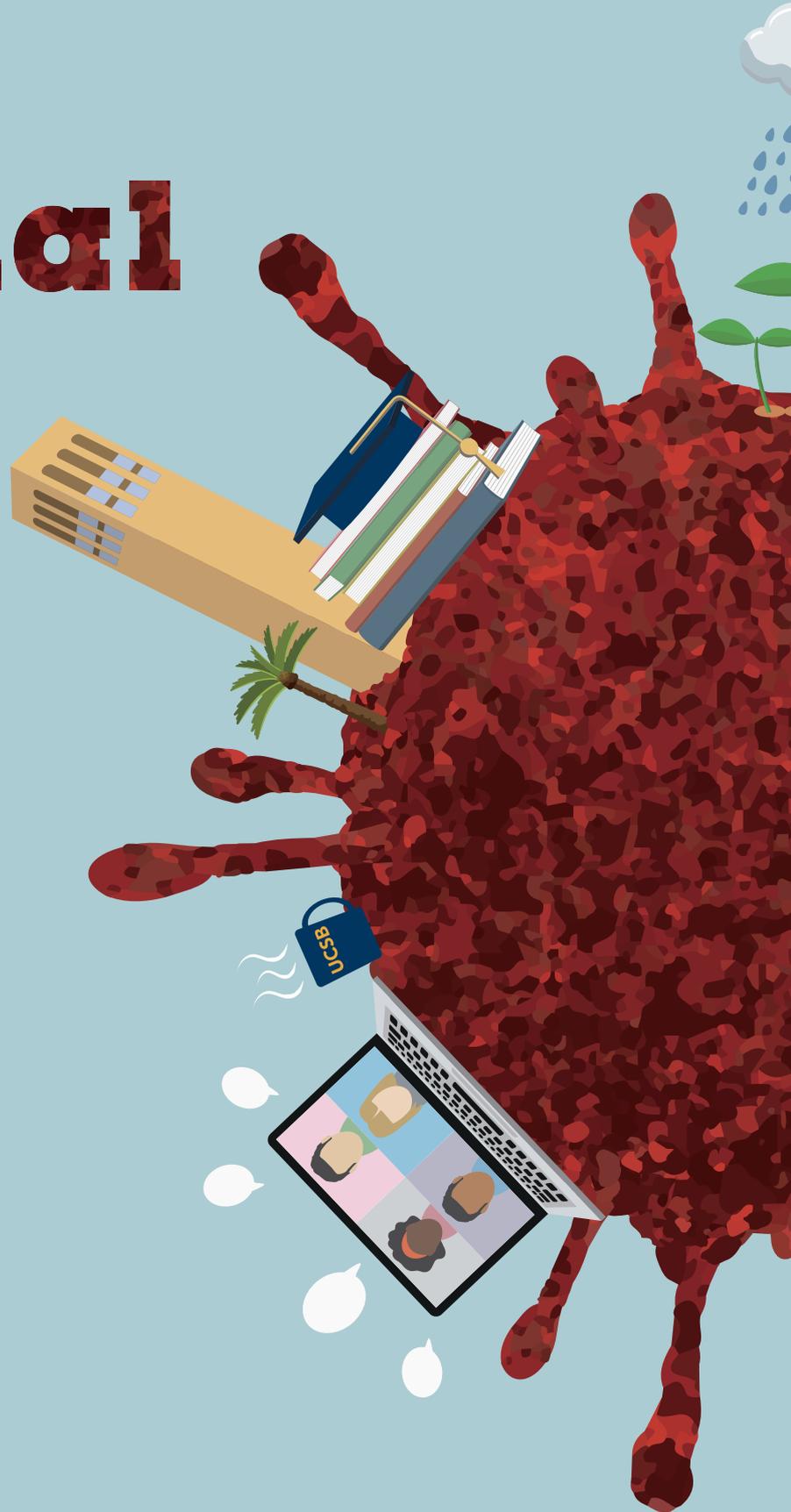
"Our visitors should see themselves — their identities and their realities — reflected in the work exhibited, while also being challenged to empathize with contrary truths, opinions and ways of being," Ritter says.

"Art can provide an important lens for cultivating empathy and understanding of others, while also providing a framework to actively question and potentially dismantle systems of oppression." ▲

— SHELLY LEACHMAN



# The New Normal



## Written By

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## Through the Looking Glass With an (Almost) Post-Pandemic Lens

UC Santa Barbara is bustling again. After a long absence, students have returned to campus, settling in to study at the library, grabbing coffee at The Arbor and chatting with one another around Storke Tower and at the UCen before heading off to class. At first glance, the scene is much the same as it was two years ago — and as it is every fall, with the notable exception of 2020.

But if you look more closely, the differences from that extraordinary time are evident as well: Every student wears a face mask indoors and many don them outdoors, too. While returning students greet friends they haven't seen in person for more than a year and a half, new students, including the current crop of second-years, are finding their way around campus for the first time. These are visible changes wrought by SARS-CoV-2, better known as COVID-19, a pandemic that made the familiar feel unfamiliar, and vice versa. After nearly two years, and seemingly incalculable loss, campus life is returning to "normal." But in the era of COVID-19, what exactly is normal?

**OUR CAMPUS** community faced numerous challenges at the onset of the pandemic as students and faculty pivoted to remote instruction and all but essential on-site staff relocated from campus to home offices.

But if COVID-19 has shown us anything, it's that Gauchos are not only adept and resourceful, we're also community-minded. When the going got tough, we looked out for one another, albeit from afar. Instructors developed new ways to connect with their students, researchers found new ways to continue their scholarly and scientific work, and students created new ways to stay in touch with the campus and with their classmates. And we all pitched in for the common good.

Separated from their beloved campus, a group of undergrads set about recreating it, collectively, virtually, in Minecraft. At a scale of 1 block per meter, the map features central locations such as the library, Storke Tower, the UCen, Campbell Hall and The Arbor, as well as the on-campus residence halls. Players also could ride around campus on horses (there are no bicycles in Minecraft), enjoy Dog Therapy Day on the grass north of the library or seek counsel, via chat, with the man at the 5¢-advice booth near Girvetz Hall. "The attention to detail is so amazing," says **Charles Neumann '20**, who created the joint server as a senior in April 2020 before graduating in June. What started as a way for Neumann and his friends to share some fun at a distance quickly took on a life of its own as hundreds more students joined the game.

At the beginning of the pandemic, when hospital and service workers in the area were in desperate need of protective gear, UC Santa Barbara's science and theater communities – a seemingly disparate group – responded. The researchers and engineers at the university's California NanoSystems Institute (CNSI) tabled their own work in favor of 3D-printing face shields to augment other personal protective equipment (PPE) worn by health professionals. As CNSI's **David Bothman** recalls, "In the course of one day, four faculty members who had read about the work being done elsewhere around the world got in touch with references, contacts and offers to help."

Meanwhile, the cutters and drapers in the theater and dance department's costume shop worked their magic from home, sewing hundreds of cloth face masks that were donated to health care professionals in Santa Barbara and Ventura. Cutter and draper **Lillian Hannahs** described the effort as "time consuming, monotonous and deeply rewarding."

The pandemic, we have learned, is present in every aspect of campus life, from classrooms to laboratories to study sessions and informal gatherings. It remains part of our new ethos.

Theater production supervisor **Devin Gee** also pitched in from home, 3D printing PPE for health care workers. In addition to face shields, he manufactured tension release bands, which were in high demand for use with cloth masks.

And as the pandemic wore on, UC Santa Barbara's faculty members lent their expertise to a deeper, collective understanding of COVID-19 and the SARS-CoV-2 virus. In live panel discussions and Q&A's, medical experts and microbiologists explained how viruses work, and delved into the science behind the COVID-19 vaccines, the delta variant, and the non-medical interventions that limit the spread of COVID-19. Scientists also conducted a surveillance study to better understand how the virus travels through asymptomatic carriers, and launched parallel COVID-19 virus variant surveillance projects with Cottage Health in Santa Barbara to determine the prevalence of variants in the local community and to understand how their distribution changes over time.

Geography professor emeritus **Tommy Dickey**, meanwhile, went quite literally to the dogs. Dickey, the owner of three Great Pyrenees therapy dogs, teamed with BioScent researcher **Heather Junqueira** to study whether dogs – in this case German shepherds, Belgian malinois and Jack Russell terriers, among others – can be used to detect the novel coronavirus. Conducting a comprehensive survey of research devoted to the use of trained scent dogs, they found that, indeed, medical scent dogs can be used for screening people who may be COVID-19 positive. What's more, the dogs accomplished their task non-intrusively and with the same – or possibly better –



accuracy than saliva and nasal swab tests. “One dog twice indicated positive results that could not be confirmed,” Dickey notes. “Two weeks later they found that both people who gave those samples had to be hospitalized with COVID.”

Other scholars and scientists explored the impact of the pandemic from social and humanistic perspectives. The 2021 Rupe Conference, organized by **Ron Rice**, the Arthur N. Rupe Professor in the Social Effects of Mass Communication, examined the importance – and challenges – of communicating about COVID-19. The conference brought together a wide range of experts to explore the ways people communicate about COVID-19, both individually and collectively, on a host of topics, from regional variations in news coverage to the changing meaning of work when some professions are categorized as essential (or not).

Similarly, the UCSB Economic Forecast Project developed a series of webinars that focused on the pandemic’s impact on the local economy, from housing to jobs to business to tourism.

Creating additional opportunities to take deeper dives into pandemic-related issues, the Graduate Division awarded 44 mini-grants to individual graduate students and team projects. Among the topics explored were the impact of COVID-19 on essential workers’ distress, perceptions of parenting and child mental health symptoms; death rituals and bereavement during the pandemic from a religious studies perspective; and the relationship between COVID-19 transmission and inter-city migration at the time of the 2020 Chinese Spring festival.

With COVID-19 touching every corner of the world, many UC Santa Barbara scholars and scientists applied their expertise to communities around the globe.

With COVID-19 touching every corner of the world, many UC Santa Barbara scholars and scientists applied their expertise to communities around the globe. Though news reports highlighted the pandemic’s toll on countries and major cities throughout the world, little attention was paid to Indigenous populations that were particularly at risk but largely excluded from most national or regional efforts to curb the spread of the disease. In response, UC Santa Barbara anthropology professor **Michael Gurven** and a team of colleagues, physicians and tribal leaders joined forces and developed a strategy for mitigating the impact of COVID-19 among the Tsimane, an Indigenous population in the Bolivian Amazon. “While every individual around the world is vulnerable to COVID-19,” Gurven notes, “because it is new and no one has developed any immunity, many Indigenous communities are at additional risk because of widespread respiratory illness.”

Elsewhere in the world, UC Santa Barbara’s Climate Hazards Center turned its focus to identifying areas of increased food insecurity to help coordinate humanitarian aid during the pandemic. For more than a decade, the CHC has provided critical analysis to its partner, the Famine Early Warning Systems Network. The organization estimated that, across the 46 countries it monitors, 113 million people would need humanitarian aid in 2020 – roughly 25% more than the group’s pre-pandemic projections, and an increase of 31% over 2019. “Before the outbreak, the CHC was already helping the United States government cope with a very large increase in severe food insecurity across the globe,” said CHC director **Chris Funk**. “Then COVID-19 struck. In almost every country on the planet, including the U.S., many poor families are seeing reduced incomes and opportunities for work decline.”

As the campus has come back to life, these efforts will continue, if even in adapted form. The pandemic, we have learned, is present in every aspect of campus life, from classrooms to laboratories to study sessions and informal gatherings. It remains part of our new ethos.

COVID-19 has forced us to think and act differently in every area of our lives – on the job, at home and out in the community. Thanks to the novel coronavirus, what was once novel – from face masks to PCR and rapid tests to proof of vaccination – now feels commonplace to us. Maybe a lasting lesson we can take from the pandemic is that “normal” is not a fixed condition or a set point. It is ever-evolving. And so are we.



PHOTO: JEFF LIANG

# Education

## Teaching Through the Pandemic

### WHEN COVID-19

stay-at-home orders emptied the nation's classrooms, instructors from pre-K through Ph.D. programs launched Zoom rooms and summoned their creative juices to find innovative ways of reaching – and teaching – their students.

And with the return of in-person instruction, some of the teaching methods designed for online learning – and some valuable philosophies – have made their way into the classroom.

This school year, “we have a new appreciation for in-person teaching, learning and social connections,” notes **Susan (Chin-Young Chang ‘95, MA ‘96) Salcido**, Santa Barbara County Superintendent of Schools, “and a deeper understanding of the impacts of accessing and using technology for learning and interacting.” Teachers and administrators are increasingly flexible about every component of delivering education, recognizing that conditions and environments may change at a moment's notice.

**Aria Bauman '15**, a science teacher at San Lorenzo Valley High School in Felton, knows that firsthand. He used Flipgrid, a software tool that enables students to produce videos to demonstrate their lab results, model scientific phenomena and show their mastery of concepts. It's now part of his students' in-person experience.

**Megan Reed '17**, a teacher at Harding University Partnership School in Santa Barbara, developed what she calls “reflective conversations” so her sixth grade students could ask tough questions on topics outside the bounds of their virtual classroom, form opinions and find their own individual voices. “When kids were in remote learning, many were spending a lot of time online,” she notes. “Kids are so curious about the world around them, and social media has given them



access to mass quantities of news, trends and information.” They needed a place to process it all. They still do.

When the pandemic hit, universities entered new teaching territory as well. UC Santa Barbara instructors had to connect with their students virtually – sometimes across time zones and even across date lines – and they found novel ways to do it.

After **Helen Morales's** cats photo-bombed the lectures she recorded for her class of more than 700 Greek mythology students, the Argyropoulos Professor of Hellenic Studies made them honorary teaching assistants.

And **Kathy Foltz**, a professor of molecular, cellular and developmental biology, set up online forums where her students could share tips for remote learning.

Many instructors altered the way they presented course material, choosing to post short lectures and videos and encourage small group projects instead of more traditional teaching and assessment methods.

**Chris Evelyn**, a lecturer in ecology, evolution and marine biology who used to grade primarily on one midterm and one final, shifted the focus of his class to be on students working together to understand concepts and answer questions, and then evaluating their own work and that of their peers.

And as the university welcomes students back to campus and resumes in-person instruction, some of those new-found practices will carry over, no matter the format.

“We know that learning is a social activity,” says **Linda Adler-Kassner**, assistant dean of undergraduate education and director of UC Santa Barbara's Center for Innovative Teaching, Research and Learning. “Faculty have learned a great deal about how to create opportunities for collaboration, whether asynchronous or synchronous, in classes of all sizes.”

But as teachers like Bauman and Reed have learned, in the age of COVID their work involves a lot more than strict education. Helping their students navigate the challenges of the pandemic, from face masks to quarantine to COVID testing, has become part of their job descriptions.

“It's really challenging to be online for over a year of academic instruction,” says Reed. “The last ‘normal’ year my students had was in third grade. Those years are formative for social, emotional and intellectual maturity.” She supports her students by establishing routines, providing constant encouragement and working brain breaks into the school day to counter fatigue and stress. “And also, by acknowledging that this is hard,” she says. “I think it helps to hear that.”

For Bauman's high school students, the pandemic – and now the return to a new version of in-person instruction – has taken an emotional and mental health toll. “I have more students than ever having to deal with severe anxiety and depression,” he notes. “There is also learning loss in all areas.” He is particularly concerned about the impact an academic year away from the classroom has had on social behavior and school culture.

Still, despite all the many challenges, the return to the classroom has been a happy event.

“I am thrilled to be back in my lab classroom,” says Bauman. “No one goes into education because we want to sit in a room alone all day interacting with a screen.” The enthusiasm his students have shown at being back at school is a welcome surprise.

“Some really take the time now to express gratitude for things that we all took for granted previously, and it is beautiful to watch them appreciate the little things,” he says.

Reed, too, has been struck by her students' resilience. “I know we have had days where we struggle,” she says, “but I've been pleasantly surprised by the amount of joy that fills my classroom. These kids show up, work hard, laugh, sometimes cry, and persevere. It's such an honor to be their teacher.”

## Work

### No More Business as Usual

**IF THERE'S ONE AREA** the pandemic hit universally, it's the workforce. Everyone, regardless of their employment status, was impacted to some degree or another – and some a lot more significantly than others.

Now, as workplaces across all sectors reopen, the term “business as usual” has a new and very different meaning.

But according to **Nelson Lichtenstein**, distinguished professor of history and director of UC Santa Barbara's Center for the Study of Work, Labor and Democracy, the work-life changes that have occurred as a result of the pandemic cannot be separated from the government response. And thus far those programs and policies have greatly enhanced support for millions of working families.

“Real wages are going up,” Lichtenstein declares. “Let me repeat, wages are rising faster for the bottom half of the working class, and especially for so-called frontline workers.” This includes virtually everyone in food service, retail, transport and even gig delivery work.

What's behind the wage increase? A labor shortage resulting from the unwillingness and/or fear many workers have had about returning to frontline, low-paying jobs, and the financial resources they have received that enable them to stay out of the workforce, especially with schools and childcare remaining problematic.

“The \$15-per-hour demand put forth by the labor movement has become almost the norm in many heretofore low-wage workplaces,” he says. “This labor shortage has also given workers more power, not in terms of unionism or strikes, but in a more subtle fashion – schedules that workers like, more rapid promotions for those in their jobs, and, of course, the ability to get work when they choose it.”

The Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics puts the labor shortage into numbers: Job openings in September 2021 totaled 10.4 million; new hires were at 6.5 million; and the number of workers quitting their jobs was at 4.4 million.

Similarly, an October report from the Department of Labor shows unemployment at 4.6% – 7.4 million people – with notable job gains showing up in leisure and hospitality, professional and business services, manufacturing and warehousing. This is down, by the way, from a pandemic high of 14.8% in April 2020.

For decades, conventional wisdom held that requiring people to work in large, congregate office settings was vital in terms of management and productivity, Lichtenstein explains. But the experience with remote work during the pandemic has demonstrated otherwise. “It does seem likely that remote work will become much more prevalent in the next few years,”

he says. “That will have many benefits for workers, but some costs, too.”

If most white-collar workers, and not just highly paid professionals, are required to be on-site only one or two days a week, that signals a significant shift in work routines. Among other benefits, Lichtenstein notes, this pandemic-initiated model would eliminate the waste of commute time, wear and tear on cars, parking and other work-related expenses.

“On the other hand, there are some real downsides to remote work,” he says. “There's the computer and related expenses, electricity, an extra room, and there's the erosion of the defined workday and the psychic isolation that generate burnout. These costs are thrown onto the worker.”

Although some people can pick up and move hundreds of miles away in search of cheap housing, for most doing hybrid remote/office work, Lichtenstein argues, relocating is not an option. “But they do need another room in the house, which is why single-family homes in the inner suburbs are now in such demand.”

Naturally, as more people move to some kind of remote work arrangement, the demand for office space will change. Businesses and companies will evolve, says **Ted Cuthbert '84**, a commercial real estate specialist in the San Diego area for more than 30 years. “I don't think they'll get rid of offices completely, but will downsize or reconfigure spaces depending on the location and cost involved.” In other words, they'll find their own new normal.

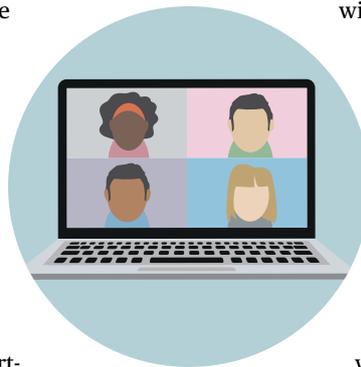


PHOTO: JEFF LIANG

## Mental Health

### The Importance of Resilience in Tough Times

**IN THE YEAR (OR TWO)** of breathing dangerously, our mental health has been tested in ways most of us never could have imagined. Isolation. Separation. Economic insecurity. Fear for the health and well-being of our loved ones – every single one of them – and for ourselves.

Our lives have been upended by the sheer magnitude of the pandemic itself.

Indeed, a recent study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that of the nearly 800,000 adults who completed an online survey about their mental health, 42% reported symptoms of anxiety or depression.

**Smaranda Lawrie MA '20, Ph.D. '21** understands that. As a graduate student and teaching assistant in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, she witnessed it firsthand as the COVID-19 pandemic began turning her students' lives upside down.

So, Lawrie helped organize the UCSB Resilience Summit and Certificate Program, a series of 13 lectures on “positive psychology” designed to instill the skills for maintaining good mental health and optimism.

The lectures drew nearly 1,000 participants, who explored topics such as applying Joseph Campbell's “The Hero's Journey” to finding one's own inner hero, learning how to spot the silver lining around negative events, and understanding the how and why of mindful attention.

Lawrie, who is now on the faculty of Providence College in Rhode Island, says it's important to remember that your mental health is not fixed or trapped by circumstance. “One of the things I really appreciated about the summit is that a lot of the people, myself included, talked a lot about change and how change is possible.”

Previously, it was assumed that brain flexibility was limited to younger people, and any change that occurred in later years was only negative, like dementia. “Now, all this research is starting to show that's not true,” Lawrie says. “Change is possible throughout the entire lifetime. And a lot of that is our decision. It's our choice. So, there are things we can do and things we shouldn't do that help us live better.”

Find what works for you and stick with it.



### The Power of Bringing Mental Health into the Conversation

**WHEN SIMONE BILES** pulled out of events at the Tokyo Olympics this past summer citing mental health concerns, she said she expected to be lambasted by critics. And while some people did call America's greatest gymnast a “choker” and worse, something more profound happened: She was widely praised for having the courage to acknowledge she was struggling and needed to step away from competition.

Like Naomi Osaka, who spoke about the emotional difficulties of being a tennis star, Biles did what few athletes and celebrities have done – she brought mental health out of the shadows.

**Robin Nabi**, a professor in the Department of Communication who has written extensively about the effects of social interactions on mental health, says the positive response to Biles and Osaka stemmed largely from our sense that we know and identify with them. Their struggles aren't an abstraction.

“If it's someone who's familiar to us, or someone we think we're similar to, then we think, ‘Hey, if she's struggling and is willing to talk about it, then maybe I can, too. Maybe I can take a break and step back. Maybe I should try to find someone who can help me work through these issues,’” says Nabi.

Another benefit of these celebrity acknowledgements is that they can build into movements, she notes. #MeToo, with its spotlight on sexual abuse, is one example.

“There's something about that particular time where all of a sudden people are willing to share their stories and then it's everywhere,” Nabi says. “And then your social change becomes possible. It's not necessarily any one particular story, but the collection of stories.”

That's true for struggles related to the pandemic as well. The more people share their genuine feelings of angst, not only will they likely find support, but they contribute to the sense that this is a broader mental health issue that needs to be addressed as a more universal societal issue.

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## The Value of Community Connections

**THERE'S AN EXCELLENT** chance you know someone – yourself, even – struggling with their mental health as the pandemic continues. The effects of COVID-19 on our collective psyches won't be going away anytime soon, so it's natural to ask, 'What can you do about it?'

**Maryam Kia-Keating**, a professor in the Department of Counseling, Clinical and School Psychology in the Gevirtz Graduate School of Education, has some excellent suggestions.

- **Stay connected to friends and family.** Social support, she says, is one of the biggest predictors of psychological well-being, particularly in times of adversity, stress and trauma. It might take some creativity – ask someone to go for a walk with you or connect via FaceTime, for example – but connecting with others is vital.
- **Disconnect from media.** It's normal to turn to media for information in tough times, but much of what we see brings stress, fear and anxiety, Kia-Keating says. "And we know from a lot of research that overdosing on that kind of media is actually very negative for your mental health." Focus on quality over quantity.
- **Stay balanced in your activities.** "Make sure that you're involved in activities that connect you to others as well as just bring you some pleasure and joy. Activities that give you a sense of purpose and meaning are important for your mental health," Kia Keating says. Helping others can be very therapeutic.
- **Ask for help.** "Make sure that you're not trying to do it all alone," Kia-Keating says. "We're all going through the same pandemic, but the experience can be quite different." Reach out for help when you need it. Most psychologists offer telehealth appointments. "You could also reach out to your informal network, and hopefully that will continue to nurture those social support systems that you've created."



## Environment

### From Garden to Table — Creating Our Own Food Supply Chains

**ELECTRICAL ENGINEER Sean McCotter '18, MS '19**, was growing peppers in his yard long before COVID-19 hit. But with the pandemic – and more time at home – his garden has become a veritable cornucopia with mushrooms, squash, peas and other local and native food-bearing plants.

Like McCotter, many people have found solace in Mother Earth over the past year and a half, planting vegetable gardens that both augment their food stores and provide much-needed stress relief. Though produce departments are fully stocked, the grow-it-yourself movement continues.

“I find it very satisfying to work in the garden,” says McCotter, who extols the effort as an easy way to spend more time outside and away from screens. “It’s nice to be able to look out after an hour of work and see a visible difference. It makes the harvested food special to eat.”

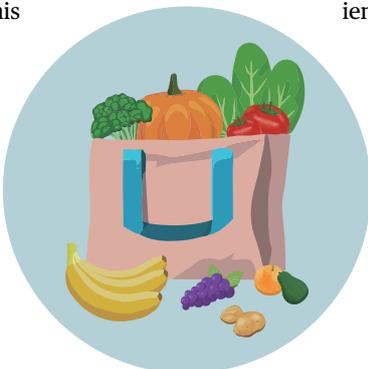
McCotter also is cultivating a “very successful” passion fruit vine and a small lemon tree. “We certainly expect to continue growing all of them, rotating some of the shorter turnaround crops in the different seasons.”

**Daniela Soleri**, a research scientist in the geography department, isn’t surprised. “While many see the pandemic gardening response as a boon for self-sufficiency-oriented food systems, I think something else more interesting and realistic became evident,” says the co-author of *Food Gardens for a Changing World*. “That is our interdependence, and the value of community-based, prosocial institutions that make it easier to organize to help each other.”

According to Soleri, the demand for garden vegetable seed grew tremendously with the pandemic, and many seed companies were caught unprepared. One of the most interesting occurrences, she notes, was the nimble pivot by some community-based seed groups, such as seed libraries, from conducting long-term research on local seed adaptation and access to quickly providing emergency planting seed for groups and gardeners especially in need.

That they were already building social institutions based on values such as equity, participation, open access and environmental care enabled their quick and effective response, she notes. Those institutions became stronger in the crisis.

In a new research paper, Soleri and her colleagues describe how thousands of gardens were supplied with free seed and also that people figured out how to work together for the greater good. “In a highly inequitable society like ours, there is a growing appreciation for a pro-social mutual aid approach to gardens and other forms of crisis response,” she says.



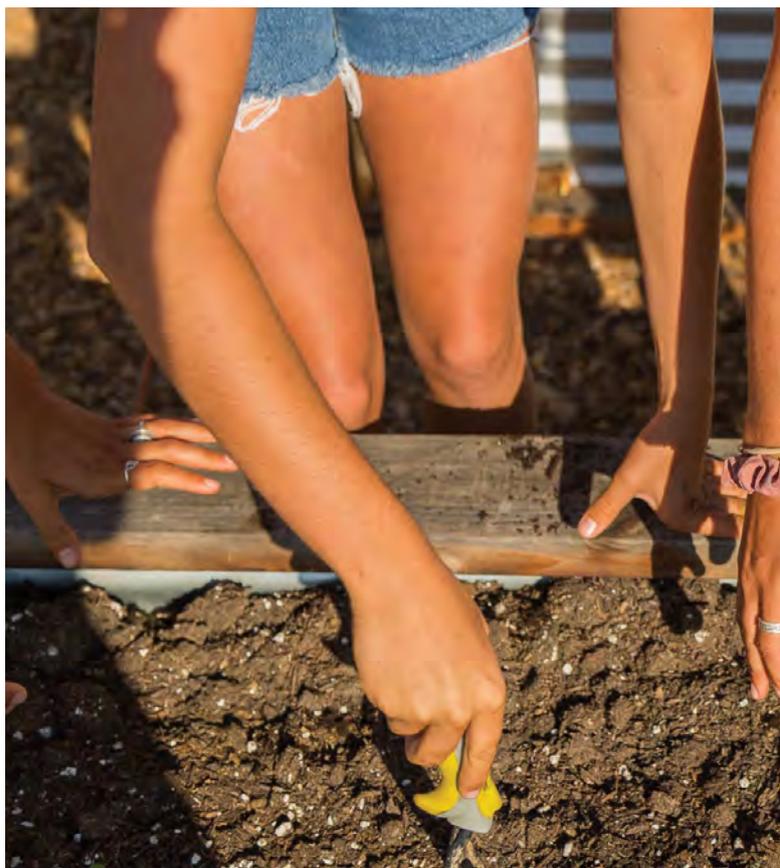
Food gardens possess some unique attributes in terms of scale and accessibility that make them well-positioned to adapt to biophysical and social changes due to the pandemic as well as to the climate crisis. “However, this adaptation may be enhanced when there is a thoughtful, deliberate social process and practice that prioritizes social equity and environmental stewardship and resilience,” Soleri explains. “This pandemic is offering some early evidence of that.”

At UC Santa Barbara, the Edible Campus Program’s Student Farm supplies healthy produce to the Associated Students Food Bank. Since its inception, Edible Campus, a multifaceted food sustainability initiative, has been the beneficiary of partnership and support from UC Santa Barbara alumni **Jack Johnson '97**, and his wife, **Kim Johnson '97**, through their Johnson Ohana Foundation.

During the peak of the pandemic, student interns managed the gardens, working diligently to keep them open. The farm became a place where students were fed – and educated. All food grown and harvested is distributed through the A.S. Food Bank and the Miramar Food Pantry.

“The pandemic taught us a lot about creativity and trying to invent things,” says **Katie Maynard '05**, UC Santa Barbara Sustainability Officer.

“Our goal was always to stay in touch with the community to figure out their food needs and adapt to that.”



## Economy

### Bottlenecks in Supply and Demand

**THE COVID-19** pandemic wrought havoc on the economy, and the long, bumpy road to recovery is not without its twists, turns and detours.

But what distinguishes the current situation from previous experience, according to Professor Emeritus **Benjamin Cohen**, an expert in international political economy, is the fact that it's due not to inadequate aggregate demand – the usual culprit – but rather to supply bottlenecks.

“Back in April my dishwasher broke down, but when I tried to buy a replacement, I was told not to expect delivery before October,” he notes as an example. “And just last week I got a call that delivery will be further delayed until January.”

For decades, firms have relied on extensive networks of suppliers, many of them offshore, to support strategies of “just-in-time” inventory management. “Now they realize how vulnerable they are to the sudden emergence of bottlenecks that can strangle production or stall delivery of needed items,” Cohen says. See, for example, what has happened to vehicle production – both cars and trucks – because of a sudden shortage of computer chips.

Many corporations can be expected to shorten their supply chains and to “reshore,” bringing much of their offshore production back to the U.S. where it is less vulnerable to interruptions.

“The changes being created by the pandemic are ‘structural’ in the sense that they involve sustained changes of behavior by consumers and producers alike,” he says. “Structural adjustments take time – time to invest in new capital equipment and time for workers to acquire needed new skills. But the good news is that the adjustments are coming.”

Cohen says that while he doesn't expect an economic recession, he has some concerns about the stock market. “Asset values have gotten way out ahead of reasonable profit expectations, and that includes not just stocks, but also real estate and the new-fangled cryptocurrencies.”

He worries that a “correction” is overdue in the housing market as well as in equities. Asset prices could drop by as much as 10 to 20%, he warns, adding that it could be triggered by the Federal Reserve when it finally begins to cut back on its support of the bond market and interest rates start to rise.

For the moment, Cohen says, the challenge is not recession but inflation. Spending pressures are pushing prices up, though the rise in prices has more to do with bottlenecks in the supply chain than with excessive demand. While at one point he expected the rate of inflation to taper off quite quickly – “a matter of months, not years” – now it's beginning to look more sustained. “Bottlenecks,” he notes, “have proved stickier than most of us had anticipated.” ▲



PHOTO: MATT PERKO

Many corporations can be expected to shorten their supply chains and to “reshore,” bringing much of their offshore production back to the U.S. where it is less vulnerable to interruptions.

# Student Voices

## Anticipating the New Normal

UC Santa Barbara is once again abuzz with students, some returning to the campus they love and others just beginning their Gaucho journey. We asked a few to reflect on their pandemic experiences and their hopes for the new normal.



Normal

Different

Self-determini

Friends

Focus

“It feels a little different and new because I’m not used to seeing so many people on campus right now. ... I love seeing all the people and I love seeing all the new faces. I hope to make a lot of new friends this year.”

— **Brieonni Johnson, junior**

One of the pandemic’s silver linings is, “probably just being able to focus on myself, to learn new hobbies, being able to just be content being by myself and learning how to be self confident.”

— **Brooke Cleary, freshman**

“Persistence, dedication, self-determination — it all has played a big, really a huge, significant role while just working through the pandemic and just grinding it out and just making sure as students, we stay on top of our academics.”

— **Wayne Johnson, junior**

“The first day back on campus, experiencing in-person classes again was surreal. I felt a range of emotions from happiness, excitement, and most of all, I was grateful. Being back to in-person learning made me realize how much I appreciate my peers, professors and university’s campus.”

— **Angelina Deleon, junior**



“Just being able to see my professors has been crazy. Some I am meeting for the first time, and others I have taken from online but it is amazing to be in person with them.” — **Riley Haley, sophomore**

# It's Tip-Off Time

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL IS BACK IN ACTION

BY JOHN ZANT '68

"Ila Vista" is one of the themes of UC Santa Barbara women's basketball in 2021-22. Ila Lane, a dominating 6'4" post player as a freshman in 2020, has returned to the court after sitting out last season over COVID concerns. She will be joined by a mix of veterans and newcomers that constitutes the deepest and most versatile roster in Bonnie Henrickson's seven years as head coach.

**MAKING HISTORY:** Lane was named to the Associated Press All-America Honorable Mention team after her rookie season in which she led the nation in rebounds, averaging 13 per game and 15.3 points. The Gauchos women's previous AP All-Americans — Erin Buescher (1999, 2000), Lindsay Taylor '04 (2003) and Kristen Mann '12 (2004, 2005) — all went on to be WNBA draftees. "I was very set on coming back," says Lane, who returned to campus last spring. "Coach Bonnie always says it's a four-year decision. I really believe in that. I love it here, I love the team, and I'm ready to have an amazing year."

**MILLER TIME:** Danae Miller jumped at the chance to be UC Santa Barbara's starting point guard for a fifth season after the NCAA granted an extra year of eligibility. "Last year was quite a weird year, and I didn't want to leave my college career on that note," says the 5'7" super senior, who will complete her degree work in psychology and brain science this spring. "I wanted to have a more real college experience and come back to a team with all the players we have."

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** The 2019-20 regular season finale was a thriller at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, as Miller's baseline jumper with 0.2 seconds remaining lifted the Gauchos to a 57-56 victory over the Rainbow Wahine and a promising No. 2 seed in the Big West Tournament. But before they could launch their bid for the NCAA's "Big Dance," the postseason was cancelled by the pandemic, and UC Santa Barbara was never at full strength last season because of Lane's absence and injuries. "We definitely want to pick up where we left off," Miller says.

**SHARPSHOOTERS:** Lacking a post presence, the Gauchos were primarily snipers on the perimeter last season. They nearly upset UC Irvine in the Big West Tournament by burying a record 18 three-point baskets, though the Anteaters prevailed 92-90. UC Santa Barbara's three high scorers in that game have returned — senior guard/forward Taylor Mole (24 points per game), a slender 6'2" Australian who was also the team's leading rebounder in 2020-21; Miller (18 points) and senior guard Megan Anderson (16 points). Anderson is the older sister of Cole Anderson, a freshman sharpshooter on the UC Santa Barbara men's team. Returning guards sophomore Alyssa Marin and senior Lauren Lee also hit threes.

**REINFORCEMENTS:** Two transfers have joined the Gaucho fold, 5'11" junior guard Alexis Tucker from Texas Tech and 6'2" junior forward Tatyana Modawar from University of Texas at El Paso. They are joined by Johnni Gonzalez (5'6"), a junior



point guard who sat out last year. First-year players trying to make an impact include Callie Cooper, a 5'6" point guard from Richardson, Texas; 5'11" guard Kennedy Johnson, who averaged 18 points and 10 rebounds at Oakland's Bishop O'Dowd High; and Laurel Rockwood, a solid 6'4" post player from Henderson, Nevada, who has been challenging Lane in practice. "She's just on me all the time," Lane says. "I don't know how to get away from it."

**COACHES OPTIMISM:** "I've never felt this confident about our team," Henrickson says. "We have quality and depth. Most of them have been together since the spring and have developed great cohesiveness. The defensive team will make us special." Henrickson, who came to UC Santa Barbara after 11 years at Kansas, has had Nate Fripp at her side from day one. Other assistant coaches are second year Kaili McLaren, who played on two national championship teams at Connecticut; and Adrian Sanders, a newcomer from Southern University.

**KEY TESTS:** After opening the regular season at home with a 61-58 victory over Loyola Marymount, the Gauchos women played at St. Mary's Thanksgiving tournament in Lane's hometown of Moraga. Four non-conference home games in December conclude with UC San Diego on the 30th, followed on New Year's Day by the Big West opener against UC Irvine. Among other conference contests at the Thunderdome are Long Beach State (Jan. 13), Hawai'i (Jan. 27), Cal Poly (Feb. 12) and the two-time defending champion, UC Davis (Feb. 26). UC Santa Barbara will finish the regular season at Hawai'i before the Big West Tournament on March 8-12.

**TOURNAMENT HISTORY:** The UCSB's women haven't won the conference tournament since 2012, but there was a time it was known as "the UCSB Invitational." Under legendary coach Mark French, the Gauchos claimed 12 Big West titles, including nine in a row from 1997-2005. They won seven NCAA tournament games and advanced to the Sweet Sixteen in 2004 against Connecticut, which needed a series of clutch shots by Diana Taurasi to hold off the Gauchos, 63-55.

**MARCH MADNESS:** It was not until September that the NCAA decided to extend the "March Madness" brand to its women's basketball tournament as well as the men's. "That was hard to understand," Henrickson says. "In this world of marketing, it means a lot." The NCAA's double standard was exposed last March when an Oregon player posted a video showing the meager exercise equipment at the site of the women's tournament. "It was pretty painful," Miller says. "Of course, we're just women." At UC Santa Barbara, Henrickson says, "We're in good hands. We have the same strength coach as the men. We have full access to the weight room."

**FILLING THE SEATS:** There used to be rows of empty seats at women's games in the Thunderdome. Cori Close '93, the UCLA head coach who played on the Gauchos' first NCAA teams in 1992 and 1993, jokingly referred to it as "the Mumbledome." Then the success of French's teams made the women's games a hot ticket and crowds continued to roar until pandemic restrictions emptied the arena last season. Now, with the new chair-back seats in place, Miller is eager to see fans return. "It's going to be great to have people back in the stands," she says. "They're in for a treat." ▲

Danae Miller, left, and Ila Lane are back in the Thunderdome this season.

PHOTO: JEFF LIANG



# Bringing Back the Heat

## Men's Basketball is Ready to Roar

BY JOHN ZANT '68

**THE BEST** UC Santa Barbara men's basketball team that almost nobody saw (in person) had a spectacularly successful 2020-21 season. Playing in empty arenas because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Gauchos won their first Big West Championship in 10 years and earned a precious bid to the NCAA tournament. At Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis, they proved they belonged. The favored Creighton Bluejays of the Big East needed some good fortune to secure a 63-62 win over the Gauchos.

"We got a taste of March Madness," says Joe Pasternack, the energetic coach who is entering his fifth season at UCSB. "We want to go back."

**Here are some reasons to follow the Gauchos in 2021-22.**

**SEATS:** Barring another plague, fans will be allowed into the Thunderdome, and they will find that they no longer have somebody's knees pressing into them. Chair-back seats have been installed on both sides of the court, reducing the capacity to 5,000. "I hope to see them sold out every night," Pasternack says.

**WINS:** Fans have seen lots of them in the past four seasons. The team's win-loss records: 23-9, 22-10, 21-10 and 22-5. Small wonder UCSB has extended Pasternack's contract through 2026.

**READY TO REAP:** Three-year starter Amadou Sow is poised for a big senior year. The 6'9", 235-pound power forward averaged 13.6 points and 7.6 rebounds last season. He did most of the damage inside but says he's been working to expand his range. Nobody left the floor at Indianapolis last March more hungry than Sow. After he scored UCSB's last four points down the stretch, his potential game-winning layup with two seconds left rimmed out. "The game is 40 minutes," Pasternack says. "One shot does not determine a game."

MILES NORRIS

**TALL ORDER:** Rebounding is a vital part of the game, and in addition to Sow, a trio of 6'10" forwards return to the Thunderdome: senior Miles Norris, who can score inside and out; Robinson Idehen, a banger who decided to come back as a graduate student; and sophomore Jakov Kukic from Croatia.

**FILL 'ER UP:** The Gauchos have set school records for most points and most three-pointers made. Norris and junior guard Ajare Sanni, chosen the Big West's best sixth man last year, both hit close to 40% of their three-point attempts. Junior guard Zach Harvey and freshman Cole Anderson, UCSB's top recruit from Clovis West High, are two other sharpshooters.

**JPL:** In rocketry, it stands for Jet Propulsion Laboratory. On the Gaucho roster, it's Josh Pierre-Louis, a 6'4" guard whose explosive moves lit up the highlight videos last year.

**HAPPY TO BE HERE:** Five transfers have found a home at UCSB – Pierre-Louis (from Temple), Norris (Oregon), Sanni (Pacific), Harvey (Cincinnati) and junior guard Calvin Wishart (Georgia Southern).

**OUR HOUSE:** Pasternack's Gauchos have compiled a 47-8 record at the Thunderdome, where they will play eight upcoming non-conference games – San Francisco State, Chicago State, Arkansas Pine-Bluff, Texas-Arlington, Pepperdine, Cal Lutheran, Florida A&M and Idaho State. "We can't get Pac-12 teams to play in the Thunderdome," Pasternack says. "It's difficult because of our success." He hopes to see a homecourt fervor build around the Gauchos, regardless of their opponents. As for road games, "Gonzaga is a tough place to play because loud, crazy, unbelievable crowds support the team," the coach says. To take on the Pac-12, the Gauchos will make the trip to Pullman for a game against Washington State. Another strong opponent on the road will be St. Mary's of the West Coast Conference.

**BIG WEST:** UC Irvine looms as UCSB's strongest challenger in the conference. The Gauchos travel to meet the Anteaters on New Year's Day, and their return match at home will be on Feb. 3. Home games against CSUN and Hawai'i close out the league slate on March 1 and 3. The 2022 Big West Basketball Championship takes place from March 8-12 at the Dollar Loan Center in Henderson, Nevada.

**PRIDE IN ALUMNI:** Like the UC Santa Barbara program as a whole, individual Gauchos tend to be underrated. JaQuori McLaughlin, the 2021 Big West Player of the Year, was passed over in the NBA draft. He saw action as a point guard on the Golden State Warriors' Summer League team, and he gave such a strong, heady performance that the Dallas Mavericks signed him to a two-way contract that will have him playing both in the NBA and on the Texas Legends G-League team. Gabe Vincent, an undrafted 2018 graduate, labored in the G-League before earning a spot on the Miami Heat roster this past year and signing a two-year contract reportedly worth \$3.5 million. He was a starting guard for Nigeria at the Tokyo Olympics. High-scoring Max Heidegger '20, had a cameo with the Atlanta Hawks in the Summer League and is playing for a top-division team in Germany. ▲





# Excelling

## Academically & Athletically

BY JOHN ZANT '68

THE BIG WEST accords a pair of Scholar Athletes of the Year awards to each school in the conference. The individuals are recognized for their accomplishments on the field, in the classroom and in their communities. UC Santa Barbara's honorees for 2020 were basketball forward Amadou Sow and softball outfielder Samantha "Sammy" Fabian.



PHOTOS: JEFF LIANG

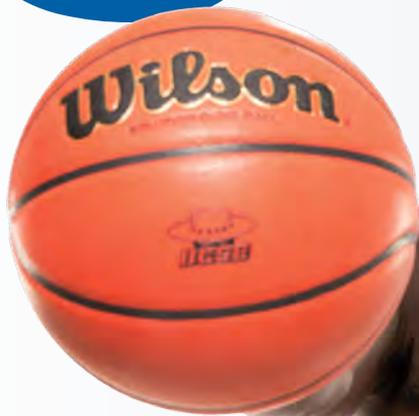


SAMMY FABIAN

ng



AMANDOU SOW



**SAMANTHA "SAMMY" FABIAN** According to the numbers, Samantha Fabian has achieved a consummate balance in her collegiate life. Her four-year batting average for the Gaucho softball team is .360. Move the decimal point, and you get her cumulative grade-point average: 3.60.

Fabian cited coach Brie Galicinao's "emphasis on school, everybody getting a 3.0 GPA," as a big reason she brought her batting stroke from Glendale High to UCSB. "I wouldn't get the Big West award without coaches, family, teammates," she says. "They all have my back.

Fabian intends to take advantage of the "COVID year" to play a fifth season in the Gaucho outfield this spring. She is majoring in psychological and brain sciences with an applied psychology minor. After graduation, she plans to attend nursing school.

**AMADOU SOW** A new country, a new language — 15-year-old Amadou Sow had to prove himself as a student when he arrived at the Prolific Prep basketball academy in Napa. "My mom taught me to take advantage of it," he says of his journey halfway around the world from Mali.

Already fluent in two languages — French and Bambara, his native tongue — he promptly picked up English to advance in academic as well as basketball skills. He was college-ready when he came to UCSB. "Here I am at a prestigious university," he says. "It is a blessing."

The powerful 6'9" senior has been a blessing to Joe Pasternack's basketball program and may blossom into a legitimate NBA prospect. He is majoring in global studies and made the Athletic Department (AD) Honor Roll in 2020 (To qualify students must finish with at least a 3.5 GPA for the individual quarter while maintaining a cumulative 3.0 GPA overall). Slated to graduate in May 2022, he sees a future as a business consultant or a human rights advocate. ▲

# Gauchos Gone Grape

These Grads Are Legends, and Legends to Be,  
of California Winemaking

Written by Matt Kettmann '99

Art by Christina LoCascio '01



You wouldn't expect fine wine to pair well with UC Santa Barbara, where viticulture classes don't exist and sand is more popular than soil. But Gauchos have impacted the California wine industry in outsized ways for half a century, responsible for building important Napa Valley brands, putting Central Coast wines on the global stage, and leading the charge for female winemakers everywhere. And their influence is only beginning to blossom, as younger generations of grads who've heard the call of the vines continue to carve out their own industry-leading legacies, vintage by vintage.

## Legends to Know

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY, of course, is where most UC Santa Barbara alumni make their mark. That tradition began when **Jim Clendenen '76** ditched his law school aspirations and dedicated his life to winemaking. Upon his passing in May 2021 at age 68, the "mind behind" Au Bon Climat winery ([aubonclimat.com](http://aubonclimat.com)) was praised near and far, celebrated as much for preaching the gospel of Santa Barbara globally as for bringing an Old World wine culture to the Central Coast cellars.

One of Clendenen's friends was **Doug Margerum '81**, who took over the Wine Cask restaurant ([winecask.com](http://winecask.com)) in downtown Santa Barbara with his family upon graduation. In what would become his hallmark for supporting promising vintners early in their career, Margerum bought Clendenen's first vintage.

"We became instant friends, traveled the world together, made wine together, played tennis, drank incredible wines with incredible meals, and lived a life rich and full," says Margerum. By the early 2000s, Margerum himself was more winemaker than restaurateur, and now pours his highly regarded Margerum Wine Company ([margerumwines.com](http://margerumwines.com)) bottles in his Santa Barbara waterfront tasting room.

Going deep into regional history is the lineage of **Richard "Dick" Dore '66**, whose great-great grandfather was Santa Maria Valley pioneer Benjamin Foxen. After a career in banking, Dore returned to his family property, and co-founded Foxen Vineyard & Winery ([foxenvineyard.com](http://foxenvineyard.com)) in 1985. A setting for the 2004 film *Sideways*, his wooden shack tasting room is a pilgrimage site for wine lovers from around the world.

One of the most important figures in the region's history is **Richard Sanford 'H12**, who, with Michael Benedict, planted Sanford & Benedict Vineyard ([sanfordwinery.com](http://sanfordwinery.com)) in 1971. They proved pinot noir could work in Santa Barbara and set the stage for the creation of the now internationally respected Sta. Rita Hills appellation. Sanford, an honorary alum, sold his Alma Rosa

Winery ([almarosawinery.com](http://almarosawinery.com)) in 2015 to **Robert and Barbara Zorich (both '71)**, and the couple are shepherding Sanford's icon status into the future.

Then there is **Greg Brewer '91**, who was named "Winemaker of the Year" by *Wine Enthusiast* magazine in 2020. "One of the most rewarding elements of this career is educating and demystifying wine for others to neutralize the insecurity and fear that many have surrounding it," says Brewer, a French literature major who co-founded Brewer-Clifton winery ([brewerclifton.com](http://brewerclifton.com)) in 1995. "I was inspired not only to teach from so many educators at UCSB, but also the leadership skills I learned through my fraternity experience there."

UC Santa Barbara grads went north to the Napa Valley as well, including **Michael Weis '69**, who worked for 26 years at Groth Vineyards & Winery ([grothwines.com](http://grothwines.com)) (see "The Weis Family of Wine"), and **Kathleen Inman '84**, who started Inman Family Wines ([inmanfamilywines.com](http://inmanfamilywines.com)) in 2000 after working overseas in corporate finance.

"As an undergraduate, I made a lot of friends who were exchange students from Europe who introduced me to more adventurous cuisine and wines from their parts of the world," says Inman. "That got me interested in learning more about wine from California, and specifically the Napa Valley where I am from."

Inman is a major advocate for bringing more women into the traditionally male-dominated industry, as noted in a recent *Forbes* profile. "Right now, only 10% of California wineries have women winemakers, so I'm hoping that more young women who are considering a career in wine don't get intimidated and keep pushing to make that a 50/50 split," she says, but warned any aspiring vintner about the hard work. "As a winemaker of 20 years, I'm still cleaning out my own bins and barrels, so don't think any task is beneath you, especially as you're getting started!"

## The Weis Family of Wine

WHEN IT COMES TO Gauchos-gone-grape stories, few have the collective and generational breadth of the Weis family. The saga begins with Michael Weis '69, who followed his brother, Joe Weis '65, to the campus. While his older brother became a sociology professor at the University of Washington – and married Karen (Senior '65) Weis, along the way – Michael worked his first harvest in 1973, spending nine years at San Antonio Winery ([sanantoniowinery.com](http://sanantoniowinery.com)), the oldest and largest producing winery in Los Angeles. Michael then headed north to the Napa Valley, where he worked at Robert Mondavi ([robertmondaviwinery.com](http://robertmondaviwinery.com)) for a dozen years before starting a 26-year tenure at Groth Vineyards & Winery ([grothwines.com](http://grothwines.com)).

At UC Santa Barbara, Michael was led to microbiology through mycology lectures and learned about the importance of ocean currents to grape growing in geography classes. “There is no better career for physical, mental and emotional health – it is a true lifestyle,” says Michael of his work. “It is a career primarily of passion, not money.”

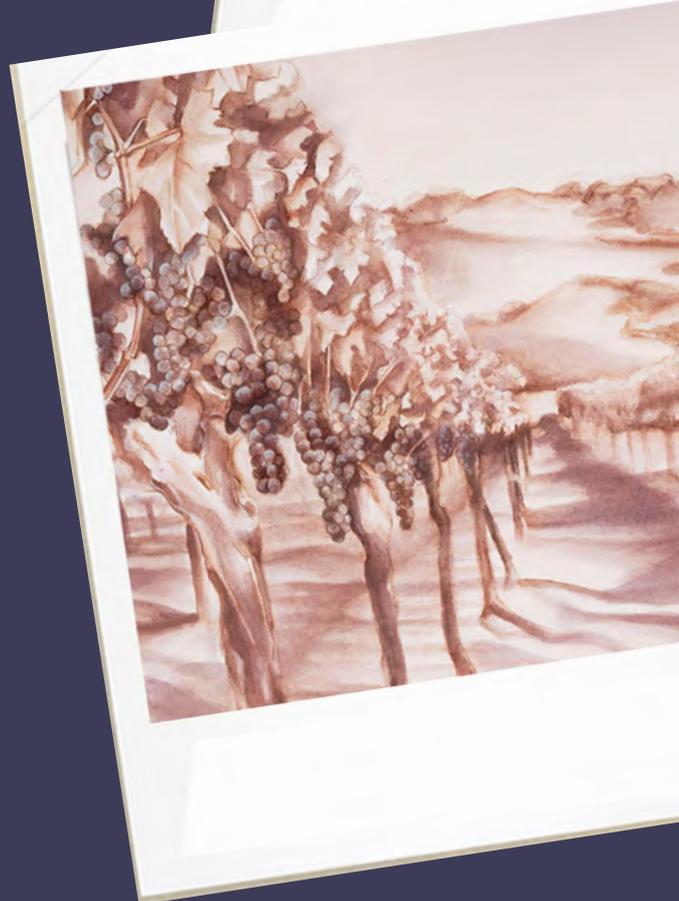
His enthusiasm spread to his son Nate Weis '01, who's worked for such brands as Etude ([etudewines.com](http://etudewines.com)), Patz & Hall ([patzhall.com](http://patzhall.com)), and Antica ([anticanapavalley.com](http://anticanapavalley.com)) since 2002, and was hired as the winemaker for Silver Oak ([silveroak.com](http://silveroak.com)) in 2014. What the biopsychology major learned during college wasn't just from the books.

“I'm a very introverted person by nature, but obviously UCSB is a very social place,” says Nate. “I learned to come out of my shell and how to connect with other people. Now I travel a lot, trying to convince people to buy our wine, and those skills come in mighty handy.”

The family's UC Santa Barbara spider web extends to Nate's sister, Kat Weis '08, the general manager of Gran Electrica restaurant ([granelectrica.com](http://granelectrica.com)) in Napa, and their cousin, Brett Weis, winemaker for Napa's Eleven Eleven Wines ([elevenelevenwines.com](http://elevenelevenwines.com)), who is married to Tracy Rubenstein, the daughter of Erika and Ron Rubenstein '66, a former student body president and longtime UC Regent.

For Nate Weis, the learning never really stopped. “It's a fascinating field with many facets,” he says. “There's enough knowledge to gain for several lifetimes when you think about the scope of the worldwide business and its intricacies. But it does take passion, as none of it is easy. I don't just taste wine all day, much to many potential newcomers' chagrin.” ▲

— MATT KETTMANN '99





## Legends to Be

ACCORDING TO AVAILABLE surveys, Santa Barbara County is home to a higher percentage of female winemakers than anywhere else in California. **Alison Thomson '06** is one of them. In addition to running her own label L.A. Lepiane ([lepianewines.com](http://lepianewines.com)), Thomson is the co-winemaker and director of operations for Two Wolves Wine ([twowolveswine.com](http://twowolveswine.com)), the Santa Ynez Valley vineyard owned by the pop star Pink.

"I learned that I loved being outside, getting my hands dirty, and doing physical work with the Habitat Restoration Club," Thomson says of her university days, which included an eye-opening study abroad program in Siena, Italy, where wine is part of daily life. She remains close to UC Santa Barbara. "I live a short bike ride away from campus, so we are often at Campus Point, or at concerts and lectures," says Thomson, whose kids learned to swim at the Rec Cen. "It was a trip bringing them there for lessons because I was once a life-guard at that pool."

Like Thomson, both **David Potter '01**, the owner of Municipal Winemakers ([municipal-winemakers.com](http://municipal-winemakers.com)) and Potek Winery, and **Matt Brady '05**, the winemaker for SamSara Wine Co. ([samsarawine.com](http://samsarawine.com)), dipped their toes into wine while still students at UC Santa Barbara. Brady found that, "four years of wearing flip flops was good training for climbing barrel racks in my favorite footwear." He got a winery job while finishing his last quarter. "The Santa Barbara County wine world is filled with warm and supporting people," says Brady. "It's a truly special place to work and live."

Potter agrees. "It's a young and vibrant industry, and it's very approachable," he says. "Despite not being able to get a degree in enology, there are many opportunities for gaining experience and learning winery work."

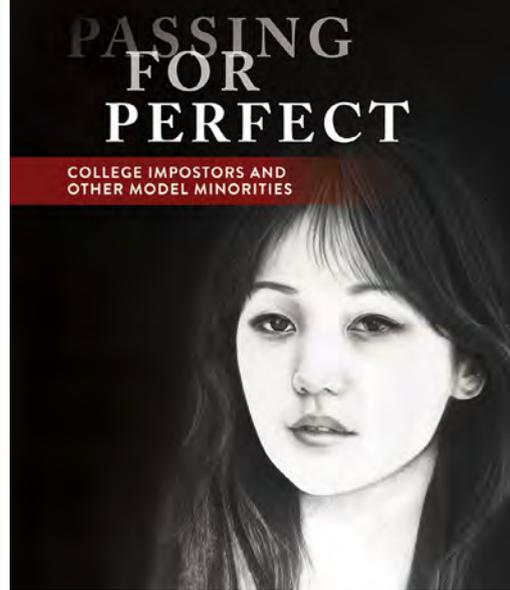
Up the coast in Paso Robles, **Patrick Muran '98** is the winemaker at Niner Wine Estates ([ninerwine.com](http://ninerwine.com)). The microbiology major took the MCATs on his way to be a doctor, then realized that "wine is a lot like medicine, just a lot more enjoyable." But he still uses his degree daily.

"The science behind wine, and the science in the vineyards with soil dynamics, is what I am most passionate about," says Muran. "I enjoy learning about the connection of the parts to the whole."

In Arroyo Grande, **Blake Kuhn '95** is the regional winemaking director for Vintage Wine Estates ([vintagewineestates.com](http://vintagewineestates.com)), which owns Qupe, Laetitia and many other brands. He credits UCSB's quarter system for his stamina. "It's the ultimate pressure cooker, just like harvest: 10 weeks non-stop!" he says. "The quarter system forces you to learn under the pressure of time constraints and teaches you to prioritize both your time and effort to achieve the best results by making quick, educated and effective decisions. Throw in the allure of the beach and you really have to stay focused!"

The path **Christina LoCascio '01** took to wine is unlike anyone else. During her third year, the art studio and communication major interned at a wine magazine, which sparked her initial interest and led to work in the Temecula Valley. But the real magic struck in 2004, when LoCascio – whose artwork illustrates this feature – developed a method of painting with wine, then found her paintings adorning bottles made by Artiste Winery ([artiste.com](http://artiste.com)) in the Santa Ynez Valley. Along the way, she married Michael Lerner, whose family owns Lerner Winery ([lernerwine.com](http://lernerwine.com)) in Santa Barbara's Ballard Canyon.

Living on the vineyard, LoCascio is intimately involved from grape to glass. "I love the science and art of the winemaking process, the beauty of growing grapes and making wine from our vineyard, and connecting with people over great wine and food," she says. "It takes patience and passion to grow in the wine business, but it's about the good things in life." ▲



## Research Breakthroughs

Paving the way to a better future

**As a top-tier research university, UC Santa Barbara is internationally renowned for groundbreaking discoveries and pioneering advances across dozens of disciplines in science and engineering and in the social sciences, humanities and fine arts. Our researchers are at the forefront of scientific investigation and scholarly inquiry, leading research studies and participating in collaborations across the country and around the globe. Here are just a few recent highlights:**

### Don't Fidget! Wi-Fi Will Count You

Researchers in electrical and computer engineering professor **Yasamin Mostofi's** lab have enabled, for the first time, counting a stationary seated crowd using Wi-Fi signals, and without relying on people to carry a device. The technique, which also counts through walls, needs only a wireless transmitter and receiver outside the area of interest where the crowd is seated. It has a variety of applications, including smart energy management, controlling crowd size during a pandemic, business planning and security.

### Survival Lessons

With a five-year, \$12.5 million grant from the National Science Foundation, a new research endeavor involving multiple institutions, including UC Santa Barbara, will examine resilience demonstrated by amphibians and other groups of species to emergence and spread of new infectious diseases, along with other human-caused changes to the global ecosystem. The team will investigate what has allowed amphibians to bounce back after disease outbreaks, using this group of species as a model for understanding how resilience comes about in other living systems.

Working from UC Santa Barbara and from the campus's Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Laboratory in Mammoth Lakes, co-principal investigators **Cherie Briggs**, **Roland Knapp** and **Thomas Smith** will focus their efforts on understanding factors driving amphibian resilience in California's Sierra Nevada mountains, one of four ecosystems the institute will study.

"Globally, more than 500 amphibian species have declined due to the amphibian chytrid fungus, and few have shown evidence of recovery. As such, understanding the factors underlying resilience in the few amphibian species for which recovery has been documented has broad implications for the recovery of many other impacted species," the researchers say. "Results will also have implications for the resilience of other species and ecosystems affected by a wide variety of global stressors, including climate change."

### Ancient Egypt and Early China

**Anthony Barbieri** knows it sounds a little strange to compare the New Kingdom of Egypt (ca. 1548-1086 BCE) with the Han dynasty of China (206 BCE-220 CE). They existed more than 1,000 years and nearly 5,000 miles apart — gaps that would seem to give pause to a scholar's suspicion that the empires shared a cultural DNA largely missed by the rest of the world.

With a \$238,700 New Directions fellowship from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the professor of history, who specializes in ancient China, became, for all intents and purposes, a graduate student in Egyptian archaeology and hieroglyphics at UCLA. The result after seven years of study and research is *Ancient Egypt and Early China: State, Society, and Culture* (University of Washington Press, 2021) Barbieri's groundbreaking comparison of the two civilizations.

### Introducing Diversity

Babies learn the difference between "us" and "them" fairly early in life. Social categorization — the process of dividing the world into groups based on features such as gender, race and nationality — can be a useful strategy when you're new to the world and trying to process a flood of information with your developing brain, according to developmental, evolutionary and social psychologist **Zoe Liberman**.

The act of creating groups — for instance, all the objects that can be categorized as some type of chair — serves as an efficient learning tool for minds still learning to grasp the world around them. But what starts out as a useful survival behavior in our early lives could become a problem when it is applied to people: The tendency to form groups and to like people who are more familiar can lead to stereotyping, bias and racism.

What if there was a way to decrease the tendency toward harmful tribalism? With an Early CAREER Award from the National Science Foundation, Liberman, an assistant professor in the Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences, is poised to lay the groundwork for a better understanding of how stereotypes form in children's brains — work that could inform future interventions aimed at mitigating the negative impacts of stereotyping.

### 'Passing for Perfect'

Azia Kim lived like a Stanford student — studied, lived in dorms, hung out with friends, even attended ROTC training. Jennifer Pan told her family she graduated from college and pharmacology school.

Both were frauds. Kim was discovered and kicked off campus after nine months. Pan hadn't stepped foot in a classroom after high school. When her parents discovered the ruse, she hired hit men to kill them.

How could this happen? It's a question **erin Khuê Ninh**, an associate professor of Asian American studies, explores in *Passing for Perfect: College Impostors and Model Minorities* (Temple University Press, 2021).

All their lives, Ninh says, these "impostors" — people who pose as students at a particular college or university, usually a prestigious one — have been herded into what other scholars have called the "success frame" — an ever-running escalator to straight As, class valedictorian, an elite university and advanced degrees in one of the prestige fields of medicine, law, engineering or science.

In doing so, she continues, these children maintain the appearance of being a "model minority" — the racialized expectation of success that becomes central to one's identity. "The model minority is coded into one's programming — racialization becomes feeling and belief — its litmus test is whether an Asian American *feels pride or shame* by those standards."

### Is Planetary Defense PI in the Sky

In February of 2013, sky watchers around the world turned their attention toward asteroid 2012 DA14, a cosmic rock about 150 feet (50 meters) in diameter that was going to fly closer to Earth than the spacecraft that bring us satellite TV.

Little did they realize that another bit of celestial debris was hurtling toward Earth, with a more direct heading. On February 15, 2013, the Chelyabinsk meteor, a roughly 62-foot-diameter asteroid exploded over the city of Chelyabinsk, Russia, as it entered Earth's atmosphere at a shallow angle.

"It turned out that two completely independent asteroids were coming by that day," says physics professor **Philip Lubin**, and one of the many scientists anticipating 2012 DA14's near-Earth rendezvous. "One of them we knew was going to miss the Earth. The other one, we didn't even know it was coming."

Strategies for planetary defense have progressed from research into better methods for understanding the threats, to efforts to deflect potential hazards and change their orbits, including a strategy developed by Lubin's group, which proposed the use of lasers to push threatening objects out of Earth's way.

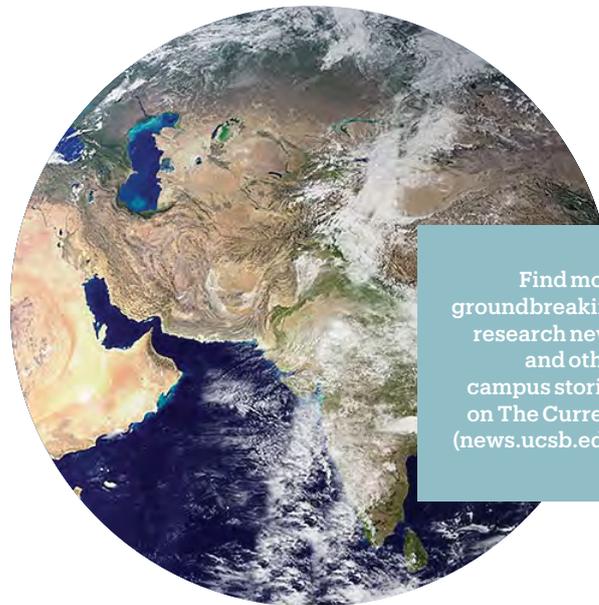
In two papers on the topic of terminal planetary defense submitted to the journal *Advances in Space Research*, accompanied by an opinion piece published in *Scientific American*, Lubin and co-researcher **Alexander Cohen** lay out a more proactive method for dealing with dangerous extraterrestrial space debris. The project is called PI, an acronym for Pulverize It.

### Taming Satellite Data

More than 700 imaging satellites orbit the Earth, and every day they beam vast amounts of information to databases on the ground. There's just one problem: While the geospatial data could help researchers and policymakers address critical challenges, only those with considerable wealth and expertise can access it.

Now, a team of scientists, including UC Santa Barbara's **Tamma Carleton**, has devised a machine learning system to tap the problem-solving potential of satellite imaging. The tool employs low-cost, user-friendly technology that could bring access and analytical power to researchers and governments worldwide. The study appears in the journal *Nature Communications*.

"Millions of satellite images are taken of our planet every day, but actually using this information to solve global problems like climate change and poverty eradication is difficult," explains Carleton, an assistant professor and environmental economist at the Bren School of Environmental Science & Management. ▲



Find more groundbreaking research news and other campus stories on The Current ([news.ucsb.edu](http://news.ucsb.edu))



# Elevated Reflections of Life

Artist Yumiko Glover MA '17

BY LESLIE DINABERG

BORN AND RAISED in Hiroshima, Japan, cover artist **Yumiko Glover MA '17** took a circuitous route to finally following her passion.

"When I was applying for college in Japan I didn't have a mentor to support me," Glover recalls. "I wanted to go to art school and of course, my parents worried that it was 'non job promising.' So, I gave up and I majored in something else." But the desire stuck with her. She took as many art classes as she could while working in the import-export business for more than a decade before returning to school to follow her dreams of becoming an artist. She completed a bachelor of fine arts degree at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa in 2011 and then came to UC Santa Barbara to complete her masters in fine arts in 2017.

"I was not a good student in Japan in college because I was not really interested in the field. But when I went back to school, I was very serious," laughs Glover, who is now a visiting lecturer in the UC Santa Barbara Department of Art, as well as a graphic designer and fine artist who has her work in collections at the Honolulu Museum of Art and on view at LAX, among other venues.



YUMIKOGLOVER.COM

Over the years her style has evolved, but current events continue to influence her art.

Her "Unfold" series was inspired by President Barack Obama's visit to Hiroshima in 2016. The first sitting president to visit the city destroyed by an American atomic bomb during World War II, Obama brought origami paper cranes that he folded himself. "Crane origami is a symbol for peace, wishing the best for others, and healing for challenging times," says Glover.

Working on the premise that with each fold they make in an origami crane, people are thinking about others' wellness or sending them good wishes, Glover drew geometric forms and combined them in different ways to create elements. "I thought that matched well with what we are going through in the pandemic," she says.

Her ongoing series "Transience" also fits in thematically. "Living through the pandemic completely shifted everybody's life, including myself, especially my perspective on approaching art," says Glover.

"Transience comes from the Japanese term, *mono no aware*, which means the transience of life that is the aesthetics of impermanence — nothing lasts forever but there is preciousness to it. I created new paintings during the pandemic; one inspired by the cherry blossom season. As you know the cherry blossom has an intense and precious life and death cycle, which is mirrored by the impermanence of our nature and material world that we took for granted for so long."

She continues, "During the pandemic, as everything that we thought would last forever became uncertain and our perspectives about life, including the subjects for the magazine — education, economy, mental health, work and environment — everything has changed and also affected me and the way I think, so when I received the concept of the magazine design, I could apply those ideas that I was going through during the pandemic to the design." ▲



# Where Palate Meets Palette

Artist Christina LoCascio '01

BY LESLIE DINABERG

PART OF BEING an artist is bringing pieces of yourself into your work, but painter **Christina LoCascio '01**, whose work is featured in "Gauchos Gone Grape," takes this connection to a new level. She is truly living her creative life among the vines, painting with wine as a medium and working exclusively with wines from her family's Lerner Winery in Santa Barbara's Ballard Canyon, where LoCascio, her winemaker husband Michael Lerner, and their children Steven (10) and Sienna (8) make their home.

When LoCascio began experimenting with wine painting in 2002 she couldn't find any information about how to do it. "That was before Instagram or Facebook. Now if you search the hashtag #wineart there's a bunch of artists that are painting with wine, but I feel like what makes what I'm doing special is that it's such a part of my life."

Double majoring in communication and art, LoCascio got her first real exposure to the world of wine in her junior year as an intern for *Touring & Tasting Magazine*. "It was my 21st birthday and they sent me home with a bottle of wine." That job also had her researching and writing about wineries and grapes and very quickly she was hooked.

After graduation she worked in the wine industry in Temecula for a short time, until 2002, when Sunstone Winery scion Bion Rice lured her back to Santa Barbara wine country with an offer to work at Artiste Winery, a new venture featuring art-inspired blends that perfectly combined LoCascio's interests in wine and art.

The idea for painting with wine grew out of classes she would host for wine club members at Artiste that used wine in a similar fashion to watercolor.

Those first few paintings led to a group exhibition in Santa Barbara and then an offer to create wine labels for Artiste. "The exposure of working at the tasting room, having my art on display and then having my art on the wine bottles was great for me," says LoCascio, who went on to have nine shows at Artiste.

She continues to show her work at the tasting room gallery, although she stopped working there in 2008, when the family opened Lerner Winery. They now have a tasting room in Los Olivos, where LoCascio's art is on display. "From the very beginning, I was drawn to wine and all the wonderful things about it and how it combined art and science and history and so many things," she says.

Wine remains a consistent media for her work — the many shades of red comprise her color palette and she uses white wine to "lift" color in a similar way that watercolorists use water to soften their paint. And while wine is a frequent subject, she also delves into figurative art and architectural paintings. "I think that in the time that I've been painting with wine my art has evolved and it continues to change. I have gone through a lot of different types of things," says LoCascio, who has recently begun experimenting with leaves as well as the fermentation process of the wine itself. Exploding wine bottles and incorporating spills into female forms are some of her other recent artistic explorations.

Of course, when harvest calls, the paintbrush comes down and it's all hands on deck for the family business. "We're really busy, but I've come to realize that that's all part of the process. So, when we're bringing in grapes and doing the punch down and I'm helping with the wine, and watching the fermentations, it's just kind of part of it and it all inspires me to think of different ideas," she says.

"I think the act of being in the winery making the wine is inspiring for the art, too." ▲



# Alumni



# Note from the Executive Director



Greetings Gauchos,

What a crazy time this has been for all of us.

The pandemic of the last year and a half has forced us all into a new normal, and the landscape of alumni engagement has shifted dramatically along with almost everything else. We've been working remotely, and in addition to being away from campus, we have experienced shifts in the way we connect with you, our Gaucho community. We have also experienced a period of huge transition for our staff, with the retirement of Executive Director George Thurlow '73, who served for more than 14 years as leader of the UC Santa Barbara Alumni Association.

I have the honor and privilege of providing interim leadership. In many ways it's a very challenging time to step in, but mostly, it's incredibly exciting. In partnership with our Alumni Board of Directors we are working hard to envision the future of our alumni programming, and seeking ways to engage with you that are meaningful, and provide a connection to campus and to those areas you are most passionate about.

Our goal is to be a bridge to campus for all alumni, to bring you back — literally and figuratively — to the place where your story began, to ignite your passions and fulfill your desire to be of service. The Gaucho Network is front and center as a wonderful way for you to reach in and partner with us to create a Gaucho community that supports one another, in mentorship, employment, network and service and — because we're Gauchos — socially as well. Keep an eye out for details about the All Gaucho Reunion coming up April 28-May 1, 2022.

I am so grateful to those of you who participated in the fifth annual Alumni Day of Service in August. We had over 500 alumni giving back from all over the U.S., as well as a good showing of Gauchos participating internationally.

We were excited to reopen the Mosher Alumni House, your home on campus. We also brought you the Gaucho Professionals Expo, full of career development connections, insights into furthering your education, and leadership development opportunities. Most importantly we will be spotlighting you, our alumni, and weaving you into our communications and asking you for your input as we shape the future of the UC Santa Barbara Alumni Association.

We are so grateful for your support,

**Samantha Putnam**

Interim Executive Director,  
UCSB Alumni Association  
Interim Director, Alumni Affairs  
samantha.putnam@ucsb.edu

## ASK AN EXPERT

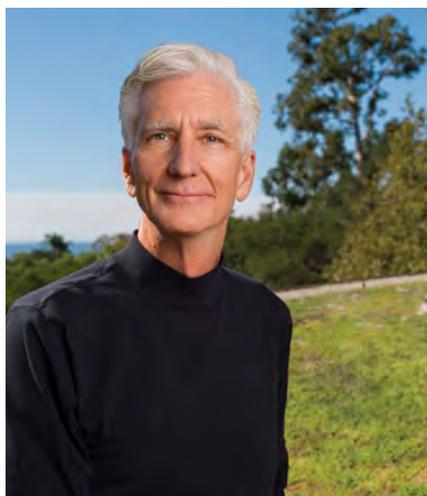
# Simply Sustainable

Ken Radtkey Offers Tips for Making Your Home Eco-Friendly

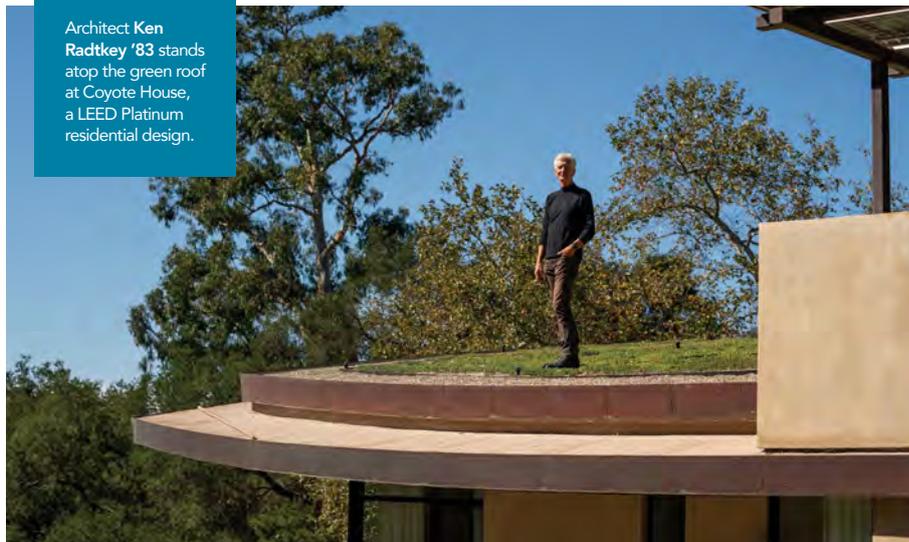
BY MICHELLE DROWN '89

“DOING THINGS that align with nature” is the best way to carve out a sustainable existence, according to **Ken Radtkey '83**. And he should know – he has spent his entire career focusing on how to work with the land. Radtkey cofounded **Black-bird Architects** (bbird.com) in 1995, and for the past 26 years he and his team have created award-winning buildings, homes and landscapes that merge beautiful design and sustainable practices.

While Radtkey incorporates tenable practices into the structures and gardens he creates and remodels, you don't have to be an eco-architect to reduce your dwelling's carbon footprint; there are myriad ways to affect change that don't take much time and are inexpensive. In fact, according to Radtkey, “Making improvements to an existing home or structure and working with what you have is really important. I see it as a bigger picture approach, much better than building new,” he says. “What we've seen



Architect Ken Radtkey '83 stands atop the green roof at Coyote House, a LEED Platinum residential design.



is that the first 50 percent of what you can change is low hanging fruit and you should go after that.”

For example, a west-facing window might make a room a hot box thanks to the burning afternoon sun. Rather than replacing the windows with expensive double-paned tinted glass, think about planting a tree. And if you don't want the summer sun pouring in but do want the mild winter sun rays to hit that same window, then plant a deciduous tree, which loses its leaves in the cold months.

Other “passive approaches” to sustainability include making sure your water heater is working to its full potential, utilizing rain barrels, and strategically pruning trees and plants. “I think it's like jujitsu – use the least amount of your effort to get the most effect in the world,” Radtkey says.

High-tech devices such as the Flume can also help you reach your eco potential. The Flume is a water sensor that attaches to your meter and tracks every drop of water used. “This smart device is really informative,” he explains, “because it gives you an alert for as small as 1/100th gallon per minute used. Something that is running 24/7, even if it's only a tiny dribble, adds up to a lot of water.”

Solar panels are also a good implement if you have the capital, he notes, though they are pricey. “They can pay for themselves over time, as they will offset electricity bills.”

Radtkey says the best way to achieve sustainability is to use “anything that connects you to nature.”

## Sustainability Tips

- 1. Landscaping.** Use landscaping to enhance warm and cold spots. Plant trees, for example, to shade windows that receive lots of sun.
- 2. Rain Barrels.** Gathering any water or moisture that comes off your roof is gold, according to Radtkey, and great for the garden.
- 3. High-Tech Devices.** Get a water meter smart device such as the Flume water monitor. Knowledge is power.
- 4. Reuse/Recycle.** Make a compost pile and/or a worm bin. “Soil is full of carbon and it's great for your plants,” says Radtkey.
- 5. Walk Scores.** If you are buying a house, find out its Walk Score, which is a grading system related to the abode's proximity to amenities like grocery stores. “Building in the foothills is wonderful and enjoyable but is not necessarily the most sustainable,” Radtkey notes.

## Gauche Creators & Authors

The creative spark is alive and well in UC Santa Barbara grads

BY JUSTINE SUTTON '88

### See Hear Move

**Marco Pinter M.S. '89, Ph.D. '15** has long known that movement and dance are enormously valuable for our physical and mental health yet are underutilized for this purpose. He hopes to change that with the **Museum of Sensory & Movement Experiences** (seehearmove.com) in Santa Barbara's La Cumbre Plaza. This unique museum experience dedicated to interactive and media displays is designed for kinetic interaction from a distance. Pinter, founder and executive director of the museum, holds a Ph.D. in Media Arts and Technology from UC Santa Barbara.

### Poetry, No Waiting

Poetry publisher Gunpowder Press, co-edited by **Chryss Yost '97, MA '18, Ph.D. '18**, and publisher David Starkey, recently launched ***While You Wait*** (whileyouwait.org), an anthology edited by former College of Creative Studies lecturer **Laure-Anne Bosselaar**. Poet Laureate of Santa Barbara 2019-2021, Bosselaar envisioned a poetry book people could read in doctor's office waiting rooms. Submissions were accepted from 80 poets in the community, but then COVID hit and office waiting rooms sat empty.

Undeterred, Yost and Starkey created an online anthology designed to be read on phones. The hugely successful project has Santa Barbara Sansum Clinic posting QR codes in their waiting rooms, Santa Barbara MTD placing posters inside buses, and more medical facilities becoming involved.

Don't get them wrong – Gunpowder Press still loves print books and has copies available. Current Gauchos and alums featured in the collection include faculty and staff, professors emerita, students and trustees.

### To Be Discovered

**Thomas Moran '19** was a student programmer at KCSB, then served as music director and news director. Now he and co-host **Maddy McPherson '20** present ***TBD*** (kcsb.org/schedule), airing Tuesdays, 8-10 p.m. on KCSB-FM 91.9. Their innovative show provides on-air space for a wide range of DIY musicians, those who write, record and produce their own work, usually at home. The show has continued to feature live performances and interviews, even during the pandemic. But in true DIY style, it's all done safely from home.

### Mad Mama

In her new memoir due to hit the shelves in November, MSNBC anchor **Katy Tur '05** brings together the personal and the professional. In ***Rough Draft: Motherhood & Media in a World Gone***

***Mad***, she opens up about everything from childhood to journalism to becoming a parent. Tur, daughter of journalists Zoey Tur and Marika Gerrard, is married to "CBS This Morning" co-host Tony Dokoupil, and in May 2021 she gave birth to their second child.

### Podcast Prose

Brought to you by the *Daily Nexus*, UC Santa Barbara's student newspaper, the podcast ***Hot Off The Pod*** (anchor.fm/hotp-dailynexus) goes behind the headlines for unfiltered conversations on a variety of diverse topics, always from the student perspective. Launched in fall 2020 and completely student-run, the bi-weekly HOTP was developed with support from the University of California National Center for Free Speech and Civil Engagement.



Marco Pinter M.S. '89, Ph.D. '15 in front of his interactive work "Time Dilation," on view at the Museum of Sensory & Movement Experiences in Santa Barbara.

## BRIGHT SPOTS



## Smart Sips

Emma Rose Cohen's Reusable Straws Promote Sustainability

BY MICHELLE DROWN '89

ALTHOUGH (MOST) adults have outgrown peek-a-boo, the object permanence game that baffles and delights babies, when it comes to trash, the out-of-sight, out-of-mind concept still reigns. It's something **Emma Rose Cohen '09** finds distressing and prompted her to found **Final**. (<https://final.co>), a company with a mission of creating "reusable Foreverables," including the FinalStraw.

A New Mexico native, Cohen went to UC Santa Barbara to study science, where her interest in eliminating environmental waste was sparked. "I remember walking the streets of Isla Vista," she said in a 2018 TED talk. "I couldn't help but notice how much trash was everywhere. Even though I was surrounded by people striving for

higher education...we weren't acting in congruence with our beliefs."

Cohen's frustration led to advocacy work. She and her fellow students did beach clean-ups (dressed as mermaids, naturally) and raised their pollution concerns at Santa Barbara City Council meetings. Finally, they founded the nonprofit **Save the Mermaids** ([savethemermaids.org](http://savethemermaids.org)), which educates kids about the negative impact of single-use plastics on the environment.

Cohen received her BS in 2009 intending to pursue a career in neuroscience. However, a post-college trip to Thailand, where the country's gorgeous white beaches were littered with straws, saw her abandoning medicine for environmental conservation. She focused her energies on creating a sustainable drinking implement. The result? FinalStraw, a reusable, collapsible, portable, stainless-steel straw. Cohen tackles the serious issue with cheeky fun – watch her delightful YouTube video ([youtube.com/watch?v=vP4x-UgzNLik](https://youtube.com/watch?v=vP4x-UgzNLik)) – making it pretty irresistible to not purchase a FinalStraw of your own. (Mine will arrive soon.) It's a great, practical way to help the planet – and the sea turtles will thank you.



EMMA ROSE COHEN



## The Music of Education

Trevor Ditzler's Commitment to Underserved School Children

BY MICHELLE DROWN '89

"MUSIC CAN CHANGE the world because it can change people," said U2's Bono. It's a sentiment with which **Trevor Ditzler '09** wholeheartedly agrees – and has done his part to prove. In 2017, Ditzler founded **UP! Music** ([achievemiami.org](http://achievemiami.org)), an after-school program for elementary school kids in Miami.

A northern California native, Ditzler has been singing since he was a toddler. At UC Santa Barbara, he participated in myriad music programs, including chamber choir and the a cappella group Naked Voices.

Naked Voices was a particularly formative experience, Ditzler says. "We traveled, competed, performed and released albums. I became president of Naked Voices and that type of

## CAREER CONNECTIONS

# Gaicho Network

Access, Engage and Inspire Your Fellow Gauchos

BY CYANNA ROSS '22

CONNECTING WITH the Gaicho community around the world is an excellent way to develop your professional network, get business advice, find new employees, build career opportunities and open doors to new knowledge and experiences.

“Gaicho Network ([gaichonetwork.com](http://gaichonetwork.com)) is UC Santa Barbara’s version of LinkedIn, specifically for the Gaicho community,” explains current student **Abigail Merkel**, a Gaicho Network intern who helps to maintain the platform. “It provides students and alumni with the resources they need to explore future career paths and network for job opportunities, all in one place. As a student, I chose to attend UCSB because of the endless possibility of connection and resources.”

During the pandemic, a lot of our community disconnected from one another, she continues. Gaicho Network helps Gauchos find other Gauchos with ease. With the “Find Gauchos” feature, for example, users can search everything from majors to current job titles and find people with similar interests to prepare them for their journeys after graduation.

“Not only can you find alumni to connect with on Gaicho Network, but you can look for jobs,” says Merkel, a political science major with a philosophy minor, who plans to become a lawyer.

It doesn’t end there. Gaicho Network is a great way for alumni to stay connected with fellow alumni, faculty and students.

“I decided to become a mentor for other Gauchos because I found it extremely helpful talking to other mentors when I was a student,” says **Chrissy Cho '20**, who works for RPA, a marketing and

entrepreneurial experience and being able to work with a really smart group of people to create something and make it successful has really informed a lot of my career as an adult.”

Post-graduation, Ditzler signed up with **Teach for America** ([teachforamerica.org](http://teachforamerica.org)), after which he planned to attend law school and get a Ph.D. in political science. But like many best-laid plans, Ditzler’s panned out differently than he expected and his two-year stint in education has turned into a career.

In July 2020, Ditzler returned to California, taking a job as assistant principal at Rocketship Public Schools in Emeryville where he continues to work with elementary-aged kids.

All these years later, Ditzler hasn’t forgotten what music and his Naked Voices experience gave him. “It made me unafraid to jump into or launch brand new ventures,” he says. “That type of student leadership really set me up for success in a variety of different ways for the future.”



TREVOR DITZLER



advertising agency headquartered in Los Angeles. “I know that personally there were many moments when I felt lost with choosing a career path.”

**Elliot Thornton '17**, a social programmer at Bleacher Report in San Francisco, thought becoming a Gaicho mentor would be a great opportunity to give back to the community he’s become so deeply connected to since enrolling at UCSB. “Not only does it allow me to give advice to students that were once in my shoes not too long ago, it enhances the network of Gauchos, both past and present, and creates new avenues for students to be prepared for life after college,” he says.

“My hope is by being part of this community, I can provide every resource possible to enable the success of the next Gaicho.”

Give back to the community that keeps giving and sign up for Gaicho Network. It’s a great way to pay it forward, as well as open up new opportunities for yourself.

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## ALUMNI

### STARTUP SPOTLIGHT

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## Dart Coffee Co.

Organic Roastery Hits the Mark

BY KARNA HUGHES '95

IF THERE WAS ever any doubt that art and science could be helpmates, considering the case of painter **Erika (Marie Carter '01) Dart** and dentist **Dr. David Dart '71, MA '72** – partners in life and business – might soon dispel it. Each successful in their own fields, with multi-decade careers in studio art and dentistry, the Darts found common ground in their love for coffee. In 2018, they opened **Dart Coffee Co.** ([dartcoffeeco.com](http://dartcoffeeco.com)) in the Funk Zone, an arts district in Santa Barbara. With lines down the block most days, the coffee shop and roaster has become one of the buzziest spots in the neighborhood, serving up regular espresso drinks using organic, fair-trade coffee and loose-leaf Rishi organic teas, as well as specialty pours, like sparkling botanical teas, churro or lavender lattes, and The Beach Brew (a creamy cold brew combo with sugar and salt). A rotation of Santa Barbara-based Buena Onda empanadas and Mony's burritos, as well as other carbs in the pastry case, keep java lovers' hunger pangs at bay. As a perk, Dart patrons can enjoy their drinks in the Dart Coffee Garden across the street, a peaceful retreat overflowing with colorful flowers and citrus and shade trees next to Erika's art studio.



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## Sun & Swell

Happy, Healthy Snacking Solutions

BY KARNA HUGHES '95

**KATE (SCHOCH '07) FLYNN** wasn't looking to start a revolution when she created the product that launched the Ventura-based snack foods company **Sun & Swell** ([SunandSwellFoods.com](http://SunandSwellFoods.com)) in 2017. She was simply craving a healthy snack. Working long hours as a retail consultant in San Francisco, she longed for "real food," instead of sugar- and preservative-laden pick-me-ups. The result was Date & Cashew Balls – tasty, nutrient-dense energy balls – which have become a bestseller.

Now she and her husband, Bryan, have their sights set on fixing a "broken food system," with a mission to offer healthy, shelf-stable snacks that aren't just good for people, but good for the planet.

Sun & Swell's line of more than 100 plant-based products are sourced from organic family farms and free of allergens like gluten and dairy. They range from crowd-pleasers like Double Cacao and Oatmeal Cacao "Cookie Bites," with limited-edition flavors like Almond Butter & Jelly, to pantry staples like pistachios, dried persimmons, and trail mixes.

These days the company wears its commitments on its sleeve – literally – by using compostable packaging for more than half its products, with a goal of continuously reducing plastic use.

Sun & Swell snacks are available at Whole Foods, Amazon, on their website, and in their zero-waste organic grocery store, which recently opened in Ventura.

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## BranchOut Parks

A New Type of Outdoor Adventure

BY LAUREN BENNETT '17

THE INCREASED DEMAND for safe outdoor activities at the height of the pandemic led to a new kind of adventure for **Rick Thomas MES '17**, a Bren School alumnus. He founded **BranchOut Parks** ([branchoutparks.com](http://branchoutparks.com)), a series of scavenger-hunt-meets-escape-room adventures that take all the elements of traditional quest games – a compelling storyline, clues and puzzles – and move them outdoors to public park locations.

Each mission is as diverse as its environment, which includes locations in Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Seattle, Minneapolis and Washington D.C., with plans to expand to other cities across the country.

Instead of trying to escape, participants are presented with a different mission based on the history of the park. Discover a fossil, save a rare species, debunk an old legend, and more.

Each adventure has both an environmental and historical bent. The goal, Thomas says, is to reacquaint people with their native areas and pass along some local lore as well.

At Loring Park in Minneapolis, for example, players find themselves caught between two long-time rivals and a mysterious wager about the park. The BranchOut adventure at Tregaron Conservancy in Washington, D.C. has players retracing the steps of local environmental heroes who rebuilt the park after years of neglect.

Thomas says he loves collaborating with parks to encourage people to explore the outdoors and have their own self-directed adventures. You can visit a local BranchOut Park, collect badges when you complete a quest, and even request that BranchOut come to a city near you to create a custom adventure.



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## Watermelon Apparel

Sowing the Seeds of Positive Body Images

BY LAUREN BENNETT '17



UC SANTA BARBARA student **Athena Wang '22** is reclaiming the notion that beauty is in the eye of the beholder. Identifying a need for affordable, comfortable, high-quality, fashionable clothing in a wide variety of sizes, the 20-year-old founded **Watermelon Apparel** ([watermelon-apparel.com](http://watermelon-apparel.com)) in the spring of 2020. After establishing the business online, she added a popup storefront in Santa Barbara's Paseo Nuevo Mall.

Wang's brand reflects her idea that inclusivity is integral to finding your own style. She describes her philosophy as "being in something together. It's about capturing how individuals think of beauty and embracing it." Wang says she feels most confident in the oversized, coastal-influenced clothing she sells, and she hopes to share that sensibility with her customers.

The Watermelon name honors her father, who started his own business selling watermelons when she was a baby and he was still living in a rural area of China. It was arduous work. To get the produce to market by 6 a.m., he would awaken two hours earlier, borrow a truck, select the watermelons that were ready to eat, and drive into town to sell them.

For Wang, watermelon is more than just a sweet summer fruit. It represents her father's journey to success, and their family's commitment to hard work and progress.



## Shoe Designs That Step Up the Sustainability

ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY practices and fashion come together at **della terra** ([dellaterrashoes.com](http://dellaterrashoes.com)), a new footwear brand from Designer **Emily Landsman '05**. Prior to its launch in June, the new brand hit the ground running, winning four Global Footwear Awards for Landsman's initial designs using vegan and recycled materials to create a PETA certified line of shoes that don't sacrifice style or comfort.

"My time in the art studio program at UC Santa Barbara had a huge impact on my career as an eco-footwear designer, especially **Kip Fulbeck's** mentorship that allowed me the opportunity to explore the intersection between art, fashion and the digital world. It was Fulbeck's teachings that ensured we all examined our position in the business and art landscape, bringing awareness of identity politics to the forefront of my mind," says Landsman, who is the founder and CEO of della terra.

"A lot of my inspiration also comes from UCSB's surrounding areas and amazing backdrops, which granted me the chance to explore a design thinking process that I have continued to apply to each and every project I have worked on since my time at the school," Landsman says. "While I spent a large chunk of my career in major cities like New York and Boston, Santa Barbara's landscape has continued to be a constant presence in my work. della terra translates to 'of the land' and UCSB's surrounding area is a very large part of that inspiration behind the name. Being able to merge this while contributing positively to the planet will continue to always be my initiative as a designer and business owner."

—LESLIE DINABERG

## Bringing Diverse Perspectives to the White House

**NATHALY (ARRIOLA '10) MAURICE** joined the White House Office of Public Engagement (OPE) as Special Assistant to the President and Director for Partnerships this spring. OPE works at the local, state, and national levels to ensure community leaders, diverse perspectives, and new voices all have the opportunity to inform the work of the President. The team is tasked with creating and maintaining a two-way dialogue between the administration and communities across the nation to ensure that voices are heard and that concerns can be translated into action across the administration. Through outreach, communication, public events, and official announcements from the administration and the various departments of the Executive Office of the President, the Office of Public Engagement removes obstacles and barriers and creates opportunities to improve public awareness and involvement in the work of the Biden-Harris administration.

Maurice previously worked for the Executive Office of the President in the Obama administration, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, and the Senate. A native of Peru, she earned her bachelor's degree in political science with an emphasis in international relations and Latin American studies. She participated in UC Santa Barbara's Technology Management Program for four years and was a member of the Lambda Sigma Gamma sorority. Maurice is a mentor for The Puente Project, which helps young Latinas prepare for college. She attributes much of her success to her experience at UC Santa Barbara and participation in a UCDC internship in the office of a member of Congress.

—LESLIE DINABERG



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# Noteworthy

## Book Buzz

**Don Lake '65**, a member of the first engineering class at UC Santa Barbara, has released a travel book, *One Lap Around San Diego Bay. Fearless Talent Choices That Can Make or Break Your Business* is the newest title by **Dave Forman '66**, a former member of the board of directors of the UCSB Alumni Association. Steven **James Bartlett MA '68** (who received his Ph.D. from the Université de Paris), published a new philosophical treatise, *Critique of Impure Reason: Horizons of Possibility and Meaning*.

Letters between her uncle and his wife are the inspiration behind the new book *Darling: Love Letters from World War II*, by **Peggy O'Toole Lamb '72, MA '87**. **Stanley Moss '72**, a former member of the UCSB Alumni Association board of directors and past president of the New York alumni chapter, has published *Arborea*, a new work of fiction that takes place at an ultra-modern resort in the California redwoods. **Victor Geraci Ph.D. '97**, whose doctoral thesis produced the book *Salud! The Rise of Santa Barbara's Wine Industry*, recently published *Wine By Design: Santa Barbara's Quest for Terroir*.

**Arvind Gupta '02** published *Decoding the World: A Roadmap for the Questioner*, which explores the use of clean-tech to solve some of the most vexing problems facing the world. *Jesus Year*, a self-help memoir by **Ashley**

**M. Ratcliff '06**, chronicling her journey with multiple sclerosis, is an Amazon bestseller. **Chloe Martinez Ph.D. '13**, currently the program coordinator of the Center for Writing and Public Discourse and a lecturer at Claremont McKenna College, has published *Corner Shrine*, a poetry chapbook.

## Athletic Accolades

**Lin Loring '72** – the winningest women's tennis coach in NCAA Division 1 history – was inducted into the Intercollegiate Women's Tennis Hall of Fame. He coached women's tennis at UC Santa Barbara after his graduation and then went on to coach for 30 years at the University of Indiana. **Mike Magpayo '01** has been named head coach of the UC Riverside men's basketball team. Magpayo is the first NCAA Division 1 head coach of full Asian heritage.

Gaucha basketball star **Orlando Johnson '12** has signed to play in Australia with the Brisbane Bullets of the National Basketball League. Johnson has played in the NBA (Indiana Pacers) and pro teams in Spain, the Philippines, China, Lebanon, Bosnia, Taiwan and Russia. **Gabe Vincent '18** was a backup reserve for the Miami Heat in their recent NBA championship series against the Los Angeles Lakers. Vincent, the ninth all-time scoring leader for the university, is the second UC Santa Barbara player to appear in the championship series. **Brian Shaw '88** made the finals with the Orlando Magic and the Lakers.

## Science Standouts

**Joe Acaba '90** has been named by NASA to the team that will make the early Artemis Moon missions. NASA's goal is to put people on the moon by 2024 and Acaba, a NASA astronaut since 2004 who has logged 306 days in space on three different missions, joins a team of 18 astronauts that will be assigned the first missions. **Dawn Wright Ph.D. '94** is among the newly elected members of the American Academy of Arts & Science. She completed an interdisciplinary Ph.D. in physical geography and marine geology and is the chief scientist at the Environmental Systems Research Institute.

## The Service Sector

**Gregory Ruiz '80**, a senior research scientist at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, was a finalist in the 2021 Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medals, which “recognize the unsung heroes in our federal government who have made phenomenal contributions to the health, safety and prosperity of our country.” **Jeanette Morgan Shaw '89**, a former member of the board of directors of the UCSB Alumni Association, has been elected to the Tigard City Council in Portland, Oregon. Partner and co-founder of Techolicy LLC, Shaw is also the senior director of policy, communications and marketing for Forth, a nonprofit focused on smart transportation.

**John Hinderaker '91** was confirmed by the U.S. Senate as the U.S. District Judge of Arizona. He is one of 94 federal district judges in the U.S. He previously served on the Pima County Superior Court in Arizona. **Shawn Landres MA '95, Ph.D. '13** is serving as the chair of the Santa Monica City Planning Commission. He is also a leader on the Los Angeles County Innovation Commission.

**Sheila Hwang MA '97, Ph.D. '08** was among 100 St. Louis-area educators to receive “Emerson's Excellence in Teaching Award.” Hwang is a professor of English at Webster University in St. Louis. **Steve Ortiz '04**, President and CEO of the Santa Barbara United Way, has been honored by Hospice of Santa Barbara with its Philanthropy Award for his work during the COVID-19 crisis. **Niki Sandoval Ph.D. '07**, a former member of the board of directors of the UCSB Alumni Association, has joined WestEd, a worldwide consulting firm that works toward improving educational outcomes for youth and adults.

Please submit your news and milestones to [editor@magazine.ucsb.edu](mailto:editor@magazine.ucsb.edu). Find even more alumni milestones on our website: [alumni.ucsb.edu](http://alumni.ucsb.edu).



## Engineering for a Better Future

DREAMS REALLY DO COME TRUE. At least that's the case for **Tanya Das M.S. '13, Ph.D. '17**, the new chief of staff in the Office of Science, a senior position in the Department of Energy (DOE).

"This position is a dream job," says Das, who was a member of associate professor **Jon Schuller's** research group at UC Santa Barbara, where she earned her Ph.D. in electrical and computer engineering studying the effects of light engineering on multipolar resonances in nanoparticles. "It is an incredible honor to be appointed to advance climate change and racial equity policies."

With a \$7 billion budget, the Office of Science supports research in the physical sciences, stewards ten of the DOE's 17 national laboratories, and supports workforce development and training programs for teachers and students in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields.

Das says she developed the essential skills she needed to succeed in Washington both inside and outside of the research lab at UC Santa Barbara. "My work in the Schuller Lab helped me gain a solid understanding of the research process and federal funding mechanisms for our nation's scientific research enterprise."

For two years, she also was a program evaluator at the university's Center for Science and Engineering Partnerships (CSEP), which focuses on improving the educational and career outcomes of current and future scientists and engineers.

"It was my work with CSEP that helped me realize how I could apply my scientific skills to policy," says Das. "CSEP programs and staff are an underappreciated jewel of UCSB and have helped countless UCSB graduates like myself develop the skills they need to be successful professionals – essential skills that can't be learned from just doing research. Without the experience and mentoring that I gained with CSEP, I would not be on the career path I'm on today." — **UC SANTA BARBARA ENGINEERING**

## Reaching for the Stars Onscreen

FORMER NASA ASTRONAUT **José Hernández MA '86** and his inspirational story will be the subject of a Netflix original movie set to be released in 2022. The working title of the film is *A Million Miles Away*.

Hernández, a graduate of UC Santa Barbara's electrical and computer engineering department, spent 14 days in space in 2009 as a flight engineer on board STS-128, a NASA Space Shuttle mission to the International Space Station. While in orbit, he was the first person to send a tweet in Spanish from space.

"The film shows my life as a migrant farmer who went from working in the fields with his parents to becoming an astronaut," says Hernández, who describes his nomadic childhood of moving to various locations throughout California and Mexico each year with his family. "I think this film is going to inspire a lot of people, not just kids, to believe that anything is possible if you put your mind to it."

Hernández was turned down 11 times by NASA's astronaut program, finally getting accepted on his 12th attempt in 2004. Receiving a Graduate Engineering Minority Fellowship while a student at UC Santa Barbara was key to his success, he recalls. It meant he didn't have to hold down a job to support his academic endeavors – a first for him. "I could focus solely on my studies and work with the great professors, like Sanjit Mitra in digital signal processing," says Hernández, whose daughter **Marisol Hernández** graduated from UCSB in 2020 with a bachelor's degree in statistics and data science.

"I am certain that without that training from UCSB, there is no way I would have become an astronaut," says Hernández, who currently serves as the president and CEO of Tierra Luna Engineering, LLC. He will have the opportunity to bring his decades of experience in the sciences to the university in a new role as well. Gov. Gavin Newsom recently appointed Hernández to a 12-year term on the University of California Board of Regents. — **UC SANTA BARBARA ENGINEERING**



## SOCIAL SNIPPETS

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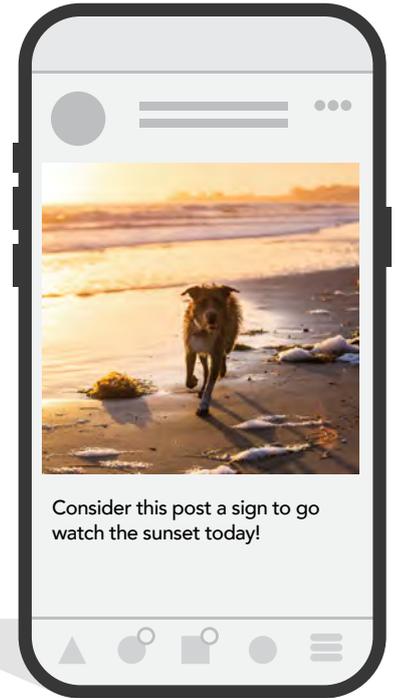
Here's a throwback from 1958! This was the year that the Regents made it official and designated the college as a general campus of the University of California system. Hello, UC Santa Barbara! Anyone else want to go back in time and take a walk through campus? #TBT



Talk about a love match. Gauchos ❤️ Check out fellow alums **Jesse Byrd '10** and **Erna Abbass '09** who met through the sociology department and the social life of Isla Vista. For their full story check out the link in our bio! #GauchosInLove



Nothing but blue skies, warm weather, and more blue skies. For those of you that lived in Isla Vista during the summer months, what was your favorite memory?



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## Remembering Gary Wilcox '69, M.A. '72, Ph.D. '72



ALTHOUGH UC SANTA BARBARA Foundation Trustee Gary Wilcox passed away in May 2021, his presence will be felt on campus for generations to come. His legacy will be carried on through his wife, Sue; his sons, John and David; and all those whose lives he touched as a professor, mentor and leader.

Gary's UC Santa Barbara journey began as an undergraduate working toward his bachelor's in cellular and organismal biology. It was here that he met Sue on an Isla Vista beach during spring break of 1969. After many library dates, they married that winter and pursued advanced degrees together. Gary received a master's and Ph.D. in biochemistry and molecular biology ('72); Sue earned her bachelor's in mathematics ('70) with a master's and Ph.D. in economics ('72, '75).

"UC Santa Barbara gave us a high-level education while we lived in married student housing and enjoyed the benefits of both the university and the city," says Sue. "Needless to say, UC Santa Barbara played a large role in our lives."

The Wilcoxes began challenging and rewarding careers, Gary as a professor of microbiology and Sue as an economist. Gary attained over 70 scientific publications and 15 patents in his ten years at UCLA. As their careers blossomed, so did

their family. Their sons, John and David '07, were born in 1982 and 1983.

Gary was excited about the new biotechnology industry and its potential to help those struggling with untreated diseases. Along with five other UCLA faculty members and Sue, Gary launched Ingene in 1982. It was the first of many biotech startups they participated in with Gary's scientific expertise and Sue's efforts. After 11 years, Gary left to play a key role in the development of Cialis for Icos Corporation in Seattle. When Icos was bought out, the Wilcoxes moved back to Santa Barbara.

"Gary was a commencement speaker one year. UC Santa Barbara was such a major part of our early lives that returning was easy," says Sue. "Learning how to give back seemed to come naturally."

The Wilcoxes gave back as campus leaders, philanthropists and mentors. Gary served on the UC Santa Barbara Foundation Board of Trustees for 24 years. Sue and Gary applied their passion for technology by supporting and advising the Technology Management Program, the New Venture Incubator on the first floor of the Mosher Alumni House, and the Science Dean's Cabinet.

They established four endowed chairs, each with its own graduate student fellowship. The Wilcox Family Chair in Biotechnology, the Wilcox Family Chair in BioMedicine, the Wilcox Family Presidential Chair in Molecular Biology, and the Wilcox Family Chair in Entrepreneurial Economics will provide students and faculty with the resources to maintain their high-impact research.

"It was always a fun challenge to think about where a financial contribution to the university could best be used and feel fulfilling to us," says Sue.

Gary remained busy doing the work that he loved as chairman, CEO, and founder of Cocrystal Pharma in Bothell,

Washington, working to develop antiviral drugs, and as co-founder and member of the board of directors of ADRx Corporation in Thousand Oaks, working to develop drugs for amyloid diseases. He enjoyed mentoring students and faculty alike. Sue would encourage everyone with a connection to UC Santa Barbara to stay connected with campus – and to bring a friend.

"Introduce others in the community to the many things that are happening on and around campus," says Sue. "The more we can get UC Santa Barbara known and provide support, the better off the community, the campus and the students will be." ▲

### ALUMNI

Elsie Whittaker '47  
 Irma (Goggia) '50 Rennie  
 Edgar Lanning '51  
 Josephine Millett '52  
 Joan Swanger '56  
 Larry Clark DeSpain '63  
 Judy McKee '66  
 Jack Fox MA '69  
 Walter R. Harper '69  
 Craig Steven Palonen '69  
 Carl Sjovold '70  
 Betsy Anne (Nevitt) '73 Robanser  
 Thomas Lindsay Peters '73  
 Doran Ross MA '75  
 Jim Clendenen '76  
 Suree Gould '76  
 Darryl Richard Tate '76  
 Penelope "Penn" Borden Ph.D. '85  
 Elizabeth "Liza" Mary Rindge-  
 Peterson '88  
 Dr. Esperanza M. Jefferson '88,  
 Ph.D. '99  
 Mary MacRae '91  
 Jennifer Leigh Blankenbeckler '98  
 James Thomas Huebner '99  
 Richard "Dick" Jensen, H'06  
 Geoff Jewel '07  
 Jayden Quinn Lotz '21  
 Chad James Thodos '21  
 Peter Aleman Jr. '22

For additional information, visit [alumni.ucsb.edu/in-memoriam](http://alumni.ucsb.edu/in-memoriam).

# The Parent Trap

Why are there so few women in academic STEM fields? Two scholars found out

BY JIM LOGAN

SCHOLARS HAVE LONG KNOWN that women are underrepresented in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) in higher education. **Sarah Thébaud** and **Catherine Taylor**, both associate professors of sociology, wanted to find out why. Their findings, based on in-depth interviews with 57 young, childless Ph.D. students and postdoctoral scholars in natural sciences at four universities, center on a culture that frames having children as a career-killing choice that should be feared, rejected and hidden. They call this the “specter of motherhood.” Thébaud and Taylor share some insights into their research, which was published in the journal *Gender & Society*.

## Why is the “specter of motherhood” a problem?

**Catherine Taylor:** The “specter of motherhood” disadvantages young women in academic science and discourages them from persisting in it at a time when scientific and engineering workforce advances are more important than ever due to the challenges we face (climate change, COVID-19, aging infrastructure, cyberattacks, etc.).

## It seems like you’ve broken new ground with this.

**CT:** Absolutely. There has been a substantial amount of work in the social sciences over the past couple of decades about what is called “the motherhood penalty.” This work has documented the penalties women pay, in terms of salary, promotions and workplace status, etc., in the workplace for being mothers. For example, all else being held equal, mothers are not paid as much as comparable single workers and fathers. Our work breaks new ground because it shows how young women who are seen even as potential mothers are disadvantaged in the workplace — especially in elite and/or male-dominated professions.

**Sarah Thébaud:** We break new ground by showing how the culture of academic science and engineering effectively teaches young scientists that, in order to gain professional respect, they will need to engage in behaviors that reject, denigrate and/or hide motherhood. This workplace norm, not surprisingly, disproportionately drives women away from academic careers.

## What do you hope people will take away from the paper?

**CT:** We want young people to know that in many cases the most elite and male-dominated professions make it easier to be a mother because though work hours are often long, they are often flexible as well. This is definitely true in academia! In addition, the higher pay available in these professions make high-quality child care attainable.

We hope that motherhood will be destigmatized in elite occupations. People can be both excellent mothers and excellent workers.

We encourage academic programs to do more to normalize motherhood among their faculty and graduate students and to implement policies that support mothers and young people with the potential to be mothers. We hope for policy change in both government and academia that makes more high-quality, affordable childcare available to all parents.

## You offer a couple of options to address the problem, policies to recruit and retain mothers, and targeting attitudes about mothers.

**ST:** I think our overarching message in regard to this is that, whereas universities have been working to increase the presence of mothers in academic science and engineering — by thinking through their policies around recruitment and retention of mothers, like tenure clock extensions — those measures aren’t enough.

Our work reveals that interventions that target attitudes about motherhood in science are also critical. For instance, programs that raise awareness about the many mothers who are successful academic scientists, and that describe the benefits of academia to mothers — like scheduling flexibility and job stability — are crucial interventions that can help counteract the more negative and anxiety-filled ideas that seem to be so common. Programs should also address the issue of motherhood in graduate advising and mentoring and strive to normalize seeing and talking about children in workplace settings. ▲



CATHERINE TAYLOR



SARAH THÉBAUD

# Global Gauchos

## A World of Impact

• Physicists **Claudio Campagnari**, **Joe Incandela**, **Jeffrey Richman** and **David Stuart**, all members of UC Santa Barbara's High Energy Physics Group, are actively engaged in the operations and analysis of data for the Compact Muon Solenoid detector at the Large Hadron Collider at the European Laboratory for Particle Physics (CERN), near **Geneva, Switzerland**. Also, in anticipation of operations to begin around 2026 with much higher intensity beams, they are working on upgrades to the detector to provide finer detection of particles and processes that will help extend their ongoing studies of the Higgs boson and searches for so-called supersymmetric particles and other new physics that could help to resolve open questions in particle physics and cosmology.

• Since 1983, archaeologist **Anabel Ford** has been rediscovering the mysteries of the ancient Maya city of **El Pilar**, which straddles the borders of Belize and Guatemala. Director of UC Santa Barbara's MesoAmerican Research Center, Ford co-authored a paper recently published in the journal *Latin American Antiquity*.

• Mechanical engineering professor **Beth Pruitt** and assistant professors **Emilie Dressaire** and **Paolo Luzzatto-Fegiz** have experiments on the **International Space Station**. Part of a large collaborative group with Stanford and Bioserve, the Pruitt lab is investigating the role of microgravity on cardiac health. Using space travel to promote disease-like traits in their cardiac model, they can screen particular drugs to combat the effects of microgravity on the heart seen during prolonged space travel.

• Anthropologist **Michelle Brown**, a specialist in behavioral ecology of non-human primates, is studying redtail monkeys in Kibale National Park, **Uganda**.

• Ecology, evolution and marine biology professors **Deron Burkepille** and **Joshua Schimel** have a newly funded project in Kruger National Park, **South Africa**, focusing on dead elephants and how the nutrient hotspots they create on the landscape lead to vegetation patterns.

• Ecology professors **Sally Holbrook** and **Russ Schmitt** are the principal investigators of the **Mo'orea** Coral Reef Long Term Ecological Research site, learning more about what drives ecological change in natural systems. Faculty researchers **Deron Burkepille**, **Erika Eliason**, **Hunter Lenihan** and **Andrew Brooks** are also involved.

• Physicist **Hugh Lippencott** is searching for dark matter 4,850 feet underground in **Lead, South Dakota**, in a former gold mine that now serves as the Sanford Underground Research Facility.

• **Claire Frost '10** moved to **London** five years ago to help open Four Seasons Hotel London at Park Lane and loved it so much she decided to stay. Now she's Assistant Director of People and Culture at the hotel and is also the Vice President of the UC Alumni UK Network.

• Six students in UC Santa Barbara's Graduate Division are 2021-22 Fulbright Finalist Award Winners: **Julia Brown** (Spanish and Portuguese) is in **Mexico** working on "Stateless Nations and National Cinemas: Indigenismo as a Thematic Linchpin in Mexican Film;" **Jasmine Childress** (ecology, evolution and marine biology) is in **Switzerland** working on "Using Environmental DNA to Map the Distribution of a Major Wildlife Disease in Switzerland;" **Anthony Greco** (history) is in **Egypt** working on "Engineering Egypt: Science, Culture, and Nation in the Age of Empire;" **Madeleine Gross** (psychological & brain sciences) is in **Germany**, researching "Curious Eyes: Examining How Explorative Visual Behavior Facilitates Creative Thinking;" **Christopher McQuilkin** (history) is working in **Bolivia** and **Paraguay** on "The Making of a Frontier: An Environmental History of the Pilcomayo River;" and **Nicholas Triozzi** (anthropology) is in **Croatia**, working on "Reconstructing Neolithic Farming on the Dalmatian Coast of Croatia: A Multi-Proxy Approach."



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