

FEBRUARY 2023

OISS Newsletter



Dear International Gauchos,

Our hearts have been hurting lately. Violent tragedies have devastated, traumatized, and angered communities throughout the U.S. Everyone processes events like these in their own way and OISS is here to support you in your process.

Please don't hesitate to contact our office to talk to someone, get connected with resources, or find community with other folks.

In solidarity,

The Office of International Students & Scholars

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Reminders

Update Local Address

Don't forget to update your local living address within 10 days of moving. This is a federal immigration requirement.

To update your address, log into [UCSBGlobal](#) and navigate to the Personal Information Update e-form. You will see an option to update your local living address.

Thank you!

Closure – February 20

OISS will be closed on Monday, February 20 in observance of [Presidents' Day](#).

Normal operations will resume on February 21.

UC SANTA BARBARA
Office of International
Students & Scholars

Protect Your Status by Reading Thoroughly

Unfortunately, OISS advisors occasionally meet with students or scholars who have fallen out of status due to either not reading emails (sent to their UCSB email address) from OISS or not closely following directions provided to them.

Email is the official way for UCSB departments to communicate with students and scholars; OISS will notify you of crucial information via email, which you can view in your UCSB email inbox or UCSBGlobal.

When we see that students or scholars have opened messages, but failed to take the required action to maintain their status, they sometimes tell us it's because they skimmed the message or thought it was a scam. Please read our message carefully and always ask if you would like any clarification or have follow up questions. Similarly, if you are ever wondering if a certain message is a scam, please contact our office and we would be happy to take a look. You can also check your UCSBGlobal account to verify an email is legitimate - if you receive the same message in both your email and on UCSBGlobal, then it checks out!



Scam Warning

The Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) is reminding students to beware of a scam involving individuals using the SEVP Response Center (SRC) phone numbers (703-603-3400 and 800-892-4829) and claiming to be SRC representatives.

If you receive a call "from SEVP or SRC," hang up and refer to the following resources.

More information is available at:

- [Study in the States Blog post](#)
- [Advisory on Study in the States](#)
- [Handout from the ICE Office of Professional Responsibility](#)
- [06/02/2021 SEVP Broadcast Message](#)

Spotlight: Diego Ratto

International student, Diego Ratto, was recently [featured in the Current!](#)

Ratto was awarded the 2022 Prix Russolo, a prestigious international musical award for electroacoustic composition.

Check out his recent electroacoustic composition, "[KOM.](#)"



OISS Events

Register on
[Shoreline](#)

Finding Funding
Workshop for
International Grad
Students



**F-1 STUDENT
IN-PERSON
EMPLOYMENT
WORKSHOP:
CPT & OPT**

Scan QR code to register



**Feb 9
3:30-4:30
SRB MPR**

UC SANTA BARBARA
Office of International
Students & Scholars

Register on
[Shoreline](#)

SUPER BOWL LVII!!



WATCH LIVE
February 12 In the Hub

**International Student
Superbowl Party**

Introducing a Quintessential
American Experience!



Everyone's Welcome to this
FREE Event! Doors open at 2:30pm
Sponsored by OISS, RHA and the Hub

Register on
[Shoreline](#)

LANGUAGE EXCHANGE
Arabic/Hindi

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15
12-1 PM
SRB 3RD FLOOR FORUM

All Levels Welcome!

REGISTER HERE:



UC SANTA BARBARA
Office of International
Students & Scholars

UC SANTA BARBARA
Education Abroad Program

Register on
[Shoreline](#)

F-1 STUDENT ONLINE EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOP: CPT & OPT

**Feb 22
4 – 5 pm**

Zoom link provided
with registration

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Office of International
Students & Scholars

Scan QR code to register



International Paint Night with CARE

Join for a calming and healing paint night to meet more international students and learn about CARE. Register on [Shoreline](#)

OISS Recommends

Graduate Student Resource Center and UCSB Counseling & Psychological Services presents a **mental health peers**

CULTURE SHOCK WORKSHOP

for international graduate students

DATE: Monday 2/06, 12-1pm
LOCATION: SRB Student Conference Room 1103

CULTURE SHOCK IS A REAL EXPERIENCE A PERSON MAY HAVE WHEN FACED WITH AN UNFAMILIAR WAY OF LIFE.

INTERNATIONAL GRADUATE STUDENTS WHO ARE STUDYING IN THE UNITED STATES MAY EXPERIENCE THIS FEELING OF DISORIENTATION WHILE ADJUSTING TO THEIR NEW SCHOOL.

Learn more about the different phases of culture shock and how to ease the transitional period. Let's discuss how to be empowered by your strengths as an international student!

Please RSVP on Shoreline:

UCSB FINANCE & BUSINESS

UCSB LUNAR NIGHT MARKET

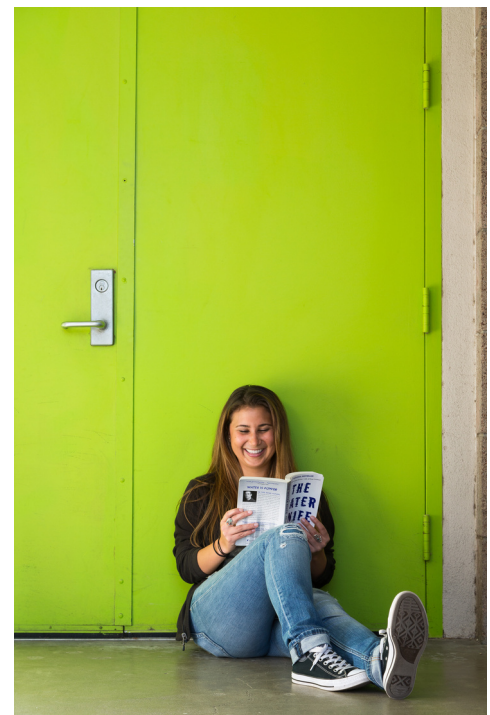
Friday, Feb 3rd, 2023

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

PLAZA

Organized by the Hong Kong Student Association, Japanese Student Association, Taiwanese Student Association, International Student Association

Performances by UCSB Breakin', SS805, RGB, and HawkyDove



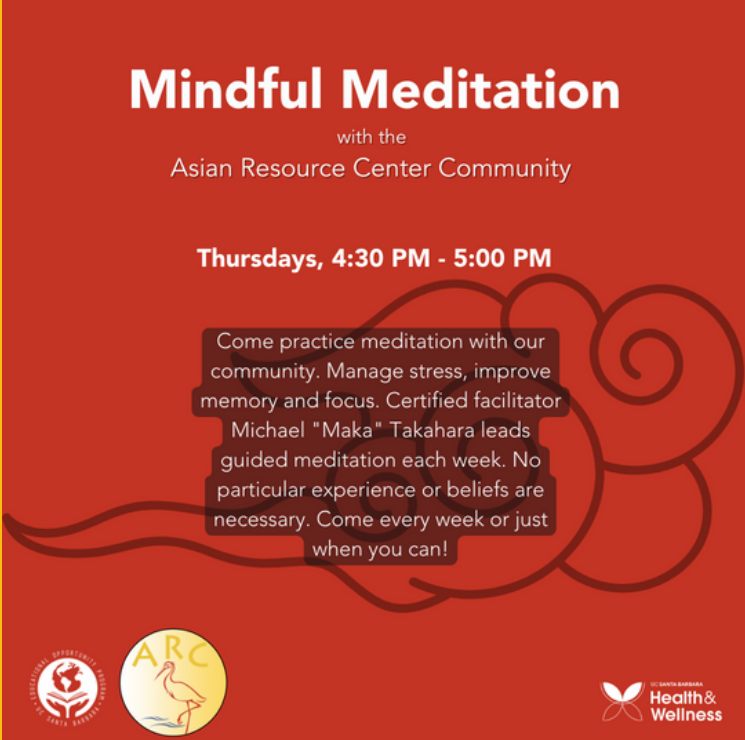
Message from Health & Wellness – Written by Belinda Lu

Happy Lunar New Year everyone. I hope you all get to enjoy lots of good food and spend time with friends and loved ones.

I want to take some time to address the devastating event in Monterey Park during the Lunar New Year 2023. My heart goes out to all the families and people affected by it. Health & Wellness wants you to know that we are here to support you and that you are loved and cared for. If you need someone to talk to, please reach out to a friend, an advisor, a counselor, a family member, and anyone that can bring you comfort and strength. You can also reach out to me through my email at Belinda.Lu@sa.ucsb.edu, I am more than happy to help and provide support for you.

With that said, I would like to share with you a beautifully written message from Michael Takahara, a Health Education Specialist here in Health & Wellness. “There will be events we can't prevent, events that don't make sense, horrible events. While we suffer, we can also be loved. We still can care for one another. We still can love each other.” This is a hard time for many of us, especially when it is a time that we gather, celebrate, and enjoy the company of one another. However, I believe together, we can get through this.




Additionally, I want to mention that Health & Wellness has a podcast called Wellness Pod, you can either search up Wellness Pod on Spotify, or go on our Health & Wellness official website, and you can find it under the podcast tab. I am going to record an episode in Mandarin Chinese with Xin Sui from CAPS. Please keep an eye out for it if you are interested in learning about Xin's international student journey and what mental health means to both of us. Lastly, please feel free to email me with any suggestions on how I can better provide support to you all, or if you just want to chat!



Mindful Meditation
with the
Asian Resource Center Community

Thursdays, 4:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Come practice meditation with our community. Manage stress, improve memory and focus. Certified facilitator Michael "Maka" Takahara leads guided meditation each week. No particular experience or beliefs are necessary. Come every week or just when you can!





UCSB'S TRAUMA-INFORMED PEDAGOGY PROJECT
PRESENTS:

ON MIGRATION, WARS, AND DISASTERS: LEARNING AND TEACHING WITH IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE COLLEGE STUDENTS WITH DR. OKSANA YAKUSHKO

This presentation will make space for experiences of direct and indirect trauma, which can be experienced by immigrant, refugee, and international students during times of global wars, political unrest, or natural disasters. Dr. Yakushko will discuss strategies for diverse students and teachers, for whom challenging global events enter the learning spaces.



Oksana Yakushko, PhD, is a scholar, clinician, and professor, whose work has focused on immigration and varied aspects of human diversity. As a Ukrainian, she has been active in supporting her community against the war as well as working with adolescents and adults who are impacted by it. Her current work includes a collaboration with the Ukrainian Ministry of Education on trauma-informed teaching for Ukrainian secondary and college level teachers.

FEBRUARY 6, 2023
5:30PM @ THE MCC LOUNGE
All are very welcome and
refreshments will be served!

For more info, contact apettersonspecker@ucsb.edu



WE ARE HIRING!

FOR THE 2023-2024
ACADEMIC YEAR!

Are you a transfer student interested in working with
the UCSB transfer community?
Apply to be a Lead or Peer Educator!

Application Deadline:

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD, 2023

To apply: <https://tinyurl.com/23-24-TSC-Peer-Application>



Lead Peer
Educator Job
Description

Peer Educator
Job
Description



**The Learning Institute
for Visionary
Epistemologies
(LIVES) in STEM Fields
& Interdisciplinary
Studies**
Visit us at liveandlives.com

**The Center for Black Studies
Research presents a symposium
on diverse epistemologies in
STEM**



FEB. 6 | 4-5:30 PM

This presentation offers a new conceptual tool for Black women's revolutionary-revelation writing. Integrating theory, method, and praxis, and drawing from Black feminist thought, Black girlhood studies, critical race feminism, womanist theology, the wild woman archetype, and autoethnography, this tool facilitates the unearthing and excavation of Black girl and Black women's personal and private life writings into public spaces. Reflecting on 45 years of journals as a Black womanist, the tool provides a framework for understanding and analyzing the data of one's life and identifying key themes related to issues of race, gender, social justice, and spirituality.

Join us as we welcome Dr. Menah Pratt-Clarke, Vice President for Strategic Affairs and Diversity at Virginia Tech. Dr. Pratt-Clarke is also Professor of Education in the School of Education in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, with affiliations in Africana Studies, Women's and Gender Studies, and the Department of Sociology. She has almost 25 years of leadership experience in higher education, with a focus on large-scale institutional transformation, and her scholarship focuses on diversity issues in higher education.

Please Register for the virtual
talk at this [ZOOM LINK](#)

UC SANTA BARBARA
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion



**The Learning Institute
for Visionary
Epistemologies
(LIVES) in STEM Fields
& Interdisciplinary
Studies**
Visit us at liveandlives.com

**The Center for Black Studies
Research presents a
symposium on diverse
epistemologies**



FEB. 16 | SOUTH HALL, RM 4603 | 12:00 PM

In September 1973, William Fuller and Larry Cannon founded Prisoners Against Rape, an organization comprised of individuals who committed rape, feminist anti-sexual violence workers and organizations, and individuals invested in combating rape and rape culture. As Black men, both in their twenties and both perpetrators of sexual violence serving time in Lorton Reformatory, they knew well the racialized, gendered, and sexual logics that structured carceral institutions. They also took accountability for the harm they inflicted on others through education and collective self-help. Prisoners Against Rape had membership across at least two other carceral facilities. Chiefly, this talk is concerned with understanding what centering the experiences, writings, and appearances of these Black men can teach us about prison abolition as we continue to build toward a different kind of future. I revisit the work of Prisoners Against Rape to situate them within a Black queer abolitionist genealogy from which they are often ignored or minimized. In doing so, I examine how their attentiveness to acts of violence within the prison system against queer subjects, their interrogation of violence against women, and their theorization of the economics of sexual violence shatter Black men not simply as perpetrators of violence but as necessary agents in the dismantling of the carceral state. Their work is particularly significant given the longer historical construction of Black men as sexual predators and the ways that the prison industrial complex disproportionately impacts Black men."

We're excited to welcome Dr. Terrence Wooten, an Affiliate of the Center for Black Studies Research, to share his knowledge on Black men against sexual violence and the genealogy of prison abolition. Dr. Wooten is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Black Studies at UC Santa Barbara, which he joined after serving as a 2017-2018 Mark Steinberg Visiting Career Postdoctoral Fellow in the Center for the Humanities at Washington University in St. Louis. He received his Ph.D. in American Studies from the University of Maryland. Dr. Wooten's scholarly interests are located at the intersections of Black studies, gender and sexuality studies, studies of poverty and homelessness, and carceral studies.

Please RSVP for this in person,
talk here.

Please register for the livestream
here.



**black
history
month.**
santa barbara county
2023

The Santa Barbara County Black/African-American community comes together to celebrate the historical achievements Black/African Americans have made for our region and the nation. Juneteenth Santa Barbara (JSB) brings together Black/African-American-led organizations to continue the tradition of providing Black History Month (BHM) events in February and year-round in Santa Barbara County.

The 2023 theme of Black Resistance tells the story of how this community resists, rises above, and thrives, despite historical and continued oppression.

Thanks for Reading!

We hope you enjoyed this issue of the OISS Newsletter. Past newsletters can be viewed on the OISS [website](#).

Questions?

If you are a current international student with questions regarding immigration, advising and other requests, email oiss@sa.ucsb.edu.

J-1 Scholars should reach out to j1scholar@sa.ucsb.edu. For those with questions related to employment-based visas; please contact longtermvisa@sa.ucsb.edu.

For any inquiries regarding upcoming OISS events, or collaboration opportunities, contact oissprograms@sa.ucsb.edu.

If you are a UCSB department or organization and would like to publicize any information or upcoming events to international Gauchos, contact mmotomazie@ucsb.edu.

Let's stay in touch!

Follow our social media accounts to stay up-to-date with everything happening at OISS.

