Students Mourn Lost Lives in Pittsburgh

Elections Board Struggles To Meet EVPSA Voter Threshold

Evelyn Spence

The deadline for voting in EVPSA special election ends on Friday. Take a look below at why the election is being held, beginning with the designation of the initial EVPSA-elect.

Meet EVPSA Voter Threshold

The UCSB Santa Barbara Associated Students Elections Board is still struggling to meet the voter threshold for the EVPSA position.

The deadline was originally extended to Oct. 26 after the A.S. Senate passed a resolution over the summer to allow the duties and funds of the office to be split, stating that a bulk of the position’s duties began over the summer, displacing her private materials,” Sweet said in the Facebook post.

UCSB did not offer an official statement regarding the situation.

UCSB Prof. On Paid Leave After Sexual Harassment Complaint

By Nyah Scott Reporter

UC Santa Barbara administration placed earth science professor Samuel Sweet on paid leave in early October following a sexual harassment complaint Sweet said was “seriously damaging” to his reputation.

The administration presented a formal charge against him and suspended him approximately two and a half months later.

Sweet detailed the interaction and his difficulties dealing with the UCSB administration in a Facebook post on Oct. 24.

A junior faculty member got a key to my locked graduate student office room and put one of his off-campus undergraduate student trainees at the desk of one of my graduate students, displacing her private materials,” Sweet said in the Facebook post.

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7
SORRY TO BOTHER YOU FILM SCREENING
MCC THEATER | 6:00PM

Sorry to Bother You features Cassius Green, a young black man in modern-day Oakland trying to surpass his current living and financial situation. Brought in to the world of telemarketing, Cassius finds that, to succeed, being himself isn't enough. A discussion will follow the film screening. 1h 51m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3
JEFF GOLDBLUM
CAMPBELL HALL | 8:00PM

Actor Jeff Goldblum has been lending his uniquely wry charm and unpredictable edge to films like Jurassic Park, The Fly and The Grand Budapest Hotel for more than four decades. But he’s also an accomplished pianist who shows off his chops in a jazz show-meets-musical hootenanny with his band, The Mildred Snitzer Orchestra. The quintet’s guitar, bass, sax and drums complement Goldblum’s piano prowess and electric personality for a high-energy traditional jazz music performance that brings the audience to its feet. A captivating and hilarious performer, Goldblum’s quirky, intelligent and suave humor makes for an incredibly special evening! Tickets are $19 for UCSB students.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5
TARANA BURKE
CAMPBELL HALL | 7:30PM

Tarana Burke is a social justice activist, senior director at Girls for Gender Equity and original founder of the ‘me too!’ movement. A survivor herself, Burke has been working under the banner of #metoo since actress Alyssa Milano amplified the phrase in the wake of the Harvey Weinstein sexual assault scandal. She is one of the silence breakers Time magazine named 2017 Person of the Year and received the 2018 Ridhenour Prize for Courage.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2
IMPROVABILITY
8:00PM | $3
EMBARCADERO HALL

MAGIC LANTERN FILMS:
BLACKKLANSAN

7:00PM AND 10:00PM
IV THEATER NOV. 2 & 5

PARENTS AND FAMILY GET IN FREE!

ACROSS
1 Least ancient
7 Some TVs
11 This second, perhaps
14 Forward, to Florida
15 City SW of Buffalo
16 Christian sch., since 1963
17 Extra stout
19 Shoo-fly
20 Skillet NBC show
21 “That’s rich!”
23 Jumbled item in a dish
25 “Days of Grace” memoirist
26 Raised
27 GPE components
28 Double’s question
29 Note promising
30 “I wonder....”
31 Suffix with ox-
34 Like many a nature
35 General on a
36 Big-eared flier of the
38 Wished
39 Valhalla chief
40 Grab a sandwich,
41 Reuters
42 “I wonder....”
43 Finish
44 It may be spare
45 Progress through Technology"
46 “Awesome!”
47 Breakfast cereal
48 Original Speed
50 See 49-Down
51 “Brave” studio
52 “Fingers crossed”
53 View from Tokyo
56 Parts of la ca
58 It usually involves
59 1978 Booker
60 Rock’s __
61 Kind of exam
62 Parts of la ca
65 Darken in a
66 Kind of exam
67 __ Accords: 1993
69 Charles V’s
70 Light submachine
71 Forgetful, maybe
72 Told on the
73 Week’s release
74 The weather
75 Among the
76 Buffalo
77 Guns
78 It’s bigger than
79 __ Miguel:
80 __, in the sky
down
1 Across the
11 Where the slain
14 Skittish NBC
15 City SW of
17 Extra effort
18 Genetic letters
19 Unwavering
20 “I __ beautiful
21 “That’s rich!”
22 Preserves, in a
23 “Days of Grace”
24 Grab a sandwich,
25 “I wonder....”
26 “Fingers crossed”
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75 Among the
76 Buffalo
77 Guns
78 It’s bigger than
79 __ Miguel:
80 __, in the sky

SUDOKU

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TV show

SOLUTION TO TUESDAY’S PUZZLE

Complete the grid so each row,
column and 3x3 box (in bold borders)
contains every digit, 1 to 9.
For strategies on
how to solve
Sudoku, visit
www.sudoku.org.uk

ACROSS
1 Least ancient
7 Some TVs
11 This second, perhaps
14 Forward, to Florida
15 City SW of Buffalo
16 Christian sch., since 1963
17 Extra stout
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SUDOKU

THE SUDOKU OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

8 6 5 3 7 9 4 2 1

5 7 9 1 6 4 3 2 8

2 3 6 5 8 7 1 9 4

1 5 9 6 7 2 3 4 8 2

6 1 8 2 9 3 4 7 5

3 4 7 1 5 8 2 6 9

5 9 6 2 4 8 7 3 1

7 8 3 4 1 5 9 2 6

4 6 1 8 2 5 9 3 7

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SOLUTION TO TUESDAY’S PUZZLE

5/2/12

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4 6 1 8 2 5 9 3 7

9 2 5 3 7 6 1 4 8

WEATHER

The Weatherhuman got fucked so badly by midterms this week, but anodere is still gaagiing.

Tomorrow’s Forecast:

- Hopefully, a closed anus.

The Weatherhuman got fucked so badly by midterms this week, but anodere is still gaagiing.
Did you know **Midterms** are more important than Presidential elections?

VOTE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6

**Not registered?** No problem, in California you can register on Election Day and then vote. Get all the information you need at [i.vote.org/CaliforniaEDR](http://i.vote.org/CaliforniaEDR)

**Problems voting?** Call the Election Protection Hotline at (866) OUR-VOTE • (866) 687-8683
The Isla Vista Community Services District voted Tuesday to finalize a contract with UC Santa Barbara Police Department that would provide funding for an interpersonal violence investigator.

The completion of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) comes more than one year after it was first discussed at the IV Community Services District’s (I.V. CSD) first meeting in March 2017.

The contract will require UC Santa Barbara Police Department (UCPD) to designate a peace officer as a full-time investigator with "the purpose of working directly with survivors, suspects and witnesses in investigation of interpersonal violence-related crimes in Isla Vista," according to the MOU.

The investigator will be required to work with the CSD to provide preventive services against interpersonal violence, including community education and outreach, in addition to services which respond to such crimes.

Funding for the two-year program totals $418,000 and is expected to come from the $200,000 contribution made by UCSB to the CSD. The board motioned to authorize the general manager to request funding from the university to cover the program.

The finalization of the MOU encountered a minor hurdle during the meeting due to concerns about the contract phrasing which stipulated the investigator "be the primary point of contact for all such investigations occurring within the boundaries of the District."

A representative from the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office (SBSO) who was present during the meeting reported that the language in the MOU would create an interference with services and jurisdiction of the SBSO.

"We put just to work through this to make sure we are not subverting the primary jurisdiction of the Sheriff and that we are not impeding the services that are already provided by the Sheriff as it relates to these cases," Conway said during the public comment period.

Several I.V. CSD directors agreed with Conway's suggestions, adding that these were consistent with the intended model of the program.

"What that does is tell survivors that the first person they tell [their] story to is gonna be the person that stays with [their] case throughout the duration... and really provide that continuity in care that this program..." Conway said during the public comment period.

Several I.V. CSD directors agreed with Conway's suggestions, adding that these were consistent with the intended model of the program.

However, UCPD would be in charge of implementation of an interpersonal violence investigator in IV, including Students Against Sexual Assault (SASA), C.A.R.E., UCPD and the IV-CSD.

Members of SASA, who were present at Tuesday's meeting were glad to see the fulfillment of a program that was under discussion for over a year.

"It's been a long conversation... We're very happy to see this move forward, for the community and the need for the localization of the resources being finally represented in the MOU."

SASA President Emily Montalvo-Telford said.

Bertrand also expressed similar sentiments of both hope and happiness at the long-awaited implementation of an interpersonal violence survivor service in Isla Vista.

"This will be successful. This is really about serving our community, making it a safer place and us, Isla Vista's local government, saying that we believe survivors, that we stand with survivors and that time's up."

Bertrand said.

Right before making the official motion to finalize the contract, Bertrand recounted the I.V. CSD's first meeting, in which an attendee shared her experience of being a survivor of sexual assault in Isla Vista.

"The most important comment that I heard that night was... about the experiences of so many survivors in this community and it's those experiences that really make me happy that we're taking this action here," Bertrand said, folks up during the meeting.

"There's too many people getting hurt in this community. There's no perfect way to solve it but this is a really good step and I'm just grateful that we're taking it."

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**Sofia Mejias-Pascoe**

**Asst. News Editor**

The CSD Finalizes Contract for Interpersonal Violence Investigator

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**CSD Finalizes Contract for Interpersonal Violence Investigator**

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**News**

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**Thursday, November 1, 2018**

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**Daily Nexus**

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**NEXUS FILE PHOTO**

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**Daily Nexus**

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**NEXUS FILE PHOTO**

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**Daily Nexus**

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**NEXUS FILE PHOTO**

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**Daily Nexus**

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**NEXUS FILE PHOTO**
The whole idea of tefillin is to bring oneness, inside of light from the essence of our soul outwards into the
other Jewish facilities typically have security guards. Jewish people. In Europe, Caduri said, synagogues and
mourned the loss of the United States as a sanctuary for
Halloween in Ina Vinta and the neighboring
UC Santa Barbara campus continues to be a point of contention between law enforcement, students and visitors, though Halloween 2018
remained a quiet night due to the same order
in place.
In an effort to deter the unmanageable crowds that has
encouraged Halloween festivities in 15
prior to 2014, UCSB ran an annual advertising campaign that encourages Halloweens celebrants in
Beyond local, Caduri said, there are social media platforms,
that primarily why we decided to support [Henley
Henley Hall and the IEE will be the Henleys’s
construction is now underway at UC Santa
Barbara campus for a new lecture hall located next to
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and administrative offices and
the UC Santa Barbara campus. In March 2018, Jeff Henley, a UCSB alumnus, announced the
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students, the hall is designed to increase classroom capacity and
UEC Design, Facilities and Safety Services website.
The building will be composed of mostly steel and
concrete with terracotta roof paneling and spires to promote natural shade and cooling.
Henley Hall is entirely donor funded, with a $56 million budget provided by the Henleys and various
other anonymous donors.

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Together Again, Conteh, Michael, Enjoy Bond Like No Other

UCSB Squanders Home Playoff Game for 2nd Consecutive Season

Omar Hernandez
Sports Editor

The UCSC men's soccer team suffered yet another brutal playoff elimination, falling one goal short of advancing to the second round of the NCAA tournament. The Gauchos were eliminated from the tournament for the second consecutive year, and for the third time in the past four seasons.

The Gauchos ended the season with a 4-2-1 conference record and a 7-4-0 overall record, moving on in the tournament to the second round to face off against UC Riverside. Although the result doesn't reflect it, UCSC ultimately dominated the game from beginning to end.

After a hectic first few minutes, the Gauchos were able to set the tempo of the game, dominating possession and creating scoring opportunities.

Forward Thibault Candia stepped up early on, and was eventually doubled by the Titans' defense. Candia was able to create scoring opportunities and put pressure on the Titans' backline.

Thibault Candia was able to create scoring opportunities and put pressure on the Titans' backline, including the goal in the 22nd minute, which was eventually doubled by the Titans' defense.

As the half wore on, it seemed like the Gauchos had the upper hand, dominating possession and creating scoring opportunities. However, the Titans were able to hold their own and nullify most of the Gauchos' attacks.

Michael quickly flicked the ball onto his left foot — just as he's done so many times in his career. It was actually the Titans who struck first as sophomore Kaya Fabbretti slotted a shot to the bottom left corner of the net — just as he's done so many times in his career.

UCSB's defense did an excellent job of containing the Titans' attack, allowing only one goal in the first half. The Gauchos were able to maintain possession and create scoring opportunities, but were unable to capitalize on them.

The Gauchos' defensive prowess was one of the keys to their success throughout the season, allowing only 14 goals in 17 games. Michael was one of the main contributors to the team's defensive success, leading the team with three assists, with two of those assists coming in the Gauchos' final two matches.

Despite losing in the playoffs, the Gauchos have reason to be proud of their season. They dominated possession and created scoring opportunities, but were ultimately unable to advance to the second round.

UCSB's three-year streak of advancing to the NCAA playoffs has come to an end, but the team should be proud of their efforts throughout the season. The Gauchos will now look to the future and begin preparations for the 2022 season.
Most of UCSB's defensiveattention will likely be focused on Cal Poly's outside hitter, Torrey Van Winden. The veteran is sixth in the nation with 4.97 kills per set and was the Mustangs’ only player with double-digit kills (21) against Hawaii last week.

Van Winden posted 10 kills against just one attack error the last time Cal Poly took on UCSB so the Gauchos are quite familiar with what kind of damage the outside hitter can do. They're also well-acquainted with the rest of the Mustang attack as well.

Ruddins is sixth in the nation with 4.97 kills per set and was the Mustangs’ only player with double-digit kills (21) against Hawaii last week.

CAL Poly that gave them the edge over Irvine in the standings. The Gauchos 14-9 and 6-5 — coming off its best win and Cal last Saturday when they upset Hawaii with a combined overall of 17-8, with a 2-3 away record; this is enough to place the Gauchos according to NCAA Men's Water Polo rank-nings. One Upset Down, One to Go, for Rolling Gauchos

The Gauchos will head down to UC Irvine for the second installment of the Blue-Green rivalry this season on Friday night in Honolulu in a 3-2 thriller.

Mustangs, on the other hand, lost their first game since August against UC Irvine on Thursday evening in the conference opener. They’re also well-acquainted with the rest of the Mustang attack as well.

The Gauchos had one of their best defensive matches all season against the Rainbow Warriors in their 3-0 sweep, holding their offense to a .118 hitting percentage while piling up 10 blocks. The Gauchos' defense has lost their last game as they trail 1-1 in the season series with UC Irvine. It was a defensive shortcoming that ultimately cost them the match. The Gauchos had already been outhit by the hosts in the first set.

The Gauchos are on a four-game win streak, with the only loss earlier in the month against No. 2 and eventual national champion Long Beach State. The Rainbow Warriors, on the other hand, struggled to find their rhythm fast, as they're fresh off their most lopsided loss of the season against UC Irvine.

The Gauchos have given up just a 186.93 goals against per game this week as Irvine allows a mere .65 goals per game in the second half of the season. The Gauchos' ferocious crunch-time attack faces stout competition this week as Irvine allows a mere .65 goals per game in the second half of the season.

Late-game heroics have been a common occurrence for the Gauchos as this is their fourth come-from-behind victory of the season. The Gauchos have come from behind in all three of their losses and have won the first two games of the season without losing a set. The Gauchos have also come from behind to win the first two games of the season without losing a set.

Looking forward to their match with Irvine, the Gauchos have a combined overall of 17-8, with a 2-3 away record; this is enough to place the Gauchos according to NCAA Men's Water Polo rankings. One Upset Down, One to Go, for Rolling Gauchos

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Late-game heroics have been a common occurrence for the Gauchos as this is their fourth come-from-behind victory of the season. The Gauchos have come from behind in all three of their losses and have won the first two games of the season without losing a set. The Gauchos have also come from behind to win the first two games of the season without losing a set.

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Young Thug Brings Slick Sounds to Halloween Weekend

Last Saturday night, UCSB students came together dressed in Halloween costumes to enjoy the live performances of Young Thug and Social House. While the rest of Isla Vista was busy being policed for any pre-Halloween shenanigans, the Thunderdome offered a place of refuge for those who sought amusement as Young Thug headlined this year’s Delirium concert. Organized exclusively for UCSB by A.S. Program Board, the $5 concert was once again met with a successful turnout as the crowd and performers engaged together in this loud, drunken circus of a night.

Once inside the Thunderdome, the floor that is usually occupied by basketball players had been transformed into a general admission concert pit, filled with sweaty, shirtless frat boys, cats ears and devil horns galore. Dedicated fans could be seen enduring the heat and absence of personal space on the main floor while others lounged in the bleacher seats upstairs waiting for Young Thug. The crowd seemed to grow more excited at 9 p.m., rolled around, with unidentifiable puffs of smoke beginning to fill the air and everyone was searching for strangers to take Instagram-worthy photos of themselves.

The opening act was Social House, a rap duo from Pittsburgh, PA, comprised of members Charles “Scootie” Anderson and Michael “Mikey” Foster. Although this pair is relatively new to the music scene, they have already worked with and produced songs for artists like Ariana Grande and Jennifer Lopez, recently pivoting to create music of their own. After the DJ enthralled the audience for a few minutes, the two stepped onto stage, sporting matching outfits of hoodies, tracksuit pants, and sunglasses. Unlike some of their hip hop contemporaries, Social House has a rather melodic low sound that was clearly reflected in the crowd’s demeanor.

At previous shows I’ve seen at the Thunderdome, several audience members had already been plucked out of the pit by security guards early on in the night, so it was interesting to not see that occur so soon this time. Observing a lack of chaos, Social House was quick to change that and stir up excitement by asking each side of the audience to line dance. Observing a lack of chaos, Social House was quick to change that and stir up excitement by demanding that it was time to depart. Though the overall performances provided by both Social House and Young Thug were enough to keep concert-goers active and interested for most of the night, many seemed to be disappointed when the show ended after only 50 minutes of Thug’s rapping.

However, despite this somewhat quick ending, A.S. Program Board pulled through and succeeded yet again in another year of bringing Gaucho’s together during the harsh times of our annual Halloween lockdown.

Towards the middle of the show, Thug climbed off stage and ran straight to the front row, directly center of the ocean of swaying, drunk Gaucho's hoping to get a decent selfie with him. Despite the buckets of sweat that had now drenched every student in sight, Thug remained close to these fans for a couple minutes while he continued to rap, eventually being joined down on the floor by Duke.

In addition to “Rich That,” Thug performed a myriad of hits like “pick up the phone,” “Pull Up On A Kid,” “About The Money” and “Itcy.” In the end, Thug concluded his set with the once popular song “Lifestyle,” which famously launched the artist into the public eye with its interestingly unclear lyrics. Almost immediately after “Lifestyle” ended, Young Thug and his entourage left the stage and the main lights came back on, signaling that it was time to depart. Though the
Isla Vista residents have recently fallen victim to a series of crimes aptly named by this writer, “Monster Mash Window Crashes.” The local Free & For Sale page and the UCSB “meme page” have been flooded with posts about cars being tipped, windows being smashed and mirrors being ripped off. The accused culprit of this crime: fellow UCSB students.

Amy Richards, a local car driver, is shocked at the state of her community. “They’re always saying like, ‘We Gaucho back.’ But they really mean they will stab you in the back.”

Startling news was recently reported to the Nexus by a fourth-year student, who wishes to remain anonymous in order to protect his new 2004 Honda Accord. “Ole Gaucho” began to investigate the crimes after something smelled “fishy,” aside from the usual ocean smell. Ole started hiding in trash cans with the raccoons on DP to finally catch the out-of-towners who were causing such a strife in our close-knit community.

Instead of out-of-towners, Ole discovered cops bashing in the windows of cars and then flipping them. After tracking the IP address of the users who posted about cars being smashed, he uncovered that they all belonged to computers from the police station.

When questioned about the framing of UCSB students and the damage of school property, local cop Lieutenant Captain Mr. Richard Magee stated, “Keep it local. Keep it safe.” He then also threatened our reporter, who is 21, with an MIP.

In the past five years, Halloween has ceased to be a party at UCSB and crime has decreased by “one million percent,” according to local statistics. Cops are attributing this safety to the lack of non-UCSB students coming to campus and the increase of police presence.

To bring the community together again, Ole is throwing a non-silent disco at his 65 residence. It’s BYOB (bunny ears).

Mia Roncati is a fourth-year who is fighting for her right to party and highly encourages every girl to be a bunny for Halloween.
An Extraordinary Dinner at Outpost

Winnie Lam and Rachel Lee
On the Menu Editor and Staff Writer

Located on Calle Real in Goleta, Outpost is the perfect spot to enjoy a delicious meal for any occasion. We visited this hidden gem for dinner to get a taste of what sous chef Phillip Arellano describes as "redefined comfort food." The restaurant ambiance was sophisticated and trendy yet cozy, complete with vibrant wall decor and decorative succulents at each table.

Outpost's ingredients are sourced locally in California, and executive chef Damien Giliberti's debut menu features simple, yet flavorful, California cuisine with Asian and Latin twists, making the food truly unique. Furthermore, their menu changes on a weekly basis, ensuring a variety of dishes to choose from.

ON THE MENU

LAURA TUCKER / DAILY NEXUS

Thursday, November 1, 2018
On The Menu
Daily Nexus

A Perfect Blend: Natal Plum Smoothies
Laura Tucker
Reporter

If you're anything like me, you love all things smoothie. I could probably have one every day, if it weren't for the fact that good smoothie ingredients are often ridiculously expensive. But what if I told you they don't have to be? What if I told you that you can make a delicious, healthy and, most importantly, highly Instagrammable smoothie with just a banana, some almond milk, ice and free (yes, free) fruit you can find right here in Isla Vista?

CRISSPY CHICKEN WINGS

As soon as the dish was placed in front of me, I was hit with the aroma of fish sauce. I'm a big fan of Vietnamese food, and these pork belly buns were no exception. The pork belly was cooked to perfection, and the savory pork belly meat. The buns went through three separate proofs, which gave them that pillow-like softness. They were simply amazing!

CRISPPY CARROT CAKE

When I found out the dessert item was going to be a deep-fried carrot cake, I was ecstatic. I almost forgot that the cake was deep fried when I first saw it, since I could barely tell there was any fried batter around it. It was delicious! The cake itself had a nutty and sweet flavor. The richness of the cream cheese helped balance out the acidity from the orange sauce, and the cake itself had a moist and sweet flavor.

When we followed our dinner with Trivia Night at the Good Bar. Don't let the word "bar" in the name throw you off, because all guests are welcome to hang out and participate in Trivia Night every Wednesday at 7 p.m. Throughout the night, we tested our knowledge with fun trivia questions about a variety of topics in a lively environment. It was definitely a cool place to hang out after filling our stomachs with amazing food!

By the time our main entree was served, we were already pretty full, but as soon as we took our first bites, we knew we could make more room in our stomachs. The dish consisted of a grilled pork chop plated on top of upland watercress and caramelized fuji apples. It was paired with a mustard aioli and a chili vinaigrette. The chicken itself was very juicy, and the batter was crispy yet not too oily, as chicken wings can often be. I really enjoyed the vinaigrette, as it helped cut through the oil and fat from the chicken.

CABBAGE-WORKED SWEET POTATO

We followed our dinner with Ramen Sundays. Make a reservation now at OutpostSB.com.

When eating at Outpost, we would definitely come back for a dinner date or just to hang out with friends in the lively environment. It was definitely a cool place to hang out after filling our stomachs with amazing food!

Located on Calle Real in Goleta, Outpost is the perfect spot to enjoy a delicious meal for any occasion. We visited this hidden gem for dinner to get a taste of what sous chef Phillip Arellano describes as "redefined comfort food." The restaurant ambiance was sophisticated and trendy yet cozy, complete with vibrant wall decor and decorative succulents at each table.

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You'll gain insightful knowledge on our local community and be able to prepare fun, new meals for yourself and your friends. So put on your foraging boots and get to it!
Exploring How Team Dynamics Affect Team Performance

Jacqueline Wen
Science Editor

As knowledge work becomes more complex, organizations increasingly assign tasks to teams rather than individuals. Working in teams has become more common in the modern workplace, whether it's at the office, in the lab or field or at school. Questions then naturally arise, including what factors define team performance and how team performance can be best predicted for a specific task.

Previous research on teams has largely focused on team composition and its relationship with performance – for example, how the skills, personality and expertise of each individual affect the overall team's performance.

Recognizing the need for research on the team itself in terms of team dynamics or the process of team behavior, researchers at UC Santa Barbara investigated the dynamics of team collaboration and how they predict team performance.

When we included these team dynamics features, the model for predicting team performance was much stronger and more reliable than just including the team composition features overall, Young Ji Kim, a communication assistant professor at UCSB, said. "In fact, we found that the role of dynamics of team collaboration predicts the team performance more accurately than team compositional features alone."

Published in the journal PLoS ONE, the study "Dynamics of collective performance in collaboration networks" featured a collaboration between Kim, computer science Ph.D. students and professors at UCSB and a management professor from MIT. Funded by the Army Research Office, they analyzed how the connections between team members and how they communicated with each other related to the quality of team output.

The primary data the authors analyzed used the Platform for Online Group Studies (POGS) for data collection. Participants were randomly assigned to a team and completed various tasks over the course of an hour. The researchers then measured team performance by scoring how well the teams had completed each task. In teams of four or five, members communicated with each other through a text chat feature which showed senders and timestamps of messages. The scientists used the chat data to analyze the network of team communication.

With data from a study done in 2014, Kim and her team replicated previous findings indicating that team composition impacts team performance.

When creating a team, Kim stated, ensuring a high average level of social perceptiveness will foster team collaboration and productivity.

"When a team was composed of individuals who were highly socially perceptive, on average, the team performed well on the cognitive tests that we have given. Being socially perceptive means that you are able to accurately infer other people's mental and emotional states, so you're aware of other people's feelings and you know what other people are thinking," she said.

The researchers also noted that the ratio of females on a team mattered, with more women on a team linked to higher team performance.

Kim and her colleagues next analyzed the data with greater focus on the dynamics of team behavior to understand their effect on team performance.

"We learned that a high performing team actually starts performing well on the first task," Kim said. "So instead of improving over time, the team performance can be best predicted for a specific task.

Another finding was that the more connected the communication network was, the higher the team performance.

"We constructed networks based on people's response patterns. If you respond to me, then there is a tie created between you and I, and so we construct a network in this way. When the network is more dense – meaning that everyone is connected to each other within the team and not just one person is always responding to another person, in particular – and that density is uniformly distributed – meaning that it's not centralized to one person and everyone in the team participates in responding to other people's messages – then the team performance is higher," Kim said.

From the study's results, the scientists recommend that team-managers generate teams with a high level of social perceptiveness for "good grounds for positive team interactions."

"In terms of team dynamics, team members should communicate "frequently and vibrantly" and with as many people as possible on the team so that connections are more evenly distributed amongst each member, according to Kim.

"For example, students are working on study projects for their classes. It's often the case that a few people take leadership, and then talk to some other people that they favor or work well with together. And that seems easy. But we learned that it doesn't necessarily lead to a good performance in the team. You need to try to include everyone in the team and try to communicate a lot and in rough equal amounts with other people in the team. We should be a little more democratic and decentralized," she said.

One point Kim emphasized was how the study allowed her to participate in interdisciplinary collaboration between communication, management and computer science, and for each discipline to learn from one another.

"We often stress the importance of this kind of interdisciplinary collaboration because it's supposed to generate newer and more exciting knowledge, but in reality, it's hard to actually combine efforts from different disciplines," Kim said. "But with our efforts and some funding help, we were able to do this. And it was a great experience. I learned a lot from computer science colleagues, and then they shared something from our social scientific insight and theory. I hope that more research is done that combines knowledge from different areas and different disciplines. I think this [study] was a good example of that kind of effort."

Certain factors of teams, such as a high average level of social perceptiveness and a more connected communication network with evenly distributed connections, are linked to higher team performance.

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"We learned that a high performing team actually starts performing well on the first task," Kim said. "So instead of improving over time, the group members will actually start pretty well in the beginning. They were highly performing on the first test, and then they keep doing well over multiple tasks."

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Ariana Marmolejo
Nexustentialist Editor

Sexual assault is an epidemic. Sexual assault on college campuses is an epidemic. It always has been, and it will continue to be unless there is a cultural shift so profound it affects all levels of the institution in which such behaviors are perpetuated. The UCSB administration’s nonchalant attitude toward the survivors of sexual assault should no longer be tolerated. The university needs to start assuming a more proactive role in the alleviation of problems that students who choose this campus to call home. UCSB must be unapologetically stated as its motto, “Let there be light.”

In the era of #MeToo movement, the discourse has shifted somewhat positively to supporting and believing in the narratives of survivors who choose not to report. This does a disservice to both the accused and the survivor. It does a disservice to all students — past, present and future — to not treat the privilege of being at this institution exactly as such. Moving forward, the institution needs to be much more transparent about its reporting and judicial processes regarding sexual assault and sexual misconduct; it must take greater action in preventing and reprimanding such crimes.

It’s obvious why universities aren’t more forward in this reasoning. What could be done at UCSB to make the institution needs to be much more transparent about its reporting and judicial processes regarding sexual assault and sexual misconduct; it must take greater action in preventing and reprimanding such crimes.

What speaks to most people is fear of false reporting. People are afraid of being attention-seeking. People don’t believe in victims, seemingly for no reason other than fear of potential false reporting or the consequences for perpetrators.

In the era of minimal accountability and maximum exposure, the UCSB administration has remained committed to doing the bare minimum.

Statistics show false reporting is almost nonexistent, with only two between 10 and 10 percent of all reports conclusive. Consequently, the one third of reported campus sexual assault cases result in expulsion. False reporting is incredibly minimal, let alone the fact that sexual assault on campuses is widely underreported. It’s not unreasonably that those who come forward face severe consequences themselves, diminishing the possibility of any good that can come from the suggested “fixes” of reporting a high-profile perpetrator.

Just this summer, Christine Blasey Ford received numerous emails from alumni expressing rescinding her name. She’s not alone in this. Universities have been known to not follow proper protocol regarding due process. This does a disservice to both the accused and the victim.

UCSB administration must work with both the Title IX office and law enforcement to properly and implement a less traumatic reporting process for victims. This is not a fast fix. It would require a long-term investigation process and, upon finding individuals guilty of sexual misconduct, the university must expel them. The institution needs to be much more transparent about its reporting and judicial processes regarding sexual assault and sexual misconduct; it must take greater action in preventing and reprimanding such crimes.

It’s very clear from the recent overturning of several Title IX cases in courts that the institution did not follow proper protocol regarding due process. This does a disservice to both the accused and the victim.

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You will vote for your favorite pair of cat ears at a party that doesn’t even have a party.

You will reluctantly wear Uggs for the first time this year. The comfort is worth the hassle.

You will find a pair of animal ears on the ground. Use them wisely.