

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA  
**American Indian Community**



[www.admissions.ucsb.edu](http://www.admissions.ucsb.edu)



# WELCOMING ATMOSPHERE



**HENRY T. YANG**

Chancellor  
University of California, Santa Barbara

Dear Prospective Students:

Thank you for your interest in UC Santa Barbara! This is an exciting time for you to be thinking about your future, and we are glad you are considering our campus as the next step in your education. You will find that the roads to growth and personal fulfillment take you far beyond intellectual pursuits. With that in mind, I invite you to get acquainted with our vibrant campus life.

This American Indian Resource Guide provides information on a wonderful variety of student clubs, programs, organizations, cultural events, activities, and campus services available to you, should you choose to become part of our UCSB family. I encourage you to browse through this guide and familiarize yourself with our community, including our American Indian Cultural Resource Center. This center, created with students like you in mind, is one of many academic and personal support systems on our campus.

At UC Santa Barbara, our community encompasses a rich and diverse mix of cultures, backgrounds, talents, and perspectives. This diversity is an essential part of our academic excellence. Our university is proud to offer an American Indian and Indigenous Studies minor in our Department of Religious Studies, an interdisciplinary major in American Indian Studies through our College of Letters and Science, and an M.A./Ph.D. program in Native American Religions.

Many exciting opportunities and rewarding experiences lie ahead for you at UC Santa Barbara, and we hope to have the pleasure of welcoming you to our beautiful campus in the fall. In the meantime, I offer you my sincerest best wishes for your continued success.

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

## WELCOME FROM THE CHUMASH COMMUNITY

The local indigenous communities now collectively known as the Chumash welcome new American Indian UCSB students to our homeland. The UCSB campus and the surrounding areas sit on our sister villages of Heli'yuk, Anisq'oyo and Helo', where for millennia our ancestors conducted a far-reaching trade network of materials and ideas. Our coastal and inland tribal communities remain an integral part of local intellectual and economic life. We continue our unbroken tradition of welcoming and including people of many nations by inviting you to participate in many of our exciting events and cultural traditions, including canoe paddle events, pow wows, plant gathering trips and family beach barbecues. We are here to guide and support Native students as you navigate your UCSB course of study. Your fellow Native students have nurtured a warm connection with the local Chumash communities, so you can reach us – both in person and via social media – through any of the Native student-led organizations on campus.



**9,000**  
students volunteer  
in the local  
community

**500**  
student  
organizations



**50%**  
of UCSB students  
conduct research  
with faculty

# UNMATCHED RESOURCES

## AMERICAN INDIAN CULTURAL RESOURCE CENTER (AICRC)

The mission of the American Indian Cultural Resource Center is to promote the development of cultural identity and leadership, thus enhancing academic studies and empowering American Indian undergraduate and graduate students through their college careers. The AICRC provides resources, activities, events and networking opportunities. [www.sa.ucsb.edu/EOP/AICRC](http://www.sa.ucsb.edu/EOP/AICRC)

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM (EOP)

EOP services all students while focusing on low-income and first-generation undergraduates. EOP provides mentorship, social and cultural programming, one-on-one counseling and advising, campus support referrals and academic programs. EOP helps motivate students to enhance their preparation for the job market or graduate school admission.

**(805) 893-4758 | [EOP@sa.ucsb.edu](mailto:EOP@sa.ucsb.edu) | [www.sa.ucsb.edu/EOP](http://www.sa.ucsb.edu/EOP)**



## ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

### American Indian and Indigenous Studies Minor

The minor is designed to give students an understanding of the ideas, practices, experiences and issues confronting Native peoples of North and South America through the study of their histories, environment, cultures, languages, politics and economies. [www.religion.ucsb.edu](http://www.religion.ucsb.edu)

### Native American Religions M.A./Ph.D.

The study of Native American and Indigenous religions is primarily focused on peoples in the Americas. The program focuses on their cultures, worldviews and rituals in the contexts of colonialism, resistance and hybridity. [www.religion.ucsb.edu](http://www.religion.ucsb.edu)

## AMERICAN INDIAN STUDENT GROUPS

For a complete list of campus organizations at UCSB, please visit <http://osl.sa.ucsb.edu>.



- › American Indian Student Association (AISA)
- › American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES)
- › American Indian Graduate Student Alliance (AIGSA)
- › American Indian & Indigenous Collective (AIIC)
- › American Indian & Indigenous Collective Research Focus Group (AIIC RFG)
- › American Indian & Indigenous Gardens Alliance (AIIGA)
- › American Indian & Indigenous Arts Collaborative (AIAC)
- › Native American Authors Reading Group
- › Students Taking Action for Native Dreams of Success Mentor Program (STANDS)

## HARVEST DINNER



In 2015, the American Indian Student Association celebrated the 40th anniversary of the Harvest Dinner, an event hosted annually by the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP). Originally, the dinner was hosted by Native American staff for Native students who remained on campus during Thanksgiving break. The original dinners were intimate potlucks but have since grown to include many Native community members who continue to support our students throughout the year. The event includes traditional drumming and flute playing, Native speakers and a silent auction that funds the UCSB American Indian Cultural Resource Center Scholarship.

**73%**  
of undergraduate  
classes have fewer  
than 30 students

**18:1**  
student-  
to-faculty  
ratio



**18,000**  
students live  
on or within a  
mile of campus



# AMERICAN INDIAN STUDENT PERSPECTIVES



## MANUEL LUNA

**Sociology, Class of 2017**

**Tribe:** Apache and adopted Wukchumni

**WHY UCSB?** I chose UCSB because the campus is such a beautiful place and a perfect place for me to study my major. Also, the community here is so

welcoming. How could I say no to this place?

**AMERICAN INDIAN COMMUNITY** American Indian Student Association (AISA) is such a wonderful organization that really makes you feel like you have a family here. Since the Santa Ynez reservation is so close to our campus, we are able to collaborate with the Chumash people and really get involved by hosting events and other activities.



## LENA MARIE NEUNER

**Sociology, Class of 2017**

**Tribe:** Karuk

**UCSB INVOLVEMENTS** I am an active member in the American Indian Student Association (AISA), the American Indian & Indigenous

Gardens Alliance (AIIGA) and helped to create the S.T.A.N.D.S Mentorship program (Students Taking Action for Native Dreams and Success). They are all fantastic organizations and we accomplish so much despite the small membership.

**AMERICAN INDIAN COMMUNITY** The American Indian community here on campus is like my second family. Each member has so much drive, passion and spirit, and I think we really support each other in any way that we can.

## STANDS SPOTLIGHT



STANDS (Students Taking Action for Native Dreams of Success), now in its fourth year, is a day-long outreach conference hosted by UCSB American Indian student leaders. The goal is to promote research and the college-going experience to Native junior high and high school students, who are housed overnight in UCSB's residence halls and eat in the dining commons. Participants attend workshops on how to navigate the University of California application process, apply for financial aid and transition smoothly into college life. Participants are introduced to UCSB American Indian staff and faculty, as well as members of the local Native community. They are also given a guided tour that includes stops at meaningful Native spots on campus, such as the Tree of Peace and the American

Indian Cultural Resource Center. Lastly, participants representing various Tribes are paired with a UCSB STANDS student mentor who continues to support them throughout the year.

## VISIT UCSB OR CONNECT VIRTUALLY

For information on scheduling a campus tour, visit the Office of Admissions website at [www.admissions.ucsb.edu/visit-ucsb/tours](http://www.admissions.ucsb.edu/visit-ucsb/tours). Can't visit in person? Stay connected to UCSB with virtual college fairs, online advising opportunities and webinars. To learn more, visit [www.admissions.ucsb.edu/visit-ucsb/webinars](http://www.admissions.ucsb.edu/visit-ucsb/webinars).

## SPRING INSIGHT OPEN HOUSE

Visit UCSB for Spring Insight, an open house for admitted students, future applicants and their families held annually in April. Meet with campus clubs and organizations, take a tour, attend lectures and hear about all the exciting opportunities available to UCSB students. Learn more at [www.admissions.ucsb.edu/visit-ucsb/open-house](http://www.admissions.ucsb.edu/visit-ucsb/open-house).

## CONNECT WITH UCSB ADMISSIONS



UCSBadmissions



UCSantaBarbara



[www.youvisit.com/tour/ucsb](http://www.youvisit.com/tour/ucsb)



@ucsbadmissions



UCSB4Me



[www.admissions.ucsb.edu/ mailing-list](http://www.admissions.ucsb.edu/ mailing-list)