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 African American 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 African diasporic Cultural Resource Center (AdCRC). This center is one of many academic and personal support systems created with students like you in mind. Our campus also has on hand counselors with expertise in African American history and culture, another way through which we can encourage our students along the journey of learning and discovery.

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. For example, our campus is one of 62 elected members of the prestigious Association of American Universities, placing us among the top 2% of all public and private universities in the United States and Canada. Our university is proud to offer a Black Studies Department, a MultiCultural Center, and a Center for Black Studies Research – one of the oldest centers of its kind in the country.

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.

HENRY T. YANG
Chancellor
University of California,
Santa Barbara

It is our pleasure to welcome you to the UCSB African American Resource Guide. We hope this guide provides a great introduction to the Black community at UCSB and a first step to the University of California. As Diversity Interns and current UCSB students, we can offer first-hand experience and advice about all aspects of campus. Our goal is to enlighten prospective high school students with helpful information and guidance on the UC application process. We are always more than happy to provide incoming students with insight on what makes our campus so special as well as different services available here at UCSB. If you are interested in visiting UCSB, we would love to set up an individual meeting or tour with you and your family to show you the beautiful campus in person.

Sincerely,

Office of Admissions Interns Ladijah Corder, Kyron Covington, Jamelia Harris & Will Trammell
WHAT DOES THE BLACK COMMUNITY AT UCSB MEAN TO YOU?

As the Executive Dean of the College of Letters & Science and the Dean of Social Sciences, my goal is to create the conditions for all of our students to be successful as scholars and be prepared to make a difference in the world. Going all the way back to my days in graduate school, I’ve focused my career on making sure that black students and other students of color are represented in the academy in the fullest ways possible. I believe that the University belongs to all of us and every student should make the most of this environment. Likewise, we have a lot to offer the University and we should make sure to leave a lasting legacy with the contributions we make while we are here. The University is richer with the presence of a diverse faculty and student population and society is better because of our experiences in higher education.

HOW DO YOU INTERACT WITH STUDENTS?

Part of my mission at the University is to provide an extraordinary academic experience for students. Encouraging the recruitment and hiring of a diverse and talented faculty is important, as is cultivating the next generation of scholars. I accomplish these things in different ways. I was one of the primary leaders for the original McNair Scholars grant, an undergraduate research program aimed at increasing the number of first-generation, low-income and/or underrepresented students in doctoral programs and ultimately diversifying college faculty. I helped secure funding for the American Economic Association Summer Training and Minority Fellowships Program, which UCSB hosted in 2010, where minority undergraduates from all over the country gathered for six weeks to strengthen their preparation for doctoral studies. Over the past three years I have been engaged with discussions between the Black Student Union and Chancellor Yang that have led to the establishment of the North Hall Endowed Chairs to support African American students and undergraduate research.

WHAT ADVICE DO YOU HAVE FOR UCSB STUDENTS?

The best advice I can give is to take advantage of as many of the University’s offerings as possible to grow socially, emotionally, civically, and academically. For students who are just entering UCSB, don’t declare your major too soon. Take a variety of courses and explore areas you didn’t imagine you might have an interest in. Find out what passions and talents you have that keep you intellectually curious. When you do declare your major, put your soul into that discipline and gain the most that you can from each and every faculty member that you come into contact with. And remember that your individual accomplishments redound not only to you but to your family and to your community.

MELVIN OLIVER

SAGE Sara Miller McCune Dean of Social Sciences
Executive Dean, College of Letters and Science
Professor of Sociology and Black Studies

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Ph.D. in Sociology, Washington University
(Saint Louis), 1977

RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research interests are poverty and inequality, the sociology of wealth, and interethnic relations.

HIGHLIGHTED BOOKS & ARTICLES

- Black Wealth/White Wealth: A New Perspective on Racial Inequality (Routledge)
- Prismatic Metropolis: Inequality in Los Angeles (Russell Sage Foundation)
- “Anatomy of A Rebellion: A Political-Economic Analysis,” in Reading Rodney King/Reading Urban Uprising (Routledge)

18:1 student-to-faculty ratio
73% of undergraduate classes have fewer than 30 students
50% of UCSB students collaborate with faculty on original research projects
CHIDI AGU  Psychology / Sociology, Class of 2015

WHY UCSB? Although the gorgeous campus and surrounding area certainly played a role in my decision to come here, what truly made UCSB the choice for me was the vast array of avenues to network, intern and research. Coming from a community college, I yearned for the resources necessary to accomplish my academic and career goals. At UCSB, it is not a matter of availability but one of determination when it comes to achieving what you set out for yourself.

COMMUNITY AT UCSB The Black community has been nothing but welcoming and encouraging towards me. I appreciate the support I have received and the strong friendships I have already made with my brothers and sisters. Furthermore, there are many ways to get involved within the community, whether you are interested in Greek life, social activism, engineering, business or any other arena.

RACHEL SCARLETT  Environmental Studies, Class of 2015

WHY UCSB? When I came to Santa Barbara, I was initially attracted to the Beach City vibes. However, UCSB has so much more to offer. Our amazing campus community-- from students to faculty to administrators-- will work with you to transform the campus into a dynamic and vibrant community where you will feel at home and succeed.

TRANSFER PREP The Black community at UCSB is truly my family away from home. Whenever I walk across campus to class, I can expect to see someone from our community who will always check in with me or at least smile and wave. The Black student community along with the faculty and staff have shaped my world view and prepared me to use the skills I’ve learned at UCSB to strengthen my community at home.

UGOCHEUKWU NZE  Physics, Class of 2015

WHY UCSB? I chose UCSB because it not only had a beautiful campus, and people, but was also a nationally recognized academic and research powerhouse.

HOW ARE YOU INVOLVED AT UCSB? On campus, I serve as the president of the National Society of Black Engineers, UCSB chapter. I am also involved in student research.

I WISH I HAD KNOWN... If there was one thing I wish I had known earlier about UCSB, it would be that you could get free 30 minute massages at student health all year round.

COMMUNITY AT UCSB A comment I would make on the Black community here at UCSB is that we are a very tight-knit group of policy-makers and action-takers.

UNIQUE VANCE  Global Studies, Class of 2017

WHY UCSB? I originally wanted to go to a Cal State, but after being accepted into UCSB I only heard good things about it. All my teachers and family members told me I should choose UCSB so after looking into the academics and beauty of the school I thought, why not? It has definitely been the right choice.

HOW ARE YOU INVOLVED AT UCSB? Currently my major involvement at UCSB is with the Environmental Affairs Board where I am the Environmental Justice Chair. I am also the Environmental Liaison to Human Rights Board and a member of the Student Commission on Racial Equality and Students for Justice in Palestine. Social Justice FTW!!

COMMUNITY AT UCSB The Black community here at UCSB is very strong in organizations like the Black Student Union. We are few in number, but I have found a community away from home at UCSB. Be open and friendly!
ENGAGING ORGANIZATIONS

SPOTLIGHT: BLACK STUDENT UNION

The Black Student Union (BSU) is a UCSB student organization that was created to establish a safe, supportive and empowering space for members within the Black community. BSU hosts weekly meetings for all students to increase awareness of current social, cultural and political movements. By fostering an inclusive space comprised of diverse members across the Afrikan diaspora, we hope to unify students through cross-cultural dialogue and understanding. As Black students afforded the opportunity to obtain a UC education, members of BSU challenge their fellow members to “lift as they climb” by advocating for the advancement of Black communities and other marginalized populations.

BLACK STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS A-Z

Akanke
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. – Nu Nu Chapter
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. - Mu Kappa Chapter
Behind the Walls
Black Business Association (BBA)
Black Graduation Committee
Black Graduate Research Association (BGRA)
Black Pioneer Renaissance Organization (BPRO)
Black Reign
Black Quare
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Impact
The National Pan-Hellenic Council, Incorporated (NPHC)
National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE)
Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. (SGR) – Nu Xi Chapter
Pan African Student Union
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. - Delta Rho Chapter

For a complete list of campus organizations at UCSB, please visit www.oslsa.ucsb.edu/orglist.

9,000+ students volunteer in the local community

500 student organizations

18,000+ students live within a mile of campus
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 student support service referrals and academic programs. EOP helps motivate students enhance their preparation for the job market or graduate school admission.

(805) 893-4758  | EOP@sa.ucsb.edu | www.sa.ucsb.edu/EOP

AFRICAN DIASPORIC CULTURAL RESOURCE CENTER (AdCRC)
The AdCRC supports the communities of the African diaspora at UCSB and aids in the overall retention and graduation rates of Black students at UCSB. AdCRC staff strive to create and maintain a welcoming atmosphere for all to acquire knowledge in relation to the diversity of cultures within the African diaspora.

EOP-AdCRC@sa.ucsb.edu  | www.sa.ucsb.edu/eop/AdCRC

BLACK STUDIES AT UCSB

DEPARTMENT OF BLACK STUDIES
UCSB offers a Bachelor of Arts degree in Black Studies and a minor in Black Studies. Students who graduate with a degree in Black Studies work in the fields of education, social work or politics, and many pursue graduate degrees in law and medicine among other disciplines. The Black Studies faculty is available to students who are pursuing graduate degrees in other departments on topics related to Black Studies.

CENTER FOR BLACK STUDIES RESEARCH
The UCSB Center for Black Studies Research is one of the oldest centers of its kind in the country. It organizes and administers interdisciplinary research among faculty and students on the histories and cultures of Africans and their descendants. The Center offers opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students to get involved in research activities. Students are invited to attend events and colloquia or join the center’s staff and faculty on new, exciting research.

Jeffrey C. Stewart, Ph.D.
Department of Black Studies Chair and Professor
jstewart@blackstudies.ucsb.edu

ETHNIC AND GENDER STUDIES LIBRARY
The UCSB Ethnic and Gender Studies Library (EGSL) is a group of six distinct collections housed together on the second floor of the Davidson Library. The library contains a unique Black Studies Collection with materials on topics including anthropology, biography, music, theater, literature, history, slavery and emancipation, racism and discrimination, the Civil Rights Movement, colonization and development and other topics.

(805) 893-2922 | www.library.ucsb.edu/ethnic-gender-studies-library/contact
CAMPUS OPPORTUNITIES & RESOURCES

STUDY ABROAD!

The Education Abroad Program (EAP) allows UCSB students to study in places like Ghana, Barbados, Brazil, Tanzania, Spain and the United Kingdom while earning course credit. Students can select from a list of about 40 countries around the world. There are opportunities for students in every major, and programs range in length from one summer to one year.

www.eap.ucsb.edu | eapucsb@eap.ucsb.edu | (805) 893-3763

ATTEND CULTURAL EVENTS!

The UCSB MultiCultural Center presents more than 20 events each quarter—including lectures, films and videos, panel discussions, readings, art exhibitions, and music, dance and dramatic performances—to increase cultural awareness. The MultiCultural Center lounge is a great space to study, read newspapers or magazines, relax or meet with friends. Every Wednesday, the MCC hosts “Cup of Culture,” a weekly coffee house and movie night. During Dead Week and Finals the MCC is a quiet and comfortable place to study. Most events are free!

www.mcc.sa.ucsb.edu

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

GauchoLink is the official site for jobs, internships and on-campus interviews (http://career.sa.ucsb.edu/students/gaucholink). Student positions on campus can be also found through Arts & Lectures, Associated Students, Career Services, Student Affairs, Housing & Residential Services, Intercollegiate Athletics, the UCSB Library, Recreational and Intramural Sports, Student Media, the University Center.

MCNAIR SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The McNair Scholars Program is a two-year program that offers seminars, graduate school preparation and faculty mentored undergraduate research designed to encourage talented eligible undergraduates who are first-generation and/or low-income students to pursue Ph.D. programs.

www.mcnaire.ucsb.edu | mcnaire@mcnaire.ucsb.edu | (805) 893-3615
EXPLORE UC SANTA BARBARA

WELCOME TO UC SANTA BARBARA

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. 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.

SPRING INSIGHT OPEN HOUSE
Visit UCSB for Spring Insight, an open house event for admitted students, future applicants and their families that is held annually in April. Meet with campus clubs and organizations, take a tour, attend lectures and learn more about the exciting opportunities available to UCSB students. For more information, visit www.admissions.ucsb.edu/visit-ucsb/open-house.

COMMUNITY EVENTS
African Culture Show
Akanke’s Battle of the Orgs
Akanke’s Black Womxn’s Appreciation Dinner
B-Pro’s Black Men’s Appreciation Dinner
Black Leadership Dinner
Black Leadership Retreat
Black Unity Dinner
Black Wednesday
BSU Black Hxstory Month Block Party
BSU Week of Education
BSU Outreach Program
Student of Color Conference
UCSB Taste of Africa and African Night Party
Zeta Phi Beta’s “Herstory” Brunch

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www.admissions.ucsb.edu/student-mailing-list