Alternative Spring Break

Emily Marx, SOLO

Alternative Spring Break is a program in which students volunteer their breaks to address unmet community needs and experience a cross cultural exchange. This year, 9 students and I traveled the favelas (shantytowns) of Salvador, Brazil to serve side by side with local people on community led projects. We worked with local agencies at a homeless shelter, school for the developmentally disabled, and a low-income daycare. Cross Cultural Solutions, our host agency, also provided “Perspectives Programming” each afternoon. These sessions are designed to help immerse volunteers into the community through an in-depth orientation, guest speakers on local politics and native religions, outings etc. While we were volunteering in Salvador’s poorest areas, for safety reasons our “home-base” was located in a house in a middle class neighborhood. Alternative Spring Breaks are frequently life changing for participants, who experience pressing social issues in a hands-on and very personal way.

Daytime fun wraps up at 4:00pm, while the nighttime concert at the RIMAC fields gets under way. Keep your ears and eyes posted for more info regarding this year’s lineup, but for now, information about Sun God’s main stage performers remains locked in a top-secret file.

Now you must undoubtedly be asking yourself, how can I be a part of all this big fun? Fear not student life staff, there is plenty of opportunity (and need) for your help on the big day. We need as much staff involvement in this event as possible, and word on the street is that volunteers will score a free t-shirt, so it’s a win-win situation. If you are able to help, please contact Brian Ross (bross@ucsd.edu or x44119) at the University Events Office as soon as possible. Your participation is key to the success of this event, and we cannot thank you enough for chipping in.

We encourage all students, staff, faculty, and alumni to be a part of the larger campus community by attending Sun God, with it’s array of festivities and performances that unite UCSD as a whole. While sponsored by AS Programming, in partnership with the University Events Office, Sun God represents more than a daytime festival and evening concert, it represents the spirit of UCSD, building community through partnership. Join the fun.

UCSD 23rd Annual SUNDGOD FESTIVAL

UCSD’s Junkyard Derby was a success last year with eleven teams of students, staff, faculty and alumni competing at the annual Sun God Festival. This year, Student Life is going to compete. The object is that teams have two days to build their boxcars and then compete along Peterson Hall down the hill toward Geisel Library. If you interested in lending a helping hand, please see Greg Wilkins.
Paul Stravinsky, Program Assistant, SOLO
Paul joined the staff of the SOLO office in early February after working at UCSD for the past 9 years all with the Marshall College Dean’s Office. Paul held two positions at Marshall, first as Program Assistant then as the Assistant to the Dean. The Program Assistant position with SOLO was interesting to Paul because of the diversity of responsibilities the position included such as programming, event planning, marketing, and working directly with students. Paul was a movie major in college so he really enjoys watching and talking about movies. Some of his favorites, off his reigning top ten list, include Garden State, Apocalypse Now, Adaptation, and Boogie Nights. Paul’s goal is to create a friendly, casual atmosphere in the SOLO office. Stop by and visit him, he frequently has snacks and goodies to make the trip to his office even more enticing!

Student Life
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE
Freeda Warren, Graduate Students

The Student Life Professional Development Team has a new name!

LIFE S.T.A.R.S.
Staff Training for Achievement, Recognition, and Success

CHAIR: Greg Wilkins   CHAIR IN TRAINING: Freeda M. Warren
Mission: Life S.T.A.R.S., a team that celebrates the unique talents of the Student Life cluster and creates a vibrant landscape where colleagues promote diversity, learning, and professional growth by developing and supporting new initiatives, ideas, programs, and services.
Motto: Ideas into Action, Action into Success
Goals: Building a Diverse Community – Tiger Team Lead: Freeda M. Warren
         Members: Azizi Stephens, Clarissa Lonn, Bill Howe, Greg Wilkins
         Staff Education & Development – Tiger Team Lead: Racheal McGaha
         Members: Zaneta Pierce, Seth Klonsky, Paul Linsley

We are always open to feedback and input. If you have an idea that you would like to see implemented, contact us! We are here to support you and your growth and to work and learn together.

RECOGNITION PROGRAM FOR STUDENT LIFE CLUSTER
Looking for a new fun way to recognize colleagues and staff? Check out the following new Student Life Employee Awards. Here are three great awards you can nominate co-workers, colleagues, and team members for to recognize their hard work and contributions to UCSD and Student Life.

**“FISH” - Fresh Ideas Start Here**
To recognize a new idea that a staff member came up with and put into action.

**“Sowing Your Support”**
To recognize those staff members who offered unusual support on a program or project for a unit other than their own.

**“Way To Glow”**
To recognize someone who goes above and beyond the call of duty.

WHO CAN NOMINATE? Any one in the Student Life cluster can nominate colleague(s). Everyone is eligible and self nomination is encouraged.

HOW TO NOMINATE: Send an email to Freeda Warren at fwarren@ucsd.edu. In the email include which recognition you are nominating the person for and a short description of why you believe they should receive the recognition. Nominations are on going. Recipients will be announced through the cluster listserve, the Lifeline Newsletter, and at cluster meetings. Contact Freeda with questions @ x44444.

WHAT AWARD WINNERS WILL RECEIVE: Admiration from the whole cluster!
A rotating prize to keep until the next nomination period.

Correction: Clarissa Lonn’s Birthday is March 30th. The date was incorrectly stated in the last issue of the newsletter. Sorry Clarissa!
BYE, BYE SLES, HELLO LEAD!  
Bill Howe, LEAD! Center

The Leadership, Engagement, Activism, and Development Center (LEAD), formerly the Student Leadership, Engagement, and Service Center (SLES), announced its new name at its "You Are the Change in the World" event, held February 9th in the Price Center ballroom. Seventy students – undergraduates and graduates, and representing all 6 colleges and diverse academic majors -- attended the event and engaged in roundtable discussions about leadership and social justice.

In addition, the Center's new motto, reflecting its intent to be student-oriented and student-driven, was announced at the event: "Empowering students to serve society."

Both the new name and new motto were submitted by students in a contest that resulted in 482 entries. Contest winners received IPODs, while 9 runners up received certificates for the UCSD bookstore. The student who submitted the winning name entry was Dieter Kubli, a Biochemistry/Cell Biology major from Revelle College, while Phoebe Lee, an Animal Physiology and Neuroscience major from Warren College, Benita Brahmbatt, a graduate student in Ethnic Studies, Derek Wong, a Management Science major from Marshall College, Carol Freire, a Cognitive Science/Art History major from Roosevelt College, and Shanee Ben-Zur, a Management Science major from Warren College were all finalists. The winning motto entry was submitted by Columbine Robinson, a Physics major from Sixth College, while Matthew Herrick, a Microbiology major from Warren College, Brendan Herrick, a graduate student in Chemical Oceanography, Clayton Worfolk, a Communication/History major from Muir College, and Bryan Tsao, a Cognitive Science major from Sixth College were all finalists. We want to thank all of the finalists, as well as the 471 other students who submitted entries!

LEAD exists to help students engage fully in their education by becoming involved in leadership and service programs and activities both on and off campus. We seek to empower students to exercise leadership in service to a just, democratic society and become committed, global citizens. We also want to promote leadership and community within the Student Life cluster, as well as among other staff on campus.

Our new website http://lead.ucsd.edu is now accessible. Check it out. Please know, too, that we are ready to serve you and your units in helping you meet your leadership and team building needs and in serving students. Feel free to contact me or Julia Adame if we can be of assistance to you.

STUDENT LIFE VOLUNTEERS SPARKLE!  
Amy Thomas, UEO

As part of its mission to provide access to the performing arts, ArtPower! at UC San Diego works with an important team of volunteer ushers to create an exciting, comfortable environment for its patrons.

Members of the community, UCSD students and some of our very own Student Life staff have joined forces with ArtPower! this year. Friendly and efficient, the ArtPower! volunteer ushers help prepare the venues for performance time, quickly direct patrons to their seats, pass out programs, ensure that cell phones and recording devices are disabled and communicate crucial performance information.

With audiences that often exceed 850 people, this is no small feat!

After a performance begins, volunteer ushers can stay for an exhilarating evening of global and chamber music, modern dance and spoken word.

For Student Life volunteers Greg Wilkins, Julia Adame and Emily Marx, what fantastic performances they participated in!

Peruvian vocalist Tania Libertad swayed on stage with lush rhythms and poignant lyrics about love and loss, striking a powerful chord with the packed house at Mandeville Auditorium. As Adame recalls, Libertad was "Awesome! Visually stunning and deeply reflective."

The wry humor of National Public Radio's Ira Glass, host and founder of "This American Life," made bellies roll with laughter and sparks fly at the Price Center Ballroom. The popular television show "The O.C.," featuring troubled, wealthy teenagers, and the turmoil of the national political party system fueled Glass' commentary.

Asked why he chose to become an ArtPower! volunteer usher, Greg Wilkins said:

"The personal is the political, knowledge is power--starved for great entertainment, this opportunity captivates my imagination and encourages me to give back to the community."

ArtPower! would like to thank its volunteers for providing exceptional quality service for its patrons!

Come join ArtPower! For more information on how to become an ArtPower! volunteer, please contact Darlene Salmon at desalmon@ucsd.edu.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April 13
Cluster Meeting  
PC Ballroom A • 8:30am

May 13
Sun God Festival

May 14
Transfer Admit Day

May 20
2005 Student Affairs Carnival  
PC Ballroom • 10am-2pm

May 25
Cluster Meeting

June 2
SOLO Awards Banquet
The 15th Annual EXCEL Leadership Conference, coordinated by the Interfraternity Council and Panhellenic Council of UCSD, attracted over 1,300 students from five Southern California area universities. The conference keynotes and workshops challenged the collegians to build their leadership skills, develop new campus and community partnerships, and create a legacy of servant leadership in the campus and local community. Please join me in congratulating the fraternity and sorority leaders who spent countless hours to make the 15th Annual EXCEL Leadership Conference a successful reality.

Winter was a busy quarter for the staff of the University Centers. During Winter Quarter, 1,260 reservations were made in the Price Center and Student Center, with the total bookings (total number of spaces used) equaling 2,773, and the total event hours booked for Winter Quarter equaling 11,601. Of the reservations, 23% were for student organizations, 23% for on campus departments, and 12% for Student Affairs departments.

The Student Center and Price Center Expansion projects continue to move forward. For up-to-date information and new pictures of both projects check out the web site http://expansion.ucsd.edu. Phase 1 of the Student Center expansion is moving along quickly. The tentative completion date for this phase is October 2005. Phase 2 of the Student Center expansion will commence after Phase 1 has been completed.

New additions are coming to the Price Center Food Court. Tacone Wraps will be joining the vendors in Spring 2005, and the contract has been signed for the Food Co-Op build out next to Shogun and the Gameroom. So watch for these exciting additions!

On March 28th, the campus began buzzing with election activity as the kick-off began and students put up posters, canvassing voters. The excitement will continue through the voting period, which begins April 4th and culminates on April 8th, when the votes are tabulated. This year there are three official slates: Students Empowerment, Revolution!, and the Sun God Party and numerous independent candidates.

In addition to the general election, this year’s ballot will also include a SIROC (Student Initiated Outreach Recruitment Commission) referendum that if passed would increase student activity fees by a $3.00 per student per quarter to fund various outreach programs and events.

Check out http://as.ucsd.edu for complete election results.

Spring Quarter is a busy time for the Commuter Student Services office (formerly known as Off Campus Housing). An annual event sponsored by the office is Commuter Appreciation Week, which is taking place this year the week of April 10–April 15. All six Colleges, Associated Students, and the All Campus Commuter Board collaborated with CSS to create this incredible week. Please join us for the following events: