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This fall students can take online courses offered through any CSU

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Decorate your dorm room with these fun and cheap design ideas



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Joining the military to pay for college should not be taken lightly

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Men's & Women's Soccer look to build off last year's success

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# CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE MONDAY, AUGUST 26, 2013 | VOL. 55, ISS. 02 | WWW.DAILYSUNDIAL.COM



CHARLIE KAIJO / SENIOR REPORTER

New students listen to speakers during freshman orientation at the Plaza Del Sol. Student orientation leaders have increased their working hours to accomodate more freshman groups in response to the increased enrollment for this fall semester.

# University officials anticipate more than 38,000 students this fall, the highest student enrollment in CSUN history

**CHARLIE KAIJO** 

SENIOR REPORTER

NIVERSITY OFFICIALS ARE expecting record numbers for students enrolled at CSUN this fall. More than 38,000 students have been accepted to the university and about 10,000 are incoming freshmen and transfer students alone.

"We have more freshmen than we have ever had. We're guessing 5,800 to 5,900," said Elizabeth Adams, vice

president of undergraduate affairs.

This brings the amount of stu-

dents enrolled for the fall to more than 38,000. Though these statistics are only projections, Adams estimates that this will be the highest number of student enrollment in CSUN history. The real numbers will be available by the fifth week of school.

"I chose CSUN because they offer more classes, and I came for the diversity," said Ijeoma Nnely, a freshman with an undecided major. "If you go to another university, it's predominantly another race. But here, you see people everywhere, all shapes, sizes, and colors. That's what stood out to me the most, the diversity."

Enrollment was closed to incoming freshmen and transfer students Spring

2013. Adams said the closed enrollment may have contributed to the increase of students this semester.

"The transfer numbers were high so we closed Spring '13 admission," Adams said. "The students who would have come in the spring enter in the fall instead. Most of them apply for the following term that we're open."

President Dianne Harrison said the added enrollment will eventually affect every CSUN department.

"For some [departments], it will be a couple of years from now once students get through their general education," Harrison said.

Every department on campus is hir-

ing new faculty to accommodate the increase of students. Some departments are more impacted than others.

"The teacher-student ratio goes up in some places and not in others. We increased the size of the freshman writing classes this fall by two students," Adams said. "There is a certain capacity that comes with the scale. We can accommodate more students if we add two students per class."

GE courses like communications, English, ethnic studies and math experience a greater impact. School officials agree that adding two additional spots per class will relieve the impact.

President Harrison said the school received \$125 million from the gov-

ernor's budget to accommodate the increase of students.

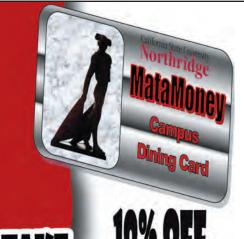
"We [also] got an additional \$125

million for enrollment growth and \$10 million for online stuff," Harrison said.

As a result of the fall enrollment increase, school officials said Spring 2014 enrollment will be closed for all transfers, excluding few exceptions.

According to CSU Mentor, students who have received their A.A. or A.S. degrees in a transferable major from a California community college will be allowed admission for Spring 2014. Also, students pursuing a second bachelor's degree will be allowed

See **FRESHMEN**, page 11



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# **LETTER FROM THE EDITOR**

AUGUST 26, 2013 • DAILY SUNDIAL • CSUN • CITY@SUNDIAL.CSUN.EDU

he Daily Sundial staff would like to take this opportunity to welcome the new and returning students to CSUN. This school year, technology is playing a prominent role in our education, and in our newsroom.

The Sundial staff is part of the myC-SUNtablet project, which means immediate reporting throughout our campus and community. Be sure to add our mobile app to your phone or tablet to get your CSUN news. While you are at it, download the university's new app that allows you to access a campus map, directory, your portal and Moodle.

I know we are a connected generation and attached to our devices, but I have one request to make... look up from your device now and then and say hi to the person walking toward you. They might need your help or directions around campus.

Remember what it was like being new here? Well, this semester an unprecedented number of new freshmen and transfer students are joining our Matador community. So,

look up and offer your assistance.

As for the Sundial, we plan to publish investigative pieces, covering anything from money to politics, as we feel it's important that we hold people accountable especially when it affects the average citizen and particularly college students.

At the same time, we will also cover live news where you will always be informed about current events, interesting lectures, conferences and fairs on campus.

Our opinion section will offer different point of views on both controversial and lighter topics. Our feature section will provide you with an in-depth, personal and human perspective on different faces and places on our campus.

To our sports fans, we will cover game news on campus teams and clubs. Every Thursday, we publish Culture Clash, providing you with updates and reviews focusing on fashion, movies, music, and the arts.

The Daily Sundial will continue to utilize different platforms to tell stories through podcasts, videos and social media. You can read more about each of these sections and find a previously published story on our website, dailysundial.com, where we publish 24/7. You can also add us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to receive any new updates and breaking news or perhaps participate in any online activities such as polls and questions.

Pick up a copy of our paper every Monday through Thursday.

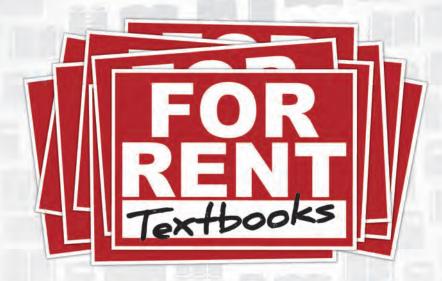
The staff at the Daily Sundial looks forward to seeing you around campus or when visiting our office (MZ 140) for questions, feedback or criticism. We want you to contribute so if you like to write, take photos or draw, then joining the Daily Sundial might be the perfect option for you.

### — LOREN TOWNSLEY

Editor in Chief / DAILY SUNDIAL

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# Harrison hosts second convocation

### CSUN President discusses campus recognition and technology in her speech

JACOB FREDERICKS

DAILY SUNDIAL

PRESIDENT DIANNE HARRISON hosted her second convocation at the Valley Performing Arts Center (VPAC) on Aug. 22.

More than 800 people attended the celebration, filling the Great Hall to maximum capacity.

"[Harrison's] speech was inspiring, motivating," said Debra Hammond, executive director of the University Student Union. "It gave us a push toward the start of the year."

During her speech, Harrison encouraged faculty and alumni to offer their continued support to incoming freshmen and transfer students so that they can transition smoothly into college life.

This fall CSUN has admitted the largest group of incoming freshmen and transfer students in its history. The headcount for students enrolled totals more than 39,000.

This year Harrison's primary focus is centered on the importance of CSUN's external influence.

Since the president's last inaugural address Aug. 23, 2012, CSUN has received praise and recognition from numerous institutions.

"Financial Planning Magazine"

ranked CSUN's Financial Planning Program among the top 25 in the nation and "The Los Angeles Press Club" named the Daily Sundial the the best college paper in 2012. The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) gave CSUN a \$900,000 grant to further athletic programs.

"I want CSUN to be the envy of institutions who also strive for success and diversity, because we do it better than anybody else," Harrison said.

Harrison also mentioned that her vision for CSUN is to grow cohesively through the promotion of diversity and student health.

The president also stressed the importance of students ability to access information through technology. This semester students can download the free CSUN Mobile App to complete tasks such as adding classes and making payments. They will also be able to gain access to several software and file-sharing programs such as Microsoft Office, CSUN Box, Lynda and more at no cost.

There will also be approximately 1,000 students in seven different departments participating in the myCSUNtablet initiative. The myC-SUNtablet initiative links students with academic resources via their iPad device. This initiative aims to reduce the cost and increase the quality of learning materials for students.



JOHN SARINGO-RODRIGUEZ / PHOTO EDITOR

President Harrison discussed her priorities and plans for CSUN's future. While she concentrated on student and employee success, visibility and reputation, and funding and sustainability of the university, she emphasized the importance of teamwork.



JOHN SARINGO-RODRIGUEZ / PHOTO EDITOR

President Harrison thanked the numerous endorsers and alumni, who donated over thousands of dollars to different departments on campus. She also thanked faculty and students for their academic contributions that in increased CSUN's visibility and reputation.



JOHN SARINGO-RODRIGUEZ / PHOTO EDITOR Hundreds of people gathered at the Valley Performing Arts Center on Thursday, August 22 to attend President Dianne F. Harrison's second annual convocation.



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# **CSU** launches online courses for Fall

MICHAEL ARVIZU CONTRIBUTOR

**THIS FALL** students enrolled in any of the 23 CSU campuses will have access to a selection of online classes as part of a system wide effort to alleviate congestion in high-demand courses.

The online courses offered are part of the Intrasystem Concurrent Enrollment Program (ICE). It was launched on Aug 1.

Both freshmen and transfer students at any CSU campus have the option of taking a general education (GE) course through the program at another CSU school. But to enroll, students must be in good academic standing and can only register at campuses that follow the same term schedule — quarter or semester — as their home campus.

Courses completed at another campus with a passing grade will then count toward the students' GE requirement. Students can register for any of the 36 online classes such as visual communications, mathematics, biology, critical reasoning, and science.

ICE will only offer courses that have already been established at different CSU's. This way, administration and faculty will know how many classes they need to offer to meet the demand.

At CSUN introductory statistics, physical geography, observational astronomy and elementary astronomy are offered as ICE classes.

CSU Spokesman Erik Fallis said the goal of the ICE program is to reduce the influx of students waiting to register for the "bottleneck" courses, which are the popular upper and lower division courses required to graduate.

"These classes tend to be the ones that hold students up as they progress toward their degree," Fallis said.

The ICE program is being offered this fall due to increased state funding, enabling the CSU system to reinvest in adding additional classes throughout the state. Fallis said the financial support from the government is a welcome change.

"We lost \$1 billion in state support over six years so, of course, that cut is being felt by universities and students," Fallis said. "It has made offering courses and other services much more difficult."

The CSU system is expected to see 15,000 to 20,000 students enrolled for Spring 2014. Fallis said the new selection of online courses will allow students to save time and money while finishing their degree on time.

"If I need one calculus class, and I can take it at [CSU] Ful-



ILLUSTRATION BY JASMINE MOCHIZUKI / VISUAL EDITOR

lerton, great!" said Asa S. Mittman, CSU Chico art history professor. "For GE courses, most students are looking to get it out of their way so they can get back to their major."

Mittman, who is also authoring an e-book, has been teaching online classes at his campus for five years. His classes feature a podcast, links to art videos on YouTube and

a comments forum his students can contribute to.

"Traditional students think of their interaction online and in-person as fairly seamlessly interacting with one another. They don't have that longing for human to human contact all the time," Mittman said.

Valerie Arabome, a biology major at CSUN has taken online classes before and con-

siders them more difficult to complete than a traditional lecture hall class.

"It was horrible. I like going to class better because online classes didn't really help," Arabome said. "You are basically learning by yourself. It was harder than if you actually went to class."

Say-Peng Lim, CSUN physics and astronomy depart-

ment chair, said while online classes allow students to work on subject matter at their leisure, students should show the same level of commitment to these classes as they would to a regular course.

"What you find is that a lot of the learning comes from the individual effort," Lim said.

"The misconception is that an online class is easier. No teacher is going to design an online class that is easier. You still have to put in the effort and the time."

Jessica Park, a business management major at CSUN, believes math and science classes are not the best courses to offer online. She feels online classes are good choices for students who wish to study by themselves and on their own time.

"It was more helpful taking the class online," said Park who took a hybrid economics course two semesters ago. "It was better than waking up at 8 a.m., when I am not really ready to hear anything, and then it's just going in through one ear and out the other."

Enrollment for ICE is open to current students and students applying for admission in Spring 2014.

Students are strongly advised to seek academic counseling prior to enrolling in any online course.

# **New Technology Services for Students**

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# ASSOCIATED STUDENTS MATADOR REPORTER

# **Upcoming Campus Events**

Tue. August 27th 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. **Bookstore Lawn** 

# **AS FAIR**

Join us for a day of music, games, giveaways and a few other surprises! Meet your student leaders and learn about our AS programs and services. Free Planners and CSUN giveaways.

## Wed. August 28th

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. **Matador Walk** 

## Sports-A-Palooza

Interested in joining a Sport Club? Come visit and learn about all of our 31 sport clubs.

### Wed. August 28th 11:30 - 1 p.m. AND 5:30 - 7 p.m. Bayramian Hall Lawn

## President's Welcome **Back Picnic**

Come meet the CSUN President. Free Picnic for all campus community

## Thu. August 29th

11 a.m. - 2 p.m. & 4 p.m. - 8 p.m. USU, Plaza Del Sol & OST Lawn

## **MATAFEST**

Come and join in on the fun of this year's Circus themed Matafest. This is your opportunity to see what clubs. organizations, and activities the USU and CSUN have to offer!

### Thu. August 29th 7 p.m.

Oviatt Lawn

## Summer Movie Fest: Anchorman

Come to the free Summer Movie screening. Event is for the CSUN community and open to the public. Bring your blankets, chairs, and friends!

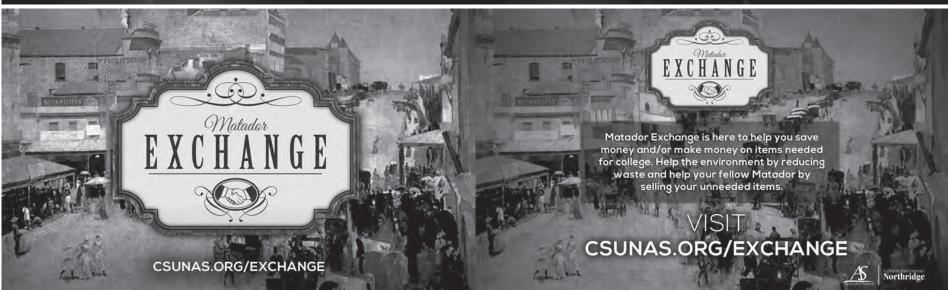
## September 3-4

11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Bayramian Hall Lawn

### Meet the Clubs

Learn about the many opportunities for involvement on campus in a centralized, energetic and festive setting. Over 200 clubs and organizations will be present. Hosted by the Matador Involvement Center.







CAssociated Students is the official seat of student governance for the campus. The Student Government division represents the student body, advocates their needs, and defends their interests in dealings with faculty, campus administrators and government officials.

# New CSU student trustee

Talar Alexanian elected BOT student trustee, the first in CSUN history

MICHELLE DOMINGUEZ

DAILY SUNDIAL

TALAR ALEXANIAN makes history after being inaugurated as an official member of the California State University Board of Trustees, a first for CSUN.

It took six months of multiple interviews before CSUN's Associated Students vice president received the good news. Alexanian was interviewed by all 23 CSU Associated Student presidents, and by the governor's office.

She was appointed by Gov. Jerry Brown and will serve a two year term, her first year as a non-voting member.

As she steps into her new role as a board of trustee member, Alexanian already has a to-do list for what she would like to accomplish before the end of her first term.

"I really want to get a feel of each [CSU] campuses culture, the buildings, the people that make it so diverse and so unique, because entering next year as a voting member will ensure



TREVOR STAMP / DAILY SUNDIAL

Talar Alexanian, 20-year-old journalism student in her third year, was appointed by Gov. Jerry Brown to a two year term on the California State University Board of Trustees. This is the first time a CSUN student was appointed as a Trustee.

that I'm making the right decisions on behalf of the students," Alexanian said.

She also wants to increase undergraduate awareness.

"I want to make sure students know what's going on at Board of Trustee meetings because often times students don't really know what they are or why they exist," Alexanian said.

She hopes students will be more informed on issues that may be directly affecting them on campus or even statewide.

"They're concerned that their voices aren't being heard and I want to bridge that gap and make sure that I'm empowering those students that think they're not being heard," Alexanian said. "I get to represent their point of view on the board."

Though the new student BOT member is a journalism major with an emphasis in public relations, she isn't sure how this journey will affect her professional career.

"I can't tell you I'm a hundred percent sure of what I want to do but I know I definitely want to give back to my community and possibly see what a career in politics might be like," Alexanian said.

# **CSUN** appoints new leadership

**WON CHOI** 

DAILY SUNDIAL

FOR FALL 2013 CSUN appointed a new vice provost, new associate vice presidents for the Office of Research and Graduate Studies and Faculty Affairs, two new deans and a new director for the Valley Performing Arts Center (VPAC).

Provost and academic affairs vice president Harold Hellenbrand said his biggest concern when appointing new leaders is "if they have the proper experience" for their new positions.

CSUN's newly appointed vice provost, Dr. Michael Neubauer, worked as a professor in the department of mathematics and liberal studies and was also the director of developmental mathematics. Neubauer became a member of faculty senate in 1996 and served as the faculty president for three years.

Hellenbrand said that he expects to maintain "enough classes for students" as the new vice provost steps into the office.

Dr. Crist Khachikian, who served as the director of research in the college of engineering, computer science and technology, was appointed as the associate vice president of

Research and Graduate Studies. Khachikian is also the director of the NSF-funded Center for Energy and Sustainability in CSULA and has experiences of generating major funds for research and student/faculty development in the past.

For Faculty Affairs Dr. William Whiting was appointed as the interim associate vice president. He served as the former senior director of Academic Personnel in the Faculty Affairs.

Dr. Kenneth R. Lord was appointed as the dean for the college of business and economics. He recently served as the associate dean of the Kenia School of Management, University of Scranton, Pennsylvania.

Dr. Cynthia Rawitch has been appointed as the interim dean for Mike Curb College of Arts, Media and Communication, replacing the departing dean Robert Bucker. She joined the department of journalism as a part-time lecturer in 1973 and became a tenure-track faculty in 1984.

The newly appointed interim director of the VPAC, Dr. Steven Thachuck, worked as an assistant professor of music and coordinator of the guitar program and recently served as the chair of the department of music.



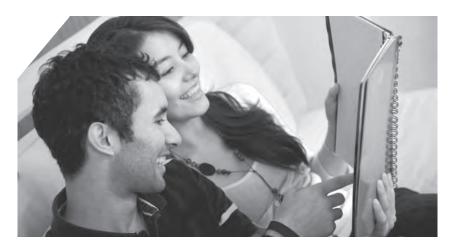
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# Stay cool in school



TREVOR STAMP / DAILY SUNDIAL

Andrew Fierro, 27-year-old physics gradaute student, cools off in the shade outside of the Oviatt Library on Aug. 23.

STAYING FOCUSED IN class when you are hot and dehydrated can be very difficult. Here are some tips to help you stay cool in this hot weather so your first week of school can be a success

STAY hydrated. Keep a water bottle with you at all times. You can refill your water bottles at refill stations located on the first floor of Sierra Hall, Jerome Richfield, and Manzanita Hall. SRC is giving away free bottles of water to students who register for the gym.

STUDY, WORK, AND RELAX in the shade or in air conditioned areas. Utilize the tables and umbrellas in the Sierra Center and take a stroll in the shade through the Botanic Garden.

MAKE YOUR OWN mist by filling a spray bottle with cool water and spraying your face sporadically throughout the day.

**REST YOUR FEET** and buy something to eat at the Matador Bookstore Complex. Purchase a smoothie from Juice It Up! and head to the second floor for a little rest and relaxation.

WEAR LOOSE-FITTING clothes. Light colors will keep you cool, and cotton material is cooler than synthetics.

DON'T FORGET TO PUT on sunscreen. Webmd.com recommends you wear Sun Protection Factor (SPF) 15 or higher for moderate protection. If without sunscreen you burn within 10 minutes, SPF 15 will protect you for up to 150 minutes. SPF gives you 15 times more protection from the sun than you would normally have without it.



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# ASSOCIATED STUDENTS



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august 27th 10am-2pm bookstore lawn

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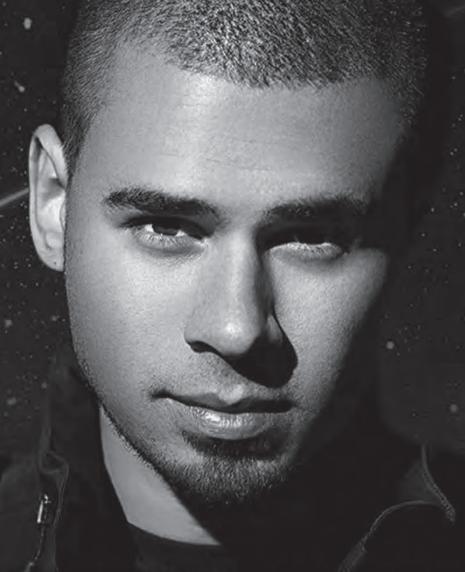


# ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

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# Surge of students move into dorms

**VICTORIA BECERRIL** 

DAILY SUNDIAL

**INFORMATIONAL** pamphlets, long lines and new and returning students with parents made up the chaotic spectacle that crowded campus housing grounds Saturday, Aug. 24.

For CSUN freshman Alex Salazar, 17, communications major, moving into CSUN housing for the first time was a memorable experience, even as his mother reluctantly helped him move into his new home away from home.

"Independence is the thing I'm most excited about," Salazar said.

Salazar, a San Diego native, shared his eagerness and excitement to be involved in extracurricular activities from sports to speech and debate.

This semester, roughly 4,000 CSUN freshmen, transfer students, and returning students, moved into their dorms.

In order to make this move-in process smoother, the Residence Hall Association provided workers and dollies to assist with transporting large boxes and belongings from the parking lots to dorms.

Jessica Contreras, 19, a communications major, is returning to the dorms for her second year. Although Contreras quickly said that her current room seemed a lot smaller to her than last year, she is still excited to consider new options of décor for her dorm room.



VICTORIA BECERRIL / DAILY SUNDIAL

New and returning CSUN students were asked to park across the street from the dormitories on Zelzah and Lassen because of the lack of closer available parking. With the help of their families, friends and the housing staff, students began moving into their dorms on Saturday Aug. 24.



VICTORIA BECERRIL / DAILY SUNDIAL

Muaj Hmoo Lee, 18, a chemistry major, is quickly introduced with his Resident Advisor as he moves into his new home at the freshmen dorms.



VICTORIA BECERRIL / DAILY SUNDIAL

Jessica Contreras, 19, a sophomore communications major, borrows a dolly from housing to bring her belongings to her new dorm room. CSUN students were allowed to move in Saturday Aug. 24.





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Continental Breakfast 8:30 a.m. Panel Discussion 9:00 a.m.

### Panelists

**Professor James Sefton, Ph.D.**Department of History
CSU Northridge

**Professor John Evans, Ph.D.**Department of Political Science

University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire

There is no cost for the program, but **RSVPs are required by Wednesday, September 4, 2013**. Please email david.matheke@csun.edu

or call The Tseng College at (818) 677-2270. Free parking is available in the parking lot adjacent to the University Club. News | 11

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YEAR	OVERALL HEADCOUNT	FRESHMEN HEADCOUNT
2000	29066	2842
2005	35446	4720
2008	36208	4625
2009	35198	4203
2010	35272	5195
2011	36911	5269
2012	36164	4149
2013	38000 - 39000	5800 - 5900

INFORMATION COURTESY OF CSUN INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH

### **FRESHMEN**

Continued from page 1

admission in Spring 2014.

"We want to be sure to serve the students who are here. We have limits on people, space, and money," Adams said. "If we took new students in the spring, it would be harder for us to make sure that the students who are already here get the classes they need and we made the decision to serve the students who are already here."

Demographic data from the CSUN Institutional Research website shows that most of the new students came from local areas in Los Angeles and Ventura County.

Adams said local students make up almost 80 percent of CSUN's population.

WELLS FARGO

"Typically we know that if we have about 3,500 students total, 2,500 will be out of state or largely international," Provost Hellenbrand said. "We will have that information within three weeks."

More than 4,500 first time freshmen enrolled from Los Angeles County this semester and more than 200 came from Ventura County. The total enrollment for incoming freshmen is up by nearly 1,000 students from last year.

According to provost Harry Hellenbrand, vice president of Academic Affairs, high schools have had an impact on this semesters high enrollment as well. Hellenbrand said there are more students ready to attend college now.

"Most students are completing the a-g requirements in high school," Hellenbrand said.

The a-g requirements are a list of required courses students are recommended to take in order to attend a UC or CSU after they graduate. The a-g requirements will ensure high school students have a general knowledge of math, English, history, science and language arts before attending college.

Myles Tosca, a freshman psychology major, is coming to CSUN from East Los Angeles.

"People in general, teachers, administrators, everything about this place has a positive vibe. It gives you the feeling that you can empower yourself by being motivated by others," Tosca said. "Currently I'm a freshmen. I'm going to be rooming [and] I'm coming out here to fully grasp the concept of what college life is."

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### **TAYLOR VILLESCAS**

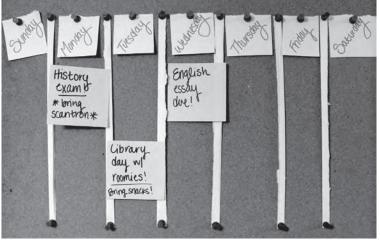
FEATURES EDITOR

**YOU ARE FRESHLY** moved into your new dorm: it's your own space of reflection and self-expression. Well, half of it anyway. Once you clear away the cardboard boxes and dust off the 1970s stlye furniture, it's a pretty blank slate. Conquer the space and decorate to your heart's content with these do-it-yourself design tips.

### NEVER FORGET YOUR KEYS AGAIN

Don't be the person who forgot their key, and is left stranded outside of their dorm room with bags full of groceries and no one home to let them in. Trust me, it is not fun (yes, that is a personal story). A big part of dorm life is getting in the habit of always having your keys, and a great way to do that is to always keep it in the same place.

Decorate a small saucer or bowl and get in the habit of keeping your keys, wallet, chapstick, and any other everyday necessities inside. No counter space for a saucer? Grab a door hanger, paint, markers, cloth and some glue. Decorate as much or as little as you would like! Add some pockets or a small box to it, or maybe just use it as a space to attach your to-do lists and notes to yourself. Make sure you hang it on your bedroom door or front door, so you will never leave your dorm without seeing it and remembering the little things.



TAYLOR VILLESCAS / FEATURES EDITOR

There are plenty of ways to stay organized, but it is a little harder to accomplish in a small space. To save space and avoid tearing your hair out, get an over-the-door shoe organizer, and use it for whatever you need! Like to organize your ramen and snacks in alphabetical order? Perfect! Need a place to keep school supplies and your excessive amounts of flashcards? Wonderful! These organizers are usually cheap, and they'll keep everything organized and out of your way.

STAY ORGANIZED

### PIN-UP PHOTOS

A great way to avoid defacing your wall while putting faces on your wall is hanging up photos via a string and pinning them with clothespins. It's a quick and easy way to hang photos or other artwork. Getting creative with this is also easy: just decorate the pins with paint, attach buttons or fabric flowers or find fun clothespins at the local craft store.

### CORK BOARD IS YOUR FRIEND

Instead of putting a hundred pin-prick holes in your dorm wall, save yourself time and fees (at the end of the year, Student Housing charges students for putting holes in their wall) and buy some cork board. It can be easily attached to the wall with double stick tape, and can be bought in a variety of sizes, shapes, and colors.

With a little determination, patience, and a lot of push pins, the cork board presents infinite possibilities: hang up photos of family and friends, beloved celebrities, important notes, or even fill it with goals for the semester.

To make a cork board decorative and useful, fashion it into a calendar. By using some paper and scissors, separate sections of the board into days of the week or even a month. It's a great way to stay organized and keep a visual tab on assignments.

# STRING LIGHTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

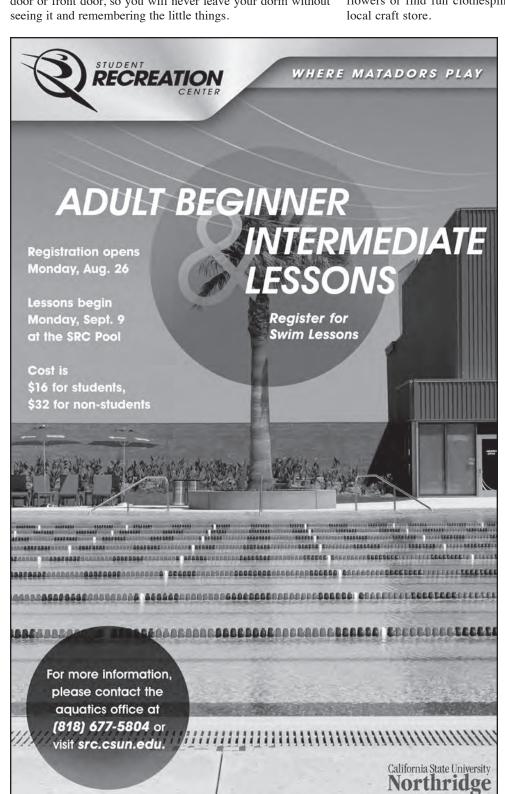
As hipster as this sounds, string lights can really do wonders for a room. They provide soft lighting and create a calm atmosphere for any frantic, three in the morning cram session. However, the appeal of string lights plummets once the lights go off and you are left with some clunky wires hanging on your walls. But fear not! There's hope for your decor!

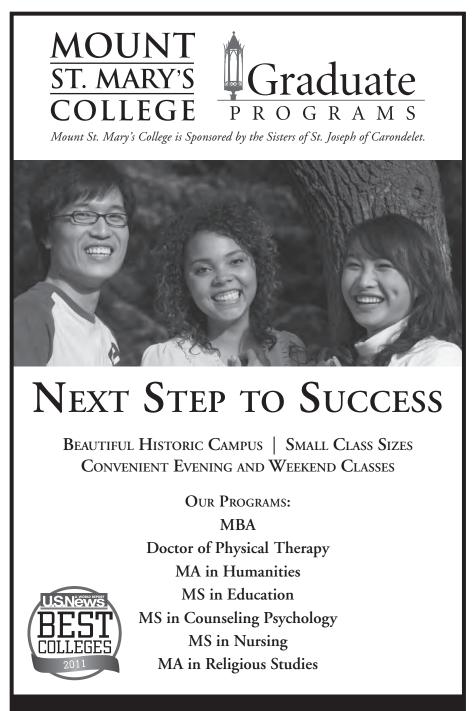


scan this or code to see step-by-step instructions to make cupcake flower lights



TAYLOR VILLESCAS / FEATURES EDITOR





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STAFF SAYS...

Thousands of new students wandering helplessly around CSUN, the seasoned veterans of the Daily Sundial staff have a few words of hard-earned wisdom for the new kids on campus.

### CHAMPAIGN WILLIAMS

### LIVE NEWS EDITOR



Take advantage of office hours! If I was a freshman again this would be one of the things I would do over. Going to office hours will help you establish a good relationship with your professor. They will get to know you. You won't simply be a name on a piece of paper. You will have a face, a personality, and you will stand out from among the 150 to 200 students they see everyday. This relationship will only benefit your grade, never hurt it. Take my word for it. Also, Netflix is not your friend. No matter how much you tell yourself, "I'm only gonna watch one more episode" we all know it's not true. Give yourself an episode cutoff and stick to it (i.e. only watch two episodes of "Grey's Anatomy" before doing your homework, turn off your television or computer at 6 p.m., etc.) Be smart. Set yourself up for success, not failure. Time management is key.

### JASMINE MOCHIZUKI

### VISUAL EDITOR



Ratemyprofessor.com has biased reviews and can give you mixed thoughts about certain classes, so only go there for reference. Only the most awful professors will have a negative review, but otherwise, don't let the comments be your only guide in choosing classes. Also, contact your professor and check how often they will use the textbook. Some professors supply readings of their own or rely strictly on lecture. You can save a few bucks by going to the library to rent the book for the day or just borrowing it from your friend if the professor doesn't use the textbook as much.

### KEVIN KIANI

### SPORTS EDITOR



Manage your time and talk to your professors as much as possible. Get engaged in class and participate whenever there are open discussions. Developing a personal relationship with your teacher not only helps you in the class but also gives the teacher a good reason to write you a letter of recommendation should you need one down the line. Get out of your comfort zone and explore the vast array of classes that CSUN has to offer as opposed to sticking with classes that are "safe" and that you know you will succeed in. In high school I didn't even know or care what anthropology was, but it turned out to be one of my favorite classes here at CSUN. Lastly, the shady area under the trees across from Bayramian Hall is by far the best place to nap on campus in between classes. You're welcome.

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### JOHN SARINGO-RODRIGUEZ

### PHOTO EDITOR



The main difference between freshmen and transfer students is usually age. That being said, transfer students have already adapted into college life and that may show in their classroom etiquette and maturity. As a heads up, university classes are more difficult than a community college. Finding a balance may be difficult at times, but you can achieve it once you prioritize. On that note: keep an agenda, make to-do lists, and caffeinated drinks around midterms and finals may just get you through the next two years. There are many resources on campus: the Student Recreational Center (SRC), a three-story state-of-the-art gym, the KLOTZ Health Center for affordable health care and medications, and there is a computer lab at the University Student Union where students can print 20 pages per day for free. Exploring the borders of CSUN is very beneficial as well. There are many restaurants and businesses in the area that offer student discounts.

### YOSCY PEREZ

### ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR



Do something. Don't spend the next few years just in class and at home. Get involved with a group or club. You will learn so much more and you can make some great friends just by branching out. Get out of your comfort zone and take a risk. This is your time. CSUN has many clubs and organizations on campus and you can find something just for you. Remember, college isn't just about the academics. It's also about creating experiences that you may never get the chance to do again.

### JOSH CARLTON

### A&E EDITOR



The best advice I could give to a new student (freshman or transfer) is to make a friend. The first day can be nerve racking, but you're all in the same boat. CSUN is a big campus and it's easy to get lost. I know most people are under the impression that this is a commuter campus, but most of you are still coming here from some part of Los Angeles. It's nice to have someone nearby that feels your pain when midterms and finals come up. Another tip, talk to your professors (they don't bite.) I'm sure this will be pounded into your head throughout the semester, but let me reiterate — professors are there to help, not hurt. Last thing, keep your cool and it will all work out. I'm serious. I found myself pulling my hair out over the mundane my first fall semester and it did me no favors. Do the work and remember that winter break is closer than you think.



# AUGUST 26, 2013 OPINION@SUNDIAL.CSUN.EDU

# GI Bill can pay, but at what cost?

College-goers who join the military to get their tuition, fees and books paid for should weigh out all the risks

**LISA ANDERSON** 

DAILY SUNDIAL

WE ARE ALL AWARE, and some of us painfully so, that the economy has seen better days. Between that and the always-increasing cost of higher education, joining the military to utilize the GI Bill may be an option that's growing more alluring.

However to further explore the benefits of the GI Bill, there are first some fundamental issues that need to be addressed. It seems it is not just this writer's humble opinion, but rather a general consensus that joining the military for the sole purpose of GI Bill benefits is something strictly advised against.

That being said, if the GI Bill is going to be any sort of factor in someone's decision to join the military, there are a couple of things they should know. First, there are two GI Bills, but anyone joining now will be eligible for

The Post 9/11 GI Bill offers a lot more than the Montgomery GI Bill but may still be less than some expect. It covers everything and more if you're going to a state school like CSUN, but there is indeed a

cap for private schools. There is a national

the Post 9/11 GI Bill.

year for private or foreign schools, with the exception of a few states who offer a lower maximum amount (California is not one of these, and Michigan's maximum is actually slightly higher). To a CSUN student this may still

ment of a little more than \$19,000 a

seem incredibly generous, but to give some perspective, the average tuition for a private institution for the academic 2010-11 year was roughly \$32,000 according to the National Center for Education Statistics. However, private institutions infamously offer many more scholarship opportunities, and that's not including additional military scholarships.

The new GI Bill does help pay the bills though; it provides a monthly housing allowance (MHA) based on the college's zip code and the number of days served on active duty. The MHA averages \$1,368 but cannot exceed \$2,700, according to militarybenefits.info.

Additionally, you get up to \$1,000 for books allotted annually, proportionately based on the number

Let's take a step back and consider who is actually eligible for these benefits.

The Post 9/11 GI Bill is available for any service member who has served on active duty for 90 or more days since Sept. 10, 2001. It is also available for those who have been honorably discharged or discharged with a serviceconnected disability after 30 days.

To clarify, active duty includes but is not equivalent to deployment. Exact statistics of deployment rates are unavailable to the public but the general consensus on this one is that you shouldn't join the military thinking you will never be deployed.

The only other thing to really keep in mind with all of this information is that these benefits expire after 15 years following release from active duty, and only 36 months of benefits are covered. Essentially, a four-year degree is covered, and the MHA is only applicable to those students attending full-time.

This still seems incredibly gener-

ous to me, until you start to contemplate what joining the military actually entails. I am eternally grateful for all that our service members do, but as all of the above fits nicely on the pros side of a pros/cons list, we can't ignore the cons.

Everyone is obviously different, and some people are simply more compatible for the military. Even in light of that, however, there are inevitable dangers everyone faces when joining the military, which directly affect their lives and therefore their schooling.

This circles back around to the main question. Should you join the military if you are mainly in it for the GI Bill benefits; that is, should you join the military simply to get through school?

There has to be some sort of additional desire for a choice so drastic, and again, I've found many people to echo that opinion.

The cons seem heavier, to me, but that is ultimately determined by each individual. Some of the cons that come to mind include the possibility of sexual harassment and rape, which addition to this, there is PTSD, lack of personal freedom, and death.

Besides the obvious cons listed above, there is a general misunderstanding about certain aspects of joining the military. For instance, anyone joining the military is in it for at least eight years, albeit not all of that is served on active duty.

Rod Powers, retired Air Force 1st Sgt., has served 22 years of active duty and written several books including Veterans Benefits for Dummies, and he runs a thorough About.com webpage in regards to common misunderstandings like the eight year minimum commitment.

Essentially, the GI Bill is a good opportunity... for those who are fortunate enough to come out of their active duty healthy, sane and alive. I'm sure military recruiters help their possible recruits to bet on this likelihood, focusing on the benefits of the GI Bill and glazing over

> these validly serious concerns.



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### **Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle**

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

### **ACROSS**

- 1 "Pay attention!"
- 6 Taj Mahal city 10 \_\_ of Arc
- 14 Tokyo automaker with a liar named Joe in its old ads
- 15 Forehead
- 16 Neutral shade
- 17 Home country
- 19 Amble 20 Add blonde
- highlights to, say 21 Whole bunch
- 22 Free-for-all 23 Out of touch with
- reality 26 Musical with
- nightclub scenes 31 Men of the future?
- 32 Take to the
- soapbox 33 Disco brothers'
- name
- 34 Church seat 37 Get one's head
- out of the clouds 41 Tooth tender's
- org. 42 Trim, as a photo
- 43 Any one of New England's six
- 44 Fly alone
- 45 So far 47 Strike it rich
- 51 Stave off 52 March Madness
- org. 54 Performing pair
- 57 Missing
- 58 Position of moral
- superiority 61 Bear in the sky
- 62 Clarinet cousin 63 "Rubber Duckie"
- Muppet 64 Checked out 65 911 responders:
- Abbr. 66 Helps, as a perp

### **DOWN**

- 1 Discover
- 2 Anthem start
- 3 Just darling 4 Israeli weapon
- 5 Honda Pilot and Ford Explorer, briefly

8/26/13

**Bv Billie Truitt** 

- 6 Not there 7 Watchdog's warning
- 8 "Vive le
- 9 Piercing tool 10 Tiara
- sparklers 11 Central Florida
- 12 Specter formerly of the
- Senate
- 13 Microwaved 18 "Night" author
- Wiesel 22 "It's possible"
- 24 Slightly 25 Gray wolf
- -Cola 27 Longtime infield partner of Jeter,
- familiarly 28 Ole Miss rival
- 29 Downed
- 30 Minuteman enemy 33 Econ. yardstick
- 34 Seek guidance in a 34-Across
- 35 Suffix with sermon
- 38 Air France
- 39 Lumber
- 44 Butter or mayo
- golden symbol
- 47 World Court site, with "The"
- 36 Sharpen
- 49 Anxious 50 Gold bar

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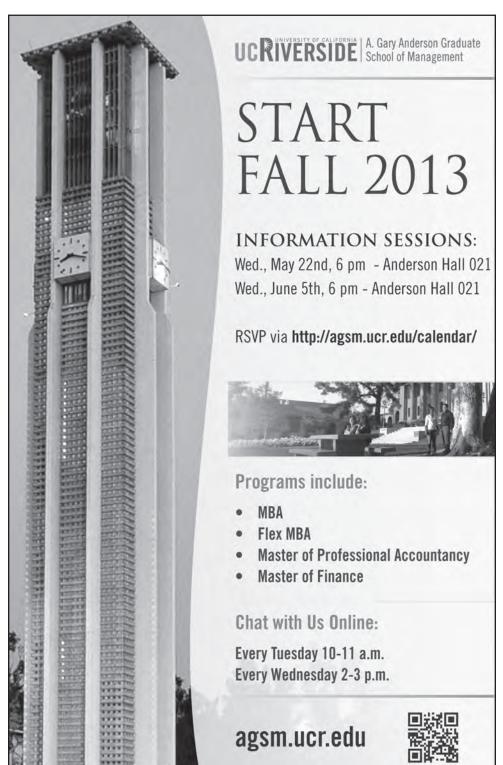
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## MEN'S SOCCER

# Core returns to build off success

**DARKO DEBOGOVIC** 

DAILY SUNDIAL

THE CSUN MEN'S SOCCER team returned its core group of players from last year, with the hopes of making a lengthy run into the postseason. Last season, Northridge won the newly-formed South Division

and the Big West Tournament. A 1-0 shutout win against UC Davis in the Big West championship secured a trip to the NCAA Tournament, the team's first berth since 2005.

Despite an early exit in the NCAA Tournament, the Matadors recorded their best season since 2005. With 19 returning players, head coach Terry Davila has an optimistic outlook for this team.

"We want to represent Cal State Northridge in the manner that is expected of us," Davila said. "That includes good quality playing, hard working players, and our student athletes doing well in the classroom.'

Senior midfielder Carlos Benavides and junior forward Sagi Lev-Ari lead the team's returning players.

In his debut season at Northridge, Lev-Ari started every game and led the team with 15 goals and 30 points. He recorded both gamewinning goals in the Big West Tournament and was named Tournament MVP, as well as the Disney Soccer/NSCAA National Player of the Week. He ended the season ranked sixth in the country in goals scored and led the conference with seven game-winning goals.

"My own expectations are to score double digits again this year," Lev-Ari said. "The coaches recruited a lot of good players and put us all together. Now we're like a family."

Leading the Matadors and the conference in assists for the second straight season, Benavides was named as an All-Big West Conference Honorable Mention for his production. He finished fourth in scoring on the team and recorded 10 assists during the year.

"One of our biggest strengths is that we have almost our entire offense coming back," Benavides said. "We have goal scorers, people that can produce,

defend, go both ways, but the main thing is we can score a lot of goals."

Returning junior forward Edwin Rivas is expected to contribute more following his breakout season in 2012. Rivas recorded eight goals and four assists, finishing second on the team with 20 points, and tied for third in the Big West in points, points per game, and goals.

Although the team tied the school's Division I record for wins, Davila still feels like they can improve.

"We have to be on the same page. We're as weak as our weakest line and we're as weak as the weakest player on that line, so everybody has to be held accountable for doing their area very well and performing their function within their line."

Last season, the Matadors lost 2-1 in a double overtime thriller to UCSD in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. That loss still resonates with Benavides.

"For me any opponent is like any other, you have to respect them, but we really want to get back at UCSD for knocking us out of the playoffs," Benavides said.



FILE PHOTO / DAILY SUNDIAL

Redshirt sophomore midfielder Trevor Morley dribbles past a USD defender.

## WOMEN'S SOCCER

# Veteran leadership is key for title defense

**BRIAN BERNSTEIN** 

DAILY SUNDIAL

THE WOMEN'S SOCCER team is looking forward to defending their Big West

Championship this season. The Matadors kick off the 2013 season against two Pac-12 opponents, Arizona State and UCLA, both on the road. UCLA is ranked fifth in the NSCAA/Adidas College Soccer Women's Top 25 Poll.

The schedule does not lighten up as the Matadors take on Texas Tech (24) on the road on Sept. 8, another top 25 ranked team, and their third Pac-12 opponent, Oregon State, four days later at home.

Senior defender and captain Chloe McDaniel thinks that the tough schedule is a good test for this young team.

"I'm glad we have just as hard a schedule as we've had the past four years," McDaniel said. "Just because we've got 20 new players and a little bit less experience, I'm glad Keith (West) hasn't let down in making the schedule."

Head coach Keith West has plenty of confidence in his young team going into the season.

"We have a tough group. I love their attitudes," West said. "We had a lot of experience last year and that's a nice thing to have."

The team was ranked fifth in the preseason coaches poll in the Big West Conference.

"We've been projected in that area probably the last five years," West said. "It's not a big deal to us. I don't feel slighted at all. There are some good teams in our conference and they probably should be voted where they are."

Although the team lost many seniors after last season, they believe that they have bonded together in a way where each player has complete trust in the next.

Senior midfielder and captain Haley Chee feels that the captains have the willpower to lead a young, inexperienced team.

"I think we all support each other through everything," Chee said. "I think that's what's gonna get us through. We're always there for each other."

Even another title shot is not far from Chee's expectations.

"It's gonna be a long road, but I think we can," Chee said.

McDaniel believes vet-



Sophomore forward Lyndsey Preston battles a Tennessee defender.

eran leadership is key to the Matadors having a successful and productive season.

"I think the older girls are really stepping up this year, especially the juniors and seniors are helping the freshman because there are 17 of them," McDaniel said. "I think what needs to be the strongest attribute is the older girls stepping up and leading the younger group."

The women Matadors won their first Big West Championship last year and made it to their first ever NCAA Tournament appearance. They are looking to repeat last year's accomplishments but need new young players to step up into unfamiliar roles to replace nine graduating seniors.



Men's Soccer has their home opener on Friday, August 30th at 7:30 p.m. against Albany during the 2013 Ryan Rossi Memorial Tournament following CSF/Memphis game at 5:30 p.m.

Women's Soccer travels to USC for game three of their four game road trip. Game will be at 3 p.m. on Friday, August 30th.