The Graduate Student Resource Center & GradPost

The Graduate Student Resource Center (GSRC) is located on the first floor of the Student Resource Building and serves as the home-base for Graduate Division’s Director of Admissions and Outreach, Walter Boggan; Diversity Program Assistant, Jennifer Stewart; and four graduate student peer advisors: Mario Galicia (diversity and outreach), Courtney Gosnell (funding), Indy Hurt (academic), and Lisa Tremain (writing). Graduate students are encouraged to visit the GSRC’s resource library for funding, writing, and professional development material.

Graduate Peer Advisors Indy Hurt, Mario Galicia, Courtney Gosnell and Lisa Tremain

The GSRC is also the headquarters for the Graduate Post, http://gradpost.ucsb.edu, a multi-media newsletter for graduate students that includes blog features, calendar, and RSS feed capability. The Graduate Post is the ‘Grand Central’ for information on funding opportunities, workshops, events, tools for writing and professional development, and graduate student life issues.

The Graduate Post is supported by a collaboration between Graduate Division and the Division of Student Affairs.

Reception Welcoming New Students of Color

On September 24, 2010, The Graduate Division hosted its annual New Graduate Student of Color Welcome Reception in the Multi-Cultural Center Lounge. This year, the reception was partnered with a presentation by Jorge Cham, creator and author of the popular PhD Comics. More than fifty new and continuing graduate students of color were in attendance for the reception and were welcomed by Walter Boggan, Director of Admissions and Outreach. Opening remarks were followed by warm welcomes and thoughts from Gale Morrison, Dean of the Graduate Division, Michael Young, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, and Javier Read de Alaniz, Assistant Professor of Chemistry.

College of Engineering Graduate School Preview Day

On September 17, 2010, The Graduate Division, in conjunction with the College of Engineering, hosted a Graduate School Preview Day for underrepresented minority scholars interested in pursuing a graduate education in an Engineering field at UCSB. Funded by NSF/AGEP, seventeen scholars from campuses both within California and across the United States were provided funding to travel to UCSB to visit the departments of Chemical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical and Computer Engineering and Computer Science. Students were greeted with breakfast and welcome remarks by Christian Villasenor, Assistant Dean of the Graduate Division, and Walter Boggan, Director of Admissions and Outreach. Opening remarks were followed by “PhD Research at UCSB: An Opportunity to Excel,” presented by Francesco Bullo, Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering. Prospective students were given tours both of campus and of the San Clemente Housing Complex, after which they were joined by current students in the College of Engineering and Graduate Peer Advisors for lunch at Mosher Alumni House. The afternoon agenda consisted of departmental breakout sessions with Graduate Program Advisors. Students were provided with information on discipline specific admissions and funding, had an opportunity to meet one-on-one with faculty, and toured the state of the art facilities in the College of Engineering.

Check out the new blogspot designed especially for graduate students!

www.gradpost.ucsb.edu
The Graduate Division, along with several UCSB STEM departments, participated in the 2010 Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) Conference, held in Anaheim, CA during the first weekend of October. Four thousand prospective students from across the country attended the event. Along with the great student showing, UCSB Graduate Division and the UCSB STEM departments had great participation from their faculty, staff and current graduate students. Walter Boggan, UCSB Graduate Division Admissions and Outreach Director, commented, "This was a great event to recruit prospective graduate students and also a great venue to showcase UCSB’s outstanding academic departments. Many of the participants were aware of UCSB’s exceptional rankings in the National Research Council’s assessment of research doctoral programs and they mentioned that our location along the Pacific Ocean didn’t hurt either."

Boggan continued, "Many thanks to our UCSB graduate students, administrators and faculty members who participated at the SACNAS event; it was truly a great beginning to our 2010-11 recruiting and outreach efforts."

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2010 Summer Doctoral Research Institute

The Graduate Division’s NSF/AGEP program hosted nine pre-doctoral students in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines for the 2010 Summer Doctoral Research Institute (SDRI). An accelerated research program for newly admitted UCSB doctoral students, scholars began their research prior to fall quarter enrollment. Participants received hands-on mentoring and training that sharpened their research skills and developed disciplinary fluency, as well as provided them with a greater understanding of institutional culture and departmental expectations. A supplemental summer workshop series, hosted by Graduate Division staff, was designed to provide students with the necessary tools to meet and exceed the rigorous demands of graduate study and graduate student life. Workshops introduced students to critical campus resources and administrators as well as covered topics such as proposal writing, choosing a research advisor and funding graduate study.