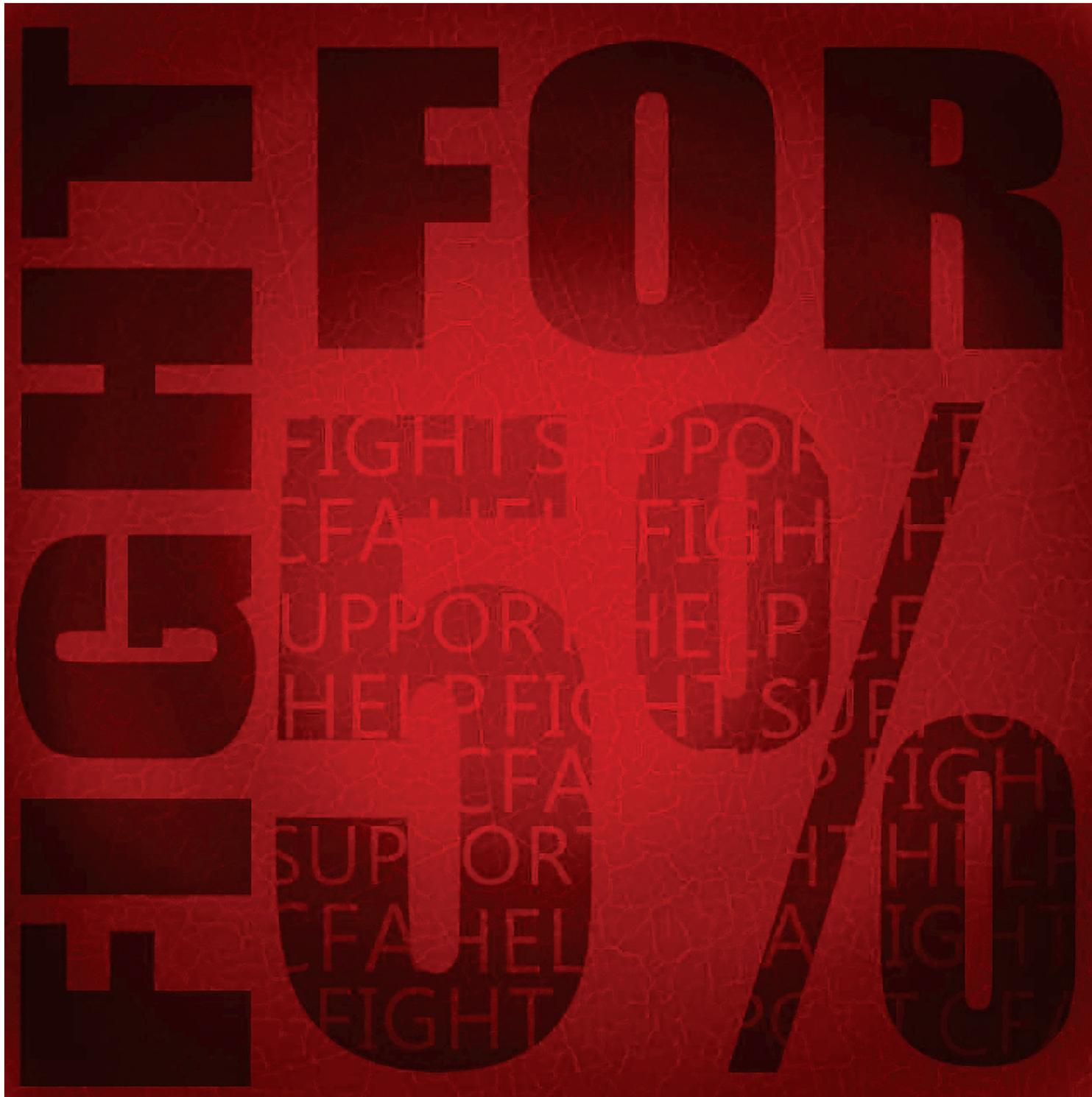


# THE SIGNAL

the student-run newspaper of Stan State



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**S**tudents pull all-nighters and endless flashcard-making sessions so that they can obtain a college degree. The reason students pursue higher education is because they are told “education is the key to success” or “if you go to college, you’ll make more money.” Well, that’s not the case in this injudicious and retrograde world in which our faculty is not honored with the appropriate pay that they deserve.

We at The Signal stand with our faculty and their fight for what they rightfully deserve: a five percent raise in salary. We stand with our faculty because they are the mentors who make the journey of knowledge possible for us. We stand with our faculty because we acknowledge all of the time and money that they put into their numerous years of education to work in a profession that they are passionate about, while also hoping to make a livable wage out of it.

The Board of Trustees’ poor priority of the CSU budget triggers our faculty’s “Fight for Five.” It is time for funding to be invested into the true heart of the institution and that is our faculty. Without our faculty, we have no institution.

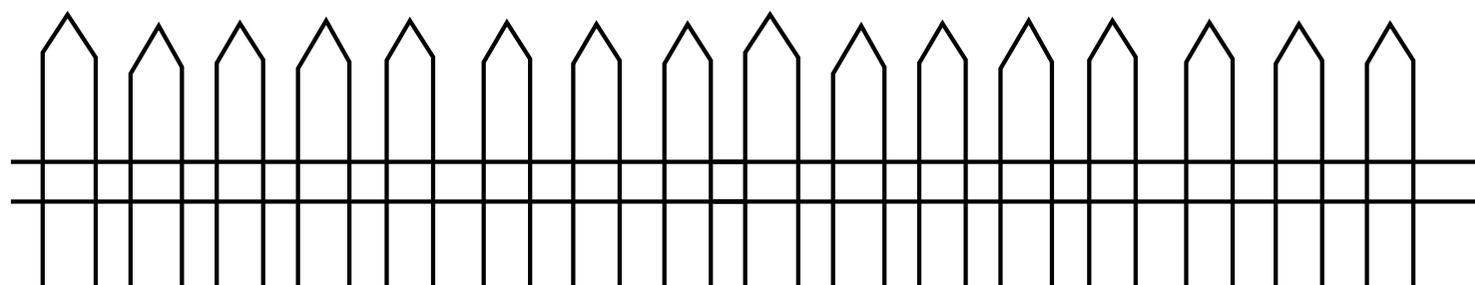
It’s not right that our faculty’s income forces some of them to take on a second job just so that they can make an affordable wage. As students, we are primarily affected by this; our time with the faculty is reduced, not allowing us to get the limitless help that we deserve.

This fight is not just their fight. It is also ours. Students should not miss out on a class that they need to take because there was only one professor to teach it. It shouldn’t be necessary to stay an extra semester, paying extra tuition, simply because students can’t get the classes they need. Why is it that the Board of Trustees does not prioritize problems such as these? We need more educators with better pay to uphold the necessities of the students.

The influence that an educator has on our everyday life is far too big for us to ignore this topic.

This is why we at The Signal have chosen to join the fight. The possibility of the upcoming strike is an apprehensive situation that many choose not to talk about. The Signal will report and inform our fellow students and community of any action that is taken. This will be our way of supporting our faculty - helping their stand to be remembered, not forgotten. We support our faculty’s right to strike. We stand with our faculty because faculty-working conditions are student conditions.

## The Signal Staff



# Work on new Student Union begins

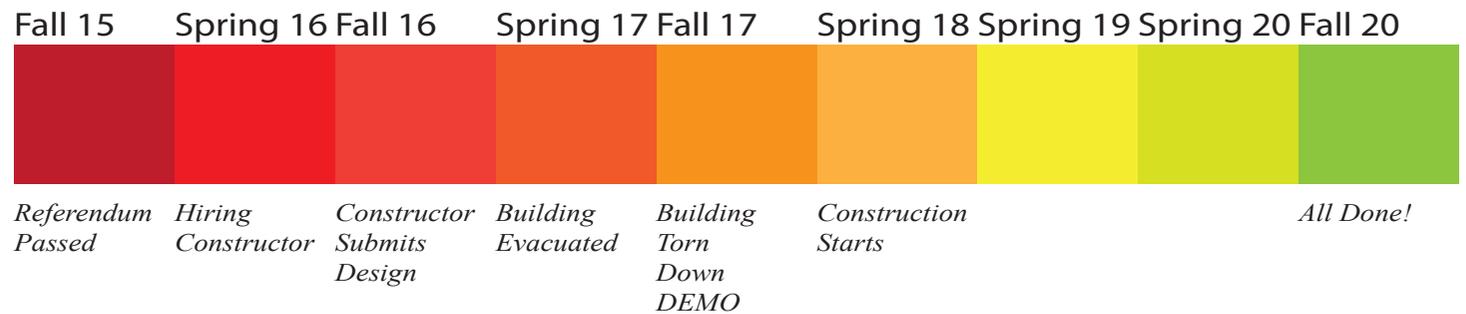
Now that last semester's tuition fee increase referendum has passed, the Facilities Services at California State University, Stanislaus (Stan State), and the University Student Union (USU) are starting the long process of renovating the current outdated Union Building to stay on track with the Fall 2020 completion goal for the project.



This semester Facilities Services and USU are working together to find the right team of architects and constructors that will be able to make the new building plan a reality. Facilities Services has sent out a request for qualification (RFQ) for any interested architects and constructors to submit their RFQ's by the end of the month. A panel will be deciding who is best qualified for the project and will be choosing four finalists that will have the chance to show their visions of the project for final review. The request for proposal (RFP) will be happening in the following months after the four finalists are chosen. The RFQ will help narrow the search to the final group of architects and constructors who will be working on the project. Associate Vice President of Capital Planning & Facilities Management, Melody Maffei, has started showing the campus to possible architects and constructors since the RFQ was posted. "The (RFQ) is out there and advertised and we actually did a walk-through for interested constructors and architects this morning to answer any questions they may have," Maffei said. When its time for the finalist to



Photo courtesy of the University Student Union



Last semester USU proposed a tuition fee increase that would help renovate the outdated Union Building to make it the center of student life at Stan State.

submit their detailed proposals, the proposals will serve as a tool for architects and constructors to showcase their skills and vision for the project to the panel. The proposals submitted will ensure that the right team is selected to work on the project and will help predict the cost and time the project will require. "They [teams of contractors and architects] will put together packages of what they envision as design and the construction timing and the guaranteed maximum price," Maffei said. USU's Board of Directors Chair, Natalie Dykzeul (senior, Biology), wants to ensure the team that is chosen will be able to provide a building design that students are proud to call the new Union Building. "We get a selection [of contractors and architects] and then we choose based on the cost and if their values align with ours, and if they are really going to listen to the student voices and what they want to make sure the building is as good as it can

be," Dykzeul said. It is predicted that by the beginning of June the team of architects and constructors who will be working on the project will be selected. A big aspect of the renovation is to ensure that the new building will be able to provide the resources students need and want but it is also important to bring the building up to current building code. Associate Vice President of Communications & Public Affairs, Tim Lynch, believes the current building is outdated and in serious need of being renovated. "It's very important that it [building renovation] includes bringing the building up to current code," Lynch said. "It was built up to code at the time it was built but codes change." Students will be updated on the progress of the event through many outlets on campus and USU is also available to any student who may have questions regarding the progress on the new Union Building.

"It's our goal that students are always updated, and they will know what is happening as soon as we hire the constructor and we start this schematic design process," Dykzeul said. "As soon as construction starts it will be known since we are right in the middle of campus, the cool thing is students will be able to see it all happen." Students will be able to start seeing changes happening on campus as soon as Fall 2017 when the current Union Building is predicted to be demolished.



# Potential strike looms for CSU faculty



Photo by Brittany Valadez

CFA activists Raina Chelise (senior, Communication Studies), Dr. Chris Nagel (professor, Philosophy), Dr. Ann Strahm (professor, Sociology), CFA Stan State chapter President Dr. John Sarraille and Araceli Hernandez (senior, Communication Studies) outside of the Snider Recital Hall at the first Stanislaus Presidential Search Committee meeting open forum on Feb. 17, 2016. (Brittany Valadez/Signal)

“Faculty have a unique kind of power in the case of labor bargaining with the CSU, and it’s one of the reasons why I’m so disappointed that it’s come to the point of authorizing a strike.”

-Dr. Keith Nainby,  
Communication Studies  
Department Chair.

The potential strike dates for all 23 California State University (CSU) campuses were voted on during a meeting on Feb. 9 by the California Faculty Association's (CFA) Board of Directors. If a consensus about the proposed five percent General Salary Increase (GSI) and a 2.65 percent Service Salary Increase (SSI) for all CSU faculty cannot be met, the potential strike dates are set for April 13-15 and April 18-19 of this year.



Brittany Valadez  
Reporter + Editor

Currently, the CSU is offering faculty a two percent GSI with no SSI which is the same of-

fer from the 2015-2016 year that CFA rejected in 2014.

The GSI is a salary increase distributed to all faculty members within their classified salary range. The SSI is a salary increase available to faculty who are eligible.

their education is not compromised, should the strike occur.

Nainby believes that it would be demonstrably anti-union behavior if Stan State administration hires non-union members to replace faculty who choose to strike.

"It's difficult to substitute one person with a PhD credential, even in the same discipline, one to one with another person," Nainby said. "College courses are unique to particular faculty member styles and approaches and they should be."

"Faculty have a unique kind of power in the case of labor bargaining with the CSU, and it's one of the reasons why I'm so disappointed that it's come to the point of authorizing a strike," Nainby said. "I think the CSU administration is not respecting that unique dimension of faculty expertise because we are not replaceable."

If a legal strike were called, CFA would organize picket lines, rallies and other actions to make the strike visible and effective.

For faculty who choose to strike, work would

and the strike.

"My hope is that SQE and ASI come together to form a collaboration to fight for students' and faculty's rights," Chelise said. "No formal collaboration has been made between SQE and ASI but it was made clear that ASI wants to remain neutral during the strike."

When contacted via email, Larson emphasized ASI's desire for neutrality.

"After meeting with SQE we decided to formally inform our Board from all sides of the issue," Larson said. "Just to be clear, I did not 'show' my support for either side, but I do support any student group who is passionately advocating for their initiatives, as long as they are going about it respectfully, and so far SQE has been."

Students can choose whether or not to stand by faculty on the picket line.

"It is in students' interest to support the faculty because the faculty working conditions are the learning conditions of the students," CFA Stan State chapter President John Sarraille said. "A fairly compensated faculty with reasonable working conditions can be there' for students in ways that don't happen when faculty and their finances are stretched to the breaking point."

In a letter addressed to members of the Campus Community sent out on Feb. 29, President Sheley gave information on the actions Stan State is to take should a strike occur.

"I want to assure you that if a strike occurs, our campus and all CSU campuses will remain open to all," Sheley said in the letter.

Sheley made it clear that the university's primary goal is to ensure a safe environment, with the help of the university police, while respecting the faculty's right to strike and to participate in strike-related activity.

In the event of a strike, some classes may be canceled, but many will likely be held. Sheley advised students to check with their instructors about individual class schedules.

"The strike should not interfere with students being able to complete their semester courses and graduate on time," Sheley said.

Whoever you side with, its important to stay informed.

"Everybody should be informed and follow announcements coming from both sides," Vice President of Faculty Affairs and Human Resources Dennis Shimek said.

For updates on the potential CFA strike, visit [www.calfac.org](http://www.calfac.org).

**"It is in students' interest to support the faculty because the faculty working conditions are the learning conditions of the students"**

**- John Sarraille, CFA Stan State chapter President.**

"The strike action that the faculty may take won't hurt students, but a faculty who would sit by quietly while the whole CSU system devalues instruction, disrespects faculty and shifts the cost of this public good onto the shoulders of students and their families would hurt students," CFA President Jennifer Eagan said in an online CFA article.

The CFA Bargaining Team and the Chancellor's representatives are in the process of the report-writing phase.

Once the report is issued, a blackout period of ten days will follow. If still no agreement is reached, the statutory negotiating process will end and the faculty will have the right to legally strike.

Communication Studies Department Chair Dr. Keith Nainby is preparing for the potential strike by informing his students on the details and accommodating the necessary workload so that

halt and classes would be cancelled during the five days.

Raina Chelise (senior, Communication Studies) is a member of the Students for Quality Education (SQE) club at Stan State and the CFA Student Organizer of the Stan State chapter.

"I would stand by faculty in the potential strike," Chelise said. "They are people who need a living wage and they deserve to be paid their worth."

SQE supports the CFA and focuses on building solidarity between faculty and students.

"They (students) can contact Chancellor Timothy White and put pressure on administration to insist that faculty and students are a priority," Chelise said.

Chelise has reached out to students and Stan State organizations to encourage their support of SQE and to stand alongside CFA during the strike.

Chelise invited the Associated Students, Inc. (ASI) President Nicole Larson to attend a SQE meeting in hopes of getting ASI to support CFA

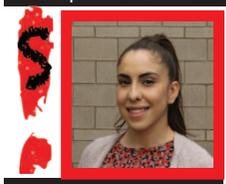
# 30th Student Research Competition winners

California State University, Stanislaus (Stan State), held its 30th Annual Student Research Competition on March 4.

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs and the Center for Excellence in



Oscar Copland  
Reporter + Editor



Ilse Perez - Reporter

Graduate Education held the event that awarded Stan State Grad and Undergrad students for the research they conducted during the school year.

The competition was made up of seven different categories. Three of the categories were for Grad students: Graduate Arts and Humanities, Graduate Social Science Session A and Graduate Social Sciences Session B. Four were

for Undergrad students: Undergraduate Social Science Session A, Undergraduate Social Science Session B, Undergraduate Science Session A and Undergraduate Science Session B.

Multiple email attempts were made to contact all the first place winners from the 30th Annual Student Research Competition, but only a few of the winners were available for an interview.

## **Graduate Arts and Humanities:**

First Place

Research: The Skin She's In: Identity and the Erotic Female Corpse in The Quaker City

Student Researchers: Renee Mattos (graduate, English Literature)

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Andrew Dorsey

Second Place

Research: The Politics of Distinction: The Mechanics of Passion in Contemporary Lesbian Fiction

Student Researchers: Jamiee Cook (graduate, English Literature)

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Molly Crumpton Winter

## **Graduate Social Science Session A:**

First Place

Research: Financial Effect of Mandatory City Water Restrictions

Student Researchers: Miranda Lutzow (Masters, Public Administration)

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Nicholas Pinhey

## **Graduate Social Science Session B:**

First Place

Research: Teachers' Perceptions of Instructional Coaching  
Student Researchers: Monique Preciado (Doctoral, Educational Leadership)

## **Undergraduate Social Science Session A:**

First Place

Research: Redefining the Soccer Mom: Parental Perception and Social Justice in Active Transportation Policy

Student Researchers: Josephine Hazelton (Political Science)

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Gerard Wellman

Second Place

Research: The Corollary of Dichotomy: Examining Violence Intrafamilial

Student Researchers: Kathleen Giles (Anthropology)

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Ellen Bell

## **Undergraduate Social Sciences Session B:**

First Place

Research: The Relationship between Instructor Caring, Student Engagement, Out of Class Communication, and Intrinsic Motivation

Student Researchers: Raina Chelise (senior, Communication Studies)

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Christopher Claüs

Second Place

Research: Instructor Humor Appropriateness in Relation to Student Incivility and Student Nagging

Student Researchers: Tiffany Freitas

(Communication Studies)

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Christopher Claüs

Third Place

Research: Risky Behavior and the Availability Heuristic

Student Researchers: Sarah Reagers, Adalberto Sanchez, & Zachary Hensley (Psychology)

Faculty Advisor: Dr. AnaMarie Guichard

## **Undergraduate Science Session A:**

First Place

Research: Production of Hybrid Strains of Saccharomyces Cerevisiae by Cell Fusion

Student Researchers: Carla Antypas (senior, Biology) & Paul Coates (senior, Biology)

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Choong-Min Kang

Second Place

Research: Characterization of a Novel Probiotic Strains Lactobacillus Helveticus KII13

Student Researchers: Amelia Hund & Sheng Ly (Biology)

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Choong-Min Kang

Third Place

Research: Reutilization of Food Waste on University Campus: Comparison of Three Compost System

Student Researchers: Petros Maskal & Emily Buerer

(Biology)

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Costanza Zavalloni

## **Undergraduate Science Session B:**

First Place

Research: Spectroelectrochemical Characterization of Free Base Triphenylcorrole

Student Researchers: Forrest Kohl (Chemistry)

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Elvin Alemán

Second Place

Research: Understanding the Production of an important Amino Acid

Student Researchers: Navi Bhangoo (Biology)

Faculty Advisor: Dr. James Youngblom

Third Place

Research: Fluorescence Resonance Energy Transfer Approach to Study Conformational Changes in UV Damage DNA

Student Researchers: Jing Lee (Chemistry)

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Elvin Alemán

## Miranda Lutzow

### **What was your research about?**

“My research was about the financial impact of the mandated water conservation restrictions on cities. In April 2015, Governor Brown released an Executive Action requiring the State Water Resources Board to impose water conservation restrictions on water suppliers in order to achieve an overall 25 percent statewide reduction of water usage based on 2013 usage levels. The Board gave each water supplier a conservation target that they are required to meet each month, and cumulatively. For cities that provide water as a municipal service, there has been a lot of talk about the impacts that meeting this water conservation target: large decreases in revenue, dying landscape, and increased strain on wastewater pipes.”

### **What inspired you to research this topic?**

“Working for a city, I've been around a lot of conversations surrounding the issue. I was curious on how widespread the problem was. Are all cities experiencing these impacts? Is it just the Central Valley? How much of an impact does water conservation have on city operations and finances?”

### **How long did the research take?**

“It took me about a month of research trying to find if anyone else had collected data on this subject, and they hadn't. My online survey was open for a month. Then, it took me several months to clean up the data and analyze it. I'd say about 5 months.”

### **What is an interesting finding from your research?**

“The State Water Resources Board extended the mandatory water conservation restrictions on Feb. 2, 2016, but allowed for cities to apply for a reduction in their water conservation target based on urban growth and climate. However, based on

the results of my research, population and location within the state do not have an impact on the ability of cities to meet their water target. Based on my findings, it's unclear how the Board determined those factors."



Photo by Angelina Martin

Grad Social Science Session B winner, Monique Preciado

## Monique Preciado

### *What was your research about?*

"My research was about Teachers' Perceptions of Instructional Coaching. I wanted to know about teachers' perceptions, factors that influenced their perceptions and how their views about coaching change dependent upon the number of years of experience."

### *What inspired you to research this topic?*

"I have been a teacher for 13 years and during the last 4 years I have been an Instructional Coach. Working with teachers and their students is really important to me. I chose my topic to better understand how to best support teachers and to be as effective as possible in my practice."

### *How long did the research take?*

"After receiving UIRB approval the study took about one school year to complete."

### *What is an interesting finding from your research?*

"One research finding that I found interesting was the group of teachers most supportive of instructional coaching. Veteran teachers, or teachers with more than five years of experience, were the most supportive of instructional coaching as compared to teachers new to the profession, or those teachers with five years or fewer."



Photo by Oscar Copland

Undergraduate Social Science Session B winner, Raina Chelsie

## Raina Chelsie

### *What was your research about?*

"My research was about student intrinsic motivation, or in other words, what motivates students to learn for the sake of learning. Intrinsic motivation is essentially valuing the learning process outside of extrinsic gains. The title is: The Relationship between Instructor Caring, Student Engagement, Out of Class Communication, and Intrinsic Motivation."

### *What inspired you to research this topic?*

"I was inspired to study intrinsic motivation due to my own experiences on our campus as the President of Lambda Pi Eta, Students for Quality Education (SQE) and the California Faculty Association (CFA) Student Organizer. I value learning both within and outside the classroom, and strive to expand my understanding of communication studies in each of my positions. I am given the opportunity to help other students strive for academic excellence through Lambda Pi Eta, and encourage my peers to become more active on campus in SQE. In my work with the CFA, I help build solidarity among students and faculty, emphasizing a supportive and collaborative academic environment. These different elements of learning led me to wonder what variables encourage or influence intrinsic motivation in other students."

### *How long did the research take?*

"I began collecting previous research on the independent variables, instructor caring, student engagement and out of class communication, during the summer in 2015. I did not fully complete my research project until the end of the fall 2015 semester."

### *What is an interesting finding from your research?*

"It was interesting to find that all three independent variables had a positive relationship with student intrinsic motivation, so the increase of each variable led to the positive response in this type of motivation within students. These findings show that when students perceive their instructors to care for them, engage in course material, and also communicate with their instructors outside of class, their inner motivation to learn is supported and encouraged. These are really exciting findings, because the classroom environment can be improved through understanding how students develop a love for learning."

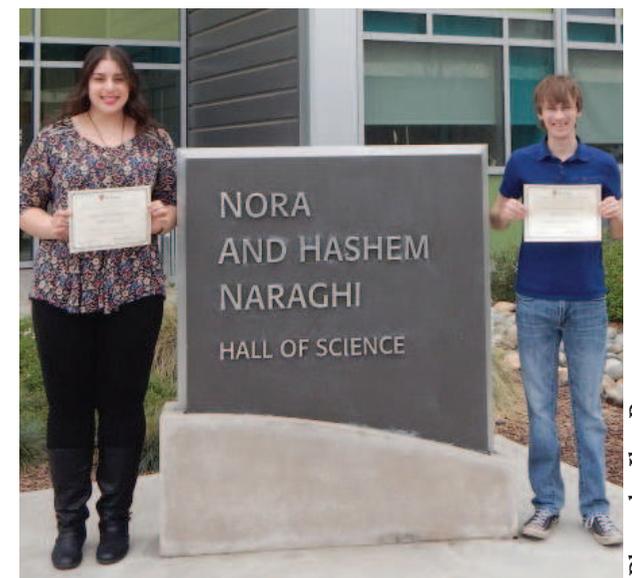


Photo by Ilse Perez

Undergraduate Science Session A winners, Carla Antypas &amp; Paul Coates.

## Carla Antypas and Paul Coates

### *What was your research about?*

"The project is about the production of yeast strains by cell fusion."

### *What inspired you to research this topic?*

"I wanted to do research because I found it interesting and thought it would give me good experience working on a team and to learn basic procedures one would use working in a lab."

### *How long did the research take?*

"The research has taken about over a year and a half."

### *What is an interesting finding from your research?*

"Finding the individual mating types for both of the strains, because of their genetic background when fusing them can really create different products, so it was really interesting because you don't know what product you're going to get."



The on-going dilemma of what the future holds for the Program for Academic & Career Excellence (PACE) at California State University, Stanislaus (Stan State), is still unknown, yet a PACE Work Group has been created to develop a transition plan for its PACERs no later than March 24.

Since the announcement of the program's "sunset" in October 2015, students, staff and faculty have been on the edge of their seats, waiting for an answer to the same question: what is going to happen to the Hispanic and underserved or first generation students that PACE has provided services for over the last six years?



Alondra De La Cruz  
Reporter + Editor

The PACE Work Group has met up on four occasions since the memorandum was proposed on Dec. 18, 2015. The objective of the committee is to develop a transition plan to determine how to manage funding after the Department of Education Title V grant ended, as well as to preserve the positive impact of the PACE program.

Vice President of Enrollment and Student Affairs Dr. Suzanne Espinoza stated that currently there is no predictable outcome for PACE.

"We are trying to understand a little bit better about the practices of PACE so that we're in a position to preserve those practices and make them available to a larger number of students, in addition to the task at hand and that is what is the future of PACE," Espinoza said.

A Memorandum sent by Provost and Vice President for Academic as addressed to Stan State President Joseph F. Sheley, Speaker of the Faculty and Chair of the Academic Senate Dr. Mark Thompson, Espinoza and Associated Students, Inc. President Nicole Larsen promises and commits to do the following:

- Identify and measure best practices used in PACE that engendered student success. Measures of student success include graduation, retention, grade point average, progress toward degree, improvement of academic performance (from the level of academic preparedness at admission), engagement in University activities and other commonly accepted measures in the student success literature.
- Review all student success and high impact practices currently employed on the campus and their funding so that recommendations

regarding PACE are made in the large context of resources allocated for all student success initiative and grants.

- Maintain access to PACE's best practices for the current group of PACE students enrolled in 2015-2016 and earlier academic years.
- The transition plan will include a budget. The budget will specify the University funding sources for the transition plan, assuming the Work Group recommends and President Sheley accepts a recommendation designating University funding. University funding is differentiated from specifying and could serve a bridge role while additional grant funding is secured.

The PACE Work Group is made of eight members, which include administration, staff, faculty and students.

PACEer and Peer Mentor Saúl Ávila (senior, Business) was nominated and elected by PACE students to represent them in the PACE Work Group. Ávila hopes that first generation students continue to have access to the beneficial resource that PACE was to him.

Ávila's younger brother, a PACE student as well, is his motivation to preserve PACE.

"When I first became part of PACE, I did it with the intent that I would give back to the program," Ávila said. "Since I thought the program was really great, maybe I could do the right thing and enroll my brother in the same program that helped me. When news hit that the program might not be around, it kind of struck me a little because I thought my brother would be getting the same support that has been helping me."

Ávila hopes that some of the best practices that are implemented are dedicated advising, printing resources and cohort classroom for multiple subjects.

A transition plan will be settled on by March 24. The plan will formerly be given to President Sheley, who will accept, reject or adjust the plan.

# Why aren't college students voting?

There are less than six months before we elect the 45th President of The United States. Primaries and caucuses are underway as citizens vote to elect the Republican and Democratic nominees.

Many college students are not voting in elections and their voice is going unheard. It's important that college students exercise their right to vote, as many of the issues we vote on will affect them in the future.

30 percent of 70 California State University, Stanislaus (Stan State), students surveyed stated that they were either unsure or not voting in the 2016 Presidential Elections. Only 23 of those who are voting stated they were voting in the California Primary Elections.

Voting rights for every citizen are something that this country has fought long and hard for. So why are young people not exercising their right to vote? "One reason may be because young people have not yet developed the habit of voting," Department Chair of Political Science & Public Administration Dr. Stephen Routh said.

According to Routh, voting is something that is acculturated and may take some time to develop. Family background also plays a vital role in the influence of college students' political practices.

Additionally, many respondents stated that college students seem to be distracted by social media and their mobile devices.

Social media can be used to gather information about current events, but the information is often short and clipped.

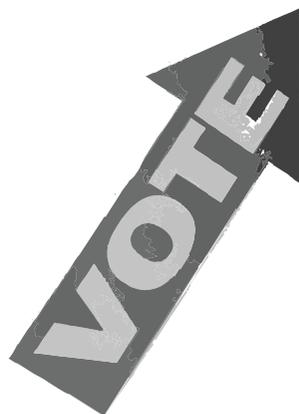
"People need to be more reflective of what's being said," Routh said.

Democratic Party Club President Scarlett Isayo (senior, Political Science) added that another common complaint among young people is that they don't believe their vote counts. Continued on page 19.



Ilse Perez - Reporter

May 23 Last day to register to vote in Primary	June 7 California Primary	July 18-21 Republican National Convention
July 2-28 Democratic National Convention	September 26 Presidential Debate	October 4 Vice Presidential Debate
October 9 Presidential Debate	October 19 Presidential Debate	October 24 Last day to register to vote in CA



# ASI elections: How to run

Spring 2016 is fast approaching here at California State University, Stanislaus (Stan State), and with the warm weather and blooming flowers comes an entirely different wind of change: student government elections.

Associated Students, Inc. (ASI) has begun the long process of electing members to the board of directors, as well as executive seats.

Come May 10, 12 ASI Board of Directors seats and two ASI Executive Seats will be chosen out of a host of potential Stan State students. Some of the candidates will be running unopposed, securing their seat in student government; however, others will have to go the three-week campaign trail route.



Ryan McLaughlin  
Office Coordinator + Reporter

Former ASI Vice President and current ASI Student Government Advisor Marvin Hooker knows a thing or two about running successful campaigns for student government.

Hooker ran four different campaigns in his time at Stan State, which included two successful Vice Presidential campaigns and another for Director at Large. Saying he has experience in the matter of running for student office is an understatement.

"Make sure you meet with all of the different organizations that will allow you to come to their meetings," Hooker said. "Just try to meet with as many people as possible. I would even be out in the quad on most days talking with students."

Hooker elaborated on a few of the tips and tricks that really helped him through the demanding election process.

"I would definitely say have someone you can fall back on, someone to help you," Hooker said. "Campaigning does get very stressful. Most people are working and have class, plus with campaigning it's almost like adding another class."

Being a part of student government, albeit demanding, offers a level of campus pride and involvement worth more than the price of the campaign trail.

"If you have just an inkling like maybe you want to do it (...) definitely just give it a try if it's something you're interested in," Hooker said.

Here is a step-by-step list of important dates, deadlines and information to properly enter yourself as a candidate:

1. Election applications due by April 4 by 5 p.m. at the ASI Office (second floor, University Union Building).
2. Mandatory candidate meeting in Warrior Activities Center, April 5 at 3 p.m.
3. Candidate campaigning, April 5-26
4. Election days, April 27-28 from 8:30 a.m. – 6 p.m. in the Warrior Activities Center
5. Confirmation of election results May 10
6. Persons elected officially take office June 1 at 12 noon.

# Into the Woodshed We Go

Stan State's Jazz Festival featuring guest artist Terell Stafford inspires community

The Jazz Studies Program at California State University, Stanislaus (Stan State), hosted their annual Jazz Festival on March 11 and 12 with jazz trumpeter Terell Stafford as their guest artist.

Miles Davis, Freddy Hubbard, Dizzy Gillespie and Louis Armstrong all have one thing in common: they are all great jazz trumpeters and musicians who were at the forefront of jazz and jazz education of their time. Terell Stafford is noted to be one of the greatest jazz trumpeters in the 21st century. His background in playing the viola, guitar, math and computer science surprised a master class audience at Snider Hall on March 12.

Stafford shared his story on becoming a jazz trumpeter. Laughs, awes and applause stemmed from the students, parents, educators and musicians in the hall.

According to Stafford at the master class, audience engagement is a challenge musicians encounter almost every performance. He advised to the participants to lend the audience an "opportunity to move to it or not to it."

Examples from James Brown, Michael Jackson and Van Halen were discussed as how to engage an audience in a concert with a "groove."

The Jazz Festival provided an opportunity for high school jazz bands and educators to engage in an experience with professional jazz musicians.

"The first aspect of it of what makes the festival unique to me is that it's not about competing," Jazz Studies Coordinator Joe Mazzaferro said. "It's more about growing as individuals rather than winning awards or winning trophies or things like that."

Mazzaferro further elaborated his philosophy he shares with participants involved in the Jazz Festival.

"To kind of engage where they're at and what they can learn," Mazzaferro said. "I think that takes out a lot of pressure out of students. The other aspect of it is just like a lot of festivals. The focus is more on interacting with these guest artists and clinicians in a more personal setting. Musicians share their music with other musicians, clinicians share their knowledge. It's a circle of giving."

The Jazz Festival held a network of Stan State's student musicians, educators, high school students, faculty, clinicians, parents, staff and a

guest artist. There is a bowl of knowledge that circulates throughout the festival for everyone to feed from.

"This is my first jazz festival, so everything," Esther Mooneyham (freshmen, Art) said, expressing what she learned.

Mooneyham acknowledged the amount of effort

"We worked with Mr. Kendrick and he gave our students all kinds of insight not just about how to play, but how to use your ear better," Flores said. "Just things I often overlook, because you're so busy trying to get all the little things that you forget about some of the big picture items. He was really great about giving students a big picture on how to



Photo by Gracie Carrillo

Stan States Jazz Band performs with Terell Stafford during a concert at Gallo Center for the Arts, March 12.

and work involved in the Jazz Festival.

"Its takes an incredible amount of work and staff to do it and I don't think I knew how many people it took working together," Mooneyham said. "Being able to work with Terell Stafford during the dress rehearsal last night brought an element of a higher level of jazz. So that in itself for me was really helpful and inspiring on how to play piano with that."

Educators and their students had the opportunity to showcase their tunes in front of an audience and clinicians in a non-competitive setting. After their performance, an immediate feedback session with the clinicians was shared with the performers.

Livingston High School Music Educator Elisa Flores emphasized how these clinics were beneficial to her students.

be a better musician as an individual. He just gave some really great advice."

The process of the Jazz Festival begins with a check in, followed by a warm up, a performance, clinic session with the adjudicator, a master class with the guest artist and a concert performed by either the clinicians or the guest artist on each day.

Saxophonist Paul Contos (Monterey Bay), Trombonist Jamie Dubberly (Stan State), Trumpeter Mike Galisatus (College of San Mateo), Trombonist Sam Griffith (UC Davis), Drummer Brian Kendrick (San-Joaquin Delta College), Pianist Brenden Lowe (The Jazz Piano School) and Zach Teran (University of Nevada, Reno) were the clinicians who shared their craft with participants at the festival and concert.



Music Educator Jim Mazzaferro directs Sheldon High School on performing to an audience and clinicians. Snider Hall, March 11. Joe Mazzaferro and Terell Stafford.

The Clinician Concert on March 11 was enabled by the clinicians and student jazz combos. The setting was rooted with an intimate and warm atmosphere for the audience to engage in comfortably. The music shared and performed on stage resonated between the student combos and clinicians, showing how the power of music can electrify between artists and their audience. Shouts of “woos” from the audience exemplified a positive experience on attending the concert.

March 12 brought an evening concert with Terell Stafford and Stan State’s jazz band at Gallo Center for the Arts. The concert began with an opening quintet with Mark Twomey (saxophone), Joey Archie (trumpet), Brenden Lowe (piano), Adam Bishop (bass) and Joel Maki (drums).

The opening quintet set the stage in no frivolous manner, but in the element of continuing

the energetic vibe from the Jazz Festival. The quintet handed the concert to Stafford and Stan State’s jazz band with an audience ready to engage further into the jazz horizon. The concert included a performance with Mazzaferro playing the trumpet with the jazz band and Stafford.

The amazement from the audience was reiterated by a tumultuous cheer after every solo and tune performed. Stafford ignited energy which ricocheted onto the jazz band. The electricity with Stafford and the jazz band formulated a contagious response from the audience. It was a perfect call and response in a live setting set between the artists and the audience.

“It was amazing to be honest,” Joey Archie (Sophomore, Music Jazz Performance) said. “He [Stafford] as a trumpet player is crazy at the things he’s able to do with the trumpet. He’s just a whole different level. It’s mind-blowing.”

As a result, Archie expressed his motivation after the Jazz Festival to continue practicing in improving as a musician and trumpeter.

“The type of people Joe is able to get, bring, expose us, and for those of us that are really serious about jazz, just forces us to really get in the practice room and shed. Pushing you to become better, pushing you to become like them, and try to emulate their playing style [and] their work ethic.”

“Shed,” a shortened expression from the word “woodshed,” is a term used by jazz musicians when practicing in a room for a significant amount of hours to improve as a musician. The word originates from saxophonist Charlie Parkers challenging experience when performing in jam sessions. His experience led him to practice in the woodshed his entire summer until he mastered his instrument. Which, as history notes, helped him become one of the most influential jazz artists of all time.

The common interest of jazz shared between professional musicians, educators and students conveys the importance of the arts in Stanislaus County. The unique aspect of the Jazz Festival at Stan State proved to show how participants behind-the-scenes, such as Mazzaferro, musicians, clinicians and Stafford reached the hearts of many in the community.

“To me, music is always about just sharing and that’s what’s cool about these sort of things,” Mazzaferro said. “Everyone can share their gifts. Every artist we had here that’s done the feature performance had their own stories, their own things they wanted to share and their own moral.”

Mazzaferro reflected on his experience with music sharing in the Jazz Festival.

“We went from a local group that was just sharing all of our experience,” Mazzaferro said. “Then came a more artistic approach and they shared their art. Then Christian [jazz bassist Christian McBride] shared his life. Terell will do a lot of the same, just sort of more sharing his self through the music. I think, for me, that’s a big thing people kind of over look. Maybe I don’t know, but that’s what’s really great about live music. Doesn’t matter what it is.”



Terrell Stafford plays a solo during the concert as Joe Mazzaferro listens along. Gallo Center for the Arts, March 12.

Photo Credit - Gracie Carrillo



Gracie Carrillo - Reporter

For more information about music department events visit:  
[www.csustan.edu/music](http://www.csustan.edu/music)

## Cats on campus How Stan State cares for its feline friends

While walking through campus at California State University, Stanislaus (Stan State), it's not uncommon to see a cat or two prowling through the bushes or basking in the sunlight on the steps of Bizzini Hall. Xena, affectionately known by students as the "Bizzini Cat" or "Fetty Cat," thanks to her one eye, often makes her presence known by cozing up to passers-by with a friendly purr.



Angelina Martin  
Reporter + Content Coordinator

At night, the cats crowd around numerous feeding stations located on campus, eagerly awaiting their meal that is brought by a lone volunteer. They look tame enough, meowing and purring amongst one another and occasionally getting into

a spat over the last piece of kitty kibble. But, get too close and they'll dart off into the foliage, much like any other wild animal would do.

According to Director of Safety and Risk Management Amy Thomas, around 20 feral cats currently call Stan State home, all of which have been trapped, neutered and given medical exams. The cats who undergo the "trap, neuter, return" system are then returned to the campus with clipped ears, symbolizing their sterilization.

The "trap, neuter, return" system saves the lives of wild cats who otherwise would be euthanized at the shelter. Sterilizing the cats allows them to live happily in the wild without the fear of overpopulating, while also providing Stan State with free rodent control.

While the university supports the management of the feral cats on campus, it does not claim ownership or provide direct care for the felines. Those responsibilities fall solely on volunteers who care enough for the cats' well-being to lend a helping hand.

Thomas, along with Campus Landscape and Custodial Manager Hugo Hernandez, currently hold monthly meetings with staff who have volunteered their time to taking care of the campus' feral cat population.

"There is not a department or formalized organization 'in charge' of cats, but we want to at least provide some guidance to volunteers on the position of the campus with regards to human safety, campus safety and protection of the 'wildlife' of the cats," Thomas said.



This photo, taken of Xena the cat outside Bizzini Hall, was chosen as the winner of the Signal's "Cats on Campus" Instagram photo contest.

Photo by Marybel Cortez

Though there are several volunteers who help feed, nurture and provide healthcare to the cats, there is currently no official Campus Cats Coalition - a group that was formed at Stan State in 2004 before ultimately disbanding in 2006. The Campus Cats Coalition was responsible for the same tasks that Thomas and other volunteers now carry out, and was funded through the university as well as fundraising by the organization.

Campuses such as Stanford University (Stanford Cat Network), Texas A&M (Aggie Feral Cat Alliance of Texas) and the University of California at Davis (The Feline Medicine Club: Orphan Kitten Project) all run successful Cats on Campus Programs.

With a recorded budget of \$2,970 for three months care for the cats, it's evident that providing a safe, healthy home for Stan State's furry friends was no cheap task - and that was in 2005.

Thomas hopes that cat-loving students on campus can take the reins, perhaps reviving the long-lost Campus Cats Coalition through involvement and donations.

"The main help that is needed is for funds to feed and care for the cats," Thomas said. "We'd actually like to see a student organization take an interest as a fundraising opportunity, or as a student organization who would become advocates for the cats on campus."

Thomas may not have to look far for students willing to help.

"I love the campus cats," Christina Robles (junior, Psychology) said. "Being a cat lover, I personally feel that they make the campus so much more inviting. They are very sweet animals who, a lot of the time,

will let me pet them and scratch their ears."

Thomas encourages students with a passion for cats to contact her for more information, but also stresses that students don't take matters into their own hands. It may seem like giving a cat one small bite of your dining hall dinner is helping the cause, but it can actually be detrimental to the animal's health.

"One concern the volunteers have is that the cats will be harmed," Thomas said. "They worry about people giving the cats wrong foods, like human foods (pizza, etc.), and the effect it has on cat health. Since there aren't funds to help with veterinary bills, it is a concern that the cats stay healthy."

It is also important that those who may have a love for cats yet can no longer provide a home for their own do not dump their animal onto campus.

Although cat-friendly Stan State may seem like a safe place to drop off unwanted pets, that is not the case.

"Cats are not actually considered a domesticated animal and on campus we have feral cats that are solitary and territorial," Thomas said. "When a cat is dropped off here, it is a danger to the new cat. They will not be accepted and the other cats may fight with it and try to make it leave. It is not a healthy situation for cats to be left on campus, as they may starve, get sick or be injured in fights for territory."

Tame cats that can no longer be cared for can be taken to the Turlock Animal Shelter, located at 801 S. Walnut Road, where they will be put up for adoption.

Many local, no-kill shelters, such as the Friends of Turlock Animal Shelter, pull cats from the Turlock Animal Shelter to give them a better chance at finding a home. According to their website, the Friends of Turlock Animal Shelter has found homes for over 10,000 animals since 1996. To contact the Friends of Turlock Animal Shelter directly, call 209-634-6714.

Students who are interested in volunteering or jump-starting an organization to help care for the cats can contact Amy Thomas at 209-667-3035 or send an email to [althomas@csustan.edu](mailto:althomas@csustan.edu).

With love and care from students and volunteers like Thomas, it's possible for the cats to call Stan State their "fur-ever" home.

Contributing reporters: Brittany Valadez and Haylee Crews.

## Art Space on Main to host spring workshops

The Art Space on Main will hold its Spring Workshops on several Saturdays during the months of March, April and May. These fun, one-day workshops will provide a hands-on experience with unique art tools. No art experience is necessary for the all-day events which are led by Stan State Department of Art faculty.



Relief Printmaking with Professor Martin Azevedo will take place on March 19 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. A 30 minute lunch break will be provided between 1 and 1:30 p.m. Azevedo will help you create a relief plate, utilizing carving tools to create an image that is predetermined. The image is then transferred to a linoleum plate, which completes the carving process. The day is finished with a run through of the plate through the press, leaving you with the completed plate and print on a t-shirt and paper. The class is a great way to gain basic knowledge about the printmaking process.

Figure Sculpture with Professor Daniel Edwards will be held on April 9 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with a break from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Figure Sculpture is exactly what it sounds like: sculpting a figure from clay. Working from a live model, you will use a variety of tools to model the human form. Your work will be sent for kiln firing at the end of the workshop, leaving you with a finished sculpture. All materials necessary will be included.

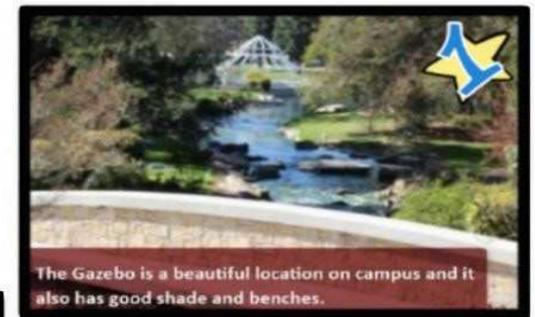
Screen Printing with Art Department Instructional Technician Andrew Cain will be held on April 30 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. During this workshop, Cain will teach you the block out method of screen printing, allowing you to print up to three colors. It is recommended that you wear clothes that you don't mind getting dirty, as screen printing can get quite messy. At the end of the workshop, you will leave with the knowledge of how to screen print in your own home or studio, as well as your own squeegee and screen.

The final workshop, Figure Drawing, is held by Edwards once again from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on May 14. The Figure Drawing workshop will teach you how to draw the human form while working from a live model. Materials, including drawing boards, paper and charcoal, will be provided. If you'd like, you can also bring your own drawing materials.

The cost for one workshop is \$80, but if you sign up for more than one workshop, you'll save some money. Any two workshops are \$150 (save \$10), any three workshops are \$210 (save \$30) and all four workshops will cost \$260 (save \$60). The workshops must be purchased at the same time to receive a discount.

To register for the multiple workshops discount, call 209-667-3111. For individual workshop registration, visit <https://www.csustan.edu/soa/workshops> and click the registration link for the workshop you'd like to attend.

### Nice Outdoor Spots On Campus

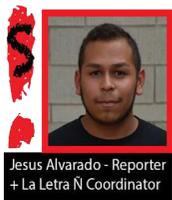


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|--------------------|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| ● Bizzini          | ● Gazebo                          | ● Amphitheatre                             | ★ Examples of good outdoor spots |
| ● Library          | ● University Police Department    | ● Pergola                                  |                                  |
| ● Event Center     | ● Green House                     | ● Snider Music Recital Hall                |                                  |
| ● Quad             | ● Biology Field Site Support Dome | ● Theatre/Drama                            |                                  |
| ● Corporation Yard | ● Educational Services            | ● Naraghi Hall of Science                  |                                  |
| ● MSR              | ● Fieldhouse Annex                | ● Innovative Center                        |                                  |
| ● DBH              | ● Fitzpatrick Arena/Gym           | ● Student Recreation Complex               |                                  |
| ● Music            | ● University Union                | ● Residential Life Village/Student Housing |                                  |
| ● Fieldhouse       | ● Science 1                       | ● University Bookstore                     |                                  |
| ● Art              | ● Student Services                | ● Faculty Development Center               |                                  |



Illustrations by Sara Machado. Photos by Ryan McLaughlin

# Dr. Murrieta on his newly published book, “Poecrónica en las urbes”



On Feb. 22, Spanish professor Dr. Manuel Murrieta presented his newly-published book, “Poecrónica en las urbes,” to his colleagues and students at California State University, Stanislaus (Stan State).

His new book is unlike any other book - it is made out of recycled cardboard and paper, which was produced by “Proyecto editorial Los Zopilotes” in Antigua, Guatemala.

Murrieta explained what the word “poecrónica” means in his book. “I created the word, and it was finally used in my book,” Murrieta said. “Then, a colleague and I defined the word as a combination of chronicles and poetry, where you can tell a narration is being told while having characteristics of poetry.”

Back in 2003, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, the working class was experiencing unemployment, so they began to go around town collecting cardboard and paper from trashcans. Then, the unemployed would exchange the cardboard and paper for money to provide goods for their families. After a while, the cardboard and paper was recycled into books, opening publishing companies and new jobs.

These types of publishing companies also helped writers, who were unable to publish their literature with other big companies, get published or simply produce published books for those writers who were fascinated with the “cardboard style” book.

Spanish professor Dr. Sandra García gives a brief explanation as to what the event would be about in English for those who were present but understood little Spanish.

Spanish professor Dr. Carlos Andrés also explained to the audience how he first found out about the book recycling and publishing companies while he was in his native land, Spain. In fact, it was thanks to Andrés that Murrieta was aware about this type of publishing company.

“A long time ago, Carlos Andrés had mentioned to me about this type of publishing company,” Murrieta said. “Then, when we finally traveled to Antigua, Guatemala, I got together

with some colleagues and editors - specifically with the editor of ‘Los zopilotes editorial’ - and I started to take a look at the books that the editorial had previously produced. That is when I was convinced that I wanted to publish my books in the cardboard style. I didn’t care if it didn’t have an image of a ‘best seller’ book, or an industrial publishing company book like the other books. Afterward, I submitted my manuscript to the editor, and with such luck he liked it and published it.”

This event served the author well because he had the opportunity to present his new book and to read off some of the poems contained within the book. It also gave the audience the chance to become aware of the new methods of recycling other countries are using.

The event also was able to present the book to an audience who might only see Murrieta as a professor. “As professors, we do not only teach classes, nor do we only dedicate our time to create a syllabus, or simply stand in front of a classroom giving professorship, but we also have activities or research to do,” Murrieta said. “We make three or four activities, sometimes they are mandatory, but other times they are activities that come from initiative.”

Murrieta also explained his event’s objective. “One of the objectives of this event is for students to develop their creativity and for them not to limit themselves by only doing what the professor is asking of them, but to acknowledge their talents – they don’t necessarily have to be literary talents, but something creative and artistic in general – and to find motivation, to find inspiration and maybe an event like this will ignite their creativity,” Murrieta said.

The book “Poecrónica en las urbes” con-

tains several poems written by Murrieta, which are a product of his trips around the world. “The process to make a book, physically, is relatively quick,” Murrieta said. “Writing a book, however, is a difficult process, due to the fact that you have to put together your inspirations, the experiences and the time to put it into text. In my case, this



The book, “Poecrónica en las urbes,” and its different, colorful covers.

Photo by Jesus Alvarado

book contains poems that were written during the 90’s. In chapter two, that is where recent ‘poecrónicas’ are presented and they demonstrate the places I have traveled in recent times.”

With quite a few chuckles, Dr. Murrieta confessed that throughout his job’s trips, he takes advantage of his free time and goes around the town or country they travel to and likes to learn about it.

“I have always had the curiosity of traveling,” Murrieta said. “Sometimes, the trip you make during your free time is much more interesting than the conference itself.”

When the presentation of the book was over, various students approached Murrieta asking, with enthusiasm, for a copy of his book with his autograph and other kind words written inside.

Murrieta announced that he would like to create a space where he and students can get together at least once a week to share literature pieces in order for the students to start acknowledging their talents and making their creativity grow.

## Dr. Manuel Murrieta y su nuevo libro “Poecrónica en las urbes”



En lunes 22 de febrero, el Dr. Manuel Murrieta presentó su nuevo libro *Poecrónica en las urbes* a sus colegas y estudiantes de la universidad estatal de California, Stanislaus. Diferente de los demás libros, éste está hecho de cartón y papel reciclado y manufacturado en Antigua, Guatemala y producido por “Proyecto editorial Los Zopilotes” o, como otros le llaman, “editorial cartonera”.

Al escribir el libro *Poecrónica en las urbes*, Dr. Murrieta nos explica lo que significa la palabra “poecrónica” en su contexto al decir, “Yo creé la palabra ‘poecrónica’ y se registró ya por primera vez en este libro. Después, con el compañero editor empezamos a jugar con una definición que básicamente podría ser eso – una combinación de crónicas y poemas en donde se lanza la narración de la crónica y lo lírico de la poesía.”

La idea de que un libro sea producido en Sudamérica y de papel y cartón reciclado, fue implementada en Buenos Aires, Argentina a mitades del 2003 por Eloísa Cartonera, la primera editorial en su tipo. En ese tiempo, los de la clase media se quedan sin empleo y, para proveer para sus familias, deciden ir por la ciudad y recolectar cartón y papel de los basureros e intercambiarlo como reciclaje y así obtener un poco de ayuda financiera. Además, este método fue creando empleos para los recolectores informales y no solamente le dio un buen uso al reciclaje, sino que también esta editorial fue dando oportunidades para publicar a aquellos escritores quienes fueron rechazados por editoriales de industriales o para simplemente publicar a aquellos escritores quienes tienen curiosidad de producir libros al estilo de esta “cartonera”.

Ayudando con la presentación del libro y apoyando al Dr. Murrieta, la Dra. Sandra García comienza el evento dando un resumen breve en inglés para los de la audiencia quienes saben poco español, dándoles a entender de lo que se trata la presentación. Igualmente, con el apoyo del Dr. Carlos Andrés, la audiencia pudo escuchar y entender sobre cómo fue que él supo de la “editorial cartonera” cuando estuvo en su tierra natal, España. De hecho, fue el Dr. Andrés quien le introdujo al Dr. Murrieta la idea de los libros cartoneros.

“Por una parte el profesor, Carlos Andrés, me había comentado antes, mucho antes de esto (...) y quedó por ahí grabado. Entre tanta información, cuando ya hacemos este viaje a Antigua, Guatemala,

me encuentro con varios colegas y editores, específicamente con el de la editorial Los zopilotes, y empezamos a ver sus libros que ya habían hecho, y en ese momento fue cuando dije que no estaría mal hacer un libro de este tipo. No importa que no tenga esta imagen de escritor ‘best seller’, o escritor industrial como están las otras editoriales, y le sometí el manuscrito al editor y con tan buena fortuna que le gustó y, al gustarle lo publicó,” explicó el Dr. Murrieta sobre cómo fue que se enteró de este proyecto.

Este evento le sirvió a nuestro autor para introducir su nuevo libro *Poecrónica en las urbes* y leer poemas ahí contenidos. Por otra parte, le dio a la audiencia la oportunidad de conocer nuevos métodos de cómo usar nuestro reciclaje y le da la oportunidad a él para presentar dicho libro a una audiencia que nada más lo mira como profesor.

“Los profesores no solamente damos clases, no solamente estamos dedicados a organizar un ‘syllabus’, estar parado dando las cátedras en sí, sino que también hacemos otro tipo de actividades que pueden ser de investigación, puede ser de creación, o puede ser de servicio social. Los profesores hacemos 3 ó 4 actividades, a veces es obligatorio hacerlas, pero a veces es más producto de tu iniciativa y de tu decisión,” expresó Dr. Murrieta queriendo decir que profesores también tienen trabajo aparte de nada más enseñar clases.

Además, el Dr. Murrieta expresa su objetivo detrás de su evento en el que presenta su nueva publicación diciendo, “Uno de los objetivos es que los estudiantes desarrollen sus capacidades creativas, que no se limiten solamente a cumplir con los cursos y lo que les piden los profesores, sino que tienen esos talentos artísticos – no solamente tiene que ser literarios, sino artísticos en general – y que encuentren la motivación, que encuentren la inspiración y quizá una lectura de este tipo les sirva para que despierte y, para los que ya lo tienen, que lo desarrollen.”

El Dr. Murrieta enfatiza la idea de que el escribir un libro toma mucho tiempo – a veces años – puesto que *Poecrónica en las urbes* consiste de varios

poemas que cuentan las experiencias emocionales y personales que él vivió a través de sus viajes empezando desde los 90’s.

“El proceso para hacer un libro físico así es relativamente corto. El problema para hacer un libro es el proceso de escribirlo y a veces la inspiración, los encuentros, los tiempos que tienes tú para elaborar el texto. En este caso, aquí tenemos textos que se escribieron en los años 90’s. Ya en la última etapa, empezamos a incluir poemas más recientes que son los que básicamente componen estas poecrónicas en el capítulo dos porque son los lugares donde últimamente he visitado. Este libro se gesta en años, no es nada más en meses, sino que el proceso físico de



Foto cortesía de Jesús Alvarado  
Las diferentes portadas del libro cartonero “Poecrónica en las urbes”

hacerlo es de meses, pero crear y escribir un libro siempre ha sido un proceso más extenso que puede durar años para algunos,” agregó Dr. Murrieta.

Con una sonrisa en su cara, el Dr. Murrieta confesó que, a través de su trabajo, él aprovecha en su tiempo libre para viajar y conocer más de la ciudad o país en el que está de estancia temporalmente diciendo, “Yo siempre he tenido la curiosidad de viajar. De hecho, una de las razones por la que estoy aquí en este país, en esta universidad, es por esta curiosidad de viajar. Las academias a veces te apoyan mucho con recursos, en los congresos que participas, en los lugares donde vas a leer una ponencia, y ahí cumples con tus compromisos y después haces estos viajes. Por ejemplo, el poema que leí de La Alhambra, ese es producto de un viaje que hicimos a un congreso, pero los congresos duran un día y participas una hora, y después ya estás libre. Entonces, no vas hacer esos grandes viajes nada más para estar una hora ahí leyendo tu trabajo, y es cuando aprovechas para hacer estos viajes. A veces es más interesante el viaje que el congreso en sí.”

Al terminar el evento, varios estudiantes se acercaron al Dr. Murrieta pidiéndole con entusiasmo copias de su nuevo libro y una que otra palabra dedicada a ellos escrito en el libro. Además, Murrieta termina diciendo que él desea crear un espacio donde los estudiantes y él se reúnan al menos una vez cada semana para así compartir entre sí pedazos de literatura y conocer más a fondo los talentos de cada uno.

# Theta Chi Fraternity honors lost brother through Row-A-Thon

Theta Chi hosted their annual Row-A-Thon from 12 p.m. on March 8 to 12 a.m. on March 10. The brothers rowed a canoe, in shifts, for 36 hours straight in the Reflecting Pond on campus.



Haylee Crews - Reporter

Brothers of the fraternity, potential new members and alumni were involved in helping raise money for the charity Breath California. Along with donating to this cause, they were driven by the fact that they are honoring their brother who passed away from asthma.

The brother that passed loved to row; therefore, the members of Theta Chi rowed for this 36 hour time period to remember him and pay tribute to the cause.

For many people who drive by, it does not look like the normal quiet atmosphere typical of the Reflecting Pond. Brothers switched off each hour to get in the canoe and spend time together, all while rowing along the pond's perimeter.

On Tuesday, March 8, the brothers launched their event and even had a large support group who stayed for long hours during the cold night.

Theta Chi member Luis Magana (senior, Kinesiology) rowed between 2 a.m. and 3 a.m.

"You have a lot of time to think to yourself or to get to know the brother across from you on a different level," Magana said. "Every year I have done the late night shifts and I enjoy myself every time."

Seth Hidalgo (junior, Chemistry) is the Philanthropy Chairman for Theta Chi and organized the event. Along with coordinating the event with the university, he also reached out to the mayor of Turlock to get ideas and contacts to help further the progression of this Philanthropic event.

"We wanted to get the community involved in what we were doing by making them aware and asking for their support," Hidalgo said. "The Turlock firefighters even stopped by and hung out with us for a while which was awesome."

The fraternity also provided an inflatable jousting game for anyone who wanted to get some stress relief and battle one another. They also barbecued hot dogs for anyone who was out there to support the event.

Other students and Greek organizations supported the boys by sitting up through the night with them. The table outside of the pond piled up with food, snacks and donuts, giving the boys the energy they needed to stay up all night.

Braden Palma (sophomore, Criminal Justice) revealed how he stayed motivated to row through the early hours of the morning.

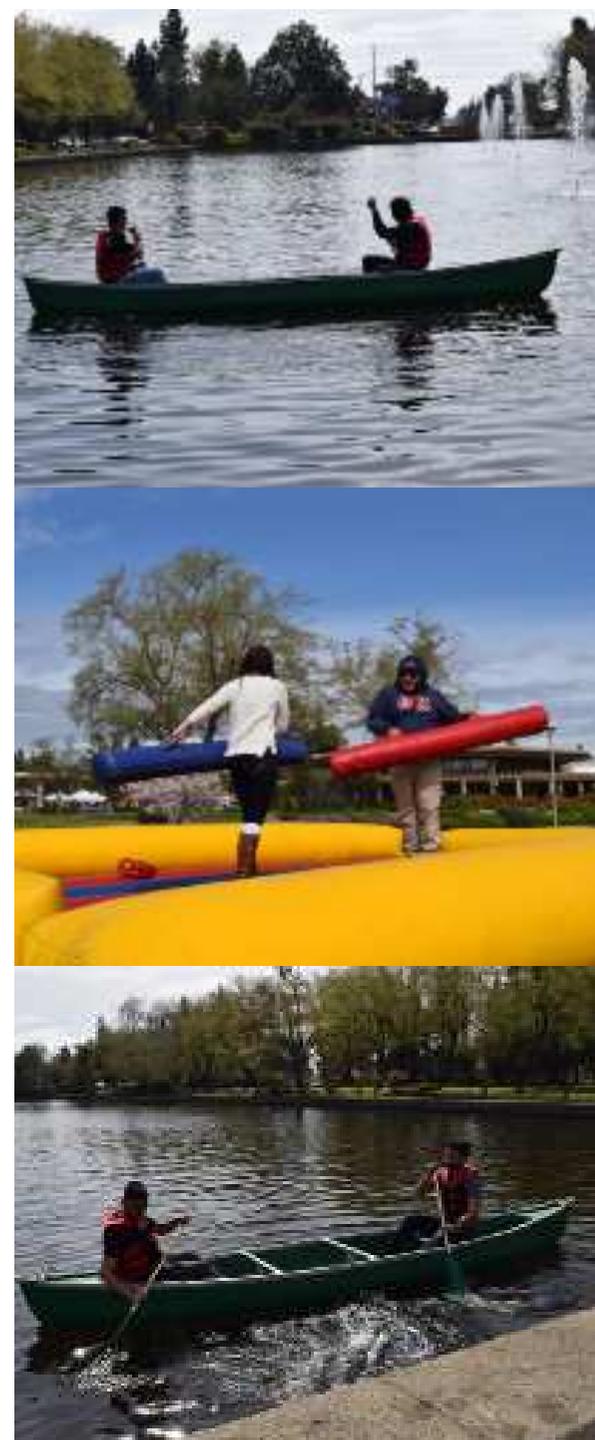
"It was my first time rowing so early in the morning, but when you start to get tired or cold you just have to remind yourself why you're doing it and it keeps you going," Palma said.

Theta Chi members all take the event seriously, both as an event to grow close to one another and reflect on their cause.

"It's a tradition we've been doing for over ten years now," Theta Chi President Logan Martinez said. "It's fun and outdoors, which is what we already enjoy doing, so it's easy to get the brothers out here and active with the event."

The boys gave effort outside of the Row-A-Thon, including traveling to local business to get as many donations as they could to help raise money for this special cause.

Their passion to raise money in honor of their lost brother and commitment to the future of clean air showed through the event.



Photos by Haylee Crews

# Tissue, anyone? Allergies at Stan

Sneezes, sniffles and sinuses, oh my! Students at California State University, Stanislaus (Stan State), approach allergy season with a big... ah...ah...ah-choo!



Alondra De La Cruz  
Reporter + Editor



Gracie Carrillo - Reporter

Allergies are a way that your body defends itself through the immune system from being highly sensitive to an allergen, such as pollen. Pollen is good for plant reproduction, but not so good for humans.

Some symptoms may involve sneezing, coughing, nasal congestion, itchy throat and runny nose.

There are two main causes of air pollution in the San Joaquin Valley (the Central Valley): ozone (i.e. smog) and particulate matter (a mixture of solid and liquid particles). These two pollutants are part of three other significant pollutants the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) measure for the Air Quality Index (AQI).

The AQI is a report of the daily pollutants surrounding your local area. These are measured by colors on the index: green (good), yellow (moderate), orange (unhealthy for sensitive groups), red (unhealthy), purple (very unhealthy) and maroon (hazardous). Further information about each color coded index can be found at [airnow.gov](http://airnow.gov).

The Central Valley's geography is composed of mountains enclosing the floor. This type of geography traps pollution into a bowl of unhealthy air, which means polluted air



Lecture Hall at Stan State surrounded by blooming trees

is prevented from being blown away by the wind in the Central Valley.

Since the Central Valley flourishes with an agricultural horizon, the allergies making it home for spring break typically stem from grass, trees and weeds.

Stan State's campus is no exception, with its beautiful, white trees next to Demergasso-Bava Hall and striking pink flowered trees all over the parking areas.

Ivan Guzman (sophomore, Criminal Justice) suffers from puffy eyes and a runny nose during the Spring season. He moved to the Central Valley to attend Stan State and his allergies have gotten worse.

"It's unfortunate that my body

reacts like this during spring," Guzman said. "I enjoy looking at the trees and plants that we have here but I try not to go near them."

Karena Carrillo (senior, Sociology), on the other hand, has always lived in the Central Valley, yet she has ached from allergies since she was a young girl. Carrillo suffers from "itchy eyes, itchy throat, itchy everything" during the spring season.

Given our geography and agricultural structure, the Central Valley is known to have some of the unhealthiest air conditions in California. Last year, the American Lung Association "State of the Air" gave Stanislaus County a grade of "F." The AQI noted 81 days reported to be in the orange and 22 days in the red.

A good resource to check into for daily AQI reports is through [AirNow.gov](http://AirNow.gov). Click on your state and scroll down to find out about the pollen report on the San Joaquin Valley area.

For health appointments, the Student Health Center at Stan State provides good resources to read more into regarding allergy season in the spring.

## A unique pathway to collegiate athletics

Contributing Author: Jordan Santa Maria

The ordinary student here at California State University, Stanislaus (Stan State), may know an athlete here on campus, but do they really know the journey that got them here? Reyna Buzon (sophomore, Kinesiology) and Tim Thymes (freshman, Computer Science) are both college athletes at Stan State who have had an unconventional path to competition.



photo by Sara Wildermuth  
Reyna Buzon dribbling down the pitch

Buzon plays soccer and is in her third year on the team, while Thymes plays basketball and is in his second year. While they are known on campus as athletes, many do not know their unique circumstances and process they went through to become successful in the world college sports.

Buzon committed to Stan State as a senior in high school. She was recognized by the Stan State coaches and was looked at as an asset that could improve the team. Once she made it to Stan State as a freshman, she was declared a redshirt.

“Coming in, I did not know of the redshirt process,” Buzon said. “I knew people could try out and possibly make the team, but I did not know other options that were available. I thought it was a good idea to redshirt because I was new to the team and the competition was high. Also, I knew I was going to be able to save my eligibility so I would not be wasting a year.”

Thymes had a different path to his

collegiate athletic career. Thymes was not recruited out of high school, but he knew that he wanted to continue to play basketball at the next level. Once he was accepted to Stan State, he reached out to the coach as soon as he could in hopes to join the team.

“At first, my meeting was nerve racking. I didn’t know if the team had a full roster or if they needed bod-

ies,” Thymes said. “But the coaches here were very

polite and made the meeting smooth. They gave me the forms I needed to try out and in two weeks I was able to get onto the court to show what I could do.”

According to the NCAA, a redshirt year is defined as, “a year in which a student athlete does not compete at all against outside competition. During a year in which the student-athlete does not compete, a student can practice with his or her team and receive financial aid. NCAA Division II student-athletes have 10 semesters or 15 quarters of full-time enrollment in order to participate as a student-athlete.”

A walk-on athlete is a student at the university that has not been recruited and makes the team through a tryout process. They are both ways of making a team that many do not know of until they are actually on the team.

Students should learn about the benefits and downfalls of these options. Too many young adults that

want to pursue collegiate careers think that once they leave high school their sports careers are over. But, if the redshirting and walk-on process was better understood they could better evaluate their options.

Men’s Basketball Head Coach Larry Reynolds makes the decision of who redshirts and who plays at the start of every season. He also decides whether or not students that try to walk on have what it takes to play at the Division II level.

“On average I have about two to three redshirts a year on my team,” Reynolds said. “Redshirting gives the athlete time to improve their game and get used to our system. It can be difficult because they only practice, but it gives them time to get into shape and learn what we do on a daily basis.”

Reynolds spoke encouraging words for any student that feels like they can still play at the college level although they might have not been recruited.

“Redshirts and walk-ons are great because of their hunger to play,” Reynolds said. “I have had both redshirts and walk-ons come in and play on my teams that have made a difference.”

He advises students that want to try out for any sport to do so.

“Get yourself ready before hand,” Reynolds said. “Be in shape and show how you can help the team. Don’t try and do too much just do what you do as a player.”

In contrast to all these benefits of redshirting and walking-on to a team, there are fallbacks. David Frank wrote the Unwritten Code of the College Walk-on and brought to light some of the disadvantages that can occur.

“Whether it is an inability to keep up the school work, tired of getting pounded at practice with no playing

time or a desire to look for an opportunity to earn a scholarship; most walk-ons will not finish their four years of eligibility at the same school,” Frank said. “The hard part is showing up day in a day out, giving your best with no promise of a scholarship or recognition outside of your coaches and team.”

Although Frank brings to light important things to consider when deciding whether to walk-on to a team as well as describing similar circumstances that redshirts may feel, Buzon and Thymes represent student athletes that did not have a straight path to success but have made the most of their opportunities.

“My second year on the team was much more comfortable after my redshirt year,” Buzon said. “I felt more confident in my abilities and learned to work hard under any circumstances, even though I knew that I was not going to play.”

“The year I redshirted I was able to work on my game which helped my confidence,” Thymes said. “I felt better in my abilities and what I could do on the court. I would tell students looking to choose a path similar to mine to not be intimidated and play with confidence.”

Buzon and Thymes are evidence that although they redshirted and walked-on to a team, they can still have success at the college level.

Today, Buzon and Thymes are both contributors to their team’s success. Whether you have to redshirt your first year like Buzon or Thymes or get to play immediately upon joining the team, it does not make you less deserving of a spot.

Everyone has their own chance at a unique collegiate athletic experience or story.

continued from page 9.

Many issues that are discussed by presidential candidates may not directly affect young people, but as they get older and enter the workforce these issues will inevitably impact their lives in the future.

Some issues already impact their lives, but they may not know it yet. Many Stan State students work either full-time or part-time.

"It's almost impossible not to work," Corissa Bolls (senior, Psychology/Communication Studies) said.

As the cost of living continues to rise, so does everything else - and that includes tuition.

Higher education is a topic that is discussed by some presidential candidates, and it's one that can directly affect students.

"I believe that young people become more involved with social issues when those issues hit home," Carla Martinez (Masters Program, Social Work).

Similarly, students who graduate soon will be entering the workforce. There needs to be higher-paying jobs available to them where they can put their hard-earned degrees to work. Therefore, topics about the economy and job growth are also significant to college students.

The university has a responsibility to educate students about the importance of voting and the power that comes from voting.

For some students, their education has impacted their political views and has encouraged them to become more informed about politics.

"My Environmental Geology class has made a huge impact on me," Kendall Sanchez (junior, Biology) said.

Sanchez said that she's disappointed that debates have not covered problems that we face globally, such as our ecological footprint.

Martinez stated that her education as a Social Work student has played a vital role in her involvement in social issues.

"By attending college, students are much more educated than other people, and they need to take that knowledge and understand politics, economics and society," Routh said.

With less than six months until the Presidential Elections, it's important that college students get informed and get their voice heard.

Stan State has both Democratic and Republican Party student clubs that are open to students.

The California Primary Elections are scheduled for June 7, 2016. These elections are held so that

voters can select the candidates that they want to run in the presidential election.

This process is very much like the general election. Voters go to a polling place and submit their choice for a nominee.

In California, you can register to vote online and individuals have until the 15th calendar day before the election to register to vote.

Don't just vote to vote. Get educated and learn about what issues affect you, your family, your peers and your community. If you don't vote, you lose the opportunity to be heard and to bring change to problems that matter to you.

"You have to take the time and make the time to figure out what the hell is going on," Routh said.



Open Mic Night every Wednesday at Cafe La Mo. Next one on April 20th

**Bandstand 2016 on May 7th**

Make sure to like the KCSS Facebook page and follow KCSSTURLOCK on Instagram to get updates on all things KCSS.

We have new zip-up hoodies on our website at [www.kcss.net](http://www.kcss.net)

**Tune into 91.9 fm the valley's true alternative and support college radio!**



“If you found my article in print interesting, then check out my other article ‘University Art Gallery hosts Noah Wilson’s “A Lonely Hunter” art exhibit’ on The Signal’s website. It includes interview quotes, getting to know the artist and what the ‘Artist Talk’ event was like. While you are on our website, also check out other articles from other wonderful writers.” – Sarah Machado



“I have a degree in Music and am currently completing a degree in Communication Studies with a minor in Journalism. I think you’ll like my articles pertaining to music concert reviews! Stories such as ‘Stan State’s Faculty Concert opens doors for the spring season’ will give insightful messages from students, staff and faculty from the Music Department on connecting with an audience via a live concert.” – Grace Carrillo

“Like many other Stan State students, I commute to campus and rarely do I get a chance to attend school events. My ‘Stan State holds fifth annual Science Day’ article showcases a fun event that was held on campus that I got to attend and enjoyed. It was awesome to see the Science College plan an event that anyone could enjoy from the community. At The Signal we strive to preview and cover most events that go on campus to keep students informed with daily stories posted on our website.” – Oscar Copland

“I enjoy writing stories that give our campus community the power of knowledge. My favorite work so far have been my PACE articles. It is important to know the actions that the CSU takes that will either benefit or impair us as students. You can always check these and other great articles on our website csusignal.com.” – Alondra De La Cruz

“My preview, ‘Warming up with ASI’: Get to know your board of directors’ and ‘Follow up on “Warming Up with ASI”’ story gives students a glimpse into the social events that our Associated Students, Inc. (ASI) puts on. It also brings light to the lack of awareness students have about what ASI does and the events that they hold on campus.” – Candyce Fabre

“If you’re looking for something fun and free to do check out my article ‘KCSS holds Open Mic Night at Cafe La Mo’. Stan State’s radio station, KCSS, and Café La Mo put on a great community event that is sure to entertain anyone. Check out my article online for all the great details!” – Ilse Perez

“Entérate sobre el nuevo proyecto que el Dr. Murrieta acaba de completar – su nuevo libro publicado al estilo “cartonero” en mi artículo “Dr. Manuel Murrieta y su nuevo libro ‘Poecrónica en las urbes’”. Aquí, te enterarás sobre cómo es que el país guatemalteco está usando su reciclaje para publicar e imprimir sus libros. Además, al leer este artículo, te darás cuenta que profesores no nada más enseñan clases, sino que viajan y hacen investigaciones

para presentarles a sus estudiantes con sus proyectos innovadores ya terminados, como el Dr. Murrieta lo hace en este texto para así también inspirar creatividad a los estudiantes.”

–Jesus Alvarado

“Find out about Dr. Murrieta’s newly-published book which was made in the ‘cardboard’ style in my ‘Dr. Murrieta on his newly published book, “Poecrónica en las urbes”’ article on The Signal’s website. Here, you will learn about how the Guatemalan country is using their recycling to publish and print books. Also, by reading this article, you will notice that professors not only serve to teach their classes, but they also venture out around the world to create projects and present the final product to their fellow students, just how Dr. Murrieta has done, and inspire students to expand their horizons.” – Jesus Alvarado

“Check out my article ‘Spring Break 2016 Guide’ to see where our fellow Warriors are spending their break.” – Brittany Valadez

“Online stories are very visually appealing. My recent article ‘Theta Chi Fraternity honors lost brother through Row-A-Thon’ includes a sidebar that has tips on how to get through a row-a-thon based off consensus from the individuals involved and how they got through rowing for 36 hours.” – Haylee Crews

“We are excited to bring you all the scoop on campus life via social media. FOLLOW US TODAY! @CSUSignal on all sites.” – Javi Cuiriz