



# PHYSICAL SCIENCES NEWSLETTER

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WINTER 2022 EDITION

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## GRADUATING SENIORS

Don't forget to submit those graduation applications! The time to do so is now if you plan on graduating in the spring or summer

Welcome to Physical  
Sciences ZotChat 🙌!



## PHYSICAL SCIENCES ZOTCHAT IS AVAILABLE

We have a new ZotChat bot who can help answer simple questions  
OR  
Chat live with a counselor/peer advisor to ask general counseling or advising related questions.

For more information, visit  
<https://ps.uci.edu/stuaff/content/live-chat>

## Important Winter Quarter Dates...

- January 3
  - Instruction Begins
- January 14
  - Deadline to Add/Drop courses without Dean's approval using WebReg (by 5 p.m.)
- January 17
  - MLK Day
- February 21
  - Presidents' Day
- March 11
  - Instruction Ends
- March 12-18
  - Final Exams

## ADD/DROP POLICIES

\*ADD/DROP: The deadline to add or drop courses is Friday of Week 2 by 5:00 PM. Add/Drops can be made using WebReg.

\*CHANGE: The deadline to change grade option or variable units is the end of Week 2 by 5:00PM. Use WebReg to make changes.

\*PASS/NO PASS: After week 2 students will be able to change their grade option, both letter grade to P/NP and P/NP to letter grade before 5:00pm Friday of Week 10

An online petition will be used for Adds, Drops, and Changes after the listed enrollment deadlines have passed. Log into STUDENT ACCESS to submit an enrollment exception request.

\*\*Some departments within the School of Physical Sciences have deadlines earlier than those for the School itself. Please see the comments in the SOC for details:

NO CHEMISTRY LABORATORY CHANGES AFTER WEEK 1.

Please note: This deadline is earlier than the School of Physical Sciences Week 2 deadline.

# UCI CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

## ASTRONOMY CLUB AT UCI



The Astronomy Club at UCI is a club dedicated to communicating the wonders of the cosmos. We aim to form a sense of community among our members, and, if possible, among the students at UCI through Astronomy. The Astronomy Club hosts events such as Astrophysics Graduate Research Talks, International Observe the Moon Night, and Astro Trivia Nights. In the past, we have planned trips for camping, Observatory trips to Palomar and Griffith Observatories, and other related Astronomy activities such as stargazing during meetings. We work alongside the Astronomy Outreach Program, hosting events such as the previous Lunar Eclipse Event with our own telescopes. *This year, we will be hosting in person meetings every other Wednesday, starting week 2, at 6:30pm. You may find additional information on our website, or feel free to email us!*

Email: [astroclub@uci.edu](mailto:astroclub@uci.edu) ; Facebook Group: The Astronomy Club at UCI ;  
Instagram: @astronomyclubuci ; Website: <https://sites.uci.edu/astroclubatuci/>



## CALTEACH AT UCI

CalTeach at UCI is a club geared toward future STEM educators and invites all individuals who are interested in teaching, tutoring, or learning more about the education field in general. Our mission is to foster a community of future teachers here at UCI, and to offer a chance to network with other future and current educators. This is your chance to dive into your desired profession!

Email: [calteachadvisory@gmail.com](mailto:calteachadvisory@gmail.com)  
(please wait 2-5 business days for a reply)  
Instagram: @ucicalteach  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ucicalteach/>



## UNITY AT UCI

The Underrepresented Genders in Physics & Astronomy Club arranges multiple social events each quarter in order to create a supportive environment for women and non-binary folx within the department. We also assist in outreach activities for younger (K-12) students to educate and encourage the next generation of women scientists. In order to create a supportive environment for women and non-binary folx within the department, multiple social events are held each quarter as well as outreach activities for younger (K-12) students to educate and encourage the next generation of women scientists.

Email: [WiPA@uci.edu](mailto:WiPA@uci.edu)  
Visit us at our website: <https://clubs.uci.edu/womeninphysics/>

# UCI CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

## ACTUARIAL SOCIETY AT UC IRVINE



Are you interested in what actuary is? Are you in STEM and unsure what to do afterward? The Actuarial Society at UC Irvine can help you decide if a career in actuary is right for you! We are an undergraduate organization led by students and made for students. Our goal is to provide opportunities for aspiring actuaries to succeed in the field but also expose the actuarial fields to people interested in learning more about it. We host events throughout the year to assist members in the exam process, advance them to be professionally ready in the field and also give them networking opportunities with people already on the field! We meet every Monday at 7 p.m. on Zoom.

Visit our website: [here](#)

Email: [actuarialsociety@uci.edu](mailto:actuarialsociety@uci.edu)

Join us by submitting this form: <https://bit.ly/ASFall21>



## GLOBAL MEDICAL TRAINING AT UCI

Are you interested in advocating and involving in healthcare aspects of underserved communities? Global Medical Training at UCI is a humanitarian pre-health club that strives to serve the underrepresented communities both local and abroad. We provide students opportunities to participate in biannual clinical trips to Latin American countries to provide free basic clinical care for the disadvantaged communities. We also provide various opportunities such as volunteering, networking, and much more! More updates regarding the trips and volunteer events will be posted depending on the current COVID-19 situation!

To get to know us more, follow us on [Facebook](#):  
Our website: <https://www.gmtuci.com/>  
To join our mailing list click [here](#)



## CHEMISTRY CLUB AT UCI

The Chemistry Club aims to provide support for undergraduates at the University of California, Irvine, interested in the chemical sciences; we will promote scholarship, instill a mindset of career professionalism, emphasize the value of outreach, and build a community of individuals who will bond and grow—personally, academically, and professionally—in the field of chemistry. Join our discord for class help, study sessions, or to stay in touch with your chemistry friends!

Discord Server: <https://discord.gg/qQqU65v>  
Email: [chemclub@uci.edu](mailto:chemclub@uci.edu); [Facebook](#),

# UCI CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS CONT...

## ALPHA CHI SIGMA AT UCI



Alpha Chi Sigma is a national professional co-ed fraternity focusing in the chemical sciences. Here at UCI, we are comprised of individuals from various majors such as Biology, Pharmaceutical Science, Chemistry, Chemical Engineering, ESS, and Public Health who are bonded by our love for the field of chemical sciences. As a group we strive to create a positive social forum for our members by promoting chemistry through academics, research, service, and assist our members in succeeding in their professional goals.

Visit our website [here](#) or contact us at [ucialphachisigma@gmail.com](mailto:ucialphachisigma@gmail.com)



## SOCIETY OF PHYSICS STUDENTS AT UCI

The UCI Society of Physics Students (SPS) strives to create a welcoming environment for all students interested in physics, and to foster their development as young career professionals and scientists. SPS organizes industry networking events, panels with scientists, Physics Department meet-and-greets, and lab tours. SPS also hosts social events like science-fiction movie nights, pizza socials, and game nights.

Feel free to contact us at [sps@uci.edu](mailto:sps@uci.edu)  
 President Stephen Coffey: [coffeys@uci.edu](mailto:coffeys@uci.edu)  
 Our website link is <https://sites.uci.edu/spsuci/>.

## UCI MATH CEO



UC Irvine's Math CEO (Community Educational Outreach) is a transformative after school program designed to inspire underserved youth to pursue college education and a career in STEM, while at the same time fostering math achievement.

Math CEO is a great way to gain teaching experience, find friends at UCI, collect fieldwork/volunteering hours and promote STEM education. Almost all of the participating middle school students are Latinx, and come from low income families which lack familiarity with college. Your commitment can vary from 1-5 hours a week.

Click [here](#) for more info  
 Email: [mathceo@math.uci.edu](mailto:mathceo@math.uci.edu)

NEWS ARTICLE: <https://news.uci.edu/feature/solving-problems/>

# CAREERS AFTER COLLEGE

## MATH

Math provides a solid foundation for further study in graduate or professional school, including law school or business school. Information about math careers is available at: [AMS Careers](#), [MAA Careers](#), and [AWM Career Resources](#).

## PHYSICS

Physics majors are analytical thinkers with a basic understanding of natural processes. Even with a Bachelor's degree, physics majors are in high demand in our technological society. To get an idea of industrial opportunities go to: [www.dice.com](http://www.dice.com) and search "physics", [AIP Careers](#), [APS Careers](#).

## CHEMISTRY

Chemistry majors are prepared to go on to careers in the chemical sciences as well as in biology, medicine, earth sciences, secondary education, business, and law. More information is available at: [AIC Careers](#), and [ACS Careers](#).

## ESS

ESS students go on to graduate school programs and careers as research scientists in academic, public, or private institutions. Students are prepared to enter the workforce directly as scientists in a diverse array of fields. ESS career information can be found at: [AGI Careers](#), [AGU Careers](#), and [GSA Careers](#).

## NEED HELP WITH YOUR NEXT STEPS?

The UCI Division of Careers Pathways offers an abundance of free events and opportunities to help you plan out the next steps in your career. From working on your resume to finding a job, the Division of Career Pathways has your back.



You can view and register for their different events on their website [here](#)





# OPPORTUNITIES & REMINDERS

## UROP- UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

- UROP stands for Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program
- UROP encourages and facilitates research and creative activities by undergraduates from all schools and academic disciplines at UCI.
- Research opportunities are available not only from every discipline, interdisciplinary program, and school, but also from many outside agencies, including national laboratories, industrial partners, and other universities.
- UROP offers assistance to students through all aspects of the research process, from proposal writing, to project management, awarding grant money, as well an opportunity to publish findings in UCI's own undergraduate research journal. Find more information [here](#).

## PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH!

Visit the Research page of our office website at:  
<http://ps.uci.edu/stuaff/opportunities/research>

## REMINDER: UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS

Remember, every time you move, you should log on to the Student Access website and update your local and/or permanent address. This way, the Student Affairs Office and other offices on campus can send you important information in the mail.

## FREE AND PRIVATE TUTORING!

Available for Chemistry, Physics, and Mathematics! Please see our website for more information:

<https://ps.uci.edu/stuaff/content/tutoring>

## COVID-19 REMOTE INSTRUCTION + BOOSTERS

- The remote instruction period has been extended until Friday, January 28. In-person instruction is scheduled to begin on Jan. 31.
- Have you gotten your booster?
  - January 31, 2022, all eligible students, faculty and staff will need to submit proof of receiving a booster shot or apply for an approved exemption
- For questions about any COVID-19 related information please visit the following link:
  - <https://uci.edu/coronavirus/>



# STUDENT AFFAIRS STAFF

## MEET THE ACADEMIC COUNSELORS



**Don Williams:**  
[dawillia@uci.edu](mailto:dawillia@uci.edu)



**Mike Tawney:**  
[mtawney@uci.edu](mailto:mtawney@uci.edu)



**Stefanie Masuda:**  
[masudas@uci.edu](mailto:masudas@uci.edu)

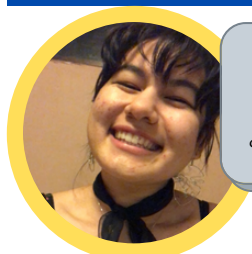


**Bryan Reza:**  
[breza@uci.edu](mailto:breza@uci.edu)



**Jenise Shourds:**  
[jshourds@uci.edu](mailto:jshourds@uci.edu)

## MEET THE PEER ACADEMIC ADVISORS



**Giselle Hafen**  
Mathematics  
[ghafen@uci.edu](mailto:ghafen@uci.edu)



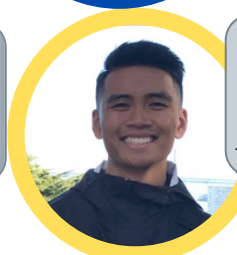
**Gabby Baker**  
Chemistry/Bio  
[gtbaker@uci.edu](mailto:gtbaker@uci.edu)



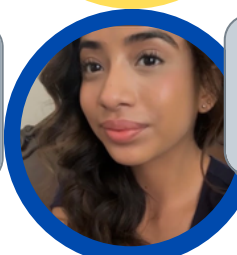
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**Ana-Theresa Mendoza**  
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[anaterem@uci.edu](mailto:anaterem@uci.edu)

## QUESTIONS? CONTACT US!

- Please contact a Peer Academic Advisor or an Academic Counselor at:
  - [pssazot@uci.edu](mailto:pssazot@uci.edu) or come on Zotchat to speak with us.
- Schedule a Course-Planning or General Advising Appointment [here](#)
- We are available:
  - Monday - Friday from 9:00am-12:00pm & 1:00pm-4:00pm

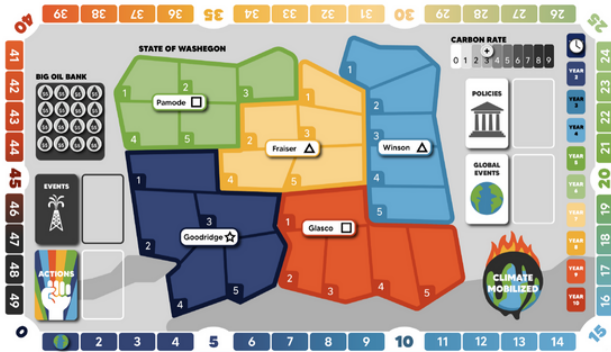
## APPLY TO BE A PEER ACADEMIC ADVISOR

Applications are currently open and are due Friday January 14 by 11:59pm. The Peer Academic Advising Program provides valuable services for all UCI undergraduate students. It is the source of student-to-student academic counseling based not only on academic, but also personal experiences of UCI students. This is a PAID position! Learn more about the Peer Academic Advising Program at <http://www.due.uci.edu/paap>

# *The School of Physical Sciences Presents...*

## **SPOTLIGHT STUDENT** *Briana Villaverde*

Meet Briana Villaverde our Physical Sciences Spotlight Student for Winter 2022! She grew up in South East Los Angeles, specifically the city of Paramount. She is a fourth-year Environmental Science and Policy major with a minor in Chicano/ Latino studies. She chose her major based on her passion of fighting for her community and their "right to a livable future." This passion was spurred on in high school when she joined efforts with other Paramount residents to hold the metal forging companies in the area accountable for the pollution that unjustly affected the lives and health of the residents. You can read more about her journey into becoming an "accidental environmentalist" in the article she wrote [here](#). With her degree from UCI Briana hopes to become an urban planner and influence environmental policy that centers those most affected by climate variability and environmental injustice.



Briana was a 2020-21 UC Big Ideas Finalist for designing a board game that combines climate science and environmental justice activism. With her project, called Climate Mobilized, Briana was the only finalist from UC Irvine from an initial pool of 300+ teams seeking funding. Briana has also received several other awards including 20-21 Maria and Rebecca Bellettini Award for excellence in the school of physical sciences, UCDC

Presidential Fellow awarded by UC President Michael Drake, and UCDC Alan Church Scholarship for UCDC students committed to conservation and environmental justice.

Briana is very involved on campus with organizations such as Sunrise UC Irvine, the Earth System Science club, and Nuestra Graduación UCI 21-22 which is organizing UCI's largest cultural celebration of 300+ Latine graduates and 4,000+ guests. She is also a mentor for five first-year ENSP major students and has done internships with Newkirk Center for Science and Society, Center for Health, Environment, and Justice in DC, and the California Coastal Commission. To get involved on campus, Briana suggests to bring a friend with you when you show up to new events. She also recommends you reach out to clubs you are interested in and ask why they like their club!

Her favorite thing about UCI is that it is a minority majority school. She loves being in spaces where her classmates are other students of color and have similar experiences to her. To be successful at UCI, Briana recommends reaching out to classmates for study dates and using your calendars and planners. In her free time Briana likes to hike, feed her compost worms, and brainstorm ways to dismantle the fossil fuel industry. Next quarter she will be teaching a class on walkable cities through the UTeach program.

**Congratulations Briana! We know you will continue to do great things at UCI and beyond!**