

JUNE 2023

OISS Newsletter



In This Issue:

Advisor Assignment	pg. 2
Processing Times	pg. 2
Travel Signatures	pg. 3
New Walk-ins	pg. 3
Office Closures	pg. 3
Spotlight	pg. 4
OISS Recommends	pg. 5

Dear International Gauchos,

We almost made it to the end of the academic year!

To all those who are graduating — Congratulations! Whether you're off to start a new adventure or have big plans for the summer, we wish you happiness and success on your journey.

June is LGBTQ Pride month and we look forward to celebrating with you. Keep reading for more information and ways you can celebrate, too.

Have a wonderful summer!

In community,

The Office of International Students & Scholars



Alerts & Updates

Who is Your OISS Advisor?

Do you know who your OISS advisor is?

Refer to the chart on the left to find your family name letter and corresponding advisor.

OISS advisors are assigned to students to ensure an equitable workload for all advisors.

If you ever have questions, you are welcome to email your advisor directly (see [People Directory](#)) or [schedule an appointment](#) with them. Your assigned OISS advisor will approve the requests you submit in UCSBGlobal. So if you have questions about an e-form, you may also direct those to your assigned advisor.

We have intentionally assigned students to advisors, so we appreciate students only emailing and scheduling appointments with their assigned advisor. If your assigned advisor does not have appointment availability that suits your needs, please email them directly, rather than scheduling with an advisor who is not assigned to you.

Of course, if your assigned advisor is out of the office, another advisor will gladly assist you.

LAST NAMES

ADVISOR

A, B, D, M

Ashley Rifkin

E, F, H, K, S

Madison
Motomazie

I, J

Erik Williams

N, O, T, U, V, W, X, Z

Trevor Brandt

**P, Q, R, Y, STEM
Extensions**

Cristina Carney

C, G, L

Felipe Recinos

Processing Times

Although our team is growing (see Nancy's spotlight), we remain understaffed during our busiest time of year. We are working diligently to process requests as soon as possible and the Friday closures are helpful.

The volume of e-form submissions, calls, walk-ins, and emails is very high at this time as we serve new, continuing, and graduating students.

Please expect a small delay in e-form processing times. We cannot thank you enough for your patience!

Travel Signature Reminder

Traveling over the summer? Don't forget to update your travel signature, if needed.


All travel signature requests must be submitted in UCSBGlobal. OISS will approve your e-form and email the signed I-20 or DS-2019 to you.



New Scholar Walk-in Hours

We have a new advising service for scholars!

Walk-in hours are set time frames when a J-1 scholar advisor will be at the OISS reception area to answer questions or clarify doubts that take less than 5 minutes to address. Please do not forget to sign in using the iPad posted on the front reception desk so that J-1 scholar advisors attend you in the order you arrived. If you believe you need more than 5 minutes with an advisor, please send an email to j1scholar@sa.ucsb.edu to schedule either a virtual or an in-person appointment.



**Scholar Advising
Walk-In Hours**

Tuesdays 2-4PM
Thursdays 10AM-12PM

J-1 scholars are employees or researchers who are not UCSB students

UC SANTA BARBARA
Office of International
Students & Scholars

Office Closure – 6/19 for Juneteenth

In honor of Juneteenth, OISS will be closed on Monday, June 19. Normal operations will resume on June 20.

Summer Operating Hours

Apart from official university holidays and SRB closures, OISS is open all summer long. We will have normal hours of operation Monday - Thursday 10 am - 12 pm and 1 pm - 4 pm. Our doors will remain closed on Fridays for processing.



Spotlight

Nancy Nguyen, Administrative and Event Assistant

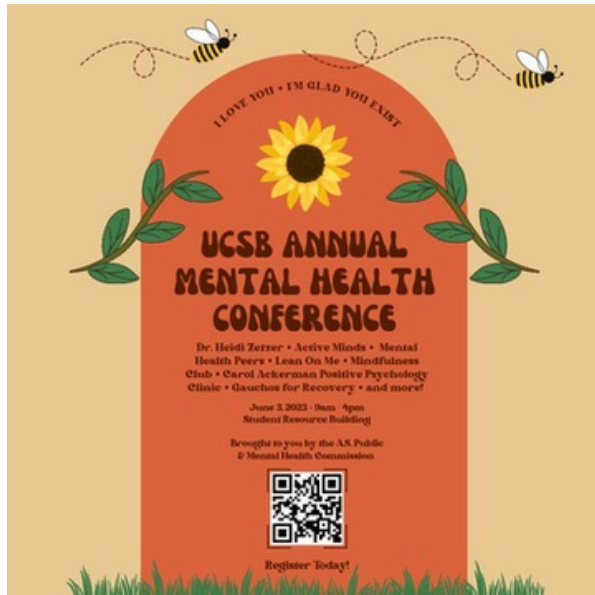


Hello, my name is Nancy Nguyen and I am a third-year Sociology major who is from Los Angeles. I chose to study Sociology because I was interested in how people interact in a society and what changes influence their experiences being in one.

My interactions with international students came from certain classes that I took throughout the years of being here at UCSB. One experience that I remember vividly was when I took a Chinese Cinema class and realized that more than half of the class consisted of Chinese international students. I realized from this that many international students usually stick within their groups and don't interact as much with domestic students unless provided an opportunity to do so.

This is one of the reasons why I am interested in the international community because I want to bring both the domestic and international communities together so that we can experience each other's cultures while also learning about each other as well. I learned that many international students at UCSB come from different countries all around the world which is another reason why I wanted to join the Office of International Students & Scholars so that I can help provide opportunities for them to interact with each other. Although I don't have many interactions with international students, I would like to change this because I want to learn more about the different cultures of international students by taking upon this opportunity to work directly with OISS.

OISS Recommends



Santa Barbara Summer Solstice Celebration

The Solstice Parade and Festival is the largest arts event in Santa Barbara County, drawing crowds of over 100,000 spectators and participants from around the world.

There is a parade and a festival on June 24 and 25. The festival is free and open to the public and will include a full musical line up as well as a variety of food and merchant vendors and beer and wine garden.

Mental Health Conference

UCSB's 8th Annual Mental Health Conference is among us! Register now for a free catered breakfast AND lunch, a free tote bag and t-shirt with art created by talented UCSB students, and the chance to win one of many raffle prizes including: CorePower Yoga classes, Santa Barbara Cat Therapy visits, a personalized self-care basket, and more.

This year's conference will include a keynote speech by UCSB's very own Dr. Heidi Zetter, student panelists, and workshops led by various campus groups. We'll dive into a variety of mental health topics relating to imposter syndrome, academic burnout, and managing transitions.

UC **SANTA BARBARA**
Office of International
Students & Scholars

Juneteenth Santa Barbara

Juneteenth Santa Barbara is a local celebration of the national recognition of Black Independence Day. It is a collaborative effort to showcase Black culture, talent, and joy in Santa Barbara County.



Pride Month

What is Pride?

Pride is an annual celebration within the LGBTQ community primarily held during the month of June. Though it has roots in earlier celebrations and awareness periods held by various LGBTQ groups, the first official Pride march/parade (officially known as Christopher Street Liberation Day) took place on June 28, 1970 as a commemoration of the Stonewall Riots which occurred a year earlier.



How is Pride celebrated around the world?

The celebration of Pride varies around the world—while many countries celebrate in June, others may base their celebrations around a significant event in their own country's LGBTQ history. Pride celebrations also range from being more politically-oriented—such as a march or protest—to being more of a celebratory event—such as a festival or a carnival.



Celebrate Pride in Santa Barbara and Nearby

Pacific Pride Events

Pacific Pride is hosting a number of Pride events, including a screening of the Little Mermaid, mixers, socials, and a brunch.

Los Angeles Pride

LA Pride is a two day annual event held in Los Angeles on June 9 and 10, featuring Megan Thee Stallion, Mariah Carey, food, drinks, and LGBTQ+ exhibitors.

Thanks for Reading!

We hope you enjoyed this issue of the OISS Newsletter. Past newsletters can be viewed on the OISS [website](#).

Questions?

If you are a current international student with questions regarding immigration, advising and other requests, email oiss@sa.ucsb.edu.

J-1 Scholars should reach out to j1scholar@sa.ucsb.edu. For those with questions related to employment-based visas; please contact longtermvisa@sa.ucsb.edu.

For any inquiries regarding upcoming OISS events, or collaboration opportunities, contact oissprograms@sa.ucsb.edu.

If you are a UCSB department or organization and would like to publicize any information or upcoming events to international Gauchos, contact mmotomazie@ucsb.edu.

Let's stay in touch!

Follow our social media accounts to stay up-to-date with everything happening at OISS.

