Social Ecology Celebrates 40th Anniversary

By Valerie Jenness, Dean of the School of Social Ecology

Question: What do the following have in common?
- Tonga and Fiji gained independence from Britain.
- Dusk Commander won the Kentucky Derby.
- Maya Angelou published I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings.
- The Beatles broke up.
- The LCD (liquid crystal display) was invented by Hoffmann-La Roche in Switzerland.
- A first-class U.S. postage stamp could be purchased for 6 cents.
- President Nixon signed the National Environmental Policy Act into Law.
- The U.S. Census Bureau reported California was the most populous state in the U.S., with 19,953,000 people.

Answer: all of these things occurred in 1970, the same year the Program in Social Ecology was founded. As Dean, I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge our 40th anniversary.

As we enter our fifth decade, students in the School of Social Ecology are continuing in a proud tradition. They are earning degrees from UC Irvine, a top public university, and from the School of Social Ecology, an acknowledged leader in “research with considerations of use”—scholarly research that addresses some of society’s most important problems and challenges.

The School of Social Ecology has long been a leader in interdisciplinary, problem-driven research, and our courses provide our students with both a solid theoretical foundation and specialized knowledge that helps them apply theory and data to address real-world problems.

This core commitment is coupled with an equally important commitment to civic engagement. The linkage between the classroom and the community is furthered by our pioneering field studies program at the undergraduate level.

Seen in these terms, it is not surprising that every week Social Ecology faculty are being interviewed by print and broadcast media and being invited to comment on timely issues of local, national, and international importance.

Earlier this week, for example, Professor Wendy Goldberg and Jo Ann Prauses’ research on the effects of maternal employment on child development has gone global, including in the U.S., Chile, Ghana, and Great Britain.

It is also not surprising that our undergraduate and graduate students alike continue to be recognized for excellence in both academic performance and community involvement.

For example, Elizabeth Landeros, a Criminology, Law and Society major in the School of Social Ecology, was last year’s recipient of the UCI Legacy Award for leadership in civic engagement. And just this week, I was informed that Victoria Lowerson, a graduate student in the Department of Planning, Policy, and Design, was selected by UCI’s new Institute for Clinical and Translational Science’s Community Engagement Unit to receive the Promising Student Award for Commitment to Community Participation in Research. I could go on and on, but space constraints preclude me from doing so!

The point remains: a Social Ecology education is geared toward developing future leaders in education, research, public policy, planning, and community action who can contribute passion, skill, and expertise to addressing the critical issues that confront our local communities, the state of California, the nation, and the world.

Whether earning degrees from the Department of Criminology, Law and Society, Department of Planning, Policy and Design, Department of Psychology and Social Behavior, or Social Ecology, our students are well-positioned to create and enhance the interpersonal, local, regional, state, federal, and global communities in which we will live and upon which we depend.

Knowing this—and seeing it in action daily as I witness what our faculty and students do daily—affirms the important educational work we do in Social Ecology. It inspires me. And, it reminds me of one of my favorite quotes about the importance of education in general and especially the kind of education we provide in Social Ecology:

“Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.” – W.E.B. Du Bois.

It’s a privilege to shape the future.
Field Study Meet and Greets: Get a Leg Up!

By Tatiana Czerwiak,
Social Ecology-Admin Intern

They’re back, and going to be even better than ever! Social Ecology is expanding and upping the ante of their successful SE 195 “Meet and Greet” events!

So who exactly are we meeting and greeting, you may ask? Your potential mentor for your SE 195 internship! We ask current Social Ecology Field Sites to send representatives to the UC Irvine campus to promote their internships and get a chance to meet the applying interns (that’s you!) face to face.

The Meet and Greets help facilitate conversation and give those of you who are interested in the field sites that are present at the event a thorough understanding of the internship and its requirements before applying.

While not all field sites will be able to send their representatives to the event (Social Ecology is proud to have over 200 field sites in their general catalogue!) it is a great way to network with the sites attending, meet Social Ecology staff, and get a more widespread, hands-on understanding of the SE 195 requirement.

Our next Meet and Greets will be held during the Winter and Spring quarters (emails and flyers from Social Ecology Student Services will be sent to all SE students detailing the events, so keep an eye out!) We hope to see you there!

Social Ecology Exclusive

Social Ecology Students gather around a Field Study Site to ask questions and meet representatives.

“Research is to see what everybody else has seen, and to think what nobody else has thought”
-Albert Szent-Gyorgi

Tips, Tricks, and a Whole Lot of Advice for SE 195

Have you ever been in the position where you’re about to take a major leap into some uncharted territory (be it with classes, your career, or internship) and wish you had the advice of someone who’s already undergone the experience?

Many Social Ecology students about to dive into their SE 195 requirement are in the same place. Lucky for us, here’s a comprehensive list of tips and advice from former SE 195 students and alum to all of you about to start (or planning on starting) this major event in your college career!

Advice from those who have “been there” and “done that”:

Do your research early. Know what you want to apply for a quarter in advance and then when it’s time to apply, you’ll be prepared.

-Don’t bite off more than you can chew! Choose an internship that you feel you can enjoy and get something out of, not one that will add too much extra to your plate (especially if it’s already full!)

-Take the advice of those at your site and do the job that they want you to do. You may not always agree with the way that you’re instructed to do something, but it may be what is required from your site.

-Take constructive criticism like a champ! Criticisms are not always easy to hear, but the advisors at each site have something different to offer and have a ton of great advice to let you in on!

-Always come into work with a smile on your face and a positive attitude. Not only will it put you in a better mood, but lift the spirits of those at your work site! (It will also make your day go by a bit faster!)

-Soak up as much information as you can! Remember your internship is only 10 weeks, so take as much advice as you can during that short period of time!
Peer to Peer Advising; Social Ecology Style

By Vincent Lee,
Social Ecology Peer Academic Advisor

Hey Social Ecology Students!

It’s Vincent, one of the Peer Academic Advisors of our school. For those of you who don’t know, we’re the ones you see when you drop by the office for a 15 minute walk-in. For those of you with questions related to your academic career, feel free to come to us - we all went through long, long hours of training just to help you guys!

You might be thinking: but I don’t want to see a peer, I want to see an actual counselor! Let me tell you why there are advantages to seeing a peer. For one, it’s easier and faster since you don’t have to make an appointment (and, since we are trained by the academic counselors, we have the same answers that you’d get from a counselor). Secondly, because we’re students just like you, we feel your pains - the result is that we work persistently to get your concerns alleviated. Lastly, we’re so inviting! Watch as we service with a smile! :)

Try and use us as your resources whenever you have questions. It’s a lot better to continue your college years knowing that you won’t run into any problems in the future that will hold you back.

Our drop-in hours are:
Mon-Thurs: 9AM-11:30AM & 1PM-3:45 PM
Fri: 9AM-11:30AM

Upcoming Events:
- The Graduate School & Professional Fair will be October 25th on Ring Road, with 120+ representatives from graduate programs all over the country in attendance.
- The Fall Career Fair will be October 21st from 10 am until 3 pm with over 100 companies coming to campus to recruit UCI students. This is an increase of 33%

“Just as our present is the result of our past, so our the future will be the result of our present. Every minute of every day we are weaving threads that will make the cloth of future.”

- Anne Spencer Parry
Looking for something fun and exciting to do around campus? UC Irvine’s got you covered! Here’s a comprehensive list of some exciting and spirited events this campus is bringing to a stage (and park, and recreation center) near you!

**Drama/Film/Arts**

9/30-1/22/11: Rafael Lozano-Hemmer Exhibit. 12-5 pm. Beall Center for Art + Technology

11/6: Chamber Series: Electric Eclipse Quartet Concert. 8 pm, Winifred Smith Hall

11/18: UCI Jazz Orchestra. 8 pm, Winifred Smith Hall

11/18: Evening of Traditional Korean Dance. 7:30 pm, Irvine Barclay Theatre

11/12-11/20: UCI Drama Dep’t presents “Into the Woods” (musical). 8pm evening showtimes, 2 pm matinee showtimes, Claire Trevor Theatre

**Athletics**

11/3: UCI Men’s Soccer vs. Cal State Northridge. 7 pm, Anteater Stadium

11/13: UCI Men’s Water Polo vs. UCSB. 12 pm, Anteater Pool

11/18: UCI Women’s Volleyball vs. Long Beach State. 7 pm, Bren Events Center

11/20: UCI Men’s Water Polo vs. USC. 12 pm, Anteater Pool

**ASUCI**

11/2: Fall Quarter Sports Rally. 5 pm, Bren Events Center

11/3, 11/10: Noontune Performances on campus. 12pm-1pm, Student Center Terrace

11/1, 11/8, 11/15: Comedy Night. Starts at 9 pm, at the Anthill Pub

For a full list of events and activities on campus, go to [http://today.uci.edu/](http://today.uci.edu/) and [http://www.asuci.uci.edu/calendar/events/](http://www.asuci.uci.edu/calendar/events/)