

UC SANTA BARBARA Social Sciences

A Vision: Center for Publicly Engaged Scholarship

The Center for Publicly Engaged Scholarship (CPES) is devoted to amplifying the social impact of research across the campus, with a special emphasis on educational equity, carried out mainly in the GGSE, and social inequities, carried out principally in the Division of Social Sciences. CPES focuses both on roots and remedies, forming partnerships with a range of audiences, from activists and civil society organizations, to government agencies, the media, and the private sector. We bring together scholars, community members, and stakeholders to study, discuss, and come up with solutions for major public issues, building bridges between university-based research and practical action. The broad goals of CPES are to support UCSB research that makes a difference in the world, to find practical applications for this research, and to help benefit local communities across the globe in promoting equity, social justice, peace, sustainability, education, and health.

CPES PROJECTS

Collaborative Health Initiative

In collaboration with Melissa Smith M.D., Director of Health Equity Initiatives at UCSB, the Center is disseminating public health knowledge, resources, and aid to communities in Santa Barbara County, through the recently formed Immigrant Health Rapid Response Task Force. Several of the Center's GSRs and undergraduates work on this collaborative team. We will also help design a webspace to serve as a resource center and to highlight the Initiative's work.

CPES Online Content Creation

The Center has launched an online video animation service to create dynamic and engaging videos to enhance faculty teaching and research dissemination. Also, the Center's RA group will publish blog articles that highlight student-led outreach, community-based initiatives, and other UCSB related activities related to educational support during these times.

Community-Based Projects

The Center's Oxnard Research Project group has been working with the Oxnard School District to engage with students and their parents to build and maintain academic success. This Project seeks to support the transition to remote learning, and collaboratively produce Social Emotional Learning videos, to strengthen community-based programming and expand access for students and families. We also support our campus partner UCSB LEO, a student led outreach program focused on the promotion of Higher ED and STEM, providing academic and emotional support, and inviting them to a cost-free visit to UCSB to provide enrichment workshops.

Funding Priorities

UCSB has generously provided the Center for Publicly Engaged Scholarship seed resources to demonstrate the efficacy of our work for two academic years (2019-2021). By then we hope to have raised an endowment of \$3M, to support core programs like those described above.