

## Social Sciences v COVID-19

Dispatch #5 | 15 May 2020

MSO's: please share this with your faculty, staff & graduate students.

Although the Dispatch is for everyone in the Division of Social Sciences—Faculty, Staff and Students—we want to dedicate this fifth installment especially to our Graduate Student Teacher-Scholars. We affirm the much-noted refrain that while the consequences of the Pandemic have affected us all, these effects are distributed unevenly, along familiar lines of intersectional inequality.

[Read More](#)

## A Shout-Out to our Staff

Our staff is doing a tremendous job of keeping departments running in a fast-changing climate. The Division acknowledges the importance of our staff and is pleased to announce that we have a Staff Citation of Excellence Awardee this year.

CONGRATULATIONS to **Tania Dunson**, Business Manager in the Communication Department. The UCSB Staff Assembly's Staff Citation of Excellence Awards Program acknowledges and celebrates outstanding achievements and meritorious service of career staff. Each of 10 recipients receive \$500 and a plaque.

As we bring the academic year to a close, we bid farewell to two long-standing Business Managers in the Division. Sharon Terry, Political Science Department and Arlene Phillips, Asian American Studies Department will retire at the end of June. Congratulations and best wishes to you as you embark on your new adventures.

## SOSC versus COVID

### Work Underway

Our faculty members continue to direct their work to the impact and consequences of COVID-19. See our initial list compiled [here](#). If you are involved in COVID-related research, writing or action not included in the list, please send us the information.

### Virtual Salons

An impressive number of SOSC faculty members have agreed to present their COVID-related research, in an informal Zoom setting, for friends and donors. See the full list [here](#); let us know if you have additional ideas.

## Resources for Remote Teaching and Learning

### Content provided by:

**Victor Rios**  
Associate Dean, Division of Social Sciences  
Professor, Sociology

### Remote / Online Teaching Forum

The Division of Social Sciences will host a remote teaching and learning conversation. Our goal is to provide our faculty in Social Sciences another venue for taking inventory of resources for remote and online teaching at UCSB, and for sharing innovative ideas and strategies. We also want to hear your experiences and concerns with remote teaching so that we can create action items to seek more support for Summer and Fall teaching. Linda Adler-Kassner from CITRAL, Lisa Berry from Instructional Development, and Norah Dunbar from the Department of Communication will join us to provide insight and answer questions.

**Friday, May 29, 2020, 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm**

Zoom link (password: 09122):

[https://ucsb.zoom.us/j/95543252724?](https://ucsb.zoom.us/j/95543252724?pwd=WkRONXFvcGhob3lzTWNQZ3gzUVV6Zz09)

[pwd=WkRONXFvcGhob3lzTWNQZ3gzUVV6Zz09](https://ucsb.zoom.us/j/95543252724?pwd=WkRONXFvcGhob3lzTWNQZ3gzUVV6Zz09)

### Communication Strategies



The Center for Publicly Engaged Scholarship (CPES) at UCSB is offering one-on-one support for faculty to develop engaging, animated lecture slides. The goal of this initiative is to provide faculty resources to share their research findings and enhance their pedagogy through short video platforms. See the video above for more information and e-mail us at [ltsc-cpes@ucsb.edu](mailto:ltsc-cpes@ucsb.edu) if you are interested in signing up.

## Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

### Content provided by:

**Aida Hurtado**  
Associate Dean and Faculty Equity Advisor, Division of Social Sciences  
Professor, Chicana/o Studies  
Luis Leal Endowed Chair

### We would like to focus special attention in this Dispatch on DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) students' vulnerabilities during COVID-19

In the next few weeks the U. S. Supreme Court will hand down a decision on whether to revoke the DACA. [This article](#) provides some background information. Some major points to consider:

- If DACA is reversed, it will affect approximately 700,00 recipients and their families; recipients will lose protection from deportation, health care, and access to jobs. More than 250,000 children who are U.S. citizens will lose a parent.
- About 27,000 health care professionals—many first responders—are recipients. Another 200 DACA recipients are in medical school or in their medical residency.
- DACA recipients pay \$5.7 billion in federal tax and \$3.1 billion in state and local tax revenue every year.
- California is home to the largest percentage of DACA recipients; nearly one in three are living in this state. Fully 85% of Californians support DACA.
- There are approximately 1,700 UC DACA students.
- The [UCSB Dream Scholars](#)/Undocumented Student Services provides support, resources and information for this student population.

Although DACA students have been denied federal aid, the UC Santa Barbara Office of Financial Aid and Scholarship has stepped up! A total of 381 undergraduate Dream Scholars received the "UCSB COVID-19 Relief Grant" at equivalent levels as FAFSA applicants who received the "UCSB CARES Grant". Award amounts ranged from \$650 - \$1700, drawing on unrestricted scholarship funding. DACA graduate students will receive the CARES equivalent as well.

## Resources for Hope and Resilience

Feeling tired after a day of Zooming? It may help to understand why [Zoom is so exhausting](#).

Feeling isolated with little to do? Try doing one little act of kindness at least once a week. Drop off a bag of helpful goodies to a neighbor, take out the trash for an elderly friend, send a little gift to a service provider like your barber or hairdresser who is unable to earn a living during this time. These random acts will bring a smile to someone, lifting up your own spirits at the same time. Community means belonging and together we are stronger.

And...in a recent pre-meeting check-in, each member of the Dean's team shared one unexpected pleasure of the lockdown, which has helped to ease the hardship. Here are a few of ours; please contribute yours to our list:

- A message from a student: "One of the biggest benefits to me [of online instruction] is that learning now focuses more on understanding important concepts rather than pure memorization of facts, since all my tests are open note now."
- "It has led us to focus more sharply on the positive, on small steps toward the affirmation of community - locally, and perhaps as a nation. It has changed our mindset."
- "Lots of things work better on Zoom."
- "It has been a good lesson in patience. My sense of empathy for others has deepened."
- "Social distancing is hard, but it makes me more creative and more intentional; I am more inclined to lend a helping hand to others."
- "Since there often is no one to call for help, people are more inclined to figure things out on their own."



**Charles R. Hale**

SAGE Sara Miller McCune Dean of Social Sciences

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