

# AAP's Quarterly Newsletter

VOLUME 5 ISSUE N.2



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- Winston Doby Lecture
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- Unit Updates
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#### AAP'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

# AAP Director's Message



Dear AAP Community,

We want to take this moment to share this special message with you. First, we acknowledge the stress and uncertainty that many are feeling due to the ongoing political climate and challenges that may be affecting you, your families, and our communities. As a member of our community, you have your own aspirations but also the hopes of those who have sacrificed so much for us to be here. Second, please know that AAP stands with you and all Bruins who are being impacted by the recent political messages and government policies being issued. We are here to ensure that AAP students can continue their education with the necessary safeguards, dignity, and security we all deserve. If you are in need support and/or would like to speak to someone, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Please visit our <u>AAP Resource Page</u> - here, you will find UC resources that will assist you with answering any questions or provide you with information and guidance as we face these challenging times. Again, we are here for you and will do our best to provide you the support that you need to continue and complete your education.

In solidarity,
AAP Administration and Leadership

#### **Articles inside this issue:**

- AAP Administration & Leadership Statement
- AAP New Staff
- Fall Quarter Highlights
- Winter Quarter Highlights
- Unit Updates
- Announcements

## Fall Highlights

### **FALL OPEN HOUSE**





AAP successfully hosted the AAP New Member Orientation and Awareness Fair as part of the UCLA Welcome Week festivities. Nearly 750 enthusiastic new AAP members joined the event, where our dedicated staff welcomed them into their new academic home at Campbell Hall. Our scholars learned about each of our units during our Resource Fair, and bonded over food and prizes. This event marked a fantastic kickoff to the academic year, fostering a sense of community and connection among our newest members.

## Fall Highlights



#### **AAP SCHOLARSHIP RECEPTION**

A huge congratulations to the 109 outstanding scholars awarded AAP Scholarships this year! Thanks to the incredible generosity of our AAP donors, we were able to award nearly \$400k in scholarships.

### HIGH AIMS WHITE COAT CEREMONY

On Thursday, November 14, 2024, the High Aims White Coat Ceremony was held, welcoming Cohort 14. This special event marked their official entry into our community and emphasized their dedication to pursuing a career in healthcare.



#### **BRUIN FAMILY WEEKEND**

AAP hosted a family workshop led by our Counseling Director, Vivian Salazar, during Bruin Family Weekend, including a student staff panel. Families and caregivers joined us to hear about AAP services. Special thanks to Grant Goodwin (VIPS), Nahomy Cabrera (Peer Learning), and Maniya Mclean (GPS) for offering their tips on utilizing AAP resources!

### AAP STAFF HOLIDAY APPRECIATION PARTY

Thanks to AAP Director, Dr. Alexander's, sponsorship, the AAP Staff Advisory Committee planned an amazing celebration with a gathering, expressing gratitude for the dedicated staff and students shaping the next generation of leaders.



ISSUE N 2



#### **WINTER 2025**

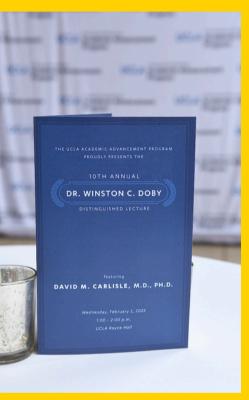
# 10th Annual Dr. Winston C. Doby Distinguished Lecture











In February, we had the opportunity to host the 10th Annual Winston C. Doby Distinguished Lecture. Each year, to honor Dr. Doby's legacy we invite distinguished thinkers from across the country to address our community on topics related to higher education access and social justice; issues that Dr. Winston Doby passionately advocated for throughout his career. Dr. Doby believed that the best way to improve the lives of first generation, low-income and underrepresented students was to provide them with an educational experience that would empower them to become change agents and leaders in their communities. His crowning achievement at UCLA was the creation of the Academic Advancement Program, one of the nation's most successful student academic support programs.

In honor of Dr. Doby's legacy and his vision for social justice, Dr. David M. Carlisle, who presently serves as the President and Chief Executive Offices of Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science (CDU), provided an inspiring lecture. Drawing on his experiences as an African American faculty member reflecting on diversity changes throughout his career at UCLA, Dr. Carlisle emphasized the importance of advancing equity and inclusion through meaningful connections, embodying Dr. Doby's ideals. Against the backdrop of the current turbulent political climate, this lecture was both timely and necessary. Following his remarks, Dr. Hewlett, Professor and Associate Dean for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion at UCLA School of Dentistry and a distinguished member of our AAP Faculty Advisory Council, moderated a thought-provoking Q&A that underscored their shared commitment to diversity and collaboration.

#### **WINTER 2025**

### **AAP Athletic Day**

In partnership with UCLA Athletics, the AAP community celebrated AAP Day at the UCLA Women's Basketball game vs. Ohio State on Wednesday, February 5, 2025 at Pauley Pavilion. An amazing gathering of AAP scholars, AAP/CCCP staff, FTSP faculty, the AAP Advisory Council, along with family, friends and campus partners shared in the joy of an unforgettable victory. Before the game, the AAP Athletics team put together an incredible pre-event that emphasized the years-long partnership with AAP. AAP Athletic Day provided us with the opportunity to unite and celebrate this spectacular win as an AAP community.







AAP is incredibly grateful to Kenny Donaldson, Pam Walker, Brianna Hutchings & the rest of the Athletics Team for making this event possible!

#### **WINTER 2025**

# Carter-Huggins Annual Memorial Event

UCLA's Afrikan Student Union (ASU) and AAP hosted its annual Commemoration for two murdered UCLA students, Alprentice "Bunchy" Carter and John Huggins, Jr., on February 20th.











#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

On January 17, 1969, two UCLA High Potential Program students, Alprentice "Bunchy" Carter and John Huggins, Jr., were assassinated in 1201 Campbell Hall. The assassination took place after a student meeting to decide qualifications for the selection of the first director of the newly-formed Afro-American Studies Center. The assassinations were characterized in the press as being the result of an ongoing feud between two militant Black organizations, the Black Panther Party and the US organization, which supported different candidates for the director position. Both Carter and Huggins were leaders of the Los Angeles division of the Black Panther Party. Three members of US were convicted of the murders. Many speculate, however, that the assassination was instigated by the FBI's COINTELPRO which, at the time, was engaged in a clandestine campaign to eliminate the Black Panther Party. Note: COINTELPRO is an acronym for a series of FBI counterintelligence programs designed to neutralize political "dissidents". From 1956 to 1971, COINTELPRO broadly targeted radical political organizations.

# AAP Unit Updates counseling

SPRING BREAK - REMOTE SERVICES

AAP COUNSELING HUB

CLOSED



MONDAY - FRIDAY 03/24/25 - 03/28/25 (HOLIDAY)

OTHER OPTIONS FOR REMOTE ASSISTANCE 3/24-3/27:

REACH DROP-IN

HOURS: M, 11AM-3PM T-F, 10AM-3PM





MESSAGE CENTER

HOURS: M-F, 9AM-4PM



GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL (GPS) EXPLORATION SERVICES

#### **Graduate & Professional School (GPS) Exploration Services**

With an emphasis on social justice, equity, and representation, Graduate & Professional School (GPS) Exploration Services helps AAP students develop their interests, life experiences, and career competencies as they explore their post-baccalaureate goals. The GPS Office also sponsors several research programs for sophomores, juniors, and seniors. These programs receive funding from the UCLA Division of Undergraduate Education, the US Department of Education, and/or the Academic Advancement Program.

GPS offers the following cohort-based research programs:

#### **Arts Initiative**

Chelsea Dai Shan Chen **Justine Ligaya Du Christina Walsh** Michael Green Laila Aguilar-Charles **Bethany Santana** Muaathah Abdullah

#### Research Rookies (STEM)

**Genesis Alvarez** Maniya Mclean **Evelvn Navarrete Gomez** Arlene Arellano-Garcia Cristal Balderrama Frida Sofia Conejo **Conner Emery Jaden Shuler Awa Ouattara** 

**Adrian Reves Navarro** Gurnoor Chouhan Peacillia Otuva Aleena Munshi Sofia Zavaleta **Faith Wiggins Miriam Meraz Barron Austin Nguyen** 

**Mathias Kuchimpos Arnoop Chouhan Katie Lee** Jessica Sanchez **Candie Garcia** Sarai Esparza **Moses Ramirez Pearl Agramo** 

#### **UndocuBruins**

Gianella Urtecho Yesenia Sanchez Cruz Liliana Gaytan Hernandez Flavio Kadajera **Bernice Limeta Jimenez** Maria Del Carmen

### Community Development Research Rookies and Social Justice

Karina Corbera Javier Nunez-Verdugo **Brooke Wilkerson Mandy Vien Matthew Schulz Maya Botros** 

**Stephany Cartney** Chloe Goodman Jessica Mendoza Natalia Zeledon **April Rangel Teresa Dinh** 

**Anthony Padilla Delaney Rosado Hailey McCormick Angela Perez** Tiffani Pe **Karina Ramirez Delanie Renteria** Angela Ledesma-Grattorola **Charlie Updegraff** Melissa Vera

#### **Educators for Tomorrow**

**Andrea Avila Abril Gonzalez Edward Rodriguez Adriana Aguilar Naxely Belmont Perez Kasen Lopez Christopher Martires Jocelyn Perez** 

**Arely Perez** Yesenia Portillo Sallette Salcido **Brettany Valenzuela Keo Vutheikun Giavanna Foster Nora Galindo** 

#### **MCNAIR**

#### 2024-2026 Cohort

We are pleased to announce the newest cohort of UCLA McNair Research Scholars. Under the guidance of Faculty Advisors and Graduate Mentors, these Scholars will participate in graduate school preparation workshops, an intensive summer research institute, and complete an independent research project by the end of the two-year long program.



Andreanela Ordonez Carbajal, Education & Social Transformation
Carlos Rodriguez, Public Health
David Houston, African American Studies
Godwina Ogbeide, Sociology
Jiaxiang (Justin) E, Environmental Science
Jocelyn Torres, English
Laura Espinoza, English

Marco Escobar, History
Mireya Gutierrez Vasquez, Sociology
Mia Calvillo, Computational & Systems Biology
Miguel Soto, Psychology
Mireya Gutierrez Vasquez, Sociology
Orisha Lamon, Geography & Environmental
Studies
Zachary Gomez, History



Undergraduate Education

McNair Research Scholars Program











research-scholars/#welcome



## RESEARCH, ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION (RAE)

RAE supports a culture of research-informed decision-making by collecting, analyzing, and reporting on data related to AAP's students and services. Our team of researchers provide data and data analysis support to all the AAP units, campus partners, and stakeholders to inform AAP initiatives and offerings.

The RAE team is comprised of Research Assistants (new members), Research Associates (returning Research Assistants), Graduate Student Researchers, and a Student Assistant.

#### Research Assistants

#### **Christopher Martires**

Sociology & Communications

#### Kimberly Chung

**Psychology** 

#### Alondra Gil

Human Biology & Society/ Sociology

#### Sofia Barajas

Cognitive Science

#### **Edward Rodriguez**

Public Affairs & Education and Social Transformation

#### Charletta Royster-McNeish

Sociology

#### Research Associates

#### **Amara Azaka**

Fourth Year Cognitive Science

#### **Carlos Torres**

2nd Year Transfer Anthropology

#### **Nana Gwira**

Fourth Year Political Science

#### RAE Student Assistant

#### **Akayla Matthews**

Second Year Neuroscience

#### Graduate Student Researchers

#### Yadira Valencia

PhD Candidate in Social Science & Comparative Education

#### **Ramon Flores**

PhD Candidate in Human Development & Psychology

#### **Camille Smith**

PhD Student in Higher Education and Organizational Change

# AAP Unit Updates PEER LEARNING



#### **AAP PEER LEARNING TABLING**

AAP Peer Learning Tabling occurs during the first three weeks of each quarter, providing valuable assistance to students and staff by guiding them to the appropriate Peer Learning sessions and helping them enroll.

Stop by Weeks 1-3 of Spring Quarter!!





#### WINTER OLYMPICS

The Winter 2025 Olympics which took place on Friday, January 24, 2025, from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. in the Learning Pavilion, This event allowed PLFs to take a break from their usual PLF-related duties and created a space for them to build community not just within their own disciplines but across labs/disciplines. This event consisted of conversing over food and community-building activities. Approximately 80-90 PLFs across both labs and Office Assistants were in attendance.

### VICE PROVOST INITIATIVE FOR PRE-COLLEGE SCHOLARS (VIPS)

**WINTER SATURDAY ACADEMY** 







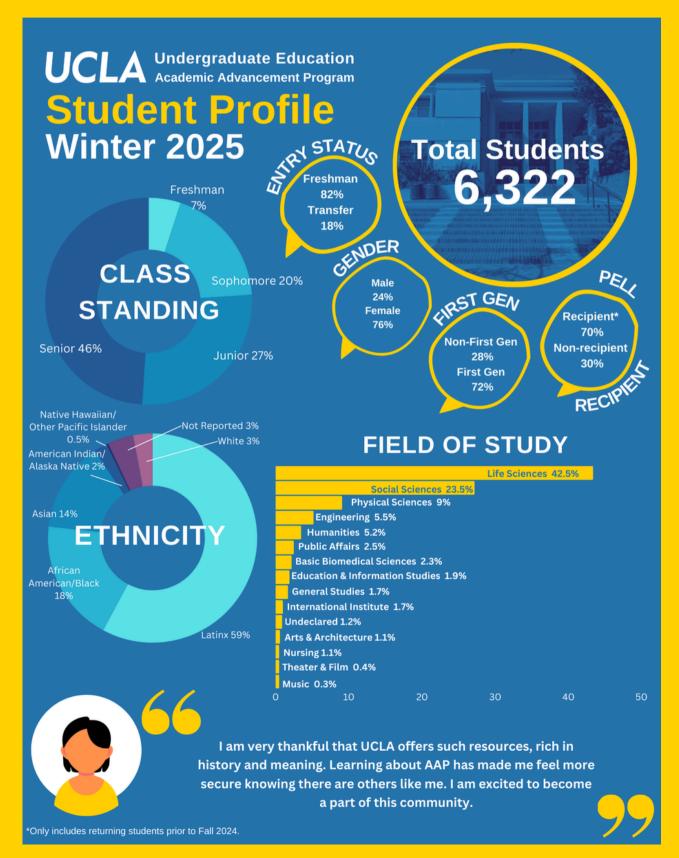
The panel was a part of VIPS Winter Saturday Academy for current high school juniors (Cohort 19). Panelists included alumni from VIPS Cohorts 4, 7, 10, and 11 in fields including education, social work, law, and environmental justice.

#### **WINTER BREAK 2024**

The Winter Break 2024 event was attended by current VIPS high school students and college students from UCLA and other universities. They were treated to dinner at Yard House before ice skating at the LA Live holiday-themed rink.



## AAP Winter Student Profile





#### SCHOLARSHIP FEATURE

#### Arthur Ashe Legacy Scholarship Application



The Arthur Ashe Legacy Scholarship uses endowed resources originated from the Arthur Ashe Learning Center (AALC) to promote service, scholarship, and sportsmanship—the very values Ashe stood for as a Bruin throughout his life. Although Arthur Ashe Jr. is a legend in many circles, there remains opportunity to spotlight the positive impacts he had on tennis, his commitment to improving social conditions, and his concern for public health and welfare. The scholarship will be awarded through the Academic Advancement Program (AAP) in collaboration with an AALC appointed committee. The award will be disbursed in the 2025-2026 academic year and is based on merit and need to student(s) who exemplify the ideals Ashe displayed as a UCLA student. The Arthur Ashe Legacy Scholarship is a highly esteemed award with multi-year opportunity and average of \$7,000.

#### **Eligibility:**

- Must be enrolled as a full-time student during the entire 2025-2026 academic year.
- GPA threshold of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale\*
- U.S. Citizen

#### Instructions:

• Your application and all supporting materials must be submitted by Friday, April 25th 2025; no late or incomplete applications will be accepted.

#### A completed application includes:

- **1.** Essay: Answer the question in a 500-600 word essay describing activities, qualifications and connection to Arthur Ashe.
- **2.** Letters of Recommendation (2): Both letters must be from individuals who are familiar with you.

#### **Essay Question:**

Arthur Ashe was known for his multifaceted career in a variety of fields-scholarship, athletics, and humanitarianism. Is this a model you would like to emulate during your time at UCLA? If so, how?

Please submit your application here: <a href="https://sa.ucla.edu/forms/p/ArthurAshe2025">https://sa.ucla.edu/forms/p/ArthurAshe2025</a> by Friday, April 25th, 2025, by 5pm.

For any questions, please send an email to: <a href="mailto:aapscholarship@college.ucla.edu">aapscholarship@college.ucla.edu</a>



#### SCHOLARSHIP FEATURE

#### Wilson Academic Advancement Scholarship

Wilson Academic Advancement Scholarships are awarded to academically strong first-year students who are committed to community service and plan to attend graduate or professional studies after receiving the baccalaureate degree. This is a three-year merit award, ranging between \$1,500 to \$6,000 per academic year. Award amounts are according to final GPA.

Each Wilson Scholar will meet regularly with the professional staff of the AAP Counseling and Mentoring Programs to devise an academic plan leading to the pursuit of an advanced degree. Students will be paired with an AAP Graduate Mentor who will provide students with professional advice and mentoring in their areas of interest. Mentors also advise students on developing their resumes or curriculum vitae, personal and professional statements and obtaining strong letters of recommendations from professors and employers. Finally, Wilson Scholars are encouraged to participate in various programs within AAP and the College of Letters and Sciences, including but not limited to: College Honors, the McNair Research Scholars Program, the Community Development and Social Justice Scholars Program, MARC and CARE.

#### **Eligibility:**

- Be an AAP student
- Entered UCLA as a freshman in Fall 2024
- Have accumulated at least 26 units at UCLA during Fall 2024 and Winter 2025
- Demonstrate academic potential for graduate study
- Demonstrate financial need
- Express an interest in attending graduate or professional school
- Demonstrate an interest in community service

#### Instructions:

Your application and supporting materials must be submitted to <a href="https://sa.ucla.edu/forms/p/AAPWilson2025">https://sa.ucla.edu/forms/p/AAPWilson2025</a> by Friday, April 25th 2025. No late or incomplete applications will be accepted.

#### A complete application includes:

- Updated unofficial transcript (DPR is not acceptable)
- Copy of your Financial Aid Award Notice (FAN)
- One letter of support from a UCLA Faculty member or Teaching Assistant discussing your academic potential and interest in community service and graduate or professional school.



UCLA's Academic Advancement Program (AAP) and Erasmus University Rotterdam (EUR) are proud to collaborate in the Student Visiting Program Summer 2025. The program will take from June 28-July 26, 2025 in Rotterdam, The Netherlands. This program is open to AAP students interested in social justice, diversity, international issues.

Dive into the heart of global social justice issues and gain a deeper understanding of inequality, community activism, civic responsibility, and political engagement. Engage with pressing topics, learn from experienced activists, participate in enriching discussions, and connect with peers globally who share a passion for making a difference.

#### **Eligibility:**

- Be an AAP student interested in social justice diversity, international issues and have demonstrated a strong interest/leadership in this area.
- Be a Junior or non-graduating senior who will be returning for the 2025-26 academic year.
- Have a 3.0 GPA or better.
- Be Financial Aid eligible.
- Ability to travel this summer from June 28 to July 26, 2025.
- Must have valid passport or secure one before departure.
- Must enroll in independent study through Chicana/o Studies Department (2-5 units) in Fall 2025 and complete paperwork before departing (June 26).
- Must turn in a written report by Finals week of Fall 2025.
- Complete a group project based on your experiences to be presented by Spring 2026.
- Ability to work independently and be able to present about their experiences to the AAP and UCLA community.

#### Instructions:

 Your application and all supporting materials must be submitted by 11:59pm on March 30; no late or incomplete applications will be accepted.

#### A completed application includes:

1. Research Question (600 maximum characters)

Based on your background, current interests, and future goals, please formulate a research question that fuels your curiosity and would like to explore in Rotterdam, keeping in mind the program objectives and planned activities.

2. Essay (3000-4200 characters)

Expand on why you would want to explore this question and submit an essay on your interest in the program and how it will enrich your UCLA education, including any previous experience in exploring social justice issues from a global perspective.

3. AAP Reference information including name, AAP unit, email and phone number.



### **AAP HAPPENINGS**



01.



### MARCH HAPPENINGS

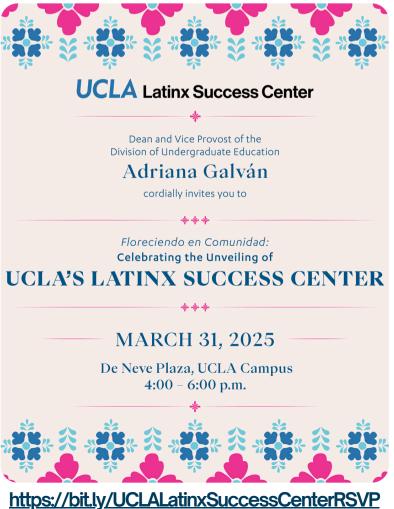


2025

VIPS Assistant Director – Now Hiring March 25, 2025



Latinx Success Center Launch: March 31st, 2025



02.



## APRIL HAPPENINGS



2025

### Coffee with Dr. A April 3, 2025



#### Hiring McNair Peer Mentor Due April 4, 2025



### CAPS Drop-In Hours at AAP Spring Quarter 2025





03.

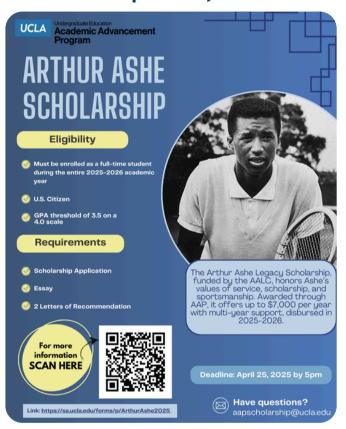


## APRIL/MAY HAPPENINGS



2025

Arthur Ashe Scholarship Due April 25th, 2025



High AIMS Recruitment Due April 28, 2025



#### McNair Senior Presentations May 21, 2025



### Find us at

CAMPBELL HALL OR WWW.AAP.UCLA.EDU



### 

Academic Advancement Program (AAP)

@aapucla

Peer Counseling

@aap\_peercounseling

Graduate Professional School & Exploration Services: @ucla\_aagps

#### McNair:

@ucla\_mcnairscholar

#### **Peer Learning:**

@aap\_peerlearning

#### Research, Assessment & Evaluation:

@ucla\_aaprae

Vice Provost's Initiative for Pre-College Scholars:

**Othevipscholars** 



















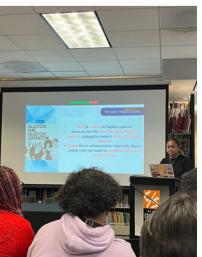


## AAP Fall/Winter Recap

















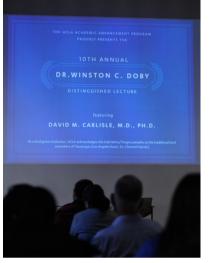


















## Dr. Doby Lecture Recap

















