



CENTER of the CAPITAL

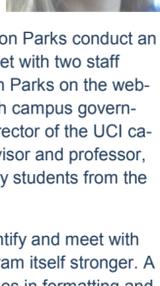
<http://luccs.ucdavis.edu>



November 2011

Touring campuses with Hanna Snider

Hanna Snider has been spreading the word and making connections throughout the UC system. Hired in August as UCCS' outreach coordinator, Snider since has made stops at Santa Barbara, UCLA, Davis, Riverside, Irvine and Berkeley. It's allowed her to connect with the Center's campus representatives and speak directly with students interested in the Sacramento program.



Typical is her visit to Irvine in October. On the first day, Snider staffed a career fair where she collected names of students and fielded questions about the program and life in Sacramento. Following the fair, she helped UCCS campus rep Sharon Parks conduct an information session on Center programs. The next day, she met with two staff members from student affairs to discuss outreach, worked with Parks on the website, talked briefly with a professor about his research, met with campus government-relations staff to discuss collaboration, talked with the director of the UCI career center, discussed the program with a political science advisor and professor, and ended the day with a meeting about UCCS participation by students from the social ecology program.

The visits serve a dual purpose. Not only is Snider able to identify and meet with interested students, she also discovers how to make the program itself stronger. A result can be seen [here](#) — the UCCS website — where changes in formatting and content make it more navigable. Additional improvements will focus on increased program enrollment, a clearer application process, and more informational sessions.

In this context, Snider is always looking for feedback. If you have an idea for how UCCS can improve, let her know. Her email is [here](#).

And this month? Look for Snider's traveling show at Santa Cruz, Merced, and San Diego — with hoped-for follow-up visits at Riverside, Berkeley, and Davis.

Webinar Information Session: Learn about UCCS online November 21



Students and student advisors can learn about UCCS programs by logging into a Webinar presentation on Monday, November 21, at 4:45 p.m. Attendees will be able to type questions into a chat box, and UCCS staff will reply. Outreach Coordinator Hanna Snider will begin with a power point presentation about the program. Students currently in the Fall program will also be on hand to make brief presentations and answer questions.

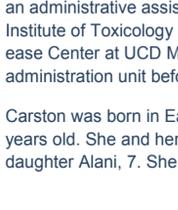
Anyone interested may sign up for the Webinar [here](#).

The UCCS Team

Damaris Carston UC Davis Financial Aid Office

Editor's note: UC Center depends on the hard work of dedicated representatives on each UC campus, as well as a cadre of administrative staff from various departments at UC Davis. The Center could not function without their support. Each month, "Center of the Capital" will feature a member of our team.

When students spend a quarter in Sacramento as part of the UC Center policy program, they move well out of their comfort zones. They're familiar with institutional routines on their home campuses, but now they must enroll at UC Davis and adapt to a new structure and a different cast of administrators.



During the enrollment phase, no subject is more important to many of these students than the status of the financial-aid package they receive from their home campus. Do they still qualify? Who provides aid? How much will they get?

For the past year, Damaris Carston has been the person answering those questions as a officer in the UC Davis Financial Aid Office. UC Center has been on her plate and, as such, she has been responsible for extending students' financial comfort zone to include UC Davis. Until her recent transfer to other duties, Carston packaged financial aid for incoming UCCS students from other campuses, guiding them through the process of applying to Davis for aid, creating specialized budgets and informing students of any special requirements they must satisfy to receive aid from Davis.

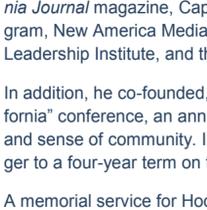
A 20-year veteran of UC Davis staff, Carston has had a varied career, including as an administrative assistant in Material Management, research grant writer at the Institute of Toxicology & Environmental Health, and on staff at the Alzheimer's Disease Center at UCD Medical Center. She first came to the financial office in the administration unit before segueing to the funds unit.

Carston was born in East Los Angeles but moved to Woodland when only two years old. She and her husband, Kirk, currently reside in Woodland with their daughter Alani, 7. She also is step-mother of a 19-year-old son, Shaw.

COMMUNITY

UC Center Loses a Friend Dr. Timothy Hodson (1950-2011)

UC Center lost a good friend last month when Dr. Timothy Hodson passed away on October 25 after a year-long battle with brain cancer. Officially, the 61-year-old Hodson was a professor of political science and executive director of the Center for California Studies at CSU Sacramento. The Center is home to the Capital Fellows Program, considered among the nation's top post-graduate fellowships. Many UCCS alumni have participated in the year-long CSU program, which places its fellows in legislative, administrative and judicial offices throughout Sacramento.



More significant to UC Center, Hodson was a gracious mentor to UCCS staff after the Center was launched in 2003, helping introduce UCCS to the capital's policy and political community. In that capacity, he helped then-UCCS Public Service Director John Griffing, a colleague in the Senate Office of Research during the 1980s and a close friend for more than three decades.

Tim Hodson spent his career at the nexus of academia and public policy. After receiving a doctorate in Political Science from UC Santa Barbara, Hodson became a fixture in California politics and public affairs for 30 years. He first entered public service in 1978 when he served on the staff of the state Senate. Over the next 15 years, he became a leading authority on reapportionment, redistricting, local government, elections and election law. It was a thoughtful expertise he continued to refine and share on panels, in his writing and as a news source long after he left the Legislature for academia. He was named Center director in 1993, a post he held until his retirement early last month.

Even in the mud trough of politics and government, Hodson developed a reputation for patience and gentle humor. He wasn't shy about expressing his views or challenging the views of others, but he always did so with respect and with a deep appreciation for the value of civil discourse.

If a common theme runs through Hodson's career, it is this: to educate a broad swath of California to the significance of active citizenship.

It was a theme that allowed Tim Hodson to touch many Californians in the most positive sense — a touch brought to life through countless groups that benefited from his time and expertise; among them, the National Council of State Legislatures, *California Journal* magazine, Capital Public Radio, Chicano & Latino Youth Leadership Program, New America Media, Black Legislative Caucus Internship Program, California Leadership Institute, and the California Center for Education in Public Affairs.

In addition, he co-founded, with colleagues at CSU Northridge, the "Envisioning California" conference, an annual in-depth exploration of issues vital to the state's health and future of community. In 2007, he was appointed by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to a four-year term on the state Fair Political Practices Commission.

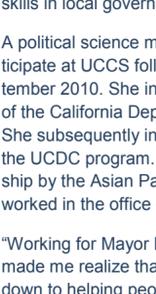
A memorial service for Hodson will be held Monday, November 14, at 1:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in downtown Sacramento. A reception after the service will be held at UC Center.

Hodson is survived by his immediate family: wife Ruth Holton-Hodson, deputy for health and consumer policy in the office of Controller John Chang; son Matt Hodson and daughter-in-law Betsy Hodson of Minneapolis; and grandson Max.

ALUMNI

Raihane Dalvi, UC San Diego

Raihane Dalvi wanted to give something back to her hometown. So the 23-year-old UC San Diego graduate didn't hesitate when given a chance to work for Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson.



She currently serves as assistant to Johnson's chief of staff, Kunal Merchant.

Staying in Northern California is important to Dalvi and the key reason she turned down the opportunity to attend law school at UC Irvine this fall. After four years at San Diego, she was ready to return home. Working for Johnson anchored her to Sacramento and also allowed her to use her skills in local government.

A political science major at UCSD, Dalvi was in the first cohort of students to participate at UCCS following the Center's revival as an academic program in September 2010. She interned with the Special Crimes Unit and Victim Services Unit of the California Department of Justice, under the mentorship of Deborah Bain. She subsequently interned with Rep. Doris Matsui's office in Washington as part of the UCDC program. Following graduation in June 2010, she was awarded a fellowship by the Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association where she worked in the office of California Assemblyman Richard Pan (D-Sacramento).

"Working for Mayor Kevin Johnson is an amazing experience," Dalvi said. "It's made me realize that beyond all the politics, legislation and media, it really comes down to helping people and bettering our community."

APPLY FOR WINTER 2012, SPRING 2012

WINTER 2012
Program Dates: January 6—March 24
FINAL APPLICATION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 9

SPRING 2012
Program Dates: March 29—June 14
FINAL APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 8

For more information contact
Outreach and Program Coordinator Hanna Snider [here](#).



November 2011

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1	2	3 POL 195 Ariel Dinar Public Seminar Noon	4	5
6 	7 POL 192	8	9	10 POL 195 Jack Scott Public Seminar Noon	11 	12
13	14 POL 192 Hodson Memorial Reception 2:30 p.m.	15	16	17 POL 195	18	19
20	21 POL 192 UCCS Webinar Session 4:45 p.m.	22	23	24 	25	26
27	28 POL 192	29	30			

Questions or comments? Or if you'd like your name added or removed from our email list, please email editor A.G. Block at agblock@ucdavis.edu.

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