**Civil Unrest in Egypt Leads to EAP Evacuation**

In the midst of avid riots in Egypt, the University of California’s Educations Abroad Program (EAP), scrambled to evacuate UC students, including four UCSD students, from the American University in Cairo. A total of 19 UC students and eleven UC faculty and staff vacated Cairo after the U.S. state Department issued a travel warning for the country.

The University of California President Mark Yudof had all EAP evacuees moved to Barcelona for immediate security. Thankfully, there were no EAP staff, students, or faculty that were injured in the Egypt’s uprising. Following the evacuation, Yudof commented that he was very “…happy and relieved that they have been delivered from what our overseas contacts described as an unstable situation. We have contingency plans in place for just these types of circumstances, and they worked.”

All costs of the evacuation are being covered by the UC insurance plan that all study abroad students are required to get before leaving their country. Furthermore, evacuees were given several options which included returning to their studies on their home UC campus or studying in other open EAP programs. These included Israel, Turkey, Korea, Germany.

**Kelly Temes**

PAO Student Assistant

As part of the ‘People-to-People Exchange’ between the United States and China which seeks to “promote engagement between the United States and China in education, culture, science, technology, and sports,” (America.gov) President Obama launched the ‘100,000 Strong’ initiative in late 2009 as a “national effort designed to increase dramatically the number and diversity the composition of American students studying abroad in China” (state.gov). The timeline continues with Secretary of State Hillary Clinton officially announcing the program in May 2010 in Beijing, further aspiring to, “have 100,000 American students study in China over the next four years” (America.gov). So you may be wondering, why is this initiative suddenly important now? Well, the President and CEO of the Institute for International Education (IIE) received a letter from Secretary of State Clinton in early January of this year in which Clinton urged leaders of U.S. higher education institutions and study abroad providers to double the number of students who study in China by 2014 (state.gov). Now, UCSD (as an institution of higher education) is officially playing a part in President Obama’s and Secretary of State Clinton’s 100,000 Strong Initiative, which seeks to give more students the opportunity to study abroad in China.

Continued on Page 5

**ANOTHER EAP UPDATE:** UCEAP suspended all 2010-2011 programs in Japan after the massive earthquake and tsunami in March and all 80 UC students in Japan at the time have been located and confirmed to be safe. Programs for Fall will continue as normal.
New Restaurant at the Village: The Strand

The ever-evolving North Campus of UCSD is inaugurating its newest dining experience called The Strand in April 2011. The Strand is a full-service bistro and market place, located across from The Village. The Bistro at the Strand is Dining Services’ first restaurant with table service, dining by reservation as well as convenient online to-go orders. The new eatery will feature an open kitchen, outdoor seating and a Southeast Asian-inspired menu, which includes a sushi bar, fresh greens and vegetarian fare, noodle dishes, and top-grade cuts of beef and fish.

Student Petition for More S Parking Spaces

Everyone can agree that parking is not one of UC San Diego’s strong points. Students were angered, once again, when they found out that there were 133 fewer ‘S’ parking spots than Fall quarter.

Over winter break, Transportation and Parking Services reallocated and reduced the number of parking spots, mostly affecting lots in Revelle and Sixth College, to make room for new construction projects. Resource management and Planning Communications director Rex Graham said the allocation of parking spots give precedence to ‘A’ spaces, followed by ‘B’ and then ‘S’ spaces, in terms of proximity to a building or area.

“We’re at the bottom of the food chain,” Sixth College sophomore Allison Pratt said, “That order needs to be re-evaluated because the undergraduate student body make up a majority of the campus.”

Continued on page 3

Trolley Route to UCSD Planned for 2016

Speaking of UCSD’s parking situation, efforts to reduce the need for more parking spaces are being furthered in a recently announced project – to build a trolley that runs from downtown San Diego to UCSD!

UCSD administration has been working with the San Diego Association of Governments board of directors, who have approved the budget of $1.2 billion dollars, as well as city planners to figure out logistics and conduct environmental studies. UCSD Director of Physical Planning Brad Werdick said a trolley can hold up to 120 passengers and travel at a maximum of 55 miles per hour, running every 7.5 minutes, which will positively affect the commuter system at UCSD.

According to Vice Chancellor of Resource Management & Planning Gary Matthews, SANDAG has been holding open forums to discuss routes and the trolley’s impact with members of the UCSD and greater San Diego community. They have been met with an overwhelming amount of support from the locals.

For UCSD, the locations for stops are still being discussed, but will probably include the favored area of Pepper Canyon Hall and somewhere near the Preuss School and surrounding Health facilities.

Free AS Lecture Notes on Election Day

In February, A.S. Council passed a new measure that aims to motivate students to vote in the upcoming election later in November. This initiative called “Resolution to Support Student Voting” states that students will be given free online access to A.S. lectures notes if they vote during the upcoming elections.

Continued on page 5
Roosevelt College Cuts Course From MMW Sequence


Jonathan Kaslow
Source: The Guardian

Starting next year, Eleanor Roosevelt College’s Making of the Modern World core series will be shortened to five, instead of six, quarters for incoming freshmen and two, instead of three, for transfer students. The college announced in an e-mail on March 2 budget cuts have forced the change to the general-education requirement. Current students who have yet to finish the program only need to complete five courses in the sequence to graduate.

MMW Program Director Matthew Herbst said that budget cuts, not any problems with the curriculum, are the main reason for the change. "We knew we had to make changes when the budget cuts were announced," Herbst said. The program changes the requirement from MMW courses numbered 1-6 to MMW 11-15 for freshmen. The first two courses – of which MMW 1 is non-writing intensive – in the sequence will be merged to comprise MMW 11, though the rest of the program is expected to remain intact.

Student Petition (Continued from page 2)

Platt worked with A.S. president Wafa Ben Hassine to create a petition and Facebook group on January 25, asking for more parking spaces. Ben Hassine said, “A lot of students are a little frustrated that S spots are being converted to A and B spots without the consultation of students and [students like Platt want] to express that.”

Within a couple days, 2,296 individuals –mostly undergraduates, signed the online petition at the A.S. Council’s website. “Within the first hour, I had 200 signatures and within 4 hours, I had 800,” said Platt. Her goal is to get 22,000 signatures, the approximate number of undergrads at UC San Diego.

Despite greater usage of public and alternative transportation in recent years, the San Diego public transportation and UCSD commuter system are not yet able to provide services needed by a lot of students –mainly, late night routes. Most students stay on campus until past midnight, and need a way of getting back home if they are encouraged to not bring their own cars.

Until practical alternative forms of transportation are able to completely provide for students or UC San Diego magically acquires new land adjacent to existing parking lots, the issues surrounding parking spaces and alternative transportation will not cease to be a topic of hot debate among the staff and student body.

New Global Health Minor at UCSD

Sumedha Sinha
PAO Student Assistant

UCSD has a new minor that may interest many of you out there. The Global Health Minor was created to allow students to understand and participate in processes of health, illness, and healing across the globe. Earth Hasssri, a current Global Health Minor and premed student, says, “The global health courses at UCSD have given me insight on many dimensions of health, especially social, cultural, and economic factors that tie into health and illness.” The general minor requirements demand a minimum of seven courses (28 units). A more detailed view of the minor breaks down in the following manner:

- Two core courses are required in order to introduce students to the field of global health
- One biological science course is required relevant to global health
- Participation in one global health field experience at a research or clinical site either in the United States or abroad
- Depending on the number of credits received for the field research, three or four additional elective courses, at least three of which must be upper division.

More information and complete list of courses for this very interesting minor can be found on the Global Health Minor website: roosevelt.ucsd.edu/global-health.
Entertainment Recap

Rachel H.
PAO Student Assistant

2011 has only just started and yet already it's been a surprising year for entertainment starting with Arcade Fire's unexpected Grammy win for Album Of The Year for The Suburbs. Perhaps Lady Gaga's win for Best Pop Vocal Album was less surprising but she still managed to retain shock value by showing up to the Grammy's in (I kid you not) a giant egg. The remaining awards were rounded out with Eminem's Recovery winning Best Rap Album, Muse's The Resistance winning Best Rock Album, and Lady Antebellum's Need You Now winning Best Country Album.

Over at the Academy Awards, Anne Hathaway and James Franco took off their acting hats to try their hand at hosting (to admittedly mixed reviews). “The King’s Speech” came away as the night’s big winner being crowned as the Best Picture with Colin Firth taking home the Best Actor prize. Natalie Portman was awarded the Oscar for Best Actress for her role in “Black Swan” (followed by her win in the same category for the Golden Globes and Independent Spirit Awards). Natalie’s biggest prize will come later this year with the birth of her first child!

In further entertainment news, the Kardashians clan, led by reality superstar Kim Kardashian, made 85 million dollars this past year (seriously) from their three TV shows and product endorsement deals. Lindsay Lohan was arrested for felony shoplifting after swiping a $2,500 necklace (really, Lindsay, you couldn’t have just bought it?). Christina Aguilera hopped on the arrestee bandwagon being charged with public intoxication in early March (following her Super Bowl performance where she infamously flubbed the words to the National Anthem in front of 111 million viewers). Charlie Sheen confessed to having “tigers blood” and reassured the public that after going to rehab, losing his job and custody of his children, all while dating two porn stars simultaneously, that he is, “duh, winning.”

So, that’s your entertainment news of the year! I’ll leave you with some words of wisdom from Charlie Sheen: “Stay off the crack. Drink chocolate milk.”

Impact of Gov. Brown’s Proposed Budget Cuts on UCSD

Kelly Temes
PAO Student Assistant

With Jerry Brown taking on the role of California Governor in November 2010, he didn’t waste time in proposing some progressive initiatives to ease the state’s huge debt, including $500 million in budget cuts to the University of California. According to Donna Hemmila, the managing editor with the UC office of the President Integrate Communications, “Brown’s proposed state general fund budget will return UC to 1998 funding levels when the system enrolled only 161,400 students, 73,600 fewer than today’s enrollment of 235,000 students” (universityofcalifornia.edu/news/article/24764).

Additionally, according to the UCSD Guardian, UCSD received the second highest number of freshmen and transfer applicants for Fall 2011 out of all the UC’s and may be forced to restrict admission even further as a result of the huge budget cuts to the UC system.

There has also been a proposal to shut down Clics next year due to lack of sufficient funding.
100,000 Strong  *Continued from page 1*

According to America.gov, the President’s initiative “seeks to prepare the next generation of American experts on China who will be charged with managing the growing political, economic, and cultural ties between the United States and China.” The President and Secretary of State have also cited the need to give more US students an opportunity to study abroad in China as 10 times more Chinese students come to the United States for educational programs than Americans who study in China (state.gov). American students are encouraged to apply for numerous full and partial scholarships offered through the Chinese government to fund their study abroad experience including the ‘Bridge Scholarships,’ as an initiative to “support Chinese language and culture study for American students and young people through 10,000 scholarships and financial support over the next four years” (IIEpassport.org’s Study Abroad in China Special Edition).

According to the Institute of International Education’s IIE Passport publication, and IIE’s 2010 Report, “China was the 5th most popular study abroad destination, with 13,674 U.S. Students studying in China for academic credit” (IIEpassport.org). With over 500 UCSD students studying abroad in China alone through EAP & OAP programs in the last five years, and an increase in the number of applicants for EAP Beijing and Shanghai programs in 2011, UCSD is playing a large role in realizing Secretary of State Clinton’s goal of doubling the number of students who study abroad in China by 2014.

With the opportunity to increase communication, understanding and cooperation between the youth of the two power countries, the 100,000 Strong ‘Study in China Plan’ provides one such tool to ‘build strategic trust in U.S. –China relations through education’ (IIEpassport.org).

Free AS Lecture Notes  *Continued from page 2*

Despite the Council’s good intentions, the initiative actually evades the real issues surrounding voter turnout.

According to Anthony Eastman from the County of San Diego Registrar of Voters, UCSD voter turnout was 81.5 percent at last November’s midterm election. The 81.5 percent in of itself is a high percentage, but the actual number of registered voters on campus comprises only 9 percent of the student body. That is, out of the 23,000 undergrads at UCSD, 21,000 students are not voting nor are they registered to vote.

Upon reflection, one day’s worth of free notes is unfortunately not enough to get students to take time out of their day to register, let alone, vote. Students who truly care about voting, politics, or civic duty — no matter what, will find 15 minutes of their day to cast their votes. Those who aren’t interested, but A.S. Council is hoping to convince, however, will not be lured in by lecture notes that they can easily get their hands on, voter or not. Because the lecture notes are online, they are available for everyone, making it hard for A.S. to regulate.

Furthermore, only 35 out of 1,057 professors subscribe to A.S. lecture notes. Most others professors Podcast and/or post their lectures online through WebCT or personal websites. Therefore, even if the Resolution were to work, the benefits would be next to nil. Only students in those 35 classes would benefit from this new initiative. Finally, free lectures notes will not really affect those students in classes that take attendance.

A.S. Council should refocus their efforts on initiatives that study why and what makes students register to vote. They could also reason with professors to schedule midterms and papers around Election Day, therefore, allowing students to more opportunities during the day to vote.

A.S. Council has the right idea in wanting to inspire students to vote. The initiative is a good starting point, but in-depth research must be done in order to truly smooth out the barriers. The last thing we want is another ineffective waste of time and energy.