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Civil Engineering Undergraduate Announcements – December 3, 2020

Hello everyone! I received more announcements for this week that I wanted to share. Note that some of the events are for THIS WEEK

1. [Get Involved on Campus!](#)
 - a. [American Water Works Association \(AWWA\) at UC Davis](#)
 - b. [HackDavis](#)
 - c. [Fall Weekend of Service](#)
 - d. [International Student Mentorship Program](#)
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Get Involved on Campus!

American Water Works Association (AWWA) at UC Davis

LADWP Info Session - When: December 4th at 4:00 PM

AWWA at UCD invites you to their next general meeting where LADWP will be speaking on the engineering roles at LADWP and how the hiring process is like. For more information on the speaker attending see below:

Ruwanka Purasinghe is an alumnus from UC Davis and graduated in 2011 with a B.S. in Civil Engineering. During his time at UC Davis, he participated in the 2010 UCD Engineering Rome Study Abroad Program, and was a Resident Advisor! Ruwanka is now a Civil Engineer for the Los Angeles Department of Water & Power, where he currently works in the Project Management Office of the Water Engineering & Technical Services Division. Ruwanka has worked on a variety of water system capital improvement projects including tunneling projects, dam & reservoir work, and water quality related facilities. Outside of his day to day work, Ruwanka is the President of the American Society of Civil Engineers Los Angeles Branch, and started his own 501©3 non-profit. For his contributions to the engineering community, Ruwanka has been featured on NBC News and Time for Kids.

Feel free to ask questions about the current opportunities available (i.e. SEP, see internship below) or his experience navigating his career. We hope to see you there!

Zoom Link: <https://ucdavis.zoom.us/j/94814980550>

Meeting ID: 948 1498 0550

LADWP Internship Deadline: December 18, 2020

Interested in applying your engineering education to the work of the largest municipal utility in the United States. If so, apply to the Student Engineer Program (SEP). SEP provides college-level engineering students with practical on-the-job-training and experience, including career mentoring, theoretical and technical instruction, and complete project-related, infrastructure work tasks. Student Engineers are paired with LADWP engineers and work in technical teams throughout the organization. You will get practical on-the-job training and experience in one of the many facets of the water or power systems, or one of the crucial support functions of the utility.

2021 SUMMER INTERNSHIP

Starting pay: \$24.00 per hour

Eligibility Requirements

- At the time of application, the applicant must:
 - be enrolled as a full-time student as a declared engineering major in an accredited university or college or have proof of full-time registration of graduate courses in a declared graduate engineering major;
 - have at least sophomore standing in the declared engineering major curriculum at the time of application;
 - have completed at least one full-time year at accredited universities or colleges.
- Have career goals, curriculum, experience, and/or interests related to the business of the LADWP.
- Have the ability to communicate effectively in English, both orally and in writing.
- Have the legal right to work in the United States; however, LADWP does not sponsor work visas.
- A California Driver License may also be required for the job.
- Background check conducted in accordance with LADWP procedures and/or in accordance with NERC CIP policy requirements.

What to Expect at LADWP

As part of the Student Engineer Program, you'll be provided with:

- Meaningful engineering work experience and training
- Varied assigned tasks to expand learning opportunities
- Progressively more challenging work assignments

- A link between theory, training, and work
- An understanding of the relationship between assignments and the function of the total organization.

Students interested in applying for the following position(s) should submit an application with a cover letter, resume, and unofficial transcript(s) at www.ladwp.com/sep

HackDavis

HackDavis is UC Davis's annual hackathon that specifically focuses on social good! It's open to all majors, all schools, and all experience levels!

They have A LOT OF SURPRISES planned (**professional & technical workshops, fun activities, cool guest speakers, and free food credits**), and can't wait to serve them all at the actual event!

Don't have a team yet? No problem! We'll be launching a team finder portal soon!

Apply here <https://hackdavis.io/> (Deadline is 12/20!)

Hit "Going" on our Facebook event and invite all of your friends

<https://fb.me/e/g2DXgVSGx>

Please sign up for their mailing list [here](#). You can find more information on their [Facebook page](#) regarding future events. If you have any questions, please email hello@hackdavis.io.



Fall Weekend of Service

This year the Community Service and Resource Center is hosting three mighty organizations for the Fall Weekend of Service this weekend (**12/5 & 12/6**)! Things are looking a bit different this year - they ask that all volunteers and hosts wear masks and actively practice social distancing in accordance with [CDC Guidelines](#) and safety for our community; if you feel that you cannot follow these guidelines, it is best to hold off for a time that you can.

These projects range from Davis, Sacramento or from your phone! **You can access their projects [here](#)**. All you need to do is email the corresponding coordinator that you're interested!

<https://tinyurl.com/y6tj2dc7> **Please only volunteer if you feel healthy and don't have a cough, sore throat, fever, or any sign of being ill; remember that we need to be thoughtful to protect our community - a way to do that is staying home if you don't feel well.

RSVP to our [Facebook Event](#) and email us at communityservice@ucdavis.edu if you have any questions!

International Student Mentorship Program

As a registered student organization at UC Davis, **International Student Mentorship Program (ISMP)** is dedicated to support international students in all areas of life: Academics, Career Development, English Training/Conversation, Networking, and more! Please see more information at ismpdavis.org if you are an international student and interested in getting connected with other international students & mentors at UC Davis.

Sign up for various exciting virtual meetings coming up the rest of this fall quarter for any international students at UC Davis!

***Live* Resume & Interview 1-1 Help !**

Session I (12/4, 7pm): Resume (bring a copy of your resume!)

Session II (12/11, 7pm): Interview

Get awesome tips from UC Berkeley Haas School of Business Guest Speaker!

SIGN UP: <https://tinyurl.com/y6p7wsuo>

International Student Virtual Study Lounge !

12/9, 12/10, 12/14: 7-9pm & 12/15: 6-8pm

Study snacks delivered to Davis student residents!

SIGN UP: <https://tinyurl.com/yyvk2lfu>

International Student Winter Hangout !

12/22, 12/23, 12/29, 12/30: 5-7pm

Learn new skills, meet other students & mentors while playing some fun games together!

SIGN UP: <https://www.ismpdavis.org/winter>

Undergraduate Research Center Discovery Café

Join the Undergraduate Research Center for our last Discovery Café of the Fall Quarter!

[**RSVP HERE**](#)

CMAA CMIT Student Informational Video

The CMAA Northern California Chapter has made a core goal of their chapter to further the collaboration between our student chapters and our professional membership. As we are in unprecedented times, the ability for their membership to share experiences and networking opportunities in a face to face context is greatly limited. In an effort to outline all that the CMAA Northern California chapter can do for local Universities, they have assembled the pre-recorded video that can be found at the [link below](#). In addition to providing context on the history of the CMAA National and CMAA Northern California Chapter, they have outlined resources and opportunities that are available to their student chapters. In collaboration with Dr. Farzad Shahbodaglou, CMAA Northern California Academic Ex:Officio Director (Professor and Founding Director of the Construction Management Program at CSU East Bay) they urge their chapters to watch the video either as part of one of your class discussions or share the video with your students so they can realize the benefits of expanding their network with (free) membership, scholarship opportunities, learning options and certification possibilities within CMAA.

The CMAA Northern California Chapter looks forward to interacting with each of our Student Chapters and members for the upcoming year including a Rising CM Virtual Conference in the Spring.

Video Link

<https://www.cmaanorcal.org/students-scholarships?wix-vod-video-id=3336e5f69dbd94e579947fb710864a4bf&wix-vod-comp-id=comp-ki564unu>

Degenkolb Engineers – Research Survey & Data Collection

The Racial Equity Task Group at Degenkolb Engineers, a structural engineering firm in the SF Bay Area, has been tasked with researching and collecting data on student demographics and attrition rates within civil engineering departments in California colleges and universities. More specifically, they are interested in learning why there are very few folks who identify as Black and African American in the structural engineering profession and what the pipeline looks like at the undergraduate level. They have developed a [survey](#) for current civil engineering undergraduate students, with the hope of gaining an understanding of their experiences and what we as professionals can do to better support their career growth and development. Please visit this [link](#) or see attachment for a summary of the main topics we

hope to study.

UC Irvine Life Skills Course

UCI professor's life skills course is expanded to all 10 UC campuses

Life 101 teaches students self-care, healthy habits and how to manage stress

Irvine, Calif., Nov. 30, 2020 — Long successful at the University of California, Irvine, Mahtab Jafari's [Life 101](#) course will be available across the 10 UC campuses during the upcoming winter quarter. The class teaches healthy lifestyle choices, promotes students' well-being, and helps them to recognize and manage their stress.

"We have an epidemic of stress among college students," said Jafari, professor of pharmaceutical sciences. "Without a healthy mind and body, it's impossible to be successful – personally or professionally."

Over the last several decades, numerous [studies](#) and student [surveys](#) have found increased undergraduate stress levels, particularly among freshmen as they adjust to new living and academic environments.

Now, with COVID-19 cases continuing to rise around the country and schools being forced to drastically change the way they teach in a short period of time, students face even greater mental and physical health challenges.

"Self-care is a critical element of academic success, and this course presents strategies for mindfulness and emotional intelligence that will support students during the pandemic," said Ellen Osmundson, program director for the UC-wide Innovative Learning Technology Initiative.

Launched as a UCI pharmaceutical sciences course in 2013, Life 101 teaches students how to manage stress and improve quality of life through topics such as nutrition, exercise, sleep, the effects of performance-enhancing drugs on campuses and even the health benefits of volunteering. From handling personal finances to finding affordable produce, the class equips students to approach the rest of their studies in the best frame of mind and body.

"Taking Life 101 with Dr. Jafari has truly helped me navigate the challenges that I – and many

other college students – face relating to school and everyday life,” said Sydney Aimua, who earned a B.S. in chemistry this year. “I learned how to manage my mental health and be more mindful and disciplined with my eating, exercise and sleeping habits.”

Jafari developed the popular course with two undergraduates and continually tweaks the curriculum based on student evaluations and the changing environment outside the classroom. Over the summer, for example, she added a module on anti-racism to address the Black Lives Matter movement and racial tensions.

“I look at this course as a constant work in progress,” Jafari said. “For instance, because of the pandemic, I will include more information on emotional health in the winter quarter.”

Usually held in person, the winter session this year will be fully online to accommodate remote learning and extend the class to all UC students. Jafari expects about 400 to enroll. Every week, they will watch a recorded lecture and online videos, take a quiz, reflect on how the topics relate to their own lives and respond to their peers’ comments.

All of this can be done on their own schedules so that this stress-reduction course does not, in itself, cause stress. Instead, it will be a resource for students to learn from the lectures and each other’s experiences and ideas.

“In the new online learning environment, the greatest challenge to students lies in the lack of social interaction,” Jafari said. By connecting them across campuses, she aims to create “a better sense of community.”

About the University of California, Irvine: Founded in 1965, UCI is the youngest member of the prestigious Association of American Universities. The campus has produced three Nobel laureates and is known for its academic achievement, premier research, innovation and anteater mascot. Led by Chancellor Howard Gillman, UCI has more than 36,000 students and offers 222 degree programs. It’s located in one of the world’s safest and most economically vibrant communities and is Orange County’s second-largest employer, contributing \$5 billion annually to the local economy. For more on UCI, visit www.uci.edu.

Media access: Radio programs/stations may, for a fee, use an on-campus ISDN line to interview UCI faculty and experts, subject to availability and university approval. For more UCI news, visit news.uci.edu. Additional resources for journalists may be found at communications.uci.edu/for-journalists.

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