

the SIGNAL

See page 10 to read about the issues that arose during the Black History Month's events.



Read about how recent immigration laws are affecting parents, professionals and DACA students on page 16.

Lea sobre cómo las leyes actuales de inmigración están afectando a padres y estudiantes de DACA en página 18.

Find out more about how and why the Middle Class Scholarship is being defunded on page 7.



Warriors Ride courtesy of Josey Hazelton

by Olivia Soto

After circling the same block scouring for a single parking spot, I got a chance to sit down with California State University, Stanislaus', (Stan State), very own Josey Hazelton (graduate, Political Science) about the better uses of public transit.

On Feb. 22, Associated Students, Incorporated (ASI) announced a new partnership with Turlock Transit that allows Stan State students to ride free on their buses by simply presenting their Warrior I.D. card.

What many may not know is that a Stan State student's persistence and passion for easily accessible public transportation is part of what made the vision come to life.

In Fall 2015, Hazelton applied for the Mayor's Public Policy Award and came out as the winner of the first annual competition. Turlock Mayor Gary Soiseth began the annual competition to encourage students to apply their skills



Hazelton at Turlock's public transit center. (Photo by Josey Hazelton)

to finding solutions for regional public policy issues.

"I applied with the idea of improving the public transit system, won and then started interning for the City of Turlock from January to August of 2016," Hazelton said.

She received \$3,000 to assist with her research alongside faculty mentor Dr. Gerard Wellman, whom Hazelton accredits for her accomplishments and who praises her for her admirable determination.

"Josey is one of the most dedicated and hardworking people, not just students...that I have ever come across. She doesn't back down from a challenge, in fact, she won't", Dr. Wellman said.

Wellman was the perfect mentor for Josey, as transportation and public policy are his focuses within his research.

"I actually had experience with the same issue that she was proposing while I was an undergraduate student," Dr. Wellman, Assistant Professor of Public Administration said. "...which was creating a relationship between the university and the local transit agency. I was really enthused with what Josey presented and her rationale and her proposal with how she would proceed."

Meanwhile, ASI President Nicole Larsen (senior, Psychology) was also working towards the same goal of bridging the City of Turlock with the campus.

"My initiative while running for my first term as President was to connect the Stan State with downtown Turlock," Larsen said.

"We [ASI] asked the city to provide buses for Warriors Explore Downtown. We got 400 students who rode the bus to get downtown for that event and used that number to negotiate a partnership with Turlock Transit."

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“At the time, Josey was in ASI and she was interning for the city, I think, and became our behind-the-scenes person. She was a strong advocate and a big support for us,” Larsen said.

“Through that [internship] process, they were doing a short-range transit plan and redoing all of the bus routes in Turlock and part of that was building a partnership with Stan State, ASI and downtown Turlock,” Hazelton said.

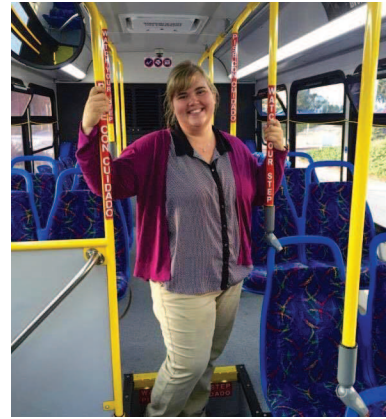
Hazelton’s overall plan was focused on improving the affordability, accessibility and convenience of public transit.

“My idea was to form that partnership to better serve Stan State and one of the ways was to get all students the Warrior Ride pass,” Hazelton said.

As it turns out, Stan State was one of the few California State Universities to have free or reduced fare passes for its students. Sacramento, Channel Islands, Los Angeles and East Bay are a few CSUs that have implemented a similar service that Warriors Ride now offers.

Considering Stan State is a commuter school, Hazelton was eager to use her ASI Board of Director’s experience and knowledge to be that middleman between ASI, commuter students and the City of Turlock.

Prior to winning the Mayor’s Public Policy Award that gave her that stepping stone to cre-



Although Josey is passionate about public transit, she uses her bicycle on a daily basis but is using the bus a lot more since Warriors Ride was implemented. (Photo by Josey Hazelton)

ate change, Hazelton’s determination to make a difference has been a long time coming.

In 2015, the public transit advocate participated in an internship for The Panetta Institute for Public Policy, worked for a member of The House of Representatives in Washington, D.C., was Hillary Clinton’s motorcade driver as part of volunteering for her campaign and went on a cross-country trip with a friend from Sacramento to Boston- all by train, of course.

Josey is currently working towards her Masters of Public Administration degree at Stan State.

Being aware of stereotypes people hold about those who ride public transit, Josey wants to students to at least “try transit”.

“People don’t realize it’s a good alternative. I want to dismantle the stereotypes and I want people to know that public transit is for everybody.”

Hazelton will be visiting D.C. as an intern for the Department of Transportation’s Civil Rights’ Internship Program this summer.

To keep up with her future endeavors, follow her blog americabytransit.wordpress.com

For more information on Turlock Transit routes, visit turlocktransit.com



Olivia Soto - Editor



One of Josey’s accomplishments that stand out is being a motorcade driver for Hillary Clinton during her campaign. (Photo by Josey Hazelton)

Flip to the center of the paper for a public transit map you can pull out and pin up!

Agriculture student wins USDA essay contest, travels to Virginia

by Vanessa Olmos

Every year, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has its annual Agricultural Outlook Forum Student Diversity Program, which gives the opportunity to 20 undergraduate juniors and seniors and 10 graduate students to attend the forum.

The USDA Agricultural Outlook Forum Student Diversity Program is designed to expose students to the contemporary agribusiness, the future trends, scientific research and agricultural policy in today's real world environment. It also gives the opportunity to students to meet and talk to different agricultural companies that attend such forums.

Students with agricultural-related studies, communication, nutrition, and food science or pre-veterinary studies had the opportunity to apply to attend the forum by writing an essay.

The undergraduate juniors and seniors had to write a one-page essay with the topic, "Agriculture as a Career," while the graduate students had to write a two-page essay with the topic, "The



Sarah Baskins (far right) with other students who also won the USDA essay contest, during their tour in Washington, D.C. (Courtesy of Sarah Baskins)

Greatest Challenge Facing Agriculture Over the Next 5 Years".

Each university had to conduct a pre-selection process and choose the final two best essays among their applicants, which also depended on the recommendation letters that were given either by the academic deans or the department chair. When the two final essays were chosen, they were then sent to the USDA where they had designated people who made the final selection.

For the 2017 USDA Agricultural Outlook Forum, the USDA chose 20 undergraduate students and 8 graduate students from different universities.

Sarah Baskins (junior, Agriculture Studies) was one California State University, Stanislaus (Stan State), student who was fortunate to have her essay selected to attend the forum, which took place from Feb. 23-24 in Arlington, Virginia.

Stan State had five students who turned in an application with their essay, which gave Baskins a better chance to

be one of the final two essays that were chosen by the campus' agriculture department to be sent to the USDA office for the final selection.

Baskins transferred from Merced College in the Fall of 2016, and she received an Associates in Science, Agricultural Business.

Aside from school, Baskins also works for Green Tree Nursery in La Grange, California. She stays active in various clubs and organizations and is the secretary for the agriculture department's Ambassador Board.

Baskins focused her essay on how agriculture as a career is an open book because, whether we are aware of it or not, we are all involved in agriculture. So, agriculture will be an eternal industry.

After finding out that she had won, Baskins said that she was shocked and confused all at the same time. She was on her way to an interview with the California Almond Board when she



Sarah Baskins touring D.C. during her trip to Virginia. (Courtesy of Sarah Baskins)



Sarah Baskins (far right) with members of the Ag Ambassadors during StanFresh Market at Stan State's quad run by the agriculture department. (Photo Courtesy of Sarah Baskins)

received the phone call, and it took her a moment to put all the pieces together. Baskins also said that she was shocked because she knew how competitive the program is, and to be one of the chosen was an honor.

Dr. Oluwarotimi Odeh, Baskins' advisor, was really excited and happy for her because she is a very self-driven student.

"So many students had the opportunity, but she was very committed to take advantage of the opportunities that are around her," Dr. Odeh said.

"It makes us professors all proud of her," said Dr. Ayuba Seidu, one of Baskins' professors at Stan State after finding out she had won the USDA essay contest.

Dr. Odeh motivated Baskins to participate in the contest. At first, she was very hesitant to participate and pushed it aside for the longest time because she did not feel confident enough in herself to apply, according to Dr. Odeh. He continuously reminded her about the deadline, making sure she was getting everything done.

"Normally, students are very shy to get involved in any school activity within the first semesters, but Sarah, within the first couple of weeks, showed that she wanted to be part of it. When the opportunity came up, she took advantage of it, and she is now the secretary for the Ag Ambassadors organization," Dr. Odeh said.

Baskins not only helps promote the organization she is a part of, but she also helped out during last Thanksgiving to create boxes with food for 50 families in the community. Baskins and members of the Ag Ambassadors worked together to help collect food items to put in boxes for the families in need who did not have food for their Thanksgiving dinner.

She helped out by going to various companies to collect donations and spent three hours getting everything ready so that the United Good Samaritan Foundation could deliver the boxes of donations to the families in need.

Attending the 2017 Agricultural Outlook Forum in Arlington, Virginia, was a great experience for Baskins, as it also gave her the opportunity to network with different companies that are in the agriculture industry. She also met policy makers and gained more knowledge about the industry.

"I think the key part of it is the opportunity to meet other students from other institutions and start building our own network," Dr. Odeh said.

"Students should always be on the lookout for opportunities. And if we, as faculty, send those opportunities out, students should take advantage because opportunities like these come, and this is the only time she could have taken advantage of this because one of the criteria is that they only take juniors and seniors,"

Dr. Odeh said.

Baskins said she learned a lot through this once-in-a-lifetime experience. They spent time getting to see statistics, research and evaluations that are done by the USDA for what they foresee the agriculture industry to look like.

Throughout the week that the forum was taking place, Baskins was able to share her background as well as journey through the history of agriculture with the other 27 college students who were from all around the country.

Baskins was able to tour Washington, D.C., and visit all of the historical monuments it has to offer. She was also lucky enough to speak with four various agencies from the USDA about what they do for the industry. The group of students also met with the U.S. House Committee on Agriculture and the United States Deputy Secretary of Agriculture.

By attending the forum, Baskins said that she learned things that will forever stick with her.

"All the stressful and sleepless nights in college are worth every bit of opportunity we are faced with," Baskins said.

"My professors were the reason why I could accomplish this journey. I was very fortunate to be working with Dr. Odeh, Dr. Seidu, Dr. Olmstead and Mr. Bell this semester," Baskins expressed.

"Each of them were one-hundred-ten percent supportive of this program and communicated with me every step of the way as far as making sure all my work, inside and outside of the classroom, was communicated to me in a timely manner. If it weren't for them and their support, there is absolutely no way I would have been able to participate in this. So, if they are reading this now, thank you for everything. It is beyond appreciated."



Vanessa Olmos - Reporter

BSU's struggles during Black History Month

by Steph Landeros and Tatiana Olivera

During the month of February, the Black Student Union (BSU) at California State University, Stanislaus (Stan State), celebrated Black History Month (BHM) by hosting an event every week on campus.

BSU ended Black History Month with a keynote event on Feb. 22 that featured successful local black role models, such as Stockton Mayor Michael Tubbs, San Joaquin County Judge Lauren Thomasson and Stan State Ethnic Studies Professor Fela Uhuru.

The theme for the night focused on knowing and understanding the past of one's ancestors and how it ties into the person one becomes.

"If you don't know where you are from, you don't know where you are going," BSU stated.

Mayor Tubbs offered his experience being Stockton's first black mayor while making a point about not being the only black man from Stockton qualified to be mayor.

He went on to mention past experiences as an undergraduate student at Stanford University. During his keynote address, Mayor Tubbs emphasized the importance of an education and policy work.

"Trying to change policies and outcomes requires selflessness, lack of ego and an understanding of the law—if there is no internal change, it's impossible," Mayor Tubbs said. "If you do nothing one-hundred percent of the time, you are guaranteed nothing one-hundred percent

of the time. If you do something, you are guaranteed something will change."

Further, San Joaquin County Judge Lauren Thomasson was appointed to her current position as a California Superior Court Judge in San Joaquin County by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2005. She is the first African American woman to hold that position.

As a Superior Court Judge, she has presided over both civil and criminal matters in Stockton and Lodi, and she currently presides over a criminal trial department in Stockton.

Judge Thomasson spoke about being the first African American judge in the county and what it means to speak for all African Americans.

"[If] I say what's on my mind, people call me an angry black woman," said Judge Thomasson. "When I am the first person in these positions, the things I have to do are to speak up and educate people and let them know we are [people] but we are [all] different,"

Moreover, Ethnic Studies Professor Fela Uhuru spoke on the need to remember the history of where we come from.

"Do you ever think about your ancestors?" Professor Uhuru questioned. "You wouldn't be here without them. We have to decolonize our psyche and look through a different prism."

Although the event featured several significant figures and had a full house in the Carol Burke Lounge, BSU struggled when going through the process of creating the event.

Mi'shaye Venerable (sophomore, Social Science), the president of BSU, mentioned that BSU reached out to several departments on campus to see if there was any way for them to collaborate. BSU received no reply.

Venerable said that while researching what BHM events Stan State has held in the past, she came across last year's collection of events titled "29 Days of Equity & Diversity."



BSU members, including Mi'Shaye Venerable and Michelle Akanji. (Signal Photo/Tatiana Olivera)

These events were hosted by the former Committee on Affirmative Action and Diversity, which is now known as the President's Commission of Diversity and Inclusion.

When Venerable asked the Associated Students, Inc. (ASI) office for contact information about the committee, she was forwarded to an administrative support assistant in the Theatre department.

Venerable contacted the assistant to find out more information regarding last year's events, only to find that the assistant was only responsible for organizing the usage of the main stage for last year's keynote speakers.

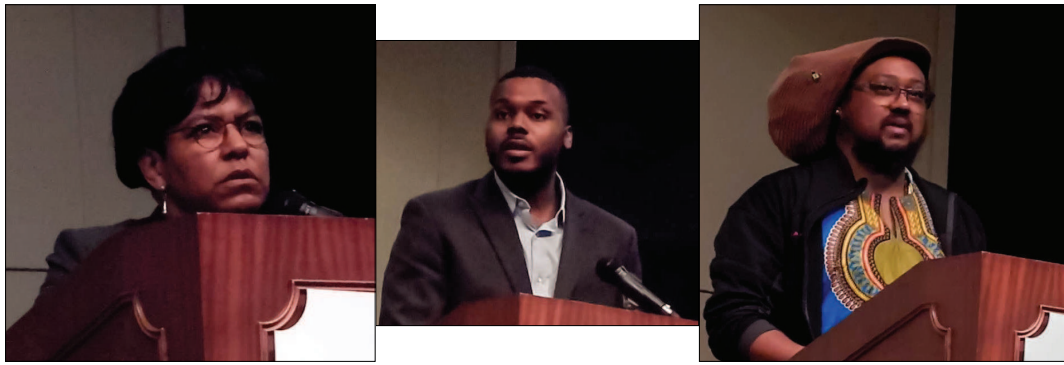
The Committee on Affirmative Action and Diversity web page is difficult to find on the Stan State website. At this time, the web page only displays pictures of assumed-to-be members of the committee and a video advocating for equity and diversity at Stan State.

When searching for the President's Commission of Diversity and Inclusion on other parts of the website, the search turns up blank. President Ellen Junn's webpage has no listing nor mention of the new commission.

BSU board members said that they were unaware of President Junn's diversity commission.

"I think everyone assumed that 'someone else would do it,'" Michelle Akanji (senior, Kinesiology), co-vice president and treasurer of BSU, said in regard to the BHM event.

The BSU board made it clear



San Joaquin County Judge Lauren Thomasson, Stockton Mayor Michael Tubbs and Stan State Ethnic Studies Professor Fela Uhuru were keynote speakers for BSU's BHM event on Feb. 22, 2017 at Stan State's Carol Burke Lounge. (Signal Photos/Tatiana Olivera)

that the perceived "someone else will do it" attitude seemed as though Stan State was not prioritizing BHM.

The board also understood that the "29 Days of Equity and Diversity" events were planned with good intentions, but felt that they shifted the focus away from BHM.

"It made me upset. For example, if it's World Aids Week and you highlighted other diseases, which are important too, it takes the focus away from the disease you are bringing awareness to," Akanji said. "Black History Month is Black History Month. Why choose to shift its focus when it's in the name?"

BSU's executive board became upset after not receiving a reply from any administrative staff they had reached out to for help with their event.

Although BSU is a newly chartered organization at Stan State, Housing and Residential Life (Housing) was able to contact them to collaborate for a BHM event.

"In January, they reached out to us, and they were on it," Akanji said. "[When] you walk into the Housing office, [you] see that it is decorated with pictures of prominent black historical figures."

Venerable added that Hous-

ing announced this event to be the first time they held a BHM event.

A week before BSU's keynote event, they thought they were the only ones putting on an event to celebrate BHM. Later, they discovered that there was a similar event planned by Stan State for the day after their event.

Rahel Addis (sophomore, Pre-Nursing), the vice president and secretary for BSU, said that the only other place she was aware of that was hosting a BHM event was the College for the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (CAHSS).

Addis mentioned that she had only heard about the CAHSS' event through a campus-wide email announcement.

"It seemed that no other departments acknowledged Black History Month, until I received the email about the event through [CAHSS]," Addis said.

Unlike the commission, BSU has a large online presence.

BSU's contact information can be found on Stan Sync. BSU also has many social media accounts for communication under the username "Stan State BSU."

Akanji said that she feels confused as to why they were not invited to help planning

the CAHSS Black History Month event.

"It does make me feel like we were left out because we are here on campus," Akanji said. "If there is any organization to plan something like this, it would be [BSU]."

Akanji emphasized that as a student organization, she wanted to invite and include the Stan State community in celebration of BHM.

"I wanted something student lead, stu-

dent based. We were out in the quad every week getting students involved," Akanji said.

BSU was motivated to host several events because they were inspired by a series of BHM events that took place two years ago featuring Black Panther Party Co-Founders Erica Huggins and Bobby Seale.

Dr. Kilolo Brodie, Chair of the Department of Social Work and Chair of the President's Commission of Diversity and Inclusion, was in charge of creating the BHM event that took place the day after BSU's event, along with Dr. James Tuedio, Dean of the College of the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.

Dr. Brodie was the president of Stan State's BSU in the 1990s, but back then it was called Umoja, which is a Swahili word for "unity."

"I have the utmost respect because I was a part of the history of Umoja on this campus. The president will extend an invitation of appointment to members," Dr. Brodie said. "Umoja is on that list because we want student clubs and organizations who have a particular ethnic background or charge like MEChA, for example, to have a representative be on that commission. So none of the formal letters for faculty, staff or student participation have gone out yet."

Some students and faculty received email notifications about both events, while others did not.

"As the students know when they're trying to put on events, there are a lot of logistics with the more people you try to bring in. But we do try to get the information out to them," Dr. Tuedio said.

Dr. Brodie and Dr. Tuedio plan on inviting BSU, and other organizations highlighting diversity, to collaborate on future events in order to preserve student representation.

For immediate updates on meetings or events, you can "like" their Facebook page, Stan State BSU, or follow them on Instagram, @stanstatebsu.

For general inquiries you can contact the Black Student Union board members by emailing stanstatebsu@gmail.com



Steph Landeros - Reporter



Tatiana Olivera - Editor

Gov. Brown proposes phase-out of Middle Class Scholarship

by Alondra De La Cruz

In a time where our country remains divided by many topics, one topic stands out in our state: education. Democratic Gov. Jerry Brown proposed a plan to phase out the taxpayer-funded Middle Class Scholarship to possibly save the state about \$116 million and close a nearly \$2 billion budget gap, leaving close to 50,000 California students without the financial aid that they require.

The governor's budget states, "to maintain the broad Cal Grant entitlement for the state's neediest students, the Budget proposes a phase-out of the Middle Class Scholarship Program. Beginning in 2017-18, awards will be renewed only for the approximately 37,000 students who received awards in 2016-17, with no new awards for the program. By 2020-21, this proposal will reduce annual General Fund costs by \$115.8 million."

"It saddens me that higher education is becoming impossible to obtain," California State University, Stanislaus (Stan State), student Sonia Tinoco (senior, Sociology) said. "Tuition is going up and federal funding is going down. In a sense, they are privatizing higher education, making it impossible for 'middle class' families to pay for college."

Tinoco has only revived the scholarship for one year, making her part of the 85,000 students that have been awarded the Middle Class Scholarship since the



California's capital on Feb. 15 in Sacramento, CA. (Signal Photo/Alondra De La Cruz)

scholarship started in 2014.

After four years at Stan State, Tinoco was no longer being awarded with Cal Grant B nor the Pell Grant, causing her to pay out-of-pocket for her full tuition. By the end of her last fall semester, she was informed that she qualified for the Middle Class Scholarship. She was reim-

Maggie White, states that it is "doubly unfortunate" that such possible scholarship cut is being proposed at a time when the University of California (UC) has raised tuition and the CSU is considering a tuition increase.

bursed and used the scholarship towards her last semester's tuition fees at Stan State.

"It [the Middle Class Scholarship] saved me a lot of stress and money since I go work two jobs to pay for my tuition," Tinoco said. "Middle class families are

struggling to keep up with the system because they make 'too much' to receive help, yet don't make enough to pay for tuition without taking out a loan. Students across California need the Middle Class Scholarship in order to afford college."

The Middle Class Scholarship is awarded to families whose annual incomes fall short of \$156,000. The average Middle Class Scholarship size in the California State University (CSU) system size is \$900.

The possible cut of the Middle Class Scholarship will not affect the Cal Grant nor the Dream Act funds.

H.D. Palmer, a spokesman for Gov. Brown's Department of Finance, told KCRA that the budget shortage was due to the state's financial projections being higher than the money the state took in.

Palmer also stated that they hope that students who are awarded the Middle Class Scholarship continue to receive the financial help that they have received thus far.

However, there is immense support from the legislature to keep the Middle Class Scholarship accessible to students. Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon has criticized the California governor for forgetting about the middle class and defended the scholarship in the hope to “keep college affordable.”

Maggie White, the Student Trustee on the CSU Board of Trustees and the only voting student member, states that it is “doubly unfortunate” that this possible scholarship cut is being proposed at a time when the University of California (UC) has raised tuition and the CSU is considering a tuition increase as well.

“We need to offer as much financial aid as we can, as a state, to lower-income students who otherwise largely wouldn’t be able to attend college. But it’s also important to remember that college isn’t affordable for many middle-income families either,” White said.

“If we want to see a strong, diverse workforce in the next several years, then the state of California needs to invest heavily in its public universities and make them accessible for everyone who does the hard work to be qualified for entry.”



Alondra De La Cruz - Editor

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Students find inspiration through the hustle of college

by Kristen Dias

Many students at California State University, Stanislaus (Stan State), roam the campus through the pouring rain, struggle finding a parking spot when running late and take classes that extend into the late night. It can make a student tired and a bit frustrated at times. So what inspires them to keep coming back to Stan State? Perhaps it is who they become during the journey that answers the question.

According to Stan State’s “Fee Schedules and Deadlines” webpage, in a PDF of Spring 2017’s fees, an undergrad taking more than six units will pay an estimated \$2,736 in tuition fees alone. Also, Stan State’s “Fast Facts” webpage estimated that the student “headcount” was 9,762 in the year 2016 after enrolling 1,389 new freshmen.

Students continue to pay for classes and are flowing in and out of this vast institution as a “new cohort of discoverers” each semester, according to Stan State’s Professor of Anthropology, Dr. Steve Arounsack. His double major in biology and anthropology as well as his time teaching at Stan State for the past thirteen years can perhaps provide insight as to why students

are inspired to spend their time and money pursuing higher education.

“This experience is really a mirror on yourself,” Arounsack said. “It’s really not learning all of these facts because you guys will forget a lot of the things we teach you. But it’s really learning about yourself, and that is because you are going to have to live with yourself forever. So, I think having all of these classes is like shining a mirror on what you like, and I think we ask the wrong question.”

Arounsack said oftentimes students come into college asking themselves “what” they want to become, but the better question to answer is “who” they want to become as each student progresses through college.

“The type of person you want to be is going to transcend, it’s going to reverberate beyond any artificial borders that we put on it,” Arounsack said. “This is that time for you to figure that out.”

This was the case for Alejandro Fernandez (senior, Fine Art), a sculptor and student assistant in the art department. As

a freshman, Fernandez had no prior knowledge of sculpting, but he grew to love the technique as his skills improved throughout his time at Stan State. His time spent working on various projects, such as his latest piece that depicts a life-sized, intoxicated male figure with a bulldog's head sitting on a couch, inspired him to pursue a career in teaching as an art professor.

His personal history and time spent improving his artistic skills have enabled him to create pieces that speak volumes to his audiences much like he did with the piece previously described.

"I just do it all the time, and I'm able to express what I'm feeling," Fernandez said. "Without inspiration there isn't a point. Like, I think you have to be inspired and want to create. The whole purpose of an artist is to always be making art. When I do it, I don't stop."

Fernandez stated that when he begins working on one project, he will begin seven more at the same time and move from piece to piece as an idea comes into his mind so that he is "never bored."

College gave Fernandez the opportunity to express his inspiration through his acquired knowledge of

sculpting and made him realize that he hopes to become an art professor one day.

Perhaps many students are here for those same reasons. Beyond the countless expenses in tuition, textbooks, gas and beyond stressing over getting all of the necessary classes and passing them, students come to college for opportunities that far exceed those that come after they receive their college diploma.

Opportunities like becoming writers, freethinkers or lifesavers are just a few prospects that come when students drive themselves through the wild ride that is college.

For some, being inspired to come to college was just one step along a greater pathway. Lucero Ambriz (junior, Nursing) attends Stan State because of events that occurred in her life before college was even a factor in her day-to-day routine.

"I always wanted to be in the medical field, healthcare field, but I just wasn't sure exactly what I wanted to do. I spent a lot of time in the hospital when I was little because I had something wrong with my kidneys. And the nurses were always there and had a lot of interaction with me, so I guess that really inspired me," Ambriz said. "Once I got to my senior year in high



Lucero Ambriz (junior, Nursing) stands in front of Stan State's bookstore after telling *The Signal* what inspires her. (Signal Photo/ Kristen Dias)

school, that's when I really knew that I wanted to do it."

Ambriz admits that the incredible amount of dedication it takes to be a nursing major does entail stress every now and then due to the fact that knowledge acquired in the medical field builds on itself and cannot be forgotten. But it will all be worth it someday when she has the chance to work in a "big university hospital where there's a lot of research and technology coming in all the time."

For each of the estimated 9,762 students at Stan State, there are perhaps countless different reasons that pulled that individual to pursue higher education. The future was, and still is, unknown to each student, yet they still are inspired to continue their journey, semester after semester, in hopes of bettering their future or the future of others.

"People are often moved by fear or love, the fear of failure or the fact that you love something. You just have to figure out which one you are," Arounsack said. "The future is really in your own hands. Doesn't that empower you?"



Alejandro Fernandez (senior, Fine Arts) sits with his sculpture in the art department. (Signal Photo/ Kristen Dias)



Kristen Dias - Reporter

System Map

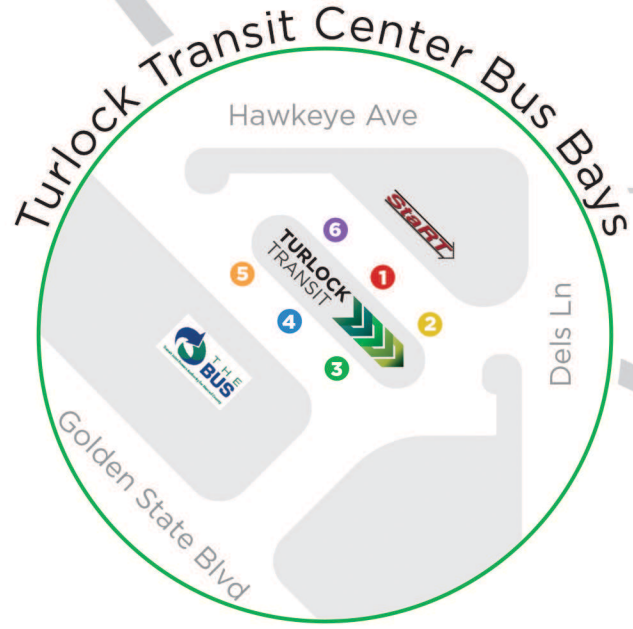
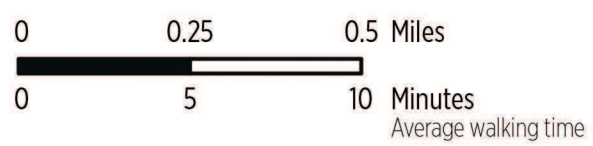


BUS ROUTES

- 1** Countryside
Clockwise loop
- 2** Geer
Counterclockwise loop
- 3** Olive
- 4** Colorado
- 5** Lander
- 6** Soderquist
- Service in one direction

BUS STOPS

- Both directions
- One direction
Side of stop specified by tick mark
- Scheduled time point



Better your future at the career fair

by Kristen Dias and Francely Santos

Throughout the years, the career fair at California State University, Stanislaus (Stan State) has provided the campus with an opportunity where employers provide information about their full-time and professional-level positions. It has also provided information for internships and summer employment opportunities for interested students.

For this year, the annual career fair will be on Wednesday, March 8. It is a one-day event that will be held in the event center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The event center is located on the first floor of the University Student Union building.

It is a free-admission event open for all Stan State students regardless of their class standing.

Throughout the years, the university has had an increasing number of companies and employers applying to participate in these career fairs.

In 2013, the career fair had only 30 companies that participated in the event with more than 160 students attending.

This upcoming career fair might have an even bigger outcome. Compared to last year's 50 companies that attended the event, 54 companies are expected to attend this year.

Arlene Burgess is the Academic, EOP and Career Advisor at Stan State.

"This year, Career Services through the Academic Success Center has collaborated with ASI and specifically with the board of directors at large," Burgess said.

Burgess explains that, for this year's career fair, the organizers have decided to join forces with these other organizations on campus to be able to really affect a larger audience in order to capitalize on the events for the students' benefit.

"That's the beauty of this collaboration, because we are working together to get that reach," Burgess said.

In order to have a better turnout than last year's career fair, these different organizations on campus have teamed up and succeeded in reaching out to more students this year.

They reached out by posting on social media, having activities out on the quad and creating contests and raffles for students to participate in.

Students are also reminded about the event through their student emails and are informed of the different activities happening beforehand. Thanks to these multiple approaches to students, the career fair is expected to have a larger turnout than last year.

Although these multiple ways of communication toward students have been shown to be effective, there are still students who have no idea what the career fair is. Even those who know about the event might have no interest in it.

"We strategized to make sure we are covering all majors," Burgess said.

Among the 54 different companies, participants and businesses, chances are that you will have one that could represent the career path for you.

Ashika Sen (first-year, Business Administration) graduated last semester and attended a career fair offered for business majors called "Meet the Firms." She has attended this career fair every semester since she started attending



Stan State's mascot advertises this year's career fair. (Photo courtesy of Arlene Burgess, Career and Academic Adviser)

Stan State.

"I would say that it gave me a great exposure to what to look for and what positions are out there in the Valley and what people are looking for," Sen said.

The career fair gives students a glance into what networking looks like. It is a tool that students can utilize to create connections and develop some sets of skills that can be used for future career experiences. From resume-building to the interview process to pointers on how to tie a tie, the career fair is the type of event that can help students in many ways.

"It gave me a confidence boost that I'm able to engage with people when I meet new people," Sen said.

The career fair is a little earlier in the year than previous ones.

"Take advantage of the fact that it is earlier," Burgess said.

By having this year's career fair earlier, students will be able to find summer internships sooner.

Having the career fair this early in the semester gives students the opportunity to discover those companies set out to look for college student employees at Stan State before other colleges in the area.

So, dress professionally and bring in your resume. Have some questions ready for whoever could be your potential future job employer, and don't forget to follow up with them.

For more information on this year's career fair, visit www.csustan.edu/career-fair or call (209) 667-3661.



Francely Santos - Reporter



Kristen Dias - Reporter

Stan State's Career Fair

When:

**March 8, 2017
10am-2pm**

Where:

**Stan State
Event Center**

STUDY ABROAD

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Ghana

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For more information

Contact Prof. Ferriz at
hferriz@csustan.edu

Visit: <http://usac.unr.edu/>

ASI/USU introduces new Warrior discounts

by Jyoti Dhanota

College students are always on the lookout for places they can save money. The Warrior Discount Fair took place on Mar. 1 at California State University, Stanislaus (Stan State), to help students become more aware of the local shops that provide student discounts.

“This was for students to see various vendors who offer Warrior discounts and students to find out more about the vendors themselves,” Ana Bettencourt (sophomore, Sociology), University Student Union (USU) Daily Events Coordinator, said.

Lyzz Guzman is the program’s advisor for Associated Student, Inc. (ASI) and the USU.

“Everything we do is for the students. ASI wanted to create a program that was designed to benefit both the students and the Turlock community,” Guzman said.

“The business will then honor the discount on the purchase. We have distributed window decals to all participating businesses. This makes it easier for any student to see,” Guzman continued.

There were numerous vendors out in the quad, such as Envy Fine Clothing and Yogurt Mill.



Mary Ramirez representing Yogurt Mill. (Signal Photo/Jyoti Dhanota)

smoothies. We offer the healthier alternative,” Mary Ramirez, the representative from Yogurt Mill, said.

Both vendors said they were here to help out the community.

For both of these businesses, students have to present their Warrior ID and will then receive the discount that the business has to offer. This also holds true for any other businesses that provide discounts to Stan State students.

Leslie Smith (junior, English) found it beneficial that Stan State is reaching out to local businesses in order to make clothing and food more affordable to students who are on a budget.

“If we know where the discounts are, we are more likely to go there,” Smith said.

For more information regarding the businesses that offer the Warrior discount, check out the ASI/USU mobile app.

“We sought to get the name of Envy out there. Envy carries clothes for kids, men and women,” Marissa Medina, the representative for Envy Fine Clothing, said.

Yogurt Mill is a local favorite in Turlock and Modesto. Turlock’s location is at 2591 Geer Road.

“We have frozen yogurt and



Envy Fine Clothing representatives during the discount fair at Stan State’s quad. (Signal Photo/Jyoti Dhanota)



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Copying of this coupon is not permitted. One coupon per order.
Valid Student ID and coupon MUST be present at time of order.



Jyoti Dhanota - Reporter

The Print Shop: a printer that impresses

By Olivia Soto

The Print Shop pretty much does it all- mail, print, copy and cut. Not only does the Print Shop accomplish its task at the highest level of quality; it does it with style, too. And nothing speaks to that quality and style quite like the impressive machine they use to make large posters. It's a rare eco-solvent format printing press.

In other words, the Print Shop owns a big printer used to create large posters with distinctive color. And trust me, it's cool--and unique. The MUTOH printer is actually one out of a handful that exists in the nation!

Darin Skalinder, the Print Shop manager, who has been working at the Print Shop for more than 10 years, attended an open house for the printer with the manufacturer on site.

Being that the company was just starting up, they gave Skalinder an undeniably great price for the eco-friendly printer. Thanks to that price, it turned out that not everything in Vegas stays in Vegas.

Skalinder was struck by the machine's strengths, especially the way it creates large posters with beautifully enriched color.

"People want color. It used to be all about black and white but everyone wants color so technology is mak-



At left, the MUTOH printer in action. At right, the contour cutting machine is capable of creating pieces like this Stan State logo. (Signal Photos/Olivia Soto)

ing it more cost effective and are offering customers color printing at good quality and at a good price," Skalinder. "Its color printing capabilities are a highlight."

It is also a good fit for our pro-environment campus.

"This thing is eco-friendly, which is new technology a lot of people are using," Skalinder said.

Most of the banners put up by staff around campus are made in the Print Shop on the MUTOH. The material used to create them makes them capable of lasting for three years, and there is no need to laminate them since they are already waterproof.

Students who need large posters for presentations or projects can take advantage of the Print Shop's world-class technology to get superior quality for a hard-to-beat price.

Another tool the staff uses to create one-of-a-kind products is a contour-cut machine, which does exactly what its name says. Some of the cutting machine's work that can be seen around Stan State are decals, stickers, bumper stickers and anything that requires a specific shape outside the standard square or rectangle.

Student organizations who continually use decals or that want to use a new tactic to promote themselves can work with the Print Shop, which prides itself on its connection to student groups. Working with the Print Shop also helps students avoid the hassle of ordering from websites with little-to-no creative support. The Print Shop, just a few steps away, is always on site to help and makes for easy pick-up of orders.

If you have a project or event coming up and want the best quality for the best price, contact the Print Shop staff at reprographics@csustan.edu or stop in MSR 010 (in the basement) Mondays through Fridays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Darin Skalinder was at the right place at the right time when he was offered the rare printing machine. (Signal Photo/Olivia Soto)

The effects of current immigration policy

by Jesus Alvarado



The border fence separating Nogales, Arizona and Nogales, Sonora, Mexico. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) teams fight to stop drug smugglers, human traffickers, and desperate migrants from entering the United States. (Photo Courtesy of National Geographic)

During former President Barack Obama's Administration, approximately 2.5 million undocumented immigrants were deported, according to a fact check conducted by the Associated Press (AP). The immigrants being deported were individuals who were already in jail with a criminal record that went beyond a simple DUI or speeding ticket.

In contrast, recent immigration laws implemented by President Donald Trump say that Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is allowed to detain and deport anyone who is an undocumented immigrant, regardless if they have a criminal record or not, according to the same AP fact check.

Recently, drastic immigration raids have been occurring across the United States where undocumented immigrants are being round up, and unfortunately, families, professionals and Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) students are being mainly affected.

Through these immigration raids we see family members being deported and separated, such as Guadalupe García de Rayos, a Mexican-born mother of two U.S. Citizen children in Phoenix, Arizona.

According to the Huffington Post, García de Rayos was living in Phoenix and was also working under a Social Security number that was not hers, which is considered a felony under the state of Arizona's law.

The day García de Rayos was detained and transported into an ICE van, dozens of her supporters rallied around the van she was in, making sure the main road was being blocked to avoid the van's advancement. A lot of the protestors went live on social media outlets to allow followers around the country to see the protest and hear their message.

However, ICE did not make the protestors a priority and were, unfortunately, able to deport García de Rayos across Arizona's border and into Nogales, Sonora, Mexico.

After being deported, García de Rayos's daughter, Jacqueline Rayos García, expressed how heart-breaking it was for her to see her mom get deported and separated from her, an experience that can universally affect a child.

"I think it's really unfair that they just took her away just because she was working in order to support us," the daughter said in a public speech. "And no one, no one should ever go

through the pain of having their mom taken away from them, or the pain of packing her suitcase.”

Moreover, these raids are affecting students who are recipients of Obama’s executive order, DACA.

Daniel Ramírez Medina, a 23-year-old DACA recipient, was detained in his father’s Seattle home during an immigration raid that was initially targeted toward his father, according to CNN.

ICE agents knew Ramírez Medina was legally allowed to stay in the U.S., but proceeded with his detainment, falsely saying that he was a former gang member, therefore he needed to be removed.

This was false, due to the fact that ICE agents assumed such thing by looking at Ramírez Medina’s tattoo on his forearm, which has a star and above it says “La Paz” and under it says “B.C.S.” which are the initials of the southern Mexican state Baja California Sur, and La Paz being its capital.

Ramírez Medina’s lawyers said on a CNN interview that he does not have a criminal record at all, criticizing the assumption that ICE publicly did stating he was a former gang-member.

This brings into question: How is Trump taking out the “bad dudes” or “bad hombres” out of the country by taking away parents who do anything to support their children, or by detaining and ordering the deportation of students who are recipients of DACA, protecting them from deportation and legally allowing their stay in the U.S.?

Yes, utilizing someone else’s Social Security may be a felony under certain U.S. state laws, but it goes beyond just pointing out that someone is a criminal for using someone else’s Social Security number.

In this case, it says that a parent who is undocumented in the U.S. has to do such things in order obtain a job in the country and support their family. It also says that current immigration laws have to be fixed in order for innocent undocumented immigrants to have an easier way to obtain some sort of legalization and allow them to reside and work in the country.

Also, as for the Ramírez Medina case, it means that Trump’s immigration policy will delegitimize students who are protected under DACA and are allowed a legal permission to work in the U.S.

In response to recent ICE raids across the U.S., various immigrant-owned businesses across the country, such as construction companies, restaurants and other businesses, participated in “A Day Without Immigrants,” a boycott/strike, which occurred on Feb. 16, that showed the American people the im-

portance of the immigrant contribution to U.S. businesses and culture.

Hundreds of students across the country who participated in “A Day Without Immigrants” did so by not attending classes that same day. This showed classrooms across the nation how empty the classroom setting would be without children of immigrant parents or immigrant students themselves.

Sadly, over 100 protesters were fired from their jobs for participating in “A Day Without Immigrants,” according to NowThis Politics.

Equally, a few Rubidoux High School teachers and counselors were put on leave after such day, due to the fact that they went on social media to publicly celebrate the absence of the Latinx

students who participated in “A Day Without Immigrants.”

Some of these high school staff members went on social media posts saying that the absence of the Latinx students create a less “crowded” classroom, provide a “cleaner” cafeteria and only demonstrate how “lazy” such students are.

After such posts were published on behalf of Rubidoux High School teachers, students who participated

“I think it’s really unfair that they took her away just because she was working in order to support us.”
- Jacqueline Rayos García

in the boycott shared the teachers’ posts calling them out on their immoral comments, saying they felt “heart-broken” their teachers think of them that way.

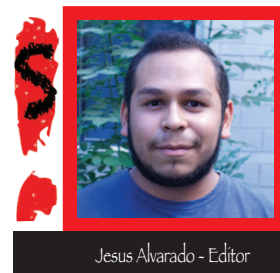
After such atrocity, California State University, Stanislaus’ (Stan State’s), Movimiento Estudiantil Chicanx de Aztlán (MEChA) showed their support for Rubidoux High School students in an Instagram picture of the whole group holding up a sign which read, “#StanwithRubidoux.”

Fernando Hernández (senior, Criminal Justice), Co-President of MEChA, explained why his organization decided to show support for Rubidoux High School students.

“So as MEChA, we supported the students of Rubidoux by taking a picture and creating #stanwithrubidoux,” Hernández said. “As MEChA, we support immigrants and each other, because in MEChA we are a family united that our cause will be [to] defend the Chicano culture, immigrants, Dreamers and any other ethnic group who [have] been attacked.”

Through these unfortunate events that have only been happening since Trump took office, it is fair to say that the only good thing out of them is seeing people from Stan State and across the country come together to resist and show solidarity for the affected.

Our very own pope, Pope Francis, even goes public emphasizing the unity of the people for the sake of the good when he says, “I appeal not to create walls but to build bridges.”



Jesus Alvarado - Editor

Los efectos de las leyes actuales de inmigración

por Jesús Alvarado



Customs and Border Protection (CBP) teams fight to stop drug smugglers, human traffickers and desperate migrants from entering the United States. Here they are in a training scenario.

Agentes que patrullan a la frontera trabajan para detener a contrabandistas de drogas, contrabandistas de tráfico de personas y migrantes desesperados por entrar a los Estados Unidos. Aquí son vistos en un escenario de entrenamiento. (Photo Courtesy of National Geographic)

Durante la administración del expresidente Barack Obama, aproximadamente 2.5 millones de inmigrantes indocumentados fueron deportados, de acuerdo a una revisión de hechos conducido por “Associated Press” (AP). Los inmigrantes que fueron deportados fueron individuos quienes estaban encarcelados con un historial de crímenes que mostraban más allá que una simple multa por exceso de velocidad.

A diferencia de Obama, recientes leyes de inmigración implementadas por el presidente Trump, dicen que agentes de Inmigración y Control de Aduanas (ICE) tienen permiso en detener y deportar cualquier persona que sea inmigrante e indocumentado, sin importar que no tengan un historial criminal, de acuerdo a la misma revisión de hechos por “AP”.

Recientemente, redadas de inmigración han ocurrido alrededor de los Estados Unidos cuales buscan a inmigrantes indocumentados y, desafortunadamente, las familias, los profesionales y estudiantes bajo el programa de DACA, programa que protege a estudiantes indocumentados de deportación, son quienes drásticamente son afectados por estas redadas.

A consecuencia de estas redadas de inmigración, podemos ver cómo algunas familias han sido divididas después de haber tenido a un ser querido deportado, como en el caso de Guadalupe García de Rayos, una madre mexicana de dos estadounidenses en Phoenix, Arizona.

De acuerdo a “Huffington Post”, García de Rayos estaba viviendo y trabajando en Phoenix bajo un número de seguro social que no le pertenecía, algo que es considerado un delito bajo ciertas leyes del estado de Arizona.

El día que García de Rayos fue detenida y trasladada en una camioneta de ICE, docenas de personas quienes la apoyaban protestaron alrededor de esa misma camioneta, asegurando que la carretera fuera obstruida para evadir el adelanto de la camioneta. Varios de los protestantes utilizaron sus medios de comunicación social para que sus seguidores alrededor del país vieran la protesta y escucharan el mensaje que querían enviar.

No obstante, los agentes de ICE no priorizaron a los protestantes y, desafortunadamente, procedieron a deportar a García de Rayos hacia Nogales, Sonora.

Después de ser deportada, la hija de García de Rayos, Jacqueline Rayos García, expresó el dolor que sintió al ver a su madre ser deportada y separada de ella, una experiencia que destroza el alma de cualquier hijo e hija.

“Es muy injusto que se la hayan llevado solamente porque estaba trabajando para proveer por nosotros,” la hija expresó en un discurso hacia el público. “Y nadie, nadie debe de pasar por el sufrimiento de tener a su mamá retirados de ellos, o tener que sufrir al empacar su maleta.”

Estas redadas también están afectando a estudiantes quienes son protegidos de deportación gracias al programa ejecutivo de Obama, DACA.

Daniel Ramírez Medina, un chico de 23 años protegido bajo la ley de DACA, fue detenido por agentes de ICE en casa de su padre en Seattle. Esta redada de inmigración inicialmente planeaba arrestar al padre de Ramírez Medina, de acuerdo a “CNN”.

Los agentes de ICE sabían que Ramírez Medina tenía permiso legal para estar en EE.UU., mas procedieron con su arresto y, falsamente, lo acusaron de ser un miembro pandillero y

que por esa razón deberían removerlo del país.

Esta acusación fue falsa, puesto que los agentes de ICE asumieron cierta cosa con solo ver el tatuaje que Ramírez Medina tiene en su antebrazo, lo cual es una estrella y encima de ella dice “La Paz” y debajo de ella dice “B.C.S.”, las iniciales del estado de Baja California Sur, y La Paz siendo la capital del estado.

Los abogados de Ramírez Medina dijeron en una entrevista para “CNN” que él no tenía ni un historial criminal, mientras también criticaron la acusación que los agentes de ICE se atrevieron hacer públicamente diciendo que Ramírez Medina era un miembro pandillero.

Esto atrae la pregunta: ¿Cómo es que Trump está retirando del país a los “chicos malos” o a los “bad hombres” al estar dividiendo a hijos e hijas de sus padres quienes hacen lo que sea para mantenerlos, y al estar arrestando y ordenando la deportación de estudiantes protegidos por DACA?

Sí, el utilizar un número de seguro social que no le pertenece a uno puede ser un delito bajo ciertas leyes en cada estado de los EE.UU., pero es algo más que utilizar el número de seguro social de alguien más y llamarle a esa persona “criminal” sin ver el porqué.

En este caso, padres que son indocumentados en este país se ven casi obligados a utilizar un número de seguro social que no les pertenece para así obtener un trabajo y poder mantener a sus familias. Esto quiere decir que las leyes actuales de inmigración deben ser mejoradas y corregidas para que inmigrantes indocumentados puedan tener un método fácil para obtener algún tipo de legalización que les permita vivir y trabajar en este país.

Y, en cuanto al caso de Ramírez Medina, esto significaría que bajo las nuevas leyes de inmigración implementadas por Trump, estudiantes protegidos de deportación gracias a DACA ahora no serán protegidos independientemente del permiso legal que ofrece el programa.

A consecuencia de todas las redadas de inmigración a través del país norteamericano varios inmigrantes y dueños de negocios, como compañías de construcción, restaurantes y otros más, participaron en “Un día sin inmigrantes”, una protesta/boicoteo que ocurrió en febrero 16 y que les demostró a la gente norteamericana la importancia de la contribución que los inmigrantes hacen hacia la economía y la cultura del país. Cientos de estudiantes alrededor del país quienes participaron en “Un día sin inmigrantes” lo hicieron al no asistir a clases. Esto les demostró a maestros/as qué vacía sería una clase sin los hijos/as de padres inmigrantes, o sin estudiantes inmigrantes ellos mismos.

Tristemente, más de 100 protestantes fueron despedidos de sus trabajos por participar en “Un día sin inmigrantes”, de acuerdo a “NowThis Politics”.

Igualmente, algunos maestros y consejeros de la escuela secundaria Rubidoux fueron despedidos después del día de la protesta, puesto que publicaron en sus medios de comunicación social la celebración sobre la ausencia de los estudiantes latinxs quienes no asistieron a clases como forma de protesta para “Un día sin inmigrantes”.

Estos maestros y consejeros publicaron en sus medios de comunicación social que la ausencia de los estudiantes latinxs solo había creado una clase “más espaciosa”, que solo había creado una cafetería “más limpia” y que la ausencia de dichos estudiantes solo comprueba su “pereza”.

Al publicar dichos comentarios sobre los estudiantes latinxs, aquellos estudiantes que participaron en la protesta compartieron las publicaciones de sus maestros expresando el dolor al saber que sus maestros pensaban de ese modo de ellos.

Después de esa atrocidad, el grupo MEChA de la Universidad estatal de California, Stanislaus, demostró su apoyo hacia los estudiantes de la secundaria Rubidoux en una fotografía en Instagram con un póster diciendo “#StanwithRubidoux” (la universidad con Rubidoux).

Fernando Hernández, presidente de MEChA, explica por qué su organización decidió en demostrar su apoyo para los estudiantes de la escuela secundaria Rubidoux.

“Como MEChA, decidimos apoyar a los estudiantes de Rubidoux al tomarnos una foto y creando #stanwithrubidoux”, dijo Hernández. “Con MEChA, nosotros apoyamos a inmigrantes y a cada uno, porque en MEChA somos una familia unida y nuestra causa será en defender a la cultura Chicana, los inmigrantes, los Dreamers y a cualquier otro grupo étnico que sea atacado”.

“Como MEChA, decidimos apoyar a los estudiantes de Rubidoux al tomarnos una foto y creando #stanwithrubidoux”, dijo Hernández. “Con MEChA, nosotros apoyamos a inmigrantes y a cada uno, porque en MEChA somos una familia unida y nuestra causa será en defender a la cultura Chicana, los inmigrantes, los Dreamers y a cualquier otro grupo étnico que sea atacado”.

A través de estos eventos desafortunados que han ocurrido desde que Trump ha tomado el poder la oficina ovalada, podemos ver que lo único bueno de todo esto es la unidad que la gente provee desde el campus de Stanislaus hasta alrededor del país para resistir y demostrar solidaridad para los afectados.

El propio Papa Francisco públicamente enfatiza la unidad para el bien de la humanidad diciendo, “Apelo a no crear muros sino construir puentes”.

“Es muy injusto que se la hayan llevado solamente porque estaba trabajando para proveer por nosotros.”
- Jacqueline Rayos García



Jesus Alvarado - Editor



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