AAP'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

AAP Director's Message



Dear AAP Community,

It brings me great pleasure to share with you this edition of the Academic Advancement (AAP) newsletter. As you know, AAP is one of the nation's premier and most successful student retention and academic support programs. We would like to highlight some of the program's activities by sharing important events, achievements, and student successes.

AAP is more than a collection of services; it is an academic program that serves as an academic home for more than 4,700 students from low-income, first-generation and historically underrepresented backgrounds. The program aims to support these students' academic and personal growth.

I would like to express our deepest gratitude and thanks for your ongoing support which enables AAP to be a leader in higher education at one of the most prestigious public research universities in the world. I also would like to extend my regards and good fortune to everyone for the academic year. Thank you for your support of AAP students and its programs.

Go Bruins!

Dr. Charles J. Alexander Associate Vice Provost for Student Diversity Director, Academic Advancement Program

Articles inside this issue:

- AAP Director's Message
- AAP New Staff
- Fall Quarter Highlights
- Winter Quarter Highlights
- Unit Updates
- Announcements

New AAP Staff



APRIL BOLT AAP COUNSELOR



Please share a little bit about yourself and your educational background.

I was born and raised on the East Coast - I attended college in VA and earned a B.S. in Business Marketing and an M.Ed. in School Counseling.

As a former AAP student, did your own personal experience affect your decision to continue working with AAP students professionally?

I didn't have the privilege of being an AAP student, as I didn't attend UCLA. However, I see the tremendous impact that AAP has had/is having on our BIPOC and our other historically underrepresented student populations. I know I would've loved and greatly benefitted from this level of support, engagement, and camaraderie as a college student.

In what ways does your program/unit impact BIPOC students at UCLA and what is your role in facilitating that impact?

Our program supports BIPOC students at UCLA in myriad ways, including, but not limited to advocating for and facilitating access, academic success, and graduation; fostering holistic growth, development, and leadership; preparing students for graduate and professional schools. Alongside my colleagues in the Counseling unit, I will be offering academic, personal, and career counseling, while ensuring our students have access to any additional resources and connections they need.

What are some of your goals in this new role?

With my background in Higher and Secondary Education and as a certified Hatha yoga instructor, I seek to co-create a restorative environment for my students and colleagues to dream, strategize, and build in. As our unit expands and settles, I'd like to explore facilitating small/mid-sized group advising, creating activities focusing on communal care and stress management, and the like.

New AAP Staff



PALOMA DIMAYA AAP COUNSELOR



Please share a little bit about yourself and your educational background.

A Bruin alumnus, I graduated from UCLA in 2012 with a B.A. in English and Minor in Asian American Studies. After I began teaching English Language Arts in K-8th schools in the Los Angeles area, I went on to complete a M.A. in Education and Multiple-Subjects Teaching Credential from LMU, where I was awarded the Outstanding Graduate Award in Teacher Preparation for my social-justice-centered curriculum and classroom practice. With almost 10 years of experience as a social-justice-centered educator, I returned to my alma mater UCLA in 2022 as the Project Director of Samahang Pilipino Education and Retention (SPEAR), the student-led Pilipinx retention program under the student-run Campus Retention Committee (CRC). During my time in this role, I have had the valuable and fulfilling opportunity to guide and empower our undergraduates through 1-on-1 counseling and the development and coordination of training programs, workshops, and protocol supporting underrepresented, underserved students in their academic, cultural, personal, and professional goals.

As a former AAP student, did your own personal experience affect your decision to continue working with AAP students professionally?

Though I was not a former AAP student, having worked in the field of retention and counseling in SPEAR during both my undergraduate and professional years at UCLA did affect my decision to work with AAP. From these perspectives, I was able to see the important and impactful role that programs like SPEAR and AAP had in ensuring that students from underprivileged communities are equipped with the knowledge and support to be able to navigate and succeed in higher education.

In what ways does your program/unit impact BIPOC students at UCLA and what is your role in facilitating that impact?

AAP Counseling directly works with many BIPOC students to help empower them with the knowledge and immediate resources they need to survive and thrive at UCLA. As a social-justice-centered educator and a member of the Pilipinx-American immigrant community, I am passionate about the mission of empowering BIPOC students within and through education. Thus, I believe my role as an AAP counselor is to provide a safe space for students to seek help and guidance, especially one that not only respects and honors their diverse cultural and community backgrounds and experiences, but also understands how their academic journey in turn has been shaped by them.

What are some of your goals in this new role?

In this new role, I am looking forward to further developing my skills in advising and counseling, as well as using my knowledge of education and retention practices to provide students with the tools and support system they need to succeed at UCLA and beyond. I am particularly excited at the opportunity to teach, guide, and mentor students, and I look forward to contributing to making long-lasting, positive change at the university.

FALL OPEN HOUSE







AAP successfully hosted the AAP New Member Orientation and Awareness Fair as part of the UCLA Welcome Week festivities. Nearly 1,000 enthusiastic new AAP members joined the event, where our dedicated staff welcomed them into their new academic home at Campbell Hall. This event marked a fantastic kickoff to the academic year, fostering a sense of community and connection among our newest members.

Fall Highlights



AAP STAFF ATTENDS THE UC CHICANX/LATINX LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

The UC Chicanx/Latinx Leadership Summit gathers UC professionals to explore the Chicanx/Latinx presence at UC and how to engage young leadership.

AAP SCHOLARSHIP RECEPTION

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





AAP STAFF HOLIDAY APPRECIATION PARTY

AAP Director, Dr. Alexander, celebrated the start of the holiday season with a gathering, expressing gratitude for the dedicated staff and students shaping the next generation of leaders

HIGH AIMS WHITE COAT CEREMONY

On Thursday, November 16, 2023, the High Aims White Coat Ceremony was held, welcoming Cohort 13. This special event marked their official entry into our community and emphasized their dedication to pursuing a career in healthcare.



WINTER 2024

Carter-Huggins Annual Memorial Event

UCLA's Afrikan Student Union (ASU) and AAP hosted its annual Commemoration for two murdered UCLA students, Alprentice "Bunchy" Carter and John Huggins, Jr., on January 19th, the eve of the 55th anniversary of this tragic event.











DID YOU KNOW?

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

WINTER 2024

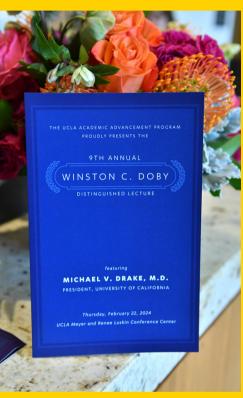
9th Annual Dr. Winston C. Doby Distinguished Lecture











This month, we had the opportunity to host the 9th Annual Winston C. Doby Distinguished Lecture. Each year, to honor Dr. Doby's legacy we invite distinguished thinkers from across the country to address our community on topics related to higher education access and social justice; issues that Dr. Winston Doby passionately advocated for throughout his career. Dr. Doby believed that the best way to improve the lives of first generation, low-income and underrepresented students was to provide them with an educational experience that would empower them to become change agents and leaders in their communities. His crowning achievement at UCLA was the creation of the Academic Advancement Program, one of the nation's most successful student academic support programs.

We couldn't think of a better way to pay tribute to Dr. Doby's legacy and uphold his vision for social justice, than to welcome a visionary leader, Dr. Michael V. Drake, the president of the University of California. President Drake delivered a powerful and inspirational lecture that emphasized the advancement of equity and inclusion through leveraging our connections and fostering meaningful conversations, demonstrating a commitment to Dr. Doby's ideals.

CENTER FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE PARTNERSHIPS (CCCP)



Appointment of Dr. Claudia Salcedo as CCCP Director

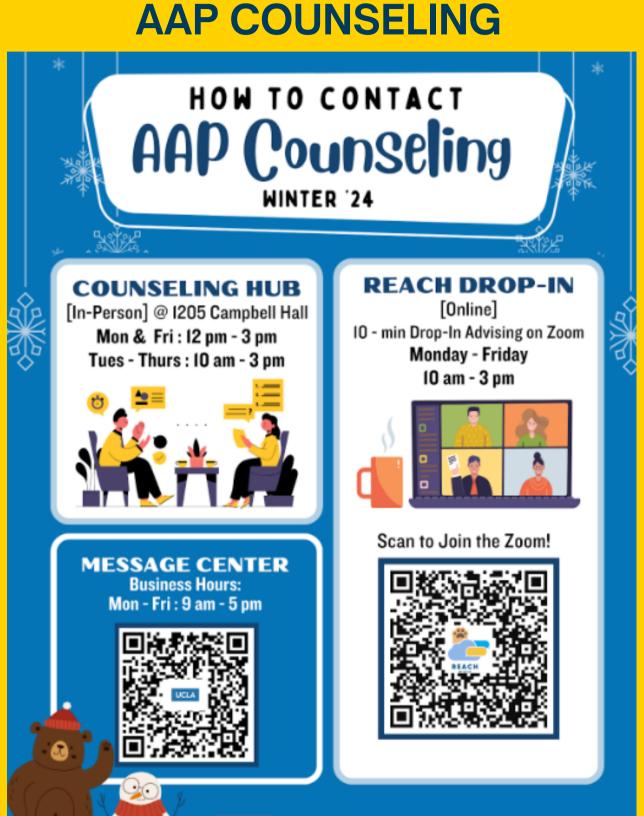
Dean Adriana Galvan announced the appointment of Claudia Salcedo as the Director of the Center for Community College Partnerships (CCCP), effective April 1, 2024. Dr. Salcedo, a longstanding member of the UCLA community, brings more than two decades of experience in outreach, access, and retention initiatives focused on diverse populations. With an extensive background that includes 10 years in CCCP and 2 years in the Academic Advancement Program (AAP), she possesses remarkable skills in program management, budgeting, and conducting research, making her uniquely qualified for this position within the California Community College system.

Prior to her appointment, she served as the Assistant Director of Administration for the AAP. She was responsible for providing administrative support to all seven AAP units, as well as overseeing AAP's New Student Programs Office, which serves as the first point of contact for all incoming AAP students. She was also responsible for collaborating with the College's Development team in achieving AAP's annual fundraising goals. Additionally, Dr. Salcedo was instrumental with spearheading AAP's participation in campus-wide student recruitment and retention events, including AAP Transfer Scholars Day/Bruin Day, and the Freshmen-Transfer Summer Program.

Before her time as the Assistant Director for AAP, Dr. Salcedo served as the Administrative Coordinator at CCCP for approximately 10 years. In this capacity, she oversaw day-to-day operations, managed the unit's budget, supervised staff, and facilitated the development of training and on-boarding curriculum.

Born and raised in Indio, California, Claudia is the second born of seven children, proud daughter of Mexican immigrants, and first in her family to attend college. Dr. Salcedo holds a Bachelors (UCLA) and Master of Arts (CSU-N) degrees in Chicana/o Studies, and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from California State University, Northridge (CSU-N).

CCCP warmly welcomes back Dr. Salcedo, celebrating not only her impressive professional accomplishments but also her shared commitment to community, diversity, and activism. Drawing parallels with her own UCLA undergraduate experience, CCCP emphasizes Dr. Salcedo's advocacy for diverse communities, shared legacies of struggle and triumph, and her uplifting approach. Despite her role in a different unit, CCCP continued to seek Dr. Salcedo's pragmatic and wise advice, fostering a collaborative spirit that promises to further enrich the transfer community.



UCLA

Academic Advancement

GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL (GPS) EXPLORATION SERVICES







On Tuesday, January 16 Graduate Mentoring celebrated the launch of the unit's re-brand. The new mission speaks to the new direction and role the unit strives to meet in serving AAP students.

Graduate & Professional School (GPS) Exploration Services

With an emphasis on social justice, equity, and representation, Graduate & Professional School (GPS) Exploration Services helps AAP students develop their interests, life experiences, and career competencies as they explore their post-baccalaureate goals.

GPS provides:

- Tools, services, and networks to challenge systemic and institutional racism as students engage in the world of work.
- Graduate Student mentors with similar experiences and knowledge to guide and support student's academic and career journey,
- Personalized undergraduate research opportunities to prepare students for graduate school or professional careers and programs.

MCNAIR

2023-2025 Cohort

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



Studies

Jesse Amaya, Cognitive Science
Alexis Ayala-Alvarado, Education, Labor Studies
Monica Benros DeBarros, Sociology, African
American Studies
Isaias Cruz, Sociology
Sydney Do, English
Lucia Celeste Garcia, Theater
Alexander Harris, History, Sociology

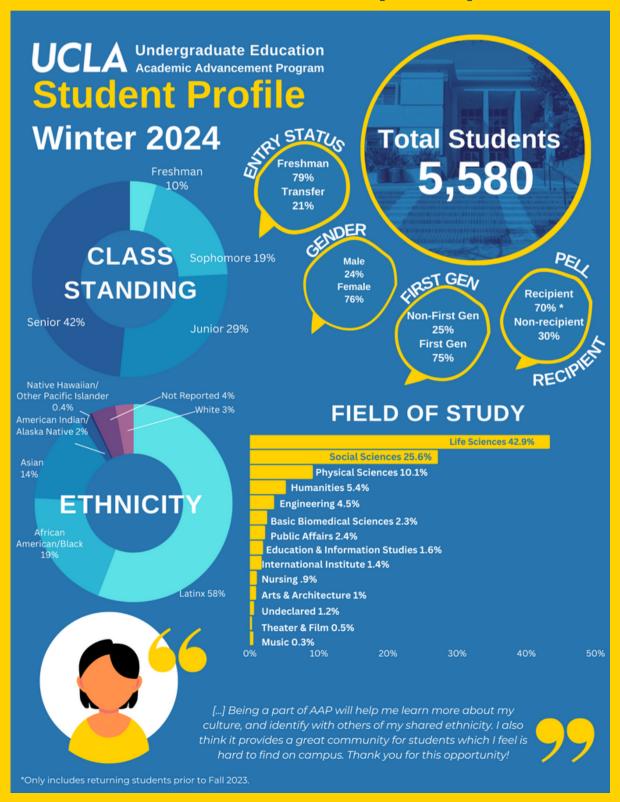
Katherine Jimenez, Psychology Matthew Jimenez, Psychology Kelli Jones, Sociology Satema Lopez, Education Joanne Ohwobete, Psychology, Neuroscience Jovana Tankou, Sociology, African American

Kahlila Williams, Sociology, African American Studies





RESEARCH, ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION (RAE)



AAP Unit Updates PEER LEARNING







Please consider applying to become a **Peer Learning Facilitator (PLF)** for **Spring 2024**. This position is a great opportunity for current undergraduate students who are looking for a part-time job and interested in fostering a growing Community of Scholars on campus.

The **priority deadline** for this application is **Friday, March 1st, 2024 by 11:59 p.m**. Applications submitted by this deadline will be given priority review. Any applications submitted after this date will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

If you have any general inquiries about the program and/or the application process, please email: aappeerlearning@college.ucla.edu OR contact a PLF Supervisor.

We currently are seeking PLFs for the following courses:

- PHYSICS 1B
- PHYSICS 5C
- EPS SCI 15
- PIC 10A
- CS 31
- CS 32





*Please note that despite what it says on the application, we are currently only actively seeking PLFs for the aforementioned courses.

VICE PROVOST INITIATIVE FOR PRE-COLLEGE SCHOLARS (VIPS)

BLACK BRILLIANCE LUNCHEON







The Vice-Provost's Initiative for Pre-College Scholars (VIPS) and the Early Academic Outreach Program (EAOP) HOSTED THE Black Brilliance Luncheon on Saturday, February 10th on the UCLA campus.

VIPS and EAOP commemorated the achievements, resilience, and limitless potential of Black students and families – an event that embodied celebration, empowerment, and the joyous affirmation of Black brilliance.

During the luncheon, attendees had the opportunity to delve into the intricacies of the EAOP & VIPS application processes. One of the highlights of the event was the inspiring keynote address by Dominique Moye, Director of the Black Bruin Resource Center and AAP Alumni, who shared her personal journey through higher education, leaving a lasting impact on all those present. The gathering concluded on a high note with a delicious meal and a captivating performance by the Bruinettes, a dynamic danceline team dedicated to showcasing the rich tradition of African-American dance styles originating from Historically Black Colleges & Universities (HBCUs).



SCHOLARSHIP FEATURE

Arthur Ashe Legacy Scholarship Application



The Arthur Ashe Legacy Scholarship uses endowed resources originated from the Arthur Ashe Learning Center (AALC) to promote service, scholarship, and sportsmanship—the very values Ashe stood for as a Bruin throughout his life. Although Arthur Ashe Jr. is a legend in many circles, there remains opportunity to spotlight the positive impacts he had on tennis, his commitment to improving social conditions, and his concern for public health and welfare. The scholarship will be awarded through the Academic Advancement Program (AAP) in collaboration with an AALC appointed committee. The award will be disbursed in the 2024-2025 academic year and is based on merit and need to student(s) who exemplify the ideals Ashe displayed as a UCLA student. The Arthur Ashe Legacy Scholarship is a highly esteemed award with multi-year opportunity and average of \$7,000.

Eligibility:

- Must be enrolled as a full-time student during the entire 2024-2025 academic year.
- GPA threshold of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale
- U.S. Citizen

Instructions:

• Your application and all supporting materials must be submitted by Friday, April 26th 2024; no late or incomplete applications will be accepted.

A completed application includes:

1.Essay: Answer the question in a 500-600 word essay describing activities, qualifications and connection to Arthur Ashe.

2.Letters of Recommendation (2): Both letters must be from individuals who are familiar with you and references.

Essay Question:

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

Please return application along with supporting materials via e-mail to aapscholarship@college.ucla.edu apscholarship@college.ucla.edu

^{*}Letter of Recommendation MUST BE ATTACHED IN PDF of application. ONE PDF with all supporting materials.

^{*}Final GPA will be retrieved by our office



SCHOLARSHIP FEATURE

Wilson Academic Advancement Scholarship

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

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

Eligibility:

- Be an AAP student
- Entered UCLA as a freshman in Fall 2023
- Have accumulated at least 26 units at UCLA during Fall 2023 and Winter 2024
- Demonstrate academic potential for graduate study
- Demonstrate financial need
- Express an interest in attending graduate or professional school
- Demonstrate an interest in community service

Instructions:

- The following check list for materials found in the website is due by 5:00 pm on Friday, April 26th, 2024 to via e-mail to aapscholarship@college.ucla.edu
 - 2024 Wilson Scholarship Application
- Updated unofficial transcript (DPR is not acceptable)
- Copy of your Financial Aid Award Notice (FAN)
- One letter of support from a UCLA Faculty member or Teaching Assistant discussing your academic potential and interest in community service and graduate or professional school.

^{**} Please email to aapscholarship@college.ucla.edu



SCHOLARSHIP FEATURE

AAP Scholarships

The Academic Advancement Program (AAP) will be awarding scholarships to AAP students for the 2024-25 academic year. The average scholarship award ranges from \$1,500 to \$5,000.

Eligibility:

- All AAP students who have completed 36 units.
- Have not exceed 150 units at the college or university level.
- Have a minimum cumulative UCLA GPA of 2.75 or better by the end of the 2023 Fall Quarter are eligible to apply.
- To receive the scholarship, you must be enrolled as a full-time undergraduate during the **entire** 2023-2024 academic year and apply for financial aid by filling out the FAFSA or the Dream Application*.

Instructions:

- Your application and all supporting materials must be submitted via MyUCLA by Thursday, February 29, 2024[1] since no late or incomplete applications will be accepted. A <u>complete application</u> includes:
- Career Goals/Interest: Select at least one item from the list of career goals/interests.
- Personal Statement: Describe in 350-500 words (maximum of 4,000 characters)
 why you should be chosen for an AAP Scholarship and include any personal
 challenges, obstacles, or major event(s) in your life you've overcome, if any.
- Essay: Answer one of the two questions in a 500-600 word (maximum of 4,800 characters) essay. Failure to limit the length of your essay will result in a lower
- * The online application will open the week of February 1st; eligible students will receive a MyUCLA notification. You may work on your supporting materials now and add them to your application at any point after notification of availability and before the submission deadline.
- * AB540 students are eligible to apply but must fill out the DREAM application. Please visit the Financial Aid Office located at A-129J Murphy Hall for assistance.
- ** Please email to aapscholarship@college.ucla.edu.

For more information email <u>aapscholarship@college.ucla.edu</u>.



AAP HAPPENINGS



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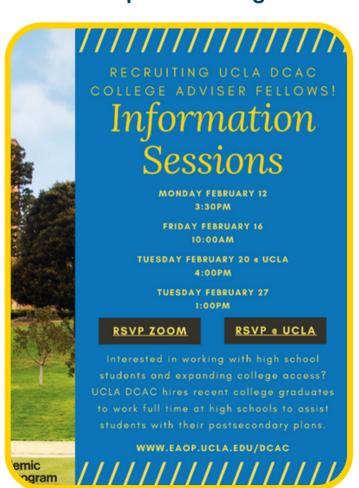


FEBRUARY HAPPENINGS



2024

Destination College Advising Corps - Now Hiring



Coffee with Dr. A February 27, 2024 March 26, 2024



Program

AAP Presents "Virtual Coffee

with Dr. A Session"

Join fellow AAP students and staff in a meet and greet with AAP director Dr. Charles Alexander, affectionally known as Dr. A.

Special Guest: Marvin Smith
Executive Director of Financial Aid and Scholarships



Ask Questions!

Express Concerns!

Socialize!

Tuesday, February 27th, 2024 9 - 10AM



These conversations are a platform for ideas, questions, and solutions to better serve the AAP community!

Zoom Link: https://ucla.zoom.us/j/91289728025

ISSUE N. 2



03.



MARCH HAPPENINGS



2024

Navigating Insurance for Mental Health March 1, 2024



AAP Now Hiring
AAP Administration - Assistant Director
March 6, 2024



Women in Finances March 5th, 2024





04.



APRIL HAPPENINGS



2024

AAP Fiat Lux Freshman Seminar Now Recruiting!



Labor Summer 2024 Fellow Applications Now Open!



Labor Summer 2024

Fellow Application Now Open!

The UCLA Dream Resource Center is now accepting applications from prospective fellows for the 2024 UCLA Labor Summer fellowship. Labor Summer is an annual 8-week, full-time, summer fellowship for UCLA students interested in worker justice and labor rights.

Apply at bit.ly/2024laborfellow by February 16, 2024.

UCLA Dream Resource Center

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Find us at

CAMPBELL HALL OR WWW.AAP.UCLA.EDU



Academic Advancement Program (AAP)

@aapucla

Peer Counseling

@aap_peercounseling

Center for Community College Partnerships:

@cccp_ucla
@cccp_retention

Graduate Mentoring:

@uclaaap_gm

McNair:

@ucla_mcnairscholar

Peer Learning:

@aappeerlearning

Research, Assessment & Evaluation:

@ucla_aaprae

Vice Provost's Initiative for Pre-College Scholars:

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AAP Fall/Winter Recap





































Dr. Doby Lecture Recap

















