

# AAP's Quarterly Newsletter

**VOLUME**

**6**

**ISSUE**

**N.1**



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- Summer Highlights
- AAP Alumni Spotlight
- Unit Updates
- Announcements

# AAP'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

## AAP Interim Director's Message



Dear AAP Scholar,

I would like to take this time to welcome you to campus. If you are a new student entering this year **CONGRATULATIONS** on your acceptance and enrollment to UCLA! The Academic Advancement Program (AAP) has a long and rich history of working with students like yourself and we are excited about the opportunity to help you enrich your time at UCLA.

To support your academic journey, I strongly encourage you to learn more about, and utilize, the following services:

- [AAP Counseling & Peer Counseling](#)
- [AAP McNair Scholars Program](#)
- [AAP Peer Learning](#)
- [AAP Vice Provost Initiative for Pre-College Scholars](#)
- [AAP Computer Lounge](#)

For continuing AAP scholars, campus-wide budget constraints have led to changes within AAP, and we recognize the impact that this will have on the services we have typically provided. While some resources may have changed, we remain committed to assisting you as you navigate all of what UCLA has to offer. Please know that we welcome your feedback and are committed to offering spaces for you to share, including town halls, throughout the academic year. Please see below in this newsletter for further details on the AAP Student Staff & Staff Town hall. In the meantime, we are here to support you!

Sincerely,

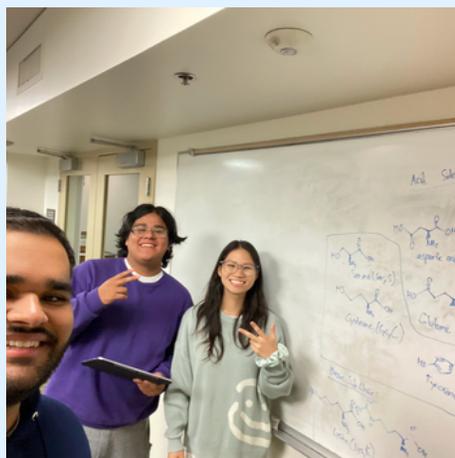
Jonli Tunstall, Ph.D.  
Interim Associate Vice-Provost for Student Diversity  
Interim Director, Academic Advancement Program (AAP)

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- AAP Alumni Spotlight
- Dr. A's Emeritus Status
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# Summer Highlights

## FRESHMEN & TRANSFER SUMMER PROGRAM



The Freshmen & Transfer Summer Program (FTSP) welcomed 320 freshmen and transfer students this past summer. Led by AAP staff, Peer Counselors, Peer Learning Facilitators, and faculty, the program provided FTSP scholars with the opportunity to gain a head-start in and out of the classroom that ensured their continued success while studying at UCLA. Every week, students attended classes and Peer Learning sessions, participated in workshops with campus partners, engaged in fun events and off-campus excursions hosted by Peer Counselors, and came together to celebrate AAP during annual summer events. Students who completed the program earned credit towards graduation, developed skills to apply to their academic and professional pursuits, and built relationships with their community members to last a lifetime!

# Summer Highlights

## VICE-PROVOST'S INITIATIVE FOR PRE-COLLEGE SCHOLARS (VIPS)



VIPS hosted 60 high school students across two (2) residential summer programs, ranging from three-weeks to five-weeks. All scholars participated in culturally relevant workshops centered around Science, Technology, Art, Nutrition and Dialogue (STAND). Additionally, rising 11th and 12th grade scholars earned UCLA course credit by enrolling in English Composition and Education courses. VIPS also hosted several panels and sessions that allowed our students to engage with faculty and staff across campus, as well as UCLA alumni and community members working as artists, activists, educators, researchers, health and tech professionals. During our programs, VIPS scholars build community within and between their cohorts through communal recreation time, lunch, and community movie screenings, which were followed by intentional discussions to promote critical thinking. We are proud of the hard work and dedication our scholars put in during the summer, and to the UCLA undergraduate mentors that worked so diligently with them.

# Summer Highlights

## MCNAIR

### 2025 UCLA NATIONAL MCNAIR CONFERENCE



The 2025 UCLA National McNair Conference brought over 350 McNair scholars and staff from across the country to the UCLA Luskin Conference Center from July 28 to July 30, 2025. Scholars had the opportunity to not only present their research but also to engage with UCLA Faculty and leaders. This included a Cool Peeps with PhDs panel featuring Dr. Austin Coley, Assistant Professor in Neurobiology at the David Geffen School of Medicine; Dr. Elizabeth Gonzalez, Director of HSI; and Dr. Marques Vestal, Assistant Professor of Urban Planning, where they discussed their academic trajectory and research. Both Dr. Gonzalez and Dr. Vestal are proud McNair alumni, inspiring current scholars with their journeys from the program to academia. Additionally, scholars were able to network with more than 30 graduate and professional school recruiters during the Graduate Opportunities Fair and visit potential graduate schools such as Caltech, USC, and UCLA. The conference concluded with a trip to the Griffith Observatory for an evening out to enjoy the beautiful view of LA.

# AAP Alumni Spotlight

## ADRIANOS FACCHETTI



### How AAP Helped Me Find My Footing at UCLA

Adrianos Facchetti graduated from UCLA in 2001 with a degree in History and Departmental Honors. He is now a personal injury lawyer in Los Angeles, California, and the founder of the Law Offices of Adrianos Facchetti. Below is a snippet of his story as an AAP alumnus:

That is when I discovered the Academic Advancement Program (AAP). I turned to AAP tutoring, and it made all the difference. Having a place to go, where someone could explain the material and give me guidance, was exactly what I needed. AAP helped me stabilize, recover from that rocky start, and begin to believe that I truly belonged at UCLA.

It was the same pattern I have seen throughout my life: Stumble, figure out the system, then rise above. AAP gave me the tools to recover quickly and get back on track.

To read more about how AAP supported Adriano's journey and helped shape his UCLA experience, please visit our website: <https://www.aap.ucla.edu/alumni-and-friends/alumni-spotlight/>

# Dr. A's Emeritus Status

**DR. CHARLES ALEXANDER**



***Congratulations, Dr. A!***

Dear Dr. Alexander:

Please accept my congratulations and best wishes on behalf of your colleagues and friends at UCLA as you receive the title of Academic Administrator Emeritus effective July 1, 2025.

Your many contributions to this institution and in your field have won our respect and appreciation. You may take special satisfaction in the knowledge that your work has had an impact and that the result of your efforts will continue to be felt within the framework of your discipline.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julio Frenk".

Julio Frenk  
Chancellor

After decades of visionary leadership, unwavering dedication, and deep commitment to student success, Dr. Charles J. Alexander, former Director of the Academic Advancement Program, retired on June 20, 2025. Effective July 1, 2025, Dr. A was granted Emeritus status, an honor conferred by the university to demonstrate respect for his distinguished career and contributions to UCLA. Indeed, Dr. A's legacy as our former Director of AAP is imprinted in the lives of thousands of Bruins who found a home, a family, and a future through AAP.

# AAP Services Updates

## AAP COLLEGE COUNSELING



AAP College Counseling is available both in-person and virtually to help you with your UCLA journey. Appointments can be scheduled in one of the following ways:

- Stop by 1205 Campbell Hall, Mon. - Thurs. 12pm-3pm
- Send us a Message Center request (MyUCLA>Ask A Question>AAP Counseling)
  - Please be sure to send us your availability for 2 weeks with your request
- Login to REACH Virtual Drop-In advising, Mon. 11am-2pm; Tues.-Fri. 10am - 2pm
  - [Come Visit Us at REACH!!](#)

## MCNAIR

The UCLA McNair Research Scholars Program is a two-year program that prepares a cohort of 28 juniors and seniors from diverse majors to gain research experience and excel in top Ph.D. programs after graduating. Each year, the program maintains a cohort of 28 juniors and seniors from a variety of majors in the Humanities, Arts, Social Sciences, STEM, and applied or interdisciplinary Sciences. The UCLA McNair program particularly attracts young scholars who are committed to gaining research experience and attending graduate school immediately following their bachelor's degree attainment.



## NEW STUDENT PROGRAMS

The New Student Programs office oversees and implements a variety of academic initiatives within AAP and serves as the entry point for new students. New Student Programs most highly visible programs are AAP Presentations during Bruin Day and AAP Summer Programs. For questions about how to maximize your AAP membership, please visit our office in 1230 Campbell Hall or email us at [aapnewstudents@ucla.edu](mailto:aapnewstudents@ucla.edu).

## PEER LEARNING

As we begin Fall quarter, we will continue to integrate AAP's Community of Care initiative into the Peer Learning Unit. As a Community of Scholars, we must ensure that AAP students, staff, and campus partners are taking care of one another. AAP services including peer learning will offer in-person sessions unless otherwise noted. We know that peer learning is an important support service for many of our scholars and we are working hard to continue to support you as much as possible.



## VICE-PROVOST'S INITIATIVE FOR PRE-COLLEGE SCHOLARS

UCLA's VIP Scholars Program is a partnership between UCLA, Los Angeles County schools and community organizations, that prepares educationally disadvantaged and underserved students to become academically competitive and to encourage their pursuit of graduate and professional education, using a comprehensive community empowerment approach.

# AAP Unit Updates

## AAP ADMINISTRATION

### CAPS & AAP DROP-IN

*COUNSELING & PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES &  
ACADEMIC ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM  
SPECIALIZED DROP-IN HOURS*

CAPS' drop-in hours provide free, confidential, brief support or mental health screenings. Call CAPS at 310-825-0768 to schedule a drop-in with Noemi!



**NOEMI ROMAN, LMFT**

**NO  
APPOINTMENT  
REQUIRED!**

#### **HOURS & LOCATION**

**Mondays 10:00 - 11:30 am**

**Tuesdays 2:00 - 3:30 pm**

**Location: 1232 Campbell Hall**

**UCLA** Counseling &  
Psychological Services

#### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**



Phone  
310-825-0768



Website  
[caps.ucla.edu/services/drop-in](https://caps.ucla.edu/services/drop-in)

# AAP Unit Updates

## AAP COUNSELING

### How to Contact AAP COUNSELING

Fall 2025

#### REACH DROP-IN

[On Zoom] 10 min.

Monday  
11am - 2pm

Tuesday - Friday  
10am - 2pm

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use a different browser.



#### COUNSELING HUB

[In Person] @ 1205 Campbell Hall

Monday - Thursday  
12pm - 3pm

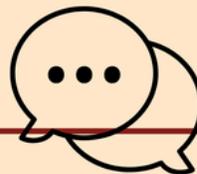
Appointment setting and  
quick questions.



#### MESSAGE CENTER

Reserved for general advising questions  
and appointment setting.

Responses will be sent  
within 2-3 business days.



UCLA

Academic Advancement Program  
College Academic Advising



@aap\_peerounseling

# AAP Unit Updates

## MCNAIR

UCLA

**Undergraduate Education**  
Academic Advancement Program

**WE  
ARE  
HIRING!**



Graduate School Advisor- Peer Mentor

### HOW TO APPLY

#### **New Applicants**

To apply for the AAP Graduate School Advisor-Peer Mentor:

- Please send your [resume](#) and [cover letter](#) to [mjuarez@college.ucla.edu](mailto:mjuarez@college.ucla.edu)

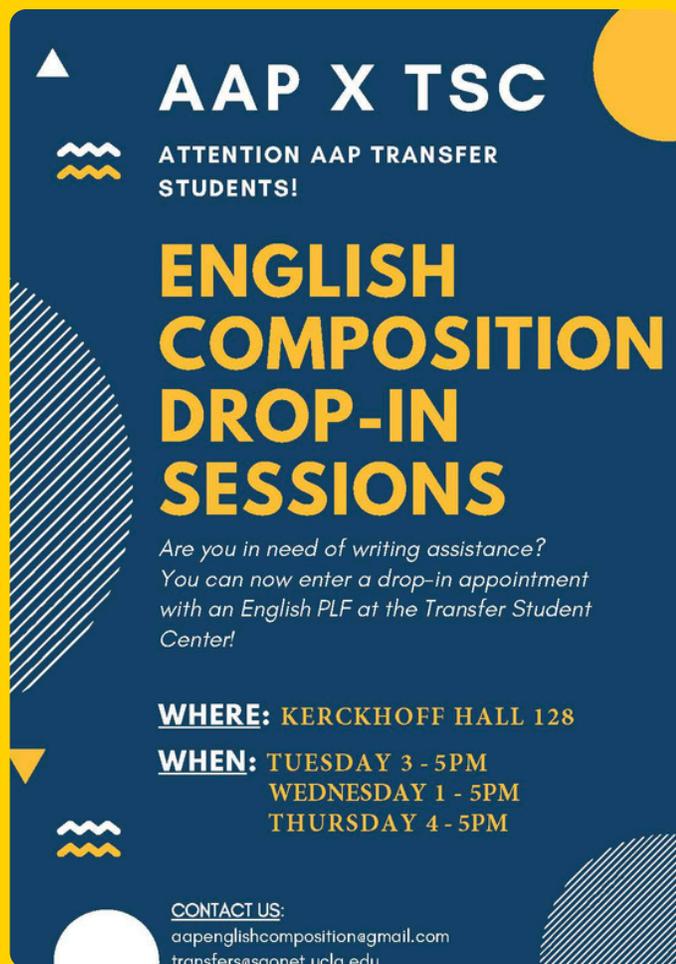
To view the position:

- Visit [MyUCLA](#)
  - Navigate to Finances and Jobs
  - Under Jobs and Community, select Work Study Job Search
  - Search for Job Number 0523-11

**DEADLINE: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2025**

# AAP Unit Updates

## PEER LEARNING



**AAP X TSC**

ATTENTION AAP TRANSFER STUDENTS!

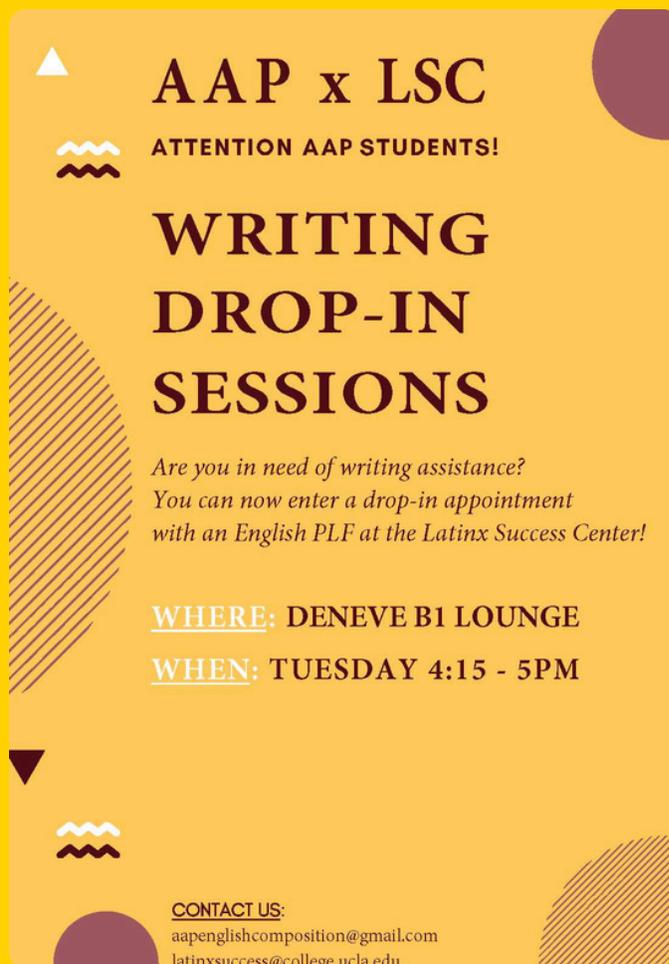
**ENGLISH COMPOSITION DROP-IN SESSIONS**

*Are you in need of writing assistance? You can now enter a drop-in appointment with an English PLF at the Transfer Student Center!*

**WHERE:** KERCKHOFF HALL 128

**WHEN:** TUESDAY 3 - 5PM  
WEDNESDAY 1 - 5PM  
THURSDAY 4 - 5PM

**CONTACT US:**  
aapenglishcomposition@gmail.com  
transfers@saonet.ucla.edu



**AAP x LSC**

ATTENTION AAP STUDENTS!

**WRITING DROP-IN SESSIONS**

*Are you in need of writing assistance? You can now enter a drop-in appointment with an English PLF at the Latinx Success Center!*

**WHERE:** DENEVE B1 LOUNGE

**WHEN:** TUESDAY 4:15 - 5PM

**CONTACT US:**  
aapenglishcomposition@gmail.com  
latinxsucess@college.ucla.edu

### Fall 2025 Writing Drop-Ins | Weeks 4–11

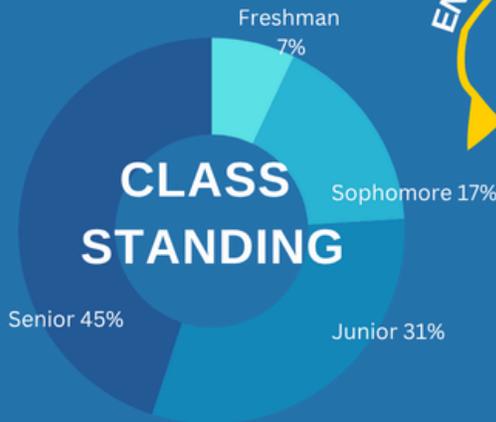
Looking for some extra writing support this quarter? Stop by the TSC or LSC for AAP Writing Drop-Ins—no appointment needed. Our English Composition PLFs are here to offer feedback and tips on any writing project you're working on. For any questions, please email [aappeerlearning@college.ucla.edu](mailto:aappeerlearning@college.ucla.edu) or [aapenglishcomposition@gmail.com](mailto:aapenglishcomposition@gmail.com).

# AAP Unit Updates

## RESEARCH, ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION (RAE)

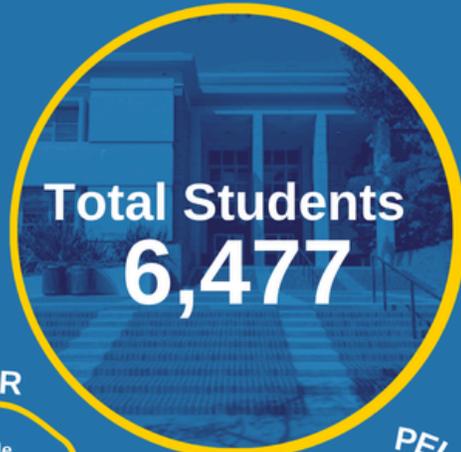
**UCLA** Undergraduate Education  
Academic Advancement Program

### Student Profile Fall 2025



#### ENTRY STATUS

Freshman 83%  
Transfer 18%



#### GENDER

Male 25%  
Female 74%

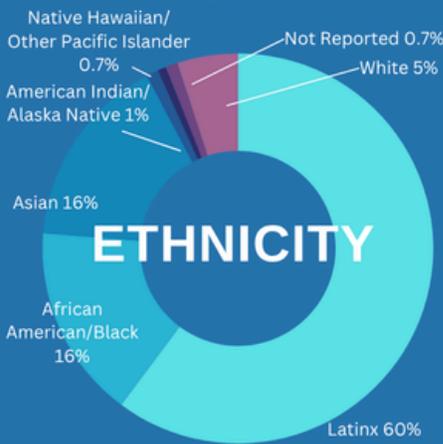
#### FIRST GEN

Non-First Gen 30%  
First Gen 68%

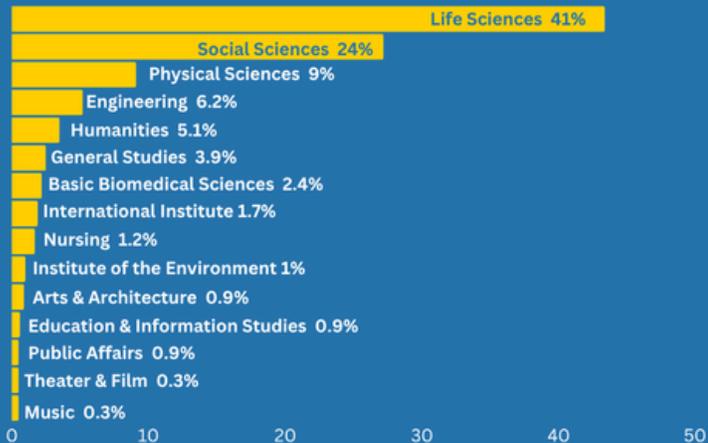
#### PELL

Recipient\* 72%  
Non-recipient 28%

#### RECIPIENT



#### FIELD OF STUDY



“

I'm hopeful to gain mentorship and guidance throughout college, especially since I've had a difficult time adjusting. I hope this will make college feel like home and a community.

”

\*Only includes returning students prior to Fall 2025.

# AAP HAPPENINGS



## NOV HAPPENINGS



2025

# AAP Student Staff and Staff Town Hall



WEDNESDAY NOV 19TH  
4-5 PM

**AAP Scholars!**

Please join the AAP Student Town Hall hosted by AAP Staff & Student Staff to hear updates regarding AAP services. We want to share what's going on, our vision for where we're headed, and hear from you. Whether you want to share how changes have affected you, ask questions, or offer suggestions, your voice is essential to the future of AAP!

**LOCATION:**  
1224 CAMPBELL HALL  
RSVP FOR ZOOM LINK:  
[HTTPS://BIT.LY/AAPTOWNHALL2025](https://bit.ly/aaptownhall2025)

**RSVP**



**UCLA** Undergraduate Education  
**Academic Advancement  
Program**

# Find us at

CAMPBELL HALL  
OR  
WWW.AAP.UCLA.EDU



## Follow our units on IG

**Academic Advancement Program (AAP)**

@aapucla

**McNair:**

@ucla\_mcnairscholar

**Peer Counseling**

@aap\_peercounseling

**Peer Learning:**

@aappeerlearning

**Research, Assessment & Evaluation:**

@ucla\_aaprae

**Vice Provost's Initiative for Pre-College Scholars:**

@thevipscholars



Thank you for a great AAP summer!





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