

# The CI View

SPECIAL EDITION

## CI Returns: Student Perspectives

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### Plus.... Art Features

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The CI View asked, and you answered! We are featuring student-submitted art of various styles to showcase the talent of CI's community.

### \$68 million expansion project at CI: what to expect

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We have the scoop on the massive overhaul coming to the entrance to campus, including insights from Provost Mitch Avila about the new vision behind this major project.

### Checkered past of CI

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From 1933 to 1997, Camarillo State Hospital operated on the grounds that are now home to CI. Learn about the history of our campus and its rumored hauntings.



CSU Channel Islands / Associated Students Inc.



# CI returns: student perspectives

JORDAN WEHLAGE AND GRIFFIN GIBONEY

For the first time in three semesters, students are once again walking the halls and filling the study spaces at CI. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, students, staff and faculty alike are learning how to navigate this new campus reality.

Throughout the pandemic, educational institutions have been under close scrutiny with regards to how they handled bringing students back to campus. The majority of CI students are satisfied with steps the University has taken to ensure the safety of the campus community. In a poll conducted on The CI View's Instagram page, 86% of students reported feeling safe on campus. 86% also agreed that the University has handled re-population well.

Ashlei Tesnado, a first-year chemistry major, explained, "The first few days I was feeling a little scared...now, it's been a few months already and I'm not as scared as before." Tesnado raised concerns regarding physical distancing in classrooms: "Sometimes in class we're all bundled in, and we don't know if people are vaccinated. Maybe we should scatter people around in the classroom and not be all bunched in."

Other students mostly felt comfortable but shared some areas in which they felt the University could improve.

Alyssa Galarza, a third-year biology major, expressed confusion about the logistics of the contact tracing process in the event of a positive case. Galarza also, however, felt reassured by other University procedures: "I feel comfortable (on campus) because I see a lot of people actually wearing their masks... and I know there's free testing, so if I ever feel the need to get a test, that's available."

While feeling mostly confident in University guidelines, first-year student Emiel Cantada wishes that CI had supplies, such as hand sanitizer and masks, readily available in more locations on campus. Cantada added, "Sometimes I'm late to class because I'm trying to look for a mask in my car."

Among many students, there is a buzz of excitement about

being back on campus and seeing friendly faces in the halls. Emily Chang, a first-year biology major whose senior year of high school was conducted virtually, said, "I've missed having in-person connections with my classmates and professors." Chang's sentiment was echoed by many other students who spoke to The CI View during interviews held in Central Mall.

Students are happy to take advantage of the ability to meet face-to-face again. Jerrod Plummer, a fourth-year chemistry major, shared a perk of the in-person experience: "You don't have to set up a Zoom call. You can just hang out with your classmates after class."

In this unique era, the college experience looks different than it ever has before. One thing remains the same, however, the knowledge and personal relationships we gain during our time at CI are things we will carry with us forever.



Scan this QR Code to watch our broadcasting piece for more student interviews!

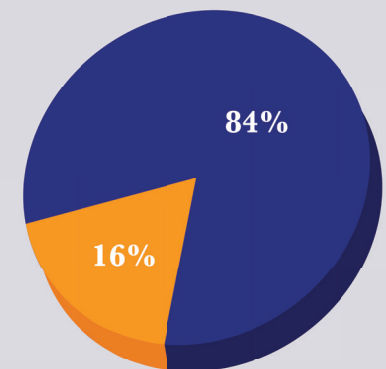
View campus resources about COVID-19 policies and procedures here:

<https://www.csuci.edu/news/campus-updates/fall-2021/index.htm>.

If you have any concerns about COVID-19 procedures on campus, you can report them to the Division of Student Affairs at the following email address: [deanofstudents@csuci.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@csuci.edu).

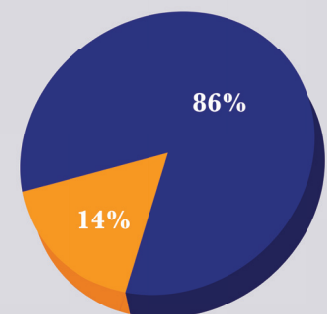
If you are experiencing feelings of anxiety or other mental health concerns, you can find further resources from Counseling and Psychological Services here: <https://www.csuci.edu/caps/contact.htm>.

Are you taking primarily online or in-person classes?



■ In-person  
■ Online

Do you feel comfortable being on-campus?



■ Yes  
■ No

GRAPHIC BY ELISE BECHTEL  
DATA COLLECTED FROM @THECIVIEW INSTAGRAM POLL

## On-campus jobs provide learning opportunities for students

EMILY CHANG

Behind the scenes of any great university are the many individual workers who make sure programs and services are running efficiently. During the pandemic, the need for on-campus workers declined while many services moved to an online format. With the return to campus after more than a year away, many new opportunities for on-campus employment are eager to hire students.

Working on campus provides many benefits, especially if you live on campus. Having your classes and your job in the same setting makes your schedule easier to manage and cuts down transportation time and costs. Plus, having an on-campus job is a great way to gain experience and make money as a college student.

Interviewing with The CI View, CI career counselor Jake Castellanos said available positions include "peer mentoring, tutoring, administrative and much more." Peter Maher, Director of Dining Services, also told The CI View that CI Dining Services are "looking to hire all positions, such as cooks, bussers, dishwashers and baristas." A wide range of jobs are available dealing with different work and requiring a variety of skills, allowing students to find a job that fits their unique abilities.

This variety of available positions is not the only advantage of working on-campus, however. Castellanos explained, "Working on campus also provides the ability for students to create connections with different campus stakeholders and learn about various opportunities and events taking place...Employers and grad programs look to see how active and involved you were on campus."

Working as a student sustainability assistant as an environmental science major would demonstrate your commitment to improving your local community as you apply concepts you learned in class, for example. Whereas real-world application can sometimes be difficult to grasp in the classroom, jobs give you firsthand experiences that solidify your knowledge and skills.

Castellanos also pointed out that on-campus employers acknowledge the precedence of your duties as a student, so they "tend to be flexible around your class schedule." Additionally, "if commuting to school, you can use one commute to go to classes in-person and work a shift in the same day." Maher agreed that "they work around student sched-

ules better than most employers" and that "school always comes first." Working a job at CI offers technical benefits and allows for networking, helping to develop job skills and future opportunities.

Updated lists of available campus jobs can be found through the Dolphin CareerLink, which is available through myCI. Another resource is Job Search, available through [csuci.edu/careerdevelopment/](https://www.csuci.edu/careerdevelopment/). Clicking on any of the job titles in either list will take you to a description of the job, required skills and other key information like desired majors and salary. Applying for that job is as simple as clicking the "apply" button, which allows you to upload your resume and any other necessary documents. The numerous filters available through Dolphin CareerLink also allow students to seek internships, off-campus jobs and positions in specific industries or for specific roles.

Navigating how to apply for jobs as someone who is inexperienced does not have to be a solo task. To help with this process, CI offers assistance throughout each stage of applying for a job. Castellanos explained, "The Career Development and Alumni Engagement Center (CDAE) has a variety of resources, including resume and cover letter resources as well as in-person or virtual appointments to prep students with document reviews and interview prep...The Career Center is open for in-person drop-ins from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1-4 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday. The Center is located in Bell Tower 1548."

Opportunities for on-campus jobs and the available employment resources reflect CI's mission to cultivate community engagement and enforce a curriculum that reflects and prepares students for the real world. The experience gained from applying and working an on-campus job is valuable to further career development.

Castellanos concluded, "Lastly, if there is an opportunity that interests you and you meet most of the quali-

fications, go for it and apply!" With an abundance of resources to provide help along the way, on-campus jobs are accessible and valuable to students. Take advantage of the current open positions and make progress toward long-term success.



Photo by Christopher Ringer



# CI begins WASC reaccreditation process

ARIEL BUTLER

On Sept. 9, Provost Mitch Avila led a town hall meeting dedicated to discussing CI's upcoming Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) reaccreditation. Avila expressed the importance of this process: "We embark on a multi-year journey comprised of campus-wide conversations and collaboration with peers across campus. This is an important journey, but one we can only take together."

The WASC Accreditation process is used to monitor the progress of student learning at schools. This process typically runs on an 8-to-10-year cycle. For CI, the launch of this process begins this year. According to the WASC website, this process encourages schools to "demonstrate the capacity, commitment and competence to support high-quality student learning and ongoing school improvement."

This process holds much significance for our campus, as self-assessment and improvement will shape the future of CI. However, the process also has legal importance. Avila explained, "To be an accredited institution means you have status with the federal government. You can apply for grants; students can get loans, Pell grants and Cal Grants. It is absolutely critical for us to be reaccredited."

The majority of students at CI receive financial aid, whether in the form of state grants, federal grants or federal loans. Without accreditation, this financial assistance for students would not be possible.

**“This is an important journey, but one we can only take together.”**  
—Provost Mitch Avila

An important part of this process is identifying themes for the Thematic Pathway for Reaffirmation of Accreditation. Provost Avila described this process: "This particular process asks us to identify some themes, collect evidence around those themes, respond as a campus and then show that we responded. One of the most important things regarding accreditation is to engage in honest self-assessment about what is working and

what's not. And from there, we take action to improve as a campus. WASC says, if you are being honest about your strengths and your weaknesses, and responding strategically, then you will be accredited. It is an opportunity for continuous improvement."

After identifying thematic pathways and completing a campus assessment, the reaccreditation process will culminate in a WASC visit in 2024, when CI's reaccreditation status will be decided.



Logo for WASC

Throughout the process, there will be several ways for students to be involved. Currently, there is a fall committee for the reaccreditation process, and a similar committee will be formed in the spring. Students will have opportunities to hold seats on this committee. There will also be other opportunities in the form of planning processes and town hall meetings. Avila explained that as the process gets more underway, student involvement will be solicited.

Ultimately, WASC reaccreditation provides CI an opportunity for improvement and starts a conversation open to all parties on campus. Avila expressed, "What we want to do is have an open and genuine conversation about what kind of campus we want to be, and that's really what this is about. There are a set of legal reasons for accreditation, but there is a whole other set about identity, values and priorities, and those are the things that are really impactful for us."

Throughout the next several years, the CI community will work toward a successful reaccreditation, allowing for the continuation of important financial benefits for students and creating an improved campus.

**ASI STUDENT GOVERNMENT INVITES YOU TO ATTEND**

# WEEKLY SENATE MEETINGS

**WEDNESDAYS**

**9:00 - 11:00 AM**

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT HAS OPEN POSITIONS!**



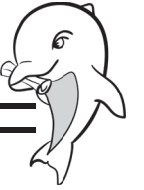
@ci\_studentgovt

**ZOOM MEETING**

**[HTTPS://CSUCI.ZOOM.US/J/85362211572](https://csuci.zoom.us/j/85362211572)**

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR STUDENTS WHO WANT TO SERVE AS A SENATOR OR CHIEF JUSTICE.**





# Art Features

As part of this special print edition, The CI View asked students to send in their art to potentially be shared in the newspaper. We received many incredible submissions that were truly a testament to the talent of our CI community. The featured pieces you see here were selected using a variety of criteria such as story, creativity and execution. Thank you to all who participated and sent in art!

## Our Existence is Resistance



Ilien Guadalupe Tolteca, Chicanx studies and studio art major, junior

“‘Our Existence is Resistance’ is a piece I made based on my belief in the importance of pushing younger generations in my community to pursue higher education, whether it be through a community college or at a university. We are allowed to take up space in places that are traditionally not meant for us and reclaim them as our own. In pursuing it and pushing others to do so, we resist the systematic barriers imposed on us to prevent us from excelling academically. I chose to draw a little brown girl with ribbons intertwined in her braids, butterflies on her hair and a graduation cap, looking up. Our youth are our future leaders, artists, lawyers, engineers, doctors and teachers. They do not need to erase or let go of their identities or cultures in order to succeed. Butterflies are also an important symbol to our dreamers and immigrant community, as they represent migration. Their contributions to our society often go under-appreciated or unnoticed, and we need to fix that.”

## Dystopia 2020



Elizabeth Horta, studio art major, junior

“This artwork is an acrylic textured piece that was made during COVID-19. I was influenced by people that did not feel like COVID-19 affected them much—specifically, people who were okay staying indoors and just waiting for it to be over. While others saw the world through dystopian eyes, some accepted it with its changes and its unsure moments. Working in the food industry, specifically at a coffee shop, helped me see people’s true colors during bad times and good times; this was also something that influenced me. This piece has jellyfish surrounding a girl because sometimes moments felt like being under water and feeling many sensations: pressure, the stillness of moments, the comfort of not having to go anywhere and sometimes pain.”

## Se Acabaron Las Fiestas



José Galván Martínez, studio art major, junior  
Instagram/Tik Tok: @veggicide

Mixed Media on Unstretched Canvas

“This piece is about the way everything unraveled during the year 2020 and the sadness I felt knowing that the year-end festivities I grew up loving and looking forward to would no longer be the same.”



## Reminiscence



Rikki Rose Rodriguez, studio art major, junior

“With this piece I really wanted to target the feeling of missing what once was. Capturing an emotion in a piece has always been challenging for me, and adding the black and white factor on top of it was a whole new experience; however, I hope I accomplished what I was trying to achieve. The woman in this digital painting is reminiscing on a person she once loved, hoping one day they might come back. I chose to keep the rose that she is holding in color to show that this person brought color into her ordinary black and white life.”

## Lounging



Gabriel Lillemoen, studio art major, junior

“This is an experimental piece in playing with brush strokes and brush properties. Prior to learning digital I spent most of my time on oil painting and pastels. Learning digital was like starting from scratch, albeit with the benefit of knowing my fundamentals. I would consider this a return to form in a different medium.”

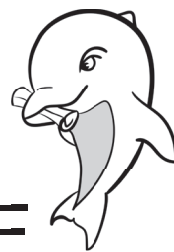
## Cocodrilo Tears



Elisa Torres, studio art major, junior  
Instagram: @elisatorresart  
Facebook: Elisa Torres Art

“This work was a process full of learning, fun and determination. Using thought out composition, it was inspired by Shel Silverstein’s poem called ‘The Crocodile’s Toothache.’ The work is aimed to bring the viewer into the dentist’s office with Ms. Cocodrilo (Spanish for crocodile) and a bird dentist who is obsessed with teeth (as birds have none). I had a great time creating these characters, and in ways I also relate to them. It’s exciting seeing the drawing evolve from an idea to sketch, going to inking and finally to digital edits. This work was created as an assignment for the ART 203 Illustration class taught by Professor Mick Rainman. I would like to give thanks to all of my Art professors and The CI View team for including me in this project.”





# Presidential search begins at CI

DESTINY CASTER

In late September, CI announced the search for the next University President to replace former President Erika D. Beck, who became the President of CSU Northridge in January 2021. Since President Beck's transition, Dr. Richard Yao has served as CI's Interim President since January 2020. Before that, Interim President Yao acted as the Vice President of Student Affairs beginning in 2018.

The CI View reached out to the Chancellor's Office and was then directed to the Senior Director of Public Affairs within the CSU system, Michael Uhlenkamp, to gather more information about the search for a new president. When asked who will be making decisions regarding the search for the new president, Uhlenkamp answered, "Two groups will work together to narrow the field of candidates down to the finalists. Then the entire board of trustees will appoint a new president from that pool of finalists."

The role of a president is crucial for not only the success of the university, but also for the success of the students, the community, the staff and other stakeholders. It is essential to choose the best candidate who will uphold CI's mission and beliefs. The search for a new president will be led by the Chancellor's Office, with assistance from two committees: the Trustees Committee, comprised of members of the CSU Board of Trustees, and the Advisory Committee, which is composed predominantly of members of the CI campus community. The Trustees Committee adopts regulations and policies governing the entire CSU system, and the CSU Board committees have authority over educational policy, finance and campus

planning and facilities.

The Chancellor's Office, along with the two committees, are tasked with selecting a President whose qualities align with CI's mission statement posted on their website, which is "placing students at the center of the educational experience" and "providing undergraduate and graduate education that facilitates learning within and across disciplines through integrative approaches, emphasizes experiential and service learning, and graduates students with multicultural and international perspectives."

**“Two groups will work together to narrow the field of candidates down to the finalists. Then the entire board of trustees will appoint a new president from that pool of finalists.”**

— Michael Uhlenkamp, Senior Director of Public Affairs

According to Uhlenkamp, candidates will come from anywhere across the nation and from a multitude of backgrounds to ensure the best possible candidate to represent CI is appointed. Potential candidates may be current presidents of other universities or rising leaders from other organizations and institutions.

An important consideration during this process is if student opinions will be considered. Two students are on the advisory board that assists with the selection process. Additionally, an open forum was held on Oct. 12 where students and other interested parties were able to speak

on their opinions regarding what they hope to see from potential candidates.

Following the forum, a survey was sent out to all student emails from the Trustees' Search Committee. The email read, "The CSU Trustees' Search Committee also invites you to submit feedback regarding the professional qualifications, experiences and personal attributes you think the next President of CSU Channel Islands must possess to be successful." To provide feedback, click on the link provided in the email. The survey will be available through Oct. 21.

As CI searches for its next president, the Chancellor's Office, along with the CSU Board of Trustees and the Advisory Committee are striving to find a candidate who upholds CI's mission statement, including valuing student achievement and upholding CI's belief in diversity and equity.

The CI View will continue to provide updates as this process continues.

Please see the CSU system's press release here with the roster of both committees and additional details about the search for the new president:

<https://www.calstate.edu/csu-system/news/Pages/California-State-University-Channel-Islands-Presidential-Search-Committee-to-Hold-Virtual-Open-Forum.aspx>

## \$68 million expansion project at CI: what to expect

A'ISHAH CRAWFORD

CI is embarking on a \$68 million project that will provide accessible student services as well as a comprehensive entryway onto campus. CI was founded only 19 years ago, making it the youngest CSU, with plenty of room to grow.

Toward this long-term goal of growth, CI is undertaking an expansion of the campus. In 2017, this expansion was formalized as the Gateway Hall Project, an estimated \$68 million construction project and a student-centered solution to multiple needs on campus.

Backed by student demand, this project is beginning to move forward again in the wake of complications related to COVID-19 shutdowns. Included in the project is the demolition of original structures from the Camarillo State Hospital, which will make space to create new buildings meant to serve as a front door at the north entrance to campus.

This expansion is intended to bring more student life and activity to the north end of the campus, forming a central community hub for the University. The project's timeline has not yet been finalized, but The CI View will continue to provide updates as they become available.

The Gateway Hall Project Draft Report, published in 2017, outlines the allocation of new spaces for multiple departments on campus.

According to Provost Mitch Avila, this will include "student-facing services" that currently reside in Sage Hall, a building which "is not a very functional place to go...interact and do business."

Avila continued, "We will also be updating classrooms, building additional labs and creating new faculty office."

The next aim of the project includes the construction of a welcome center, an instructional space, a 200-person auditorium and administrative space.

According to the Project Draft Report, these changes will engage student

life and "facilitate an integrated, team-based delivery of services to students, staff and faculty."

An important goal for Gateway Hall is to create an active and inviting atmosphere for all students, staff and faculty, as well as for the wider community through public outreach. Avila explained the intention that Gateway Hall will provide new students and community members with "a natural (first) place (to go) when you come into campus."

Avila stated that as planning moves forward, "we are hoping to embody the values of the campus and represent our diversity. It is going to be future oriented and will serve us well." The CI community can anticipate an iconic new campus center in years to come.

This story will be updated on civviewnews.com as further information becomes available.

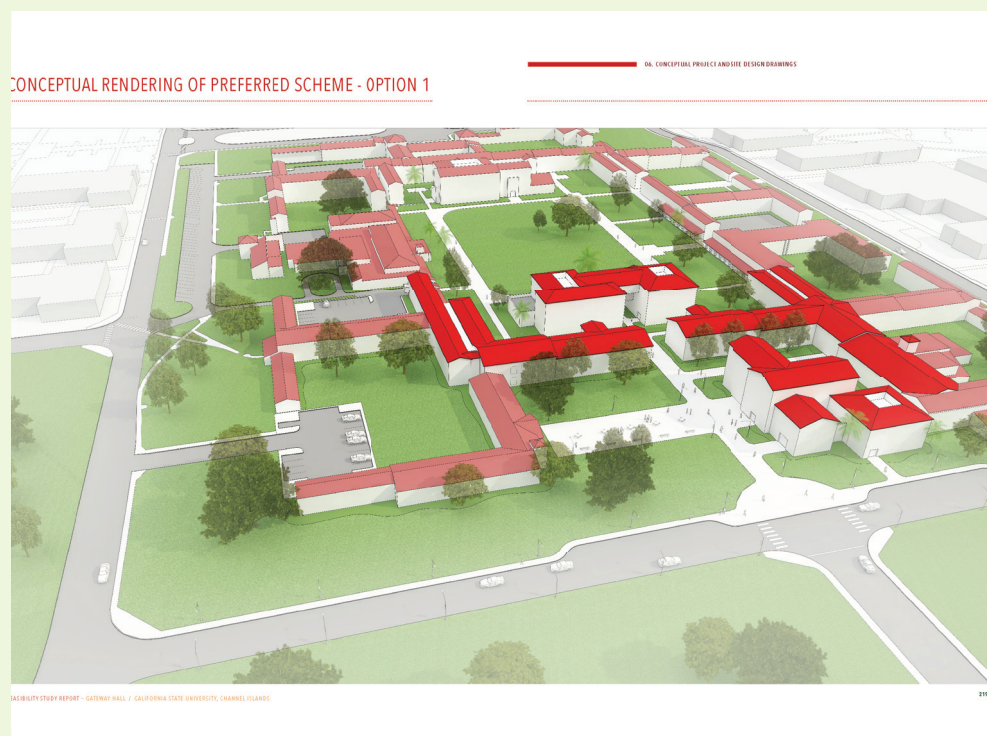
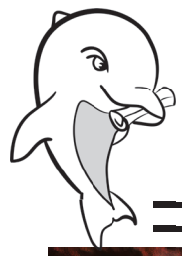
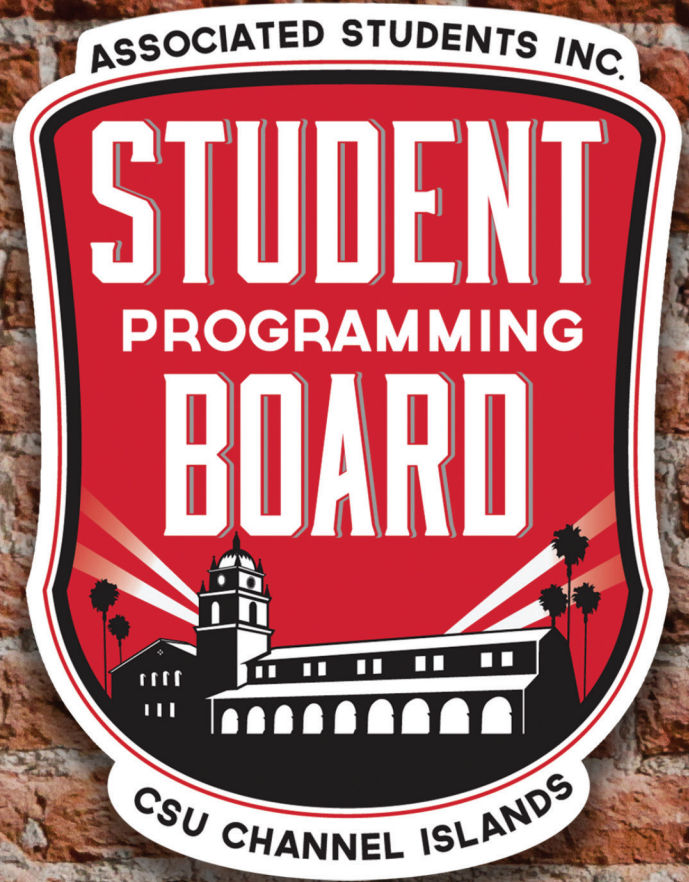


Photo Credit: CO Architects





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## Checkered past of CI

ELISE BECHTEL

As many students at CI know, our university was originally built as the Camarillo State Hospital. Because of this history alone, many students speculate that CI is haunted, and some have even reported paranormal experiences.

However, before you decide whether you think CI is haunted, we will take a walk down history lane to see why these hauntings may occur and how the history ties into the alleged paranormal happenings on campus.

The buildings that make up much of CI were erected between 1932 and 1936, but the land is much older. According to CI's news release "Road to Restoring Sat'wiwa," before the mental hospital occupied the land, the Chumash would gather at Round Mountain "for the winter solstice and set up shrines to celebrate harmony, healing, forgiveness and compassion." However, as mentioned in that news release, this tradition last took place about 200 years ago.

John Spoor Broome Library hosts a collection of records about the Camarillo State Hospital. According to the homepage of this collection, California acquired 1,500 acres to build the mental hospital in 1932. Upon its initial completion in 1936, it "was designed to house 7,000 patients and over 700 staff."

As mentioned in an article by Sarah Moore for ABC News entitled "A brief history of mental health care in California," many mental hospitals of the era have reputations of abuse and neglect, and the Camarillo State Hospital is no different. There are also rumors, and some proof, that the staff at the hospital were neglectful and abusive to patients.

According to a 1976 Los Angeles Times article by Ellen Hume, incoming patients were often drugged with "mixed shots of Thorazine, Stelazine and Hyoscine, or Serenil, Stelazine and Hyoscine," a practice which was later discontinued due to a jury inquisition into suspicious patient deaths.

A grand jury report investigated the mistreatment of patients and found that there were many ethical and medical areas in need of improvement. The report stated, "The omission of real nursing care has been noted time after time during this investigation. We attribute that to lack of knowledge and skill on one hand, and to indifference, neglect and poor administration on the other."

Based on the history of the buildings at CI, it may not be hard to believe the school could be haunted. Within the paranormal community, it is believed that mistreatment of a person at or before death can cause a person's spirit to stay on Earth. To do what, is debated; some think the person has unfinished business, while others believe that they

are stuck or that they choose to stay in a place they are familiar with.

Whether or not CI is haunted, I am a firm believer that negative activities and emotions leave a type of energy that stays in the area. It is like when you are in an empty building and feel like something is watching you. The ghost stories I have heard about CI range from children looking out the windows of abandoned buildings to a dark shadow watching students sleep and, of course, the infamous screaming lady in Bell Tower.

The history surrounding the campus is complicated and, at times, dark. There were reportedly many suspicious patient deaths and unethical practices that took place at the Camarillo State Hospital. Students are divided as to whether they believe in the stories of paranormal happenings on campus, but I think most of us can agree that CI can get pretty creepy at night.

So, do you believe in ghosts?

For more information on the history of CI, you can visit the Broome Library archives to find general information regarding CI's history, as well as photos and documents from the mental hospital. You can also access the grand jury report at [https://repository.library.csuci.edu/bitstream/handle/10139/6164/CSH0019\\$.pdf?sequence](https://repository.library.csuci.edu/bitstream/handle/10139/6164/CSH0019$.pdf?sequence)



Photo by Christopher Ringor



# U Ramen restaurant review

BREANNAH ORTIZ

If you are like me, then you love a good bowl of ramen. It is something you cannot beat, especially around this time of year when the leaves are starting to change color and the temperature is beginning to drop. What better way to enjoy the cold season than with a nice hot bowl of ramen?



Photo by Jordan Wehlage

URamen is a new ramen spot that opened up this year right next to the iconic Morgan Stanley building in Oxnard on Vineyard Avenue. In addition to ramen, there are an assortment of offerings including boba, Korean corn dogs, karaage, takoyaki and vegetarian options.

When I first found this location, I had not heard anyone I know talk about it. This local spot popped up for me on Yelp one day and I was intrigued. Ramen is one of my favorite dishes of all time, so I had to check this place out.

A ramen bowl usually has a variety of ingredients. You can either have a shoyu broth, which is a soy sauce-based broth, or a tonkotsu broth, which is a pork-based bone broth.

Additionally, you can add chashu, which is Japanese-style pork belly, or chicken as a choice of protein. With the broth and choice of protein, you also have the option of green onions, bean sprouts and corn. U Ramen switches up the game by adding a wonton chip and a slice of lime into your bowl, and it truly makes all the difference. Lastly, of course, you have the most important ingredient of all: al dente egg noodles!

The service at U Ramen is incredibly warm and welcoming. The servers are extremely nice and hospitable. I had not even been seated or placed my order yet, but I could tell that it was going to be a great time. The ambience in the restaurant is also excellent as they have eye-catching decorations up around the shop. For now, they have the restaurant decked out with cute seasonal Halloween decorations.

Everything served here is fresh and made daily, and you can even buy some Japanese snacks and drinks like Ramune, a Japanese soft drink. If you decide to check it out, I recommend the Shu Shu Ramen, which is their most popular dish. It has now become my go-to order at U Ramen.

If you are craving some great ramen, I highly recommend U Ramen! They are open from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday, and I can attest that it is some of the best ramen I have ever had. Not only is the food great, but there is the added benefit of supporting a local business. It is definitely worth the 20-minute drive from campus.



# Positive impacts of online learning

ARIEL BUTLER

CI is navigating a return to campus this semester, with some courses being offered in-person and online. When course registration opened for returning students in April, it was easy to see which modality students preferred; the online offerings filled up extremely fast.

Last academic year, 2020-21, almost all classes were online due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which some students met with excitement, and others with contempt. However, no matter the differing opinions on remote learning, the fact remains that the availability of online classes has helped students juggling many responsibilities and is also shaping how higher education may be delivered in the future.

Continuing into this semester, many students have chosen to engage in completely remote learning. One of these students is Andrea Batoon, a third-year health science major.

Batoon explained, “Most of my decision to choose online classes was based on convenience and my mental health. As I’m sure is the case for many other people, last year was a really rough time for me and the effects of the pandemic really worsened the things I was going through at the time. I feel like online classes, in addition to saving me time that I can use for things other than school, is allowing me to work on taking care of myself so I can be the very best I can be.”

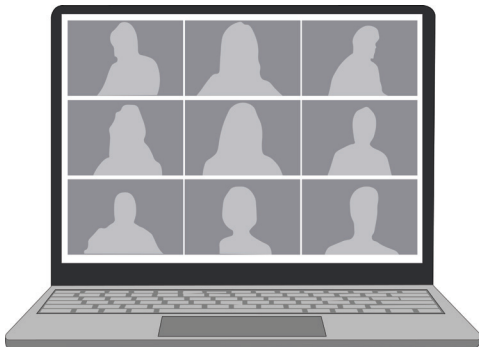
According to the American Psychological Association, the COVID-19 pandemic has worsened mental health, particularly among college students. Part of this is caused by managing normal coursework on top of the added stress of the pandemic. The availability of online courses may help students focus on taking care of themselves while still continuing their education.

A question that has been brought up is whether online classes will continue to be offered post-pandemic. Judging from

the popularity of online courses this semester, students favor this modality and would like to see it continue in the future. Online learning is more accessible to students without reliable transportation and allows students flexibility with other responsibilities. Students do not have to be physically present on campus to access learning opportunities.

Remote learning also provides students a break to focus on their mental health and wellbeing. Batoon supported these sentiments: “Many students I know work to pay for school and living expenses in general. Online classes allow at least a little more flexibility in comparison to in-person school in terms of their work schedules.”

Ultimately, the pandemic’s impact on higher education has been profound, and we are still watching how it is shaping the future for college students. Whether or not online learning will continue to be available for students is not decided, but one thing is clear: remote learning allows students to better balance their work, social lives and mental health, allowing for an overall more positive outcome.



GRAPHIC BY ELISE BECHTEL

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## Purpose

The purpose of The CI View is to provide the student body of CI with precise and accurate news about what is happening on their campus and community. It is run by students, for students, and provides a forum to voice their opinion. The CI View aims to be student-centered by giving students opportunities to become involved and learn about the dynamic field of journalism.

## Advertising

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## Editorial Matter

Opinions expressed within editorials, pages and comics do not necessarily reflect those of The CI View, its faculty or the student body. Publications are produced focusing on diverse student representation, ethical accuracy and the execution of The CI View student newspaper’s goals and values.

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## FRONT PAGE

Front Page Photo by Sergio Mercado  
Pictured: Ilien Tolteca, Chicanx studies and studio art major, junior  
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