

CSUMB breaks ground on Gavilan Hall renovation



Associated Students President Natalie Navarro (seen to the right with mascot Monte Rey) looks forward to the connections this project may foster amongst undergrads.

PHOTOS BY ELIOTT ROWE

Eli Heck
Staff Writer

Cal State Monterey Bay (CSUMB) community members gathered Thursday morning for a groundbreaking event, marking the start of renovations to Gavilan Hall.

The project will convert the former administrative building back into student housing, adding suite-style units, updated infrastructure and new community spaces for students. Attended by 87 CSUMB staff, students and campus leaders, speakers highlighted the building's history, the renovation timeline and high hopes for future enrollment this project poses.

"Gavilan Hall carries a distinctive history that reflects the evolution of our campus," University President Vanya Quiñones said during the event. "The renovation...is about strengthening the heart of the campus."

Campus Planning and Development Director Matthew McCluney said plans include upgrades to plumbing, heating and ventilation systems, as well as the creation of two-bedroom pods with a shared bathroom and living room, and several proposals for new community spaces. "This was the top of the renovation options," he said.

"This building once housed U.S. Army soldiers, and

now has a renewed purpose for supporting our students," McCluney said.

Crystal Lay, who oversees Student Housing and Residential Life, said the renovation will expand affordable housing and support community building for students moving in fall 2026, when the hall is expected to open. "My team and I cannot wait to build a team of student leaders and programs that will enhance the residential life experience," she said.

"The OSU is nearby, where the students can go and connect with others who may have spent more time on campus," said Associated Students (AS) President Natalie Navarro. "Additionally, within the building's courtyard, I envision students capitalizing on the built-in community, potential friends, classmates and colleagues."

In an interview following the ceremony, McCluney said the project aligns with rising enrollment and the increased demand for student housing. He remarked how last year's housing shortages did not alter the construction timeline but added that the timing "worked out really well" as enrollment continues to climb.

"We know students need housing, and we want to make sure we provide more beds as enrollment rises," said McCluney.

When asked about potential challenges with the renovation, McCluney said the team is prepared for the complexities of working with former Fort Ord structures. "We've done renovations for 50-plus buildings on campus," he said, "we've done our homework." He noted that accessibility requirements are among the common issues encountered in older military buildings. "When you do a project, you have to bring things up to code," he said. "Not only is it a requirement, but of course, we want this to be accessible for all students."

Although Associated Students and the student body at CSUMB were not formally consulted during early planning phases, student leaders were briefed at Senate meetings and developers visited an Otter Thursday event last semester to gather student input and feedback. An AS representative serving on the University Corporation Board said student concerns were incorporated into the design before the board approved the project's funding on Oct. 21.

Goodbye grads!

Join us in celebrating our fall Lutrinae graduates as we take a look at their favorite moments in the newsroom.



Page 2

Winter Night Market

With help from local small businesses, the OSU Ballroom was brimming with holiday cheer.



Page 5

PGCC: beyond basic

Finals season can be stressful, take time to get to know your on-campus wellness center.



Page 6

Farewell fall 2025 graduates



From left to right, Paige Francis, Maxfield English and Maddie Honomichl recount their time with the Lutrinae as they near graduation.

PHOTO BY LAYNA HUGHES

By Jocelyn Corona
Staff Writer

This fall the Lutrinae bids farewell to three members of the newsroom Maddie Honomichl, Maxfield English and Paige Francis. Before graduation and finals set in, they took time to reflect on their time at CSUMB and with the Lutrinae.

the Lutrinae

The Lutrinae is a weekly campus newspaper covering CSUMB and its neighboring areas. Here at *The Lutrinae*, our goal is not only to educate and inform the public, but to entertain, to spark creativity, to encourage diversity of opinion, and to build a sense of community on campus and with the neighboring cities.

The Staff

Editor-In-Chief
Layna Hughes
mhughes@csumb.edu

Production Manager
Zoe Kapp
zkapp@csumb.edu

Webmaster
Liam Willey
lwilley@csumb.edu

Assistant Editor
Keira Silver
ksilver@csumb.edu

Photographers
Elliot Rowe
erowe@csumb.edu

Social Media Manager
Maddie Honomichl
mhonomichl@csumb.edu

Visual Editor
Amanda Richman
arichman@csumb.edu

Staff Writers
Jocelyn Corona
jocccorona@csumb.edu
Paige Francis
pfrancis@csumb.edu
Eli Heck
eheck@csumb.edu
Hayley Matto
hmatto@csumb.edu
Daisy Sanchez
daisanchez@csumb.edu
Sean Tubo
stubo@csumb.edu

Adviser
David Kellogg
dkellogg@csumb.edu

Operations Manager
Monica Conner
mconner@csumb.edu

Editorial Policy

The Lutrinae is a student-run publication produced for the students of CSUMB. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Lutrinae*, CSUMB administration, faculty, or staff.

The Lutrinae serves two purposes: It is a training ground for students who wish to develop journalism skills and build their resume, and it is a forum for free expression of campus issues and news. *The Lutrinae* Editorial team will determine what to print and reserves the right to edit for libel, space, or clarity.

Advertising revenue supports *The Lutrinae* publication and events. Letter to the Editors should include first and last name and should be submitted via email. *The Lutrinae* reserves the right to reject any Letter to the Editor for any reason, and anonymous letters will not be published.

Contact

Office Phone
831.582.4066

General Inquiries
thelutrinae@csumb.edu

Advertising Services
advertising@thelutrinae.com

Mailing Address
Wave Hall
100 Campus Center,
Seaside, CA 93955

Website
www.thelutrinae.com

@thelutrinae

Maddie Honomichl: Social Media Manager and Photographer

With her role at the Lutrinae, Honomichl was able to explore her creativity through social media posts and content creation. More specifically, this year's staff introduction video held a special place in her heart. "I used to watch 'Full House' growing up so it was a little nostalgic in a fun way and I liked having a new way to introduce the team." Additionally Otters in the Wild pushed Honomichl outside her comfort zone, "Having to walk up to and talk to people about wanting to be in a video takes a lot of courage, especially when I get a lot of no's. But I would not be who I am today without a little challenge."

Advice Honomichl would give to those beginning their college journey, "To people just beginning college use your resources! There's so many resources that CSUMB offers that are so helpful and free!" For those new to the Lutrinae, Honomichl says to, "just have fun with it and never be afraid to ask for help. This little community is so fun to work with and feels like a little family."

After graduation, Honomichl is going to move back home to Arizona, searching for jobs or internships that connect with her passion for marine science, "I still want to incorporate communication and social media into marine science and find jobs that I will have fun and be creative in."

Honomichl's one word to describe working at the Lutrinae was, "Fun!" she's going to miss the "... overall vibe in the newsroom. It always felt so welcoming and fun to talk and get to know people."

"We were getting a lot of positive feedback from our team, their families and the CSUMB community. It made me so happy that people liked my videos especially because this was the first time I had ever been in charge of a social media account." Thanks to Honomichl the Lutrinae's Instagram had some steady growth this semester and we have new strategies and reel ideas to follow.

Maxfield English: Contributing Writer

English holds the meaningful connections and conversations he has had during his time at the Lutrinae close when reflecting on his time here, more specifically the process behind his profile on Library Dean Jacqueline Grallo, "...it seemed like such a small interview at the time, when we ended up working on it, that was what became such a beautiful piece to me and I think I got a lot out of it that I didn't expect."

English's one word to describe the Lutrinae was "challenging." He referred to the tough love mentoring style of faculty advisor David Kellogg, saying he has been "tremendous," but also pushes those in the newsroom. "He makes sense [when he says] that everyone in the newsroom is capable of being better than what they think."

After graduation, English is going to move back to Los Angeles. "I've lived in Los Angeles for a very long time

and it's a huge community. It means so much to me and my family. I've seen a lot happen to it, and because of that, I've always wanted to kind of go back to the Los Angeles Times and their major paper." The decision on a potential internship with the L.A. Times will come in March.

"The phrase, 'joy de vive' comes to mind. Like the joy of life, every time you come into this newsroom, it's just so vibrant. People are laughing," English says, reflecting on what he will miss about the newsroom. "There are constant jokes and people are happy to be here. I didn't get to engage with it as much as I could have, but I could still feel it even from my position."

Paige Francis: Senior Staff Writer, former Editor In Chief

One of the articles that Francis is proud of is her recent piece on AI and the environment, "as an environmental studies student, it was something that I wanted to write about and it kind of felt like the last piece to our AI series that we've been doing."

To those who are just starting their Lutrinae journey Francis suggests, "Don't shy away from any story because it can really get you started on your journalism journey. You never know who you're going to meet while you're working on stories. I've gotten to interview the chief of police, and some other people from Chartwells and on the administrative level...that's not something that people who aren't in the newspaper would be able to [do]." Throughout her time in the newsroom she's learned and grown in many ways, "I learned more leadership skills and how to trust myself and believe in my decisions, that it's going to be fine."

The CCMAS were a time of pride for Francis, "Both times that I went it was really great, but the second time when Zoe [Kapp] and I won an award for our infographic, that was really cool. It was nice to be recognized because we're a relatively small paper, so it was nice to win against bigger schools who have more time, money and resources."

Graduate school is next up in Francis's journey, "going down a science communication path, working for a newspaper, covering scientific things or kind of going toward education. Rough either way combining my passions of science and writing."

"Fulfilling" was Francis's word to describe her time at the Lutrinae. "I feel this kind of made my time at CSUMB very valuable and I kind of have something to show for it, outside of my course work or my degree."

All three graduates expressed gratitude for the team at the Lutrinae, the growth that came throughout their time here, and being pushed to their limits on assignment. As much as we are going to miss our graduates, the Lutrinae staff is sending out warm wishes and good luck to them on their future endeavors.

AS Winter Night Market: small business shops make spirits bright



PHOTOS BY ELIOTT ROWE

Gabriel Oliveros Jr.
Contributing Writer

Over 200 students circulated in and out of the Otter Student Union (OSU) for chill holiday vibes at the Winter Night Market. Throughout the evening, mellow music and laughter filled the room as students, staff and more enjoyed the atmosphere.

“I’m happy to be invited here for my first one, hopefully it’s not my last one,” said local vendor Elizabeth Cox, whose business “Da-Liz-ious” is based in Soledad. She specializes in baked goods and cake decorations for large events.

“Oh it’s great, everybody here is really, really friendly. I noticed that these college kids love chocolate mocha cake. Such a good turn out so far,” said Cox.

Presented by Associated Students, the Entrepreneurship Club and the Institute for Innovation

and Economic Development (iiED), this event was intended for the on-campus community to enjoy local vendors and crafts.

Local vendors were present: on the inside (about eight tables) and on the outside (about 30). Outside tables included the return of the popular Thai Sweet Treats, clothing, garden decorations, candles and more pastries/hot chocolate all available for purchase.

On the inside was a complementary hot chocolate bar, featuring mini marshmallows, candy and an assortment of syrups.

Live guitar player, Glenn Bell, set the tone for the evening with his chill, jazz-type winter music. He could be heard playing acoustic covers of popular songs like “Birds of a Feather” by Billie Eilish and “Agora Hills” by Doja Cat throughout the night.

Five large circular tables were also laid out for people to make their own bracelets and keychains. Many groups of friends were socializing as they created their personal pieces to take home.

Everything from candy, homemade Christmas decorations, incense, jewelry and pottery could be purchased from the various booths present.

Not all tables selling merchandise were from out of town or far away.

“I’m here with Monsoon Season Prints, it’s my own company. And I sell posters, bookmarks and stickers” to promote awareness for the environment, said fourth year graphic design major Varsha Punati.

“I think there’s quite a lot of engagement here and I’m really excited about it, because I have never worked an event so big,” Punati said.

History at the dance: Folklórico de CSUMB preserves cultural heritage

Isaac Gonzalez Diaz
Contributing Writer

Cal State Monterey Bay (CSUMB) opened a workshop in September 2022, in collaboration with Gilroy-based group Folklórico Manos. Organizers remember an overwhelmingly positive response, which led to the idea to create a folklórico dance club.

As part of the Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) Week celebrations, the MAESTROs (Making Accessible and Effective Systems for Teacher Readiness Outcomes) project offered a workshop that shared the cultural history of folklórico dance, taught several traditional dance routines and gave a lively performance. The student response was positive and passionate, leading to the creation of the CSUMB club Folklórico de Monterey Bay during the spring of 2024.

“The mission of Folklórico de Monterey Bay is to provide a space for students to expand, understand and cultivate Latin American culture through folklórico dance,” said Margaret Dominguez, club advisor and staff of the College of Education.

Student Instructor Priscila Sanchez, uses her performing arts training to enrich, inspire and transform the lives of students who are dedicated and passionate about their craft. Sanchez teaches dances from diverse Mexican states such as Jalisco, Sinaloa, Chiapas, Veracruz and Chihuahua.

“For me [folklórico] represents my heritage, and represents my culture,” said Alicia Daniel, a sophomore undergraduate student and member of Folklórico de Monterey Bay. “I think students can represent themselves by dancing as a way to express themselves. It’s a way to exercise and get out everything bad that you have in your head.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF FRANCINE PAMPLONA

Karen Tlaxcalteco-Alarcon, first-year student and club member, claims the uniqueness of Folklórico de Monterey Bay is within its members.

“People are very important. My classmates made me like it more, because everybody has a brightness that makes it more emotional,” said Alarcon.

Regardless of the positive response from students, one of the challenges the club faces is the sustainability of student membership as well as the recruitment of leaders who continue the cultural legacy of the club. Despite these challenges, club members persist.

With five officers, and the current leadership of club president Rami Elenes Mitchell, a senior undergraduate student, the club remains active, with weekly practices on Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. The team also participates in campus outreach events during Dia de los Muertos events, but also throughout the year on-

campus and for the surrounding community.

Mitchell believes that what makes Folklórico de Monterey Bay a unique experience is its union of students, their diversity of different backgrounds and abilities and its being a family-friendly environment.

“We welcome everybody to all our practices, all backgrounds, all abilities. We welcome you, we teach you, we are not strict and we try to make it family grounded,” said Mitchell.

For Mitchell, performing folklórico is more than just that. “I get to share my culture with everybody, a lot of people don’t know too much about Mexico. A lot of people have negative connotations with the country just because of the American media and the whole crisis, and I want to share that my country isn’t scary - that my country is beautiful,” said Mitchell.

Did ‘Wicked: For Good’ leave fans changed for the better?



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Hayley Matto
Staff Writer



The long awaited second act to the “Wicked” film series “Wicked: For Good” finally hit theaters over Thanksgiving break. Fans filled theaters across the country in green and pink outfits ready to hop on their broomsticks or into their bubble to transport back to the whimsical world of Oz. Thankfully, for the devoted fans, the wait was worth it as this second film delivered all the magic and drama that the audience was left craving from the first film.

In last year's review, we explored the casting choices, musical talents, practical effects and dance numbers of the film. This time around, I wanted to compare and contrast the original 2003 musical and this film's creative storytelling choices, as this half of the story takes a turn away from the fun dance filled numbers and more toward serious themes. With that being said, here is the spoiler alert for the rest of this column as I will be discussing how this film tackles the ending of this story in comparison to the Broadway musical.

Before diving into the pros of this film, I wanted to give my thoughts on the use of adored “Wizard of Oz” characters within our “Wicked” universe. One of the biggest qualms fans had with the movie was how little they featured the beloved Dorothy Gale from Kansas. In fact, the audience never even sees her face in this rendition, but only her back, side profile, silhouette or shadow. In total she gets just shy of five minutes of screen time within the entire two hour and 18 minute film. For me, this was a wonderful choice by director Jon M. Chu. This wasn't her story, this was the tale of Glinda (Ariana Grande) and Elphaba (Cynthia Erivo). At this point we all should know the “Wizard of Oz” story. Had Chu chosen

to add more Dorothy into this film, I likely would have felt disappointed - as if he was using the classic movie as a crutch in his rendition.

As for the rest of the original Ozian characters, the audience does get to see Jonathan Bailey return as Prince Fiyero and Ethan Slater as Boq. However, those weren't the only characters we got to see each actor embody this time around. As assumed by the Easter Egg clues in the first half of the series, the audience does get to see Bailey transform into the Scarecrow and Slater into a rather terrifying Tin Man.

Chu's practical effects choice for the costuming of these two harkened back to a pro from the first film. Paul Tazewell, the costume designer, and Mark Coulier, the makeup artist, create movie magic with their abilities to bring these two characters to life. Neither character was edited or embellished post-filming to amplify their costuming. Instead, Bailey's prosthetic involved a real burlap sack to create the authentic texture of the scarecrow, his wig was made with real wheat, and the seams of his clothes were stuffed with straw. Slater, as the Tin Man, sat through four hours of makeup, and his prosthetic was specially designed to allow him a full range of facial emotion but with slight details added like a real tea spout for his nose and a more angular jaw, used to sell the illusion that he was truly made of tin.

These details were really part of what gave this entire series its magic. Using as many practical effects as possible made not only the Emerald City feel real, but also the entire Ozian Universe. Immersing the audience

entirely into the story, likely created a similar sensation to what it would be like to see the story live on Broadway.

The final moment that I feel really stuck with the audience, differing from the original musical, is the closing scene of the film. In the original play we see Elphaba finally get her forever-after, running off with the now Scarecrow'd version of Prince Fiyero. Glinda, in her grief over Elphaba's death, becomes Glinda the Good in hopes of being the leader Elphaba wanted her to be. She gains the ability to read the Grimmerie and frees the animals restoring their rights within society. In the film, all of the same motions take place, however we get a final shot of Elphaba from the depths of the outside realm of Oz. We see her pause and turn around, dreamily gesturing to the sky in a way to allude that she has given the power of being able to read the Grimmerie to Glinda. They exchange “I love yous” from afar, and the audience is left feeling hopeful that Glinda is aware Elphaba did survive and has escaped. This was a far more wholesome and heartwarming ending that, for me, really worked. It reminded and reinforced the idea that despite the separate paths of Glinda and Elphaba, the story was really always about the evolution of their intimate friendship.

All in all “Wicked: For Good,” much like its first act, receives a splendiferous spicy score of 5 out of 5. Regardless of if you were a fan of the musical before it hit the big screen or just waited patiently for part two all year, this one is a must see in theaters. My best advice, rewatch the first half at home before taking your transportation bubble to a theater near you.

PGCC assists students with mental health and beyond

Daisy Sanchez
Staff Writer

The on-campus Personal Growth and Counseling Center (PGCC) at Cal State Monterey Bay (CSUMB) aims to service students in more ways than one. The center works as a hub for mental health and wellness support, offering services like brief individual therapy sessions and mental wellbeing workshops, as well as other forms of mental health support.

“We support students with their mental health, with their physical health and well being, relationships, academic success. Basically we support students with a lot of different things,” said Clinical and Outreach Lead for the PGCC, Jessica Lopez. Some of the center’s most utilized resources include their individual brief therapy, which allows students to meet with a licensed therapist during one-on-one sessions onsite or over Zoom, and their various workshops and support groups that the center offers.

“We have a workshop called Building Mental Wellness, that’s really a great workshop for folks who maybe feel like they don’t have what they need to cope with big emotions,” said Lopez. “We also have an outdoor stress management workshop, that’s a lovely opportunity for students to learn mindfulness skills and actually practice them.”

Alongside this, the PGCC also offers opportunities for students and staff to become trained and certified mental health helpers through a team of mental health trainers known as Otter Care.

“The mission of Otter Care is to promote emotional well-being, encourage help seeking behavior and strengthen resilience by fostering connectedness throughout the campus community,” according to the PGCC website. Through Otter Care, students



The PGCC strives to be a holistic wellness center that serves not only the mind, but the body as well.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CSUMB WEBSITE

and staff can enroll into two different mental health centered trainings; one being the Mental Health First Aid training, a seven-hour intensive that teaches the warning signs of mental health crises as well as strategies for responding to crisis. Also available, the Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) training is an hour long suicide prevention training that teaches students and staff the warning signs of suicide, how to approach and ask someone about suicide and how to encourage someone to seek help. “You get certified in [mental health first aid] for three years... and then we have QPR. It’s only an hour, we offer that a couple times each month,” said Lopez.

A common misconception held by students regarding mental health services - including the PGCC - is that these services are expensive. This can affect a student’s decision to seek assistance, so Lopez aims to inform students about the true cost of services offered by the PGCC.

“Students pay one mental health fee each semester, and

then after that there’s no extra charge. So there’s no copay or, ya know, there’s no, ‘oh because you’ve been seen x amount of times, you owe this amount,’ it’s one fee,” said Lopez.

The fee is labeled under CSUMB tuition receipts as the “Student Mental Health Services Fee,” and is included in each student’s tuition every semester. Lopez urges students to get the most out of the mental health services provided in their tuition, with the first step being to enroll for a PGCC appointment. This can be done anytime Monday through Thursday from 1 to 4 p.m at Building 80, 6012 General Jim Moore - between University police and North Quad dormitories. Students previously enrolled with the PGCC can call the center Monday through Friday at (831-582-3969) between 8:30 a.m and 5:00 p.m to set an appointment.

“We don’t want you to wait until your symptoms get worse, we don’t want you to wait til there’s a crisis,” Lopez said. “We want you to come in, that’s why we’re called ‘personal growth and counseling center.’”

How many crashouts have you had this semester?



Maddie Honomichl
Social Media Manager

Happy end of the semester, Otters! With finals looming over our shoulders, it’s time to lock in. Start the crashout counter and tune into @thelutrinae on Instagram!



The end of free refills

Page Francis . September 25, 2023
Senior Staff Writer

The Otter Student Union (OSU) and Otter Express are two of the most popular dining establishments on California State University, Monterey Bay’s (CSUMB) campus. At both locations, students can use their dining dollars to purchase meals or use a meal exchange for certain items on the menu.

Included in the meal exchange is typically an entree, a side and a fountain drink which could be refilled unlimitedly. However, when students realized that they could no longer refill their fountain drinks and would have to pay for drinks, chaos ensued.

The technology introduced in the OSU and Otter Express is ValidFill, a company that works in amusement parks, hotels and college campuses. Valid Fill uses Radio Frequency Identification tags (RFID) to regulate the amount of refills per cup. These are the little stickers that are now on the bottom of the disposable cups that are given to students.

With the RFID tags, the soda machines limit each student to one fill from the machine. If a student tries to refill their disposable cup, the machine will notify the user that they have zero refills left.

Students at CSUMB have noticed this change and are upset that the school is restricting something as small as soda. “This whole refill thing is a disgrace,” Matthew Lane commented on MyRaft. “Why are they squeezing every penny out of the students?”

The climate in the CSU system is tense with the recent vote to increase tuition, so why are new policies being introduced? Chartwell handles food servicing at CSUMB. According to Robbie Dickinson, Chartwell’s district manager, ValidFill was “chosen for CSUMB as a way to reduce the number of paper cups going to the landfill.” This policy fits in with CSUMB’s sustainability plan to divert 90% of waste from landfill.

CSUMB has also introduced Smart Cup as a solution that allows students to get unlimited refills. The cups are \$10 and refilling this cup costs \$1.50. If a student wants to buy unlimited refills for the semester, they can pay \$44.95. Paying nearly \$45 for something that used to be free seems like quite the price jump. However, in the long run, this is saving students money. Dickinson reports the math, “If a student purchases a one-time drink, it costs them \$1.75. The Validfill program allows students unlimited access to beverages for \$44.95 per semester,

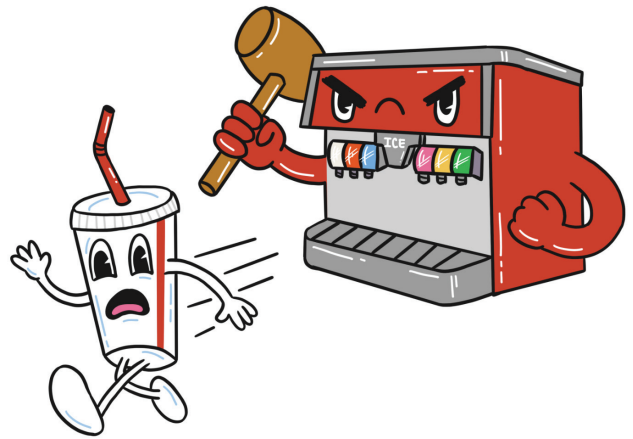


ILLUSTRATION BY ZOE KAPP

which is a \$152.80 savings [than] if they were to purchase one beverage per day.”

Students have voiced their opinions about the quality of the soft drinks ever since the introduction of ValidFill. “Get the unlimited refills they said, it’ll be worth it, they said. Forty-four dollars is not worth it for watery Diet

Read the full article at thelutrinae.com

As education changes Library Dean Jacqueline Grallo prepares

Maxfeild English . April 16, 2025
Contributing Writer

Since Vivienne McClendon departed Cal State Monterey Bay (CSUMB) in January 2021, the position of dean of the University Library has been in flux. As of March 6, Jacqueline Grallo is the new dean after having served as the interim twice already, and with it will come new direction.

Originally struck by “the role that information plays in a democratic society,” Grallo entered into a communications track at Fort Lewis College in Colorado, studying censorship, information literacy and learner-centered teaching. It eventually led to her becoming a librarian.

Having started with CSUMB in 2007 as an instructional technology librarian, Grallo’s role was unique at the time. “They wanted someone that could set up a service that was technology based like instant messaging. I implemented an open source software product, which made it very easy for the librarians to create guides to the research,” said Grallo.

The program allowed users to browse the catalogue of sources the university has more efficiently. Since its implementation, a large portion of Grallo’s work has been to further the user’s ability to interact with

databases. Now as the dean of the University Library, her responsibilities lie with understanding the needs of the library’s visitors as education changes.

Recently the role of artificial intelligence in education and academia has been questioned. Grallo, now as dean, oversees the integration of artificial intelligence as a tool for information technology at CSUMB. As of March, the library’s database has the capacity for indexing its catalogue by key terms appointed by faculty who manage it. There is the potential this could change greatly with the implementation of artificial intelligence.

“There are A.I. research assistants popping up all over the place. We know that students are using them and so we want to help students learn how to use them effectively, ethically and think critically about the information that they’re finding,” said Grallo.

Grallo’s task is to understand these tools and how they can be used to help students in the context of CSUMB’s outcome-based education.

“That information environment is constantly changing. So it’s important that we constantly be thinking about our learning outcomes,” said Grallo.



PHOTO BY ELLIOTT ROWE

The university library does not only operate to help students understand their information environment though. Academic purposes are the first of two roles the library serves, the second being what Grallo describes as “to support belonging.”

Read the full article at thelutrinae.com

Photography Highlight

Photos by Maddie Honomichl
Social Media Manager



Holidays in December

Happy Holidays

Bodhi Day

Dec. 8

Bodhi Day celebrates the enlightenment of Siddhartha Gautama, the Buddha. Bodhi Day is celebrated either on Dec. 8 or the eighth day of the 12th lunar month.

Hannukah

Dec. 14

Hanukkah is on a different day every year. This is because it is not based on the Gregorian calendar, but based on the Hebrew lunisolar Calendar and falls on the 25th of the month of Kislev.

Winter Solstice

Dec. 21

The Winter Solstice celebrates the shortest day of the year in the northern hemisphere. Many cultures celebrate the Winter Solstice with holidays such as Soyal, Yalda, Inti Raymi, Saturnalia, St. Lucia's day, and Dong Zhi.

Christmas

Dec. 25

The word “Christmas” came from an Old English name, “Cristes maesse” or “Christs mass.” The name “Xmas” comes from the Greek word for Christ, “Χριστός”, which starts with the letter Χ.

Kwanza

Dec. 26

Kwanzaa is based on the Seven Principles: Umoja, Kujichagulia, Ujima, Ujamaa, Nia, Kuumba, and Imani. An extra “a” was added to the end of “Kwanzaa” so it could have seven letters, representing the Seven Principles.

New Year's Eve

Dec. 31

New Year's was moved to Jan. 1 in 46 B.C., when Julius Caesar introduced the Julian Calendar, which closely resembles the modern-day Gregorian calendar.



Upcoming Events

Monday, Dec. 8

Join the Helen Rucker Center (Bld 12, Rm 120) from 11 to 5 p.m. to celebrate the sixth day of Kwanza (Kuumba) by painting a group mural in the spirit of creativity.

Tuesday, Dec. 9

Break away from the finals season grind anytime from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. to spray paint your stress away in the OSU Main Quad Plaza.

Tuesday, Dec. 9

Partake in cultural holiday festivities at Fiesta Navideña from 12 to 1:30 p.m. in El Centro (Bld 12).

Tuesday, Dec. 9

Eggs After Dark: Monte’s Wonderland will welcome students into finals week with a whimsical trip down the rabbit hole. Come to the Dining Commons from 9 to 11 p.m. to enjoy free breakfast and tutoring.

Puzzles

WORD SCRAMBLE

In the spirit of winter, can you unscramble this list of seasonal words?

antlebk

ntestmi

fyotsr

mnsnoaw

asfrc

acoco

arolnigc

rbstetfio

ceriealpf

ioqenxu

Matching Game

ILLUSTRATION BY AMANDA RICHMAN

Hayley



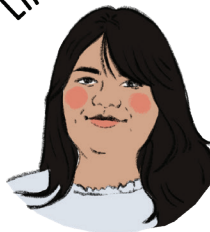
1

Layna



2

Lindsey



3

Eli



4

Amanda



5

ANSWERS:

Word scramble
blanket, frosty, scarf, caroling, fireplace,
mittens, snowman, cocoa, frostbite, equinox

Staff drinks match
Hayley: iced oat milk vanilla latte (2),
Layna: iced matcha latte with two shots
of espresso and strawberry cold foam
(5), Lindsey: Bluephoria Yerba Mate (4), Eli:
hot golden milk with a shot of espresso (3),
Amanda: Monster Zero Ultra (1)

