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(805) 756-1796 editorial
(805) 756-1143 advertising
(805) 756-6784 fax
mustangdaily@gmail.com e-mail

EDITORIAL STAFF
editor in chief Dan Winston
managing editor Kristen Oats
news editor Caitlin Durnell
assistant news editor Erick Smith
sports editor Frank Stratul
assistant sports editor Chris Guan
directions Marcus Mendoes
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Trevor Beatty

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Love,

Mom, Dad, Grandma B
and Grandma G

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Elizabeth Anne Trabueen

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You have made your parents and sister so proud, the first of your generation to achieve this lofty goal. Your dedication and hard work have been an inspiration as well as an indication of future successes throughout your life.

We can’t wait for the big day so we all can celebrate with you.

The whole family congratulates you, including Papa Roy and Aunt Jilene.

Love you,

Mom, Dad and Jilene

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Layei New Gragnani

We love you!

Dad, Mom and Kelsey

---

Mustang Daily

Graduation

Commencement

Graduation ceremony rundown:
College by college, day by day

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College of Business speech
Kara Blakeslee (BS '87), certified financial planner and financial operations principal of Blakeslee & Blakeslee and chair of the board of directors for the American Land Conservancy, will give the keynote address at the College of Business commencement exercise. Blakeslee is married to Assemblyman Sam Blakeslee. She will speak Saturday, June 10 at 6:30 p.m. on the Upper Sports Field.

College of Engineering speech
Jestindra Mindra, president of global refining for Chevron Corporation, will give the keynote address at the College of Engineering commencement exercise. Mindra, a native of India, received a bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology in Kanpur in 1969 and a master’s degree in chemical engineering from the University of Washington at Seattle in 1970. He earned a master’s in business administration from St. Mary’s College in Moraga in 1979. He has served as chairman of the board of the South Asian American Leaders of Tomorrow, vice chairman of the Association of Oil Pipe Lines and is currently chairman of the SAALT business leadership council.

Brenda will speak Saturday, June 10 at 1:30 p.m. on the Upper Sports Field.

College of Liberal Arts speech
Nevada Barr (SCOM, ’74), is best known for her series of mystery novels about Anna Pigeon, a tough-talking national park ranger.

Barr will give the keynote address at the College of Liberal Arts commencement exercise. Prior to completing her first book “Bittersweet” in 1984, Barr performed in off-Broadway plays, acted in TV ads and industrial films, and worked as a National Park Service ranger. Barr’s experience as a National Park Service ranger serves as source material for the settings of her novels. Barr will speak Sunday, June 11 at 10 a.m. on the Upper Sports Field.

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Ceremony Schedule

Saturday, June 10th – Upper Sports Field

College of Agriculture – 794 graduates, 8:30 a.m.
College of Engineering – 809 graduates, 1:30 p.m.
College of Business – 540 graduates, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, June 10th – Recreation Center

College of Science and Mathematics – 322 graduates, 10 a.m.
College of Architecture and Environmental Design – 398 graduates, 3 p.m.

Sunday, June 11th – Upper Sports Field

College of Liberal Arts – 727 graduates, 10 a.m.
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May the wind be always at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face, and the rains fall soft upon your fields.

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Mom and Dad

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The College of Liberal Arts
Cal Poly announces great grads from class of 2006

From left to right, Kenny Sharma, Sonia Nteso and Mariam Khan. These students round out an exceptional 2005-06 graduating class composed of 3,700 graduates.

Cal Poly's class of 2006 includes some 3,700 graduates participating in seven separate commencement ceremonies this year, due to construction at the Alex G. Spanos Stadium.

All the graduates are exceptional. However, the following "great grads" provide interesting stories from the class of 2006:

Danielle Burchett - Burchett will earn her bachelor's degree in psychology with honors from the College of Liberal Arts. She is the outstanding graduating senior in that college's honors program. Burchett is a four-time national champion women's lacrosse goalie. She decided that though she wasn't attending a college on the East Coast, she would try playing an "East Coast" sport at Cal Poly. With no previous experience, she trained and practiced to become a national champ.

Last year she was chosen by the American Psychological Association to participate in an advanced statistical training program in psychology at the University of Maryland. She will attend Kent State in the fall with a full scholarship to pursue her Ph.D. in clinical psychology.

Mariam Khan - Khan will earn her bachelor's degree with honors from the Orfalea College of Business. She and her family moved to the United States from Pakistan eight years ago because her parents wanted their children to have a chance for a better education. Their only contact in the United States was Khan's aunt, who died of cancer soon after their arrival.

Khan's father left a fairly high-level management position in Pakistan and now manages a Denny's restaurant, even though he and the whole family are vegans. But the parents from Pakistan saw all three of their children attend Cal Poly.

Khan's older sister, Rabia, graduated from the OCOB and received her M.B.A. through the college's 10-month M.B.A. program. Her brother, Ali, is a computer science major in the College of Engineering.

During Mariam Khan's time at Cal Poly, she served as an OCOB student ambassador for two years, and vice president of finance for the Cal Poly chapter of the Golden Key International Honor Society. Khan has a job at Amgen in Thousand Oaks, Calif., waiting for her after she graduates.

Molly Lewis - Lewis is graduating from the College of Liberal Arts with a Social Science major. She will be walking at commencement ceremonies with her father, Steve Lewis, who graduated from Cal Poly 30 years ago. Lewis is a forestry major who graduated in 1976, did not participate in his commencement ceremony.

Lewis began her college career at Chico State. She decided to move home and attend junior college for a year, planning to apply for Cal Poly. She says she always knew when she graduated from Cal Poly, she wanted her father to walk in the ceremony with her. Molly Lewis arranged with Student Life and Leadership to have Steve Lewis pay commencement fees for his cap and gown and receive 10 tickets.

The father and daughter will walk in the College of Liberal Arts commencement ceremony on Sunday, June 11, at 10 a.m. The Lewis family has kept the plan secret to surprise many family and friends who will attend from out of the area.

Sonia Nteso - Nteso will graduate from the College of Science and Mathematics with a degree in biological science and a minor in Spanish. After graduation, she will return to her home in Africa, and plans to work with her mother in their hometown hospital in Malutu, Lusotho, to help with the fight against AIDS in southern Africa.

Nteso moved to the United States in 1994 with her family at the age of 11. She has two older brothers and three younger sisters, who are triplets. Her parents moved back to Africa in 2000, and Nteso stayed in the United States with an aunt to complete her undergraduate degree. Her father died in 2002.

Nteso has been involved in the Allenino Mentoring Program, the Society of Black Engineers and Scientists, and several other student organizations. She is a strong community service supporter at Cal Poly. She organized and gave an HIV 101 seminar for HIV Vaccine Awareness day in May to help dispel myths surrounding the disease. For her senior project, Nteso worked with biological sciences Professor Candace Winstead to research where drug trials for AIDS failed and why.

Nteso also volunteers with the AIDS Support Network in San Luis Obispo. Her dream is to develop a similar program in her African hometown.

Kenny Sharma - Sharma will graduate with a computer science degree after spending only two years at Cal Poly. He attended Oaks grove High School in San Jose, where he was able to complete Advanced Placement courses to satisfy all of his college-level general education requirements in math and English. At Cal Poly, he was able to focus on all of his major courses. Sharma has a job waiting for him at Lockheed in Santa Maria after he graduates.
Women close academic gender gap in traditionally male-dominated fields

Ben Feller ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Women now earn the majority of diplomas in fields men used to dominate — from biology to business — and have caught up in pursuit of law, medicine and other advanced degrees.

Even with such enormous gains over the past 25 years, women are paid less than men in comparable jobs and lag in landing top positions on college campuses. Federal statistics released Thursday show that in many ways, the gender gap among college students is widening. The story is largely one of progress for women, stagnation for men.

"Women earn the majority of bachelor's degrees in business, biological sciences, social sciences and history. The same is true for traditional strongholds such as education and psychology."

In undergraduate and graduate disciplines where women trail men, they are gaining ground, earning larger numbers of degrees in math, physical sciences and agriculture.

"Women are going in directions that maybe their mothers or grandmothers never even thought about going," said Avis Jones-DeWeever, who oversees education policy for the Institute of Women's Policy Research. "We're teaching girls that they can land, if only temporarily, some decent-paying jobs without a college degree."

Women also have become savvy about boosting their earning power for themselves and their families by recognizing the value of advanced degrees, Jones-DeWeever said.

Women who work full time earn about 76 percent as much as men, according to the Institute of Women's Policy Research. Women are underrepresented in full-time faculty jobs, particularly in fields such as physical sciences, engineering and math.

"We clearly have a long way to go," said Van Ummersen, vice president for the council's Center for Effective Leadership. She said some universities are replacing retiring professors, giving women a chance to move into tenured positions.

The enrollment of men in professional degree programs is declining.

"There's every reason to celebrate the success of women. And one has to be concerned about what's happening with men," said Russ Whitehurst, director of the Institute of Education Sciences, a research arm of the Education Department.

Researchers say that men, for different reasons, are not enrolling in or completing college programs with the same urgency as women.

One reason is a failure by schools to teach boys well at an early age, leading to frustration by high school. A second is a recognition by young men that they can land, if only temporarily, some decent-paying jobs without a college degree.

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Supreme Court’s reinstatement of exit exam creates confusion

Juliet Williams
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO — An appeals court on Thursday turned down a last-minute request from attorneys representing about 20 school districts to block implementation of the California high school exit exam. Districts in the northern part of the state had sought to delay a required test for 9,000 seniors who are前途 to graduate.

The court ruled against the proposal Thursday to take briefs in mid-June in a case that is before the state Supreme Court. The court is scheduled to hear arguments in the case in October.

The court’s decision not to hear the urgent request came after the state Supreme Court last month rejected a similar petition by attorneys representing about 200 school districts.

The court’s decision not to hear the request by districts to delay the exit exam for seniors who are前途 to graduate was announced Thursday.

The court said it would not review the request by the districts to delay the exam, which is required for all high school students. The districts had argued that the exam is unfair to students who are前途 to graduate.

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The right approach: Show me the money

Dilemma: I recently attended the Spring Job Fair and have an interview for a job coming up next week. Being a Cal Poly grad, I feel like I have a lot to offer, but am hesitant to ask for a higher salary. I've heard that it's common to negotiate salary and I was wondering how to approach the subject?

-John R.

We understand that students often feel some concern when considering their first job offer. Sometimes this anxiety stems from a fear that an organization may be "low-balling" their salary. Or, they fear they might alienate the employer by appearing too demanding if they ask for more money. We hope the following information will be helpful to you when considering your job offer:

• Research your profession's salary range. Ask people you know in that field, the Department of Labor's Occupational Outlook Handbook, the Internet and magazines of your industry.

• Decide on a preferred salary. You may not get the amount you want, but knowing in advance the minimum salary you will accept and having a specific objective can help you get close to your desired pay.

• Don't initiate salary discussions. Wait for the interviewer to bring the subject up, even if it's postponed to a second interview.

• Say that your salary requests are "negotiable." This means that on applications write "negotiable" in any box asking about salary details. If asked to provide current salary, write, "To be covered during interview." You are not being vague, without knowing your benefits a confident decision cannot be made.

• Discuss benefits apart from salary. Some benefits packages consist of insurance, tuition reimbursement, relocation payments, stock options and bonuses.

• Get a second opinion on benefit packages. Someone who has previous experience may offer you valuable advice as well as an insurance, investment or bank professional.

Don't forget that your family and friends can also help you by providing a more objective outlook.

• Consider the cost of living on that area. If the new area you are moving to is more expensive, consider asking to be paid the difference.

• In discussing why you deserve a substantial increase, use examples of your accomplishments that prove your value, not simply your experience. Talk about the benefits you'll bring to the company.

• Never accept an offer at an interview. Instead you should always assume that a company's first offer is negotiable. Don't be afraid to express your strong interest, but say that you need time to discuss big decisions like this with others. End by telling your interviewer that you'll contact them with your decision.

• If you think you are going to be underpaid, consider negotiating for an early performance review with a salary adjustment at that time, especially if the position is of great interest. They should make this agreement part of the official offer letter including the agreed upon amount of the increase.

If you and the company have come to a mutually satisfying agreement, ask for something in writing that reflects your mutual understanding. If you can not reach a mutually satisfying agreement, or do, but have other offers you need to reject or withdraw from, a formal written letter or e-mail should be sent to the hiring contact.

The Bottom Line: It is in both the organizations' and your best interest to come to a mutually beneficial agreement. It doesn't hurt to ask as long as you take the right approach.

Alix Elbert and Jennifer Ballas are both marketing directors with a knack for changing the world...one ethical dilemma at a time. This advice is written on behalf of SEF (Students in Free Enterprise). You can find these tips and more on www.cssjournal.com, which is apart of the Wall Street Journal.

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Teaching considered a top option for '06 graduates

Jessica Love

DAVIS, Calif. — Graduating seniors may have many aspirations: Traveling the world, becoming a CEO, psychologizing hundreds of patents or perhaps fulfilling that childhood dream of becoming a ballerina or an astronaut.

However, according to CareerBuilder.com, students might consider staying in the classroom for a while. The Web site has dubbed predicted teaching to be one of the most promising careers for graduates this year.

Since the University of California-Davis has its own credential program through the School of Education, students might want to think twice before saying goodbye to the campus. Due to a high demand for new teachers, ample opportunities for advancement and the anticipated retirement of baby boomers, California needs more teachers than ever.

Teaching is notorious for its relatively low salaries, but with each year a teacher spends in the classroom, the salary increases. Additionally, any candidate with an education beyond a bachelor's degree earns more money per year.

Starting salaries are often between $30,000 and $50,000 depending on the area and cost of living. According to Marti Hanna, coordinator for liberal arts at the Internship and Career Center, it is not unheard of for a teacher to earn up to $70,000 annually after several years.

Eventually, a teacher can obtain a promotion to principal or administrator and at such a position, a six-figure salary is possible.

While teachers may not experience immediate financial satisfaction, they often experience personal satisfaction. The notion of inspiring and enlightening younger generations is often what draws students to teaching.

"Most students that I talk to that go into teaching were touched by a teacher in earlier years and want to give back," said Kathi Shull, coordinator of graduate student and postdoctoral career services. "It's a wonderful way to influence a child's life.

Teachers are also able to live a more varied lifestyle, according to Shull. Teachers are active in the classroom for nine months out of the year, but come summer, teachers are free to explore other interests or further their own education.

Before becoming a teacher, however, a student needs a teaching credential in most districts. The UC-Davis School of Education offers a credential program, and it is growing rapidly in response to the demand for more teachers.

In years past, enrollment in the program has hovered around 60 to 70 units, but 163 students completed the program this past school year, according to Shull.

"The teachers we turn out from UC-Davis' credential program are usually very superior and have no problem getting jobs," said Donna Justice, director of communication for the School of Education.

In fact, Shull said there is a 90 percent placement rate for students who complete the credential program. UC-Davis' program maintains strong relationships with several school districts throughout California.

Graduates of the UC-Davis credential program obtain a teaching credential and a master's degree, according to Justice. Many other programs offer just the teaching credential.

Hanna noted that teachers are needed most in the areas of math, science and special education. Shull added that teachers with bilingual education skills are in high demand as well with the growing number of bilingual students.

"They need fresh blood in the school districts," Shull said. "There's a real emphasis on education in California and the younger, fresher minds are more receptive to it."

Practitioners say health insurance worth expense, even for graduates

Anthony McGovern

MEDFORD, Mass. — Tufts University seniors graduating will be leaving with a degree and a diploma, but many will soon be lacking something important: health insurance.

State law mandates that all college students be insured. While the majority of Tufts students are covered under their parents' plans, Tufts offers its own student health insurance for those who are not.

Graduation is the time when coverage options begin to slide away from students.

Depending on the plan, coverage can end at the time of graduation or extend through the end of the summer. As is the case with the Tufts University Plan.

Individual insurance plans are comparatively expensive and unaffordable on many student budgets, especially when students are already hampered by college loans.

Some students have few qualms about going without health insurance. "I'll be willing to say that most seniors are willing to go without [insurance]," senior Stephanie Davis said.

Davis will be working with the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) program to teach English in Japan and will not be provided with benefits.

However she did acknowledge the expense incurred from medical exams required by certain jobs, such as a mandatory chest x-ray she underwent before going to Japan.

"I think [lack of] accessibility is hard to adjust to," Davis said in regard to the loss of the Tufts Health Service. "I know people who go to Health Services every time they get a cold."

Lindsey Shanholt graduated from Tufts last year and had no plan for her insurance needs when she graduated. When she left school, she was still covered by her parents' plan for a short time and was able to begin a job in January that provided her with insurance.

Shanholt said she would probably have gone without insurance if necessary but she "probably would have only let it go for a few months. Then I would have felt I had to get health insurance, because you never know what could happen."

She also noted that she has less-lucky friends who have gotten jobs at Starbucks for the insurance while they waited for a career opportunity.

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You've come a long way, baby!
If grad school’s the next stop, take a detour

Daniel Atherton

BERKELEY, Calif. — We get contemplative as our college careers come to a close. Instead of focusing solely on papers, finals and vacation plans like we have at the end of previous quarters at UCLA, we spend our time musing about the unanswerable questions, such as “Have I spent my time here wisely?”; “Have I made the right decisions?” and “Will they still let me graduate if I have $4,750 worth of unpaid campus parking tickets?”

But while we look back on our time here with regret or visitations or simply with joy that we’re done, we also fear for the time ahead. Some graduating seniors are going straight to work, selling their souls for a steady paycheck. Others are straight to graduate school, choosing to celebrate the culmination of consecutive years of schooling. Graduate school, it seems, is the new college. In the past, simply getting your college diploma was enough to send employers into a frenzy, fighting over you like you were the last piece of unpaid campus parking tickets.

In the past, simply getting your college diploma was enough to send employers into a frenzy, fighting over you like you were the last piece of unpaid campus parking tickets.

Instead, college students choose the grad-school path — more than 35 per cent of all employed college graduates are looking for a chance to take more tests and write more papers; going straight to graduate school can seem smarter to them. As more and more students are lining up, clamoring for a 401(k). Some are taking vacation time, be it living at home and saving up three to eight more consecutive years of schooling, or simply with joy that we’re done, we also fear for the time ahead. Some graduating seniors are going straight to work, selling their souls for a steady paycheck. Others are straight to graduate school, choosing to celebrate the culmination of consecutive years of schooling.

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COMMENTARY

Much education will come outside of the classroom

Jason Schwahn
LOUISVILLE, Ky. — When I was in high school, I often claimed that 80 percent of everything I knew I had learned outside of the classroom. This assertion was simultaneously meant to be a boast and a complaint. Like every teenager, I wanted to appear independent; also, I wanted to demonstrate how useless I had found high school to be.

An undergraduate education has very little to do with acquiring a body of knowledge. If a prospective employer asks that applicants have a college degree, it is not because they need to hire a person who remembers the difference between prokaryotes and eukaryotes, or who knows that Leon Czolgosz assassinated William McKinley in 1902.

A college education is designed to encourage critical thinking, and we study a breadth and depth of subjects if only because knowledge can be an effective stepping stone towards wisdom.

If it is true that I, and many other students as well, learn 80 percent of what they know outside of the classroom, that is probably a good thing. Professors are meant to pique your curiosity, to steer you clear of the landmines in your thinking and, occasionally, to point you in the direction of supplementary material.

The rest of the work is up to you.

Congratulations New Graduates!
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New Hires

- Ranti Akande
- Danny Allustiarti
- Sandra Amarante
- Matt Andre
- Steve Anheier
- Chris Arena
- Michele Auman
- Hoang Bao
- Stephanie Bushnell
- Don Campbell
- Trevor Clinard
- Jennifer Deutsch
- Aaron Hammon
- Danny Lake
- Andrew Lui
- Jennifer Lyons

Interns

- Meghan Mahoney
- Tracy Marlowe
- Nate Martens
- Katie Peters
- Peggy Ramey-Renk
- Courtney Richards
- Leila Sarraf
- Heather Shanley
- Stefanie Talbott
- Azusa Tamaki
- Pamela Taylor
- Heidi Twitchell
- Victoria Whelan

- Farnaz Ansari
- Yaelle Barton-Bernstein
- Lisa Bohman
- Allison Bruhns
- Jason Dale
- Eric Doster
- Rex Feng
- Christine Fraga
- Chrissy Fox
- Jenny Grayson
- Erika Kraus
- Chelsea Lamb
- Peter Lechowick
- Amanda Loretz
- Victoria Love
- Melody Thornton

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