

## AROUND CAMPUS

### SMITHSONIAN OF THE WEST

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STRONG IN SOME COUNTRIES.”

-AYAT AMIN & MARCUS THUILLIER

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Members of cultural associations raise awareness about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict with interactive displays on Library Walk. Photo by Nadah Feteih / UCSD Guardian.

## ACADEMICS

# Visual Arts Professor Stirs Controversy Over Nude Final

BY MARIA SEBAS STAFF WRITER

UCSD Associate Professor Ricardo Dominguez came under fire late last week when the mother of a student complained about the nudity requirement for his final exam. The mother, who remained anonymous, told ABC-affiliate channel 10 news on Friday, May 8, that her daughter was forced to get naked or risk failing Dominguez's class, entitled "Visual Arts 104A: Performing the Self." Other students and faculty later defended Dominguez and his class requirements.

Jordan Crandall, chair of the UCSD visual arts department, released a statement on Monday detailing the class's requirements. According to Crandall, the course is not required for graduation and removing one's clothing is not actually necessary to pass the class.

"There are many ways to perform nudity or nakedness," Crandall said. "One can 'be' nude while being covered."

The course, which Dominguez began teaching 11 years ago, consists of a number of prompts for various gestures, including "Your Life: With 3 Objects and 3 Sounds," "Confessional Self," "Administrative Self," "Erotic Self," "Public Self" and the "Nude/Naked Self."

In an email to the UCSD Guardian, Dominguez pointed out that the ambiguity around the question of "nudity" and "nakedness" is intentional.

"It is intended to be provocative, to raise issues," Dominguez said. "That is what performance art does."

According to Dominguez, nudity has been and is still a core part of performance art from the 20th century to the present day. He continued by pointing out that the class is an extremely successful one within the field.

"If students are to learn about performance art as practitioners, this history of the medium is crucial for them to experience in a direct way," he said.

Shanise Mok, a former student of Dominguez's who took the course in 2012, told the Guardian that students knew about the "Nude/Naked Self" gesture from the very beginning.

"For the final, we were told everyone would be physically naked or emotionally naked in the same room," Mok said.

"And it would be dark — possibly with some candles lit."

She noted that some students did drop the class after the first week, but most of them stayed. Mok also recalled that one girl didn't participate in the physical part of the final but did participate by being emotionally naked.

"I personally thought it was a very safe place to bare all," Mok added.

Lisa Korpos, a senior currently enrolled in Dominguez's class, said in a statement that the course has made her feel more connected to her fellow students within the department and more confident with her aesthetic choices.

"Professor Dominguez has fostered a very supportive, open, safe environment in order for all the artists enrolled in his class to genuinely express themselves," Korpos said.

She added that she took VIS 2 in which a naked/nude gesture was also included with the same stipulations. That course is a prerequisite for VIS 104A.

Eleanor Roosevelt College senior Brooke Kesinger, who is also currently enrolled in VIS 104A, addressed the concern people have about Dominguez being naked along with the students in a statement to the Guardian.

"This is simply to 'level the playing field,' so to speak," Kesinger said. "It makes us more comfortable for him to be a participant [rather] than an onlooker."

Additionally, Carlsbad-based attorney Daniel Watts told the Guardian that students who don't like the curriculum are under no obligation to take the course.

"If the students were told in advance what the professor wants and if the students are legal adults, no law was broken," Watts said.

Some students are not happy with the content of the course. Chair of the College Republicans at UCSD Amanda Fitzmorris told Fox and Friends on Tuesday that she didn't understand the purpose of nudity within the course.

"The only thing I can think of is that being uncomfortable is acceptable or normal," Fitzmorris responded.

READERS CAN CONTACT  
MARIA SEBAS MSEBAS@UCSD.EDU

## SAN DIEGO

# DEA Issues Suspensions to Agents for Negligence

After a UCSD student was forgotten in a cell for five days, federal officials question the agency's punitive process.

BY JACKY TO  
EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration issued suspensions and reprimands in March to agents responsible for leaving a handcuffed UCSD student in a cell for five days without food or water. The agency suspended its supervisory special agent for seven days without pay, one special agent for five days without pay and delivered letters of reprimands to four other agents.

According to ABC 10 News, the U.S. Department of Justice is concerned that the DEA's punishments are insufficient and that the organization may need to revise its disciplinary process.

U.S. Rep. Ted W. Lieu (D-Calif.) expressed his disappointment with the punishments in a May 6 press release.

"Four reprimands and two short suspensions do not amount to justice for Mr. Chong and his family," Lieu said in the press release. "The current DOJ solution to this matter — a review of DEA internal disciplinary process — is simply not good enough."

Lieu also announced that he is going to send a letter to the DOJ requesting that it further investigate the DEA and the student's imprisonment itself.

"I will be sending a letter shortly to formally request that the Department of Justice conduct a full civil rights investigation into the apparent denial of Mr. Chong's civil and constitutional rights by the DEA," Lieu said. "Those who perpetrated this abuse must be held accountable, and a message must be sent that these kinds of actions cannot [and] must not happen again."

The student's lawyer, Gene Iredale, also thinks the repercussions for the agents do not match the pain that his client suffered during those five days.

"The only thing lacking is appropriate accountability. When police officers act in a way that's inhumane, grossly reckless [or] cause pain and harm and near-death to somebody, ... it [needs to] be

See [DEA](#), page 3

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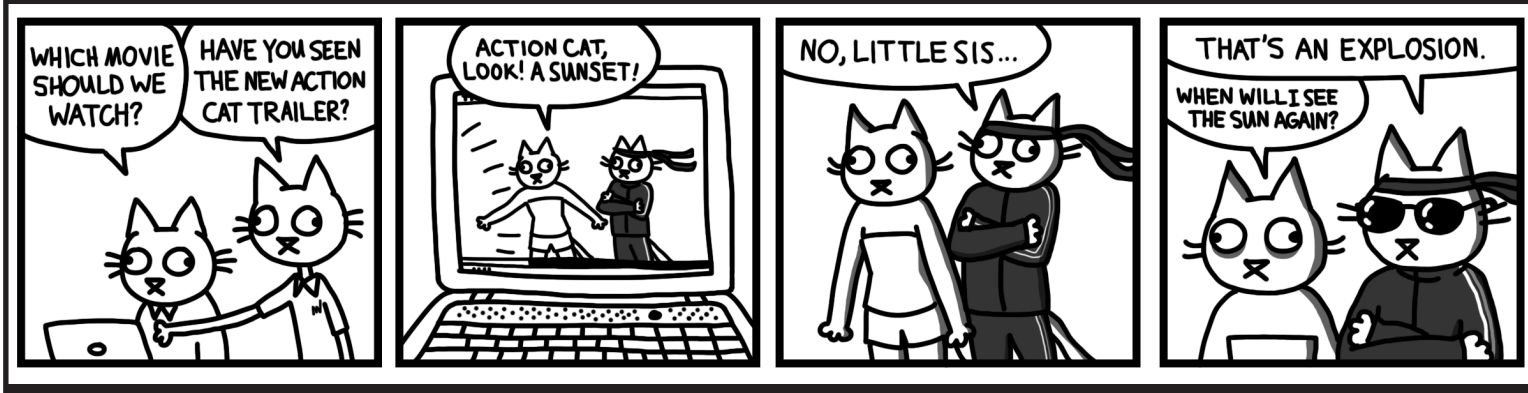
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**SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

**Researchers Aim to Double Number of Clinical Trial Patients**

Changes include implementing new methods of matching patients to trials and simplifying introductory paperwork.

**BY RAAHIMA SHOAB**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Clinical and Translational Research Institute at UCSD introduced new recruitment plans this past month that aim to double the amount of clinical trial patients within the next few years.

In the past, UCSD has had trouble finding the right amount of people in order to conduct clinical drug trials. There are two main steps being taken: The first is creating new information systems that will streamline the process of finding and matching patients, and the second step is finding a way to shorten the institute's Institutional Review Board and the Food and Drug Administration's regulatory process. This process, which mostly involves paperwork, ensures that

a trial is ethical by finding any conflicts of interest.

CTRI Director Gary S. Firestein told the UCSD Guardian that the new processes, such as cutting down some of the "red tape" involved in processing trials, will help the institute find and retain more clinical trial patients.

"The first [step] is to streamline all the regulatory processes ... so that instead of it taking many months to complete, the goal would be to complete them in a month," Firestein said. "The second would be to develop information systems that allow us to match patients with clinical trials and then allow them to decide to participate so that we don't have to rely on word of mouth or advertisements to reach them."

CTRI conducts a variety of clinical drug trials, testing drugs that aim to help cancer patients,

Alzheimer's disease patients, arthritis patients and many more. Because of the variety of trials that take place, there is no way for CTRI personnel to estimate how long it will take for each trial to reach its goal number of patients.

Mark Wallace, who is the director of CTRI's clinical research department, explained to the Guardian that is difficult to give a timeline because there are a number of initiatives that the institute is working on.

"It is hard to say how long it will take. We have several initiatives that we are working on in hopes that they will be successful," Wallace said. "Getting the word out and educating our community on the importance of participating in clinical research should help. Without participation, there will be delays and possible failure to get needed new therapies

for our patients."

According to Firestein there are a lot of problems that clinical trials face when it comes to finding enough patients to continue with a trial. He said that the biggest problem is that eligible patients are not aware of clinical trials that are available to them. Many patients who are aware of the trials are also either satisfied with their current treatment or they are scared of the risks associated with such new, untested drugs.

Despite the issues that CTRI faces with finding clinical trial patients, they are currently able to conduct about 200 trials per year.

READERS CAN CONTACT  
RAAHIMA SHOAB RSHOAB@UCSD.EDU



- Aleksandra Konstantinovic Editor in Chief
- Andrew E. Huang Managing Editors
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- Tina Butoiu News Editor
- Kriti Sarin Associate News Editor
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General Editorial:  
editor@ucsdguardian.org

News: news@ucsdguardian.org  
Opinion: opinion@ucsdguardian.org  
Sports: sports@ucsdguardian.org  
Features: features@ucsdguardian.org  
Lifestyle: lifestyle@ucsdguardian.org  
A&E: entertainment@ucsdguardian.org  
Photo: photo@ucsdguardian.org  
Design: design@ucsdguardian.org  
Art: art@ucsdguardian.org

Advertising: 858-534-3467  
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## EDUCATION

### UCSD Officials Announce IRPS Name Change

The program will be recognized as the School of Global Policy and Strategy starting July.

BY RAAHIMA SHOAB  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

UCSD officials recently announced that the School of International Relations and Pacific Studies will be renamed the School of Global Policy and Strategy this upcoming July.

The name change will expand the focuses of the department by reflecting the core mission of teaching global strategy and problem solving from the private and nonprofit sectors. Along with the change of IR/PS to GPS comes the change of the school's Center on Emerging and Pacific Economics to the Center for Global Transformation and the addition of the new Master of Public Policy and the Master of International Affairs degrees.

Chancellor Khosla explained that the change reflects the desire of the department to be more global and more inclusive in a university press release.

"The UC San Diego School of Global Policy and Strategy is preparing

a new generation of leaders who are solving complex problems in a diverse and interconnected world," Khosla said. "The name change reflects the school's impact as a premier international research institution that is at the forefront of international research and policy discussions that will have an impact for generations to come."

According to Foreign Policy Magazine rankings, the program has been a leader in research and development of policy in the Pacific region since its establishment in 1986. The IR/PS program at UCSD has placed 13th on the magazine's university rankings for academic programs in international relations.

IR/PS Dean Peter Cowhey said that the new name of the department represents the expansion of the core ideals of the school.

"Change, in the form of technological, political and economic advances, is in the DNA of our teaching and research," Cowhey said in a press release. "The name 'School

of Global Policy and Strategy' is a fitting representation of the school's trajectory to match the profound transformations of our increasingly globalized world."

This change was sponsored by Joan and Irwin Jacobs through their Dunaway Foundation, which reserved \$4 million to reshape the CEPE into the CGT. Irwin Jacobs expressed his support and enthusiasm for the transition in the same press release.

"Joan and I are thrilled with the visionary direction of the School of Global Policy and Strategy and its mission to address the great challenges of our time," Jacobs said. "The Center for Global Transformation will lead inquiry on global economic and technological transformation, two areas that are of particular interest to us. This gift is designed to help the center continue to grow as a powerful platform for understanding these fundamental shifts."

READERS CAN CONTACT  
RAAHIMA SHOAB [RSHOAB@UCSD.EDU](mailto:RSHOAB@UCSD.EDU)

### Student Left in Cell for Five Days Receives \$4.1 Million in Settlement

► **DEA**, from page 1

treated seriously," Iredale told ABC 10 News.

The DEA apprehended 23-year-old Daniel Chong and eight others at an apartment in University City for drug possession on April 21, 2012. The agency then took seven of them to the county jail, released one and accidentally left Chong in a 5-foot-10-inch windowless holding cell at the DEA office.

Chong told officials that, during those five days, he had to drink

his own urine for hydration and consumed some powder that he found in the cell, which turned out to be methamphetamine. By the third day, he said that he started hallucinating and was "completely insane." At one point, he broke one of the lenses in his glasses and attempted to commit suicide by slitting his wrists with the shards and swallowing them.

Agents finally discovered Chong on April 25, and he was immediately hospitalized. Doctors treated him for dehydration, near-kidney failure

and a perforated lung from eating the broken glass. Chong's attorney filed a \$20-million claim against the DEA but settled for \$4.1 million on July 30, 2013.

Shortly after Chong's release, A.S. Council passed a resolution denouncing the DEA's detention of Chong and urging the chancellor at the time to take a position on the issue.

READERS CAN CONTACT  
JACKY TO [J6TO@UCSD.EDU](mailto:J6TO@UCSD.EDU)

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