

Revelations



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A Note on the Theme

You have heard the adage, “do not lose sight of the forest for the trees.” In short, the saying warns us not to get so caught up in the details that we lose touch with the big picture. This message is especially important for this time of the academic year.

Wrapping up winter quarter, it is very likely that you feel caught in the middle. You’re working hard to maintain or improve your academics from last quarter while still mentally preparing for spring quarter looming ahead. You may be obsessing over your performance in a particular class or worried about a particular commitment that you’ve been putting off. Maybe you have graduation on your mind, or need to send in some internship applications.

Whatever it is, chances are you’re caught up in the details. While this is important, we encourage you to take some time to remember and appreciate the bigger picture. The fact that you are here means that you have immense opportunities to take advantage of compared to the rest of the world. You may feel like you’re wasting your time or that your time is running out, but the truth is that it’s never too late to change course and learn something new about life or about yourself.

While you’re studying this week and next week, don’t be afraid to close your textbook or laptop and enjoy the ocean breeze, take the bus somewhere and grab a nice lunch, or have a meaningful conversation with someone. I know what you’re thinking: “I don’t have time for any of that! I’m failing Calc!” Let’s be honest here. If you’re actually failing, will two hours spent enjoying yourself instead of staring blankly at a problem set really make much difference in your overall grade?

Put yourself first. After all, who else will?

Best of luck. You got this.

The Revellations Team

Get Ready for Roarin’ Revelle

By Amanda Jiao and Sarah Bender-Resnik



LISTEN UP, OLD SPORT

Every year, the Emerging Leaders Program (ELP) throws an event that all of Revelle can look forward to. In the past, events such as RevelLED and Soireé at Sea have taken the stage to provide Revelle students with a night of food, games, and fun. This year, ELP has decided to take you back to a time of Model Ts, Jazz, gambling, and swing dancing for its 22nd Annual Event. Scheduled for April 19th is an event that is sure to make you dress up: Roarin’ Revelle will transport you back in time with casino games, dancing, and delicious food (and yes, there will be a photo booth). Getting a chance to go off campus for an event is exciting on its own: going off campus to a ballroom overlooking a golf course with outdoor fire-pits to warm up when you need a break from dancing or gambling away all your chocolate tokens is better. Get a chance to feel like Gatsby himself has invited you to one of his famous parties and do yourself a favor by turning up to this event. Roarin’ Revelle is one evening that promises not to disappoint.

Michael O’Toole was in the Emerging Leaders Program two years ago as a Freshman and is now in a leadership position in the program. He has graciously agreed to talk about both his event and ours to shed some light on the best features of ELP’s past and present events. “It’s all about the hype,” he admits with a grin. “And the theme brings people in.” He waxed on about

how sometimes the part of your event that you don’t anticipate to be popular becomes the most sought after attraction in the room. When it comes down to it, people just want to have a good time and that’s what ELP does best.

Flapper dresses and zoot suits galore!, ELP is sure to fit your fancy outfits with fancy food. Fill your stomach with the endless finger foods, desserts and drinks provided. And if you’re feeling kind of sluggish from the food, be sure to hit up the dance floor and show off your fabulous dance moves - and, who knows, maybe the DJ from Revelle semiformal will join you. When your feet finally give up from doing the Charleston, take a gamble at one of our casino tables. ELP is providing the opportunity to not only play the popular card games, such as Texas hold’em, blackjack and poker, but also to take a spin at the roulette wheel. And if you don’t know how to play, that’s more than okay; the dealer at each of these tables can teach you. Before the end of the night, be sure to hit up the photo booth and grab a tangible memento from the fabulous night you spent living like Gatsby.

Be sure to come to Roarin’ Revelle April 29th because a little party never killed nobody.

Roaring Revelle



From the dozens of pup-arazzi pics that constantly surface on Yik Yak to the official “UCSD Corgi Guy” Facebook page, it’s clear that UCSD has a strange obsession with spotting a particular pair of corgis and their owner. Although I’ve done my fair share of cooing over Katie and Puck, I had no idea how integral “Corgi Guy” was to the UCSD community until I witnessed students, both in person and online, grow worried when he hadn’t been seen on campus in a while. Many expressed desires to check up on his health, despite not even knowing his name!

I decided to find out more about this mysterious Corgi Guy and shed light upon his backstory. Unfortunately, the odds of catching a glimpse of the elusive trio was against my favor, and I was unable to interview them for the better part of the quarter.

T: How often do you walk your dogs?

G: THEY walk ME everyday!

I finally caught up with the infamous “Corgi Guy” (known as Gary to most) and joined him on a walk earlier this week. When I asked Gary if he knew of his celebrity status here on campus, he merely smiled and said “they’re the real celebrities here”. Indeed, throughout our walk I caught glimpses of students discreetly snapping pics of Katie and Puck decked out in their tiny matching red and green raincoats. No matter snow, rain, or heat, you can often find Gary and his corgis in the area on their twice-daily walks.



When it comes to corgis, you can always expect to get a little tied up!

T: How many dogs have you had over the years?

G: Six corgis

T: SIX CORGIS?!

How does one get so hooked on corgis? According to the man himself, his addiction began in 1973, when a “funny looking dog” wandered into his yard and had somehow gotten stuck. A few months after this encounter, he came across a picture of a corgi and became interested in learning about the breed. At the time, Gary recalls, there were only around 800 corgis in the US. Once he found a reputable breeder in Escondido, he bought Imp, his first corgi, and the rest is practically history!

When I asked Gary why he enjoys corgis so much, he replied “They’re addictive. They’re independent and extremely bright. I think all dogs have those characteristics but each one is very different... [dogs are] fabulous companions and a fabulous species.” Spend a little time observing his dogs, and you’ll be quick to find that he’s right! In the little time that I spent walking with them, I began to see Katie and Puck’s unique personalities for myself and understood how apt the name Puck (the mischievous elf from A Midsummer Night’s Dream) was. “Puck is the first dog that we’ve ever had that has such intent eyes said Gary, “He’s very good about staring you in the face and you can understand him just through his eyes!”

The Man Behind the Corgis

Tiffany Phan

As we walked through the Original Student Center, the corgis’ inquisitiveness became apparent each time they slowed to a crawl and examined every



Puck(left), Katie (right), and their human Gary

nook and cranny. Then, just as suddenly, they picked up the pace rounding the corner towards Mandeville Center and headed for their favorite coffee shop on campus: The Art of Espresso. Almost in unison, they sat in front of the coffee cart eagerly as a worker fed them their daily dog treats. Katie and Puck then began to snuffle around the cart, searching for any interesting tidbits to taste. However, as every dog owner knows, curious bellies can often lead to trouble. Gary said that he irritated by people who leave their trash out and is constantly on the lookout to make sure his corgis don’t eat any stray chocolate, which is toxic for dogs, or chicken bones, which can splinter and puncture their intestines. At this point, Gary tugged Katie and Puck’s leashes abruptly away from their latest find. “Speak of the devil!” he exclaimed, “They’ve found french fries!”

T: Do you have any tips for people who want to own a corgi?

G: Oh, yes!

Gary emphasized that all prospective corgi owners should be aware of common health risks and confirm the authenticity of breeders before getting a corgi. One disease that corgis are prone to is degenerative my-

elopathy (DM), which has been described as “the canine equivalent of Lou Gehrig’s disease”. Like Lou Gehrig’s disease, degenerative myelopathy can rapidly progress and leave an individual’s lower limbs paralyzed. In fact, one of the corgis Gary had before Katie and Puck was affected by this disease and required a wheelchair towards the end of her life. For more info on caring for dogs with DM, Gary has recommended “Corgis on Wheels”, a book written by his friend and corgi community member Bobbie Mayer.

He also believes that light training is necessary for all dogs to teach them to socialize and behave. However, it is also very important to avoid obedience boot camps to prevent them from becoming a “copy of every other dog out there” and preserve their wonderful personalities.

T: Did you know that you’re pretty much a celebrity here?

G: THEY’RE the real celebrities.

Unsurprisingly, we were also stopped by a few students wanting to play with Katie and Puck. Gary added that his walks are often prolonged by students around midterm and finals season- and no wonder! Amidst all the pressures of performing at a top university, it’s often cathartic for students to pet such adorable little dogs, particularly if they are missing their pets from home. It’s impossible not to smile whenever you see their fluffy butts pass by. There’s just something about their happy faces, and the love the Corgi Man shows for them that can brighten up anyone’s day.

Although we might not always show it, students of UCSD are truly thankful for having Gary for being such a unique part of the UCSD experience. Thank you Gary, we love you - and not just your corgis!



Puck and Katie wait patiently for treats at The Art of Espresso

No dorm, No problem

Louis Diaz

One of the main parts of the college experience is living on campus as a freshman. It's an enticing idea. You get to leave home and live at school and make friends more easily, or enemies. But what if you aren't given the opportunity to live on campus like my roommates and myself? That problem arises frequently at UCSD if you're not admitted into the school from the admissions waitlist. Unlike the other freshmen admitted into the school the first time around, we aren't guaranteed on-campus housing.

UCSD offers a housing guarantee, which covers six consecutive academic quarters, to its first time accepted students. This leaves students like myself in a bit of a predicament when it comes to looking for a place to live for the school year. In fall of 2014, only 44% of undergraduate students lived on campus. Now that doesn't sound like a huge number, but of those 44% of students, 95% of them were freshman. What about the other 5% of freshman? If the numbers are relative with

the progression of the years, that other 5% of freshman includes students like my roommates and myself. Although the 5% doesn't sound like a big deal, it is if you are that 5%.

This article isn't meant to trash the housing system that UCSD offers, but rather it is to inform anyone that living off-campus for your first year isn't so bad, especially in the community of La Jolla.

For most of us, searching for an apartment when you find out that you're not able to live on campus is an automatic priority. Yes it means that we have to grow up fast. We now have to pay rent, utility bills, internet bills, cook our own food. But, like I heard from everyone that was already in college, it is significantly cheaper. The details vary for each situation. But the point being, it isn't so bad. You may not get to enjoy the fruits of all the "dorming"-shenanigans, but if you strike the right place, you might not even have to take out a student loan to make ends meet.

Pre-Med Burnout

Johanna Wu

Two years ago, I wrote an article titled "Quarter Life Crisis," in which I contemplated about everything that was happening in my life as a freshman halfway through my last quarter of the school year. In it, I wrote about how frustrated I was that the grades I got on exams did not reflect the hours and hours I put in to studying, and how inadequate I felt overall about the pre-medical route that most of my classmates seemed to be doing just fine in.

Fast forward two and a half years, and I wish I could say that my life as a junior has dramatically changed for the better. True, my grades have shown an upward trend since the crappy grades from freshman year, but I still have those occasional exams that I study my butt off for only to end up with a grade that's below the curve. True, I'm volunteering in a hospital operating room and am blown away each time by the procedures I get to observe and the health professionals I get to interact with, but there are still countless nights where I'm just laying on my bed wondering if I'm doing enough for medical schools to notice and want me. My doubt and diffidence continue to linger from the many criteria within and beyond academics and extracurricular activities.

While I wish it weren't so, I understand the stringent requirements and arduous processes that come with pursuing medicine, because you don't want just anyone to operate on your mother or your best friend. And so the term "pre-med" is not one to be taken lightly. Though it may be offered casually in a conversation, it's a title that's heavy with meaning, such as the inspiration behind one's pursuit of medicine and the obstacles one had to overcome to get to where he or she is now. It's a title that is notoriously associated with perfection and juggling many responsibilities at once, all while maintaining a façade of confidence and

mental stability, because it's taboo to admit otherwise; pre-med is a culture that takes pride in not appearing weak. I see it in my classes when people downplay the time they spent studying, or when they ask me for my exam grade in the hopes that they can brag about their A's. But rarely do I hear people openly admit their difficulties, resulting in an unhealthy cycle that continues even in medical school, as described by Dr. Zisook in the Health & Medical Professions Preparation Program (HMP3)'s first Med Talk this quarter.

I wish I could offer a concrete and satisfactory solution to conclude this reflection, but for the time being, we just have to support one another and not treat each other as competition, something pre-meds are infamous for. We need to de-stigmatize imperfection and be able to have conversations with each other that aren't about one-upping the other person. And most importantly, we have to make sure we take care of ourselves, and that time is set aside to just play and relax. In fact, just the other day, my friend and I rented a basketball from Main Gym for the first time ever and ran around shooting hoops for an hour between classes like we were Stephen Curry...I didn't even realize it, but I hadn't touched a basketball since high school!

I can't guarantee that doing all of this will magically guarantee you a spot in medical school, but it's a start and a necessity if we want to maintain our sanity. For those of you who are not in the UC Premed Advising Group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/UC.PremedAdvising/>) headed by Dr. Andrew Lee, I highly recommend joining it and reading his posts, especially one that he wrote recently, which I'll end with: "Through it all, you realize that you are not alone. You are walking a path a great many physicians have walked, and many others are walking right now. Loneliness is a hard feeling, but remember that you are not alone."



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