uc san diego

Asian
Pacific
Islander
Middle
Eastern
Desi
American

programs and services

Year in Review
2022-2023

UC San Diego APIMEDA Programs and Services

A program of the Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

Highlights

During the 2022-2023 academic year, APIMEDA Programs and Services worked to enhance the experience of the Asian Pacific Islander Middle Eastern Desi American community at UC San Diego in the following ways:

- Hosted a total of 74 events throughout the academic year, targeting APIMEDA students, providing education to staff, and coordinating with community members.

- Worked directly with campus departments to collaborate and sponsor 11 events targeting APIMEDA student communities.

- Presented information and data about successful programs our office does to support students on campus, at a UC-wide conference and at an international conference.

- Created partnerships to present the Discovering Your Career Compass Workshop with the Chancellors Associate Scholars Program (CASP) and TRIO Student Support Services Program.

- Supported efforts to continue observation of Arab American Heritage Month and the Asian Pacific Islander American Heritage Celebration.

- Continued efforts that helped students connect with staff and faculty on campus, maintaining the student, staff, and faculty mixer events hosted in collaboration with the Asian American Pacific Islander Studies (AAPI Studies) minor program.

- Sustained programming for graduate students throughout the academic year, both in-person and through virtual formats.

- Collaborated with centers and departments throughout the UC system to organize the inaugural SWANA CON at UC Riverside.

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About APIMEDA Programs and Services

About Us

Mission Statement

Centering the needs and experiences of APIMEDA students, we educate, advocate, and build coalitions to create a safe environment where the UC San Diego community can learn, grow, and succeed.

Who We Are

Asian Pacific Islander Middle Eastern Desi American (APIMEDA) Programs and Services is an initiative within the Office of the Vice Chancellor—Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion. Developed after strong student advocacy, APIMEDA Programs and Services provides outreach, programs, and other support for our diverse APIMEDA student population. APIMEDA people are diverse, and we come to campus with different experiences and identities that make up who we are.

APIMEDA describes domestic students who are of Asian (including East Asian, South Asian, Southeast Asian), Pacific Islander, and/or Southwest Asian North African (SWANA) descent. APIMEDA people come from a large diversity of ethnic identities, whose population size varies widely in the United States, in California, and on our campus.

The students from the Coalition for Critical Asian American Studies (CCAAS) who advocated for this office used 'APIMEDA' to describe the population. They sought to have an office that provided specific and targeted services for students who come from marginalized ethnic populations who were not being served directly by other campus offices. In their 2014 Open Letter, CCAAS said they believed that APIMEDA students were often spoken of as being part of a majority group despite experiencing discrimination and having a wide disparity of access and retention numbers within the population. While this is not currently a common grouping used by institutions in higher education, APIMEDA students at UC San Diego find they have common experiences in the way they navigate our campus and in the histories of their families and ancestors

Campus Partners

Alanna Aiko Moore
She/her/hers
Head of Community Engagement and
Inclusion & Ethnic Students Librarian,
Library Liaison

Cam Linh Pham
She/her/hers
Associate Director of Career
Development & Industry Engagement,
Career Center Liaison

Doreen Hsu
she/her/hers
Writing Hub Grad Writing
Consultant Liaison

Louie Limas
He/him/his
Staff Psychologist,
CAPS Liaison

Patty Ahn
they/them/theirs
Associate Teaching
Communication Professor,
Director of AAPI Studies Program

Tracy Cruz
She/her
Assistant Dean of Academic
Advising,
Career Compass Co-coordinator

What We Do

APIMEDA Programs and Services supports the retention of APIMEDA undergraduate and graduate students on campus by presenting opportunities for students to enhance their academic and career success. We also work to develop leaders who will have a positive impact on the campus and enrich our diverse communities. We initiate and develop activities that increase the campus knowledge of the diversity of APIMEDA people and reflect the diversity of experiences that APIMEDA students have.

What guides our work

In designing the plans and resources in setting up APIMEDA Programs & Services, the following resources were amongst the most influential in informing the way we do our work:

- *The CCAAS Open Letter:* https://apimeda.ucsd.edu/_files/ccaas-open-letter.pdf
- *The State of Higher Education in California Report on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders:* https://collegecampaign.org/publication/the-state-of-higher-education-for-asian-american-native-hawaiian-and-pacific-islander-californians
- *New Directions for Student Services: Bridging Research and Practice to Support Asian American Students:* https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/15360695
- *The Misrepresented Minority: New Insights on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and the Implications for Higher Education:* https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=nlebk&AN=675275&site=ehost-live
- *Islamophobia in Higher Education: Combating Discrimination and Creating Understanding:* https://www.routledge.com/Islamophobia-in-Higher-Education-Combating-Discrimination-and-Creating/Ahmadi-Cole/p/book/9781620369753
- *Focusing on the Underserved: Immigrant, Refugee, and Indigenous Asian American and Pacific Islanders in Higher Education:* https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/ucsd/detail.action?pq-origsite=primo&docID=4744473

Meet the Staff

Windi Sasaki
she/her/hers, they/them/theirs
Associate Director

Brian Crie
he/him/his, they/them/theirs
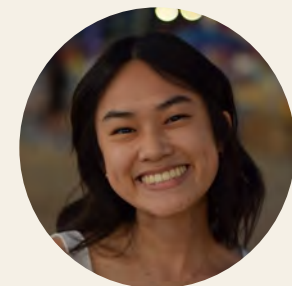Programs & Operations Coordinator

Catherine Potmesil
she/her/hers,
they/them/theirs
Graduate Community and
Climate Intern

Alexandra Kim
they/them/theirs,
she/her/hers
Community Assistant

Kelly Callejo
they/them/theirs
Community Assistant

Vivian Yan
she/her/hers
Design and Publications
Assistant

APAHE 2023

In collaboration with the Office of Academic Support and Instructional Services (OASIS), APIMEDA Programs and Services submitted a presentation proposal to the Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education (APAHE) Conference in Oakland California at the end of April 2023. The proposal— "More than Buzz Words: Grounded practices in empowering students to find their voice, own their stories, and follow their compass for college and beyond" — focused on illustrating the benefits of staff to share their authentic selves in their work with students.

Brian was one of the co-presenters and discussed the Discovering Your Career Compass workshop series and how partnerships can be built across campus to impact students in ways that challenge typical messaging around academic and career goals. Over 100 people attended the session at APAHE, with colleagues from other campuses reaching out for follow-up information and consultation in how to implement similar programming at other institutions.

Interested in the presentation?
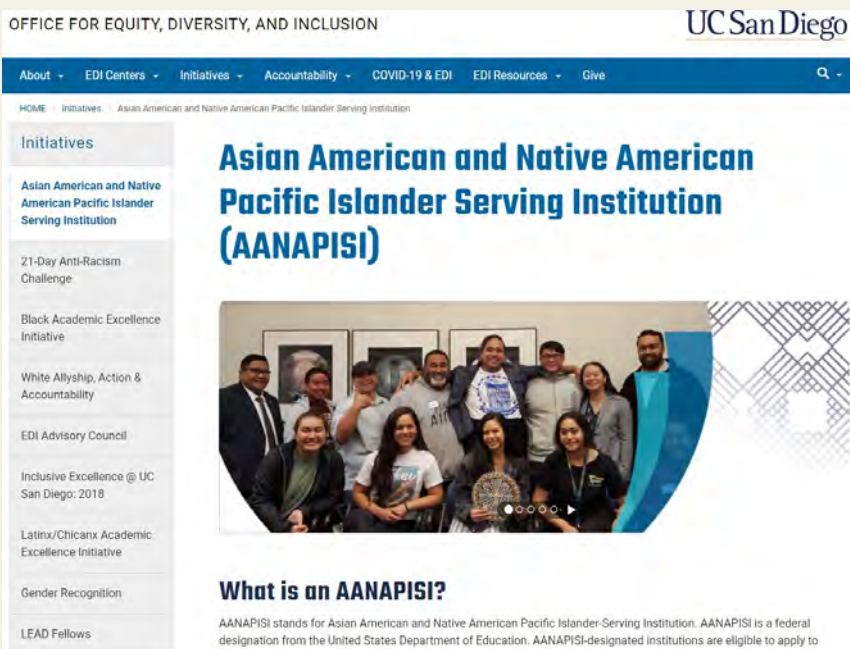Scan below!

APIMEDA Students and Data
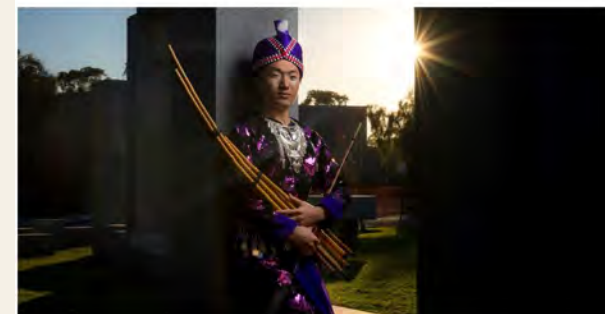
AANAPISI Designation

UC San Diego announced that the campus received AANAPISI designation, one of the Minority Serving Institution designations that is available through the U.S. Department of Education. It allows UC San Diego to apply for outside funding that will aim to expand and improve the overall quality of experience for Asian American and Pacific Islander undergraduates as well as first general and low-income students.

Disaggregation of the race and ethnicity data for UC San Diego shows that many Pacific Islander and Southeast Asian American students encounter a disproportionately higher number of challenges in navigating higher education. The designation also means that efforts to center the needs of these populations to create an environment where all UC San Diego students can thrive should be explored campus-wide. More information can be found at:
https://diversity.ucsd.edu/initiatives/aanapisi/index.html

To provide additional information on experiences of Asian American and Pacific Islander students, an article was also published on the UC San Diego Today in which APIMEDA Programs and Services was highlighted as well as a student leader who had participated in the AANAPISI Task Force:
https://today.ucsd.edu/story/enhancing-the-experience-of-diverse-asian-american-and-pacific-islander-students
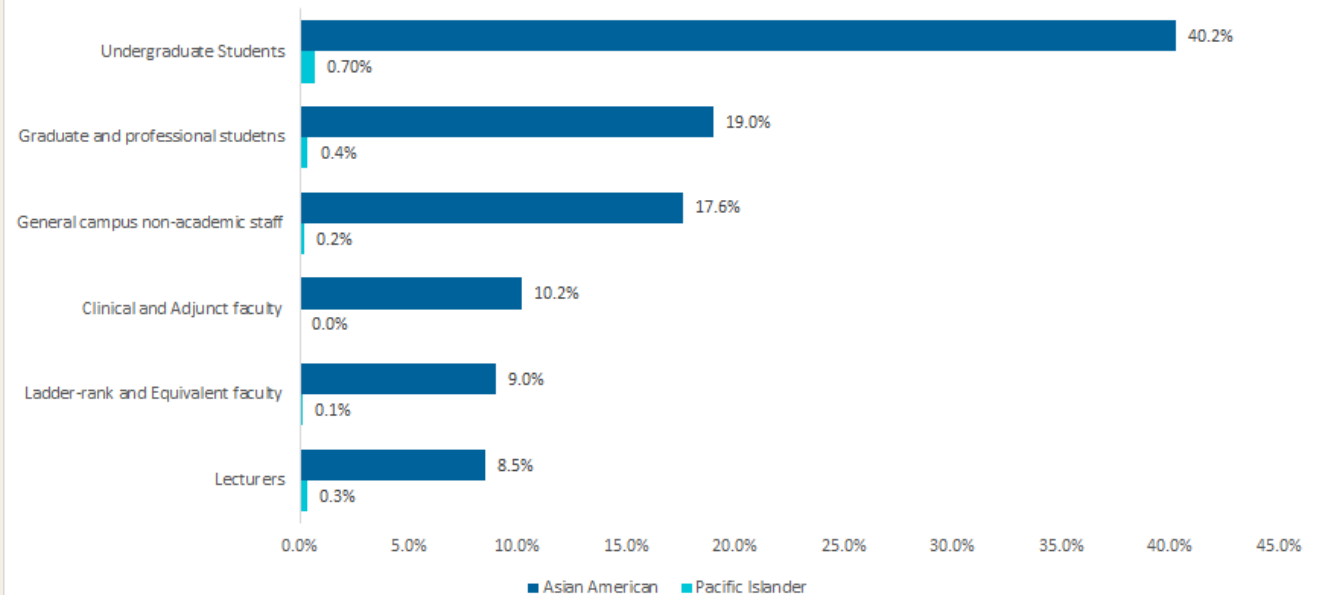
Data & APIMEDA Staff/Faculty

Data for APIMEDA staff and faculty is presented as a snapshot for the campus. This information was taken from dashboards found on UC San Diego's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion website: https://diversity.ucsd.edu/accountability/staff.html

Note: While SWANA data is collected for students, that data is not collected for staff and faculty.

All SWANA data when aggregated falls within the "White" category, including for students.

Figure 1: Asian American and Pacific Islander campus demographics by percentage of population, UC San Diego 2021

Category	Asian American	Pacific Islander
Undergraduate Students	40.2%	0.70%
Graduate and professional studetns	19.0%	0.4%
General campus non-academic staff	17.6%	0.2%
Clinical and Adjunct faculty	10.2%	0.0%
Ladder-rank and Equivalent faculty	9.0%	0.1%
Lecturers	8.5%	0.3%

University of California Office of the President provides information about all UC campus student enrollment through their Information Center, providing disaggregated data around student enrollment that can be filtered to show UC San Diego's undergraduate, domestic student populations. The graphs on pages 12-14 pull student data from this source.

Graphs on page 12 are disaggregated Asian American student (undergrad and grad) populations, page 13 are disaggregated Pacific Islander student populations, and page 14 are disaggregated SWANA student populations.

Note: All data present in these graphs are multiple counts, accounting for multiracial students within each category for which they have marked when they fill out the UC application.

Data & APIMEDA Students

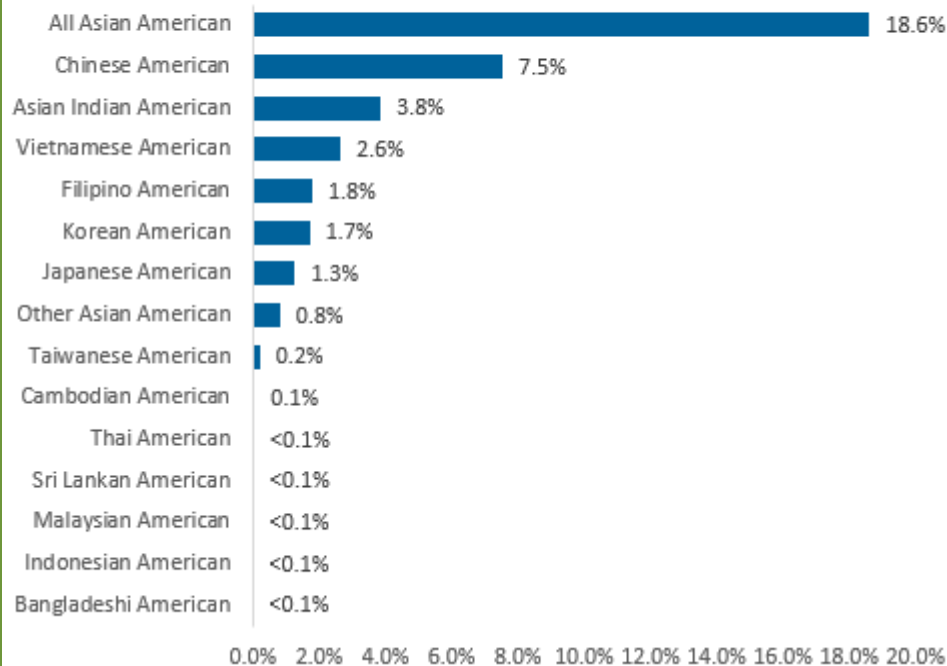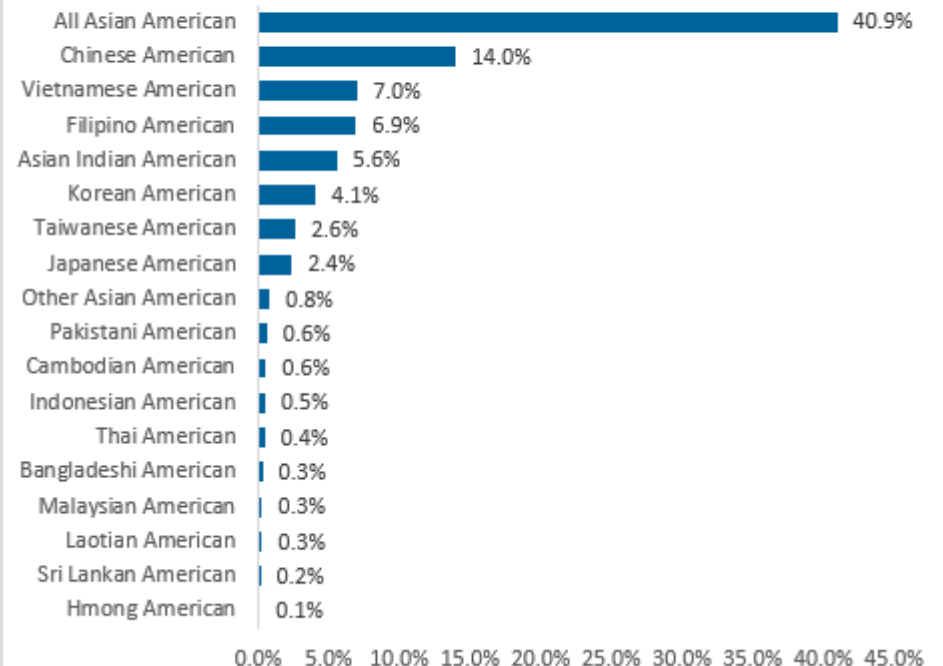Figure 2: Percentage of Graduate Student Population by Asian American Ethnic Group, UC San Diego Fall 2022

Ethnic Group	Percentage
All Asian American	18.6%
Chinese American	7.5%
Asian Indian American	3.8%
Vietnamese American	2.6%
Filipino American	1.8%
Korean American	1.7%
Japanese American	1.3%
Other Asian American	0.8%
Taiwanese American	0.2%
Cambodian American	0.1%
Thai American	<0.1%
Sri Lankan American	<0.1%
Malaysian American	<0.1%
Indonesian American	<0.1%
Bangladeshi American	<0.1%

Figure 3: Percentage of Student Population by Asian American Ethnic Group, UC San Diego Fall 2022

Ethnic Group	Percentage
All Asian American	40.9%
Chinese American	14.0%
Vietnamese American	7.0%
Filipino American	6.9%
Asian Indian American	5.6%
Korean American	4.1%
Taiwanese American	2.6%
Japanese American	2.4%
Other Asian American	0.8%
Pakistani American	0.6%
Cambodian American	0.6%
Indonesian American	0.5%
Thai American	0.4%
Bangladeshi American	0.3%
Malaysian American	0.3%
Laotian American	0.3%
Sri Lankan American	0.2%
Hmong American	0.1%

Data & APIMEDA Students

Figure 4: Percentage of Graduate Student Population by Pacific Islander Ethnic Group, UC San Diego Fall 2022

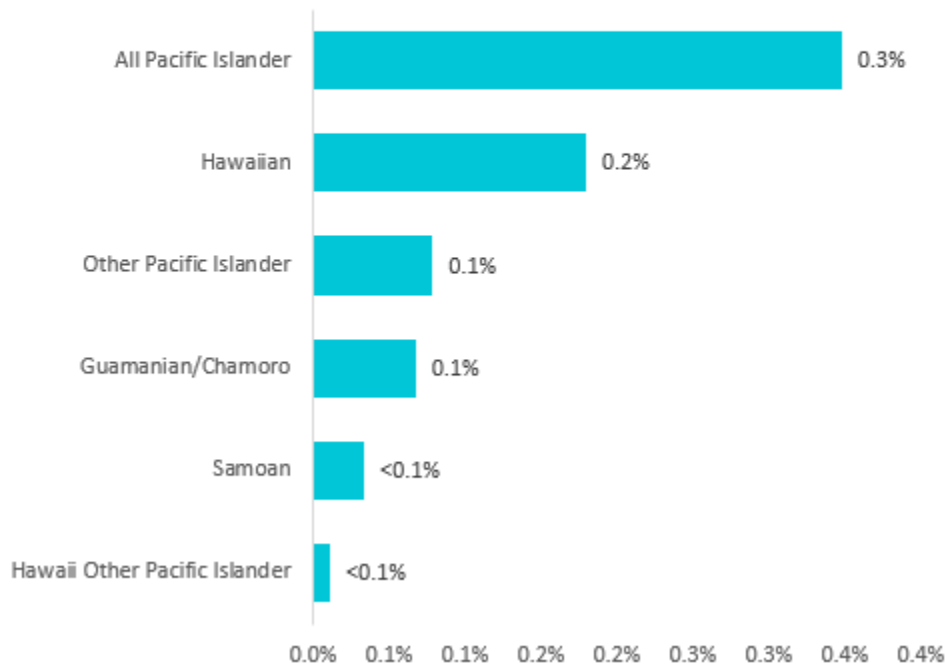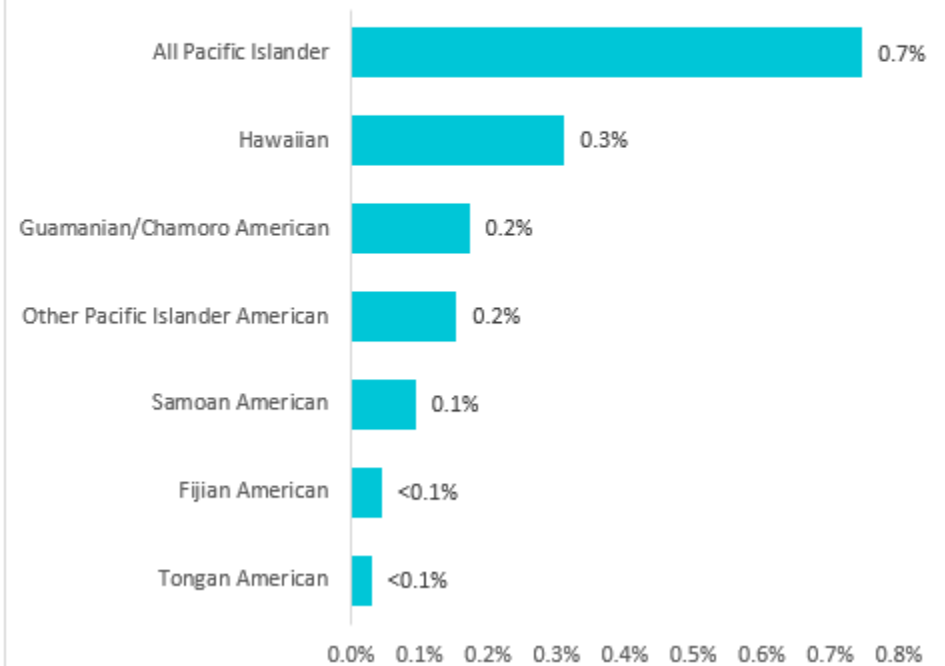| Pacific Islander Ethnic Group	Percentage
All Pacific Islander	0.3%
Hawaiian	0.2%
Other Pacific Islander	0.1%
Guamanian/Chamoro	0.1%
Samoan	<0.1%
Hawaii Other Pacific Islander	<0.1%

Figure 5: Percentage of Student Population by Pacific Islander Ethnic Group, UC San Diego Fall 2022

Pacific Islander Ethnic Group	Percentage
All Pacific Islander	0.7%
Hawaiian	0.3%
Guamanian/Chamoro American	0.2%
Other Pacific Islander American	0.2%
Samoan American	0.1%
Fijian American	<0.1%
Tongan American	<0.1%

Data & APIMEDA Students

Figure 6: Percentage of Graduate Student Population by SWANA Ethnic Group, UC San Diego Fall 2022
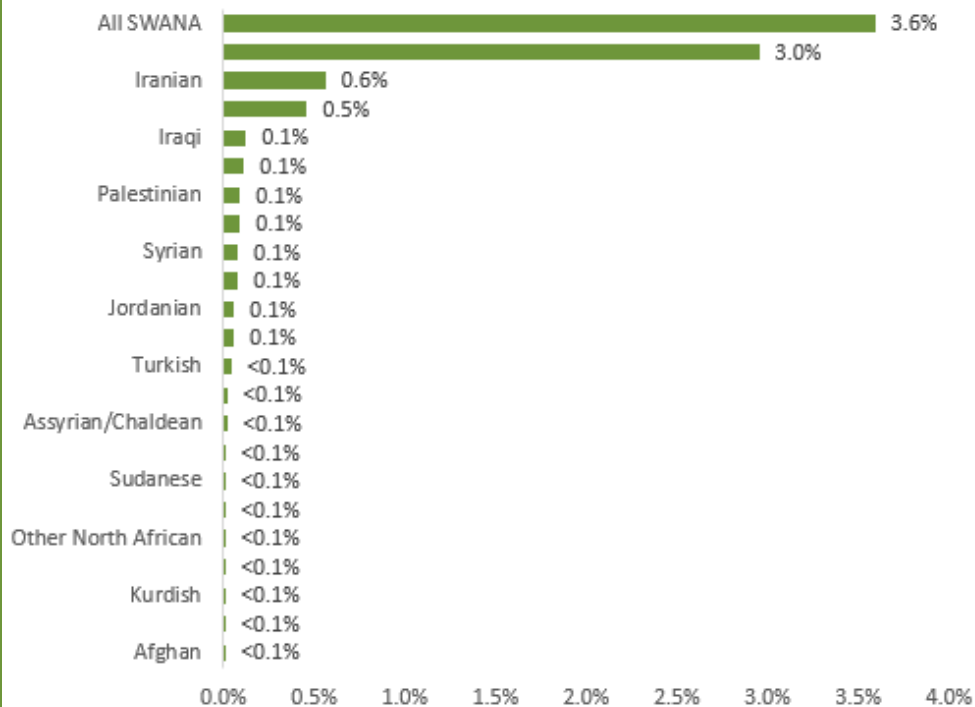
Figure 7: Percentage of Student Population by SWANA Ethnic Group, UC San Diego Fall 2022
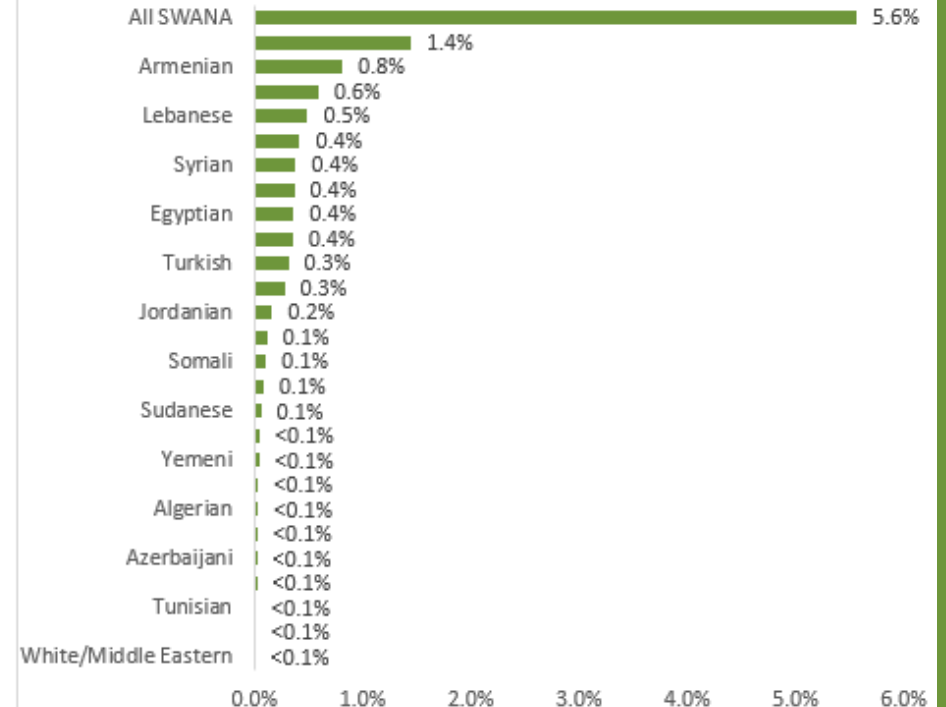
SWANA Student Data Presentations

In April 2023, the APIMEDA Associate Director presented a session targeting UC San Diego staff and faculty on understanding SWANA student data called "Finding SWANA Student Data & Supporting Student Experience". The information was intended to provide an introduction to the information available, provide clarification about who is included in SWANA, information about the diversity within the SWANA population, and thoughts about the ways that everyone might begin to think about the data.

Starting in fall 2014, the UC System included options for student applicants to select racial and ethnic category options under "Southwest Asian and North African (SWANA)". This grouping is made up of 32 options, including "Other Southwest Asian" and "Other North African". Universities in the UC system are amongst the only schools that collect and publish data on enrollment of this population of students in the United States. SWANA data is currently only collected for students, with no data available to gauge SWANA staff or faculty. In race data population sets, SWANA data is aggregated to White.

Because the UC application is the first opportunity for many SWANA students to select their racial and ethnic category with this level of specificity, some of the increase may be attributed to students familiarizing with the more detailed categories. The number of SWANA students from 2016 to 2022 increased approximately 34%, which is comparable to the general UC San Diego total undergraduate student increase of 33%.

As we get more information around the successes and challenges that our SWANA and SWANA American students face at UC San Diego will be able to provide a richer understanding of these communities. As one of the first universities in the country that has access to student data related to SWANA communities, there is an interest in the way that we choose to analyze the data and use it to inform our practices.

Broad category	Category	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Southwest Asian/North African	Total	1646	1736	1856	1949	2013	2166	2198
Grand Total	Total	28483	29175	31594	32798	34253	36840	37831

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Program Events and Highlights

Events for Students

The 2022-2023 academic year was the first full academic year where students were able to attend all events in person. A student ID scanner was used to log student attendance at events that targeted student attendees, with a total of 200 unique undergraduate and graduate students attended events throughout the academic year. Of the 200 students, 36 students were graduate students and 164 were undergraduate students.

Programs ranged from community building, crafts, cultural or historical education, career readiness, and book discussions. Our largest event was a book discussion held in collaboration with Thurgood Marshall College, Dimensions of Culture, the History Department, and Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Studies Program, celebrating the publication of an anthology on Pin[a/x]y activism.

Community Time

APIMEDA Programs and Services held regular, weekly programming throughout the 2022-2023 academic year in our Community Time event. Students (both undergraduate and graduate students) are encouraged to attend to join in community to learn together, have fun, and make connections with folks from across campus. Topics ranged from identity development, career development, crafting, study strategies, group study sessions, and destressing activities. In collaboration with the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Studies Program, two Community Times were also structured as mixer events for students to get to know staff, faculty, and alumni.

The Community Time that had the largest attendance was "The Evolution of Asian American Studies at UCSD", featuring professor emeritus Jim Lin speaking about his experience in teaching the first Asian American Studies course at UCSD.

Graduate Student Programs

There was consistent programming for the APIMEDA Graduate population, ranging from social events to academic events. The APIMEDA Community & Climate Intern hosted Grad Café every two weeks in a virtual format. This space was designed to allow graduate students to connect regardless of distance, as many attendees were not residing in San Diego throughout the academic year. Grad Café served to discuss challenges they were encountering in their graduate work (writing, research, courses, work as a TA, etc.) and use their collective experience to provide support to one another.

There were many partnerships APIMEDA Programs and Services held to support graduate student programming. Outreach, Access, Recruitment, and Retention (OAR[2]) provided support at the beginning of the academic year to fund an APIMEDA Graduate Student Welcome. APIMEDA Programs and Services also tabled at their New Graduate Student Resource Fair to start the year. Additionally, the partnership with the Writing Cub in the Teaching + Learning Commons continued, featuring Writing Retreats to support APIMEDA graduate students in the writing process for dissertation, scholarships, fellowships, and other writing projects. Lastly, a new partnership was formed with the APIMEDA Community & Climate Intern having connected with Grad Housing to hold a karaoke event.

As more programming that centers graduate student experiences is developed, we hope to strengthen partnerships across campus

Asian Pacific Islander Middle Eastern Desi American (APIMEDA) Programs & Services

GRADUATE STUDENT WELCOME

Arts & Humanities Building | 5th floor patio
Sept 13, 2022 | 1-2pm PST

Come hang out and get to know other graduate & professional students for a social welcome event!
Food and good company provided!

Need help finding the event? Scan the QR code below for directions:

WINTER 2023

APIMEDA GRADUATE COMMUNITY CAFÉS

BIWEEKLY (ODD WEEKS) ✳ FRIDAYS ✳ 11 AM - 1 PM
JANUARY 13, 27 ✳ FEBRUARY 10, 24 ✳ MARCH 10, 24

A COLLECTIVE COMMUNITY SPACE DEDICATED TO PROVIDING APIMEDA GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENTS WITH SUPPORT IN WRITING, RESEARCH, AND GRADUATE STUDENT LIFE.

REGISTER:
https://bit.ly/3Xku1M8

Career Compass Reboot

The Discovering Your Career Compass workshop was rebooted in the 2022-2023 academic year, holding in-person workshops for the first time since 2019. New facilitators were trained in August 2022 and Tracy Cruz — Assistant Dean of Academic Advising in Warren College — was identified as the new liaison for the workshop series. A total of five workshops were scheduled throughout the academic year, with 44 students participating across all sessions. Additional workshops were scheduled in Winter and Spring 2023 due to Programs and Operations Coordinator Brian creating partnerships with TRIO Student Support Services Program (SSSP) and the Chancellors Associate Scholars Program (CASP) to present the workshop to their cohorts of students.

As the workshop continues to be developed, we hope to be able to expand Discovering Your Career Compass into a workshop series that continues to build on student academic and professional goals.

Sharing Our Invisible Histories

Sharing Our Invisible Histories (SOIH) was a weekly educational series that was initially featured on the APIMEDA Programs and Services Instagram due to the shift to remote work in Spring 2020 and the Sharing Our Invisible Histories blog (https://apimedaatucsd.wordpress.com/) was created in the 2021-2022 academic year. Posts are regularly published throughout the academic year, typically three days per week. Images were shared via social media and through the newsletter to help promote the blog. The SOIH blog provides a regular passive educational program that is adaptable, allowing for informational programming to align with heritage months and/or current events. Posts between June 2022-May 2023 accumulated 266 views and 161 likes, with posts from August 2022 garnering the most total interactions (61 total views and likes), likely due to the ability to engage with posts after their initial post date. By May 2023, there were a total of 180 posts in the SOIH blog series.

Leveraging the educational content in the blog, APIMEDA Programs and Services also created in-person events around SOIH, incorporating the blog into Community Time while encouraging participates to read entries and engage with their peers. By initially sharing their thoughts on the post they engaged with, participants were then able to also share their own stories, reflecting on their experiences and making deeper connections with other attendees.

sharing our invisible histories

MANNY CRISOSTOMO IS A CHAMORRO PHOTOJOURNALIST. IN 1989, CRISOSTOMO WON A PULITZER PRIZE WHILE WORKING WITH THE DETROIT FREE PRESS, DEPICTING STUDENT LIFE AT SOUTHWESTERN HIGH SCHOOL IN DETROIT, SHOWING KIDS BEING KIDS WHEN DETROIT WAS BEING PAINTED AS A VIOLENT PLACE..

POSTED ON HTTPS://APIMEDAATUCSD.WORDPRESS.COM ON 08/17/2022

sharing our invisible histories

JESSICA COX IS A FILIPINA AMERICAN AND IS THE WORLD'S FIRST LICENSED ARMLESS PILOT. COX WAS BORN WITH PHOCOMELIA SYNDROME, RESULTING IN HER HAVING BEEN BORN WITH NO ARMS. SHE FELT PROSTHETICS ONLY ALLOWED HER TO "BLEND IN" AND SHE DECIDED TO FORGO USING THEM AT AGE 14.

POSTED ON HTTPS://APIMEDAATUCSD.WORDPRESS.COM ON 10/03/2022

sharing our invisible histories

MIMI AUNG IS A BURMESE AMERICAN ENGINEER AND PROJECT MANAGER AT NASA. SHE WAS NAMED ONE OF THE TOP 100 MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE BY TIME MAGAZINE IN 2021 FOR BEING THE LEAD ENGINEER ON THE MARS INGENUITY PROJECT, THE FIRST EXTRATERRESTRIAL AIRCRAFT.

POSTED ON HTTPS://APIMEDAATUCSD.WORDPRESS.COM ON 01/30/2023

sharing our invisible histories

THE ZAKAR TWINS ARE A CHALDEAN IRAQI AMERICAN TWINS WHO ARE GAY MODELS, ACTORS, AND WRITERS. THEIR BOOK PRAY THE GAY AWAY IS A MEMOIR THAT IS MEANT TO COMBAT MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT LGBTQ PEOPLE IN THE ARAB AMERICAN COMMUNITY.

POSTED ON HTTPS://APIMEDAATUCSD.WORDPRESS.COM ON 04/19/2023

SWANA CON

The UC SSWANA collective (planned the inaugural SWANA CON, which was held at UC Riverside in January 2023. The purpose of the conference was to encourage students to explore concepts of culture, leadership, and community while center Middle Eastern/Southwest Asian and North African student identities.

Windi and Brian were core planning members for this conference, with Windi hosting a session on how to find and use SWANA student data for student's to better advocate for change on their respective campuses. Sophia Armen, a graduate student at UC San Diego and alum from UC Santa Barbara was one of the opening speakers for the conference. Approximately eight UC San Diego students attended as participants.

General highlights about SWANA CON:
- 200+ students attended from 13 different campuses across California
- 86% of eval respondents agreed that SWANA CON provided them the opportunity to exchange ideas, learn from others, and reflect on themselves
- Top rated workshop sessions were titled:
  - Gender Dynamics in SWANA Community
  - How to Talk About Women & Freedom Under the Western Savior-Complex Gaze
  - SWANA Student Mental Wellness

Heritage Months — NAAHM

In April 2023, APIMEDA Programs and Services organized the creation of a calendar of events for National Arab American Heritage Month (NAAHM). This was the first calendar of events to be prepared since 2019 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. APIMEDA Programs and Services staff communicated with the Middle Eastern North African Student Association (MENASA) to place two events onto the calendar. Additionally, a "Call for Programs" was advertised through newsletters through the Campus Community Centers, resulting in programming from the Women's Center and the LGBT Resource Center being added to the calendar . This is the first time other campus entities included events on the calendar for NAAHM. APIMEDA Programs and Services is currently the only entity on campus to coordinate a call for programs for NAAHM.

The office also produced blog content with a focus on Arab American people, events, and organizations through the Sharing Our Invisible Histories (SOIH) blog posts throughout the month of April.

In the future, APIMEDA Programs and Services hopes to communicate with more organizations that serve the Arab American community and work with other campus departments to include more programming in April on future calendars.

National Arab American Heritage Month 2023

Arab American Heritage Month Book Display @ Women's Center
Occurs throughout the month @ the Women's Center Living Room
Stop by the Women's Center throughout the month to checkout their highlighted book selections for NAAHM

Sharing Our Invisible Histories: Arab American Blog Highlights
Occurs throughout the month @ https://apimedaatucsd.wordpress.com/
During the month of April, APIMEDA Programs & Services will be highlighting Arab American individuals and history on our Sharing Our Invisible Histories blog.

Community Time: Sharing Our Invisible Histories NAAHM Edition
April 10, 4:00-6:00pm @ Sixth College Lodge
Join APIMEDA Programs & Services as we take our conversations irl and discuss various Arab American folks from our Sharing Our Invisible Histories (SOIH) blog

Lunch & Listen Podcast Series: Queer Arabs - We Exist
April 12, 12:00-1:00pm @ the LGBTRC Conference Room
Join the LGBTRC as they listen to the episode from the Queer Arabs podcast featuring Tarik Zahr, a Lebanese PhD candidate in New York City studying metabolic diseases, queer Arab science, and more.

Dabkeh Teach-in
April 14, 9:00-10:30pm @ RIMAC Activity Room
Hosted by student Danya Yassine, come learn a traditional Arab dance, Dabkeh!

Finding SWANA Student Data
April 20, 12:00-1:00pm @ Career Center Horizon Room
Presented by APIMEDA Programs & Services, we encourage staff & faculty to learn more about how we can find and better advocate for our SWANA students at UC San Diego.

Arab Karaoke Night
April 28, 6:00-8:00pm @ Stage Room & Patio
Hosted by the Middle Eastern and North African Student Association, join for a fun night of Karaoke and singing the night away to Arab songs!

Welcome to APIMEDA Programs and Services' Blog!

A dedicated space for our "Sharing our Invisible Histories" series where we conduct research and shares points in APIMEDA history that need more attention as many events in APIMEDA history are not shared through general education

Heritage Months — APIAHM

In May 2023, APIMEDA Programs and Services worked with the Pan Asian Staff Association (PASA) to create a calendar of events for Asian Pacific Islander American Heritage Month (APIAHM). Windi and Brian also helped plan the Kick-off Celebration event for the month, where CHamoru Pultizer Prize winning photojournalist Manny Cristosomo was the keynote speaker.
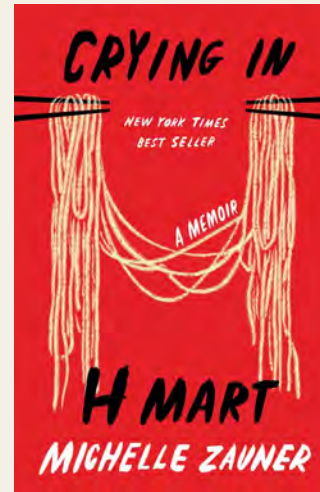
APIMEDA Programs and Services created a "Call for Programs" that was advertised via email, newsletters, and word of mouth. As a result, a total of 24 events were scheduled during the month of May, with events being hosted by 12 various campus entities. Of the events on the calendar, APIMEDA Programs and Services hosted and/or collaborated on seven. Student groups also contributed to seven of the events on the calendar, with an Identity Film Festival being a major event series that the three different student groups — Pacific Islander Student Association (PISA), Asian Pacific Islander Student Alliance (APSA), and Sangam SD — organized throughout the month. PISA and APSA were also the only student organizations to send representatives to participate in the planning of the Kick-Off Celebration.

17TH ANNUAL
ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER AMERICAN
HERITAGE CELEBRATION

PHOTO BY MANNY CRISOSTOMO

Events for staff and faculty

To support student experiences at UC San Diego, APIMEDA Programs and Services hosts events for campus staff and faculty to learn more about the diversity of APIMEDA students. These events included:

- **Annual Mental Health Panel**: APIMEDA Programs and Services collaborated with UC San Diego's Women's Center to sponsor a mental health panel in May, which is National Mental Health Awareness Month and Asian Pacific Islander American Heritage month. This year, the panel focused on the mental health of Asian and Pacific Islander American women. Our panelists were APIA women staff members who support students in mental health adjacent departments, providing insight on how to think about APIA women mental health from a non-clinical perspective and highlighting challenges APIA women encounter around mental health.
- **Lunch and Learn**: The Summer 2022 Lunch and Learn program was a continuation of the series that provided an opportunity for staff and faculty to read current scholarship on different parts of the APIMEDA populations. Based on feedback from the community, the Summer 2022 program was held in a virtual format across four sessions.
- **Beyond the Pages Book Club**: In collaboration with UC San Diego's Cross-Cultural Center, APIMEDA Programs and Services Programs and Operations Coordinator Brian Crie cofacilitated with CCC Assistant Director of Education Izzy Narvaez for a discussion around the book *Crying in H-Mart* by Michelle Zauner.

Student Organization Highlights
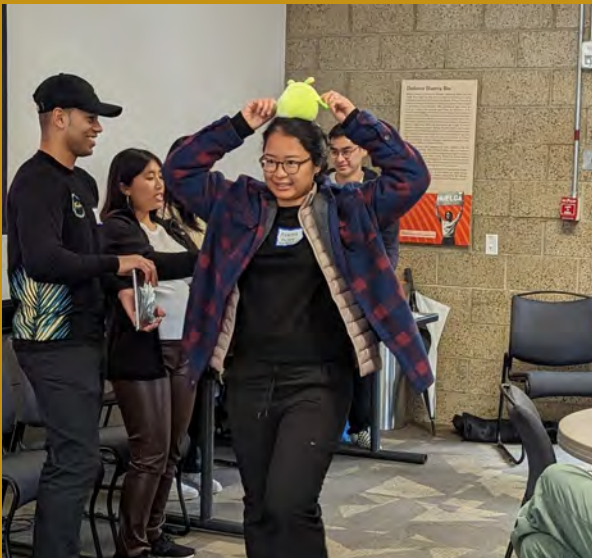
Interactions with Student Orgs

APIMEDA Programs and Services was able to connect with student leaders during the 2022-2023 academic year. As the first full academic year fully in person since March 2020, much of the work for the office focused on rebuilding connections with various student organizations as well as finding opportunities to connect to newly formed student organizations or student organizations looking to reestablish their presence on campus. Many organizations encountered a learning curve in how to host events and connect back in in-person events, shifting from organizing in the virtual space with student leaders who had little to no experience with the campus.

In the Fall of 2022, we saw student organizations reach out for support in trying to address sexual misconduct and inappropriate advances amongst their members. APIMEDA Programs and Services provided student leaders with resources for these situations, facilitating connections to partners in the CARE at SARC office as well.

Organizations affiliated with APIMEDA Programs and Services as of June 2023

- Afghan Student Association
- APIs for Humanities
- Armenian Student Association
- Asian Pacific Islander Student Alliance
- Cambodian Student Association
- Kaibigang Pilipin@
- Chi Delta Theta
- Coalition for Critical Asian American Studies
- Hmong Student Association
- Middle Eastern North African Student Association
- Nikkei Student Union
- Mixed Student Union
- Muslim Student Association
- Pacific Islander Student Association
- Queer and Trans* People of Color
- Pilipin@ Undergrad Society for Health
- Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers
- Sri Lankan Student Association

APSA and PISA

In February 2023, the Asian Pacific Islander Student Alliance (APSA) held their Connect 2 Grad event in collaboration with APIMEDA Programs and Services for the second year in a row. This year, the event was also held in collaboration with the Pacific Islander Student Association (PISA) through the access component of the Student Promoted Access Center for Education and Service (SPACES). The event provides undergraduate students an opportunity to connect with graduate students from various fields, giving insight into what they can expect as graduate students. Graduate students were split up across tables and undergrads were able to have conversations in small groups, getting their questions answered while getting to know one another more personally. The event concluded with all the graduate students participating in a panel, sharing their experiences in how they navigated the graduate school application process, how they found community once they came to UC San Diego, and what were challenges they overcame.

APSA and PISA collaborated on various events throughout the academic year, including a high school shadowing day and the Identity Film Series event during Asian Pacific Islander American Heritage Month.

APSA, PISA, and Sangam SD

As part of the student coordinated programming for the Asian Pacific Islander American Heritage Month (APIAHM), students from the Asian Pacific Islander Student Alliance (APSA), the Pacific Islander Student Association (PISA), and Sangam SD came together to host a month-long Identity Film Festival. Every Wednesday throughout the month of May, each organization hosted a film screening at the Loft or in the Price Center Theater for free.

Food and refreshments were provided for the first and last film screening that took place, with all films having time for brief discussion after each were shown. Student leaders from each organization led those discussions, encouraging participants to reflect on the film and explore aspects of identity.

Students responsible for planning the Identity Film Festival met regularly with staff from the Pan Asian Staff Association (PASA) and APIMEDA Programs and Services, which supported with advertising and troubleshooting challenges that arose. All logistics and structure of the event was student-led.

Mixed Student Union

The Mixed Student Union (MSU) hosted a Mixed Empowerment Summit in May 2023. The event was a full day conference that allowed participants to connect with their peers as well as explore topics related to mixed race and mixed ethnic identity. The Mixed Empowerment Summit was also the first large scale event that the 2023-2024 MSU board hosted. The APIMEDA Programs and Operations Coordinator, Brian attended MSU meetings and provided insight in structure and flow for the agenda during the planning phase. Support with check-in set-up and supplies was also provided on the day-of the event.

MSU is still a relatively new student organization, having restarted in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic. The infrastructure of the org is still developing, but MSU also has a Community Advisor, typically held by a staff or faculty from UC San Diego. Jarryd Willis, the long-time Community Advisor transitioned out of his role in Spring 2023 and the Programs and Operations Coordinator for APIMEDA Programs and Services, Brian, served in as the Community Advisor beginning in Spring 2023.

Looking Forward

Directions for Growth

There are many large exciting changes coming for APIMEDA Programs and Services:

- Approval for additions to the undergraduate student staff team, growing from three undergraduates to a total of seven undergraduate student staff.
- Planned to move into the inaugural physical location during the 2023-2024 academic year.
- Expansion of programs connected to the Discovering Your Career Compass workshop.

Expected challenges for APIMEDA Programs and Services for 2023-2024 year are:

- Adjusting to moving into a physical location and an increase in the student staff team.
- Establishing the physical space and environment for the APIMEDA community.
- Developing infrastructure and processes to properly manage the facilities for the office.

Thank you!

Thank you for taking the time to read through the 2022-2023 Year in Review for APIMEDA Programs and Services.

We look forward to continuing to build our programs and services. Please stay connected with APIMEDA Programs and Services! You can subscribe to our weekly electronic newsletter and follow us on social media to learn more about us!

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