



The CHiLeS Times

Volume 1, Issue 2

February 2015

Why We VOTE No!

The ASI Referendum

By: Students of CSULB

Students of CSULB by now you have received emails telling you to Vote Yes on the ASI referendum, but we know there could be other ways to renovate our Union without hurting the future students of this university. We understand that the Union could use some fresh paint, necessary accessibility updates, infrastructure updates, and an upgrade on technological services. However, we also know that students can survive without some luxuries. Now is not the time to change wall colors, it is the time to support students. We cannot afford to lose students solely due to financial burdens brought upon them by ASI. Is there no other option? We are conscious students, we are intelligent, and we know a bad deal when we see one.

First of all, how much has ASI spent in promoting the referendum? What if (and this is just an option) ASI had used all the money they spent on shirts, notebooks, pens, all the signs, banners, wall painted ads, and every advertisement on campus to renovate the Union? ASI should focus on supporting our students, especially students who are struggling. We elected our student officials to help us, not to shoot us in the leg. This should not be about making our Student Union look better; this should be about making a stronger Student Union, where students are more involved in making the decisions. This is why we VOTE NO on the ASI Referendum, because we will not place luxuries over student's succeeding at this university.

February 25 & 26

Ballot will be sent online!

**Vote
NO**



Upcoming Events

Pachuc@ Swing – Dance and Dinner

Friday, February 27th 6:00 – 9:00 pm
Soroptimist House, CSULB

Latin@ Literature Symposium – Featuring writer

Helena Maria Viramontes!
Thursday, March 12th 7:00 pm
University Theatre

Café Cultura – Noche full of spoken word and art!

Wednesday, March 25th 6:00 – 9:00pm
Soroptimist House, CSULB

CHLS Day – Learn more about our major/minor!

Saturday, April 11th (time and location TBA)

Chapel Hill Shooting

May our Muslim brothers and sisters rest in power.

By: Emelyne Camacho

On the evening of February 10th a White American man named Craig Stephen Hicks murdered three North Carolina Muslim students, their names were Deah Barakat, Yusor Mohammad and Razan Mohammad Abu-Salha, the alleged reason for Stephen's attack was over parking spaces in their condominium community in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Mohammad Abu-Salha, the father of Yusor and Razan, states that Hicks visited Yusor and Deah's condominium twice, with a gun on his waist concerning parking spaces. His daughter Yusor was said to express to her father, before her death, that she believed Hicks did not like them due to "who they were."

The reality is that the presence of the Islam community in the United States has never been an unfamiliar topic. It is not a recent faith that stepped into our borders, but was introduced by West African slaves, who populated the southern region of the U.S. An orientalist perspective has been instilled in our country where we separate "them" versus "us" in order to make sense of what is unknown. Anything that does not follow Western tradition is instantaneously questioned.

The separation of "them" and "us" has gone on for hundreds of years to both the Muslim and Latino population, whose communities are (cont. on page 2)

enriched with multiracial people but also have extensive diasporas. Since the times of colonization we were forced to adopt the western religions of Catholicism and Christianity. The western ideas were to civilize our ways of living and throughout time it made us forget our roots. Unlike several indigenous cultures like the Aztecs or the Mayans, Islam is still dominant in various countries. Today we see a rise of Islamophobia that causes us to neglect the truth of a group of brothers and sisters who are unfairly generalized by the actions of less than 1% of jihadist or extremist Muslim groups. Although the Middle East only accounts for only 20% of Muslims all over the world, we deem to believe that the majority of Muslims come from this specific region. The Muslim population is scattered worldwide but the largest numbers come from South Asia. This proves that the word Arab is stigmatized to being Muslim and that unfortunately several western countries have not been able to completely grasp these facts.

Due to the perception of the religion being foreign and uncivilized we have made it, to a certain extent, OK for this hatred to prolong in our country. Without the truth being spoken about Muslims who are our neighbors, classmates, colleagues, coworkers, friends, and family, we are accomplices of the continuation of hate crimes. All lives matter and nobody's life should be taken away or put on the edge over a simple quarrel such as a parking space. How many more deaths does our country have to face to righteously react to these events? When will we begin to see all minority groups in this country as equals?

Elementos de la Tierra

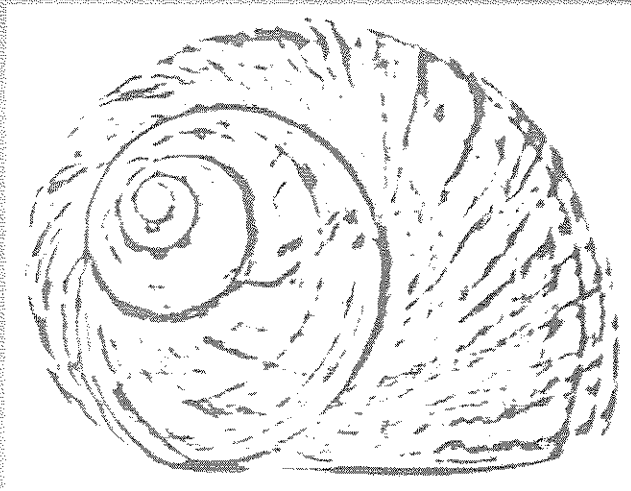
Our Aztec Ancestors believed that each herb and plant had its own purpose, which is why they would use them for medicines. Many of the herbal and plant medicines were used to cure illnesses or pain. One of the many plants they used as a medicine was *Nopal*, which is also known as Prickly Pear Cactus and Indian Fig.

The *Nopal* has a small fuchsia fruit in the top which is called *Tuna*. The *Tuna* was known for having a diuretic effect when it was eaten. *Nopal* was known to help with joint pain and nausea. The cactus leaves were ground and mixed with water and were given to women to help them during childbirth. Many of our ancestors have been using these medicines for thousands of years and in many communities they are still used.



La Concha Del Pueblo

This section is for you. Write a little something for the next person you give it to. A picture, a poem, a grievance, a word, a belief, a feeling, a hope, a desire. This space is for you, speak up!





Chicanismo

What is a Chica-no?

By: R2D2



Chican@. What comes to mind when you first hear this word? Is it similar to what my family thought of the word? Chican@ was a term that was never a proud label in my family. Chican@s were the people that hung out on the corner of my block smoking weed and drinking beer. "Haciendo escandalo," as my abuela said. Those were Chican@s to my family.

The word Chicano is thought to be developed from Mexicano (Meshicano), who were the indigenous people of Mexico before it was colonized. As our vocabulary progressed, so did the term. It went from Mexicano (Meshicano) to Xicano (Shicano) and later the "Sh" turned to "Ch." When I went to community college I joined an organization called M.E.Ch.A., which is where I developed the identity of a Chicano. I've noticed that Chican@ is a term that has various definitions. Chican@ is not just an identity, but an ideology. Chican@ is a brown person who is politically conscience, identifies with their native land, and is willing to take action to protect his or her community of injustices. I have asked a wide range of people what Chican@ means to them and everyone has their own interpretation and this is why I developed my own definition.

For me, it is not enough to just be politically conscious, action must be taken or else the knowledge is useless. Another key point to my definition is community protection. I know it is impossible to protect every single community, but if you try to protect your own community of injustices, whether it is your neighborhood, school, work place, or where you hangout this can make the space safe and welcoming for anyone.

So, are you a Chican@?

Pachuc@ Swing

Pachucismo is a lifestyle.

By: Chuco Luis

Although the Pachuc@ Swing provides a fun way to immerse ourselves in the Pachuca/o culture, it is more than that. With this event we are taking a stand against social stigmas associated with the Pachuca/o image. Pachucos wore their zoot-suits with pride and were proud of who they were in their own skin. The Pachucas/os used the language of *Caló* to represent their Mexican and American identity as one combined culture. The Pachucas/os were not gang members; they were the Chicanas/os that stood up against racism and marginalization of the Mexican and Mexican-American community. If you look into how the *Sleepy Lagoon Trial* portrayed Zoot-Suit Riots of 1943, it is evident that the zoot-suiters were criminalized and made to represent all Mexicans; thus, by association, the Mexican and Mexican-Americans were criminalized, dehumanized and made out to be unpatriotic. The Pachucas/os were not what most mainstream news made them out to be. They were warriors, they were young, and they were examples of the Chicana/o experience in the United States. Just as the Pachucas/os of the 1930s and 1940s wore their zoot-suits proudly, wear your zoot-suits just as proudly! Be proud of your roots and your ancestors. Break the chains of oppression and be a proud but humble leader for your people. QUE VIVAN LOS PACHUCOS Y PACHUCAS!

Pachuc@ Swing



Fecha:

Friday, February
27th 2015

Time:

6pm - 9pm

Lugar:

Soroptimist
House, CSULB

CONTESTS:

- Most Firme Couple
- Most Firme Pachuca
- Most Firme Pachuco
- Best Dancers

Dress To
Impress

40's Style

No Suit
No Swing*



Vendors - Raffles - Food Sale - Contests - Dancing - Music - FREE ENTRANCE

CHICANA/O LATINA/O STUDIES

STUDENT ASSOCIATION

WEEKLY MEETINGS:

IN EL CENTRO (LA5- 351) WEDNESDAYS

@ 12:30 – 1:30 PM

EMAIL: CHLSSA_CSULB@GMAIL.COM

WEBSITE:

CHLSSACSULB.WIX.COM/CHLSSA

FIND US ON



@CHLSSA_CSULB

[FACEBOOK.COM/CHLSSA](https://www.facebook.com/CHLSSA)

EL CENTRO (LA5-351) SPRING HOURS

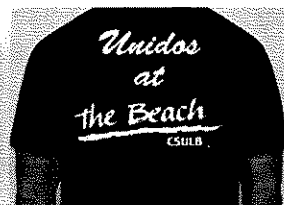
MONDAY 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

TUESDAY 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

WEDNESDAY 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

THURSDAY 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM

Chicano Studies T-Shirts for Sale!



Represent your department with pride!
Come buy a CHLS T-shirt and go to
class with style!

Purchase shirts at El Centro (LA5-351)

***** Coupon *****

\$1.00 OFF

CHLS T-shirt

Expires March 2015; Not valid with other coupons.
One coupon per customer per purchase.

High School Outreach

Taking to High School classrooms what we learn in our CHLS major.

By: *Monica Peralta*

How is the Chican@/Latin@ Student Association implementing its knowledge in the community? During the semester of Fall 2014, we initiated a community engagement activity where we visited high schools and spoke to students about college and Ethnic Studies. Many of our members chose high schools where they previously attended. It was a technique used to establish rapport with the students and to show that an alumni made it to college. We primarily brought awareness of Ethnic Studies and how it is beneficial to take a course while attending college. This spring semester we are looking forward to continuing our outreach.

On February 27th, we are visiting Frank Middle School in the Oxnard School District. The group of students we will be speaking to are 8th graders who will be informed on CSU requirements for admission. We are excited to speak with a younger group of students because we believe that planning and preparing for college is important. Personally I believe that if I had someone from my community visit my classroom and talk about college more of my peers would have gone to college.

Unfortunately, not many students have access to information about college and are unaware of scholarships, federal grants, and other information that students planning to pursue higher education should be aware of. It is crucial that as a community and college students we aid and contribute our time to make a difference.

If you are interested in participating in our High School outreaches, please come to El Centro and talk to us, or send us an Email.

We are more than happy to have you on our team!

Email: chlssa.csulb@gmail.com

*Call out for Café Cultural Artistas!
CHLSSA is looking for student performers to come and share with us their música, poesía, teatro, or just bring anything you've got! Email us if you are interested!*



***Please DO NOT throw away...
recycle by passing it on to
someone else!!***