

Dylan Winward

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EDUCATION

University of California, Los Angeles

- Candidate for Bachelor of Science in Statistics and Data Science
- Candidate for Bachelor of Arts in English Literature

Los Angeles, California
Expected Graduation June 2026

Harrow School

- Academic Scholar, Prefect responsible for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
- Editor of 'The Harrovian', a 193-year-old 20-page weekly student newspaper

London, United Kingdom
Graduated June 2022

EXPERIENCE

The Daily Bruin

News Editor

- Led coverage of the UCLA Palestine solidarity encampment, appearing on CNN, the BBC and NBC
- Ensured the paper consistently hit print targets of publishing 15 stories a week
- Coordinated with other departments about investigations, art requests and filing public records requests

Los Angeles, California
May 2024-Present

Features and Student Life Editor

- Responsible for managing over 15 writer to ensure content is filled for three print issues each week
- Oversaw coverage of on-campus news events, including protests relating to the ongoing Israel-Hamas war
- California College Media Association award for Best Feature – 2023

May 2023-May 2024

News Reporter

- Wrote over 100 stories, including about the LA Metro expansion and student government elections

October 2022-Present

The Daily Dot

Public Records Intern

- Filed over 200 public records requests across over 40 states, requesting information from the government
- Wrote 4 stories based on public records, including an exclusive on a Minneapolis Schools cyberattack

San Francisco, California
June 2023-September 2023

Kinnu

Paid Content Editorial Intern

- Managed over 30 freelance writers, editing 20,000-word courses for clarity, accuracy, and suitability
- Wrote 20,000-word educational courses on rhetoric, the Ottoman Empire and Web3

London, United Kingdom
June 2022-April 2023

The John Lyon Foundation

Head of School Fundraising

- Organized a charitable 10km run which raised over \$250,000 for local youth charities

London, United Kingdom
September 2021-June 2022

Adventures in Writing Summer Camps

Adventure Guide (Camp Counselor)

- Teaching assistant for Creative Writing lessons, with counselor responsibility for thirty 11-year-olds

Burlingame, California
July 2019

EXTRA-CURRICULARS

UCLA Debate Union, *First Team Member*

- Selected for a 4-person UCLA Debate Team to attend the US University Debating Championship in 2022
- Ranked as 3rd best freshman debater in the country at the Novice Nationals Debating Competition in 2023
- Coached the 3rd best elementary school debate team in the country in the Public Debate Program in 2023

September 2022-Present

Data Science Union at UCLA, *Data Analyst*

- Participated in an accelerated data science course on data cleaning, machine learning and visualization
- Served as project lead for an investigation on artificial intelligence in journalistic writing
- Worked as a user analytics analyst on a client consulting team for a social media startup
- Selected as part of an incoming class with a 10% selection rate

September 2022-Present

Selected Clips

Please click on each headline to be taken to the full text of the story and to see the art associated with it. See below for a description of each piece.

1. [In Plain Sight: As students sleep, UCLA bakeries turn on the ovens](#) – This feature story was written after I negotiated behind the scenes access to university bakeries. To source the story, we interviewed bakers within the bakery starting at 4 a.m. and students who ate the bakery's product later in the morning. The piece was published with award winning art online and promoted through the Daily Bruin's social media platforms. It received the best feature award at the California College Media Association awards for 2023.
2. [43 individuals arrested in Parking Structure 2 before pro-Palestine sit-in, rally](#) – This breaking news story was written after students attempted to host a sit-in supporting Palestine in Moore Hall, an on-campus academic building. The story was published at 8:53 a.m. on the day of the arrests, a couple of hours after the group first arrived at the university's academic campus. As part of sourcing the breaking news story, we spoke to members of the Faculty for Justice in Palestine, a media representative of Students for Justice in Palestine and a representative of the university. We also made a conscious decision to highlight the harassment a reporter faced while contributing reports to this piece.
3. [Pro-Palestine encampment features teach-ins, speeches as counter-protesters engage](#) – Following the onset of the Palestine solidarity encampment at UCLA, the Daily Bruin posted reporters watching the encampment around the clock, a process I was in charge of coordinating. As part of our ongoing coverage, we sourced both protesters and counter-protesters about their ongoing encampment. This was important because of competing characterizations of the protest's activity that ensued in the days after this piece was published. Later, our ongoing coverage was cited by other mainstream national news outlets to show what had happened during the encampment.
4. [Pi Kappa Phi fraternity to return to UCLA following disbanding](#) – A fraternity, which had previously been disbanded following racist and sexist commentary, returned to UCLA's campus. We found out about it and sourced the people attempting to resurrect the fraternity, some of whom did not know about its past. In doing so, we scooped other news outlets to report on an aspect of Greek life on campus.

In Plain Sight: As students sleep, UCLA bakeries turn on the ovens

By Dylan Winward | UCLA Daily Bruin | Nov 16, 2023 | [Article Link](#)

At 4 a.m. every day, the Hill is silent as undergraduates sleep in preparation for the next day of classes and exams – but underneath De Neve Commons, a machine carefully squeezes out dough, molded into a sandwich baguette and ready for the oven.

This baguette will become one of 21,000 made at UCLA’s bakery every week.

UCLA’s two bakeries, located in De Neve Commons and The Study at Hedrick, are responsible for baking almost all the pastries, desert and bread for dining halls on the Hill and Plateia, – the restaurant at the Meyer and Renee Luskin Conference Center, according to [the Office of the Administrative Vice Chancellor](#). The bakeries employ 33 staff members, with the bakeries spending 182 hours working each week.

Executive pastry chef Richard Ruskell said much of the work behind the baked goods starts at 3 a.m., when the first workers arrive for their shift. The early start is required because much of the bread students eat is baked the same day in an effort to provide fresh food, he said.

The bakery also needs to prepare some items, such as pizza crusts and hamburger buns, in bulk before the chefs who prepare savory foods start their shifts at UCLA’s dining halls, Ruskell added.

“Baking and pastry has to happen early in the morning because breakfast pastries have to get done, and because baking actually takes longer than cooking does,” he said. “We have to start sooner so that everything is done at the same time as the savory stuff.”

Having an in-house bakery can help the university cater for students in a more affordable manner, Ruskell said, adding that the vast majority of baked goods at UCLA are baked on-site.

Edmund Yau, a third-year electrical engineering student, said he was amazed to find out how much bread is baked on the Hill. Yau, who lived in the university-owned apartments last year, added that one of his favorite aspects of moving on campus has been enjoying the fresh food from UCLA's dining halls.

“I think that it's pretty amazing that we get to eat fresh food every day,” he said. “Fresh food every day is pretty nice compared to what I was eating last year.”

Dominic Gage, a first-year materials engineering student, added that although he was not surprised to learn that the bread he was eating was baked on the Hill, he appreciates the way UCLA prioritizes freshness in the baked goods it serves to students.

One of the most popular items made by the bakery is the cookies, with a dedicated chef making 21,000 of them every week. The bakery also features a specific machine that makes doughnuts for the De Neve Dining Hall.

Ruskell, who previously worked in catering for luxury hotels, said he felt overwhelmed when he first moved to UCLA because of the quantity of food the university gets through. Each week, the bakery uses 12,500 pounds of flour, 450 pounds of sugar and more than 300 pounds of chocolate.

Larena Faretta, a baker at UCLA's artisan bakery located in The Study, said she started working at the university 13 years ago after graduating from culinary school Le Cordon Bleu, baking as part of a day shift creating brownies, cakes and cookies. The artisan bakery, where she now works, is responsible for making items such as rye breads and sourdoughs.

Faretta said she starts every morning by preparing dough with the goal of having it ready to be cut by 6:30 a.m. That job can be high-pressure at times, particularly in the winter when dough rises more slowly, she said.

The winter also poses seasonal menu challenges for the bakery, Ruskell said, adding that many students no longer want to eat pumpkin-themed food after Thanksgiving, instead preferring heavier items. Dining hall menus are changed throughout the year to accommodate seasonal preferences, he said.

Another key challenge the bakery faces is creating items that match the theme of all of UCLA's dining halls, from the Asian-inspired Feast at Rieber to the Mediterranean-themed Epicuria at Covell – something which required extensive research, Ruskell added.

Faretta said while she enjoys her work, getting to work early each morning at 3 a.m. has affected her life outside of the bakery.

“It’s hard,” she said. “The first thing is you have to have coffee in the morning. And then getting to bed early is hard, and usually on your days off, it’s hard to stay up late, because you’re so conditioned to going to bed no later than 8 o’clock.”

However, Faretta also said one benefit of waking up so early is the lack of traffic on the commute from her home in Santa Clarita. She added that when she first started working the early shift, getting home early helped her to see her children in the afternoons.

Ruskell added that some of the bakery’s work patterns are also unusual relative to the baking industry at large. While most bakeries and restaurants prepare for higher demand over the weekends, UCLA’s bakery actually sees decreased orders because some students go home.

“We’re kind of the opposite of the public sector there, because most restaurants, they gear up for the weekend. That’s when they’re the busiest,” he said. “We, on the other hand, are not as busy on the weekend.”

The bakery also provides food for the Luskin Conference Center and for catered events on campus, including during the holidays. However, Ruskell said his team is trying to find ways to

give staff time off over Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's, something which has not been possible in recent years.

The bakery has also seen a number of other changes since Ruskell first joined the university, including moving into a larger space and opening the artisan annex. Faretta said one of her favorite memories of being at UCLA is when the university renovated the kitchen to create a bigger space.

“When I first started, we were (in) a tiny little room in De Neve Hall,” she said. “The bakery runs basically 24/7, and so it was just this constant flow of people in and out and just trying to stay out of everybody's way while you're trying to get your stuff done.”

Ruskell said he has always enjoyed baking bread and cakes, adding that he feels the work his bakery does is key to UCLA's reputation of having some of the best university food in the country.

“We are consistently voted the No. 1 food service for public universities in the country,” he said. “To tell people that we have our own in-house bakery is a feather in our cap.”

43 individuals arrested in Parking Structure 2 before pro-Palestine sit-in, rally

By Dylan Winward | UCLA Daily Bruin | May 6, 2024 | [Article Link](#)

For the Daily Bruin's full coverage on the UC Divest Coalition and Students for Justice in Palestine at UCLA encampment, see [here](#).

Police arrested 43 people, including students, Monday morning in Parking Structure 2, after calls for a sit-in at Moore Hall.

UCPD Patrol Division Lieutenant Richard Davis said individuals in the parking garage were initially stopped for potential curfew violations, which apply to non-faculty, students and staff. However, Davis then said they were charged with conspiracy to commit burglary – a misdemeanor.

Davis added that students were initially accused of a curfew violation after they refused to show identification proving they were students.

In a post on Instagram early Monday morning, Students for Justice in Palestine at UCLA called for a sit-in in Moore Hall at 7 a.m. and advised participants to arrive at the building in groups. The sit-in follows the Palestine solidarity encampment in Dickson Plaza – which had been in place from April 25 until it was forcibly swept by police Thursday.

Protesters were detained in Parking Structure 2 at some point between 6 a.m. and 8 a.m.

Individuals were loaded onto an LA County Sheriff Department prisoner transport bus and were taken to the Inmate Reception Center around 10 a.m., authorities said.

The university police department also announced that Moore Hall was closed as of around 8 a.m. Other buildings in the area, including Knudsen Hall, were locked around that hour. The university then confirmed in a BruinAlert sent shortly after 8:30 a.m. that classes normally scheduled to be held in the building would be remote for the day.

The nearly 50 protesters in Moore Hall then moved to Dodd Hall shortly before 8:30 a.m.

In an Instagram Live, a representative of SJP called out law enforcement for having detained the protesters. They also made reference to an imminent [Israeli-led invasion of Rafah](#), a city in the southern Gaza Strip, and ongoing detentions of Palestinian people in Gaza.

“The people of Palestine don’t have time,” the speaker said on Instagram Live. “This is urgent. ... We cannot stop here.”

At around 8:30 a.m., police officers moved the speaker recording the Instagram Live to a position where they could not see into the parking lot where individuals were detained.

Mohammad, a media liaison for SJP, who was granted partial anonymity for safety reasons, said the Monday morning protest was designed to disrupt university operations, including classes. Protesters also interrupted a midterm exam in Dodd Hall.

“We are still here to raise awareness for Gaza. We held a sit-in at Moore Hall in order to show that we’re still here,” Mohammad said. “We’re continuously trying to center the voices of the people in Gaza despite the violence that has been enacted on us.”

SJP is planning to disrupt the university’s finances, including through strikes, Mohammad said.

“We are truly sticking to the idea of no business as usual,” they said.

Graeme Blair, an associate professor of political science and member of Faculty for Justice in Palestine, said in a statement sent over text message that he was calling on the university to release protesters on-site rather than transporting them to off-campus locations.

“UCLA students have been detained unjustly on campus this morning,” he said. “We demand their immediate release, unconditionally.”

Bharat Venkat, an associate professor at the Institute for Society and Genetics, as well as of anthropology and history, said he arrived at Parking Structure 2 to support students he believed were wrongly detained.

Venkat added that he believes it is unclear why protesters were detained and under what charges.

“No one will talk to us,” Venkat said. “They won’t let us anywhere near the scene. And this is, again, the third instance of intense brutality that UCLA’s leadership has allowed to happen to our students.”

Mohammad also said SJP is calling for amnesty for student protesters and for the university to pay the medical bills of students who were injured in both [the attack](#) on the Palestine solidarity encampment Tuesday night and Wednesday morning and the [police dispersal](#) of the encampment Thursday.

The speaker narrating the Instagram Live also continuously verbally harassed a Daily Bruin reporter present at the scene. The speaker had previously been responsible for [discriminatory comments](#) about the physical appearance of Jewish people at a rally earlier in the year.

“If they write about me, I’m calling it racist,” the speaker said on Instagram Live.

After leaving Moore Hall and Dodd Hall, individuals congregated in Bruin Plaza at around 9 a.m. to hear speeches from pro-Palestine protesters. In the plaza, students chanted phrases including, “Disclose, divest, we will not stop, we will not rest,” and “Free, free Palestine.”

“You can’t arrest a movement. You can’t arrest liberation. You can’t arrest a mass of people that are willing to fight and continue to fight to raise awareness for the people in Gaza and the genocide that has been going on for 212 days,” they said.

Contributing reports by Anna Dai-Liu, Catherine Hamilton and Sharla Steinman, Daily Bruin staff.

Pro-Palestine encampment features teach-ins, speeches as counter-protesters engage

By Dylan Winward | UCLA Daily Bruin | April 25, 2024 | [Article Link](#)

Organizers led chants and speeches in Dickson Plaza on Thursday afternoon as the protest encampment continued and counter-protests formed.

Members of the UC Divest Coalition and Students for Justice in Palestine at UCLA first raised tents outside Royce Hall early Thursday morning, inspired by [similar protests at college campuses nationwide](#). As the number of protesters increased to around 400, more tents were set up with wooden barricades drilled together around the encampment.

[Related: [UCLA community organizes encampment in response to national call for escalation](#)]

Protesters used trumpets, drums and sound systems to amplify their chanting.

As part of their afternoon programming, members of UC Divest gave speeches demanding the University divest from companies associated with the Israeli military. Protesters chanted phrases including, “From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free,” “Free the people, free the land, justice is our demand,” and “UC, UC, you can’t hide, we charge you with genocide.”

Benjamin Kersten, an organizer with Jewish Voice for Peace at UCLA and an art history doctoral candidate, said the event’s programming aimed to educate people about what has happened in the Gaza Strip, with protesters advertising teach-ins inside the encampment.

“This is a public university that preaches the importance of education, and yet, topics like Palestine are not taught,” he said. “A lot of the programming shows that people here are taking

their education into their hands and learning what it means to teach each other and enact activist values.”

A number of faculty members supporting the protesters came to Dickson Plaza, including Chris Zepeda-Millan, the chair of the Department of Labor Studies, who emailed labor studies students and staff to express support for the protest.

Marie Salem, a graduate student in the Fielding School of Public Health, said she decided to attend the protest to be with other people who want the UC to divest from companies associated with Israel. Attending protests is important for university students because of the ways that their learning can be academically applied to the ongoing conflict in the Gaza Strip, Salem said.

Salem also said event organizers were planning artistic activities and interfaith community sharing circles to embrace the diversity of their movement. Kersten said JVP will host a Passover Seder, and they added that the organization is considering planning a Shabbat dinner within the encampment.

“One thing that sometimes gets said is, ‘Palestine is about a religious conflict.’ That’s not true. That just flies in the face of history,” he said.

Salem added that even though American university protests have received significant news coverage, the focus should remain on the Gaza Strip.

Media at the event were prevented from going inside the encampment by individuals claiming to act in the interest of student safety. Kersten said the decision to ban media from entering was taken because of mistrust of news media and because students at other universities have faced [repercussions for participating](#) in recent protests.

UCLA Media Relations refused to respond to requests for comment about UCLA's plans to police or manage the protest, pointing instead to a brief statement made earlier by Mary Osako, the vice chancellor of strategic communications.

Around 15 counter-protesters supporting Israel also attended the event, waving Israeli flags and shouting "Free the hostages" through a megaphone.

The counter-protesters also shouted phrases accusing Hamas – a militant organization and Palestinian political party – of oppressing women and members of the LGBTQ+ community.

Around noon, Hillel at UCLA posted on Instagram, offering [free "Bruins for Israel" T-shirts](#) and encouraging [students](#) to avoid walking past the quad near Royce Hall if they didn't want to do so.

Eli Tsives, a first-year theater student, said he attended the event wearing an Israeli flag to show that students supporting Israel are not afraid. He added that he believed some chants at the event, including calls for an "intifada," were antisemitic.

When asked about the counter-protesters, Kersten said the encampment was focused on the UC's divestment from Israel rather than engaging with people who have differing viewpoints. Salem added that participants in the encampment were instructed not to engage with people who disagreed with them.

"Do not engage with counter-protesters," she said. "We worry about ourselves, our own community, our goals. We know what we want, and we don't engage."

Pi Kappa Phi fraternity to return to UCLA following disbanding

By Dylan Winward | UCLA Daily Bruin | November 30, 2023 | [Article Link](#)

Editor's note: This article contains strong language that The Bruin decided was necessary to demonstrate the severity of comments members made before the fraternity was dissolved.

Former UCLA fraternity Pi Kappa Phi is returning to campus after a several-year-long absence.

Pi Kappa Phi, which previously had a UCLA chapter for 25 years, announced its return to campus in a university-wide email. The fraternity was dissolved after low recruitment, following leaked meeting minutes that revealed misogynistic and racist behavior at chapter meetings.

Paul Kula, a professional staffer for the national fraternity, said he was sent to the UCLA campus to recruit new members for the fraternity and teach them about fraternity management.

“We’re just excited to be on campus,” he said. “We’re excited to make a difference on campus, and we hope that our guys are going to be gentlemen and they’re going to make a difference.”

The fraternity plans on recruiting new members in the winter through one-on-one interviews, during which Pi Kappa Phi candidates will be assessed based on their academic records, ambitions and leadership credentials, Kula said. He added that there are no specific processes in place for ensuring diversity in the fraternity’s recruitment.

Ashmit Bhattacharyya, a second-year business economics student, said he first joined the fraternity after a staffer for the national fraternity reached out to him via text message. He added that joining Pi Kappa Phi appealed to him because it provides a chance to serve in a leadership role faster than would be the case in an already established fraternity.

Joseph Read, a first-year linguistics and computer science student, said he joined Pi Kappa Phi because he wanted to receive a fraternity experience without the time commitment required to

join an already established fraternity. The fraternity's recruitment team intends to recruit potential new members without the use of hazing, he said.

The chance to make new decisions about the fraternity's membership, social calendar and philanthropic activities from the ground up was also appealing, Bhattacharyya said.

"We want to have a strong membership base of solid guys, respectful guys, (to) be known across campus as a group of guys who are down to do pretty much anything," he said.

Bhattacharyya also said recruitment is important so that the fraternity can receive enough membership dues to obtain a fraternity house, adding that the lack of a house will be one challenge for their recruitment. Forty members will be needed for the chapter to obtain a house, Read said.

Read also said he views the fraternity as a clean slate, adding that he wants the fraternity to have a good reputation when it comes to women's safety in the fraternity.

"There's a stigma about Greek life, and there's reputations for fraternities. And the fact that this doesn't exist here gives me the control to build what our group will be, and what we're known for, and what we do, and what kind of guys are part of it," he said. "That's control you wouldn't have otherwise."

Although Kula did not share the exact reasons why the old fraternity was shut down, the closure followed leaked fraternity meeting minutes that contained racist and misogynistic remarks. The minutes, which come from 2013, listed instructions about how to interact with women at a party, directing members of the fraternity to encourage girls to drink and increase physical contact with them.

The leaked minutes were published as part of a 2016 Daily Bruin article.

[Related: [Records reveal Pi Kappa Phi members made racist statements in 2013](#)]

As The Bruin reported in 2016, the meeting minutes also included remarks such as, “Why do Mexicans refry their beans? Have you ever seen them do it right the first time?” and, “We’re learning something about Afghanistan. Something something something terrorists.”

Bhattacharyya said the professional staffers sent to recruit founding members of the team did not provide detailed information about the former chapter’s closure. However, he said the current group of founding members does not condone racism or misogyny.

“The background we have is just that the recruitment was bad, and the people that were running the old chapter didn’t really know what they were doing, and they had to shut down,”

Bhattacharyya said. “I don’t think they’ve mentioned that (the allegations) explicitly because I think they view this to be a fresh slate of guys.”

Despite concerns about the chapter’s history, Kula also said the national fraternity intends to reach out to alumni from the UCLA chapter to carry on traditions from the old chapter. He added that honoring the alumni of the fraternity was important to Pi Kappa Phi.

In order to ensure incidents similar to the ones in the past do not happen again, Bhattacharyya said the fraternity will elect a standards board to discipline members who break Pi Kappa Phi rules.

“We’re going to take the adequate precautions to make sure everybody involved feels safe, and everyone involved in the recruitment process feels equally included,” he said.

Read added that fraternity members also had to complete online training modules regarding Title IX provisions. The new leadership team will also fly out to Dallas for an off-site training weekend about fraternity regulations, he said.

Read also said he was hoping the re-foundation of the fraternity at UCLA, which will receive its charter from the national fraternity in the spring, would be able to create its own reputation from a blank slate.

“We don’t know what reputation they had when they left,” he said. “It’s been long enough that we’re just trying to start fresh.”

Contributing reports by Catherine Hamilton, News editor.