



RSS NEWSLETTER

UCLA WINTER '09 EDITION

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The President's Message

Attention! Company, halt! Identify yourself, private. Sir! Private Jon Kang here reporting for duty, sir! Private, state your purpose. Sir, my sole purpose is to make the Regents Scholar Society the best it can be, sir! Very well. At ease soldier. You may resume business as usual... Thank you sir!

Okay RSS, so after that kind of an introduction, you might be wondering, "What was the purpose of all that?" I'll tell you. It wasn't just to get your attention (although I hope I did); rather, I wanted to demonstrate to you how serious I was about my goals for RSS this upcoming quarter. I see it like I'm going to war against the forces that oppose RSS and everything else that is good in this world. I'm approaching this quarter with a militant mindset, and I won't be taking "no" for an answer. RSS is too strong a group, too great an organization to settle for anything short of victory in terms of its growth and development into "a valuable resource for its members, campus, and community."

As I look back on last quarter, I can't help but feel that although a lot was accomplished, there are still many stones that have yet to be overturned. In the hubbub that is always first quarter, I felt like our lines of communication were hazy at times and that the leadership and the troops (you guys) were not always on the same page. Attendance at some of our functions and meetings were down from last year, and the zeal that normally accompanies RSS, especially from the freshman class, was comparatively not there. However, all hope is not lost!

Winter quarter is upon us and there is no better time for reinforcements than now! That's why I feel compelled to encourage everyone (freshmen, sophomores, juniors, seniors, and transfers alike) that it is not too late! In fact, now is the perfect time to get active and involved in RSS, and I'll tell you why. First quarter is often an overwhelming one in which everyone is trying to settle down and figure out what college is going to be like that year—getting used to routines, understanding workloads, pacing schedules, etc. Now that you have a feel for this year, you can more effectively get involved in RSS. You have gifts and talents that RSS can put to good use. This year is going to be a historic year for RSS as our LAMP program really begins to take ground and as our society as a whole heads in a new direction by trying to become its own non-profit entity. The alumni network, which can be useful to you in the future in helping you secure contacts in the professional world, still needs a lot of work and is sure to transform over the course of this year. But none of this can happen without your help. We need you guys. I need you guys. The state of this RSS nation rests in your hands...

Okay, so maybe that was a little dramatic. But seriously! I want to see all of you involved this quarter! Let's really band together and make RSS the best it can be. Remember, "Be the change you seek in this world." Or for us, "Be the change you seek in RSS!"



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Internal Vice President



Hana Lim

Hope Fall Quarter went by smoothly and you are excited about Winter Quarter. In the past quarter, the members of the IVP/Publicity Committee have worked hard on making the Winter Retreat a success. The location was set for Idyllwild, a mountainous area about 2-3 hours away from UCLA. The committee members organized the rides, food, games, and festivities for the trip. Pictures and other retreat information will be published in the Spring Newsletter. The members have also been working on creating this Winter Newsletter for your enjoyment.

In the upcoming Winter Quarter, we will be busy working on arranging the End-of-the-Year banquet. Although the end of the year seems far from now, it is amazing how quickly the year goes by. The committee will work on finding a location, picking out the food, organizing games and skits, as well as creating the decorations to match a theme. In order to make the banquet organized and fun we need many members to help out. Come out and join our committee as we create backdrops, taste test different restaurant menus, and just get to know each other to build friendships! New members are always welcome.

External Vice President



Kevin Ro

Congratulations to everyone on finishing exams! I am sure all you Regents Scholars performed exceedingly well. In fact, I believe one of you guys informed me that you were the top performer in your computer science class. Amazing...

Anyway, if you forgot who I am, my name is Kevin Ro and I am a third year MCDB major. This past quarter, William Lou and I tried to obtain several different prestigious speakers. Unfortunately, we were not able to get one due to scheduling conflicts. Next quarter

we plan to try and contact more speakers and luncheon guests. If you would like to get involved, please come help contact speakers!

Finally, I want to urge everyone to get more involved in RSS. By attending various events and general meetings, you will have the opportunity to meet the diverse scholars that make up RSS. Joining committees such as our external affairs committee will allow you to help out RSS and may serve as avenues to greater leadership roles on eboard in the years to come. If you have any questions at all, feel free to email me at evp@rssl.org.

Publicity Chair



Lan Tran

Lan here – I'm a third year biochemistry major interested in pharmacy and drug development. I'm quite honored to be serving as your Publicity Director this year! Thanks to all of you keeping up with Events on Facebook - I promise there will be many more messages to come in your inbox.

But if you're longing for an old-fashioned way of communication, keep an eye out for our restored signboards on Bruinwalk and in the MS Building corridor. They'll be updated weekly with info on our exciting Winter Quarter events.

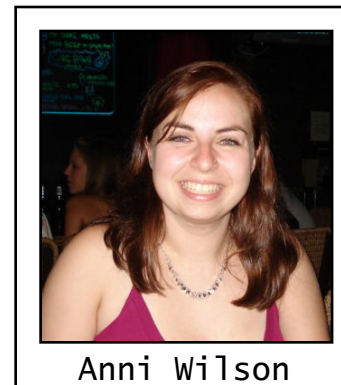
Also, don't forget that I still have a variety of gear for sale. There are a few classic navy RSS polos available in sizes M and L, and our ever-popular RSS feed shirts are available in sizes S, M, and L. We are, however, running low on our toothpick holders, so to all connoisseurs out there, come and get 'em! If any of these products interest you, just shoot me an email at publicity@rssl.org or find me after the general meetings. There are plans, however, to produce new RSS gear, and I'd like you to be part of the design process. Stay tuned this quarter for more details - and keep checking Facebook!

Secretary

Hey RSS! I hope you're coming back from winter break ready for more events, more fun, and more chances to see the rest of this great society. Last quarter, the rest of e-board and myself worked hard to organize some great events and I was happy to see some great attendance. Michele and I (who am I kidding... mostly Michele!) put together one of the first attempts at reaching out to RSS at other

campuses in the UC game night.

Next quarter, I hope to have lots more opportunities to keep our society strong by helping to organize and come out to more events to keep our own members close, and keeping them close... past first year! So stick around for winter quarter, RSS... I promise it's going to be a good one!



Anni Wilson

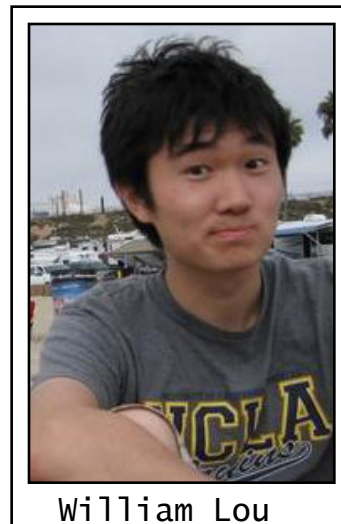
Educational Programs Director

Hey all! I hope you guys all had a blast over break. Here's your update at the EPD end!

Last quarter, our committee held two events, both of which turned out to be great successes. Our traditional dorm dinner with medical students from the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA took place towards the middle of the quarter and had attendees from RSS and a variety of other campus organizations. We had a turnout of over fifty people, with twenty medical students donating their precious time to us. Later in the quarter, we

also had Professor Kamei speak about the fledgling field of bioengineering, which had a turnout of about thirty people and was also a tremendous success. Again, thanks to all those who came out and especially to those who helped out!

This quarter, we'll be looking to work with other campus organizations in holding events that will draw greater audiences by centering on interesting and engaging topics. Things are still getting put together, so get ready for updates in the coming weeks!



William Lou

Activities Director

hey everyone :) this is stacy hu, still second-year molecular, cell, and developmental biology student, and still your activities director. fall has gone by way too quickly for me it seemed that one second everyone was at the zero-week barbecue making jon kang replicas and the next i was taking my physics final. a lot of rss kids (and a non-rss kid) also showed up to the fall quarter bonfire on week 7, and i thankfully didn't receive a parking ticket (darn those parking people!).

so sadly, i didn't get to hold as many events in the fall because of yearbook, so i'm planning to make the winter explode with activities. the second week we come back,

current rss members, alumni and their friends are going to the pantages theater to see the phantom of the opera. my committee, consisting of anisha and me, are also planning to hold a flashmob, so be on the lookout for that. if you guys have any other ideas, like karaoke night, korean barbecue outings, or trips to the movies, let me know through email. i am, as i have stated before, an email fiend – i check my email 50 times a day on average (neither exaggerating nor lying), so email me anytime at activities@rssla.org and i will be glad to get back to you.

love & have a happy winter quarter.



Stacy Hu

Treasurer



Eric Chan

Fall quarter went by quickly, at least in my opinion, but alas here's to another new quarter of RSS goodness. First, I would like to thank all of you first, second, third, and fourth years as well as a few alumni for coming out to Chili's not just for our banquet, but also for raising money for RSS! Also, to all the people who went to the America's Funniest Home Videos taping, thank you for coming out. We raised \$120 that day and I'm sure all of you laughed your pants off.

For this upcoming quarter, I will be organizing another fundraiser food night at one of the local restaurants so that we can also have another bonding dinner with all of our RSS members. Additionally, there will be more TV tapings with America's Funniest Home Videos and sitcoms such as Big Bang Theory. I hope you all enjoyed your break, and welcome to winter quarter!

Corporate Relations Director



Brannon Altenhofen

Hello again, fellow RSS-ers! I hope you all had a wonderful vacation and are well-rested, well-nourished, and ready to get back into the swing of all things academic and social. And what better way is there to accomplish BOTH than to get involved with all your fellow Regents Scholars! Now more than ever is the best time to get involved with RSS, for we are undergoing an amazing transition this quarter that is truly going to make this the best year for the Society.

It is with great enthusiasm that I am now able to say: The Regents Scholar Society at UCLA is now a non-profit organization!! This is a historic landmark for the Society, as it marks the completion of a goal set out years ago. However, it also marks the beginning of a new role for our Society in the world at large. Once our Society secures our tax-exempt status from the government, we will have a fiscal responsibility to look beyond ourselves and contribute to the charitable and educational mission that our Society has always strived to achieve. You will be hearing A LOT about this at future meetings and bulletins, so I won't go in-depth about how this may affect our future activities and fundraising (ultimately, all for the better, however!) However, I will once

again enunciate: now is the most pivotal time for your active involvement. The strength of our Society—its capacity to use its human resources (that is, all of your AMAZING innovative skills), and its sustainability as a legal non-profit corporation—is inextricably linked to its members. Without you, our Society is nothing but list of those that received a (very generous) scholarship package; it speaks nothing of your talents and desires to involve yourselves in the world.

RSS has now embraced the world by becoming a non-profit. Now is the time to embrace RSS. Help the world. Transitive property. =]

Ever dream of becoming an entrepreneur? Starting your own charity or foundation? Gain valuable experience by joining the Funding Committee! We will be covering tax-codes and IRS forms/applications for 501(3)c tax-exempt status this quarter. IT'S LIKE AN INTERNSHIP WITHOUT THE OBNOXIOUS BOSS ASKING FOR COFFEE! If you wish to become involved, contact your Corporate Relations Director: crd@rssla.org

Outreach Director

Hello RSS! It's been a great fall quarter, what with our first short-term outreach project, lots of Outreach meetings to plan future projects, and of course our Overnight Stay Program interest meetings! First off, I'm so happy with our first Outreach project: we put on a panel discussion for 11th grade high school students from University High School where we talked about our majors and answered questions about UCLA. It was ridiculously fun and a big hit with the kids- so don't be surprised if you meet future UCLA students who really want to be mechanical engineers and political science majors! The Overnight Stay Program interest meetings were also great fun—again, we'll be doing more recruitment for hosts and mentors for potential Regents Scholars, so be sure to come out and join us in the mayhem.

This coming quarter, we are planning all kinds of cool events like a day where we volunteer at a food bank and a day where we donate blood! I hope everyone went out to donate to the UCLA-USC rivalry drive in November—I studied abroad in Costa Rica this past summer and unfortunately my donation was rejected because I had been to an area with malaria. At any rate, blood banks always need donations, and patients do best on blood from young, healthy donors, so I hope you come out—you could save three lives with your donation and get a free movie ticket to boot. Have a great Winter Quarter everyone, and don't forget to submit your applications to me if you want to be an OSP Coordinator!



Alli Wong

Communications Director

During Fall Quarter, the Communications Committee was busy planning the renovation of the RSS website. With the push in RSS for better connections among entering members, upperclassmen, and alumni, the current website isn't quite up to the job. Therefore, the goal is to make the website into a more powerful tool that can meet this need. This coming quarter will involve a big push to prepare such a website.

Please don't forget to keep checking the current website. The list of upcoming events will be well stocked, and RSS Walk will continue to be a valuable resource. Browse the

list of textbooks that are for sale by fellow Regents Scholars (www.rssla.org/textbooks) so that you can find deals on the books you'll need for your courses this quarter.

If you have thoughts about how the new RSS website should look or function, or you are just interested in helping out with tasks on the Communications Committee, I encourage you to contact me at communications@rssla.org. No prior experience with websites is necessary, just a desire to learn and help.



Edward Lau

Check out the RSS Walk which connects you with other students who have taken your classes and includes a Textbook Exchange. It also has a listing of RSS events and don't forget to submit pictures.

L.A.M.P. (L.A. Mentorship Program)



Nisha Kashyap

It's been a busy quarter for LAMP. We selected our new tutors, who joined our returners, to bring our total to twenty-nine Mentor/Tutors (MTs). We held two training sessions and two make-up sessions, for both AVID One-on-One and SAT, during which tutors learned about the program, their responsibilities, and techniques for effective tutoring. We have a group of MTs who have already begun tutoring one-on-one in the classroom and the remaining tutors will begin in January. In addition, we held a seven-week SAT class taught by returning tutors aimed at helping seniors who were taking the December SAT. We also assisted seniors with their personal statements, proofread essays and provided guidance and feedback in person and via email. Last but not least, we held two workshops: one about the college application process and one about the personal statement portion of the application.

During winter quarter, our remaining one-on-one MTs will begin tutoring in the classroom and our SAT tutors will begin teaching classes for juniors. In addition, we have been asked to hold another personal statement workshop for juniors and a FAFSA/Scholarships workshop for seniors seeking financial aid. As always, we are looking for non Mentor-Tutors to help us put on these workshops so please contact Nisha if you are interested. Finally, we are planning to hold an extra-curricular event using hip-hop and break dance to empower and motivate the students we tutor. If any of this sounds like something you would like to be a part of, don't hesitate to contact Nisha or come out to a LAMP meeting and find out how you can get involved.

Alumni Relations and UC Liason



Michele Wang

By golly, it's 2009 already! The first quarter of the school year passed by in a whirlwind of events, and I'd like to thank everyone who came out and helped make them successful! Special thanks to Alice Lin, Julia Liu, and alumni RSSers Benjamin Chiang, Lindsay Henson, Elizabeth Kim, and Yusef Shafi, who made our "Taking Care of Business" Workshop possible in October—we hope all who attended left with a more enlightened view of what the business field can offer you. We also held the first ever Inter-UC Online Party with UC Berkeley and UC Davis, kicking off what looks to be an exciting series of events throughout

the year with other UC campuses. With only two quarters left in the year, it's time to get a couple of new Scholar Networking programs off of the ground!

BANG! (It's what we're starting the year off with.) I seek to create a more tightly-knit network of RSSers who mentor and offer each other advice, and this requires active participation of all years—especially freshmen! For potential mentors, this is an opportunity to plug yourselves back into RSS, share your lessons learned from experience, and get some mentorship yourself from upperclassmen (unless you're a fourth year, in which case you are the ultimate mentors ;)). And for those of you curious about exploring a new major or minor, finding a research lab or internship, or just someone to play basketball with, this is your chance to meet a fellow RSSer who can help you out! Our membership spans almost every major, and we will do our best to match you up with

people of similar backgrounds (to minimize the possibility of awkward silences...jk!) Look out for a call for mentors and mentees in the weekly bulletin in the beginning of the winter quarter, and we'll start building our network!

We'll also be holding our 2nd annual Upperclassmen Reunion this quarter. 3rd and 4th years, I don't think you can remember what half of your RSS classmates look like, and that is something we should change! Come one, come all to reconnect with the people you met at Induction Ceremony and Zero Week Barbeque your first year at a fun evening of food and games in true RSS style. More information will be sent out in the weekly bulletin, so keep your eyes peeled!

And finally, we'll be holding our first inter-UC bonding activity with UCSD this quarter! We're open to ideas for a fun activity such as a friendly competition of bowling or broomballing. If you have any suggestions, comments, or simply would LOVE to help us plan these exciting events, please e-mail me at arl@rssla.org or come out to our committee meeting!

