Meet Cody the AI Coyote

By Cyndy Gallo
Contributing Writer

Personalized chatbots on a new myCoyote app will provide automated answers regarding general campus information, advising, financial aid, and more.

In approximately two years, AI Cody, through a smartphone app, will remind students what classes they have that day, as well as inform students of events and activities on campus based on their interests.

“It knows you personally, what are your interests, what is your major, what deadlines are coming up, it will tell you everything,” explained Vice President and Chief Information Officer, Dr. Sam Sudhakar.

Information on events happening that day will pop up when walking by campus buildings, mentioned Dr. Sudhakar.

Information Technologies Services (ITS) is working on the overlapping administrative, academic, and social experiences encountered by students with artificial intelligence services to instantly answer the most frequent questions.

“Future innovative intelligence involves voice-activated dashboard information with Cody, personalized Chatbots for each CSUSB member, and no more waiting in lines with one-touch graduation,” said Vice-President and Chief Information Officer, Dr. Samuel Sudhakar.

Second-year health science student and paraprofessional...

Continued on Pg. 2...

Learning about imposter syndrome from the summit for Social Justice at CSUSB

By Matt Santos
Copy Editor

As a Cal State, not many political and social events or organizations are offered on campus, as compared to UCs. However, on Friday, February 7, students were given the opportunity to learn more about social justice at the Social Justice Summit, hosted by the Office of Student Engagement.

The event started off with a light breakfast for all of the attendees. Attendees had muffins and coffee as they conversed with friends and networked with others before the event.

Once it hit 10:00 a.m., attendees were invited to make their way to the Event Centers B and C for the opening speeches.

The first to speak was Jacob Chacko, the Assistant Director of Diversity and Inclusion. Chacko set the tone for the event by talking about the community guidelines the participants were expected to follow. He then talked about the intent and impact in terms of a toothpaste analogy.

“You intent may be good, but the impact is still there. You can try to put the toothpaste back in, but it’s still there and it’s hard to put back in. Keep that in mind throughout the day, as it will be helpful in any social justice conversation,” said Chacko.

Afterwards, Chacko invited attendees to stand up and participate in the social justice lens exercise – which consisted of a few stretches and the opportunity to communicate with someone new.

“Oftentimes, this work can be lonely,” said Chacko. “Fighting against -isms can be isolating, and it helps to know that there are others who understand and know your story. That was the point of this exercise.”

Chacko concluded his speech by saying that the summit for Social Justice was held to allow people to share their stories and experiences in order to...

Continued on Pg. 8...

Sexting: a criminal trend on the rise

By Leo Fontes
Staff Writer

San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Department teamed up with the Redlands Unified School District (RUSD) to meet with concerned parents and discuss “Sexting: Teen Criminal Trend” on February 10, 2020.

Clark Morrow, a Crime Prevention Program Coordinator with the San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Department, and MaryRone Shell, a Community Outreach, Communication and Social Media Specialist with the Redlands Unified School District, spoke with parent and student attendees to bring greater awareness to the dangers teen sexting.

Although with a fair turnout, RUSD’s board room was silent while Mr. Morrow described how easily underage youth commit prison-awarded crimes...

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AI Cody Coyote appearing on our smartphones soon

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... of the Office of Admissions and Student Recruitment, Becky Torres, visualized how a personalized Chatbot will enhance the social student experience. She welcomes the idea of campus events promoted through the myCoyote app. “The notifications for people who have enrollment registration or holds would be really helpful. Working in the admissions office, we see how it could get missed on the myCoyote portal. So, this upgrade on the app will make it easier for students to access all this information,” said Torres. The first exploration into AI and Chatbot technologies, on a smaller scale, is now available for all CSUSB members on the Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships website. CSUSB students are now able to chat with Cody Coyote 24/7, through the Financial Aid ChatBot, regarding Financial Aid questions or concerns through any electronic device. By clicking on the chat symbol anyone who visits the website could chat with Cody concerning financial aid questions. It automatically answers questions about grants, scholarships, loans, appointments, disbursement schedules, summer aid, and much more. “Providing that service to students any time – day or night, holidays or weekends – any time it is available to answer questions that would be helpful to students so they won’t be discouraged about the process,” explained creator of Financial Aid Chatbot, Analyst, and programmer David Vasilia. Vasilia defined the idea behind the Financial Aid Chatbot as a way to provide understandable information to students and faculty who have a question or want to know more about the concepts involving financial aid that makes sense to them. “Financial Aid is difficult to navigate. I was a student, I used financial aid and looked at it from a perspective of how I thought when I first started in the university, and how I wanted the information to be presented to me based on the questions that I had,” said Vasilia. Becky Torres, as a housing and Student Recruitment, Martin Diaz Solorio, supports the innovative future improvements on myCoyote app and sees how it will positively assist commuters. “Providing that service to students any time – day or night, holidays or weekends – any time – day or night, students any time – day or night, students can come to go class, work on projects, socialize and network,” said Torres. Torres thought in the Office of Admissions and seen how it will positively assist incoming students, as most are not aware of what these resources are, and it will be accessible and convenient,” clarified Baluyot. A social work transfer student, student, Ashley Baluyot, supports the innovative future improvements on myCoyote app and sees how it will positively assist commuters. “Everyone of us (ITS members) think how to make student life and experience on campus more enjoyable; students come to go to class, work on projects, socialize and network with professors not stand in line to go pay fees,” said Dr. Sudhakar.

Correctionsto the Coyote Chronicle published on February 5, 2020, in Vol. LXIV, No. 2:

It has come to the attention of the Coyote Chronicle that the following articles have errors.

Page 2, Education, the article “Bringing the spotlight on campus resources,” the author’s name was misspelled. The correct spelling is Omar Iniguez.

Page 3, Arts & Entertainment, the article by Amy Neault and Wendy Wheeler, “Fueling the feminist movement ‘Vagina Monologues’ auditions,” the photo credit was incorrect. The photo credit belongs to Wendy Wheeler, the co-author for the article to which the photo belongs.

Page 10, Arts & Entertainment, the article by Amy Neault and Wendy Wheeler, “Fueling the feminist movement ‘Vagina Monologues’ auditions,” the photo credit was incorrect. The photo credits were also incorrect. The photos were taken by Ian Faustino.
Sextortion is one of the newest trends used by predators. “Sextortion starts innocently around sexting or sending a photo,” Dr. Taylor, a human trafficking expert, defines and explains the concept. “It happens when I send a photo and someone says, ‘Now you need to do something for me in order for me to not exploit you.’ It’s centered around shame and manipulation.”

Apps like Instagram and TikTok are used by predators to target their victims and build negative relationships. “Even something that seems as simple as Instagram. If I post a photo and someone sends me a message and they’re like, ‘Oh you’re so beautiful, that’s flattering to me. That person then might say, ‘You should be a model’ and that’s part of the process we call grooming,” explained Dr. Taylor.

“Punishment for such crimes vary based on age and circumstances. Charles Miller, an investigator for the San Bernardino county discusses the processes of punishment for perpetrators. “It all depends on the age of the victim and if there is force or coercion,” explained Miller. According to Charles, if a minor is trafficked, then the perpetrator faces five years without circumstance. On being asked to clarify the meaning of circumstance, “coercion could be 15 years to a life sentence,” stated Charles Miller.

Miller also explained the difference with adults being trafficked. “For pimping and pandering, three to five years can be sentenced, depending on circumstances. There must be a pattern of behavior for 15 years to life sentence,” said Miller.

This pattern of behavior can include prohibiting victims from sleeping or eating. Charles explained that even while behind bars, a perpetrator can hold on to their power. “I’ve had cases of guys in jail still using over the phone manipulation for bail money or commissary. I don’t know if it would increase punishment, but that would be another case. It could support cases already happening or spread out to other victims.”

There is a societal perception of children and adults being abducted and forced into human trafficking by strangers. As of 2018, the California Department of Justice reports 26 accounts of stranger abductions and 1,438 of parental or family abductions. This means a person is more likely to be taken by a known figure than a stranger.

“Kidnapping is very low on the totem pole,” discusses Opal Singleton, the President and CEO of Million Kids, in regards to new strategies other than abduction or kidnapping.

Million Kids is an organization that serves on the Riverside County Anti-Personnel Trafficking Task Force (RCAHT). They aid activists and communities to produce anti-trafficking programs to their locals. Singleton highlights the importance of fostering cooperation among teens often leads to revenge porn, cyber-bullying, threats, intimidation, humiliation, blackmail, harassment and even suicide. As was the case with Jessica Logman of Cincinnati, Ohio and Hope Witsell of Sundance, Florida.

When Morrow’s presentation covered California law, all in attendance heard legal terms such as child porn and exploitation charges, up to 20-year prison terms, lifetime registration requirement as sex offender and more.

The message seemed to ring clear with all in the room, but all questions presented after were provided with a solid response. According to Mr. Morrow, the best thing a concerned parent or older sibling can do is to prevent a loved one from falling victim or breaking the law “Is to visit smartsocial.com and familiarize themselves with everything there is to know about specific websites and social media apps.”

Attendees of the symposium were informed about the occurrence of sextortion through social media apps such as Instagram and TikTok.

MaryRone Shell opened up the room for Q&A after the presentation.

Parent and student audience addressed the concerns to the presenters.

By Stanisha Parker
Contributing Writer

Human trafficking is an ongoing issue that has become a more recent topic of discussion in the Inland Empire. While it is viewed as an abduction, however, predators are evolving and moving past white van abduction plans, in addition to following new trends. Sextortion is one of the newest trends used by predators.

“Sextortion starts innocently around sexting or sending a photo,” Dr. Taylor, a human trafficking expert, defines and explains the concept. “It happens when I send a photo and someone says, ‘Now you need to do something for me in order for me to not exploit you.’ It’s centered around shame and manipulation.”

Apps like Instagram and TikTok are used by predators to target their victims and build negative relationships. “Even something that seems as simple as Instagram. If I post a photo and someone sends me a message and they’re like, ‘Oh you’re so beautiful, that’s flattering to me. That person then might say, ‘You should be a model’ and that’s part of the process we call grooming,” explained Dr. Taylor.

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Continue Online @ Coyotechronicle.net

Social media’s contribution to the rising trend of sexting

...Continued from pg 1
... originating from illegal sext-messages. With girls as young as 10 years old having sent nude photos of themselves to others, an emphasis on policing apps was a topic many parents had questions about after. Morrow explained how predators use social media apps such as “kik” to prey on kids as young as nine. He added how there was an incident in “Amino” that there were young girls submitting a bare-chested photo of themselves to prove they are females for a so-called “young girls only” group.

He explained how sexting among teens often leads to revenge porn, cyber-bullying, threats, intimidation, humiliation, blackmail, harassment and even suicide. As was the case with Jessica Logman of Cincinnati, Ohio and Hope Witsell of Sundance, Florida.

When Morrow’s presentation covered California law, all in attendance heard legal terms such as child porn and exploitation charges, up to 20-year prison terms, lifetime registration requirement as sex offender and more.

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MaryRone Shell opened up the room for Q&A after the presentation.
Issues emerge on shared governance

The faculty senate meetings are open to all students and staff who would like to know more about the University’s concerns and future plans.

Opinions: on university’s population of female professors

Abigail Ramos
Staff Writer

How many professors of color have you had throughout your entire school career? For CSUSB, diversity is a major topic. Representation of different cultures, races, ethnicities, and genders is important for our college community. It shows that everyone matters and is welcomed, no matter what identity you associate with. Assistant professor of the communication studies department, Liliana Conilsk-Gallegos, expressed that all full professors in higher education in the U.S., about two percent are woman of color and only eight percent are men of color.

Grad student and faculty member, Loydie Burmah believes that “racial identity doesn’t dictate character, just the simple notion of connecting with another individual that you share certain cultural remnants with whether by language, food, etc., it creates a unique bond you may have missed for a really long time” - that’s what diversity means to her.

College is tough and, as students, we all work hard every day to get our degrees. To have a college community where you can feel represented, safe, and accepted should be the standard of all universities. CSUSB works hard to be diverse and encourages the celebration of people's cultures, but as a community there is always more that can be done. Burmah believes that to raise the statistics we must create an even larger safe space for people of color. Those who hire new faculty should have “open submission, not just allow more faculty of color but those who are about their work...”
Dinos roam in the desert

**By Bertram Taylor III**

Staff Writer

“Amazing!” shouted Party Mckee, as she described her favorite dinosaur at the Jurassic Empire event in Victorville at the San Bernardino Fairgrounds. Partyn and her father Greg decided to join the early morning crowd to see the recently added large moving Dino animatronics that the Jurassic Empire puts together. From Camarasaurus to the Tyrannosaurus Rex to the Velociraptor, the detail dinosaurs brought excited children of all ages with their parents and grandparents that February 15 morning.

Greg Mckee was happy to bring his 8-year-old daughter to the exhibit as she bounce up and down in joy looking at all the dinosaurs. Partyn explained that the Albertosaurus was her favorite dinosaur as the animatronic moved its head back and forth. The atmosphere was exciting, cool and educational with facts on the dinosaurs below each of them. The exhibit took you along a path like maze jungle, with each dinosaur either roaring up to the heavens or swishing their tails back and forth. When you got to the middle of the maze, two T-Rexes are facing down each other. Children and parents took pictures, read the plate cards and scream when the dinosaurs moved or roared.

“The event has been going on for 4 years and we travel to different states and cities,” stated Lucciano Barocio, who has been working for the company since the very beginning. He sported a black Jurassic Empire shirt and a wide smile, as he spoke about the event and how long it took for him and his team to prepare and set everything up.

The Jurassic Empire had a play area, where children got to ride dinosaurs, dig up fossils, have a VR experience with dinosaurs and play in a dinosaur bounce house, plus many more activities. The play area was full of children running around and trying to ride the dinosaurs. Parents taking pictures and laughing at their children’s faces as the dinosaurs moved.

“I’ll bring my own kids”, said employee Davon Wackins. Wackins started working at the event the first day and stated it was a good turn out for the morning. All the employees were very nice and welcoming and informative.

Jurassic Empire will be having events all year, but the next California event will be in Lancaster at the A.V Fairgrounds and Event Center on February 22 and 23 of this year.

The exhibit took a while to look through but as you take your time reading about each dinosaur and taking pictures with the children and family members, the event will make a long and excellent memory for everyone, never to go extinct.

**Voices heard at Native Poetry Festival**

By Diana Servin-Navarro

Staff Writer

The city of Banning came together to celebrate their annual Native Voices Poetry Festival at the Dorothy Ramon Learning Center on Saturday, February 8, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Native American tribe members partook in the annual event to showcase their culture and traditions to the public. Members shared the richness of Southern California’s native culture and explored the beauty, vitality, and uniqueness while creating poetry to help the public understand the importance of the Native American culture.

For this year’s festival, the learning center was celebrating San Jacinto Peak. This event was made possible by CSUSB’s History and English Departments which allowed the community to come together and have a memorable time.

The Dorothy Ramon Learning Center was split into three parts. The first part was providing information on why and how the event was made; the second part was a poetry activity that allowed the attendees to write poetry; the last part was storytelling and performing the songs written by Native Americans to further describe and share their culture.

Ernest Siva, who helped organize the event, stated, “We come together as a community to help share the knowledge of the language with people through books and songs." Siva, a member of the Cahuilla-Serrano tribe, went on to share stories and songs that helped him understand his culture and the importance of helping the culture live on.

CSUSB students joined the event to show their support for this local event. Miranda Lagos, an English major, stated, “I came to support this event because it has been an annual event that my department helps develop which, to me, helps show the importance of the creativity the Native American culture has on English poetry.”

Professors at CSUSB took part in publicizing the event to their students. Ana Gonzalez, a student at CSUSB, attended this event for a class to help her understand the culture and the richness of it. Gonzalez stated, “I love how my professor shared this event with us to help us as students understand the importance of the culture and their traditions.”

Poetry, stories, and songs are significant to Native American cultures because it allows experiences and history to be passed on to future generations that will always help bring an individual closer to their roots. It brings awareness to a culture that will be preserved with the goal to never be forgotten. Native American culture is surrounded by nature, beauty, and richness of what they have learned from their ancestors to pass down and keep the energy alive.
Photo Features

By Francesca Guidote, Matt Santos, Adrian Barajas, and Karina Rodarte
Editor in Chief, Copy Editor, Graphic Designer, and Video Journalist

CSUSB’s University Dance Company (UDC) performed one last show with their current director, Janys Antonio who is retiring after having been UDC’s director for over 22 years. The show lasted from February 13 to 15 in the CSUSB Recital Hall. Dances ranged from solos to company numbers, and a diversity of different genres were incorporated into the show. This company consists of students, alumni, and other individuals who seek to be a part of UDC.

The opening number of the show was titled “Us,” and the dance was choreographed by Brandon Yerigan.

Terrill Corletto and Arthur Perez performed to “Dreaming of Degas.”

UDC also performed a tribute to the Queen, and their dance number was choreographed by Vinh-Huy Nguyen.

The Vigilante” was a solo dance performance by AC Cain.

“The Masquerade” was a group dance performance choreographed by Walter Sinclair Ritter.

Catalina and Gaby Pena also danced to “Que Rico” to honor their memory of their father.

“Tap Don’t Mean a Thing” was choreographed by Maria Lockhart and Rhonda Trask.

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University Dance Company leapt on for "One Last Dance"

Amanda Nicole (left) and Shanisa Pendraft (right) were under spotlight at the end of the opening number performance, "Us."

Karen Marting also choreographed "Jonah and the Whale" along with Deona Jones-Franklin and Theo Williams.

"Dreaming of Degas" was choreographed by University Dance Company's Director, Janys Antonio.

Brandon Yerigan and Nicole Harman starred in the dance performance for "The Masquerade."

The number on "90 Days" was choreographed by Karen Martin.

University Dance Company closed the show with the "Perfect Drug," choreographed by Janys Antonio, UDC's retiring director's favorite dance number.
...Continued from Pg 1

Guest speaker Moníca Ramírez shares her stories and experiences with social justice.

By Matt Santos
Copy Editor

...make informative knowledge more accessible in our community...

Ramírez concluded her speech by thanking everyone in the room for attending the event.

"I applaud you and I thank you. You give me hope and you give me faith. You make me know that we're not alone. You give me hope that the future is of tolerance, acceptance, and empathy. At the end of the day, we're all human beings, no matter how we got here, and we all deserve to be treated with goodness and we all deserve to be protected by the laws of this country. Our humanity must be recognized and must be valued. You give me hope that we will swing the pendulum back to the side of good," concluded Ramírez.

For those who were unable to attend the Social Justice Summit and are interested in learning more about social justice and leadership, the Office of Student Engagement has another event planned for the spring quarter. The LIT Institute: Lead, Impact, Transform event will be held on April 18, 2020, at the Center for Global Innovation (CGI) building on campus. Students can now register for the event via Coyote Connection.

By Ciera Hammond

Social justice is equal treatment for all people regardless of race, gender identity, or sexual orientation. It is equity in education and identity, or sexual orientation.

The final portion of the welcome speeches included a land acknowledgment from Antonio who is part of the Native American Pacific and Islander Student Association.

He informed participants that a land acknowledgment is a formal statement that recognizes the indigenous people of the land and that it is a great start to fighting the modern colonial process.

"Everywhere you go in this country, you are standing on indigenous lands. In today's modern technologies, there's no excuse to not take a second out of your Grand Canyon, Yellowstone or Mount Rushmore vacations to investigate and learn who the indigenous people of that land are," said Antonio.

After the land acknowledgment, attendees were sent off to start the breakout session workshops. These breakout sessions consisted of two waves of four workshops each. Attendees of the event were given the opportunity to decide which workshop they wanted to participate in.

One of these workshops, hosted by CSUSB alumni Evelyn Knox, was a conversation regarding impostor syndrome. Knox got her Bachelor of Arts in Social Sciences and her Master’s in Counselling at CSUSB. She started her workshop by giving multiple definitions of what impostor syndrome was.

"As defined by Forbes, impostor syndrome is the act of comparing yourself to others and feeling like you don’t stack up. That can give birth to crippling self-doubt and result in negative consequences in business operations," explained Knox.

Afterwards, Knox invited everyone to find a partner and answer some questions regarding themselves. Participants took turns asking and answering the questions provided, learning from each other’s experiences. Knox then revealed that the point of the study was to show that people with impostor syndrome are not alone.

"According to the Journal of Behavioral Science, 70% of the United States population has had experience with impostor syndrome on some level," said Knox. "Millennials, especially have a lot of social pressure from social media that can help promote impostor syndrome."

Knox then shared ways to overcome impostor syndrome. She said that owning your wins, allowing for failure, questioning the desirability of a perfectionist culture, rewriting mental programs of doubtful thinking, talking about your feelings, finding a mentor, and being your own booster are just a few ways to overcome impostor syndrome.

"I think this event is important because a lot of times, students don’t get the opportunity to express concepts within social justice and advocacy. They’re expected to just stick to the syllabus. A lot of the times, there’s no space to talk and explore identity pieces that are important to them. This is an extension of our education. Culture, advocacy, social justice, that’s how we get our education," said Knox.

Chacko hosted one of these breakout session workshops which was about navigating through the many different ways people can identify themselves in today's society. These included heterosexism, racism, ableism, and classism, to name a few.

Facilitators of the event were assigned to different topics and encouraged the attendees to share their stories and experiences.

After the activity, guest speaker Moníca Ramírez arrived and shared her experiences with social justice. Ramírez is a co-founder of Alianza Nacional de Campesinos (National Farmworker Women’s Alliance) and she has been fighting for other people’s rights since age 14.

"The social pendulum has swung at a direction that has been harmful to many people in this country, and we are charged with making sure it swings back," said Ramírez.

Ramírez shared stories of her clients and of immigrants who have been wrongfully harassed and killed for being different. She shared stories of children having to live in cages and people spending every moment of their lives fearing that they will be taken away from their families.

Our country has criminalized immigration and migrations. A country that has been built on the shoulders and backs of immigrants criminalized by migration. Now we have people fearful of never seeing family again and don’t have the opportunity to fight for themselves," said Ramírez.

Ramírez concluded her speech by thanking everyone in the room for attending the event.

"I applaud you and I thank you. You give me hope and you give me faith. You make me know that we’re not alone. You give me hope that the future is of tolerance, acceptance, and empathy. At the end of the day, we’re all human beings, no matter how we got here, and we all deserve to be treated with goodness and we all deserve to be protected by the laws of this country. Our humanity must be recognized and must be valued. You give me hope that we will swing the pendulum back to the side of good," concluded Ramírez.

Hammond says that getting involved can include advocacy and making sure your voice is heard, responding to the 2020 Census this year, being a leader and empowering others in your community, and voting out officials who do not stand for equality and inclusivity.

Hammond concluded her speech by asking attendees, “Why not you? What is stopping you from becoming a champion for social justice? Lead today, change tomorrow.”

Students and faculty prepare for the Social Justice Summit.
Raising awareness on US and Iran relations

By Julissa Bermejo
Staff Writer

The Center for Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies hosted an event called “The United States and Iran: From Manufactured Crisis to the Brink of War” on February 6, 2020. The event was completely dedicated to talking about the United States and Iran relations.

Moderated by CSUSB Professor David Yaghoubian of the History Department, the guest speaker who joined Professor Yaghoubian was Dr. Gareth Porter. Dr. Porter is an independent investigative journalist and historian. For the past two decades, he has focused on the United States’ national security state during, and after, the cold war. He is an author of four books - his recent one being Iran Crisis: From CIA Coup to the Brink of War which was published in this month of February.

Professor Yaghoubian began by explaining that ever since May 2018, when Trump pulled out the United States out of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), the tension between the United States and Iran has reached new heights. Dr. Porter shortly took over and answered the big question: “Why has the United States made Iran their enemy for the past four decades?”

This is a topic that not many people are aware of or care about. “I think that it is very important that students should learn about the real implications that are not really discussed because it is not always black and white,” said Ernesto Pantojo.

People should educate themselves on a topic like this because of the big danger that the people from the U.S. could soon be faced with. It could possibly be the biggest and worst war that the U.S. would come across since World War II. The amount of destruction that could occur is beyond something that can be counted as well as all the lives of people that could possibly die. Is this a citation from someone? “Iran has the ability to hit American bases across the region with great accuracy. They now also have the ability to hit all American military targets,” said Porter. This is not a topic that should be taken lightly and as, Porter says, this is why this has to be a high priority to American citizens, as well as political parties to do something about it.

Professor Yaghoubian said that students should care about these issues because this could greatly affect our economy, the lives of other human beings, and our military. “Real people will die. Our fellow citizens, human beings halfway around the world. Iranians, maybe, we don’t know them, but we should at least care if ‘violence and death happens based on lies,’” said Yaghoubian.

By Layla Lopez
Staff Writer

Do you know what to do in an active shooter situation? On Wednesday, January 29, the University Police Department (UPD) hosted a free course that students could use to prepare themselves on how to survive during a violent attack.

Detective Higgins told students the importance of carrying a tourniquet in your car.

Within 15 minutes into the workshop, the room fell silent as students sat and listened to the audio recording of a 9-1-1 call that a teacher made during the Columbine High School massacre. They listened to the teacher’s panicked voice as she spoke to the dispatcher. It was then that Detective Lance Higgins from the UPD paused the audio recording so that he could explain why it’s important to practice combat breathing.

Detective Higgins used this four-hour course to train students and staff on the techniques they can use to survive an act of violence. From mass shootings to horrifying bombings, he warned students of the graphic content he would show in class to raise awareness of the attacks that have happened in the past. Higgins explained, “It’s not to scare you, it’s to be aware.”

Detective Higgins has students practice the “fight” in run, hide, fight. The PowerPoint presentation featured photos of the victims from the Boston Marathon attack and heroes from the Virginia Tech school shooting. These horrific events were used as examples of knowing when to run, knowing when to hide, and knowing when to fight. Detective Higgins advised, “The best thing to do is keep yourself safe. Run away if you can, get away from the assault, get away from the noise, get away from the thing that’s taking place to keep yourself safe.”

Higgins continued, “If you have to, hide. If you have to, fight. There’s no other choice.”

The detective stressed the importance of being vigilant to your surroundings and paying attention to details in order to give a good description during a 9-1-1 call. He reminded students that if they see something, say something, and not to wait for something life threatening to happen before reporting it.

The workshop included a few hands on activities in which students were taught how to apply a tourniquet: apply the tourniquet in two to three inches above the injury, pull the band as tight as possible to the wound, and spin the windlass three times to lock it in place to stop the bleeding.

Detective Higgins asked two volunteers to attempt to take a rubber rifle out of his hands in the event that the only option is to fight the attacker. As one of the volunteers, I felt hesitant and uncomfortable even reaching for a fake gun. Higgins was quick to point out how nervous I was taking hold of the rubber rifle. He stated, “I know that was simple, but it’s giving you a perspective of how hard it is to think about grabbing onto a gun.”

This workshop is a chance for students and staff to listen to the advice given by actual law enforcement on ways to survive a life threatening attack. Informations Systems Technology major Hector Pimentel commented, “This is very helpful for those who have no exposure to this whatsoever and for it to generally ease them into it.”

Some students were even shocked by the turnout, stating that more staff should have attended the event. Spanish major Braylon Mendoza stated, “A lot of faculty would probably say ‘well I don’t get paid for THIS’, but I think it should be like bread and butter where you have to learn it at this point and time. It’s something that is necessary now.”

This workshop is free and offered once every quarter to all staff and students who wish to attend. Every quarter, emails are sent out to everyone at CSUSB by the UPD informing them when the next workshop will be available.

Mendoza said, “You get to have an idea on what are your chances and possibilities in any given emergency. This is something good that people should take advantage of, because I know something like this would be pricey. So if it’s offered here for free, why not take advantage of it?”
The month of February becomes an exciting time for the CSUSB campus as the institution goes all out to celebrate Black History Month. The CSUSB campus as the institution becomes an exciting time for the campus events that are all community outings and on-campus events that are all looking to shine a light on an underrepresented community.

The eventful time kicked off with a Black Faculty, Staff and Student Association meeting on February 4 to go over the extensive calendar for this month. “This calendar is out and widely publicized...the committee worked very hard to put this together and very rapidly,” said BFSSA President Kathryn Ervin. Professor Ervin serves not only as a lecturer for the Theatre Arts Department but an advocate and mentor for the Pan-African community on campus. “I was thoroughly impressed with the breadth of what’s going on and I knew everyone would come through as usual,” mentioned Ervin.

The meeting went on to cover different fundraisers, community outings and on-campus events that are all looking to shine a light on an underrepresented community. The Associated Students Incorporated (ASI) has come through tremendously for the community by helping to create the biggest event of this month: Soul Night.

Program Specialist for ASI, Daniel Jimenez, has been thrilled to work on this “Soul Night” event. “My favorite part has been working with the people from The Movement since each person is such a treat to work with,” said Jimenez. This is the first time The Movement and ASI have worked together for such a large-scale event, and the process has been rewarding for both parties. “We have been putting a lot of planning and hard work in it so I am really looking forward to it as it should be a nice turnout of people and good vibes,” said Black Student Union Vice President Britniee Jocie.

This event will be held in the SMSU Event Center on February 26, from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. featuring DJ Ronnie G and a live jazz band. “This is an opportunity for students to come and learn...as well as get a taste of soul cuisine while having a good time and dancing,” expressed Jimenez. Other events headlining this month feature “Black Girl Magic,” the screening of “Wilmington on Fire,” and the sold-out Pioneer Breakfast.

The 8th Annual Pioneer Breakfast looks to honor prominent campus and community members like ASI’s Jesse Felix and CEO of NerdyGirlRock, Monica Stockhausen. “The Pioneer Breakfast is truly important for our campus since it brings us together with the community and also features an educational component to share to the campus,” said Breakfast Founder Anthony Roberson.

Pan-African student leaders and faculty surround President Morales for a photo opportunity. The event went from being 60 people in attendance to now over 400 people as they have been outgrowing the Event Center for the past few years. “It takes a lot of work...we try to bring legacy inside of the community and even outside of it. The idea that individuals must look or act a certain way to be in your corner can be extremely difficult, but it is important to seek education and acceptance towards things we do not understand. One person shared their story about being called out for being asexual, and how some believe that people who are asexual should not be considered part of the LGBTQ+ community because they are not “oppressed enough.” This leads into being excluded, which is why queers policing other queers should come be established. An individual does not have to be oppressed to the extremes to still be oppressed. At the end of the day, they are still being ridiculed and belittled. Other attendees shared the same experience. One person, who identifies as bisexual, shared their story about being told that they need to be either gay or lesbian, not both.

When facing someone who is against you, Professor Asbell shared that you should analyze how you are feeling. Are you getting carried away in the conversation with others and attempting to educate yourself, even when it is not your job to do so? Also, you should recognize when to stand down in order to protect your safety because there are times where things could escalate and your life could be in danger.
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Visual Frequency is a multi-media group exhibition that examines the multiple uses and expressions inherent in sign-based forms of visual communication. This exhibition reflects the many possibilities in which signage can be the voice of a community by transmitting information, humor, political positions and social awareness on key issues facing society. The artworks in Visual Frequency project the aesthetic language made familiar in the commercial signs of the retail world of advertising and the language established in the Pop Art movement of the 20th century while simultaneously being personalized forms of artistic expression.

The artworks in Visual Frequency are the culmination of the 2019 Artist in Residence Program; a partnership between the CSUSB Department of Art and Design and the Riverside Art Museum. This inaugural program began in Fall 2019 with Coachella-based artist Armando Lerma, whose work is currently shown along with student works. This program is made possible by a grant from the New California Art Fund and the James Irvine Foundation along with support from the College of Arts and Letters, CSUSB.

The exhibition was organized by Assistant Professor Ed Gomez.

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. — Visual Frequency – a student exhibition featured in the Robert and Frances Fullerton Museum of Art's Dutton Family Gallery at California State University, San Bernardino beginning February 3 until February 19. An opening reception was held on Saturday, February 1 at 6-8 p.m (preview at 5:30 p.m.). The closing reception is on Wednesday, February 19, from 4 to 6 p.m. with an Artist talk at 3 p.m.