



## Listos

By: Jim Caesar, UC Santa Barbara

UC Santa Barbara in partnership with the City of Goleta has completed a series of “Listos” (“ready” in Spanish) classes for Spanish speaking employees in UCSB’s Facilities Management (FM). Listos is a grass-roots disaster preparedness program that is tailored to fit the individual needs of Spanish-speaking communities. Developed in 2010 in collaboration between the Orfalea Foundation and the Aware & Prepare Initiative this is the first time the classes have been taught in a University setting.

The Listos curriculum condenses the traditional Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) eight-week course into a four-week, 8-hour class using a culturally appropriate curriculum. Jim Caesar, the UCSB Emergency Manager said, “While we have provided Listos and Spanish CERT to our surrounding communities it has been very rewarding to be able to partner with FM and the City of Goleta to bring the training to campus”. The Listos curriculum features low-cost to no-cost preparedness initiatives and provides tips that serve participants not only during disasters, but also throughout the course of their everyday lives. Liliana Encinas, the Goleta Prepare Now Coordinator and the Public Education Specialist for the City of Santa Barbara stated “It has been a pleasure to partner with UCSB to help better prepare not only the

campus but our community as the participants take the knowledge home to share with their families”. It should also be noted that Liliana taught the classes at the hours necessary to meet the schedules of the FM staff.

The training emphasizes sharing preparedness skills and information with family and friends, using a culturally appropriate curriculum that overcomes language and trust barriers and strengthens relationships between first responders and the community. During the classes, Listos participants learn how to use a fire extinguisher, make family communication and reunification plans, treat the injured and shut off utilities. Byron Sandoval, UCSB’s Senior Superintendent, who helped bring the training to UCSB said “The three classes were so popular we added a fourth class to the schedule before finishing the third. We will have close to 100 employees Listos-trained in the end”. Listos is taught in communities throughout Santa Barbara County and the program is expanding to serve Latino populations statewide.

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### APRIL POSTER



5 Suggestions for Field  
Researchers



"JUNTOS HACEMOS LA DIFERENCIA"

## UC DIVING AND BOATING SAFETY

By: Jim Hayward, UC Berkeley/UC Merced

### Campus Staff

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Our diving and boating safety staff support researchers in many diverse fields of study, from Biology, Ecology and Oceanography to Chemistry, Pharmacology and Archaeology.

We provide training, equipment support, advising and field assistance to over 500 divers and many more boaters across the UC System.

Our researchers work around the world, from tropical coral reefs to under the Antarctic ice. We collaborate with and support divers from many other institutions, including the Smithsonian Institution, NOAA, the National Park Service, and dozens of universities and colleges.



## UC Merced Becomes Drone Use, Policy Hub

*The newly formed Center of Excellence for Unmanned Aerial Systems Operations, Safety and Risk Management will determine systemwide policies for use and safety, and serve as an information resource*

### Quick Facts

- UC Merced's MESA Lab is one of the biggest and most popular labs on campus.
- Drone research is being applied to public health and precision-agriculture issues.
- This is UC Merced's first Center for Excellence.

MERCED, Calif. — The University of California, Merced's drone lab has catapulted the campus to the leading edge of unmanned aerial systems research, and now the campus has been chosen as the new hub for UC systemwide policies, procedures and training protocols.

[School of Engineering](#) doctoral candidate Brandon Stark will serve as director of the newly formed Center of Excellence for Unmanned Aerial Systems Operations (UAS), Safety and Risk Management, which is being funded by the UC Office of the President. His appointment begins in May. "We're very fortunate to have Brandon. He's uniquely qualified, having designed, built and operated unmanned systems," said Ken Smith, executive director of Environmental Health and Safety for the UC system. "This is an emerging regulatory area, and we have many UC community members who are interested in drones. Brandon's expertise will be crucial as we develop policies for the UC system."

This is UC Merced's first UC Center of Excellence under the Environmental Health and Safety umbrella.

"There are a lot of campuses that know a lot about safety and policy in many different areas, but we don't all know the same information," Stark said. "We'll be the clearinghouse for drone policy, privacy issues, liability and risk management, information about state and federal laws, and training and other resources."

The [Centers of Excellence program](#), through the UC's Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) division, began in 2010 with the formation of the Center for Laboratory Safety at UCLA and includes Dangerous Goods Shipping at UC Berkeley; Hospital Safety Management and Injury Reduction at UC Davis; and Safety in the Arts at UC Santa Cruz. The program is designed to recognize unique pockets of expertise within campuses or medical centers, and provide a forum to share information and best practices throughout the system through the coordination of training and support.

"Drone use is becoming more and more prevalent as their capabilities grow. However, policies and guidelines for their use are diffuse at this time," School of Engineering Dean Mark Matsumoto said. "The expertise centered here at UC Merced in this center of excellence will provide important best-practice information to help ensure that drones are used effectively, safely and appropriately throughout the entire UC system."

The Center of Excellence for Unmanned Aerial Systems Operations, Safety and Risk Management will fund the center for two years on a renewable contract. As long as drones are relevant, Stark said, it's likely the funding will continue, though he hopes to make the center self-sustaining within the first couple of years. He plans to offer training courses, seminars and workshops not only for people within the UC system — including faculty members, student clubs, administrators and staff members — but for people who use drones in their businesses, such as farmers, and even hobbyists. He said he'll develop publications and a website where people can find information; put together committees and task forces to help determine policies in accordance with ever-changing federal and state laws; and likely serve as the applicant for all UC Federal Aviation Administration drone certifications of authorization, which are required for drone flights.

## CONNECT

Know where to turn on your UC campus for the information you need to keep yourself, your workplace and your environment safe and secure. Click on the campus links below to connect to local program, educational and informational resources.

[UC Berkeley](#)

[UC Merced](#)

[UC Santa Barbara](#)

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[UC Santa Cruz](#)

[UC Irvine](#)

[UC San Diego](#)

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## Drone... continued

Stark, a San Joaquin Valley native and Tracy High School graduate, is the founding manager of [Professor YangQuan Chen's Mechatronics, Embedded Systems and Automation \(MESA\) Lab](#), opened at UC Merced in 2012. He has worked with UAS since 2006, as an undergraduate at UC Irvine. He began his doctoral work at Utah State University with Chen before the two joined UC Merced.

The MESA Lab is an interdisciplinary research group that works on cutting-edge research, providing mentoring and hands-on research experience for engineering undergraduate students. More than 150 students have worked with the MESA Lab since its founding, and its students have been active publishing research and winning awards. Since it opened, the lab rapidly grew into one of the most sought-after opportunities on campus, and has 76 undergraduate students and five Ph.D. students.

"This UCOP drone center hosted at UC Merced will help to turn scientific data-drone education, research and service into a signature program at UC Merced," Chen said. "California's Central Valley will become the 'Scientific Data-Drone Valley' for precision agriculture, environmental monitoring, natural resource management and digital heritage."

Stark will leave the lab at the Castle Research Facility and make his new office on campus in the EH&S offices, reporting to Assistant Vice Chancellor for Campus Safety and Chief of Police Albert Vasquez.

Other California colleges are developing drone policy as well, but are doing it individually. Stark said he sees the potential for the UC to work with California's state and community colleges. "The UC has the advantage in that this is supported from the very top of the system," he said. "But if we could all get together, we'd become one very large, influential voice for advocacy."

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## FIELD RESEARCH RESOURCES:

[UCOP Risk Services Travel Assistance](#)

[UC Natural Reserve System](#)

[UC Global Operations](#)

[UC Berkeley Field Safety Program](#)

[NOLS Wilderness First Aid](#)

[NOLS Wilderness Risk Management Conference Resource Center](#)

[Sierra Rescue Wilderness Medicine Courses](#)

[Cal/OSHA Heat Illness Prevention Information](#)

## UPCOMING EDITIONS

**June/July:** Health, Wellness and Nutrition

**August:** Lab Safety

**September:** Safety Training

## FEEDBACK, PLEASE

Send an email to [EHS@ucop.edu](mailto:EHS@ucop.edu) to submit your comments on the April issue or to suggest content ideas for future issues. We look forward to hearing from you!