Student Organizations

Description

The Student Community

UCSD is home to a vibrant and lively community of student organizations and Community Center that focuses on different topics, interests, student backgrounds or student identities. Those spaces offer leadership opportunities, professional networking, support from others with similar interests or background, and can enrich the college experience. The list below is not exhaustive, but brings out those most likely to appeal to our diverse Biology student population. Explore both these and other
campus organizations.

**BSSA**

BSSA, Biological Sciences Student Organization, is the largest Biology student organization at UCSD. The organization hosts events and provides opportunities for organizational involvement.

BSAA features a peer mentoring program, where undergraduate students are paired with upperclassmen to provide guidance and support, making the successful transition to college and beyond smoother.

“We are UCSD’s Biological Sciences Student Association (BSSA). We are dedicated to enriching your college experience through programs and events that will provide you with professional development, community service, and networking opportunities. With the support of the Dean’s Office and do/Bio, our board of student officers hopes to enhance your experience at UCSD. Please sign up for our newsletter to stay informed.”

**SACNAS**

SACNAS, Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science, is a national organization.
dedicated to supporting and promoting the STEM careers of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans. The organization hosts a yearly conference.

The [UCSD chapter of SACNAS](https://www.sacnasonline.org) has as the opening part of its mission:

“SACNAS was founded on a principle that has actively sought to bring much needed change within the community of scientists worldwide. With this objective in mind, our chapter has committed itself to empowering all individuals from all backgrounds who are not only passionate about science, but are also seeking to be ambassadors of change. […]”

## Community Centers

The Community Centers at UCSD provides spaces for gathering, community, and support. The different Community Centers reflect the diversity of UCSD student population and provides room for students from different groups to associate with peers.

[https://youtu.be/i7uiFFwWjdA](https://youtu.be/i7uiFFwWjdA)

**Black Resource Center**

A campus community center that serves everyone at UC San Diego while emphasizing the Black experience. Promotes scholarship, fosters leadership, and cultivates community through the committed, collaborative effort and support of faculty, staff, and the broader UC San Diego community. Learn more at [Black Resource Center](https://black.ucsd.edu)

**LGBT Resource Center**

This center provides a visible presence on campus and enhances a sense of connection and community among LGBT faculty, staff, students, alumni. Learn more at [LGBT UCSD](https://lgbt.ucsd.edu)

**Cross-Cultural Center**

This center strives for meaningful dialogues and context across all cultures, particularly those of underrepresented or underprivileged backgrounds. Offers supportive and educational services through art, social and educational programs, workshops, and outreach. Welcomes creative venues for enhancing social consciousness and equity. Visit at [Cross-Cultural Center](https://cultural.ucsd.edu)

**Raza Community Center**

This community center is a lively space where students study, meet, write, get tutoring, and most importantly are in community. It is a place where Latina/Chicano organizations hold meetings, events and where culture, arte, and academics interconnect. Visit at [Raza UCSD](https://raza.ucsd.edu)

**Women’s Center**
The Women’s Center serves as a resource for the entire campus community while placing the experiences of diverse women at the center through the resources provided, the programming and learning opportunities facilitated, and the dynamic community space created. Visit Women UCSD

**Student Veterans Resource Center**

Student Veterans Resource Center (SVRC): supports military-affiliated students in making the transition to campus life and facilitating their progress toward degree completion. The Center also provides opportunities for peer-to-peer support, mentoring and social networking. Visit Veterans UCSD

Maps

Maps stands for The Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students. Medical School and other health professions are popular post-graduation routes for Biology majors and this association can provide a supporting community for these students.
The Minority Association of Pre-med Students (MAPS) is dedicated to providing a culturally diverse community of students with resources and support for academic and professional success. Join our community to connect with peers, participate in workshops, and network with professionals in the field. You can subscribe to our newsletter, follow us on Facebook and Instagram (@mapsatucsd), and check out our website.