



"committed to the  
recruitment and retention of  
pilipinos in higher education"

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# PASS

pilipino academic student services  
a uc berkeley recruitment and retention center

My name is Paola Munoz, a third year, and I am the Assistant Director of Recruitment for PASS. I am honored to be coordinating Senior Weekend, the event that not only gave me my first taste of Berkeley living, but also validated my choice to send my SIR (Statement of Intent to Register) to Cal. The sense of community and support that I experienced during my own Senior Weekend and during a PASS outreach at my high school in Southern California four years ago were among the major reasons that I inevitably chose to go to Cal. PASS holds a special place in my heart, that I would love to share with the upcoming generations of PASS members and Pilipinos here at Cal.

Senior Weekend began in 1997 with the beginning of Brides Multicultural Coalition. It is an event in collaboration with Bridges and the five Recruitment and Retention Centers on campus, to recruit and reward students of color for their admission into UC Berkeley. Senior Weekend is a three day, two night event, designed to acclimate newly admitted high school students to the UC Berkeley campus—in hopes they may send their statement of intent to register (SIR) for UC Berkeley. This year, we will be celebrating Senior Weekend's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Pilipinos' existence at UC Berkeley supersedes the existence of Senior Weekend. Many Pilipino alumni have not been able to experience the fun and excitement of Senior Weekend that you all rightly deserve. It is my intent to introduce and reward alumni who have not experienced the event, and to help those who have, to reminisce about their experience. I have designated Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup> for an alumni/current Cal student/new admit banquet. It is a day for Cal students of all ages to mingle and share stories with one another to show how important, how valuable, how fun their experience was/is at Cal. My hope is to provide history for the new admits, something they can be excited to be a part of in the upcoming fall; as well as provide a space for alumni to relive your memories and share them with us all.

Senior Weekend is an event designed to increase the number of students of color on the University of California, Berkeley campus. In order to comply with Proposition 209, and not specifically favor minority and disadvantaged students, attendance at Senior Weekend is restricted to whom we may invite. PASS and the other Recruitment Retention Centers on campus may only invite students from a school with an API (Academic Performance Index) of 1-4. Many Pilipinos schools with an API above 4, particularly schools that were historically rated with an API of 1-4, but only recently increased to a 5 or 6,—meaning they are beyond our reach. It is my belief that restrictions can be unfair—these students deserve to be rewarded for their years of hard work and dedication in high school.

I am asking you to please support PASS, and increase the Pilipino population here at Cal, by bringing these students to Senior Weekend. We are only given 51 tickets to fly students up from Southern California, one of the lowest numbers amongst the five RRC's. We also have a limited budget because we are technically NOT allowed to only provide food and services to students who are not from an API of 1-4. Our financial resources are low and restricted for an event, but we hope to serve many. The rest of PASS staff and I appreciate your generosity. The money will be placed in a "Donors Account" in the Office of Student Life, which will be easily accessible for PASS. Your donation will be tax deductible. If you would like to donate, please make a check out to the UC Regents/PASS. April 8, 2007 will be the deadline to donate.

Donating to Senior Weekend is like an investment, an investment in the future of Pilipinos at Cal, an investment in Pilipinos into higher education, and an investment in family. Please help me make dreams come true and continue the success of the Pilipino community here at Cal.

In Solidarity,  
Ana Maria Paola Cabrillas Munoz

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