A Vision for Indian and South Asian Studies

The University of California, Santa Cruz, is establishing a distinctive and comprehensive university program in Indian and South Asian studies. To realize this vision, the university is building on its strengths, developing extensive resources, and establishing partnerships to offer expertise in areas not commonly included in most South Asian studies programs.

UC Santa Cruz is the ideal home for a major academic initiative on India and South Asia—given its proximity to large South Asian populations in the San Francisco Bay Area, location on the Pacific Rim, expert faculty, and dedicated friends. This program will benefit students, scholars, and society through excellent teaching, research, and outreach to the community.
Music and Theater Arts

June 2002: A sold-out audience in Cupertino, California, listened in rapture to Ustad Vilayat Khan and his sons at *The Classical Music of India* performance produced by UC Santa Cruz. The concert honored UC Santa Cruz Foundation trustee Kamil Hasan and his wife, Talat, for their leadership and contributions to the Indian and South Asian studies program, and celebrated the university’s expanding resources in the classical arts of South Asia.

November 2002: *Pancatantra: Animal Tales of the Hindu World* delighted and entertained audiences with Indonesian dance-theater depicting Hindu stories carried to Indonesia. The six performances were directed by theater professor Kathleen Foley.

Film

March and April 2002: UC Santa Cruz’s Satyajit Ray Film and Study Collection (Ray FASC) helped to organize *Cinema through the Inner Eye*, the first comprehensive American retrospective of Ray’s films. Screenings were held at the Smithsonian and National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., and in Los Angeles. These events included participation from directors Martin Scorsese and Shyam Benegal, and actors Soumitra Chatterjee and Sharmila Tagore.

July and August 2002: Ray FASC collaborated with the British Film Institute to present all 37 Ray films as part of the institute’s 50th anniversary celebration held at the National Public Theater.

October 2002: “200 Years of Reality Shows,” the second annual Sidhartha Maitra Memorial Lecture, was delivered by the UCSC Dean of Humanities Wlad Godzich. A screening of Satyajit Ray’s classic 1964 film *Charulata* followed.

Economics and Politics

The importance of Indian and South Asian studies has long been emphasized at UC Santa Cruz. Aided by generous supporters, our faculty have enriched the campus with research and teaching on a variety of related topics. The university regularly features the artistic and scholarly contributions of India and South Asia in special events. The following describe some of the ongoing efforts and available resources for building a program of unique distinction.

▶ Dean of the Arts Edward Houghton recently launched the Initiative in the Arts and Cultures of South Asia to foster a new multidisciplinary institute for supporting and coordinating instruction and research on the arts of South Asia. The appointment of a professor of classical Indian music will serve as a basis for advancing this initiative. Funding is committed to expand course offerings in South Asian art history for the academic year 2002–03.

▶ Distinguished Adjunct Professor of Music Ali Akbar Khan is enriching the university’s music program through his workshops, which have been offered for three years with great success and popularity—fueling greater interest in Indian music. In fact, many graduate students in a fall 2002 music performance seminar are examining Indian influences on Indonesian music.

▶ Students and faculty have also benefited from UC Santa Cruz’s unique Satyajit Ray Film and Study Collection (Ray FASC). Established in 1993, the research archive is the only one of its kind outside India and includes restored prints of the Indian master’s films, as well as videos, books, and film-related materials in ten world languages. Ray FASC collaborates with the Ray Society in Kolkata and the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in the U.S. to preserve Ray’s luminous artistic legacy.

▶ For over 20 years, the Humanities Division has awarded independent majors and minors in South Asian studies to undergraduate students. Complementing this program are Hindi and Urdu language courses, and an overseas education program that allows students to study at the University of Delhi, Jawaharlal Nehru University, and the University of Hyderabad.

▶ The university’s South Asian Studies Initiative (SASI) aims to create an enduring resource for understanding the region and its cultures. The initiative is being designed to include classes, seminars, conferences, and research spanning numerous academic disciplines. The SASI taps talented faculty who offer substantial expertise and research interest in South Asia—from its contemporary art, anthropology, cinema, and environmental issues to the personal histories of South Asian citizens. The initiative is supported by two major UC Santa Cruz research centers: The Center for Cultural Studies and the Center for Global, International and Regional Studies.

▶ Expanding resources for learning and research on South Asia, a donor recently established a new library subject endowment to acquire materials on Nepali history, art, and culture.
UC Santa Cruz is developing collaborations with South Asian communities and institutions to build a prominent program in Indian and South Asian studies. Unique conferences and research projects are bringing international scholars and leaders together for substantive dialogue. Among others, the endeavors listed below elevate the university's role as a leading provider of information and education on the region.

Since 1998, the Social Sciences Division has hosted annual conferences to gather scholars for discussion on crucial South Asian topics, such as globalization, economic development, and religious conflict. Distinguished visitors have included Gita Sen, professor of economics and social sciences at the Indian Institute of Management in Bangalore, India.

To further conceptualize and develop UCSC's studies program, the Women's Studies Department and the South Asian Studies Initiative (SASI) organized two international conferences entitled Mapping Genders, Mapping Histories: Rethinking South Asia and Feminist Interventions: Rethinking South Asia II. Held in 2001 and 2002, the conferences addressed South Asian geopolitics.

Building on UC Santa Cruz's excellence in environmental studies, faculty research projects are examining water management issues in India and Bangladesh, as well as how South Asian governments and multilateral institutions are balancing environmental issues, economic development, and globalization.

The Arts and Humanities Divisions convened Sarira: Aspects of Embodiment in the Arts and Cultures of India to gather an international group of eminent scholars to discuss Indian spirituality in art, theater, and music. Participants included Kapila Vatsyayan, former academic director of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, and Sandip Ray, film director and Satyajit Ray's son. Conference cosponsors included the Indian Council for Cultural Relations in New Delhi.

The Center for Global, International and Regional Studies is currently working with the SASI to present two workshops relevant to South Asia's future. The first covers the impact of India's information technology industry on the country's development, and the other focuses on how India will manage post-9/11 global security issues, given its religious diversity.

The Humanities Division and Ray FASC recently hosted historians Mushirul Hasan and Sumit Sarkar, and authors Vikram Seth, Amit Chaudhuri, and Salman Rushdie.
The South Asian community in the greater San Francisco Bay Area is significantly supporting the university's academic mission. Enthusiastic contributors are expanding resources in the arts, humanities, social sciences, engineering, natural sciences, and library. Partnerships between the university and community, such as those presented here, are fueling UC Santa Cruz’s growth and excellence.

- Generous supporters have contributed to the university’s music program, facilitating the preservation and presentation of India’s cultural traditions. Anuradha and Sidhartha Maitra, Kamil and Talat Hasan, Kiran and Arjun Malhotra, and Kiran and Shiv Nadar established the Ali Akbar Khan Endowment for Classical Indian Music to enrich course offerings in classical Indian music.
- The Hasans also funded the Kamil and Talat Hasan Endowed Chair in Classical Indian Music, invigorating the teaching and performance of classical Indian music.
- The university community receives guidance from the UC Santa Cruz Foundation Board of Trustees—a prestigious group of ambassadors that promotes the accomplishments and potential of the campus. As the university forges greater collaborations with South Asian communities worldwide, it relies on the participation of all trustees, including Narpat Bhandari, Kamil Hasan, Narinder Kapany, and Anuradha Luther Maitra.
- Helping to perpetuate the relevance of Satyajit Ray’s work to contemporary life is the Sidhartha Maitra Memorial Lecture. This annual event is made possible through a generous endowment established by Anuradha Luther Maitra in honor of her late husband, who was a distinguished scientist, entrepreneur, and admirer of Ray’s work.
- To advance the university’s South Asian Studies Initiative, Chandra and Narpat Bhandari funded and have committed to establishing an endowment to pioneer innovative scholarship and academic programs.
- The Natural Sciences Division and the Jack Baskin School of Engineering have benefited from the support of Foundation trustee Narinder Kapany, who served on the Dean’s Advisory Councils for the division and the school. He also generously endowed the Narinder Singh Kapany Chair in Optoelectronics.
- Ramesh Bhojwani generously funded the Bhojwani Family Endowed Graduate Fellowship to financially assist needy students who are the first in their family to attend graduate school. He also contributed to UCSC’s new University Center facility.
INTERNATIONAL DISTINCTIONS

› In 2001, UCSC ranked second in the world for its research productivity in the physical sciences.

› In 1999, UCSC ranked first nationally for its research impact in astrophysics.

› In 1997, UCSC ranked among U.S. public universities as first in social sciences; sixth in the arts and humanities; and 11th in overall research performance.

TEACHING EXCELLENCE

› UCSC ranked 13th in a special category for “unusually strong commitment to undergraduate teaching” in U.S. News & World Report’s annual publication.

› The Academic Excellence Program (ACE) at UCSC won the U.S. Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring.

› In an Association of American Universities study, UCSC ranked 15th in the U.S. for the number of graduates who went on to complete doctoral degrees.

As a leader among public research universities in America, UC Santa Cruz is well positioned to prepare students for successful futures. The strengths and achievements described here highlight our exceptional promise. Many individuals contribute to and benefit from the university’s extraordinary intellectual environment. Together, we sustain rigorous scholarly enterprise—fostering new knowledge and understanding.

Selected Stellar Students and Alumni

Annette Bauer, a graduate student in music, loves the improvisation, spirituality, and refinement of North Indian classical music. Since 1997, she has been studying with Ustad Ali Akbar Khan in California and Switzerland, where she attended the Music Academy of Basel. Annette’s desire to intensify her sarode training with Khansahib and to earn a master’s degree led her to UC Santa Cruz.

Satish Desphande (M.S., Ph.D., Sociology, ’87, ’91), trained in economics and sociology, is currently a researcher at the Institute of Economic Growth in Delhi.

Kyle Eischen, a Ph.D. candidate in sociology, is doing extensive research in the state of Andhra Pradesh in India, where Hyderabad’s highly successful software industry has been developed within a largely agrarian economy. Kyle is also investigating technology partnerships that can be developed between UCSC and India, and furthering the success of “e-government” in Andhra Pradesh through applied information technology solutions.

Mary John (Ph.D., History of Consciousness, ’91) was trained in philosophy, post-colonial history, and women’s studies. She is currently an associate professor of women’s studies at Jawaharlal Nehru University.
Creating a More Just Society

The Center for Justice, Tolerance, and Community (CJTC) is a unique research center dedicated to improving public policy through the application of rigorous academic research. Interdisciplinary in nature, the CJTC is the intellectual home of UC Santa Cruz’s many scholars and students whose work focuses on social justice, diversity, and the building of collaborative communities.

Expanding Access to the Arts

UC Santa Cruz delivers arts appreciation and education to a wide audience. Shakespeare Santa Cruz, the university’s nationally acclaimed professional theater company, engages people through outstanding performances, research, lectures, and readings. The community annually benefits from hundreds of university-sponsored concerts, musical events, and film and video screenings. Two major art galleries offer exhibits throughout the academic year. The ArtsBridge program places UCSC arts students in local schools to enrich arts education for young people.

Advancing Human Understanding

Through numerous programs and events, the Institute for Humanities Research focuses intellectual inquiry and discourse on the meaning of existence, relationships, and society. The institute includes one of the nation’s premier centers of interdisciplinary research—the Center for Cultural Studies, which regularly brings scholars to UCSC for innovative humanities research.

Protecting the Environment

The new STEPS Institute for Innovation in Environmental Research is furthering UCSC’s tradition of pioneering environmental research. Combining the strengths of science, technology, engineering, policy, and social and behavioral science, STEPS is coordinating faculty research to examine three global environmental processes affected by human activities: climate change, genetic restructuring of ecosystems, and transformation of the Earth’s major water systems.

Engineering for Human Welfare

The Center for Biomolecular Science and Engineering (CBSE) is dramatically impacting human health in the 21st century. Through research and academic programs that span the Baskin School of Engineering and the physical and biological sciences, the center fosters innovative approaches for analyzing the human genome. The center played a crucial role in assembling the human genome sequence from fragmented data generated by labs around the world. CBSE continues its key role in deciphering the function of our genetic code.

Developing New Technologies

The national Center for Adaptive Optics ( CfAO), headquartered at UC Santa Cruz, coordinates the efforts of researchers across the U.S. to advance the rapidly developing field of adaptive optics. On the horizon is the new Laboratory for Adaptive Optics, which will develop and test prototypes of adaptive optics equipment. The lab will be the first comprehensive university laboratory of its kind in America.

A COMMITMENT TO ENRICHING THE WORLD
For more information on individuals and programs mentioned in this publication, please contact:

**Chancellor’s Office**  
M.R.C. Greenwood  
Chancellor  
(831) 459-2058, mrcgrmwd@ucsc.edu

**Executive Vice Chancellor’s Office**  
John Simpson  
Campus Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor  
(831) 459-3885, simpson@ucsc.edu

**University Relations**  
Ronald P. Suduiko  
Vice Chancellor  
(831) 459-4750, rsuduiko@ucsc.edu

**Art, Film, Music, and Theater**  
Edward Houghton  
Dean and Professor of Music  
(831) 459-4940, houghtn@ucsc.edu

**Humanities**  
Wlad Godzich  
Dean and Professor of Literature  
(831) 459-2696, wbgodzic@ucsc.edu

**Jack Baskin School of Engineering**  
Sung-Mo “Steve” Kang  
Dean and Professor of Electrical Engineering  
(831) 459-2158, dean@soe.ucsc.edu

**Library**  
Allan J. Dyson  
University Librarian  
(831) 459-2076, dyson@ucsc.edu

**Physical and Biological Sciences**  
David Kliger  
Dean and Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry  
(831) 459-2931, dklinger@natsci.ucsc.edu

**Social Sciences**  
Martin M. Chemers  
Dean and Professor of Psychology  
(831) 459-3212, mchemers@zzyx.ucsc.edu

**Center for Adaptive Optics**  
(831) 459-5592, cfaol@ucolick.org

**Center for Biomolecular Science and Engineering**  
(831) 459-4366, katye@soe.ucsc.edu

**Center for Cultural Studies**  
(831) 459-4899, cult@ucsc.edu

**Center for Global, International and Regional Studies**  
(831) 459-2833, global@ucsc.edu

**Center for Justice, Tolerance, and Community**  
(831) 459-5743, cjtco@ucsc.edu

**Institute for Humanities Research**  
(831) 459-4899, ihrstaff@ucsc.edu

**Satyajit Ray Film and Study Collection**  
(831) 459-4012, dayani@ucsc.edu

**South Asian Studies Initiative**  
(831) 459-2837, dkbasu@ucsc.edu

**STEPS Institute for Innovation in Environmental Research**  
(831) 459-4741, thompson@biology.ucsc.edu

**University of California Santa Cruz**  
1156 High Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 95064  
www.ucsc.edu