

# Opinion

## Extended Jurisdiction Threatens Students' Autonomy

ERIN JAMES

If you have felt that "Big Brother" has been ruling with an iron fist as of late, let me reassure you that you're not paranoid. In the weekends leading up to Halloween, police presence in Isla Vista has increased exponentially (more than 75 officers will patrol our streets this weekend) and extremely restrictive noise ordinances have been imposed to limit the size of parties.

These measures demonstrate a clear example of the balance — or perhaps imbalance — between freedom and order in a democratic society. Those of you concerned that students living in I.V. have already compromised too much of their freedom to achieve order, should be aware that the university is considering tipping the scales even further.

The possibility of extending the university's jurisdiction into I.V. was the topic of debate in two open forums last week. The university already regulates the actions of students, punishing breaches of its rules when they occur on campus — including on-campus residence halls. Last week, the university extended this power to off-campus, affiliated residence halls — Tropicana, Fontainebleu and Francisco Torres. However, the truly contentious issue is whether jurisdiction could, or should, be extended to the rest of Isla Vista in cases of physical abuse, sexual harassment, hazing or stalking.

There are certainly tempting arguments that

could be made for greater university involvement in the community. Safety is a primary concern for most students living in I.V.; the idea that the university could take an active role in punishing students for violent crimes is very appealing. However, this intervention comes at a high cost. There are big stakes involved for both the accused and the accuser when a student is brought before a conduct hearing.

### I.V. Extension

It is fairly easy to understand the rationale for the university regulating student conduct in affiliated dorms. Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Michael Young supported this decision primarily because he felt that there were certain expectations that came with the university lending its name to these residence halls.

"[S]tudents and their parents make a judgment to live in a structured living environment, with rules processes, and procedures," he said. "They are becoming part of an institution with rules and processes. Everybody has an understanding

of the expectations and responsibilities that come with living in that environment."

However, Young expressed concern about the further extension of jurisdiction into I.V. The primary difference between the university regulating its residence halls and the university regulating your I.V. apartment is the choice factor. While students make the decision to live in university dorms, and therefore choose to abide by university rules, students who live in the Isla Vista community live there by necessity and have not agreed to be regulated in the same way.

"When people make a decision to move out into an apartment in Isla Vista, or into a condo in Goleta, it is a different judgment that was made as to how that person might choose to live. For their status as a student to dictate the level of adherence to a set of rules that the university establishes, is a judgment that should be made, at best, very carefully and very deliberately," Young said.

### University Disciplinary Action

Many people who support the proposal for extended jurisdiction cite safety concerns in I.V. They believe that university involvement in the community could reduce crime levels. Some are simply not happy with the responsiveness of the criminal justice system to certain behaviors and want the university to deal with them instead. This is not the job of the university — it should not be acting as a police force and in doing so may undermine

the criminal justice system. Currently, complaints made to the conduct committee need not have been reported to local law enforcement first. Students may, in fact, completely bypass the criminal justice system. This raises the question of how fair the justice is that the conduct committee dispenses.

Students found guilty of a serious breach of university regulations may receive punishments ranging from restricting school activities to expulsion. With a student's reputation — not to mention, expensive education — at stake, the threat of being kicked out of the university is very serious. The university's conduct committee consists of four faculty members and four students appointed by A.S. The Associate Dean of Students Joseph Navarro claims that the committee receives extensive training, especially in sensitive issues such as sexual assault. Navarro himself

for that," Atkins said.

### Justification for I.V. Extension

Before the university even considers extending its jurisdiction into I.V., it must carefully consider its reasons for doing so.

Although it is true that many other UC campuses have gone down this track (UC Berkeley has extended its jurisdiction globally), this is not sufficient justification for similar action at UCSB.

Dean of Students Yonie Harris said the surrounding community has expressed a desire for the university to take more responsibility for its students, especially when it comes to serious crime. This is also insufficient justification for extending jurisdiction.

In the words of Vice Chancellor Young: "[There] are certain fundamental principles of democracy. One of those principles is the degree of involvement, intrusion, or intervention

**There are big stakes involved for both the accused and the accuser when a student is brought before a conduct hearing.**



ERIC LISTER / DAILY NEXUS

of the government or authorities, in whatever form, into the private lives of citizens."

Proceeding with such an enormous step would irrevocably change the university's role in the I.V. community. It should only make this decision if it is pursuing a compelling interest. University regulations exist to help maintain a healthy and safe academic environment, not to act as a criminal justice system. The university should be very careful that it has made this distinction clear before it continues with plans to extend its jurisdiction into Isla Vista.

Erin James is a Daily Nexus Opinion editor.

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# Opinion

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We welcome all submissions. The length is three pages.

### Staff Editorial



SHADI MUKLASHY / DAILY NEXUS

## All Hallows' Eve

### Resurrect the Ghost of I.V. Halloween With Responsibility and Respect for Community

It's that time of year again, Isla Vista's annual claim to fame — Halloween. Although ghouls and goblins can be found roaming the streets of I.V. nearly every night, Oct. 31 is a special occasion. The holiday is a paradox: Halloween night has a riotous reputation known far and wide, but Halloween day marks the largest annual community festival. Halloween is an opportunity for all Isla Vistans to live it up as they see fit, and one should forget neither the rowdy nor the more traditional facets. The true spirit of I.V.'s most beloved day lies in a respect for the town's eclectic population.

The trick (and the treat) is to find a balance. Half the town wants to party like it's 1999, and the other half wants to enjoy an authentic autumn holiday. Student and nonstudent residents, especially children, must all be accommodated.

Halloween has become increasingly tame in the last few years. The infamous debauchery peaked in 1992, after *Playboy* magazine called I.V. Halloween the second-best party in the nation, behind New Orleans' Mardi Gras. Things got out of hand, however, as 40,000 out-of-town visitors showed up looking for unabashed belligerence and arrests soared. The I.V. Foot Patrol quickly enacted the five-year plan to curb the mayhem. We are now in year eight.

Any student will testify to the inconvenience caused by the special 6 p.m. to 7 a.m. noise ordinance that is put in place over the Halloween weekend. There is a reason why this measure is taken, but Halloween does not have to be as restrictive as it is. Once students prove that they can party responsibly, we can start to get down like we used to. Private parties are key; so is declining to invite all your out-of-town friends to crash for the weekend. Be smart and we can revive a good thing. Full pageantry is a must. There is absolutely nothing wrong with partaking in the licentious revelry that made

this town famous, so long as we keep it tempered — we do, after all, have a reputation to uphold.

Above and beyond all the fiendish temptations (and yes, oh yes, we can be tempted), students must remember that the holiday offers much more than a drunken masquerade. Get wild this weekend, and get traditional on Tuesday. The Día de los Muertos and Halloween festival is our community's time to shine. The festivities in Anisq' Oyo' Park brings together students, children and members of the Latino community. The parade, bands, games and attractions afford a more traditional opportunity to celebrate with friends and neighbors who often go unrecognized; there is no better chance to find out who is sharing this seaside niche of ours.

Most importantly, don't forget what Halloween is all about — candy (and lots of it). Sign up for the university and IVRPD-organized trick-or-treating program in residence halls. I.V. participants will provide addresses for local kids to come knocking. Please realize this town is not very accommodating for children, and these kids should be given the opportunity to celebrate an old-fashioned Halloween tradition. Besides, there is nothing more funny than a group of young whippersnappers showing up at your door in full regalia.

It is often difficult to balance the tempers of such a diverse local population. However, this is the greatest opportunity of the year to build a sense of community. Halloween is an I.V. holiday because it offers something for everybody. We own that day because Isla Vistans know how to celebrate it better than anybody does. It is about flamboyance and flare, candy and costumes. It is about a community that works, plays and parties hard. So let's do it right.

## Connerly Has

KEN SPAIN

In an attempt to end racism last Thursday night, it seemed that a form of "reverse racism" was the chosen means. UC Regent Ward Connerly was received by a hostile crowd at Isla Vista Theater, which was filled mostly with UCSB students and concerned university faculty. Students booed and hissed at Connerly in such a shameful manner that I was embarrassed to be a part of UCSB's student body. I sat in amazement and watched as an African-American student held up an Oreo cookie and accused Connerly of being "just like this cookie." I thought the argument in favor of Affirmative Action called for an end to the blatant racism that has hindered this country for the past hundreds years!

I am a Hispanic student, and I earned the right to attend UCSB on my own merit. I made it through nontraditional means, by attending a community college and transferring, and not through immediate post-high school admission. I do not believe in the Affirmative Action's "preference" system, which turned into a quota building system all over the country. I have seen too many of my Caucasian family members and friends get hurt and cheated by this system. These people were next in line to land the job of their dreams or get the big promotion they had been waiting for, but they were passed up because their skin wasn't the right color for this day and age. I have witnessed this first-hand and profited from it in the form of jobs both within and outside of the university.

**I sat in amazement and watched as an African-American student held up an Oreo cookie and accused Connerly of being "just like this cookie."**

So, let me get this straight. Because I am Hispanic and my so-called "minority" is considered to be underrepresented in this country, I deserve to climb up the social and economic ladder faster than everyone else? How can race determine whether or not I deserve to go to UCLA or UCSB when others are more qualified? Why should I land that big job promotion others had worked their entire life

## The Reader's Voice

### DO NOT ALLOW BAD EGG TO STEREOTYPE GREEKS

Editor, *Daily Nexus*:

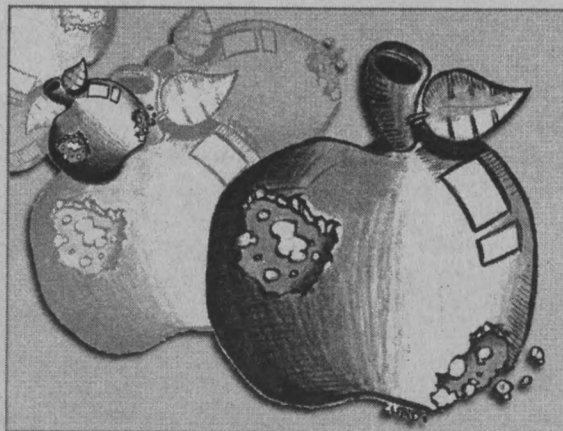
This letter is a response to Brendan Buhler's article "Fraternities in the Mist" printed on Wednesday, Oct. 18, in the I.V. Life section of the *Daily Nexus*. As the president of Beta Theta Pi and a member of the greek system, I feel it is my duty to respond to such an unfair attack on the greek system. What also disturbed me was the use of the word "beta" on line 87 when describing the particular "frat" in hand. While the word was used in a different context and not intended to describe my fraternity, it has still been unfairly associated with my fraternity. Rest assured, Brendan Buhler's article was not describing my fraternity. Our fraternity house does not have a balcony, nor do we advocate the ill slander of women or the loud, obnox-



ious behavior demonstrated by the "frat" described by Brendan.

In the larger picture, it is unfortunate that this "frat" engaged in this negative activity. However, one bad apple should not spoil the whole crop. My fraternity, like all other fraternities and sororities, does many things to give back to the community. Each

year our house does over 300 man hours of community service, such as tutoring elementary school kids, volunteering at food drives and participating in beach clean-ups in order to help make Isla Vista a better place for all of us. Furthermore, we have an annual softball tournament to raise money for the



SHADI MUKLASHY / DAILY NEXUS

America Cancer Society. We raise thousands of dollars each year for cancer research to aid those who have been affected by the disease. It is insulting and painstaking to see that any negative action by a greek house is highlighted, while fraternities and sororities continually do positive things for the campus and community that are often overlooked and unacknowledged.

I cannot emphasize enough that Brendan's experiences are not reflective of the Greek system as a whole. Fraternities and sororities do many positive things to give back to UCSB and Isla Vista in

order to make our beloved community, they present themselves as a level of stability and experience in order to change college environment every guy and girl at UCSB for themselves in our own opinion as to what it has to offer.

ANDRE

## FREE SPEECH BE CARRIED

Editor, *Daily Nexus*:

I am writing in response to the editor (The Rea-



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All submissions, but please include your name and phone number. For columns, maximum three pages, typed and double-spaced; for letters, one page. All submissions become the property of the Daily Nexus upon being turned in and are edited for length and clarity.

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# Las Plan to Pick Up the Slack

for, simply because my skin is a different color? The answer to all of these questions is this: I DON'T DESERVE ANY OF IT! Maybe I do deserve some help because my family couldn't give me all the benefits my rich, white friends received while in high school, but I know I don't deserve it because of my race.

That was the message Connerly had in mind this past Thursday when he tried to speak to a crowd filled with so many unmannered people, a large number of which were poorly educated on the issue of Affirmative Action. Connerly was berated and attacked for his ideas, and cut off every time he tried to answer student questions. Some of the questions that I heard were excellent and made great points that even sparked a reevaluation of some of my own beliefs. However, many of these so-called questions were nothing of the sort. They were more like ignorant comments. One that sticks out in my mind was

California and dubbed the term "Affirmative Access." He said that making sure inner city schools are able to provide equal access to the same programs enjoyed by their suburban counterparts

our pledge of allegiance that night. I also noticed that they were the same people who attacked Connerly and denounced our government. I hope that none of those students receive financial aid, and if they do, I think they should give back their Cal Grants, Pel Grants and any other form of government aid that provides them with the very same opportunity that they dare to attack. Yes, this country does have its racists; I've seen it, witnessed it and have been hurt by it. We have come a long way as a society since the 1960s and even the early 1990s, and I believe there is a lot more work to be done and that that work continues today. However, reverse discrimination in the form of quota building cannot be the answer.

In the wake of our Nobel Prize awards, it finally seems that UCSB is getting the respect that it truly deserves. By acting in such an uncivil manner, as many did this past Thursday night, I only hope that we have not irreparably damaged our reputation. Hopefully, the UC Regents and the world at large will not judge this instance of ignorance as a blemish on the face of UCSB's true prestige. Ward Connerly grew up in an era of true racism and hate, and to disrespect a man who has come so far, and is still trying to work to find equal opportunity for all, is a shame. I applaud Connerly for his efforts in trying to do something within our system. My only wish is that people would take the time to listen to what he has to say before they attack and protest against him in a fashion that only devalues the prestigious name of this great university.

would help level the playing field. Connerly has been working with the California government to help get all students equal access to AP courses in their high schools and he says other changes can be plainly seen in this year's state budget. I checked the website for this budget, and sure enough I found the same plan that Connerly had proposed. This same equal access program would benefit all students from all schools grades K-12. I see nothing wrong with this, and I applaud Ward Connerly for trying to find a way to bring equal opportunity by working within the parameters of our Constitution and the system that we all benefit from.

Many students would not stand for

Ken Spain is a senior history major.



MIWA MATREYEK / DAILY NEXUS

## amazement and as an African-student held up anokie and accused of being "just like e."

words of "propaganda." I guess the idea of trying to eliminate racism within the confines of our legal system (the way Connerly proposed) was just not good enough for her.

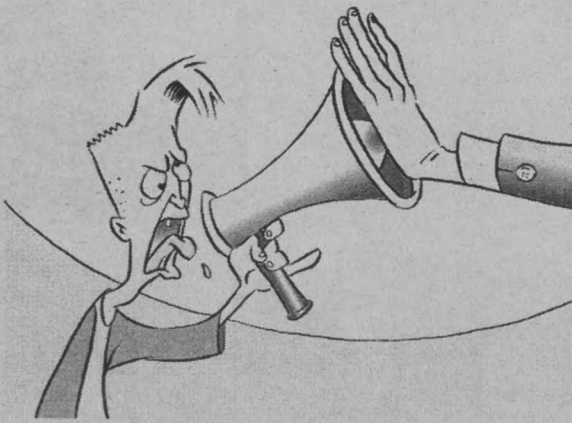
Ward Connerly proposed a nonracist means to ensure equal opportunity in

## Speech May Not Be 'Too Far'

response to Daniel Cheung's letter in The Reader's Voice, "Alumnus

Lawsuit Abuses Free Speech," Oct. 25). Cheung chastises Chris Brown for filing a lawsuit, which Cheung refers to as "too far" and an "embarrassment" against the university for rejecting this thesis. Who is Daniel Cheung to decide what types of free speech are acceptable and what is "ridiculous," as he put it?

The great thing about free speech is found in the "marketplace of ideas" approach. We let all voices be heard, and the ones that are truly ridiculous will be weeded out automatically. Once we start silencing views before they even reach the



RAD SECHRIST / DAILY NEXUS

public, we run into major problems. Brown's speech does not fall under any category that can be legally censored. So why do we censor it? Just because we don't agree? Or just because we don't think it's right? Some people are so scared that some opposing views might get out that they try to silence them before they even have a chance. I say that Chris Brown had every right to include his "disacknowledgment" in his thesis. There was no rule that said he could not write what he did, and if there was, it would violate the First Amendment. The fact that professors did not like his opinions

### Letters to the editor MUST include the author's FULL name, phone number, year and major.

doesn't give them the right to censor him.

It is the same principle behind last week's controversial Daily Friday magazine. The marketplace of ideas worked wonders in that situation. The staff printed things that were very unpopular, and a vast majority of people felt they were not funny or done in good taste. But no one has the right to censor this speech. You may not agree with it, you may want some law to ban it, but such speech is protected by the Constitution and I'm glad.

If we let our society get to a point where people fear a lawsuit or prison because of what they say, we will have destroyed the very fabric of what makes this country so great. Decide for yourself what speech you are going to pay attention to and agree with; don't try to decide for others.

CHRIS AUSTIN

## I.V. Community Students and Seniors Share Neighborhood and Experience

LIZ ALEY

Senior citizen residents of Friendship Manor share a great deal with the students, staff and faculty at UCSB. If you take the #24 city bus from campus into Santa Barbara Transit Center, you may have seen one of our members wistfully looking for a seat onboard. Courteously, some kind and forthcoming student almost always offers his or her place. However, it's a lot more convenient if we don't carry a cane. During spike hours on this trip, every corner of the bus is needed and a cane can get in the way.

On one trip, about two years ago, as I was pulling the cord to signal that I wished to get off the bus at Camino Pescadero, a young man spoke up with a sincere question: "What do you think of all of us," he asked, referring to the hordes of young people in Isla Vista, "and just where do you live?" I pointed to the group of buildings just beyond Camino Pescadero on El Colegio Road and replied, "That's my home, and we have four wings and a campus of gardens between them. Lots of palm trees. And we enjoy watching all of you if you don't knock us awry on El Colegio Road sidewalk with your bikes and skateboards. Come and visit us sometime!"

We have enjoyed the company of Sigma Kappa women and Kappa Kappa Gamma as well — all extraordinarily pretty women. They come to our sing-a-longs once in a while but as time marches on, fewer students have any memory of the songs we sing from the '30s, '40s and '50s, when we were very young and sang a lot from movies, dances, big bands, radio and vaudeville.

In the mornings we share the same, faintly salty fogs that float in off the Channel Islands as the rest of the community, and all day and into evening we share the same birds and wild creatures that roam about the garbage cans. We hear the raucous seagulls just as you do; we share the territorial mockingbirds and the visits of migrating birds to the dry grasslands across from the Manor and next door. You are good neighbors and we miss you when you leave. There is less traffic, less speeding, less bustle, of course, but we miss you all the same.

Liz Aley is a resident of Friendship Manor.



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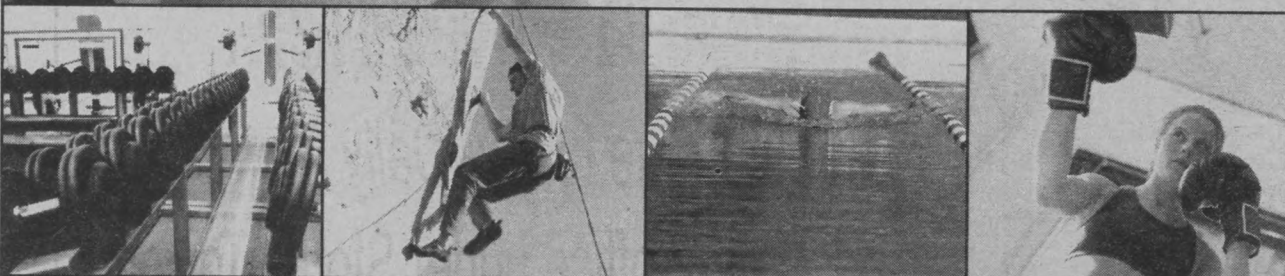
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