The Graduate Student Commons

Located above Joe’s Pizza and Subs in Quarry Plaza, the Graduate Student Commons is an independent organization that exists solely to serve the needs and interests of grad students at UCSC. The Commons is the only building on campus that is owned and operated entirely by graduate students! It provides a comfortable and welcoming space, fostering graduate student interaction and a sense of community. The Commons offers a variety of events and resources throughout the year for grad students, including:

- Private study/meeting rooms
- Space for TA’s to hold sections and office hours
- Multimedia equipment including Nintendo Wii, DVD player, and board games
- Lounge area & balcony to study, relax, hang out
- Free printing (up to 10 pgs/day)
- Kitchen with water cooler, microwave, & small fridge
- Reserve space for your club or organization to meet
- Sponsorship for graduate student intramural teams

Social Events

First Friday Socials at The Commons – Hang out with fellow grads the 1st Friday of each month. Snacks & beverages provided. October 5th, November 2nd, December 7th, 5:00-7:00pm

Halloween Bash & Pumpkin Carving - Prizes, snacks & assorted beverages provided. Thursday, October 25th, 6:00-9:00pm

Grad Student Knitting & Crafting Club - All grads are welcome! Mondays, 5:30-7:30pm

Yoga with Aura – Bring a mat or use ours. Wednesdays & Fridays 1:30-2:30pm

Hiking with Kimball – Explore UCSC! Meet at the Barn G parking lot. Tuesdays, 12:00-1:00pm

Meditation with Aditya - Sponsored by UCSC Wellness and B Smart About Safety. Wednesdays, 12:10-12:50pm

Acupressure and Chair Massage - Unwind from graduate life with complimentary acupressure or massage. Wednesday, December 5th, 11:30-2:30pm

How to Prepare a Statement of Teaching Philosophy - For grad students of any discipline. Tuesday, October 2nd, 12:00-1:30pm

Effective Dissertation Writing Processes Led by Writing Program faculty. For advanced grad students of any discipline. Wednesday, October 3rd, 5:00-6:30pm

Great Presentations with Keynote Improve your skill in creating engaging presentations. Thursday, October 11th, 4:00-5:00pm

Career Search Strategies for STEM - For grad students in STEM disciplines. Tuesday, October 23rd, 12:00-1:30pm

Electronic Dissertation Submissions – The dissertation submission process at UCSC has recently gone digital! Come learn the details and pick up some tips from experts. Thursday, October 25th, 12:00-1:00pm

Navigating the “Versatile PhD” – UCSC graduate students now have access to the Versatile PhD web resource for career searches. Learn how to access and navigate this valuable tool. Wednesday, November 7th, 12:30-2:00pm

Managing References & Bibliographies Using EndNote – Learn how to create reference lists, download citations, and integrate Endnote with Word/Pages. Tuesday, November 13th, 4:00-5:00pm

Learn more about The Commons & our programs online!
Website: http://gradcommons.drupal.ucsc.edu/
Facebook: UCSC Graduate Student Commons

REMEMBER! Get your 24-hour access code to The Commons to use the space after staffed hours and easily gain entry to events after 5pm. Just stop by The Commons during staffed hours and one of our awesome staff will help you!

Questions? Comments? Ideas for future programming? We’d love to hear from you! Contact Danielle Kohfeldt (Professional Development Coordinator) at dkohfeld@ucsc.edu, Diane Brookes (Facilities Manager) at dbrookes@ucsc.edu, or Mark Mozena (GSC President) at mmozena@ucsc.edu