



Volume 6

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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MEET UCDC's CSDs: ALISHA, MATT & YOUNG CHAN

UCDC's three current Coordinators of Student Development (CSD), Alisha, Matt and Young Chan, come from different states and graduated from different universities, but they share a mutual passion for student affairs.

CSDs provide resources to students, conduct nightly rounds, plan events, and mediate conflicts. They are also first responders, so it's important that they live in the building, in close proximity to students.

This July marks Alisha, Matt and Young Chan's one year anniversary in their CSD positions, so we sat down with each of them to talk about their experience so far, ask about their backgrounds and hobbies and get their nearby food and activity recommendations.



Young Chan Lim

Hometown: Korea → Castro Valley → Anaheim

University attended: UCLA

Recommendations: BUL, the National Mall and the Newseum

Born in Korea, Young Chan moved to Northern California in 2004. He and his family lived in Castro Valley for over a decade and, from there, he moved south – after starting school at UCLA, his family moved to Anaheim, which he said definitely made traveling from school to home much more manageable.

A UCLA alum from the class of 2018,

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The always friendly Young Chan has such a strong passion for student affairs that it is impossible for him to pinpoint which part of his job as a CSD he likes best – “I feel lucky every day I wake up here,” he says.

Young Chan completed a major in political science and a minor in education studies. He also served in the role of Resident Advisor for two years.

“UCLA has a beautiful campus – it felt like the first time every day,” he said of his time as an undergraduate. “UCLA has a lot of resources available for students.

"I encourage current undergraduate students to reach out to their campuses to see what resources are available to them."

Toward the end of his final year at UCLA, a friend of Young Chan's sent him the job posting for the UCDC CSD position. Immediately enthusiastic about the job, he decided to apply.

"I see myself in a support role — I want my students to come back to the building and know that there is a safe and comfortable place to be, and I like to know I'm part of creating that," he said about his position. "For me, being able to support students in a way that I'm good at and that I enjoy is an enjoyable part of the job."

Young Chan has several big goals

for the future: he wants to complete a masters degree in student affairs after which time he plans to return to residential affairs and eventually switch to teaching. His plan is to be a professor at a community college and help de-stigmatize community colleges — "wherever you start, your degrees will look the same once you graduate," he said.

He also wants to conduct research focused on East Asian children experiencing poverty and how their experiences differ from how other groups experience poverty.

In his free time, Young Chan has several impressive hobbies: he does origami, calligraphy and 3D papercraft, he creates art with watercolors and enjoys talking about politics and reading Supreme Court



cases — "keeping up with the constitutional law is fun for me," he said. Young Chan can occasionally be heard playing classical or gospel piano in the lobby at night.

Finally, Young Chan said, above all, he wants students to view him as friendly CSD — "Being an amazing and competent CSD isn't good enough unless students feel like they can come to me."



Alisha Tesfalem

Hometown: Lincoln, Nebraska

University attended: University of Nebraska

Recommendations: Jazz in the Garden, Keren, Habesha Market and Chercher

of Nebraska, Alisha decided to get involved in work related to higher education because she missed being challenged, being around students and "having a safe space to be able to dream big." Upon receiving her masters and after extensively looking for jobs, Alisha moved to D.C. and secured her current position with UCDC.

"If change is going to happen it's going to happen here," Alisha says about choosing to move to and live in D.C. "There's so many advocacy groups and I am a change-maker."

Alisha is still planning out exactly what her future will look like, but she knows it will include investing in her community, helping marginalized groups and being involved in "diversity and inclusion in the realms of education and activism."

In her free time, Alisha enjoys talking about the world and Eritrean politics

and she prides herself on being a resource for students — whether that entails serving as a sounding board for students or giving out recommendations on where to go for fun.

Reflecting on her work and interactions with UC students, Alisha says she hopes students challenge themselves to engage with groups and individuals who might have different viewpoints or backgrounds than they do.

"A lot of our amazing students are advocates and change-makers and are trying to make great changes in this work, but in order to do that you have to be able to sit down and negotiate with people who don't think like you," she said. "They're at that developmental stage where they're figuring themselves out [so] being able to be that resource and challenge them is really nice."

Alisha has found a way to successfully combine her passions for diversity, inclusion and student affairs through her CSD position, namely through the Real Talk series she pioneered which creates a space for students of color to get together and destress. With the large amount of positive feedback the series has received, and with an additional roundtable talk having since been created for LGBTQIA+ students, Alisha says she hopes the momentum continues.

Having received both her bachelors and masters degrees from the University

Matt Klein

Hometown: Johnson City, Tennessee

University attended: University of Tennessee, Knoxville; University of Georgia

Recommendations: The American Indian Museum and GCDC Grilled Cheese Bar



Matt Klein was in his second year of college pursuing a bachelor's degree in pre-health when he realized he had a calling for student affairs. At the time, he was supposed to be doing an internship at a doctor's office, but he was also working a job in his university's student activities office. Once he discovered his affinity for student affairs, he got very involved.

"I was an RA my senior year, [I was] president of the programming board, I led one alternative break trip and went on four alternative break trips," Matt recalled.

After obtaining his bachelors' degree, Matt continued on to grad school at the University of Georgia to study college student affairs administration.

Matt has had his fair share of students affairs experience: he had an

assistantship where he oversaw the Homecoming Committee and planned events such as outdoor movie showings on the football field. He also had an internship at San Jose State University where he oversaw intern housing and pioneered programming from scratch on a low budget.

Asked how he found his position at UCDC, Matt remembers "applying to so many jobs" when a friend happened to send him the CSD job listing on Facebook – "It fit all the goals I was looking for: in a big city, working with students and making an impact," he said.

In his current role, Matt focuses on room assignments, which he does thoughtfully and by hand.

He also did the environmental health and safety checks, put together the program calendar and sends out the weekly newsletters.

"Washington D.C. is my favorite city in the country," Matt said. "It was before I moved here and it still is. There's just a lot going on here. There's so much history here."

In his free time, Matt collects Funko Pop! figures and enjoys watching movies. In fact, if he's not working, odds are he's at the movie theatre. "I see about a 100 movies a year in theaters. If I haven't been to the movies in a week, it's rare."

As for his favorite movies so far this year? *Midsommar*, *Us*, *Late Night*, *Avengers: Endgame*, and *Booksmart* (in no particular order).



NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE

The extremely popular National Museum of African American History and Culture boasts an impressive collection of art, photographs, pins, banners, books and historic objects including a dress worn by former First Lady Michelle Obama and a letter written by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Although the museum itself is quite spacious, with three floors of exhibition space above floor level and three floors of exhibition space below floor level, the free museum is packed every day of the week. Visitors can either wait in line on weekdays starting at 1 p.m. or they can attempt

to secure same-day passes online, released at 6:30 a.m. everyday.

The three floors of the museum located below ground floor display a detailed and intimate portrait of African American history in the U.S, beginning with the Transatlantic Slave Trade and continuing with the Abolitionist movement, the Civil War, Reconstruction, segregation, the Civil Rights movement

the Black Power movement and the modern era – with a look at the election of former President Barack Obama.

The top three floors explore cultural expression, sports, art and representation.

The museum's "Sweet Home Cafe" serves up dishes such as shrimp and grits, fried chicken, gumbo, po'boys, sweet corn pudding and candied yams.



FEATURED PLACES



Drinking coffee and playing with cats? Yes, please. This cat cafe has helped over 1,100 cats find homes and donated \$28,000 to charity.

FRESHFARM DUPONT CIRCLE MARKET

Thought the Davis Farmer's Market was impressive? Check out the dozens of stalls selling everything from fresh fruit and veggies to coffee, pickles, poultry rabbits, pastries and more every Sunday morning.



Did you visit one of our featured places? Don't forget to tag your photos on Instagram @washingtonprogram!

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

OUTDOOR MOVIES

Cool Runnings

Noma

the Lot at First & Pierce

1150 First Street NE

Aug. 7 @ 6:30-10:30 p.m.

FREE

Eat Pray Love

Cinema on the

Waterfront

Georgetown Waterfront

Park

Aug. 6 @ 8:30 p.m.

FREE

Guardians of the Galaxy

Capitol Riverfront

Outdoor Movie Series

Canal Park

Aug. 8 @ 7 p.m.

FREE

SHOP

Summer Swap Shop

Wunder Garden @ Noma

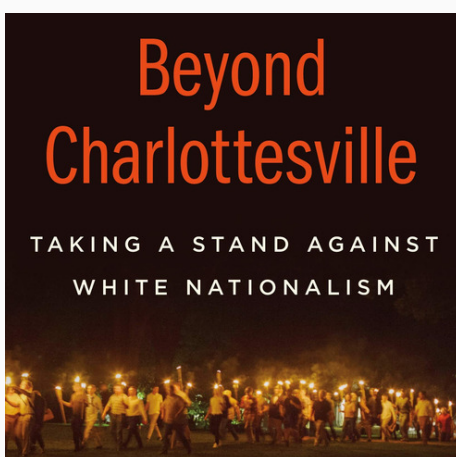
1101 First St NE,

Washington, DC 20002

Aug. 9 from 2 to 6 p.m.

FREE

Swap out your clothing items and accessories for new finds at this event, which will also feature live music and food trucks. The event is free, but be sure to register on Facebook to attend beforehand.



Arty Queers

The DC Center

2000 14th Street NW,

Suite 105

Aug. 10, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Free to attend

This monthly LGBTQ art market features an array of art pieces for sale, including jewelry, pottery, paintings, glass work and clothing.

BOOK TALKS

Gov. Terry McAuliffe – "Beyond Charlottesville"

National Press Club

529 14th St. NW

Aug. 6, 6:30-8 p.m.

\$10 per person

Virginia's Governor Terry McAuliffe will talk about his book "Beyond Charlottesville: Taking a Stand Against White Nationalism."

Steven Greenhouse - "Beaten Down, Worked Up: The Past, Present, and Future of American Labor"

Politics and Prose

5015 Connecticut Ave NW

Aug. 8, 7-8 p.m.

Free

Award-winning New York Times journalist Steven Greenhouse will speak about income inequality, gender pay gaps, worker power and labor unions.