

Q&A WITH SUA

Send in your questions, and we'll share the answers!

Question:

What kind of student activities have you held so far, and what do you see in the future?

Answer:

Students and staff have worked closely with the Director of Residence and Student Activities to hold a number of events. Under the heading of Midnight Madness, the staff cooked very early morning breakfasts at key times for students. Following the students' first immersion course, a masseuse was enthusiastically welcomed to campus. There was a celebration with a dunk tank, and several professors, staff members and students bravely volunteered to be dunked (SUA President Danny Habuki was first to go!).

Several open-mic events have been held to address significant times, especially the Sept. 11 terrorist tragedies. Once each month during lunch in the Dining Hall, all students with birthdays in that month are recognized and get to cut their cake. Saturday night is movie night at the video wall in the Student Center!

What is coming up? Regularly scheduled coffee-talk times without agendas will generate opportunities for dialogue outside of regular venues. Our first "In the Spotlight," where students get to demonstrate their unique or special talents, was held Sept. 28. Already in the planning stage is the first SUA Film Festival. Soon to be announced is our Leadership Program, in which students participate in nine seminars and related events that lead to certification at year's end. Sept. 24–Oct. 1 was campaigning week, and elections for the Soka Student Government Association were held on Oct. 2.

Question:

Athletics and sports are very important to me. If I attend SUA, what can I expect to find in the way of athletics facilities? Will I be able to participate in intercollegiate competition?

Answer:

Soka University Athletics & Recreation is excited about providing opportunities to the Soka community with modern facilities and a wide breadth of programming. With state-of-the-art facilities and Southern California's famed Mediterranean climate, Soka will provide extensive opportunity to those interested in a healthy, active lifestyle, or for those furthering their competitive playing career in particular sports. The Recreation Center includes two full basketball courts and can also accommodate three volleyball or five badminton courts, with outdoor patios overlooking the pool area and Aliso and Wood Canyons.

Additionally the Center has two weight rooms; one a complete circuit of selectorized equipment and the other a comprehensive free-weight facility. A wide diversity of aerobic and cardio equipment is also available, as are racquetball courts and multi-purpose areas for free-play, clubs and classes. The Athletic Complex also has an Olympic-size, 50-meter pool for those who want aquatic training opportunities, six tennis courts, an all-weather

400-meter track and two multi-purpose fields to accommodate intramurals, team sports and other activities.

Particularly as the student population grows, expanded offerings in classes, instruction, group fitness and intramurals in both individual and team sports will be offered. Again dependent upon student interest, courses as widely divergent as aerobics, martial arts and dance can be accommodated, as Recreation will continue to be responsive to students' requests. Competition will always be offered via intramurals, with both team and individual sports throughout the school year.

If you have questions of any kind about SUA, please send them to SUA at either admission@soka.edu or info@soka.edu. We will use this World Tribune column to share our answers with others who might have the same questions.