

May 23, 2023

Dear Members of Our Campus Community,

It is with great honor and a heavy heart that we join once again as a community to remember and reflect on the ninth anniversary of the tragic events that took place in Isla Vista on May 23, 2014. We remember and celebrate the beautiful lives of those we lost, keeping them forever in our hearts.

- George Chen,
- Katherine Cooper,
- James Hong,
- Christopher Michaels-Martinez,
- David Wang,
- and Veronika Weiss.

We also hold in our hearts the parents, brothers and sisters, family members, classmates, and friends of these special students, keeping them in our thoughts and wishing them solace and peace in their memories of their loved ones.

As a campus, we grieved together, found strength in each other, and cared for one another. On this ninth anniversary, we do the same. These remembrances provide us an opportunity to be united in spirit and to recognize the many ways that our campus and the Isla Vista community have collaborated and connected. We use this time to pause and reflect, to honor our history and celebrate the strength of our future, and to appreciate the resilient spirit of our community that we treasure so much.

I would like to thank our Associated Students and Student Affairs for their dedicated leadership in organizing occasions for commemoration and reflection. Let us take this moment to continue to strengthen our community, and to keep the light of our six students – George, Katherine, James, Christopher, David, and Veronika – shining brightly and eternally.

Sincerely,

Henry T. Yang
Chancellor