



PEER-LED ACADEMIC COHORT EXPERIENCES (PACE)

CREATING COMMUNITY AND MENTORSHIP

Peer-Led Academic Cohort Experiences (PACE) provide first-year undergraduates at UC San Diego with a place to build community, collaborate and find student-led mentorship in computing. Under the direction of Vice Chair for Undergraduate Education in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) Mia Minnes, and Associate Teaching Professor Joe Politz, these opportunities are more than an academic resource for first-year students. PACE provides undergraduate leaders and graduate students with mentorship experiences that empower their professional growth.

PACE programs are designed with openness in mind. Operating for an entire academic year in three 10-week quarters, PACE is open to all first-year computing students. Each quarter, students are organized into cohorts led by experienced CSE peer mentors in their second, third or fourth year who are equipped with ready-to-use activities and curriculum. Each week, these undergraduate mentors share a complimentary meal with their cohorts and lead conversations about CSE courses and the impacts of innovative computing topics. Students are also given the option to earn two units of credit each academic quarter for their participation in PACE by enrolling in CSE 89: Intro to CSE Seminar.

Our goal? Making mentorship paramount and fostering a supportive community within the Department of Computer Science and Engineering. By providing a safe environment for learning, exploring and making connections, we can ensure the next generation of computer science and engineering leaders are equipped with the knowledge and network to make a difference — at UC San Diego and beyond.

At UC San Diego, we believe that what we don't know today will forever change our tomorrows. Empowered by generosity and fueled by curiosity, we are unafraid to chase the unknown — to ask the questions no one has asked before and to push the boundaries of possibility. Together, we unite diverse people and unconventional perspectives to propel limitless impact. Because we know that when we come together, nothing is beyond us.

MORE THAN 250

Computing students have participated in PACE to date

10:1

Student-to-mentor ratio for each cohort group, supporting small group communication and leadership opportunities

WEEKLY SESSIONS

Allow consistent opportunities for connection to peers



GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Charitable donations of any amount directly support operational costs for PACE, alleviating the financial burden for first-year students seeking connection and encouraging involvement by all computing students, regardless of their background. Your support makes PACE possible. Thank you for supporting our CSE student community.

Annual programmatic costs for PACE include:

Programmatic Element	Operational Cost
Lead Peer Mentors <i>Annual stipends for 15 undergraduate student leaders (\$3,000 each)</i>	\$45,000
Graduate Teaching Assistants <i>Quarter-long stipends for three graduate teaching assistantships (\$18,333 each)</i>	\$55,000
Faculty Leadership <i>Providing curriculum support and direction</i>	\$50,000
Meals and Supplies <i>Encouraging student participation and community building</i>	\$50,000
TOTAL	\$200,000

Together with your philanthropic support, we can equip our students to advance discovery in computer science and engineering through the power of community and collaboration.

[Learn more at giving.ucsd.edu.](https://giving.ucsd.edu)

For more information on how you can support the Department of Computer Science and Engineering through PACE, please contact:

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