

# Number of Dogs Present in Classes Declining This Year

■ Campus Canine Policies Still Not Enforced; Students, Profs Consider Reasons for Drop

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*Reporter*

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Although the university has remained lax in enforcing its canine-free policy, man's best friend has been significantly absent in class recently.

Dogs have had a long history of living in close quarters with students in Isla Vista, though the control of these pets was not always performed with enough care, according to Dianna Halliburton, I.V. Foot Patrol office manager.

"We used to have a tremendous problem with dogs in I.V.," she said. "In the 60s kids would just pack up and leave them behind thinking that [their dogs] would be waiting for them when they returned. These strays would form packs of wild dogs and kill chickens and goats that were raised at married student housing."

Halliburton gave her theory on

how the wild dog problem eventually took care of itself in the early 70s.

"The problem disappeared after the Vietnam War when the state subsidized housing for Vietnamese and the Mongs in I.V.," she said. "Not only did the packs disappear, but you couldn't keep your dog out. You never wanted to look in a dumpster 'cause you would commonly find heads and other discarded portions [of animals]. Since then the dog population in I.V. has been under wraps."

Senior business/economics major Cristina Leon offered her explanation for the depletion of dogs on campus, citing the lack of homes that allow dogs as the problem.

"My landlord no longer allows dogs," she said. "I can have one because he changed the policy after I moved in."

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# DOGS

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English Professor Louise Fradenburg said that despite her approval of canines in class, she has noticed a dramatic decline in dog attendance.

"When I first came here there would be one or two dogs in every large lecture," she said. "I remember once in the large lecture hall of Girvetz a dog walked right across the stage. It doesn't bother me."

UCSB's official policy guidelines discourage dogs on campus, according to Assistant to the Vice Chancellor for Administrative Services Meta Clow.

"Dogs on campus must be held on a leash," she said. "Dogs may not be taken or kept in any campus building."

Although dogs are not allowed in lecture halls, Clow said that the policy is enforced on a complaints-only basis.

"If someone complains ... I will call the offender and explain the policy to them," she said. "I would contact the person or give them a copy [of the policy] and suggest that the person [making the complaint] tell [the offender] they are violating the policy."

Should an offender then refuse to comply with the policy, he or she may be cited by the Campus Security Organization, according to CSO Coordinator Julie Dixon.

"If someone calls and complains of a dog, we go out," Dixon said. "Most of the time the owner takes care of the problem before we get out there. There have been some tickets, but it's rare."

Leon has not encountered enforcement of the campus policy while taking Mookie, her nine-month-old German-shepherd-Rottweiler mix, to class with her.

"I take him into buildings that say 'no dogs allowed' everyday," she said. "No one's ever said anything. I've been bringing him [to class] since he was eight weeks, and the only problem I've had with him is he chases people on skateboards."

One reason Leon may not have faced dog discrimination on campus may be due to faculty like English Professor Frank McConnell, who believes that even dogs should benefit from a higher education.

"I don't mind them [being in classrooms], as long as they don't try to hump the teacher," McConnell said. "If there's a dog in one of my classes, I always bring doggie snacks."

Senior German major Jennifer Grell has an interesting take on the similarities between canines and students.

"Dogs usually sleep in class," she said. "A lot of students sleep in class, but you don't see professors tossing sleeping students out of classrooms."

—Staff writer Tony Biasotti also contributed to this article.