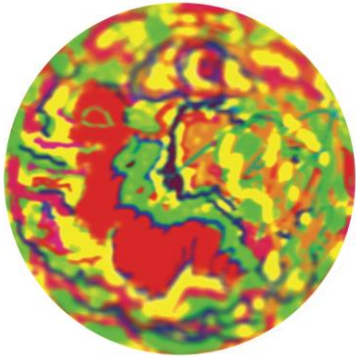


**AUTISM'S  
OWN**  
Volume 3 - 2015



### ***Autism's Own Journal***

International journal, for autistic people's writing, dedicated to autism culture, community, identity, and solidarity. Submission guidelines at <https://journals.uvic.ca/index.php/autismsown>. Past issues can be viewed at [http://issuu.com/autisms\\_own](http://issuu.com/autisms_own)

**Many thanks to  
our sponsors:**

**UCDAVIS**  
**STUDENT DISABILITY CENTER**



**AUTISM AND  
NEURODIVERSITY  
COMMUNITY  
At UC Davis**



## What are we?

- A student-led organization
- An on-campus community for autistic and neurodivergent students
- A safe space for autistic students
- A group to empower autistic students, offering them the tools that they need to succeed in academic endeavours, to control their own lives, and to control the future of their common community
- A group to foster autistic identity, consciousness, solidarity, and culture

## Peer support

As a peer support group, we recognize and validate the unique perspectives of all our members. We embrace neurodiversity, the diversity of brains and minds. We aim to foster healthful relationships among group members, creating a safe and supportive space for all, by encouraging our members to offer peer support to one another in a spirit of fellowship and mutual helpfulness.

## Meeting model

Our meetings usually begin with a brief introduction to the group. We then have a presentation on topics of interest to group members, followed by a Q & A or discussion. Some meetings are social events without a formal presentation. Thanks to our sponsors, **we have free pizza!**

**“The real magic of inclusive autistic spaces...is that almost every autistic person – everyone who is able to participate without violating other people’s boundaries – can expect to be accepted for who he or she is.”**

**Jim Sinclair (2010)  
Autistic Advocate**

## Leadership model

As a registered student organization, we have a democratic structure. Each year, members elect, from among themselves, executive officers to organize and facilitate meetings.

However, we also believe in consensus and distributed leadership. Executive officers are expected to listen to the desires of the whole group.

Members are expected to respect one another and interact within a framework of fellowship and shared community. Disagreements should be expressed as debate between ideas, not conflict between individuals. We do not tolerate harassment.

## Community and culture

As a community of autistic students, we are engaged in the creative production of an autism culture, one which demonstrates the unique talents and perspectives of each autistic person. Our autism culture gives us agency and allows us to reach out to the larger community around us.

## Contact us

Club Facilitator: Patrick Dwyer, proudly autistic student, [psdwyer@ucdavis.edu](mailto:psdwyer@ucdavis.edu)

## Meeting Information

Check Facebook for updated meeting dates and times, or join our group to get email notifications!

## Online

<https://aggielife.ucdavis.edu/organization/autism-community>



Like us on Facebook!  
[fb.me/autismcommunity.ucdavis](https://fb.me/autismcommunity.ucdavis)