



## 2014-15: A year of growth and progress

*“My mentor was tremendously inspiring, humorous, and interesting. I loved hearing his insight on different topics as well as casually speaking to him in my one-on-ones.”*

—Berkeley Connect student in History

Berkeley Connect is part of a campuswide effort to create a more personalized, supportive academic environment for undergraduates at UC Berkeley, the No. 1 public university in the world. The program is open to all students regardless of major or year. Each participant is assigned an advanced graduate student who serves as his or her mentor for the semester. The student and mentor meet for at least two **one-on-one advising sessions**, and additional opportunities to connect are available through regular office hours. Survey data tell us that the student-mentor relationship is the foundation of Berkeley Connect’s success. **Students’ one-on-one meetings with their mentors have proven critical in increasing their sense of belonging at Berkeley and confidence that they can succeed — key goals of the Berkeley Connect program.** One-on-one mentoring is complemented by **small-group discussion sessions** facilitated by the mentors; **special events** that connect students with professors and alumni/ae; and **field trips** that explore the campus resources available to students. These experiences help empower students to actively engage in the thriving university community of which they are a part.

Berkeley Connect: Helping students build a foundation for success at Berkeley

**94%**

would recommend the program to a friend



**90%**

met other students who share their academic interests

**82%**

said Berkeley Connect increased their sense of belonging at UC Berkeley

**82%**

said Berkeley Connect increased their confidence that they can succeed at Berkeley



*“I really enjoyed getting to know my students on a personal level, understanding their anxieties, witnessing their successes, seeing them make connections and friendships with each other, and growing over the course of the semester.”*

—Berkeley Connect Fellow





## THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

**36,302**  
visitors to website

**2,394**  
student enrollments

### STUDENTS WE ARE SERVING (FALL 2014)

**41%**  
transfer students

**26%**  
first-year students

**20%**  
Latino/a students (compared to 10%  
in general student population)

**22**  
faculty members involved in designing  
and implementing curriculum

**39**  
fellowships awarded to outstanding graduate  
students to serve as mentors

**11**  
academic departments offering Berkeley Connect:  
Architecture | English | Environmental Science, Policy, and  
Management | Ethnic Studies & African American Studies  
| History | Math | Music | Philosophy | Physics | Sociology

**78**  
sections of Berkeley  
Connect

**2**  
new programs starting in  
fall 2015: Social Welfare and  
Computational Biology



*“In Berkeley Connect I got good ideas and tips for how to survive hard times in my studies and how to plan better. Most importantly, I found new friends. . . .and I am sure I will stay connected with them.”*

— Berkeley Connect student in Architecture

*“The most exciting part of Berkeley Connect was when we explored the Bancroft Library! During this field trip I saw Albert Einstein’s letter and a real scratch paper of Laplace. And all of them were touchable! When I put my fingers on the scratch paper of Laplace, math is not only numbers and logic for me but a form of human wisdom. . . .”*

—Berkeley Connect student in Math

## YOUR SUPPORT

of Berkeley Connect nurtures an environment for undergraduate success by funding fellowships for the outstanding graduate students who serve as Berkeley Connect mentors. With your help, we can grow to provide mentoring to more students and meet the demand for Berkeley Connect in majors across campus.

Thank you for your support!

Photos: Alejandro Serrano '17

Hear more from Berkeley Connect students in their own words: visit our website at [berkeleyconnect.berkeley.edu](http://berkeleyconnect.berkeley.edu) and click on Videos.

