I definitely had a hard time trying to balance all of my responsibilities at first. Being a full-time student with a part-time job, and also being heavily involved in my Pre-Dental Society, was a lot. I had to learn to become incredibly organized with my time. Getting a planner, a to-do notebook, and activating an online calendar have been a godsend.

Q: What do you do and what makes your job unique? A: As Weight Room Lead, my team and I make sure all UC San Diego weight rooms are running as efficiently as possible. We are responsible for scheduling, maintenance, subbing, training, protocol, etc. I am specifically responsible for subbing schedules, making sure that all subbed shifts are accounted for and that we have a detailed count of subbing throughout the quarter. As Operations Student Assistants, my team and I are responsible for being the main point of contact during the night shift, when Pro-Staff have gone home. We are responsible for managing and documenting any emergencies during these shifts. We also check up on the student staff that are working during these times, to support them and also make sure they are on task. Finally, my fellow team members and I also have individual duties for Recreation, mine being in charge of grading any RIMAC Operations student applications.

Q: What is your favorite part of your job? A: I love the people I work with! They make my job so fun and really make UC San Diego Recreation feel like a family.

Q: Is this job in line with your career goals? A: My long-term career goal is to become a dentist. I believe that being a dentist requires you to become a leader in your community not just in a health aspect, but also as a general role model. UC San Diego recreation has helped me in strengthening my leadership skills, which is something that will definitely carry over into my future career.

Q: How did you find out about your current job? Did you have prior work experience that helped you get this job? A: During my sophomore year, I asked the RIMAC front desk if they had any openings. I had worked previously as a lifeguard in my local community pool and was experienced in rule enforcement, CPR and first aid. All three were critical for transitioning as an attendant for the UC San Diego weight rooms. Over time, I transitioned as a Weight Room Supervisor and then a Weight Room Lead. Once I became a Lead, I was recommended to apply to be an Operations Student Assistant (OSA) by a previous OSA.

Q: How has your job helped you? A: My jobs have provided me with great leadership skills, work management, communication skills and overall balance. Being a student can cause a bit of tunnel vision when it comes to academics. Having an on-campus job gives you different responsibilities that are removed from school. Work helped put a lot of things into perspective.

Final advice? Don’t be afraid of the time commitment. You will figure it out and, in the end, become a better student because of it. Working at UC San Diego Recreation is probably the best job on campus, but I am also biased. If you want to apply, ask the RIMAC front desk! I’ll probably be grading your application.

Do you have an awesome on-campus job? Do you love what you do and want to share your experiences with other students? If so, contact us and you may be spotlighted in future newsletters!