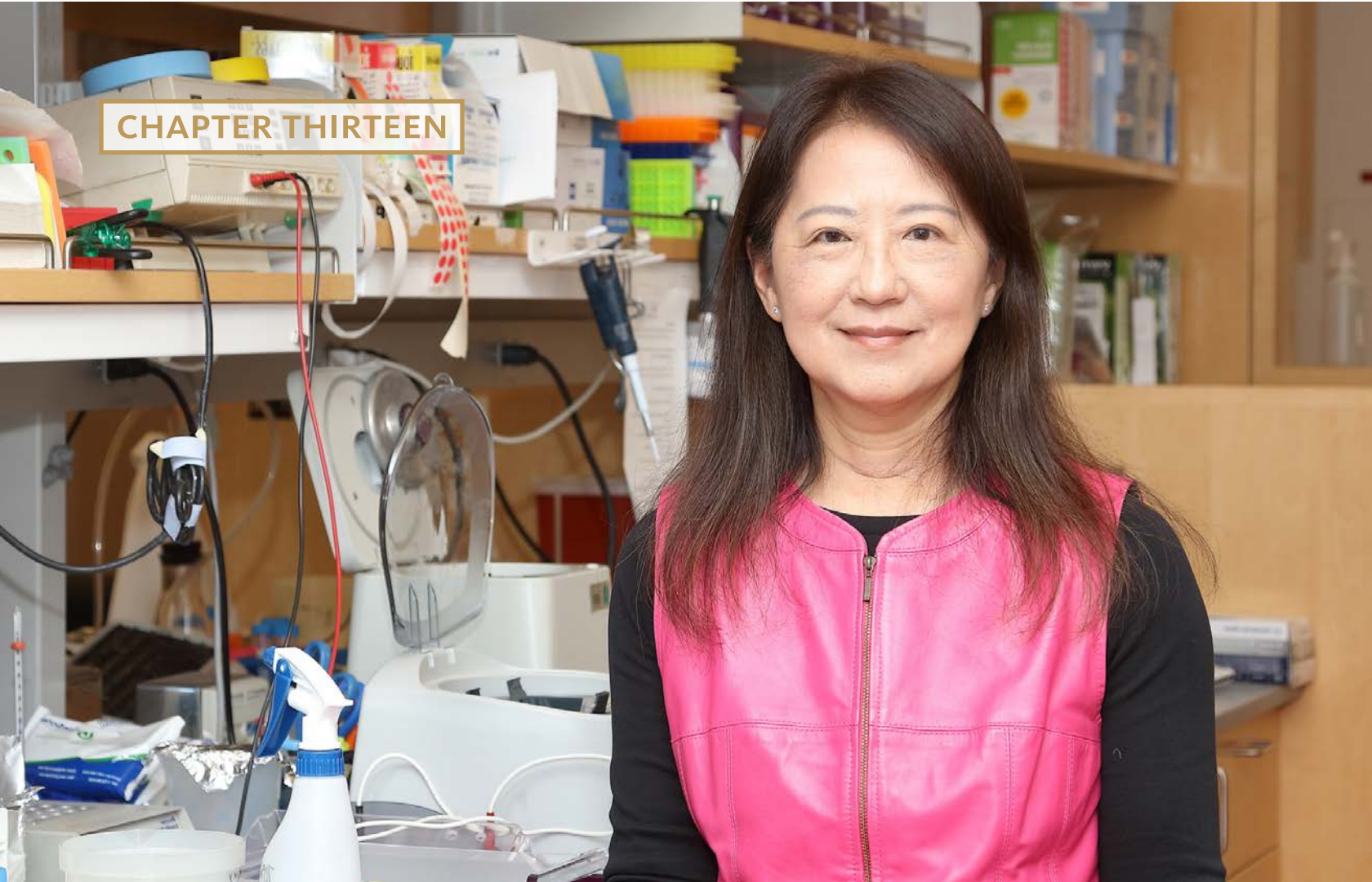# Awards and Distinctions

UC San Francisco professor of neurology Ying-Hui Fu, along with three UCSF faculty colleagues, has been elected to the National Academy of Medicine (NAM), one of the highest honors in the fields of health and medicine.

Membership in the NAM recognizes individuals who have demonstrated outstanding professional achievements and commitment to service in the medical sciences, health care, and public health.

Fu, a member of the UCSF Weill Institute for Neurosciences, studies the genetic basis for human circadian rhythms and sleep behaviors. Her lab has identified mutations that underlie various heritable sleep patterns, including extreme "morning lark" behavior (Familial Advanced Sleep Phase) and natural short sleep behavior. Since circadian rhythms and sleep homeostasis are intimately connected with many physiological pathways, including metabolism, immune function, and mood regulation, and have been linked to diseases such as Alzheimer's, Fu's studies are shedding light on sleep's impact on health.

Fu joined the UCSF faculty in 2002 and last year was also elected to the National Academy of Sciences.

AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

Overview

Honors and rankings are one way to demonstrate the University's performance and prestige. They reflect reputations and help to position the University nationally and internationally. This chapter first presents metrics of faculty awards and memberships. These represent some of the highest aspirations of research faculty, signaling noteworthy participation and contribution to research and scholarship in a particular area of expertise.

While the University's faculty demonstrate unparalleled excellence, also notable is the opportunity for students of diverse backgrounds to learn and study with these distinguished researchers and educators. One of the points of pride for the University of California is providing students from the bottom end of the economic spectrum with access to an educational and research environment comparable to the nation's finest private institutions but on a significantly larger scale.

This chapter features data from the New York Times' annual College Access Index, showing that the University of California leads the nation in the "Top Colleges Doing the Most for the American Dream." It also features data from the Equality of Opportunity Project and the associated CLIMB (Collegiate Leaders in Increasing MoBility) initiative, which leverage national earnings and taxation data to study how colleges affect social mobility.

Universities are ranked in numerous ways, with publishers of rankings choosing criteria based on different audiences and different aims. This chapter highlights just two well-known rankings. U.S. News and World Report (USNWR) focuses on academic reputation, graduation rates, student selectivity, and financial resources to create its list of America's Best Colleges. The Shanghai Academic Ranking of World Universities ranks institutions around the globe, primarily using faculty research productivity. Additional rankings for UC campuses are available at the link in the section below. While recognizing that these rankings may be useful sources of information, UC does not endorse any particular ranking system nor does it have specific goals with respect to any of them.

For more information

UC Rankings at a glance: ucop.edu/institutional-research-academic-planning/_files/uc-rankings-at-a-glance.pdf

An extended list of rankings: ucop.edu/institutional-research-academic-planning/_files/rankings-brief-2018.pdf

More on the Equality of Opportunity Project: ucop.edu/institutional-research-academic-planning/_files/Economic-Mobility-of-Undergraduates.pdf

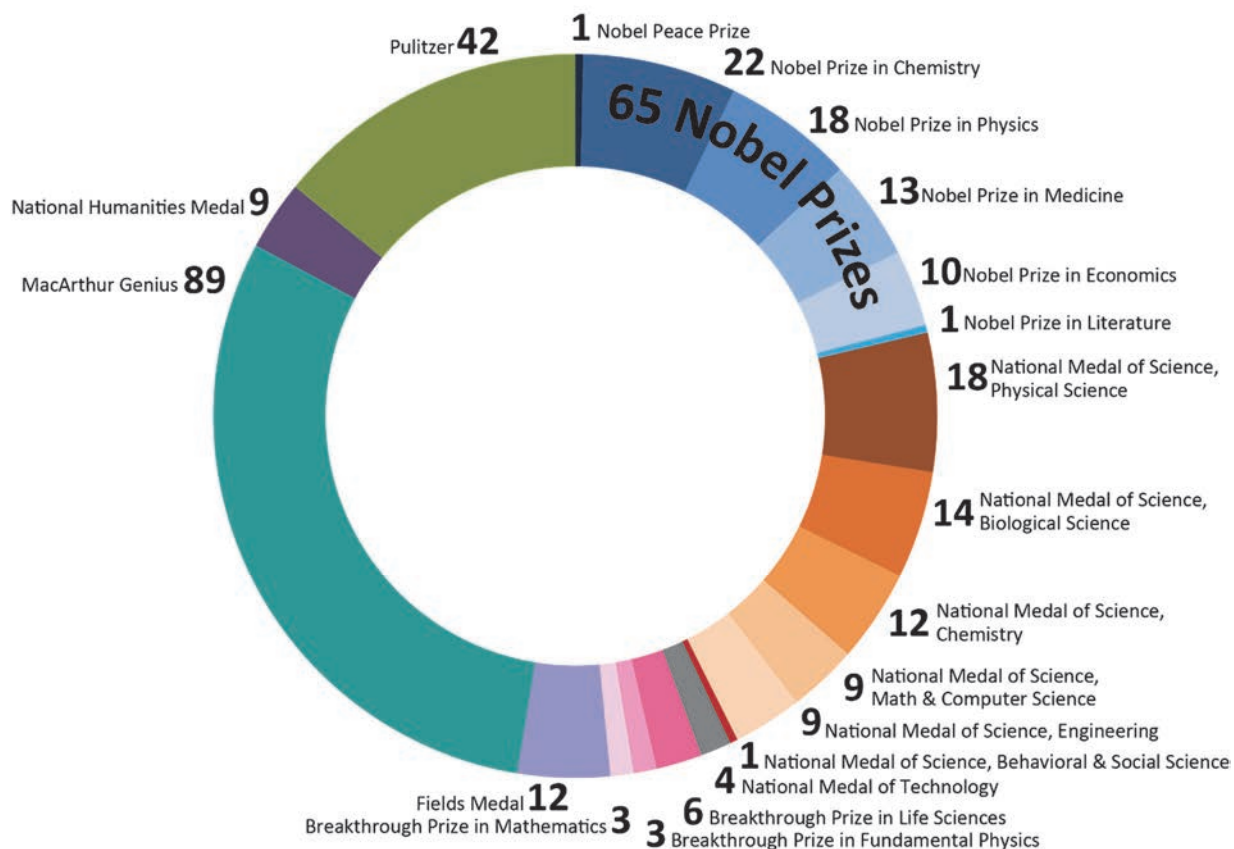## UC faculty receive many prestigious awards because they are thought leaders in their fields.

13.1.1   Nobel Prizes by campus affiliation

Sixty-four faculty and researchers affiliated with the University of California have won 65 Nobel Prizes, representing nearly seven percent of the 935 laureates.

A list of UC's laureates can be found at nobel.universityofcalifornia.edu.

	Chemistry	Economics	Literature	Medicine	Physics	Peace
Berkeley/Berkeley Lab	9	5	1	1	8	
Irvine	2				1	
Livermore Lab					1	
UCLA	3	1		1	1	
Riverside	1				1	
San Diego	5	3		6	2	1
San Francisco				5		
Santa Barbara	2	1			4	

13.1.2   Prizes, medals, and awards won by UC faculty

In addition to the 296 prizes, medals, and awards presented in the chart above, many UC faculty are members of prestigious National Academies, providing leadership in service and general welfare to the nation.

National Academy of Sciences	616
National Academy of Engineering	265
National Academy of Medicine	222
National Academy of Inventors	72

The New York Times identified UC campuses as the best in the nation at enrolling, supporting, and graduating large numbers of lower-income students.

13.2.1   New York Times College Access Index, 2017

	2017 Rank
Irvine	1
Santa Barbara	2
Davis	3
San Diego	4
UCLA	5
Berkeley	9

The New York Times' College Access Index ranks institutions with at least a 75-percent five-year graduation rate by the share for freshman entrants that are Pell Grant recipients, the graduation rates of those students, and overall net cost for low-income students. It aims to identify institutions with a "commitment to economic diversity," based on the number of lower- and middle-income students a college enrolls and graduates and the price it charges these students.
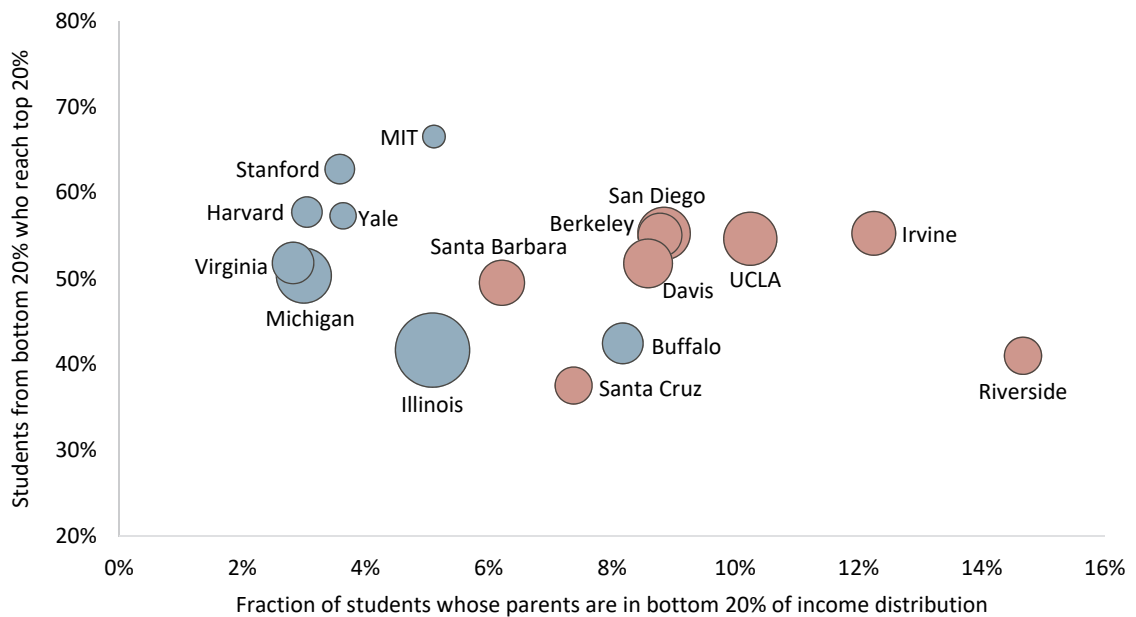
In the 2017 ranking, UC campuses held the top five slots. Six UC campuses were in the top ten. The remaining UC campuses with undergraduates did not meet the index's criteria of at least a 75-percent five-year graduation rate and were thus excluded.
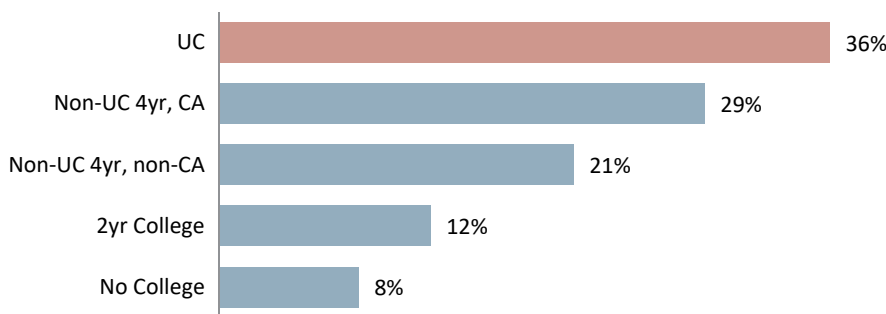
UC campuses are leaders in promoting economic mobility, moving large numbers of students from the bottom to the top of the economic spectrum.

13.3.1 Percent low-income versus upwards social mobility
UC campuses and comparison institutions
1999–2005 college entry cohorts

13.3.2 Percentage from the bottom 20 percent of income who move to the top 20 percent
UC alumni and peers from the same age group
1999–2005 college entry cohorts

UC's collaboration with the Equality of Opportunity Project and the CLIMB Initiative reveals new insights into UC's role in enabling low-income students to achieve intergenerational economic mobility. Through matching UC students to their IRS tax records, and linking them to their parents' tax records when they first enrolled at UC, researchers have been able to determine how many UC students achieve economic mobility.

Thirty-six percent of UC's lowest income students move from the bottom 20 to the top 20 percent of the income distribution as adults, which is higher than other four-year universities in California and the nation.

Of the top ten national public universities in the U.S. News and World Report ranking, six are UC campuses.

13.4.1   U.S. News: America's Top National Public Universities
2019

	Public	National
UCLA	1	19
Berkeley	2	22
Santa Barbara	5	30
Irvine	7	33
Davis	10	38
San Diego	12	41
Santa Cruz	26	70
Riverside	35	85
Merced	67	136

The U.S. News and World Report, in its 2019 national university rankings, focused on academic reputation, financial resources, and selectivity in undergraduate admissions. Its assessment on these metrics placed UC campuses among the very best public universities in the country:

- UC Berkeley and UCLA were ranked as the top public institutions

- Five UC campuses were among the top ten public institutions in the nation

- For public and private institutions combined, six UC campuses ranked among the top 50

Numerical rankings can provide false precision based on very small actual differences among campuses. For example, there is only a three-point difference out of 100 in the overall score for universities ranked 37th and 46th.

Three UC campuses appear in the top 20 of the Academic Rankings of World Universities.

13.4.2 Shanghai Ranking Consultancy: Academic Rankings of World Universities 2018

2018 ARWU Shanghai	
Berkeley	5
UCLA	11
San Diego	15
UCSF	21
Santa Barbara	46
Irvine	83
Davis	96
Santa Cruz	101-150
Riverside	151-200

The Academic Rankings of World Universities (ARWU) was created in 2003 by Shanghai Jiao Tong University in China to determine the global standing of Chinese research universities. Since 2009, the Shanghai Ranking Consultancy has published these rankings.

The rankings are based entirely on measures of research strength and faculty honors and awards. English-speaking universities, especially those in the United States, tend to dominate the ARWU rankings.

This ranking system emphasizes research outputs, such as total research expenditures. Because research outputs are not normalized by number of faculty, larger institutions tend to rank more highly than smaller ones. Institutions with strong research programs, especially in the sciences, also tend to score higher than those whose major strengths are in the humanities and social sciences.