History of the Campus and a Plan for the Future

The University of California, Irvine, admitted its first class in 1965 following the formal dedication of the campus by President Lyndon Johnson a year earlier. There were 119 faculty members and 1,589 students beginning work on a university still very much under construction on the 1,500-acre campus just three miles from the beach. Only a third of the central ring of buildings planned by architect William Pereira was complete; Irvine was still six years away from incorporation as a city; and the agrarian history of the region was evident in the local orange groves and the cattle grazing next to the campus.

Since then, UCI has enjoyed an unparalleled combination of rapid growth in enrollment and with an equally impressive increase in the size, quality and influence of our research programs, performing arts and professional schools in medicine, business and law. We have secured our place among the best public research universities in the United States with over 1,400 faculty, 22,000 undergraduates and about 5,500 graduate and professional students from California, across the nation, and around the world. UCI is the youngest institution in the Association of American Universities, gaining membership in our thirtieth year. Our faculty includes three Nobel Laureates (including two awarded in the same year, 1995), three recipients of the National Medal of Science, two Pulitzer Prize winners, three MacArthur Fellows, and many members of the most important scholarly, scientific and professional organizations. In 2008 alone, 20 UCI professors were elected Fellows to the prestigious American Association for the Advancement of Science, the most of any university in the United States.

The development of strengths in our academic core disciplines has been pursued through the strategic, differential allocation of resources associated with our growth. Those resources have supported the reinforcement of existing strengths,
encouragement of research and educational programs across disciplinary boundaries, and expansion into new fields. In the past five years, roughly half of our new faculty positions have been devoted to an initiative for Programs of Excellence, a competitive process overseen by a joint committee of the administration and faculty Senate designed to identify programs across the campus at the top of their fields or with the prospect of getting there in a few years. In the last allocation, for example, six proposals resulted in 36 faculty positions being allocated to nine programs. Another portion of our growth resources has been devoted to the creation of programs in selected areas including among others public health, pharmaceutical sciences, nursing, stem-cell research and our new School of Law.

The current budget crisis in the state has forced us to slow or suspend growth in most of these new programs in order to protect and reinforce our core strengths. There are only a few exceptions, such as the law school, where the campus has been reserving resources for years so we could continue the momentum of growth throughout bad economic times. Nevertheless, the eventual development of these new programs and continuing exploration of new fields is crucial to our role as a top-tier comprehensive public research university. These innovations help us and the University of California as a whole meet our commitment to serve the people of the state through the creation and dissemination of knowledge based on research and through the training and support of young researchers in the early stages of their careers. This combination of research and education is the defining characteristic of the University of California in the Master Plan, and it is the integrating principle that unites our whole campus from the laboratories, libraries, and studios of our faculty, post-doctoral scholars and graduate students to the small courses and lively discussions of our Freshman Seminars.

As we approach our fiftieth anniversary in 2015, the end of the rapid growth that has characterized our campus since its beginning will come to an end. Over the next decade, the pace of scholarly and scientific discovery on the campus will continue to accelerate, but increases in undergraduate enrollment will be replaced by growth in our graduate and professional programs as our new schools and degrees are established. Taking advantage of the huge demand for freshman admission to UCI—we have received over 44,000 applications for just over 4,000 spaces for Fall 2009—we aspire to increase the quality of
our student body. In the coming decade, we expect our total enrollment to increase to about 32,000 students, with 25 percent of them in our graduate and professional programs. That enrollment target supports the academic plan for our campus, expands training at the highest level in professional fields that are key to California’s future, and helps meet the enormous demand for admission to UCI. The quality of the new students will reinforce and enhance the high standards we have set and met with our current students, and they will further expand the diverse population of our campus to take advantage of the rich intellectual and cultural resources of California’s multicultural heritage.

Given the vagaries of our state-based funding as a public research university, the pace of this growth will inevitably wax and wane over the next few years. Furthermore, we have now established at least small programs in most of the fields designated for growth in our planning exercises over the past decade. We plan to spend the next few years reinforcing the academic core of the campus and developing strength in those new programs, reconfiguring them into departments and schools as their quality and our resources warrant. Nevertheless, the spirit of innovation that has characterized our campus for over 40 years remains alive and well, and the perception of UCI as meaning “Under Construction Indefinitely” is more apt than ever as the physical infrastructure of the campus expands to support our constantly evolving needs in research and teaching. We are well on our way to providing on-campus housing for most of our faculty, over half of our undergraduates and almost all of our graduate and professional students and post-doctoral scholars. Together, they are creating an intellectual and social community on campus as stimulating as any in the UC system, complementing the extraordinary cultural, social and economic opportunities available in our area.

While enhancing the quality of life on campus, we are also building on our strong collaborative relation with the city of Irvine and Orange County to make UC Irvine not just an educational center but an even more vital part of the social, cultural and economic life of the whole region. Our many lecture series, artistic exhibits and performances, and life-long learning programs attract increasing numbers of people from the community to our campus, and in 2008, UCI’s annual economic impact on Orange County was $4.2 billion. We employ nearly 21,000 people, making UCI the largest employer in Orange County. The recent completion of our new University Hospital—under budget and ahead of schedule—will enable us to improve the quality and accessibility of healthcare for our whole region while improving the education of healthcare providers and bringing new treatments, cures and preventive measures to people all over the world.

Our educational outreach programs touch the lives of all ages in our community. In the arts, for example, the outreach program Creative Connections partners with local schools and arts organizations to share talents and knowledge with students in every grade. Creative Connections introduces children to the arts, prepares middle and high school students for college, and provides adults with active experiential immersion in the arts to help enrich their lives. Another program, Humanities Out There, was founded by the School of Humanities in 1997 and has since been recognized nationally by a $250,000 grant from NEH and an article in Time magazine. HOT has provided graduate students with
opportunities to create lesson plans, shadow veteran teachers, mentor and manage undergraduate tutors, and implement assessment measures. Since 2001, 70 graduate student leaders, primarily from UCI’s Departments of History and English, have worked with over 2,200 undergraduates in delivering curriculum to over 5,100 Santa Ana middle and high school students. A new minor in Civic Engagement will provide additional opportunities for community interaction between our students and the world beyond our campus by offering an interdisciplinary program that seeks to provide students with the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values to engage as citizens and active community members in the 21st century.

To guide us through this important transitional period in the evolution of our campus, UCI initiated a campuswide planning process in 2004 that resulted in our current strategic plan, A Focus on Excellence: A Strategy for Academic Development at the University of California, Irvine, 2005-2015 (available in print and on the Web at http://www.strategicplan.uci.edu/). The plan describes the principal objectives for our campus, establishes specific goals and strategies for reaching them, and assesses the opportunities and challenges we will face in the coming years. More recently, A Focus on Excellence has been used as the basis for more specific planning for each academic unit. It also provided the basis for the strategic map for our current 10-year, $1 billion capital campaign, “Shaping the Future,” which was developed through extensive consultation with faculty and staff, administrative leadership, and community supporters 2005-07. As described in Chancellor Michael V. Drake’s presentation to the Regents in February, 2009, the campaign has identified four high-priority initiatives that build on existing strengths in research and teaching on the campus:

- Health
- Energy and the environment
- Global cultures and economies
- Educating tomorrow’s leaders

On campus, in the surrounding community and throughout the region as a whole, we strive in word and deed to become known for our values-based decision making, to have our values define and describe us, and to continually work to create a culture and atmosphere of rewarding those who live the values. The vision behind our plans for the future is comprehensive in the connections it establishes among the various activities that make up a great university. It is realistic in its assessment of diminishing public support for research universities nationwide but also in its appreciation of the deep generosity and sustained commitment of our supporters in the community. Most of all, it is ambitious, as it must be to build on the original vision and aspirations that made UCI what it is today. The future it portrays is clearly within the reach of a university that has already accomplished so much in its brief history and that is bold enough to declare that accomplishment only the beginning.
Undergraduate Student Success

(Remarks in this section and those below cite data from the following sources available on the Web from UCOP and/or UCI’s Office of Institutional Research: “Statistical Portrait of UC Irvine” (www.oir.uci.edu/campus/uci-statistical-portrait-v20080715-01.pdf); “UC Irvine College Portrait” (http://web.oir.uci.edu/portrait/2008-uc-irvine-profile.pdf); “UC Accountability Framework” (www.universityofcalifornia.edu/accountability/).

Distinctions—UCI has over 111,000 graduates. Our students regularly receive some of the nation’s most prestigious scholarships and fellowships: in UCI students have been awarded 26 Fulbright Scholarships, 25 Goldwater scholarships, 6 Truman awards, 6 Mellon Scholarships, and 40 National Security Education Program awards. In addition, in 2006-07, seven students won National Science Foundation graduate fellowships, and in 2007-08, three more students received the fellowships. After graduating, our students go on to distinguished careers; among our alumni are four Pulitzer Prize winners and the architect of the “HTTP/1.1” internet protocol used worldwide.

Retention and graduation—Almost all students who enroll as freshmen at UCI remain at the university and graduate. Our retention rate between the freshman and sophomore years is 94 percent. Students who enroll as freshmen graduate in an average 13 quarters, or just over four years. Over 80 percent graduate in six-years. Our four-year graduation rate ranks 9th among the 34 public universities in the AAU, and the six-year rate ranks 12th. Eighty-eight percent of students who transfer to UCI from another college or university go on to graduate, and their average time to degree is 7.4 quarters, or about two and a half years (“College Portrait”).

Athletics—

- Over 63 Anteaters have won individual national collegiate titles; 42 have competed in the Olympics; and 400 have been named All-Americans in their sports.
- UCI teams have won 25 national titles in eight sports. In 2007, UCI won the NCAA national men’s volleyball title, and in 2008 our baseball team made it to the NCAA finals for the first time. UCI has also won 58 Conference titles.
- UCI won the Division I-AAA All-Sports Trophy, best all-around sports program (non-football), 2006-07.
- 2,894 Anteaters have been named Big West Conference Scholar-Athletes.
Undergraduate Affordability

Relatively low fees make the University of California affordable for a wide range of students, and those who need additional financial aid at UCI usually receive it. In 2007-08, 60 percent of UCI students reported receiving some kind of financial aid, including loans to students and parents. Almost half of all UCI undergraduates received need-based scholarships or grant aid averaging $10,733 each; 28 percent of our students received Pell Grants. Among students graduating from UCI in 2006-07, 49 percent reported borrowing from sources other than parents, with a relatively low cumulative debt at graduation of $13,383. ("College Portrait")

Undergraduate Access

Since UCI opened in 1965, we have greatly enhanced the quality of our students and held our student-faculty ratio relatively constant while rapidly increasing our enrollments. From Fall 1996 to 2006, the mean SAT-I score of our students rose from 1122 to 1182, reflecting roughly similar increases in both the Math and Verbal categories ("Statistical Portrait"). This growth with quality has been possible because of dramatic increases in the number of students applying to UCI over that same period, as indicated on the following chart from the "Statistical Portrait":

Unfortunately, due to limitations in state funding, we will be forced to reduce the size of our incoming classes for the next two or three years to return the campus to its funded level of enrollment. Because the state did not fund previously authorized enrollment growth this year, we currently have about 1,800 unfunded students. Our student-faculty ratio has climbed beyond the
previous 19:1, making it difficult to maintain our historical level of access to smaller classes. (As of last year, 83 percent of UCI’s classes enrolled fewer than 50 students, and 74 percent enrolled fewer than 30 students.) Reducing enrollment to our funded level over the next two or three years will help us decrease our student-faculty ratio to a level more compatible with UC standards, and it will increase access to small classes for more of our students. When the budget crisis is resolved, we can then resume our growth at least for another few years to reach our target of 32,000 students in order to accommodate more of the demand for an education at UCI.

Undergraduate Student Profile

- UCI offers students with 81 different majors and 59 minors. Among those programs at the undergraduate level are new BA and BS degrees in Public Health and a new BS in Nursing Science, which will graduate its first class this spring. Among other new initiatives is the only undergraduate major in Literary Journalism in the U.S. With a faculty including four Pulitzer Prize winners, this program has grown quickly to enroll 300 majors since it began five years ago.

- For each of the past two years, UCI has awarded just over 5,500 bachelor’s degrees. Most students at UCI graduate in some field in the Social Sciences (51 percent), with the next most popular majors in Biological Sciences (15 percent), Engineering/Information and Computer Sciences (13 percent), Humanities (12 percent), Physical Sciences (5 percent), and Arts (4 percent) (“Campus Portrait”).

- UCI’s student body makes us one of the most diverse campuses in the United States. We have slightly more women than men in the student body, with the broad range of Asian/Pacific-Islander ethnicities constituting about half the population, Whites another quarter, and Hispanics, African Americans and American Indians being the next largest groups. (See the UCOP “Accountability Framework” for a more detailed account of the student population.) Even more important than these percentages is the positive impact of diversity on students’ educational experience. In our most recent UCUES survey (discussed below), 95 percent of the students reported a “good” or better rating for their “ability to appreciate, tolerate or understand racial and ethnic diversity,” and 62 percent reported that they had “gained a deeper understanding of other perspectives through conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity” (see the summary of UCUES in our “Campus Portrait”).

Jacqueline Chattopadhyay was named as one of Glamour Magazine’s Top 10 Women and she also received a Truman Scholarship. She is now working on a Ph.D. in Social Policy at Harvard.

Chancellor Drake with students in UCI’s Program in Nursing Science.
• Plans and aspirations of our undergraduate students vary over a wide range of opportunities, with over 60 percent planning to pursue a degree at the Master’s level and about one-third of them intending to pursue a professional or research doctorate. Over 90 percent of them plan to remain in California, using the knowledge, skills and values they obtained at UCI to contribute directly to the well-being and success of the state (see the 2008 Graduating Senior Survey in our “Campus Portrait”).

Undergraduate Student Experience and Proficiencies

Undergraduate research—The Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) supports faculty mentored undergraduate student research. Its mission is to integrate undergraduate students into the research culture of the University by providing opportunities for faculty and students to work together on research and creative projects. UROP helps support both the research mission of the University and its educational programs while promoting an undergraduate research culture at UCI. We foster collaborations between students, faculty, corporate entities and government agencies to prepare the undergraduate researcher for the challenges of tomorrow. Over 7,300 students have participated in this program, which started in 1995 and now accommodates almost 2,000 students annually. Students present their research projects at the annual UCI Undergraduate Research Symposium and publish their results in The UCI Undergraduate Research Journal.

In addition to UROP, the School of Biological Sciences offers its own research opportunities for undergraduates, mentored by faculty from the Biological Sciences and the School of Medicine (some of these students are also involved in UROP). Again, the rate of participation has increased enormously, from 552 students working with 153 faculty in Spring 2002 to 952 students mentored by 214 faculty in Winter 2009.

First-Year Integrated Programs—First-year Integrated Programs provide freshmen with an instant academic and social community by offering them year-long sequences team-taught by a minimum of three faculty. Sequences offered have included Computer Games as Art, Culture, and Technology; Environmental Studies; Consciousness; and The Art of Persuasion. Courses are limited to 80 students each.

Study abroad—In the 2006 UCUES survey, 19 percent of UCI students reported having participated in a study-abroad program. Many of those students took advantage of opportunities available through UCI’s own Center for International Education, which helps students participate in programs abroad that allow them to progress toward their UCI degree while developing the academic, personal and professional skills necessary to be well-informed, engaged members of the global society. For students who wish to make study abroad part of a more formal educational program, UCI offers a Global Leadership Certificate Program, which also includes formal seminars and a capstone project along with two quarters of intercultural experience on campus or in the surrounding community.
Housing—The quality of student housing at UCI is truly exceptional. Our student housing has received a host of awards, including several for energy efficiency and environmental stewardship, and our residence halls were featured most prominently in Time magazine’s recent coverage of campus housing over the past half century – ours were shown as the best of modern on-campus living. The Vista del Campo student apartment complex alone has won several state and national awards, including “Best Student Housing Apartment Community” from the National Home Builders Association.

There are more than 10,500 bed spaces on campus (4,000 of which have been built since 2000) and approximately 2,750 off-campus spaces within walking distance; as a result, about 50 percent of students are housed on campus or within a short walk to Aldrich Park. For students meeting eligibility requirements, UCI guarantees two years of on-campus housing to all new incoming freshmen and one year of on-campus housing to all new incoming transfer students. (The campus also guarantees an offer of on-campus housing to every newly-admitted, full-time MFA, and PhD student. These students are guaranteed housing for most and in many cases all of their career at UCI. We also offer housing to our JD students and to some MD students.)

New minor in civic engagement—The new minor in civic engagement will launch in Fall 2009. The minor will encourage the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources between the university and the public and private sectors to enrich scholarship, research, and creative activity; enhance curriculum, teaching, and learning; prepare educated, engaged, and responsible citizens; and benefit the community at the local, regional, state, national and global levels.

Difficult Dialogues—One of only 27 universities in the country selected by the Ford Foundation’s Difficult Dialogues Project, UCI’s Imagining the Future program is a unique combination of academic courses, group research competition, projects, and community dialogues that seeks to raise awareness within the campus and the surrounding community of options for resolving some of the most difficult issues surrounding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Olive Tree Initiative—The Olive Tree Initiative grew from discussions at our School of Social Sciences’ Center for Citizen Peacebuilding, and featured students from Jewish, Muslim, Christian and other backgrounds traveling together to Israel and the West Bank to experience for themselves the texture of the Middle East conflict. They have returned to lead dozens of discussion groups in and around campus and throughout our community. This group of students has been honored by the Orange County Human Relations Commission for its “contributions to human relations in Orange County.”
UCUES—Students who are actively involved in their own learning and development are more likely to be successful in college. Colleges and universities offer students a wide variety of opportunities, both inside and outside the classroom, to become engaged with new ideas, people and experiences. Institutions measure the effectiveness of these opportunities in a variety of ways to better understand what types of activities and programs students find the most helpful. UCI measures that effectiveness biennially through the University of California Undergraduate Experience Survey (UCUES).

Results from 2008 are not available yet, but in 2006 we found that well over 80 percent of students at UCI reported they are satisfied with their overall academic experiences, and that they appreciated the opportunities they have to work with and interact with faculty. Over 85 percent noted that they feel they are treated equitably and fairly by their faculty, and 88 percent said that they interacted with faculty outside of class to discuss course material. When asked to assess their gains in academic and life skills during their careers at UC Irvine, UCI students’ responses were overwhelmingly positive. Of particular importance as a measure of the “value-added” by a UCI education, 84 percent of the students “reported raising their standards for acceptable effort due to the high standards of a faculty member.” They were equally enthusiastic on a number of fronts.

(See UCI’s “Campus Portrait” for a more detailed summary of responses to the UCUES survey.)

| SELF-REPORTED GAINS IN ACADEMIC AND LIFE SKILLS FOR SENIORS (WHO ENTERED UC AS FRESHMEN) | Percent rating skills as “Very Good” or “Excellent” |
| --- | --- | --- |
| When started UC as a freshman | In senior year | Gain while at UCI |
| Understanding of a specific field of study | 6% | 72% | 66 pts |
| Analytical and critical thinking skills | 16% | 68% | 51 pts |
| Self-awareness and understanding | 23% | 71% | 48 pts |
| Read and comprehend academic material | 18% | 63% | 45 pts |
| Library research skills | 9% | 52% | 43 pts |
| Other research skills | 8% | 50% | 42 pts |
| Understanding international perspectives | 9% | 51% | 42 pts |
| Ability to write clearly and effectively | 15% | 55% | 42 pts |
| Understanding of personal social responsibility | 32% | 70% | 38 pts |
| Leadership skills | 17% | 49% | 33 pts |
| Ability to appreciate cultural and global diversity | 34% | 65% | 31 pts |
| Ability to appreciate, tolerate and understand racial and ethnic diversity | 47% | 75% | 29 pts |
| Ability to speak clearly and effectively in English | 49% | 72% | 23 pts |

Student learning outcomes—UC Irvine holds to the fundamental principle that student learning outcomes and their assessment should be locally defined, discipline-specific and faculty-driven. Through periodic and systematic undergraduate program reviews, student learning outcomes are defined; methods of assessment for these outcomes are identified; evidence of student learning, retention and completion is presented; and analyses by program faculty are undertaken to demonstrate the extent to which students meet the defined outcomes. The faculty use the results of these analyses to improve curricula and pedagogy. In addition, results of these assessments are regularly reported to various external agencies as part of our systematic academic program reviews, including ad hoc external reviewers for our academic units and accreditation reviews by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, ABET, American Medical Association, the American Bar Association and other professional organizations.
Graduate and Professional Student Profile

UCI enrolled 5,393 graduate students in Fall Quarter 2008, including 4,278 on the general campus and 1,115 in the health sciences. Of students on the general campus, 942 students were enrolled in Master’s programs across the campus, including MFA programs in Humanities and the Arts, but most of the students were enrolled in the PhD programs offered in our academic units. UCI awarded 1,404 graduate degrees in 2007-08, including 942 Master’s, 370 PhDs/EdDs, and 92 MDs.

UCI offers 51 Master’s-level programs and 44 PhD programs in addition to doctoral-level programs in Medicine (MD), Education (EdD), and Law (JD). UCI’s graduate programs, already of very high quality, continue to improve and to grow each year. Major research initiatives, a broad range of academic and professional programs, and the impressive achievements of faculty all contribute to the exciting intellectual environment for graduate and professional students that defines the Irvine campus. UCI has been expanding its portfolio of graduate degree programs rapidly in the recent past, consistent with our strategic plan to increase the percentage of graduate and professional students on our campus. At the graduate level, nearly 20 new degrees have been established since 2000, including new academic and professional programs in public health (MPH), nursing science (MS), and Master’s of Public Policy (MPP), and Law (JD).

Our PhD programs are central to the research and educational mission of UCI, and the top strategic priority for Irvine is to increase the size, quality and diversity of the graduate student population. Many of our PhD programs are ranked in the top 20 of their academic fields: literary criticism and theory (#2); criminology (#4); behavioral neuroscience (#5); creative writing (#6); healthcare management (#9); organic chemistry (#9); information systems (#11); drama and theater (#12); third-world literature (#12); cognitive psychology (#13); English (#16); psychology – neurobiology & behavior (#16); and experimental psychology (#19). Another 24 programs appear in the top 21-50 of their fields. Our outstanding faculty and innovative research portfolio attract some of the best graduate applicants in the country and internationally. We successfully recruit the best applicants in our core academic disciplines and in our innovative interdisciplinary programs, such as the new gateway program in Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmacology, which provides a common set of courses to students who then move into disciplinary programs in Chemistry, Pharmacology, or Molecular Biology and Biochemistry; and the new PhD in Culture Theory in the School of Humanities, which provides a strong theoretical and critical approach to race, gender and sexuality studies.

The primary challenge to meeting our goal at the PhD level is the state and national budget crisis. Graduate students are supported by various funding sources, including teaching assistantships, fellowships, research assistantships and student loans. Some of these sources are state-budgeted, and some are federally funded, but competition for funding is increasing on all fronts. Furthermore, teaching assistantships are a critical source of support for graduate
students, and are based upon undergraduate enrollments. As our growth in undergraduate enrollments level off, teaching opportunities for our graduate students decrease proportionately, a reduction that exacerbates the downward trends in other sources of funding.

Among our innovations in professional education are new doctoral-level degree programs in medicine and law. The Medical School is preparing to graduate the first cohort of students from PRIME-LC (Program in Medical Education – Latino Community). PRIME is a patient-centered initiative, designed specifically to train experts and community leaders who would specialize in the health needs of underserved populations, broadly defined. The curriculum was designed based on the needs of the patients in the target population, and students are chosen based on their commitment and ability to serve those patients. We are excited that the first students enrolled in this program will receive their MD degrees and be treating patients by July 1. PRIME-LC was so successful that it has now spawned similar programs at several other UC campuses.

Our newest professional doctorate is the JD: the UCI School of Law is currently reviewing applications for admission to the founding class in Fall 2009. (The UCI School of Law will admit its first class of 60 students in Fall 2009, building to a total enrollment of 600 JD students over the next few years.) The JD at UCI presents a significant opportunity to transform the approach to teaching and learning in law school with interdisciplinary breadth and an emphasis on experiential learning that will ensure significant opportunities for students to gain hands-on, real-world experience.

At the Master’s level, we offer a broad range of opportunities. In addition to the Master’s degrees offered in conjunction with our PhD programs, we offer Master’s degrees in fields where a PhD is not required or expected. Among such programs are our MBA program in the Paul Merage School of Business and a MAS degree in Criminology, Law and Society that was the first graduate degree in the UC system to be offered mostly online. Our long-standing MFA programs in fiction and poetry have long been considered among the best two or three programs in the country and have produced three Pulitzer Prize winning authors.

Post-doctoral scholars are an important part of our research mission and provide essential leadership and oversight in laboratories and, increasingly, in classrooms across the campus. UCI has recently taken steps to integrate them more fully into the life of the campus. One such effort is UC Irvine's newly-established Center for Graduate and Professional Students and Postdoctoral Scholars, which aims to enrich the experiences of our graduate and postdoctoral community by providing coordinated services, events, programs, information, and support. The center is designed to be a meeting place for students to relax, interact, plan events and meetings, share ideas, network and develop friendly relationships.

Faculty

By Fall 2008 UCI had 1,123 tenured/tenure-track faculty. Combining new positions associated with enrollment growth for the campus with existing positions vacated by retirement, resignations, or other reasons, we have been hiring an average of just over 70 faculty per year. About half of them have been appointed at the level of Assistant Professor, and the rest divided between the Associate and Full Professor ranks. As a result, slightly more than one-third of UCI’s faculty have arrived since 2002, bringing new perspectives, training and professional experience to complement the existing strength and experience of the campus.
Awards and Academy Members among current faculty:

- 2 Nobel Prize
- 3 National Medal of Science
- 2 Pulitzer Prizes
- 3 MacArthur Fellows
- 24 National Academy of Sciences
- 37 American Academy of Arts and Sciences Fellows
- 5 Institute of Medicine Members
- 12 National Academy of Engineering
- 7 American Philosophical Society
- 77 Fulbright Scholars
- 46 Guggenheim Fellows
- 58 Sloan Fellows
- 118 American Association for the Advancement of Science Fellows

Diversity and the ADVANCE Program—The UCI ADVANCE Program carries out the campus commitment to gender equity and diversity in the professoriate. Originally funded by a NSF Institutional Transformation award of $3.5 million in 2001, UCI has seen dramatic gains in the presence of women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (i.e., the “STEM fields”). Based on the success of the Equity Advisor model initiated under the NSF grant, in July 2006 Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Michael R. Gottfredson institutionalized UCI ADVANCE and extended its mission to include diversity. This commitment ensures that equity and diversity will remain essential priorities in advancing excellence in the multiple missions of UC Irvine.

Among the initiatives in the ADVANCE Program are:

- the establishment of endowed chairs for distinguished scholars who have also demonstrated a commitment to gender equity;
- creation of Equity Advisors in every School to advise on best practices to increase diversity in hiring, organize faculty development programs, and mentor faculty and students; and
- ADVANCE Dependent Care Awards, funded in part by the Provost and by the Elsevier Foundation New Scholars Program. This is an innovative pilot program for tenure-track faculty who are parents of children up to 36 months. Up to 60 qualifying faculty will receive travel awards to subsidize childcare costs associated with participation at conferences and research meetings.

The ADVANCE Program has had a notable positive effect on the number of women hired since 2001. Women faculty now comprise 30 percent of all ladder-rank faculty campus-wide, an increase of 5 percent since 2001. This effect has been particularly significant in the STEM fields, where the percentage of women among new hires went from 14 percent in 2001-02 to 41.7 percent in 2007-08. (See UCI Advance Program [Data and Reports](#).)
Research

Expenditures for extramurally funded research at UCI over the past decade increased dramatically. Comparative data from NSF for 1998 to 2006 shows an increase during that period in research and development expenditures at UCI of over 130 percent. That increase is the fastest rate of growth among UCI’s benchmark peers (which include five of the other nine UC campuses: Berkeley, Davis, Los Angeles, San Diego, and Santa Barbara). Since 2006, expenditures have continued to rise, reaching a campus record of $328 million in 2007-08. To date (March 2009), expenditures for 2008-09 are on line to exceed last year’s record by more than 10 percent. (Chart from “Statistical Portrait.”)

Among the research programs on campus are the following examples of centers, institutes, and projects across the campus:

The UCI Environment Institute: Global Change, Energy, and Sustainable Resources was created in April 2008 as a new research institute dedicated to the study of interactions between the environment and society. The Institute will enhance the already internationally recognized work in environmental and related studies now occurring across UC Irvine. It will bring together scientists from across campus to work on projects specific to these areas, such as studying how
climate change will alter public health and welfare; whether people will accept the living patterns of green cities; and the environmental impacts of new energy technologies.

The Sue and Bill Gross Stem Cell Research Center supports our stem-cell research program, which received $57 million in gift and grant funding over the past three years and which developed a stem-cell therapy that made paralyzed rats walk again. This therapeutic method recently became the world’s first embryonic stem cell treatment approved by the FDA for testing in humans.

The Urban Water Research Center’s mission is to advance the understanding of the distinct characteristics of the urban water environment in order to assist people and institutions in their effort to promote health, enhance the efficient use of water resources, and protect environmental values. The Center is a partnership with over 70 faculty members and a variety of departments at UC Irvine.

The Center for the Study of Democracy fosters academic research and education to provide a better understanding of the democratic process, and the steps that may strengthen democracy at home and abroad. The faculty and students of the Center study both democratizing nations and the expansion of the democratic process in the United States and other Western democracies.

The Beall Center for Art and Technology supports research and exhibitions that explore new relationships between the arts, sciences and engineering, and thus promotes new forms of creation and expression using digital technologies. The Beall Center aspires to redefine the museum/gallery experience, both in content and form, formulating answers to the questions of how technology can be used effectively, not only to create new forms of art, but also to connect artist to artist, and artist with audience.

The Advanced Power and Energy Program, directed by Scott Samuelsen, Professor of Mechanical, Aerospace and Environmental Engineering, provides education, research and development, beta testing and demonstration to bring new energy technologies to market. The project is supported by the National Fuel Cell Research Center at UCI, the first of its kind in the nation. This center provides a forum for fuel cell technology research and development.

The LifeChips program, directed by G.P. Li, also the Director of the Integrated Nanosystems Research Facility, Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science and Professor of Biomedical Engineering, promotes the union of technology arts and life sciences through research and education at the micro and nano scales. The microscopic world provides a natural common ground for research in traditionally distinct disciplines of engineering, physical sciences, life sciences and medicine. Efforts that combine technology and life sciences will accelerate developments in both fields, bringing new innovations to solve problems of industry and the human condition.

The Geological Hazards and Disasters Research Group, part of the Program in Public Health, addresses natural hazards and disasters from a geologic perspective, with an emphasis on earthquakes as a major threat to public health. Results of their work are applied to disaster preparedness planning, structural design, land-use planning, seismic risk assessment and public education about earthquake hazards.

The nationally recognized Program in Geriatrics, directed by Dr. Laura Mosqueda, has recently received a $2 million grant from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation to enhance the care of
older adults by integrating geriatric principles throughout the School of Medicine’s curricula, including the medical student program and postgraduate study.

The UCI Humanities Center supports research and debate on a wide range of issues that draw vital connections between culture, history, literature, technology, media and the arts. It has supported collaborative faculty research projects as diverse as a Symposium on Ancient Slavery and Human Trafficking, Reading the Digital: from Kabbala to Software Studies, and Museums and Modernity: Pacific Rim Urban Futures. The UC Humanities Research Institute, a UC-wide institute housed at UCI, offers opportunities for collaborative research on topics in the humanities to faculty from throughout the University of California.

AirUCI, the Atmospheric Integrated Research for Understanding Chemistry at Interfaces, is a premier institute in atmospheric sciences based at the UCI. It focuses on research into chemical reactions at the air/water interface and how they affect the atmosphere. Formally named an Environmental Molecular Sciences Institute (EMSI) in 2004, AirUCI represents a partnership between six faculty at UCI and international researchers from the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Hebrew University of Jerusalem in Israel, and the University of Canterbury, New Zealand, together with researchers from Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and the Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory at Pacific Northwest National Lab.

Staff and Administrative Innovation

Staff excellence—Highly-skilled and dedicated staff support is essential to the success of any large organization, and especially to the complex structure of a public research university. Our research and teaching mission depends heavily on the solid infrastructure of administrative support. Efforts to attract and support the professional development of dedicated staff are a high priority at UCI, and we have been extraordinarily successful in recruiting and retaining a loyal and dedicated group of people, many of whom are national leaders in their fields. Their excellence has been recognized by 12 national awards for administrative best practices and innovations; no U.S. research university has received more awards of this type than UCI. The awards include the USA Today “Quality Cup” and the EDUCAUSE “Award for Excellence in Administrative Information Systems,” which is the top prize for administrative improvement from the National Association of College and University Business Officers.

Locally, the UCI Staff Assembly hosts a number of events and programs to recognize and encourage excellent performance by staff on campus, including
- the annual Excellence in Leadership Award for supervisors who, through outstanding leadership, enhance staff morale, build an enriching work environment, and serve as a mentor or otherwise support the career development of their staff;
- the Career Enhancement Scholarship Program, which helps career staff continue their education through enrollment in associate, bachelor’s, graduate, or continuing education programs (Extension) at community colleges, state colleges or universities while employed at UCI;
- seminars and forums with campus leadership;
- the Quarter Century Club, for staff with 25 years or more of service at UCI; and
- social events, including a campus-wide UCI Staff Appreciation Picnic every August.

Sustainability and energy efficiency at UCI—For nearly two decades, UC Irvine has been a leader in environmental stewardship, incorporating sustainability and energy efficiency into every aspect of its operation. UCI’s aggressive energy management program focuses on
reducing greenhouse gas emissions and energy waste by implementing best practices and harnessing emerging technologies. UCI is installing “smart” real-time air quality sensing in laboratories and pilot testing more than a dozen other pollution and energy reduction projects, which if successful, can be utilized at other institutions. In the last two fiscal years alone, energy efficiency initiatives saved an estimated 16 million kWh of electricity, 3.1 million therms of natural gas, and $3.8 million annually. UCI’s energy and water efficiency programs were recognized by Flex Your Power, California’s statewide energy efficiency campaign, with a best overall award in 2008.

UCI has the most efficient campus energy infrastructure of any North American campus. Our 18 MW, base-loaded co-generation facility employs five energy recovery methods to efficiently capture and utilize heat produced by electrical generation in order to supply the campus’s air-conditioning, power, and heating needs. UCI is further “greening” its power supply by installing the largest photovoltaic system in the UC (tie with UCSD), which is expected to offset up to 1 MW of peak electricity demand from the grid and generate more than 1,370,000 kWh of renewable energy annually.

Since 1992, buildings constructed at UCI have outperformed California’s Title 24 by 20 to 30 percent. Older buildings continuously undergo energy efficiency upgrades of mechanical and lighting systems, and new buildings are designed to meet or exceed LEED Silver standards (LEADERSHIP IN ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN). UCI’s first two projects to complete the LEED certification process were awarded LEED Gold. Thirteen other new construction projects, and one existing building, are in the queue for LEED certification. (See below under “Capital Planning” for more on this topic.)

UCI also boasts a comprehensive Sustainable Transportation program, which eliminates more than 39 million vehicle miles, over 18,000 tons of greenhouse gas emissions, and saves more than $21 million each year. Among the most visible components of this program is a 100 percent biofuel bus system carrying more than 1 million riders per year and saving 100,000 tons of carbon emissions. For its efforts to reduce congestion and air pollution, UCI was designated one of the Best Workplaces for Commuters by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and received the Governor’s Economic and Environmental Leadership Award for climate change in 2008.

For more about sustainability and energy efficiency at UCI, visit www.sustainability.uci.edu.

Finance, Capital and Development

Annual budget—UCI’s operating expenditures totaled approximately $1.6 billion in 2007-08. instruction accounted for about 28 percent of that total; teaching hospitals 29 percent; and research 14 percent. In addition, capital expenditures totaled another $280 million, for total UCI campus expenditures in 2007-08 of $1.9 billion.

The campus budget is overseen by the Executive Vice Chancellor in consultation with the Budget Work Group, which includes leadership of the faculty Senate, the Staff Assembly and the heads of academic and administrative budget offices. The budget is managed according to a set of explicit budget principles that are reviewed and renewed before every budget cycle:

- UCI must continue to build the excellence of its academic and professional programs, accommodate enrollment increases, and offer students a high-quality education in an environment characterized by civility and diversity.
- UCI must continue to recruit and retain the highest-quality faculty and staff, maintaining an appropriate balance of staff capacity as new faculty hires occur.
- UCI must take into account the fundamental contributions of faculty, staff and support areas to its academic mission, and continue to make every effort to minimize layoffs as it develops budget plans.
- UCI must base strategic budgetary decisions on analysis, evaluation and appropriate consultation with campus constituencies.
- UCI must streamline organizational structures, processes and procedures to help reduce expenditures and mitigate workloads and delegate decisions to the lowest practical operational level.
- UCI must continue to seek new sources of revenue through fundraising, sponsored projects, public-private sponsorships and other sources.

Decline in state funding—Like all UC campuses, UCI has seen a dramatic decline in the percentage of its budget funded by the state over the past decade. Total state appropriations in 2007-08 were $239 million, or about 14.3 percent of total receipts for that year. (Tuition and fees totaled approximately $213 million, or 13 percent of total receipts. That decline in state funding as a percentage of our total revenues over the past decade is indicated by the following chart (“Statistical Portrait”).
The consequences of this decline have been severe. Just this year we have had to allocate about $14 million in budget cuts to academic and administrative units and an additional $1.8 million in increased assessments to campus support units. These reductions were made differentially based on campus priorities and strategic objectives in consultation with the Budget Work Group, the Deans’ Council and the Chancellor’s Cabinet.

**Capital planning**—In 2007-08, the university spent more than $281 million on capital projects for the general campus and at the medical center. Developed through our award-winning design/build method, more than $1.3 billion in capital projects is reshaping the campus community. As described on the UCI Website Construction Update, these projects include: Engineering 3, Social & Behavioral Sciences, Steinhaus Hall Renovation, Telemedicine, Stem Cell Research Center, Humanities Gateway, a third phase of East Campus housing, and a new UC Irvine Medical Center Clinical Laboratory Replacement Building.

The first phase of the new University Hospital project at the medical center was completed in September 2008, four months ahead of schedule and under budget. The $393 million, 482,428-square-foot research and teaching facility opened for patient care in March 2009. Construction of Phase 2 (the build-out of more than 63,000 square feet of shell space to house 45 additional patient beds, four additional operating rooms, 21 limited-stay beds and a radiology department) is now under way. This $163 million project will be completed in 2011. The university also has commenced construction on a $49.5 million clinical laboratory building, which will be completed in 2010. When these projects are complete, the medical center will be a modern, state-of-the-art health sciences campus. These state-of-the-art facilities will improve the quality and accessibility of healthcare for the citizens in our region of the state, and – through their impact on our education and research programs – train new healthcare providers and bring new treatments, cures and preventive measures to people all over the world.

For years, UCI has been a pioneer among university building programs, working with the U.S. Green Building Council to streamline the LEED certification process and to reduce administrative costs. These savings have been used to enhance environmental building design features. Our first two projects to complete the LEED certification process, Palo Verde 2 Student Apartments and the Anteater Instruction & Research Building, were awarded LEED Gold. Thirteen other projects are in the queue for possible LEED awards.

The ongoing state budget crisis has affected our capital planning for 2008-09, but fortunately many of the projects are being completed as planned, including Engineering Unit 3, Humanities Building, Steinhaus Hall Seismic Improvements, and Telemedicine/PRIME-LC Facilities. As of February 2009, funds are still frozen for two of the projects: the Arts Building and the Social and Behavioral Sciences Building.

**Record year for fundraising**—Annual giving to UCI reached a record level in 2007-08: $130 million in total giving, and the largest number of separate gifts that we have ever received. That amount broke the single-year fundraising record for all organizations and institutions in Orange County and represented the third consecutive year we have raised more than $100 million. At the end of fiscal 2008, our endowment had exceeded $250 million. The extraordinary rise in private support for UCI over the past decade is indicated by the following chart (“Statistical Portrait”):
The generosity of our friends and supporters is distributed across the whole campus, reflecting the broad range of the campus initiatives. The highlights of last year’s fundraising record include:

- $20 million from the Donald Bren Foundation for the UCI School of Law
- $10 million from Susan and William Gross for the Sue and Bill Gross Stem Cell Research Center
- $1.5 million from William J. Gillespie to support the William J. Gillespie Endowed Fund for Ballet Studies
- $1.4 million from ExxonMobil Foundation (through the National Math and Science Initiative) to support the UCI California Teach Science and Math Initiative

UCI’s $1 billion campaign—In October 2008, UCI launched its $1 billion “Shaping the Future” campaign to raise funds that will enable the university to solve some of the world’s toughest problems by focusing on high-priority initiatives in research and teaching and global opportunities related to the international character of our campus and surrounding community. By uniting UCI’s local and global communities, alumni and longtime supporters alike, the Shaping the Future campaign is dedicated to realizing the university’s mission, making a difference in individual lives and, in turn, transforming the world. Over $430 million has already been raised toward our goal.