Writing the stories
Dear Friends,

As illustrated by the wonderful news that UCR alumnus Richard R. Schrock ('67, B.A.) has won the Nobel Prize in chemistry, UCR’s star is clearly on the rise! And as further evidence, I am also pleased to share the good news that UCR successfully completed “Evolutions: The 50th Anniversary Campaign” eight months ahead of schedule, having surpassed our goal by raising $50.9 million in gifts, grants and pledges.

In addition to providing much-needed resources for student scholarships, fellowships and academic programs, the campaign generated support for several significant campuswide initiatives, including the UCR Palm Desert buildings, the Alumni and Visitors Center, the Barbara and Art Culver Center of the Arts and our new Engineering II classroom building.

Just as UCR’s revolutionary breakthroughs in such fields as genomics research and nanotechnology impact our lives in countless ways, so, too, does the philanthropic support of our alumni, parents and friends benefit our next generation of scholars, researchers, artists and entrepreneurs. The resources provided by this and future campaigns ensure that UCR is able to effectively compete for corporate and foundation grants, recruit top-flight faculty and preserve the UC promise of accessible education for the best and brightest California students. Within these pages, you will find outstanding examples of the dedicated and dynamic students and faculty whose innovative work in our laboratories and classrooms is literally reshaping our understanding of the world around us.

My sincere thanks to each of the more than 10,000 alumni, parents and friends – nearly half of whom are first-time donors – who contributed to the success of “Evolutions.” With your help, annual gifts to the UCR Fund increased by more than 55 percent during this effort. Given the increasingly important role that private support plays in maintaining and enhancing the quality and reputation of our fast-growing campus, this represents a significant step forward in our journey to establish UCR as a top-ranked, global research institution.

As together we celebrate this shared accomplishment – one of many such institutional success stories – know that your continued generosity helps secure UCR’s place among our nation’s most distinguished public institutions.

Who knows where the next UCR Nobel Prize winner will emerge?

Chancellor France A. Córdova

P.S. We are pleased to recognize our community of supporters in the Evolutions Campaign Honor Roll, found on page 21 and at www.giving.ucr.edu.
Two UCR researchers unlock the genetic secrets of spider silk, which shows potential for a wide variety of uses.

Doug Everhart helps student-athletes balance academics and athletics.

The latest donation to the J. Lloyd Eaton Science Fiction Collection will keep library staff busy a year or more.

UC Riverside Extension’s early childhood education program is raising the bar for childcare professionals.

Many students come to UCR for an education but stay on or return later to pursue a career.

Fiat Lux is published by the Office of Marketing and Media Relations, University of California, Riverside and it is distributed free to the University community. Editorial offices: A-140 Highlander Hall, University of California, Riverside, CA 92521, telephone (951) 827-6397. Unless otherwise indicated, text may be reprinted without permission. Please credit Fiat Lux, University of California, Riverside.

Fiat Lux ISSN (1056-4276) is published four times a year: Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall by the University of California, Riverside, CA 92521-0155. Periodicals postage rates paid at Riverside, CA.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Fiat Lux, Subscription Services (0063), A-252 Highlander Hall, Riverside, CA 92521-0149.

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Almost 1,000 people, including more than 650 students from more than 80 colleges and universities across the nation, attended the 13th annual Southern California Conference on Undergraduate Research, hosted by UCR on Saturday, Nov. 19.

Chancellor France A. Córdova renews a memorandum of agreement with Chen Zhangliang, president of China Agricultural University. Córdova, accompanied by Executive Vice Chancellor Ellen Wartella, recently spent a week in China meeting with officials from Shanghai Jiaotong, Tongi, Fudan, Xi’an Jiaotong and China Agricultural universities to sign agreements that set in motion student, faculty and research exchanges in the areas of agricultural, genomic and environmental studies.

Rickerby Hinds, assistant professor of theater, was the keynote speaker at UCR’s annual New Student Convocation on Sept. 26, 2005. The ceremonial event is designed to induct incoming freshmen and transfer students into the UCR family.
When Richard R. Schrock (‘67) was 8 years old, his brother gave him a chemistry set. The occasion marked the beginning of Schrock’s passion for chemistry and for making “new things at the atomic level.”

On Oct. 5, Schrock, a UC Riverside alumnus, was awarded the 2005 Nobel Prize in chemistry by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. Schrock, who graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in chemistry from UCR in 1967, was the first to produce an efficient metal-compound catalyst for chemical reactions called “metathesis,” a word meaning “to change places.” He shares the Nobel Prize with Yves Chauvin of the Institut Français du Pétrole and Caltech’s Robert H. Grubbs.

UCR congratulates Dr. Schrock, who is among our most distinguished alumni,” said Chancellor France Córdova. “He is a shining example of the outstanding quality of our undergraduate-degree recipients and the faculty who nurture them.”

In metathesis reactions, molecules exchange fragments under the influence of a catalyst, which is a substance that increases the rate of a chemical reaction, but remains unchanged itself. Double bonds between carbon atoms are broken and made in a manner akin to a dance in which the dancers swap partners. The reaction is used frequently in the chemical industry to make pharmaceuticals, synthetic fibers and other products.

“The Nobel to Dr. Schrock was a widely expected honor within the chemistry community,” said Steve Angle, dean of the College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, which includes the Department of Chemistry. “Metathesis reactions are extremely efficient, produce less waste and have led to conceptually new pathways for the synthesis of a variety of compounds, such as those used to combat diseases like Alzheimer’s and cancer. These reactions have also found wide use in making plastics and different polymers.”

Schrock’s breakthrough came in 1990 when he and his colleagues reported a class of molybdenum catalysts that helped rearrange carbon bonds. His serious scientific work began when he was a UCR undergraduate with a keen interest in physical chemistry.

After receiving his Ph.D. from Harvard University in 1971, he spent a year as a National Science Foundation postdoctoral fellow at Cambridge University. This was followed by three years of research at the Central Research and Development Department of E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Co. In 1975, Schrock joined the Massachusetts Institute of Technology faculty, where he is the Frederick G. Keyes Professor of Chemistry.

Chris Reed, distinguished professor of chemistry at UCR and a contemporary of Schrock, is intimately familiar with the laureate’s research, and once served on a National Institutes of Health committee with him.

“Richard is an excellent scholar and a testament to UCR’s Department of Chemistry,” he said. “The department has known of his work for a long time, recognized its importance and invited him to our campus on several occasions.”

Indeed, Schrock served as the department’s Bryan Kohler Memorial Lecturer in 2003.

A member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the National Academy of Sciences, Schrock, 60, was associate editor of Organometallics for eight years and has published more than 400 research papers. While at MIT, he was a Camille and Henry Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar (1978-83) and a recipient of an Alfred P. Sloan Fellowship (1976-78). In 1996, he received the American Chemical Society Award in Inorganic Chemistry for his efforts to develop cleaner and more efficient ways to manufacture chemicals. Some of his other awards and honors include the ACS Award in Organometallic Chemistry (1985), the Harrison Howe Award of the Rochester ACS section (1990), an Alexander von Humboldt Award (1995), the Bailar Medal from the University of Illinois (1998), an ACS Cope Scholar Award (2001) and the Sir Geoffrey Wilkinson Medal (2002).

The excitement of making a new compound is what keeps him interested in chemistry, the laureate and loyal alumnus of UCR mentioned at a news conference held at MIT on Oct. 5.

The Nobel is “obviously a tremendous honor,” he added. “Now I know dreams can come true.”
UC Riverside researchers received $109.8 million in sponsored awards in 2004-05, a record amount for the university that reflects its growing stature as a world-class academic research center.

Overall, sponsored awards for the campus grew by nearly 34 percent since last year. In 2003-04, UCR received $82 million in sponsored awards, and in 2002-03, $87.1 million.

Among the major awards received during 2004-05 are more than $22 million from the U.S. Department of Defense for nanoscience research under the direction of Robert Haddon, director of the Center for Nanoscale Science and Engineering and distinguished professor of chemistry, and chemical and environmental engineering; and a nearly $11.6 million award for five years from the U.S. Department of Education to sponsor teacher training and assessment under the direction of Linda Scott-Hendrick, director of UCR Teacher Induction Programs.

"UCR has a strong tradition of research excellence, reflected this year in our passing the $100 million milestone for sponsored awards," said Charles Louis, vice chancellor for research.

This year’s funding includes awards to 390 investigators. Federal agencies provided about 72 percent of funding dollars, including $3.9 million from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, $8 million from the U.S. Department of Education, $23.6 million from the U.S. Department of Defense, $13.7 million from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and $22.1 million from the National Science Foundation (NSF).

Among the funding recipients are:

• Julia Bailey-Serres, professor of genetics, received nearly $500,000 of a $1.8 million award from NSF to continue research to assign a function to every gene in a plant called arabidopsis thaliana.
• Scott Coltrane, professor of sociology, received nearly $400,000 of a $1.8 million award from NIH to study how fathers impact the mental health and behavioral problems of their adolescent children.
• Joel Martin, interim dean of the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, received $1 million from the Gluck Foundation to continue the Gluck Fellows Program, which takes UCR faculty and students of the arts to underserved communities.
• Gary Zank, professor of physics, director of UCR’s Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics and now director of the systemwide IGPP, received $1.7 million from NSF to advance computational physics and lay the groundwork for a Center for Computational Sciences.
• Norman Ellstrand, professor of genetics, received a $1.5 million award from NSF to examine the factors related to the dispersal of genes in the agricultural ecosystem. His team includes UCR faculty and graduate students in botany and plant sciences, economics, sociology and statistics and anthropologists from UC Santa Barbara.
• Yushan Yan, professor of chemical and environmental engineering, with funding from private industry, is leading a research team to develop zeolite materials at the nanoscale, which will revolutionize the fields of energy, environment and microelectronics.
• Anthony Norman, distinguished professor of biochemistry and biomedical sciences, received nearly $500,000 of a $1.5 million award from NIH to continue studies on vitamin D and calcium metabolism.
• Alexander Raikhel, professor of entomology, received more than $800,000 from two awards totaling more than $3 million from NIH to continue his research on mosquitoes and mosquito-borne diseases.

The National Science Foundation has approved $2.9 million for an Integrative Graduate Education and Research Trainee (IGERT) program to be conducted by researchers at UC Riverside’s Center for Plant Cell Biology.

This prestigious and highly competitive award marks the first time UC Riverside has had an IGERT program funded. Under principal investigator Julia Bailey-Serres, professor of genetics in the Botany and Plant Sciences Department, the five-year project proposes to train 23 Ph.D. students in cell biology, chemistry, computational sciences and engineering.

The Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta has awarded $4.3 million to continue and expand the programs of the Southern California Academic Center of Excellence in Youth Violence Prevention, a UC Riverside center led by Professor of Psychology Nancy Guerra.

The five-year grant allows the center to become one of the eight comprehensive Academic Centers of Excellence funded by CDC in the country.

Reza Abbaschian, a professor of materials science and engineering and former chair of one of the largest materials departments in the nation, is the new dean of UC Riverside’s Bourns College of Engineering (BCOE). Abbaschian had served as chairman and Vladimir A. Grodsky Professor of the Department of Materials Science and Engineering at the University of Florida.

UCR’s recently opened 2,000-square-foot Nanofabrication Cleanroom facility will provide a full complement of technology that will allow researchers to develop new electronic devices that consume less power, are smaller and much more powerful than current silicon-based devices. Located in an existing site in the Bourns College of Engineering, the Class 100/100 facility will have fewer than 100 particles of size 300 nanometers or larger per cubic foot of air in the room, while other areas will have less than 1,000 particles of size 300 nanometers or larger per cubic foot. A nanometer is about 100,000 times smaller than a human hair.
UCR Medical School Proposed to Address the Need for
More Physicians in the Inland Empire and the State

Chancellor Córdova makes the announcement that UCR will submit a proposal for a UCR Medical School to the UC Office of the President.

By Iqbal Pittalwala

Last month, UC President Robert Dynes appointed a special committee to chart a course for expanding California's supply of physicians. Currently, just one quarter of the physicians in California are trained in the state. California also has the lowest medical school enrollment per capita in the country.

Within a decade, physician demand is expected to grow most rapidly in the medically underserved Inland Empire – a rate of 40 percent compared with 15 percent in Los Angeles. If successful, UCR would be home to the first medical school built in California in 40 years.

"I have been assured that UCR's plan for a school of medicine will be seriously considered as the university moves forward," said Córdova. "A school of medicine would offer a tremendous opportunity for serving the health-care needs of our underserved region and populace, and for transforming the Inland Empire to a knowledge-driven economy. A research-based school of medicine would attract start-up companies and venture capital to our area."

Córdova informed the morning crowd of local business leaders and elected officials that the region's shortfall for doctors will reach 53 percent in the next decade. She also noted that the UC system trains only about 15 percent of the physicians who practice medicine in California. Increasing diversity in the physician pool would be a high priority for the medical school.

"Our region has among the lowest ratio of primary-care physicians and specialists per capita in California," she said. "We have a very strong case to make. With our existing biomedical sciences program and more than 80 faculty in related fields such as immunology, genomics, nanoscience and public health, UCR has a strong foundation upon which to build a medical school."

Besides the UCR/UCLA Thomas Haider Program in Biomedical Sciences, which allows students to take the first two years of their medical education at UCR and the remaining two years at UCLA, UCR has the advantage over other UC campuses in that its proposal will not require construction of a new hospital to serve the medical school. Instead, the plan calls for collaboration with existing hospitals in the region.

Last spring, the university hired Kurt Salmon Associates, a management consulting firm to health-care industries, to help it craft a sound business plan for the school. Next month, UCR will appoint a panel of former deans from distinguished medical schools to form an external advisory board to advise the university as it designs the new school of medicine.

And that's not all.

Starting this fall, UCR has brought to campus six world-class researchers in biomedical science to give seminars on biomedical research. The university has also invited leading medical educators to share with the campus their thoughts on the design of new medical schools. For more information on the seminars, visit www.newsroom.ucr.edu.

Eight UCR Faculty Members Named 2005 AAAS Fellows

Eight UCR Faculty Members Named 2005 AAAS Fellows

by Iqbal Pittalwala

The American Association for the Advancement of Science has named eight UC Riverside faculty members as 2005 AAAS fellows, bringing the number of UCR faculty who have been recognized with this distinction to 129.

"UCR congratulates the eight faculty members who've been awarded the AAAS fellow distinction," said Charles Louis, vice chancellor for research. "Their election reflects the high quality of their work and shows that research being done on our campus is receiving national attention."

Election as a fellow is an honor bestowed upon AAAS members by their peers. This year, AAAS bestowed the honor on 376 members for their scientifically or socially distinguished efforts to advance science or its applications. New fellows will be honored during the Feb. 18, 2006, AAAS annual meeting in St. Louis, Mo.


UC, California Community Colleges Form Partnership Located at UCR

The University of California and the California Community Colleges have formed a new collaborative program that will provide professional development, leadership training and policy research designed to help the state's community colleges better meet the challenges of serving a growing and increasingly diverse student population.

California Community Colleges Chancellor Marshall (Mark) Drummond and UC President Robert C. Dynes signed a memorandum of understanding in June creating the California Community College Collaborative at UC Riverside.

Dubbed C4 at UCR, the center will involve collaborations with faculty and administrators at Riverside Community College, UC campuses at Berkeley, Davis, Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and Santa Cruz, as well as USC and California State University, Sacramento.

Steven Bossert, dean of UCR's Graduate School of Education, will serve as the interim director during the center's initial year of operation.

The goal of C4 at UCR is to improve the quality of student learning in California's community colleges, the largest system of higher education in the nation.

More news about UC Riverside is available at www.ucr.edu.
They are writing novels about Louisiana bayous, African ghettos and abusive parents. They are composing poems about gardeners working in 120-degree desert heat and torture in Nigerian prisons and fathers dying of Alzheimer's disease. They are writing plays about angst in Riverside's citrus groves.

And they are winning major awards.

In fact, so many talented writers teach and study at UC Riverside that KPCC public radio personality Kitty Felde once questioned if it might not be "something in the water out there."

But look behind the casual remark and you'll find that interesting new stories emerge from UCR's Department of Creative Writing

By Kris Lovekin

When it comes to prose, poetry and print, the faculty and students of UCR's Department of Creative Writing have the write stuff.
Did you know?

Dana Johnson’s collected short fiction, “Break Any Woman Down,” won the Flannery O’Connor Award for Short Fiction.

Andrew Winer’s first novel was “The Color Midnight Made.” He was recently a recipient of a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Juan Felipe Herrera has written 21 books in the past 10 years, including poetry, prose, short stories, young adult novels and picture books for children. “The Upside Down Boy,” a musical for young audiences based on his book, was well received in New York City in 2004.

Christopher Abani’s publications include poetry, plays and novels. The latest novel, “GraceLand,” was published in 2004. Abani won the Hemingway Foundation/PEN Award and the Hurston/Wright Legacy Award. Find out more at www.chrisabani.com.

Susan Straight is the author of five novels and two children’s books and essays on life in Southern California. Her previous novel, “Highwire Moon,” won a gold medal from the Commonwealth Club’s California Book Awards. Her next novel, due in March, is called “A Million Nightingales.”

Michael Jayme-Becerra, wrote “Every Night is Ladies Night,” a collection of short stories about growing up in El Monte. It earned a silver medal in the California Book Awards competition.

because UCR students and faculty are armed with fascinating raw material.

“Everyone wants to know what I’m up to,” said Jayme, who was also a writing student at UCR. “It’s the diversity of the students, their imagination and intensity,” explained D. Charles Whitney, a professor who teaches sociology.

“It’s unpredictable what we will produce here and I think that’s a delight,” added Dwight Yates, a longtime lecturer at UCR. “Students are telling their own stories. It’s a great stew.”

From Student to Storyteller

In 1991, Michael Jayme arrived at UCR as a student. The first member of his working-class El Monte family to go to college, he immersed himself in his poetry, and then short fiction workshops at UCR, even while he worked night shifts at UPS. His mentors, Maurya Simon and Susan Straight, are two of the department’s original professors.

They encouraged him to tackle any genre he found inspiring.

“There were no limits on what I could do there,” said Jayme, who adds his mother’s maiden name to create his pen name of Michael Jaime-Becerra. “They wanted me to write with my own voice, not just copy theirs. They encouraged me to write about my own experiences growing up.”

The results, eventually, wound up in a book of short stories called “Every Night is Ladies Night.”

Now Jayme is himself a creative writing professor at UCR, a colleague to his mentors, along with professor Christopher Buckley and some relatively new faces at UCR – Christopher Abani and Andrew Winer and Dana Johnson, and Juan Felipe Herrera, who holds the brand new Tomás Rivera Endowed Chair. Add to that list longtime lecturers Judy Kronenfeld and Derek McKown, and three new alumni lecturers, Kate Anger, Jo Scott Coe and Alex Espinoza, and you have a critical mass of creative force.

The Story Unfolds

“We just blossomed,” said Simon, who has been teaching poetry classes at UCR since 1984 and who served as associate dean last year. “The department went from three full-time positions to nine in the space of the last three years.” And just like first-generation college students at UCR, this particular department spent many years slogging up the steep road before finding itself.

UCR’s undergraduate creative writing program is the only one in the UC system, so it has drawn dedicated undergraduate writers from around the state.

An annual Writers Week brings in guest writers for free readings. And four years ago the department launched a Master of Fine Arts program in creative writing and writing for the performing arts, in partnership with the Department of Theatre. The program demands that students cross genres, from playwriting to poetry to fiction and screenwriting.

“Most MFA programs actually require specialization in one genre, so this is really unusual,” said Straight.

The MFA program is based in Riverside and, starting this year, at UCR’s new Palm Desert campus as well.

With the maturing MFA program, as well as the undergraduate journal Mosaic and a new graduate and professional journal called Crate, the department has found its rhythm.

But it wasn’t always that way.

The journey started with the late Harry Lawton, a journalist and campus science writer who was also an adjunct lecturer in creative writing on the basis of his novel, “Willie Boy: A Desert Manhunt,” which was turned into a Hollywood movie starring Robert Blake and Robert Redford.

Lawton started Writers Week at UCR in 1975 with a budget of $500. Over the years, the budget has grown, along with the guest list and the audience. Guest authors have included Joyce Carol Oates, Robert Pinsky,
Ken Kesey, Russell Banks, Aimee Bender, Lucille Clifton, Dorothy Allison and Ursula K. LeGuin, among many others. It continues to this day as the oldest free literary event in California. February’s headliner is “American Splendor” author Harvey Pekar.

It is that event that typically draws the eyes of the outside world, including KPCC’s Felde, who interviews the featured writers on her show, “Talk of the City.”

“Writers Week” has definitely been the department’s signature event,” said Straight, a Riverside native and novelist who has been teaching at UCR since 1988. She remembers how she would come to listen raptly to famous writers, sometimes standing in the back so she could escape quietly if one of her three daughters started to fuss.

Now the author of five novels set in a fictionalized Riverside, with a sixth novel due in March called “A Million Nightingales,” Straight has organized two years of Writers Week herself, inaugurating special days devoted to African-American or Latino voices. This year Jayme’s will organize the week, and he will include a tribute to the graphic novel.

**A Great Mentor**

Straight said she is thrilled to have her former students as colleagues, as well as new stars like Abani, a 38-year-old writer from Nigeria who this year won the Hemingway Foundation/PEN Award for his debut American novel, “GraceLand.”

“He is not only a brilliant writer, but he is a great mentor for our students,” Straight said. As a teen, Abani earned attention in his home country for the precocious publication of a thriller whose plotline led to allegations of involvement in a military coup, triggering paranoia in his country’s political dictatorship. Abani’s ideas and his college activism resulted in prison sentences, sometimes in solitary confinement.

A collection of poems that grew out of that experience, “Kalakuta Republic,” was described as “the most naked, harrowing expression of prison life and political torture imaginable,” by playwright Harold Pinter. “Reading them is like being singed with a red-hot iron.”

Ironically, Abani rejects the argument that good art stems from harrowing life experiences. He said people who live comfortable middle class existences can also be great writers. But he does agree that the students who show up at UCR’s creative writing classes are particularly focused on their art. “Here, I have really hungry students. There is a real sense of hunger,” he said. “And then they become my friends.”

Abani has been known to invite his students to join in a game of Twister to help them remember how to break out of constricting techniques or habits, and keep a sense of play in their work. And after only two years of teaching at UCR, he has won a campus award for his mentorship to students, the non-senate distinguished teaching award.

**Creative Stew**

The writer who has taken on the duties of department chair for this year, Juan Felipe Herrera, said it is a pleasure to stir this creative stew. A poet who is constantly sprinkling metaphors into conversation, Herrera said it has been amazing to wrap himself in the name of Chicano legend Tomás Rivera. “It’s been like putting on a flying carpet,” he said. “I am asked to go all over the community to write poems or read them, or speak in front of hundreds of people.”

He said it was not easy to leave his long-established career at California State University, Fresno, near where he grew up. “But this department was doing new things and producing lots of books,” he said. “I just saw it as a new challenge for me, and I’m glad I came.”

**Writers Week 2006 Schedule**

| Tuesday, Feb. 14th: Fiction | 1 p.m. Chieh Cheng |
| 3 p.m. Dwight Yates |
| 5 p.m. Merrill Joan Gerber |
| Wednesday, Feb. 15th: Nonfiction | 1 p.m. Joshua Bearman |
| 3 p.m. Bill Cells |
| 5 p.m. Regina Louise |
| 7:30 p.m. Film screening: “American Splendor” |
| Thursday, Feb. 16th: Poetry & Translation | Poetry Workshop: Christopher Howell, 1 p.m. Christopher Howell |
| 3 p.m. David Young |
| 5 p.m. Peter Everwine |
| 7:30 p.m. David Young, Peter Everwine, and Chris Buckley in conversation |
| Friday, Feb. 17th: Graphic Novel | 1 p.m. Paul Hornschemeier |
| 3 p.m. Jaime Hernandez |
| 7:30 p.m. Harvey Pekar, keynote speaker |
| Saturday, Feb. 18th: Poetry | 2 p.m. Francisco Aragón (Presented in partnership with the Tomás Rivera Endowment) |
| 2:30 p.m. Kimiko Hahn (Presented in partnership with Crate) |

The Monday through Friday events will be held on the UCR campus. The Saturday event will be held at the downtown branch of the Riverside Public Library. All the events are free. Information: (951) 827-3615.
Two biologists at UCR unlock the genetic secrets of this wonderful fiber.
By Ricardo Duran
UCR Assistant Professor of Biology
Cheryl Hayashi can imagine the day when spider silk is part of a wide variety of everyday products.

Be it artificial tendons repairing a weekend warrior’s torn ligaments, light-weight body armor shielding cops and soldiers from the perils of their work or the ultra snug, sleek body suits coating the finely tuned bodies of Olympic athletes, spider silk shows potential.

“I think there’s a spider silk out there for all these applications,” she said.

Of course, these products aren’t going to hit Olympic arenas or the mean streets of L.A. and Baghdad anytime soon, but they’re coming, Hayashi says.

Materials scientists have long viewed spider silks with great fascination because of their extraordinary properties. One-tenth the diameter of a human hair, lighter than cotton, yet ounce for ounce up to five times stronger than steel and more flexible than nylon, the attributes of spider silk make it a tantalizing material.

“It’s not that there’s one spider silk that’s going to do all these things,” Hayashi noted. “The value of the spider silk system is that spiders have evolved to have different kinds of silks.”

Of the seven spider-produced silks, egg case silk, which is waterproof, durable and possibly antimicrobial and protects developing offspring, is among the most intriguing, Hayashi says.

So why haven’t we seen more progress toward Space Age products based on spider silks? The challenges are considerable.

Spiders cannot be mass reared in a lab or on a farm because they are territorial predators, posing worker turnover problems.

Then there’s the bottleneck between producing silks proteins and actually making a fiber. Biotechnology has allowed us to turn goats and cows into silk producers to increase the supply. But because the process that the spider uses to transform her liquid proteins into a solid fiber is still not fully understood, there’s a scarcity of the gossamer strands.

“I find it absolutely fascinating, because everybody has spiders in their homes . . . and just the idea that all those little animals are doing something that people spend millions of dollars trying to copy is mind-boggling,” Hayashi said.

Then there’s the scarcity of knowledge.

In August, when Hayashi and postdoctoral researcher Jessica Garb published a paper in the Proceedings of the National Academies of Science (PNAS), they were covering new ground. It’s that trail-blazing nature of spider silk research – and its potential for space-age product development – that fuels Hayashi’s and Garb’s investigations and makes each discovery exciting.

“That’s part of the reason why the (PNAS) paper kind of made a splash. It was the first time there was a characterization of egg case silk from many different spiders, which really hadn’t been done before at the molecular level,” Garb said.

Hayashi and Garb’s cutting-edge research may someday spur product-development efforts on egg case silk to approach that of dragline silk, those I-beams of spider web architecture. Dragline silks form the radiating ribs of what we commonly think of when we think of spider webs. Spiders also use it to lower themselves from webs and guide themselves from place to place.

In 2002, the Canadian biotechnology company Nexia and the U.S. Army authored a paper in the journal Science, reporting they had produced and spun the first man-made fiber with mechanical properties similar to that of natural dragline silk. They used goats to produce the silk protein in their milk and developed a means to mimic how spiders spin the strands.

This wonder-product research, however, isn’t possible without the efforts of those like Hayashi and Garb, who push the envelope of knowledge in new and exciting ways. An important part of their work is tracing spider evolution to today’s more than 37,000 species.

“The approach I’m taking is ‘let’s see what’s gone on over 400 million years of evolution.’ That’s a lot of time and a lot of experimentation that’s gone on,” Hayashi said.

From her lab at UC Riverside’s Spieth Hall, Hayashi and her research group are one of several teams scattered throughout the world laboring to unlock the mysteries of this fiber through its genetics.

Many of today’s spiders use a genetic silk recipe that emerged at about the time of the dinosaurs, some 125 million years ago. Orb weavers have stuck to that recipe ever since.

The development of Hayashi’s spider silk studies began at childhood in the lush environment of Hawaii, which awakened her love for biology. She describes Hawaii as “a stellar natural laboratory for evolution,” which focused her interest on evolutionary biology.

Her interest in spiders took hold as an undergraduate student at Yale University with a job feeding a researcher’s spider colony.

“They have to be fed live food, and so I got that job,” she said. “And then I was given a summer research position to go to Panama and study spiders in the tropics and I just jumped at the opportunity.

“You don’t work on spiders for very long before you start getting really curious about their silk, because silk is just an integral part of their lifestyle.”

Hayashi received her Ph.D. from Yale in 1996. Her enthusiasm impressed molecular biologist Randy Lewis, with whom she did postdoctoral work at the University of Wyoming.

“Cheryl was simultaneously the hardest working and most efficient person I have been associated with,” he said. “Her work on the flagelliform silk gene, which was published in Science (February 2000) was an example of that.”

Hayashi’s enthusiasm has also touched her students at UCR.

“I had Cheryl for an evolutionary biology class and she made the subject so interesting I had to try to get a position in her lab,” said Teresa DiMauro, a fourth-year biochemistry major at UCR. “I mean, these were some long classes, an hour and a half twice a week but I swear I was never bored.”

DiMauro has been working in Hayashi’s lab since June.

Hayashi credits the spider’s charms, rather than her own efforts, with capturing the imaginations of her students.

“It usually doesn’t take very much,” she said. “If you show them the amazing properties of these silks – how some silks are stronger than steel, how some silks can absorb more energy than Kevlar – if you show them properties like that, that definitely catches their attention.”

Whatever the source, spider silk has turned some heads.

Postdoctoral Researcher Jessica Garb and Assistant Professor Cheryl Hayashi.
By Ross French and Mark Dodson

No doubt about it, the UC Riverside student-athlete has it all.

That is, all the pressures of a college student taking a minimum of 12 units of course work a quarter, combined with the stresses of 20 hours a week of practice and competition at NCAA Division I, mixed liberally with the challenges of becoming an independent, young adult.

It is a tough road to travel, filled with pitfalls and potholes, but Doug Everhart is there to help. Not merely to guide them past the challenges, but instead to teach them how to overcome them and how to help others do the same.

Everhart has a full plate as health educator and student affairs officer in the Campus Health Center. He is actively involved in the lives of Highlander student-athletes through the CHAMPS/Life Skills Program, Golden ARCHES, the Educational Speakers Series and the Student-Athlete Mentors program. While the organizations are loosely affiliated with one another, each is part of a larger program designed to educate student-athletes and to focus on peer education to provide them with the means to become well-rounded individuals and responsible human beings.

He is also a ubiquitous presence in and around the UCR Athletics Department, whether it is sitting in the stands with his wife, Wendy, and sons David and Robby, cheering on the Highlanders, serving “mocktails” to fans at UCR sporting events as part of an alcohol-awareness fundraiser, speaking to student-athletes or even the occasional trip with a team to a road contest.

While many of Everhart’s programs have been developed and sanctioned by the NCAA, there is no standard template or blueprint on how they are to be implemented on each campus. This enables Everhart’s imagination to take off.

“That is one of the great things about this program,” said Everhart. “You can take all of the materials and resources that the program has to offer and utilize them the best way to fit your individual campus needs.”

Everhart’s passion for the student-athletes manifests itself particularly with the UCR men’s and women’s golf teams. In addition to attending practices, he has accompanied
the squads on almost a half-dozen road trips in the past three years, providing a familiar face in a sport without much fan support. "Doug’s presence [on these trips] shows support from the department side and the university side that the student-athletes appreciate," said Head Golf Coach Paul Hjulberg. "He’s reached out to the golf teams and to me to be an asset and a resource for the kids.

"One of the reasons that Doug is a valuable resource is that kids can go to him and they don’t have to tell the coach," Hjulberg said. "They have that outlet if they want to talk to him about something that might be a personal matter."

With an M.A. in education/counseling from the University of Redlands, coupled with 15 years of student affairs experience, Everhart’s quest is to use peer education to allow students to help themselves and others.

"In the collegiate environment, students already know, or think they know, most of the information that helps shape their attitudes and behaviors. At this point, it’s about teaching them that they are now responsible for making their own choices and decisions," Everhart said.

"The ultimate goal is not trying to get student-athletes to stop drinking, quit going to parties or abstain from sex, but rather to give them the tools and skills necessary to make responsible decisions and to realize the effects these decisions can have on their lives," he added.

The approach to today’s college students is different than the one that Everhart experienced in his college days at the University of Redlands.

"When I was a student, the ‘Just Say No’ campaign was just kicking off," Everhart said. "While it was certainly addressing a legitimate concern, it was an unrealistic approach for most students.

The CHAMPS/Life Skills Program was developed in 1994 by the NCAA, and UCR’s program began in 1999 with the efforts of Everhart, who joined UCR in 1998 after working at Redlands. The program, which stands for ‘Challenging Athletes’ Minds for Personal Success,’ supports development of five areas: academics, athletics, personal development, career and community service.

The CHAMPS/Life Skills program does not limit its influence to the footprint of the UCR campus. In addition to the traditional Thanksgiving and Christmas food drives and appearances at local events and schools, Everhart wanted to create a program that was unique to UC Riverside. That desire germinated in the “Seeds of Hope” campaign, in which UCR student-athletes visit patients at the Loma Linda Children’s Hospital armed with plants and art supplies from local home improvement stores. Together they decorate a pot filled with soil with the final touch of planting a flower seed. The program was so successful in its first year that Everhart looks forward to making it a regular feature this upcoming academic year.

When Everhart arrived at UCR, the school already had a Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), in which a member of each team represented his or her teammates in discussing regulations and policies affecting student-athletes. Everhart foresaw the need for more than a regulatory board. With the Highlanders making the move from Division II to Division I, he knew that student-athletes would become even more prominent members of the campus community and he wanted to give them the opportunity to be positive role models for each other and for the campus as a whole. Thus the Student-Athlete Mentors program (SAMs) was born, a volunteer-based, sustainable peer-education system where student-athletes provide a support network for each other while dealing with common issues.

“The power of peer education is that it allows for a two-way street,” Everhart commented. “You have peers out there with the student population, bringing ideas to you, letting you know what the issues are. SAMs in particular has been a great resource for us to identify issues. We’ve had things from substance issues to pregnancies to gambling brought back to us through our SAMs representatives that we otherwise would not have known about.”

SAMs mentors go through both formal and informal training sessions on topics such as conflict resolution, listening and maintaining confidentiality and trust. SAMs also sponsors awareness campaigns, facilitates educational workshops, provides social alternatives and serves as role models and resources for their peers.

Under the umbrella of the Golden ARCHES (Advocating Responsible Choices through Health Education and Support), SAMs works in concert with ANGLE (Advocates for National Greek Leadership and Education) and PHE (Peer Health Educators) to provide a way for all students to receive the information, guidance and resources to make educated and informed decisions.

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With the assistance of a $30,000 CHOICES grant from the NCAA, Golden ARCHES launched the “Winning Choices” Social Norms Campaign, in which data from the UCR campus are compiled and disseminated to paint a more accurate picture of the attitudes and behaviors of UCR students.

“The theory behind [Social Norms] is that people naturally and instinctively want to fit in," Everhart said. "The common misperception out there is that everybody drinks, everybody has sex and everybody goes wild. However, that’s not the reality. Most students go to class, study, socialize, make good decisions and enjoy positive, healthy relationships. By letting students know that most students make healthy choices, it validates those behaviors.”

The success of Everhart’s programs has garnered national recognition. The BACCUS and GAMMA Peer Education Network, which supports nearly 1,000 peer education programs across the country, has awarded the Golden ARCHES program a national award for the past six years, including one of 10 Outstanding Affiliate Awards (for an outstanding overall program) four out of the past five. UCR was also selected by the organization as one of three programs in the country to launch an impaired-driving initiative. At the annual APPLE (Athletic Prevention Programming & Leadership Education) Conference in Long Beach this past February, the Golden ARCHES Program and SAMs program specifically were featured as model programs. Finally, Everhart was selected in 2003 to be part of the 12-member NCAA CHAMPS/Life Skills Advisory Team.

In June 2005, UCR junior softball player Jamie Yee joined Everhart at the NCAA Leadership Conference as one of 325 student-athletes from across the country who traveled to Orlando, Fla., for five days to discuss issues that affect their campus, sport and community.

“I met a lot of people and heard their stories. I got to relate with people who have gone through the whole experience of being a college athlete while dealing with school,” said Yee. “I learned to connect with the community in ways that will benefit me both at school and when I leave the university.

As required of conference alums, Yee returned to campus in the fall with new techniques of identifying and utilizing resources. Past UCR attendees have created elementary school reading programs, team camaraderie and support initiatives and student-athlete welfare programs.

With the supportive initiatives of Doug Everhart, the CHAMPS/Life Skills, SAMs, and Golden ARCHES campaigns, and the hard work of student-athletes such as Yee, it is safe to say that when it comes to creating an environment for informed decisions, the UC Riverside student-athlete can have it all.
by Laurie Williams

In the universes of science fiction, assimilation of other entities is a demanding proposition. Ask the Borg of “Star Trek,” or “The Puppet Masters” of Robert A. Heinlein’s 1951 novel.

Or ask Special Collections staffers at UCR’s Tomás Rivera Library, who are adding two very large accumulations of science fiction materials to the already enormous J. Lloyd Eaton Science Fiction Collection.

Collector Fred Patten donated his 25-year accumulation after he suffered a stroke in March and had to give up his apartment. What worried him most, he said, was what would happen to his collection.

“I was afraid someone would load it
all up and throw everything in the trash,” said Patten, an expert on Japanese animé cartoons and manga comics.

But Patten saw hope in the careful treatment that another large collection – one belonging to his late friend and fellow Los Angeles-area science fiction fan, Bruce Pelz – was getting as part of UC Riverside’s J. Lloyd Eaton Science Fiction Collection. In April, crews of science fiction fans packed Patten’s collection into 900 boxes and delivered it to UCR.

“It’s a huge job, all right,” said Melissa Conway, head of Special Collections, standing amid stacks of packing boxes and peering at the contents: colorful comics, Japanese animé and manga, fanzines, souvenirs from decades of science fiction conventions, early stories by budding writers and more.

“We’re still figuring out what’s here, and we will be for some time. But we’re finding some fabulous things,” said Conway.

Since then, box by box, Tomás Rivera Library staffers, student workers and volunteers have been cataloging Patten’s and Pelz’s donations. The process will take a year or more, Conway said.

Pelz, a librarian at UCLA, died in 2002, having already begun to send his collection of fanzines and other papers, hundreds of boxes and 20 file cabinets, to UCR.

Conway said that these collections bring an invaluable 70-year historical perspective to scholars and the public – a window on a developing literary genre and the culture in which it grew.

Composed of fragile, older paper items – including Pelz’s hundreds of thousands of amateur-published fanzines – these collections will receive painstaking treatment from conservation specialists in Special Collections, said Conway.

“Science fiction is one of the most interesting developments of the 20th century,” said John Hertz, a Los Angeles attorney and science fiction fan who has visited UCR several times to help catalog the new acquisitions. “Because Conway and George Slusser, the collection’s curator emeritus, saw value where others might not have, UC Riverside can provide researchers with a great resource.”

For Patten, now living in a nursing home in North Hollywood, the Eaton Collection has another virtue: “It’s close enough that when I get better I can go for visits.”
Jagruti Patel has taken advantage of UC Riverside Extension's childcare courses.

By Joan Kite

In Jagruti Patel's home in Redlands, 9 a.m. during the week means reading time. She gathers around her four children, ages 6 months to 2 years, and reads them a story. None of the children are hers.

Patel runs a childcare center out of her home. She is part of a quiet, steady revolution in California.

UC Riverside Extension, which has trained more than 7,000 students within the past five years through its early childcare courses, is also part of that revolution.

Legislation is wending its way through state government that seeks to generate revenue so the poor and middle class can send their children to preschool.

If passed, the Preschool for All Act would do without her. "She's a blessing. I don't know what I would do without her," said Boby.

San Bernardino dentist Seena Boby agrees. She placed her infant son, Thomas, in Patel's home daycare eight months ago.

"He has learned so much just being there," Boby said. "She's introduced him to colors and shapes. She's a blessing. I don't know what I would do without her."

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UC Extension Early Childhood Education Milestones

- In 1991, UC Riverside Extension was the only University of California institution selected to participate in a pilot program to streamline the process of obtaining a Child Development Permit. This program helped implement 33 standards for early childhood education recommended by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing.

- In 2000, UC Berkeley’s Policy Analysis selected UC Riverside Extension for California Education (PACE) as one of six training institutions for early childcare professionals. Training at UC Riverside Extension was funded through the Inland Empire CONNECTIONS grant by First 5 California.

- In 2002, UC Riverside Extension received funding through the CONNECTIONS grant from First 5 San Bernardino to expand educational opportunities to early childcare providers in San Bernardino County.

- In 2003, UC Riverside Extension was selected by First 5 San Bernardino to administer the San Bernardino County CARES program, a statewide initiative that provides incentive stipends, support and educational services to family childcare providers and staff at childcare centers.

- In collaboration with UCR, UC Riverside Extension is the only UC campus that offers courses leading to all six levels of CCTC Child Development Permits.
The Honor Roll of Donors lists individuals, businesses, corporations, foundations and organizations that have made charitable contributions of $10,000 or more to the University of California, Riverside, and its Foundation during the Evolutions Campaign period of Jan. 1, 2003, through April 30, 2005. Contributions made to the Foundation enable the University to attract and retain outstanding faculty and students by providing program and operational support, which allows UCR to fulfill its mission of teaching, research and public service. For a complete Evolutions Campaign Honor Roll of Donors, please visit our Web site – www.development.ucr.edu.
With the recent demolition of the campus’ four-decade old Commons building, the $50 million expansion and renovation of UC Riverside’s Commons area and Costo Hall is underway.

The project, which will take about three years to complete, is designed to accommodate the needs of a burgeoning campus population.

We asked alumni to tell us about their memories of the Commons. Here are a few of the many submissions we received.

“As a member of Gamma Phi Beta, I remember fondly the great and crazy times of rush/recruitment in the Commons area. It was a time of exhaustion but mostly I remember how we, the women of Panhellenic, would turn drab, out-dated rooms into beautiful areas, inviting potential new members into our ‘house.’ Since we had no sorority housing, the Commons room was our “Greek Row,” even if for only a few days. I can also recall going there for that last minute photocopy or stamp from the vending machines. Not to mention the study time spent there to get out of the library for a while. Thanks, old Commons area, for all of the wonderful memories.”

Adrianna Moya (‘00)

“I first attended UCR in the ’80s and I, like many other students, practically lived there. The fondest memory I have is during the days of Luke and Laura on ‘General Hospital.’ Religiously, dozens and dozens of us would rush in, drop our books, and squeeze into the Commons just to catch a glimpse of the television . . . to see if Laura was going to stay with faithful (stupid) Scottie, or give into her hidden steamy lustful desire for Luke. Time after time, warnings, yells and moans of disappointment peppered the room from both the guys and girls, and we’d hang on until the last suspenseful moment…”

Cynthia Smith (‘98, ’00, ’01 teaching credential)

...I remember we had a napalm demonstration scare one evening. There was concern that the war protest was going to happen inside the building. We had already had napalm demonstrations outside in front of the Carillon. But it never happened.”

Dave Lindquist (‘68)

“I can remember coming into the Commons with the rest of the baseball team during the 1993-95 years. Someone would always whip out a deck of cards and the games would begin. Half an hour later it was off to class again and then to the field for batting practice. Those were the days when that was all there was to the day – go to class then to play ball. UCR was a great experience.”

Eric Smyers (‘95)

“Sanctuary: a quiet, fireside refuge against cold, winter rains and the demands of a university education. I would not have survived UCR without the Commons, having spent many hours sleeping around the roaring fireplace after working a graveyard shift. In fond remembrance, hot latte and cool conversations, I can scarcely imagine college life without a Commons area. It was a meeting point for friends and lovers, staff and administrators, and students and professors. Thanks for the Memories!”
The Commons will survive, if only in the minds of many alumni.”

Joanne E. Anderson (’88)

“In 1968, the Bell Tower was the campus axis and the Commons Library its hub. Together, they were and shall remain in my mind, UCR’s heart, a visual signpost to so many memories.”

W. Clay Jones (’68)

“The best part about the Commons was going there to relax after a hard day of class and sinking down into a couch that had no cushions and was barely standing.”

Wilbur Wu (’04)

“I am very sorry it is being torn down. While UCR needs to grow, it should retain its historic roots. I remember watching the 1974 NCAA basketball championship game on the television in the old lounge area. In the late afternoons I always enjoyed reading and sometimes sleeping in the Commons’ soft chairs.”

Stanley M. Caress (’78 Ph.D.)

“The Commons was my home-away-from-dorm in the late ’70s. I toileted, studied, snoozed and accidentally set off the fire alarm at the Highlander office (during four years on staff); made posters for the campus activities office, stirred up trouble at the student government office, ran Model U.N. conference events in the cafeteria, dined on grilled cheese sandwiches and fries at The Pub, helped turn the Commons into a fort for the 1976 western-themed Chancellor’s Ball, temped behind the counter in the lounge, chaired the Commons Board of Governors, purchased textbooks quarterly at the bookstore and read the very educational graffiti on the men’s restroom stalls.”

Russ Leavitt (’79)

“In 1979, we residents of A&I’s D-2 East ran a parody protest at the high school Model United Nations. Building on our tradition of putting arrows through things – we had started with the bell tower – we called ourselves the nation of Arrowania and demanded admission to the U.N. The confused, well-dressed teenagers didn’t know what to make of us slovenly college students carrying signs, and ranting and raving outside the Commons doors. We didn’t really disrupt their meeting, but that didn’t matter. We had a good time and I think we got more pictures in the Highlander than did the Model U.N. itself.”

Richard Sawyer (’81)

“The Commons was to me the one place that students came together to commiserate and celebrate. From the brief life of fusion Asian cuisine, to the seemingly permanent but now extinct grill and the waves of friends coming and going between classes; both the food and the people made my experience around the Commons a unique and memorable one. My most enjoyable memories are that of driving around the Commons late at night dropping off stacks of the AST (Asian Student Times) newspaper, and eating a spicy tuna roll with Alpha Kappa Psi brothers on the benches outside.”

Richard Lee (’03)

“The Commons has always been the center for social hang outs . . . the cozy study lounge area with the fireplace is a place I will always remember. The loud dining area was always a good place for a lunch break and a place to catch up with friends. . . . I hope the new Commons will create new memories for new students.”

Ola Bawardi (’02)

“During my time at UCR (1996-2001), I remember the Commons usually had three or four tables full of UCR brothers and friends. We sat around, kicked it before class, cracked jokes and finished homework. We also held our general assembly meetings in the International Lounge. It was a good time. I used the study lounges inside the main building from time to time to get work done, or to get away from the heat. There was always plenty of good air conditioning inside. The Commons also provided an awesome, and I mean awesome, social atmosphere as well. I’m sure the new Commons will be a success.”

Mike Munoz (’01)

“My husband, then boyfriend, and I watched the World Series (I believe the Cardinals won at least one year) in the TV room. It was great sitting there in the dark with other students, cheering your team on. When I was a graduate student and had my office in the Statistics Building, on my way to class in Sproul Hall I would stop and get a latte. They had the best sprinkles in town.”

Mary Margarita Legner (’93)

“Her name was Fumy and she accompanied me to classes during my senior year where she napped inconspicuously under my seat. I married in 1972 and my husband and I relocated many times. Fumy adjusted to each move but whenever we visited Riverside and approached the vicinity of UCR, she squeaked and cried until we took her back to the campus. She then raced from the parking lot to the Commons to once again wade in each pool and splash my husband and me as she shook herself dry. She died in 1981, leaving me with memories eternal. She and I always loved the campus and the Commons and whenever my husband and I return to Riverside, we stroll the campus, pause at the Commons, and remember the shaggy black and white dog who loved this place and will be eternally remembered by me as the unofficial mascot of UCR, class of ’71.”

Judith K. “Judy” (Thompson) Roush (’71)

“My wife and I met at UCR at a football game in 1967, and were married at Newman Center in 1970. Our reception was in the Commons, and remember the shaggy black and white dog who loved this place and will be eternally remembered by me as the unofficial mascot of UCR, class of ’71.”

Bob Whitehair (’71, ’73 M.A.)

“The Commons was always the place to hang out and check out girls. In 1993, she was sitting in one of the side Commons rooms. You could see her through the glass. I thought she was cute sitting there in a short skirt. She was combing through her hair when Bang! She hit her head on the back of the glass. My friend and I laughed like crazy. I met her later on in the month and asked her to take me to the post office in her car, faking that mine was broken. We eventually married and now have a 3-year-old girl. I will miss the old Commons.”

Greg Tan (’94)
The New Anthology of American Poetry, Volume Two: Modernisms: 1900-1950
co-edited by Steven Gould Axelrod, Camille Roman, Thomas Travisano
Rutgers University Press
February 2005, 768 pages
The book, which is co-edited by UC Riverside Professor of English Steven Axelrod, includes more than 600 poems by 65 American poets writing between 1900 and 1950. The most recognized poets of the era, such as William Carlos Williams, Ezra Pound, Wallace Stevens, T. S. Eliot, H. D., Gertrude Stein, Robert Frost, Marianne Moore, Hart Crane and Langston Hughes, are represented, along with many others. Information: rutgers-press.rutgers.edu.

Star Dust
by Frank Bidart (’62)
Farrar Straus Giroux
June 2005, 84 pages
In 2002, Bidart published a sequence of poems, “Music Like Dirt,” the first chapbook ever to be a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. From the beginning, he had conceived this sequence as the opening movement in a larger structure – now, with “Star Dust” – finally complete. Information: www.fsgbooks.com.

Mastery’s End: Travel and Postwar American Poetry
by Jeffrey Gray (’94 Ph.D.)
University of Georgia Press
January 2004, 304 pages
Focusing on lyric poetry, Mastery’s End looks at issues of subjectivity in post-World War II travel literature. Gray questions whether the postcolonial theoretical model of travel as mastery, hegemony and exploitation still applies. Information: www.ugapress.uga.edu.

Images of the Corpse: From the Renaissance to Cyberspace
edited by Elizabeth Klaver (’90, Ph.D.)
University of Wisconsin Press
April 2004, 280 pages
Spanning from the Renaissance to the present, the essays introduce readers to a modern autopsy; a public execution and dissection in 17th-century England; the corpse as artist’s model and images of dead women in such popular films as “Copycat” and “The Silence of the Lambs.” Information: www.wisc.edu/wisconsinpress.
Ghost Nurseries
by Judy Kronenfeld
Finishing Line Press
2005, 27 pages
"Ghost Nurseries" is Kronenfeld’s third collection of verse. Written over several years, many of the poems are about Kronenfeld’s father, who died in Riverside last spring after several years with Alzheimer’s disease. Information: www.finishing-linepress.com.

Global Hollywood 2 (revised edition)
by Toby Miller, Nitin Govil, John McMurria, Richard Maxwell and Ting Wang
British Film Institute
March 2005, 448 pages
UCR Professor of English, Women’s Studies, and Film and Visual Culture program, Miller and co-authors write about Hollywood’s global power. This book draws from political economy, cultural studies and cultural policy analysis to highlight the material factors underlining this apparent artistic success. It takes into consideration developments such as 9/11, shifts in the exchange rate, transformations in U.S. foreign policy and significant developments in trade agreements, consumer technology and ownership regimes. Information: www.bfi.org.uk.

Brigadier General Tyree H. Bell, C.S.A.: Forrest’s Fighting Lieutenant
by Connie Walton Moretti (’59), Nathaniel Cheairs Hughes Jr., James Michael Browne
University of Tennessee Press
August 2004, 346 pages
UCR Professor of English, Women’s Studies, and Film and Visual Culture program, Miller and co-authors write about Hollywood’s global power. This book draws from political economy, cultural studies and cultural policy analysis to highlight the material factors underlining this apparent artistic success. It takes into consideration developments such as 9/11, shifts in the exchange rate, transformations in U.S. foreign policy and significant developments in trade agreements, consumer technology and ownership regimes. Information: www.bfi.org.uk.

The Mexican Political Experience in Occupied Aztlán: Struggles and Change
by Armando Navarro
Altamira Press
October 2004, 753 pages
UCR Professor of Ethnic Studies Armando Navarro offers a political history of the Mexican American experience in the United States. He examines topics such as American political culture, electoral politics, demography and organizational development. Information: www.altamirapress.com.

Also published:
by Laurie Williams

Some 50 years ago, when Pomona teen Tom Patterson ('60) began exploring his educational options, there weren't many. Tom had good grades and high academic interest but his working-class family couldn't afford to send him to one of the private four-year schools in the area.

But a citrus research station out in the groves of Riverside had recently expanded and was now a degree-granting institution in the University of California system.

UC Riverside’s tuition was low and the campus was close to home. He enrolled and received his bachelor’s degree in anthropology in 1960, then left Southern California for further studies and to begin an academic career that would take him all over the world.

In 2000, Distinguished Professor Thomas C. Patterson came back to work at his alma mater and is now chair of the Department of Anthropology.

He’s not alone. UCR’s alumni faculty and staff report a variety of reasons for working here. Some enrolled as students, then stayed on after graduation. Others, like Patterson, built careers elsewhere before making the decision to return.

Patterson said he came back to UCR after 29 years because the campus and surrounding area reflect several of his interests.

“The diversity of UCR’s student population made it very attractive,” Patterson said.

“Many of UCR’s students are among the first generations of their families to go to college. I was one of those, too.”

Also drawing him west, he said, was the opportunity to work with “some truly exceptional colleagues” in the social sciences and humanities to help shape the program in anthropology at UCR.

Patterson said UC Riverside scholars keep on the cutting edge of social and environmental changes in Southern California, especially the Inland Empire – the region that historically encompassed western Riverside and San Bernardino counties and now, through population growth and much construction work, is expanding toward the High Desert and Coachella Valley.

“We really like to get the grads back,” said Holly Evans, recruitment services manager in the Human Resources Department. “UC Riverside produces outstanding graduates, so it’s to our benefit to get some of them to come back and work for the university.”

A 1990 UCR graduate with a bachelor’s degree in administrative studies, Evans said she had a great experience as a student – so great that soon after graduation she began considering options for a return to campus.

“I couldn’t be a student anymore,” she said. “But I could be an employee.”

She started in 1991 as a career counselor, then moved to the budget office. She added “the people element” to her vocational equation with a move to Human Resources.

“This is my niche,” she said. One of the reasons UCR is so attractive is what she calls “work-life balance” – great benefits, flexible work schedules and generous vacation time.
Recognizing “home”

The campus that UC Riverside administrator Yolanda T. Moses (’75 M.A. ’76 Ph.D.) remembers from her years as a graduate student in the middle 1970s “has spread its footprint quite a bit,” she said.

“The campus has grown – become more of a partner in the way the region is progressing,” she said. “It’s now truly an engaged metropolitan land-grant university.”

Moses’ career in academia has taken her from the Los Angeles area, where she grew up, to high-profile posts in Washington, D.C., and New York City. In 2003, she returned to Southern California to be closer to family and to become a vice provost for conflict resolution at UCR.

This year she adds a part-time teaching role to her administrative load by rejoining the anthropology department, where some of the professors who taught her are now her professional teammates.

“That’s been very interesting,” she said. “These are the people who taught me what I know, and now I’m one of them.”

Moses said she and the campus have both changed since she was a student, but she recognizes “home” here.

“It’s very rarely that we have the opportunity to make a return like this,” she said. “I treasure the chance.”

The whole family

Staff members Aaron and Leslie Bushong are both members of UCR’s class of 1992. Leslie majored in sociology. Aaron had a double major in sociology and English. They were in several classes together, but even with an academic discipline in common – and Leslie working in a campus office that Aaron visited fairly often – they did not get acquainted until the spring quarter of their senior year.

“I admired her from afar for more than two years, but I was too shy to say anything,” Aaron Bushong recalled.

They began dating, but after graduation Leslie stayed in California and Aaron moved to Colorado to look for a job. They couldn’t be much of a couple anymore, Leslie said, because of the distance, but they kept in touch.

Seven months later Aaron came back. They moved to Colorado together in 1995 and got married in 1996. Both tried other jobs, but in 1997, they decided to move back to Riverside.

“I think we just wanted to go home,” Aaron said. “We needed to find some stability. We thought of UCR immediately.”

Soon after their return, Leslie landed a job as director of constituent relations in the Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations, and is now a student affairs officer in the mathematics department.

Aaron soon signed on as lead student affairs officer and director of outreach at UCR’s Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering. Now he is the college’s career development and placement officer.

“I think we just wanted to go home,” Aaron said. “We needed to find some stability. We thought of UCR immediately.”

Soon after their return, Leslie landed a job as director of constituent relations in the Office of Alumni and Constituent Relations, and is now a student affairs officer in the mathematics department.

A current list of jobs openings at UCR is available at www.ucr.edu/employment.html.
UCR Advocates Get the Word Out

Whether it’s traveling to Sacramento to meet with state legislators or sending an occasional e-mail, alumni and friends who volunteer through the UCR Alumni Association’s Advocacy Network can make a big impact in getting the word out about how UCR’s high-quality learning environment, commitment to cutting-edge research and public service endeavors impact the economy and quality of living in California and around the world.

Advocate volunteers have many opportunities to express their views on issues affecting UCR, including writing letters, making phone calls or sending e-mails to their elected officials, participating in lobby activities, meeting with legislators and staff in their district offices, participating in legislator-to-campus and candidate-to-campus visits, or serving on the UCR Alumni Association Advocacy Committee, said Bill Cole, director of alumni constituencies.

Volunteers can also take part in UC Day in Sacramento, which will be held Feb. 6-7, 2006. The annual event brings alumni delegates from all of the UC campuses to Sacramento to meet in small groups with elected officials to discuss issues affecting higher education and UC.

The event also includes a delegate briefing and orientation, a UCR luncheon with legislative staff and special guest speaker, an all-UC reception honoring the UC Legislator of the Year and a UCR dinner with Inland Empire legislators.

Pressed for time, but still want to help? No problem, said Cole, “Alumni and campus friends can participate on whatever level they are comfortable,” said Cole. The Alumni Association will even provide talking points and sample letters to make the job easier.

For more information on joining the UCR Advocacy Network or taking part in UC Day visit www.alumni.ucr.edu or contact Bill Cole at (951) 827-2586 or bill.cole@ucr.edu.

Nominations Sought for Alumni Awards

College-based Alumni Awards Introduced

For two decades, the UCR Alumni Association has recognized alumni who have made a difference in the lives of others through outstanding professional, personal and community contributions.

To better recognize the contributions of our alumni, the association has restructured the program to include college-based alumni awards. Nominations are now being sought for the 2006 awards in the following categories:

- Distinguished Alumnus Award
- Alumni Service Award
- Outstanding Young Alumnus Award
- Individual college-based Alumni Awards for the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences and Bourns College of Engineering

The deadline to submit nominations is February 1st. Recipients will be honored at the 20th Annual Alumni Awards of Distinction Banquet on May 6 at the Riverside Convention Center. Nomination forms and more information are available at www.alumni.ucr.edu.

Far out! It’s a ’60s Reunion

The reunion is just one of many activities to be held as part of the Homecoming Jan. 19-21, 2006.

Alumni from the 1960s are encouraged to locate their grooviest pictures and hippest memories to share during a reunion dinner that will be held Jan. 21, 2006 at UC Riverside.

The ’60s alumni reunion dinner is just one of many activities being planned as part of the upcoming UC Riverside Homecoming, which will be held Jan. 19-21, 2006.

Alumni who are interested in attending the reunion can sign up online at www.alumni.ucr.edu. Visitors to the site can also view a list of other attendees and fill out an online memory book. Photos can be sent to the Alumni Association. Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope for the return of the photos.

Other homecoming events include a 20th Annual Alumni Awards of Distinction Banquet, a UCR vs. Long Beach State homecoming basketball game, campus tours, Alumni College (classes without tests), an African-American Alumni Homecoming Celebration, a Bourns College of Engineering Alumni Reunion and alumni receptions at the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences and the College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences.

More information about homecoming activities is available at the Alumni Association Web site.

Career Center Offers Job-Posting Service

The UCR Career Center has launched SCOTJobs, a new job-listing service. Located at www.careers.ucr.edu, the listings are free and accessible to UCR students and alumni. Part-time jobs, career positions, internships and seasonal jobs may be posted on the site. The listings will remain active throughout a specified period. Contact the Career Center at (951) 827-3631 for information on how to post a job on the site.
New scholarships help students to continue their education.

Two new scholarships and additional funding for an existing one will allow more students to continue their education at UC Riverside this year, with more emphasis on learning and less on financial concern.

At a time when fees and living costs are increasing, these contributions have allowed the Alumni Association to increase the dollar amount of scholarships presented this year to more than $100,000.

“Scholarship support is more important now than any time in the history of this campus,” said Kyle Hoffman, assistant vice chancellor of Alumni and Constituent Relations. “The UCR Alumni Association is proud to play a supportive role in providing scholarships to very deserving students.”

Gaetano Phillip Pentolino, a senior business administration major, is the recipient of the first $500 Accounting Alumni and Professionals scholarship, which is sponsored by various donors and goes to a high-achieving accounting student. Pentolino completed an internship with Ernst and Young this summer and will be an auditor with Ernst and Young in Los Angeles upon graduation.

The inaugural UCR Pipe Band Scholarships, which provides $1,000 to two students, will go to William Terry, a first-year history major, and Mark Stanfield, a third-year French major. The awards are given to students who demonstrate a mastery in piping or drumming.

Katrina Heinrich-Steinberg, a resident of Rancho Mirage, has given additional funding to the existing reentry scholarship, providing two reentry students with $2,500 each. Karin Sabine Garten, an anthropology, student, and Brenda Heinitz, a computer science student, were chosen to be the recipients. In addition, Megan Nix, an electrical engineering major, and Jo Anne Waid, a psychology major, received $1,500 each from the existing reentry scholarships.

Twelve freshmen received $4,000 each through the existing distinguished UCR Alumni Association Freshman Scholarship. The recipients and their majors are Vanessa Bryan, philosophy; Alyssa Crom, biological sciences; Curtis Darling, biochemistry; Rose Ericson, undeclared-mathematical sciences; Darren Henderson, pre-business; Laura Hundman, creative writing; Michael Marcelo, political science/law and society; Eugene Miroskins, pre-business; Rohith Reddy, biological sciences; Emanuela Sana, political science/international affairs; Lisa Wong, pre-business; and Elizabeth Zielins, biological sciences.

The Brithinee Continuing Student Scholarship grew by an additional $4,000 to provide four students with a total of $10,000 this academic year. Donald Brithinee (’68, ’70 M.A., ’71 Ph.D.) and Wallace Brithinee (’68, ’70 M.A., ’71 Ph.D.) established the scholarship in 1988. Since that time 71 students have received a total of $100,000.

The four student recipients of the Brithinee Continuing Student Scholarship are Sean Kaloostian, biological sciences; Sushant Mohleji, biological sciences; Esther Oh, biomedical sciences; and Julieta Stepanyan, psychology/law and society.

The George Beattie Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Gregory Goalwin, a sophomore with an undeclared major. The Beattie Scholarship was established in honor of the late George Beattie (’58), a former member of the UCR Alumni Association board of directors.

Andrew Martinez is the recipient of the Leon Braddock Athletic Scholarship, established in 1990 to honor the late Leon Braddock (’73) for his service and contribution to the principles of higher education. Martinez plays infield for the UCR baseball team.

The $6,000 Burrtec Waste Industries Inc. Scholarship was awarded to Christopher Salam, a four-year environmental engineering major with a concentration in water pollution control. This is the fourth year Burrtec Waste Industries Inc. has funded the scholarship.

Alumni interested in serving on a local scholarship committee to help select recipients for the 2006-07 academic year or in donating to the UCR Alumni Association scholarship fund should contact the association. More information is available at www.alumni.ucr.edu.
’60s

’60 Diane (Anderson) Crow served as an organizer for the California Teachers Association for more than 20 years. She is now in Washington state democratic politics.

’62 Frederick Suppe received his master’s degree in philosophy in 1964 and a Ph.D. in 1967 from the University of Michigan, where he worked in philosophy, mathematics, computer science and linguistics. Frederick has held academic and/or research positions at the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (as part of the USAID KAP project), University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana, Notre Dame, Indiana University Bloomington, Princeton University, University of Maryland Baltimore, Columbia University and Johns Hopkins University. He retired in 2000 after 27 years as a professor of philosophy, affiliate professor in the Institute for Physical Sciences and Technology, and Distinguished Scholar-Teacher from the University of Maryland College Park. He immediately went to Texas Tech University as professor and chair of philosophy. In 2002, the Provost selected him to become chair and professor in the college-sized Department of Classical and Modern Languages and Literatures. Over his career, Frederick became a leading figure in philosophy of science but also did research in various sciences (most recently HIV epidemiological modeling but previously a participant-observer in the NASA Magellan Mission to Venus) and currently is a principal investigator in nationally prominent curriculum development projects in foreign languages. Frederick intends to really retire in 2010 but has no idea what he will do after that. He is in the third of three long-term gay relationships.

’63 Dave Reid retired as athletic director for Santiago High School in Corona. He served 41 years with the Corona-Norco Unified School District. He landed his first district job in the fall of 1964. Dave was temporarily assist in the organization of interscholastic athletics for the school district during the construction of a new high school ... Richard Toll Ward enjoyed a reunion with his UCR roommate Andy Cooper (’63). The two enjoyed remembering their experiences at UCR. Richard is retired from the aerospace industry.

Gary Swaim serves as a professor of aesthetic and literary studies for the University of Texas at Dallas, where he teaches graduate playwriting and dramatic literature. His latest play “Noah in My Bedroom,” an adult comedy, will have a staged reading at the Hub Theatre in Dallas in November. His full-length play, “Two to Awaken Him,” based on the life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, will be the centerpiece in a 100th birthday commemoration of Bonhoeffer at the Dallas Biblical Arts Center during March and April 2006. Gary will direct the play.

’67 Clayton W. McCoy (Ph.D.) was named the University of Florida’s first Citrus Research and Education Center Distinguished Professor. The professorship recognizes outstanding contributions and excellence in research, teaching and extension. Clayton conducts research in citrus entomology at the University of Florida’s largest off-campus center in Lake Alfred, Fla. ... Olga Gonzalez (M.A., ’70 Ph.D.), a Spanish professor at the University of Redlands, was selected to present a lecture during the University of Redlands Professor of the Year President’s High Table in March. At the event, she shared a story of how she came to the University of Redlands in 1969 and has been there ever since. Olga studied at the University of Havana, met her husband Pastor and became a lawyer. Olga and her family left Cuba in 1965 and arrived in Madrid, Spain, “as beggars.” She decided to search for the family of her father, who died when she was 6 years old. She wrote to four people with her same maiden name and found three cousins from those letters. Her family went from being “beggars to tourists.” A friend from the University of Havana, who had been sent to Redlands through the First Baptist Church, sponsored Olga and her family to come to the town. When she failed to find work as an accountant, she pursued studies at UCR. She completed her Ph.D. in 1970, one year after accepting a position at the University of Redlands.

’69 Barrett C. Craner was awarded “fellow” status by the American Society for Quality. He is director of quality assurance for Lipid Science Inc., a company engaged in the research and development of products to treat major medical indications. Barrett is recognized as having achieved professional distinction and preeminence in the technology, theory, education, application or management of quality control for the CQA Biomedical certification ... Charles E. Elliott Jr. is senior vice president, chief credit officer for Santa Clara Valley Bank. Charles most recently served as executive vice president/chief credit officer for International City Bank in Long Beach, a three-branch bank with $180 million in assets. He was also the chief credit officer for City Commerce Bank in Santa Barbara, and served as the president/CEO of Channel Islands National Bank. Charles spent his early banking career with Security Pacific National Bank. He and his wife live in East Ventura.

’70 Mary Lynn Badarak (’74 M.A.) and members of the Santa Fe Music Works took part in a Mozart Requiem performance at Carnegie Hall in April. She earned a doctorate in music theory from Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill. Her first project was a choral workshop-performance on Brahms’ Requiem. Her second project was a workshop-performance on four settings of the Dona Nobis Pacem text by Bach, Mozart, Brahms and Ralph Vaughan Williams.

’71 Frank Gilstrap (M.S., ’74 Ph.D.) is resident director of the Texas A&M University System Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Dallas. He began his career at Texas A&M in 1974 as an assistant professor of entomology, specializing in sorghum insects. By 1986, he had become full professor of entomology. He has also worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Agriculture Research Service in Weslaco, was interim resident director of the system’s Agricultural Research and Extension Center in El Paso and associate director of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station. Frank has been involved in many professional organizations and currently is vice president of the Entomological Society of America ... Ron Schmidt (Ph. D.), a political science professor at CSU Long Beach, was selected to hold a 2005-06 Fulbright Scholars Program Research Chair at the University of Montreal in Canada. At the conclusion of his fall semester at

Names printed in red indicate members of the UCR Alumni Association.
To update your membership, see page 36.
the University of Montreal’s Center for International Studies, Ron will continue a year-long sabbatical to complete a book on the impact of recent immigration on U.S. racial politics... Jared Zelman is continuing to practice emergency medicine and has stepped down as the director of emergency medicine at Sharon Hospital in Connecticut. He has assumed medical directorships for two boarding schools, Millbrook and Hotchkiss. Jared is married and has two college-age daughters.

'72 Gail Louise (Melom) Biberstein had a small private practice in immigration law when son Hal, was born in 1982, and then decided to work out of a home office part time. She became a full-time mom in 1986, when daughter Jan was 2. Later she took part-time jobs in law firms as a legal secretary or paralegal, and when Jan was due to graduate from high school in 2002, Gail took a permanent job as a paralegal for the Los Angeles County Counsel’s office where she was stationed at the Sheriff’s Department. Her husband, Halvor, has been an attorney at the County Counsel’s office since 1976. Gail’s son, Hal, just completed his first year of law school at UCLA. Her daughter, Jan, finished a year in molecular cell biology at the University of Edinburgh in May, as part of the UC Education Abroad program at UC San Diego. Nils Karlsson (’73 teaching credential) is beginning his 33rd year in education and is currently the principal of Boyd Elementary in the Rialto Unified School District. He was chosen as the 2005 Elementary Principal of the Year by the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) for Region 12, which covers Riverside and San Bernardino counties. Nils, who has made parent involvement a priority at his school, was also chosen by the Mexican-American Political Association (MAPA) to receive the César Chávez Humanitarian of the Year Award. He lives in Riverside with his wife, Josiane Karlsson (’72, ’73 teaching credential), who is currently in her 33rd year of teaching French and Spanish at Valley View High School in the Moreno Valley Unified School District. Josiane is a past board member and officer of the Inland Empire Foreign Language Association and has served as conference presenter for that association. Their adult children Vanessa and Christopher also live in Southern California.

'74 Judyth Reed (M.A.) received a promotion with the Bureau of Land Management to become the associate state archaeologist on the staff of the Bureau’s state director. Judyth serves as a liaison between the Bureau and the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office. She completed editing proceedings of the Millennium Conference Maturango Museum Press.

'75 Mark Moseley received his degree in art from UCR and embarked on a career in prosthetics. He took a break last year to create 20-plus paintings that are on exhibit at the Ruskin Group Theatre in Santa Monica. The “Triumph of Terror” paintings derive from classic works but have a contemporary political twist. The exhibit was shown earlier this year at the Electric Lodge in Venice.

'77 Steven Faux received the 2004-05 Madelyn Levitt Teacher of the Year Award at Drake University. The award is the...
university’s highest honor for a teacher. Steven is an associate psychology professor, and students have cited his enthusiasm and curiosity as traits they admire. Steven began teaching at Drake in 1990 after spending five years at Harvard Medical School working on brain-function research.

Wayne Scott (’81) is founder and president of LifeHouse Theater, Inc. in Redlands, which is celebrating its 12th season. The only year-round theater of its kind in the nation, it creates and produces original musicals for family audiences, tours new musicals, sponsors staged educational biographies for hundreds of area students and conducts quarterly workshops in theater arts for young people. He is the author of more than 30 musicals performed around the nation and abroad. Information is available at www.lifehousetheater.com.

Kurt C. Wampole (’82) was the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Law Enforcement Appreciation Committee (LEAC) of Western Riverside County. Kurt will retire as police sergeant in December 2005 after more than 30 years of UC service.

Alan Huston (’83) is the human resources director for the Doubletree Hotel and Executive Meeting Center in Portland, Ore. He is also on the board of directors for the Portland Human Resources Management Association. Alan received his master’s degree in Industrial/Organizational Psychology from CSU Long Beach in 1993. He plays the drums in the classic rock ‘n’ roll band the Menace Band and is an enthusiastic father of two daughters, Kendall, 8, and Sydney, 6. … Marilyn Carlson-Swafford (’89 M.A.) received the Imperial County Woman of the Year Award for 2005 from the Center for Family Solutions. Marilyn has served as a role model for young women and men in the valley and contributes to family values through her work and activities. She has more than 11 years of service as the social service director for the Quechan Tribe on the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation.

Ruben Barrales (’84) received Mexico’s Ohtili Award, which salutes individuals of Mexican or Latino ancestry who have dedicated much of their efforts to promoting the well-being of...
Mexican communities abroad. He was also the featured speaker for the National Hispanic University San Jose campus’ 20th commencement exercise. Ruben is deputy assistant to the president and White House director of Intergovernmental Affairs.

‘85 Jon Ferguson, the prosecutor in the Kelly Bullwinkle murder trial, was one of 11 people picked to fill judge positions in San Bernardino, Los Angeles, Sacramento and Fresno counties by the Governor. Schwarzenegger, Jon earned his law degree from the University of San Diego and was a prosecutor for 16 years … Joseph Noling (Ph.D.), a professor of nematology at the University of Florida’s Citrus Research and Education Center in Lake Alfred, received a public service award by the Florida Strawberry Growers Association for his work in pest management.

‘87 Andrew Todd opened a pediatrics/urgent care practice in Charleston, S.C. He also serves as a flight surgeon with the South Carolina Air National Guard after four years of active duty with the United States Air Force. ‘88 Carol Johnson has taught piano for more than 18 years in Canby, Ore. She is a church pianist and vocalist for Willamette Wesleyan Church in Wilsonville.

‘89 Jan (Leong) McGrath is founder and president of Monterey Ceramic Tile and Marble Inc. She has contributed tiles to numerous community organizations for artistic and functional use … Monica Poling is the founder of OnceWritten.com, a service that helps promote the works of new and emerging authors and also helps new writers find their voice. The Web site was recently designated by Writer’s Digest magazine as one of the 101 best writers Web sites … Vahe Sarrafian is Of Counsel in the business and real estate transactions department of Varner, Saleson & Brandt LLP. His practice focuses on corporate law with an emphasis on securities, public and private financing, intellectual property protection and licensing, and mergers and acquisitions. Vahe was vice president and general counsel of HeyAnita Inc., a software development company.

‘90s

‘91 Charles Sasaki was recently appointed dean of advising and counseling at Hawaii Pacific University … Timothy Shaw graduated from medical school at Tufts University in 1996 and finished his training at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York City. He is currently in private practice in the Berkeley-Oakland area, specializing in non-operative spine and sports medicine. He is also part-time medical staff for UC Berkeley’s intercollegiate athletics. He and his wife, Elaine, live in San Francisco and are expecting the birth of their first daughter in November.

‘92 Bill Chapin is the director of marketing for the Seattle Seahawks. He oversees the overall branding and creative development of the football team and establishes new business relationships throughout Puget Sound. Bill joins the Seahawks management team after spending the past five years as director of ticket sales and customer service for the Mighty Ducks of Anaheim. While in Anaheim, Bill served on numerous boards, including the National Multiple Sclerosis Orange County Chapter board of trustees and the National Hockey League Ticket Advisory Committee. Prior to joining the Mighty Ducks, he served as director of group and inside sales for the Los Angeles Kings and was part of the management team in the construction of Staples Center in Los Angeles. In December 2003, he received an Executive MBA from Pepperdine University … Rigoberto González is an associate professor of English and Latino studies at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and is contributing editor to Poets and Writers magazine. His second children’s book, “Antonio’s Card,” has been out since March and is doing well, propelled by its theme about a Latino boy with two mothers … Jason Lee married Grace Hum in 2001. They had their second child, Griffin Lee, in April 2005. Jason is an attorney practicing labor and employment law in San Francisco … Carolina Luces was inducted into the Edison High School Hall of Fame. She is the City Council agenda coordinator for the city of Lodi and previously worked as an assistant to former Mayor Gary Podesta … Donald Tateishi is the director of finance at Harrah’s Reno, where he oversees accounting, planning and cage/credit operations.

‘93 Jocelyn (Arellano) Campbell is the stepmother to 15-year-old Andrew and she also has a 2-year-old son named Aidan. The family is expecting another baby in February 2006 … Renee Kilmer (Ph.D.) is vice president of instruction at Cabrillo College. The college will be staffed with 24 full-time tenure-track faculty members, the largest number in years. She has classroom teaching experience in the California Community College system, the University of Maryland system, as well as a private university in Japan and a public university in China.

‘94 Jean Chiang has married and moved to Shanghai, China, with her husband of two years … Jason Cieslak has been executive director of interactive media at Omnicom Group’s Siegel & Gale (S&G) since 1999. His responsibilities include working with clients on both coasts, as well as generating new business. Jason joined S&G in 1996 as business development manager. He has worked on interactive efforts across a range of industries, dealing with clients including AOL for Broadband, Microsoft, CB Richard Ellis, Lexus and Jiffy Lube. He oversees a team of 20 and expects that to grow. Jason reports to President Noah Manduke and works out of a Beverly Hills office … Brian McGowan was awarded the Michael and Mary Johnston Fellowship in American Politics at Claremont Graduate University. Brian completed a master’s degree in politics, economics and business at Claremont and will continue working towards his Ph.D. Brian is the economic development manager for the city of Ontario and is also a consultant for the International City/County Management Association, where he works on economic development issues with Bulgarian municipalities.

‘95 Ryan Alcantara and his wife, Suzanne, celebrated the birth of their first child, Vincent Ryan, on March 22, 2005. He is the associate dean of students at CSU Fullerton and is pursuing a Ph.D. in public administration at USC. … Amy (Lee) Boles and Jason Boles (’97) announce the birth of their first child, Grace Anne Boles, born in February 2005. She weighed 5 lbs, 11 oz and measured 18 1/2 inches long at birth. The family resides in San Jose … Jason Fried is a desert field organizer with the California Wilderness Coalition. The job is a combination of policy, issue advocacy and community organization … Doug Jumelet was just named the full-time head baseball coach and physical education professor
Meeting a Difficult Challenge with the Promise of Progress

Ronald Neumann (‘66, ’67 M.A.), the new U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan, brings more than three decades of experience to the job.


After graduation from UCR with a bachelor’s degree in history in 1966 and a master’s degree in political science in 1967, Neumann traveled extensively to Afghanistan, where his father, Robert G. Neumann, was serving as ambassador.

He received the Bronze Star while serving in the Army in Vietnam and began working for the United States Department of State in 1970. His resume reads like a diplomatic roadmap of political service: he served as an ambassador in Algeria and Bahrain and is a former deputy assistant secretary in the Bureau of Near East Affairs. He has also served as deputy chief of mission in Abu Dhabi and Sanaa, principal officer in Tabriz, economic/commercial officer in Dakar, director of the Office of Northern Gulf Affairs, chief of mission in Manama, Bahrain, and most recently as Embassy Baghdad's principal liaison with the Multinational Command. He speaks both Arabic and French.

Those experiences will no doubt serve him well in a country that has experienced decades of turbulence and conflict.

One of his first challenges came on Sept. 18 when the country held its first legislative elections since 1969. Despite a Taliban boycott and militant attacks, millions of Afghans went to the polls to cast their votes. Speaking to CNN a day after the elections, Neumann called the elections a "significant ... advance on the road to democracy."

During his swearing-in ceremony, Neumann talked about the opportunity for further progress.

"I am honored to help lead a team of courageous and dedicated civilian and military personnel towards securing Afghanistan’s long-term security, democracy and prosperity," he said. "Our success in Afghanistan, which will ensure that the country will never again be a safe haven for terrorists, is pivotal to our overall success in the global struggle with terrorism."

Neumann, who is married and has two adult children, is the first diplomat since the establishment of the modern State Department to have served as ambassador to the same country as his father. Robert Neumann served as ambassador to Afghanistan from 1966 to 1973.

Speaking at Neumann’s July swearing-in ceremony, U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice told those in attendance that she and President Bush felt that Neumann’s extensive background made him the obvious choice for the position.

"Because Ron has this very special set of skills – the ability to work in difficult circumstances, the ability to work in an environment that is still transitioning from war to peace, the ability to work hand-in-hand with our military, our partner, in bringing about a stable and prosperous Afghanistan ... I know that he’s going to lead the men and women of our Embassy in Kabul with the same dedication and caring that he brought to his other jobs," she said.

President Bush and Ambassador to Afghanistan Ronald Neumann in the Oval Office.

at American River College in Sacramento, a tenure-track position … Sandra Smyser (Ph.D.) is the new superintendent of Las Virgenes Unified School District. She was previously the superintendent of Carpinteria Unified School District where she was successful in raising test scores, aligning curriculum with state standards, tackling budget problems and developing alternative education.

‘96 Robert Vargas is completing his post-doctoral fellowship with the Department of Psychiatry at the Children’s Hospital in Oakland and has taken the exam for licensure as a psychologist.

‘98 Jennifer C. Donofrio obtained her doctor of veterinary medicine degree from the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine on June 17, 2005. Prior to entering veterinary school, Jennifer completed a Master of Science degree in veterinary science (equine viral immunology) at the University of Kentucky Maxwell Gluck Equine Research Center. She has begun her equine racetrack practice in Lexington, Ky. ... James Giacomazzi played on the UCR men’s basketball team from 1995-98. After graduation, his first college basketball coaching experience was as an assistant for Percy Carr at San Jose City College, a job that spanned six successful years through May 2004. In August 2004, James was hired as the head coach at Cosumnes River Junior College in Sacramento. At 29, James is one of the youngest college head basketball coaches in the country ...

Cassandra Zaharopoulos Hughes began her studies at the school of veterinary medicine in Pomona on Aug. 1, 2005, after a one-month tour of New York and Italy.

‘99 Art Basa married Maribel Gantala (’97) on March 5, 2005, in San Diego ... Crystal Cervantes married Mark Rivera on July 31, 2004. She also graduated from CSU San Bernardino with a Master of Arts degree in education administration and will be a teacher at Los Osos High School ... Sonja Jaramillo has been working as an education specialist at Dolphin Quest Hawaii since 2002. She develops teaching programs for local Hawaiian students and visitors all over the country. She assists with the care and research, and interacts with the resident dolphins.

‘97 Mark Rivera married Jennifer C. Donofrio on March 5, 2005.

‘95-98 Maribel Gantala was a member of the UCR women’s basketball team from 1995-98. After graduation, she completed a Master of Science degree in education administration and will be a teacher at Los Osos High School ... Sonja Jaramillo has been working as an education specialist at Dolphin Quest Hawaii since 2002. She develops teaching programs for local Hawaiian students and visitors all over the country. She assists with the care and research, and interacts with the resident dolphins.

‘99 Art Basa married Maribel Gantala (’97) on March 5, 2005, in San Diego ... Crystal Cervantes married Mark Rivera on July 31, 2004. She also graduated from CSU San Bernardino with a Master of Arts degree in education administration and will be a teacher at Los Osos High School ... Sonja Jaramillo has been working as an education specialist at Dolphin Quest Hawaii since 2002. She develops teaching programs for local Hawaiian students and visitors all over the country. She assists with the care and research, and interacts with the resident dolphins.
Colin Hackett, manager of UC Riverside’s Alternative Fuels and Renewable Energy Research Program, died on July 12, 2005. He was 62.

Dr. Hackett joined College of Engineering-Center for Environmental Research and Technology (CE-CERT) in December 2000. Under his direction, researchers from the CE-CERT developed technology to reduce the need for landfill space by providing cost-effective means of converting various forms of wet waste into environmentally clean energy, such as synthetic fuels and electricity.

Dr. Hackett was a co-inventor of the Diesel Fuel Synthesis from Carbonaceous Feed Stocks using Self-Sustained Hydro-gasification process, which converted agricultural residues, municipal wastes, rubber and industrial plastics into fuels and electricity. The main focus of his research was to produce synthetic diesel fuel from coal and wood.

His research team established the Gasification Research Laboratory at CE-CERT to investigate the steam pyrolysis and hydro-gasification of candidate carbonaceous waste materials. He also taught senior design courses at UCR and supervised CE-CERT technical staff and graduate students from the Chemical and Environmental Engineering Department at UCR who assisted in experimental and simulation investigations at CE-CERT.

Dr. Hackett is survived by his wife, Nora, director of UCR’s Intellectual Property Services and daughters Catherine Silva of Rancho Cucamonga; Capt. Sarah Kurpe; and Rebecca Hackett of San Diego; and two granddaughters.

Louis A. Riehl, a professor emeritus of entomology, died Sept. 4, 2005. He was 92.

Dr. Riehl is credited with developing spray oil insecticides for pest management in citrus, poultry and livestock. He was also known for having integrated natural and chemical strategies for pest control that have less impact on the environment and pose no threat to workers.

Citrus growers and farmers throughout the world have utilized his programs. Dr. Riehl joined UCR in 1947. He retired in 1981.

Dr. Riehl is survived by his longtime companion, Eileen Vincent; his daughters, Janet Peterson of Anaheim, Calif.; and Marcia Scott of Richmond, Calif.; sons-in-law Dwight Peterson and Robert Scott; three grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.
Alumni Life Members

“I look back on my experience at UCR with tremendous gratitude for the campus, the community, the academics, the activities and most of all for the people.

It is rare to find a university that fosters a high level of commitment to personal growth in such a cooperative environment. This communal support offered virtually unlimited opportunities in terms of what you could achieve during your college tenure and how the experience positively impacted your future.

Personally, the whole experience remains fresh in my mind due, in no small part, to lifelong friendships formed at UCR. Moreover, the academic foundation, experiences, and contacts made provide real, everyday contributions to my professional growth.

Our UCR Alumni Association gives us the perfect avenue for continuing our commitment to these experiences – both for former as well as current students. I can’t think of a better way to remain connected to one of the nation’s great universities than through participating in our association and our local alumni chapters. The pride you’ll feel for our institution will be stronger than ever.”

John Leyman
Class of 1990
UCRAA Life Member
Chief of Government Affairs
Department of Banking and Insurance

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Mail to the UCR Alumni Association, 100 A Highlander Hall, Riverside, CA 92521-0110, e-mail to ucralum@ucr.edu or update online at www.alumni.ucr.edu/involved/update.html. If available, please include a photo with your update.

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Singer-storyteller Karen Wilson, a Ph.D. candidate U.S. history at UCR, is currently part of UCR’s Gluck Fellows Program of the Arts, a program designed to bring the arts into the community. Her performances include traditional songs and stories from Africa, the Middle East, Asia, Europe, the Americas and the Caribbean that address the work of peace, the maintenance of community and the challenge of change. She has performed at New York’s Lincoln Center and the Metropolitan Museum.

By Karen Wilson

I didn’t really want to go. Not that I would have refused. I am a performer and a Gluck Fellow and I had agreed to give 10 performances for underserved populations in the city of Riverside. So, when the form said “rehabilitation centers,” I checked it.

Mind you, nobody was asking me to clean sewers or dig ditches. Or balance a checkbook, by God. Those are things other people do well. I tell stories and sing.

I connect with people and we laugh together or are saddened or awed. When I’m speaking to the room, my job is to be the voice of the community the room becomes. Some people call it performance but I prefer to call it sharing the Mind of God. Out loud.

I just wasn’t chomping at this particular bit. Rehab centers? Isn’t that just another way to say nursing homes – the “old folk’s homes” of my childhood? Except for one spectacular experience in my native New York City, 20 years of performance had taken me primarily to other venues: museums, classrooms, auditoriums, festivals and clubs – even a few seasons at the Central Park Zoo.

But I had promised to go and I did. The experience changed my vision and transformed my mind.

Slowly but inexorably, like the coming of the dawn, I saw beyond gurneys and wheelchairs to beauty, courage and kindness. First, there was that little woman in a wheelchair. Her head, round and smooth rising above her housedress, was the color of a ripe pecan. As was her head, so was her face: soft, round and unwrinkled. A few wisps of pale, soft-looking hair rose above both and her teeth were very few. A young Latina had rolled her in and stood behind her rubbing her shoulders – a gesture I thought particularly gentle and kind.

The woman herself regarded me intently and as Brer Rabbit went into his antics she began to laugh without a sound. Softly, at first, but with gathering intensity, her face filled with mirth. I can’t remember seeing her stop. Beauty was redefined for me on that day.

And then, in another facility, it was Sunday afternoon – visiting day. As I began to tell the Caribbean story of the rooster and the cockroach, I noticed another woman in a wheelchair. She had a delicate cameo of a face, slender and slightly caramel. She sat with quietness as if she had had a long acquaintance with it though her hair, pulled back in a dark bun, showed no visible sign of gray. Beside her sat a man with the same beautiful face – her grandson, perhaps. As I moved through the story - the Rooster entreating his friend to help him work on the farm they had bought together while the cockroach feigned illness – I took every opportunity to glance at this beautiful pair. Finally, I got to the song and dance and the instructions.

“Now put your hand on your hip and your finger in the air,” I told them.

It seemed that she was not strong enough to perform even the simplest of these tasks alone. To make sure that she could take part in the story, she held up her finger and – just above her lap – he held up her hand.

Rehabilitation centers are not easy places. Even in the best of them, a chilling specter of mortality hovers. But in the best, care rises to challenge that specter with beauty, courage and kindness. The Gluck is part of that challenge: have Gluck, will bless.

Beauty, Courage, Kindness: Rehabilitation and the Gluck Program