Filling a Critical Need: UCR Submits a Proposal for a Medical School

Helping Young Students to be Better Readers

Construction on Campus: It’s a Major Production
As we reach the close of this academic year, I would like to thank and congratulate everyone – faculty, students, staff, alumni and friends – for the role each of you played in helping to bring about our many accomplishments.

Each year seems to move faster and hold more than the one before and 2005-06 is no exception. From our first Nobel Prize winner to our 100th Experiment Station Anniversary kickoff, this has been a year to remember. I can’t possibly name every highlight, but will mention a few of note:

Richard Schrock, a 1967 UCR graduate and now a professor at MIT, experimented with matter on a molecular scale and became co-recipient of a 2005 Nobel Prize in Chemistry. This was the first awarded to a UCR graduate. He returned to UCR this spring as winner of the distinguished alumnus award. Schrock was also one of several distinguished lecturers to visit UCR; others were Poet Laureate Billy Collins, former Ambassador Joseph Ghougassian, and former HUD Secretary Henry Cisneros.

UCR was fortunate this year to dedicate an archive at the Tomas Rivera Library for the Western Region Tuskegee Airmen, the first black pilots to be trained for combat during World War II. The archive includes photographs, posters, diaries, oral history, petitions, letters and personal papers, honors and awards, etc. to be preserved in perpetuity.

Doors opened at the UCR Palm Desert campus for the master's degree programs in business administration and fine arts. The Heckmann Center’s inaugural MBA class is completing its first year, with nearly 100 CEOs and entrepreneurs having participated in this exemplary public-private partnership. The fine arts lecture program has attracted attention with the participation of well-known actors such as Luke Perry and Gena Rowlands.

UCR’s athletic program notched a major first by qualifying for the NCAA Tournament. The women's basketball team earned an automatic berth in the NCAA after a terrific run through the Big West Tournament, culminating in a stunning upset of perennial champion UC Santa Barbara.

UCR traded visits with China Agricultural University (CAU), including my keynote speech last fall at CAU’s 100th anniversary celebration in Beijing. The exchange expands our partnership in a Center for Biological Sciences, which focuses on plant sciences and builds upon existing collaborative research relationships between UCR and CAU.

Congressmen Ken Calvert and Jerry Lewis helped open a $3 million nanofabrication cleanroom, which will provide the tools and dust-free workspace in which to build a myriad of small-scale circuits and machines.

UCR is spearheading the California Community College Collaborative, also known as C4. This partnership with local community colleges, the state community college system and other UC campuses is designed to improve the quality of student learning in California’s community colleges.

We have also been working toward the addition of three new professional schools. Recently we submitted an update of our previous proposal for a law school, as well as a comprehensive proposal for a School of Medicine at UCR. A proposal for a School of Public Policy is expected from UCR faculty sometime this summer.

More than 400 guests enjoyed the official opening of the UCR/Sweeney Art Gallery in a newly renovated space at 3800 Main St. on the Riverside downtown pedestrian mall. The Sweeney joins the UCR/California Museum of Photography and the planned Barbara and Art Culver Center for the Arts, providing additional space and energy to both UCR and the Riverside arts community.

Another important milestone was the groundbreaking for our Sweeney Alumni Center and Rubin Visitors Center, which took place in April. It will serve as the “front door” to the campus, with dining facilities, meeting rooms, a library displaying alumni and faculty publications, and a formal board room. The Academic Senate has now launched a major effort to bring a new University Club to the campus.

Many changes to our staff took place, including the welcoming of Engineering Dean Reza Abbaschian and Vice Chancellor for Administration Al Diaz, and the appointments of Police Chief Mike Lane, Vice Provost Elizabeth Lord, and Associate Vice Provost for Faculty Equity and Diversity Marlene Zuk.

Finally, the kickoff to the yearlong 100th anniversary celebration of the Agricultural Experiment Station took place on April 22 with the Citrus Day and Barbecue. UCR celebrated its agricultural heritage with popular tastings from our Citrus Variety Collection and booths ranging from the “Weed Doctor” to molecular and cellular analyses. Watch for more activities between now and Feb. 14, 2007.

And, again, thank you for another stellar academic year.

Chancellor France A. Córdova
UCR submits a proposal for a medical school that will serve the health and medical needs of one of the fastest growing regions in the nation.

A UCR professor of education pursues research designed to help young readers improve their fluency and comprehension.

Construction is everywhere on campus. But what goes on behind the scenes to bring a new building to campus?

UCR is home to one of the world’s largest works by and about the mysterious B. Traven, author of “The Treasure of the Sierra Madre.”

For Tracy Wood, being appointed the director of the Gangnam-University of California, Riverside International Education Center is a dream come true.

A knee injury can be devastating for an athlete but softball player Jamie Yee found a way to make the most of her recuperation time.

Alumni W. Ronald and Margaret A. Redmond talk about why they decided to donate $1 million to the new alumni and visitors center.

Vincent Whipple once had visions of being a doctor but his career plans took a detour when he discovered a passion for Native American dance.

UCR Alumni Association honors distinguished alumni.
U.S. Poet Laureate and alumnus Billy Collins (above right) and the Honorable Joseph Ghougassian, Ph.D., J.D., (above left) former ambassador of the United States to the State of Qatar, came to UCR to speak as part of the 2006 Chancellor’s Distinguished Lecture Series. The first speaker was Richard R. Schrock, an MIT professor who spent his undergraduate years at UCR and recently shared the Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

Ravi Bariya, a junior majoring in chemical engineering, was one of more than 30 students who took part in UCR’s colorful Chalk the Walk, which invited students from all majors to showcase their artistic talents by creating, in chalk or charcoal, either an original work of art or a copy of the masters on the concrete area in front of the Commons cafeteria.

In April, UC Riverside Foundation Trustees and supporters Bill and Sue Johnson, and Mary Heckmann co-hosted a reception in Palm Desert for UCR alumni, donors and friends. This event provided Chancellor Córdova with the opportunity to share UCR’s plans for a new medical school, which would benefit the Coachella Valley and Inland Empire residents. Pictured left to right: Mary Heckmann, UCR Chancellor France A. Córdova, Bill and Sue Johnson.
Largest Gift in UCR History to Attract Top Scholars

Two Riverside couples create two charitable trusts – the largest ever for UCR – that will nearly double the number of endowed chairs at the campus.

By Celeste Durant
Bart Singletary and William Austin were born and raised in downtown Riverside. It was the 1930s and they lived in a tight-knit community. They played together as children, worked on hot rods together as teenagers and, after World War II, became partners in a successful real estate development company.

Now ages 78 and 81, the two men have joined forces again, along with their wives, Barbara Singletary and Toby Austin, to give the largest contribution ever received by UC Riverside – $15.5 million in charitable trusts that are expected to create 22 endowed chairs – nearly double the current number of endowed professorships at UCR.

Both men say their donations are really gifts to the Riverside community, a way of sharing their good fortune with the city that has been good to them.

“Riverside is home,” said Singletary, “How can you beat the opportunity we’ve seen, particularly if you are in real estate? Time after time we had huge opportunities and I thought it would be a nice thing to do while I was still alive. My partner wants to do it because it is a good thing.”

The story of this extraordinary donation and the two men behind it is the story of a unique personal and professional partnership.

Just out of the Navy at the end of World War II, William Austin started college in Los Angeles and got a job working in a stock brokerage. One day he saw an ad in the newspaper.

“It said send in $2.50 and your address and they would send you a real estate license,” he said laughing almost 60 years later. “So I did. I had my own office by the time I was 23 – the William Austin Co.”

On his return from the war, Bart Singletary went into business with his brothers managing parking lots for the city of Riverside. The contract was short lived, however, and he soon found himself out of a job.

Austin, still the avid newspaper reader, saw an article about his friend losing the parking lot contract and picked up the phone.

“Bill said, ‘Why don’t you come down and work with me?’” said Singletary reminiscing at his kitchen table. “I said sure.”

Austin, who now lives in Laguna Beach, likes to put it another way.

“I saved him from a life of parking cars,” he chuckles during a telephone interview.

Their good fortune, both men say, was a combination of hard work and luck.

“I started out selling individual homes for tract developers,” Austin recalls, “I got $100 a house but with all the returning vets I could sell four tract houses on a Sunday afternoon. That was big money back then.”

Upon joining the William Austin Co., Singletary found he was a born salesman.

“I knew Riverside and Riverside was growing. I was one of the lucky ones that got in on the ground floor.”

With Austin as president and Singletary as salesman turned manager turned chief operating officer, they moved the company from residential sales, to development and property management.

“The only problem we had was he’s a Democrat,” said Singletary, “and I’m a Republican.”

“I worked with Bill for 40 years and we were partners for 35 years,” said Singletary, who retired about than a decade ago. “It was a great partnership and still is. We both had respect for each other and we both had a deep commitment to serving the public.”

It is that desire to continue to serve the public that attracted the partners to the idea of creating the trusts for UC Riverside.

“UCR is a terrific asset to the town, not just in the knowledge they bring,” said Austin. “The university is about the biggest thing that’s happened to Riverside.”

“The university adds quality to the community and it’s a fantastic job opportunity for people in the area,” said Singletary.

But Singletary has a special connection to UCR. Not only did he help lobby to get the UC campus located in Riverside, but in 1984, at the age of 57, he decided to finish his college education at UCR. He graduated two years later with a degree in political science.

Since then he has been an active member of the UCR community. He was president of the Citizens University Committee and president of the UCR Foundation Board of Trustees.

Both couples have family connections to UCR. Four members of the Singletary family attended UCR, as did Toby Austin’s niece, Michele Sheskey, who graduated in 1993 and died in a car accident in 1998.

The planned gift from the Singletarys will be used to strengthen the social sciences at UCR.

“That’s the area that interests me,” said Singletary. The trust will create one chair in agriculture sciences and 11 chairs in the social sciences, including UCR’s proposed school of law and school of public policy.

“I am hoping that UCR will continue to prosper and outstrip its sister campuses in the quality of education and good teachers. And I want it to have the medical school,” he said.

Chairs will be named for Riverside Mayor Ron Loveridge, a UCR political science associate professor on long-term leave; UCR Political Science Professor Emeritus Francis Carney; Vice Chancellor for Advancement Emeritus Jim Erickson; the late Bob Holstein, a politically active Riverside lawyer; the late Norman Cherniss, former long-time executive editor of The Press-Enterprise; Les Richter, a longtime motor sports executive; and Singletary.

For Austin and his wife, who was an agriculture librarian at UCR as a young woman, the goal of their gift is to help UCR’s proposed medical school become a reality.

“Our interest is in the new medical facility,” he said. “I hope we can get the thing moving and we can get other people interested in it. I think it’s a good cause because we need all the doctors we can get.”

The planned gift from the Austins will create 10 Austin Chairs at the proposed School of Medicine and its Health Sciences Research Institute.

UC Riverside Chancellor France Córdova said the two trusts will have a profound effect on the future of the university.

“This generous donation will be transformative for UCR,” Córdova said. “It will enable us to compete successfully for the best faculty and help propel us to the top tier of research universities.”
China Agricultural University Officials Visit UCR

The result of the visit is a joint CAU/UCR Center for Biological Sciences.

A high-level delegation from the China Agricultural University (CAU) in Beijing visited UC Riverside in April for tours, dinners and talks. The end result was the signing of an agreement to enlarge a partnership between the two universities to operate a CAU/UCR Center for Biological Sciences, to be located at CAU. The center will focus on plant sciences.

“Our agreement will establish a partnership to develop collaborative programs and research in the areas of biological sciences and biotechnology,” said Charles Louis, UCR’s vice chancellor for research. “It will lead to the establishment of international research groups, facilitating the exchange of faculty, postdoctoral scholars and graduate students between CAU and UCR to collaborate on research and training efforts under the auspices of the Center.”

This is not the first connection between the two universities. Chancellor France Córdova gave a keynote speech in the fall at CAU. Also, several UCR faculty members already have collaborative research relationships with CAU, including professors Jian-Kang Zhu, Zhenbiao Yang, Brian Federici and Robert Krieger.

“Many of these relationships were born out of a CAU-UCR conference held here in Riverside in September 2000, organized by Professor Federici,” said Jack Azzaretto, UCR’s vice chancellor for public service and international programs.

The visiting delegation included CAU President Chen Zhangliang, Vice President Sun Qixin and Gong Zhizhong, dean of the CAU College of Biological Sciences. During their two-day visit they toured the campus and met with Chancellor Córdova and individual faculty members.

UC Riverside Updates Plan for Future Law School

Campus has long-range plans for a medical school, a law school and a school of public policy.

UC Riverside officials recently updated and submitted a plan to the University of California Office of the President, asking to open a first-tier School of Law on campus, a continuation of a process that began in 1999.

“Our long-range priorities for professional schools include a medical school, a law school and a school of public policy,” said Chancellor France A. Córdova. “The need for a law school is great. The state’s population has more than doubled since the last UC law school was established in 1965, while the number of students graduating from UC law schools has remained relatively flat.”

The law school would be located on campus and would take advantage of the many resources in downtown Riverside for internships, clerkships and practical experiences in court. The Riverside Justice Center includes the Eastern Division of the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California; the U.S. Bankruptcy Court; California’s 4th District Court of Appeals; and criminal, civil, family, juvenile and probate court divisions of the Superior Court of California. Riverside also houses the county prosecutor’s office, a large legal aid office and a comprehensive State Department of Justice Regional Forensics laboratory.

UCR’s original law school proposal was submitted in November 1999. It was revised, resubmitted and approved the following year by the University of California Academic Senate. The California Postsecondary Education Commission ruled that the state had no need for another law school at the time, but said they would consider the proposal when conditions changed.

When fully developed, the school would enroll approximately 675 students, would have 40 ladder-rank faculty and would award the degree of juris doctor. The first students are projected to be admitted for the fall two years after the appointment of the founding dean and one year after the appointment of the founding faculty. The founding dean will not be appointed until sufficient funding has been identified to assure development of a first-tier School of Law.

The establishment of a law school at UCR has been planned for decades. Possible specialties at the UCR law school would include international studies, with a focus on Latin America; or law and culture; or science and the law, including the environment. Connections are likely between the law school and other graduate programs on campus.

The proposal includes letters of support from all campus deans, as well as nine faculty members with relevant research areas.

“A nationally ranked law school with wide and enthusiastic support from the campus and local community will be a critical professional school for the campus’s intellectual development and an important asset for the larger community,” wrote Carl Cranor, a professor of philosophy whose research touches on environmental law.
The Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District has named its recently opened 5,590-square-foot biological control research facility in Indio after Distinguished Professor of Entomology Mir S. Mulla. Mulla was chosen for the honor for championing the use of natural enemies to control pests, an approach known as biological control, which eventually helped bring the eye gnat, biting midge and mosquito problems under control in the Coachella Valley.

This development was a key factor in allowing the tourist and resort industries to flourish in the valley.

UCR Electrical Engineering Assistant Professor Mihri Ozkan is part of a team receiving $75,000 from the National Academies Keck Futures Initiative to build a malaria diagnosis device. Ozkan, a faculty member at UCR’s Bourns College of Engineering, will develop the nanotechnology needed for an inexpensive measuring device to detect active malaria infections in remote field settings where there is little or no electricity or medical expertise. The diagnostic tool will use microfluids, nanotechnology and genomics to diagnose the type and drug resistance of malaria parasites in humans. Ozkan’s collaborators are from Duke University.

In April, members of a Riverside County congressional delegation presented a letter to UC Riverside Chancellor France A. Córdova that voices their support for establishing a medical school on campus.

UCR is “undertaking an exciting challenge to create a much needed site to train a new generation of medical professionals,” states the letter signed by Congresswoman Mary Bono and Congressmen Jerry Lewis, Ken Calvert and Darrell Issa. The letter also acknowledges that UCR is undertaking “an important step that must be taken to meet the needs of Riverside County, the entire state of California and its rapidly growing population.”

To view this and other medical school endorsements, visit medschool.ucr.edu.

UCR researchers have shown for the first time that carbon nanotubes in a vacuum show excellent conductivity and can be very effective infrared detectors because of their high sensitivity to light. The findings are published in a paper titled “Bolometric infrared photoresponse of suspended single-walled carbon nanotube films,” in an edition of the journal Science. The paper is co-authored by UCR researchers Mikhail Itkis, Ferenc Borondics and Aiping Yu. The research was led by Distinguished Professor of Chemistry and Chemical and Environmental Engineering Robert Haddon and was conducted at the Center for Nanoscale Science and Engineering.

Seven UCR entomologists have been honored by the Entomological Society of America Pacific Branch – the largest organization in the world serving the professional and scientific needs of entomologists and people in related disciplines – for their research and contributions to the field of entomology. The recipients were professors Michael E. Adams, Jocelyn G. Millar and Timothy D. Paine, Cooperative Extension Integrated Pest Management Specialist Beth Grafton-Cardwell, Associate Extension Urban Entomologist John H. Klotz, Cooperative Extension Toxicologist Robert Krieger and graduate student Jeremy Allison.

Margaret Nash, assistant professor at UC Riverside’s Graduate School of Education, has been awarded a prestigious National Academy of Education/Spencer Postdoctoral Fellowship for 2006-07.

Nash, who teaches the history of education at UCR, is one of only 20 U.S. educators to receive the $55,000 award this year.

The Spencer Foundation, which funds the fellowships, devotes its resources to support the behavioral sciences as they apply to education. The fellowships are administered by the National Academy of Education, an honorary educational society.

Nash said the fellowship stipend will fund her latest research into the role of education in the historical formation of gender, class and race identity.

Professor of Anthropology Sally Ann Ness has won a 2006 Guggenheim Fellowship to continue her research.

Her project, “An ethnographic study of Yosemite tourism,” earned her membership in this year’s class of 187 artists, scholars and scientists selected from almost 3,000 applicants from the United States and Canada.

Ness said the first phase of her research will involve in-depth interviews with families who have been visiting Yosemite Valley for more than three generations.

Guggenheim Fellows are appointed on the basis of distinguished achievement in the past and exceptional promise for future accomplishment.
Health Care Crisis
in Inland Southern California
By Iqbal Pittalwala

Riverside resident Joe Gutierrez counts himself as one of the lucky ones.

In 2003, during an examination for irritable bowel syndrome, his doctor detected a lumpy growth outside Gutierrez’s intestinal wall. But when the physician advised him to see a specialist for a more involved exam, Gutierrez’s troubles mounted.

Informed that no one in Riverside was trained to perform the exam, Gutierrez, forced to look elsewhere, learned that in Southern California only Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and University of California, Irvine’s Medical Center were equipped to perform the second examination and remove the growth tissue if necessary.

The examination, which was eventually done at UCI Medical Center, proved that the growth was no more than fatty tissue.

But that’s not only why Gutierrez considers himself fortunate.

“At least I had the insurance to cover second and third opinions, and I could go outside Riverside County to look for a specialist,” he said. “Not everyone’s insurance allows that.”

Gutierrez’s experience of having to travel far for a specialist is familiar to many in the Inland Empire – Riverside and San Bernardino counties – where traveling long distances to see a doctor is both common and assumed.

For every 1,020 people in the Inland Empire there is one specialist. The region has one primary care physician for every 1,724 people. In fact, by 2015 the shortfall of physicians in the region is projected to be 1,140 physicians, according to a study conducted by the Center for Health Workforce Studies at the University at Albany in New York.

The situation is exacerbated by the increasing population in the Inland Empire, the fastest-growing region in California. Between 2000 and 2015, Riverside and San Bernardino counties are projected to experience a 47.3 percent growth on a population base of nearly 3.3 million people, portending a serious health care crisis in the region.

The dearth of doctors is even more severe in many areas of the Coachella Valley.

“I have been trying for two and a half years to find family physicians for our clinics in Palm Springs and Indio, and have not been able to find even one physician,” said Janis F. Neuman, M.D., chief of medical services and acting assistant health officer at Riverside County’s Department of Public Health. “We have even tried

UCR’s proposed School of Medicine would supply doctors to one of the most medically underserved regions: Inland Southern California, comprised of Riverside, San Bernardino and Imperial counties.
Córdova told the crowd of local business
underserved region and populace, "the health care needs of our medically
specialty care to a broad base of a diverse and currently underserved population."

Rural Southern California is confronted with still harder challenges, according to Heather Palmer, a physician assistant at Santa Rosa del Valle Medical Group in the city of Coachella.

"Many of our patients need to travel
close to 150 miles just to get an X-ray," she said. "To see a neurologist or to get an echo
cardiogram, they need to travel all the way—often by bus—to the county facility in Moreno Valley and miss a day of work. We need more medical providers here. And also more family care physicians, pediatricians, ophthalmologists, cardiologists, pulmonologists, podiatrists and others."

A new medical school in Inland Southern California could address Coachella’s pressing needs.

"Data indicate that physicians tend to
practice where they do their residencies," said UCR’s former Executive Assistant to the Chancellor for Health Affairs Robert Grey. "A UCR School of Medicine could help attract physicians to the area, and, over time, the university could help populate Inland Southern California with more doctors providing primary care and specialty care to a broad base of a diverse and currently underserved population."

**A Research-based Medical School in Inland Southern California**

To help meet the urgent demand for more doctors in Inland Southern California, UCR Chancellor France A. Córdova announced in November 2005, at an event hosted by the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce, that the university would submit a proposal for a four-year, research-based medical school to University of California officials.

"A medical school offers UCR a
tremendous opportunity for attending to the health care needs of our medically undereerved region and populace," Córdova told the crowd of local business leaders and elected officials attending the event. "A research-based school also would attract more high-tech start-up companies and venture capital to our area, helping the region’s much needed transition to a

**By Iqbal Pittalwala**

Three decades ago, UCR established the Biomedical Sciences Program in conjunction with what is known today as the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Later named the UCR/UCLA Thomas Haider Program in Biomedical Sciences after a philanthropic orthopedic surgeon and president of the Haider Spine Center, the program provides a unique path of entrance into one of the country’s leading medical schools.

Connie Chung, a first-year student in the program who hopes to become an obstetrician-gynecologist one day, is amazed by what the program has taught her already and how she can apply this knowledge in a clinical setting.

"The Haider program allows me to learn from physicians in the Riverside community," she said. "I’ve learned how to interact with patients and conduct physical exams—vital for becoming a competent physician. Books and lectures are great ways to learn, but the hands-on experience the program provides really helps students consolidate their knowledge and skills."

The program, a satellite program of the UCLA School of Medicine, is a campus strength on which the vision for the proposed UCR School of Medicine is built.

Each year, 24 UCR students are selected, from all majors at UCR, into the Haider program through a traditional medical school selection process. The members of the admissions committee use a holistic approach that evaluates the students’ academic backgrounds along with personal characteristics, achievements, and evidence of commitment to a career in medicine and their community.

These students take the first two years of their medical education at UCR and the remaining two years at UCLA. UCR provides the same integrated, human disease-based medical education as UCLA, using a problem-based learning approach. An integral component of the first two years is hands-on clinical instruction from community-based clinical faculty. The students receive their M.D. degrees from UCLA.

To date, nearly 700 students have received their M.D. degrees through the program. Overall, they are indistinguishable from their UCLA-trained counterparts in terms of national board scores, residency matches, and career achievements. The David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and its students are ranked as being among the top 10 medical schools in the country.

"Besides our students, the program’s faculty members make it successful," said Craig Byus, dean of the Division of Biomedical Sciences, of which the UCR/UCLA Thomas Haider Program in Biomedical Sciences is a part. "Our faculty is comprised of excellent biomedical researchers and medical educators who have a broad knowledge of basic science and medical education. We also have the benefit of 10 years of experience with about 100 community-based clinical faculty who deliver excellent medical education from a unique perspective to our students."

"And it’s also our committed and knowledgeable staff, along with our long partnership with the School of Medicine at UCLA, that makes our efforts so effective," Byus added. "Indeed, our chances of getting a medical school on campus are significantly increased because of the Haider program."

Three years ago, in response to concerns expressed by the state Legislature, the Haider program adopted a new mission: "To prepare graduates for distinguished medical careers in service to the people of California with emphasis upon the needs of the underserved, inland, and rural populations."

"Our faculty is extremely committed to this mission," Byus said. "We are particularly interested in helping to create a more diverse physician workforce in California." Toward that end, and to address the needs of socioeconomically disadvantaged students, the Division of Biomedical Sciences has launched two programs that are already reaping success: FastStart and the Medical Scholars Program.

"We feel confident that programs like these ultimately can bring diversity to the delivery of medical care in our community," Byus said.
A medical school offers UCR a tremendous opportunity for attending to the health care needs of our medically underserved region and populace,” said UCR Chancellor France A. Córdova.

UCR's vision for a community-based, research-centered medical school is inspired by the success of its UCR/UCLA Thomas Haider Program in Biomedical Sciences, which already provides the first two years of medical school at UCR.

Other UCR assets include more than 100 faculty already conducting research in health-related fields, such as immunology, genomics, nanoscience and public health; a highly diverse student population that can help diversify the physician workforce; and the widespread support for the medical school that UCR has received from its surrounding communities, including business leaders, hospital and other health care executives, elected officials and major newspapers.

Backed by these assets, UCR formally submitted a proposal for a School of Medicine to the University of California Office of the President on May 15. The campus hopes the UC Regents will make a decision by the end of the year.

If approved, the school will be the first new public medical school west of the Mississippi in the 21st century and the first research-based medical school in California in nearly half a century.

Dev Gnanadev, M.D., the medical director of Arrowhead Regional Medical Center in San Bernardino County, is excited by the prospect of a new research-based medical school in Southern California.

“For me, it is very difficult to recruit physician-scientists – doctors who not only take care of people but also do research – because we don’t have research facilities for them,” he said. “By combining Arrowhead Regional Medical Center and UCR resources, we can train doctors who can take medicine to the next level.”

Suppling Doctors

If approved, UCR’s School of Medicine is projected to open in fall 2012. But within the next three years UCR will begin to address the health needs of Inland Southern Californians when, as an intermediary step, the new Center for Clinical Medical Education facilitates clinical rotations for third- and fourth-year medical students, as well as medical residencies with area hospitals and clinics.

Expected to be located in the west campus area of UCR, the School of Medicine will have an entering class of 40 students who would receive their M.D. degrees in spring 2016. Gradually, the school will admit more students, so that by 2022, the school will graduate 96 M.D.s per year. By then, it will have 157 faculty members, as well as a total enrollment of 160 graduate Ph.D. students. The school also will aim for 600 residents.

“If 75 percent of the graduating M.D. class completes residencies in the area, and if approximately 75 percent of those residents stay in the region to practice, the school would supply about 50 doctors per year to Inland Southern California,” said Grey, whom UCR appointed in January 2005 as a consultant to advise UCR leaders and faculty members investigating what kind of medical school will best suit Inland Southern California.

To craft the academic vision for the medical school and develop a business plan that would ensure the medical school's success, UCR turned to a blue-ribbon External Advisory Board it established in March. The board, chaired by Dr. Haile Debas, former dean of the University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine, includes nationally prominent leaders in medical education and public health policy from both public and private universities.

Dr. Debas believes UCR’s immediate challenge is finding the resources to create the medical school.

“I refer not just to the infrastructure but also to recruiting a founding dean and faculty members in both biomedical and health-related fields, such as immunology, genomics, nanoscience and public health; a highly diverse student population that can help diversify the physician workforce; and the widespread support for the medical school that UCR has received from its surrounding communities, including business leaders, hospital and other health care executives, elected officials and major newspapers.”

Leading the Vision

The academic design for the proposed School of Medicine is being developed with the assistance of a Board of Visitors for Advising on the Academic Design of the School of Medicine.

Appointed in February, its members represent top-ranked medical professionals and educators from within the state and nationally, as well as UCR’s chancellor and other campus administrators.

The board is chaired by Haile Debas, M.D., executive director of the University of California, San Francisco, Global Health Sciences.

Other members are:

- Jordan J. Cohen, M.D., president and CEO of the Association of American Medical Colleges
- David Hayes-Bautista, Ph.D., director of the Center for the Study of Latino Health and Culture, David Geffen School of Medicine, UCLA
- Joseph Martin, M.D., Ph.D., dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Harvard Medical School
- Neil Parker, M.D., senior associate dean of the David Geffen School of Medicine, UCLA
- Deborah Powell, M.D., dean of the Medical School, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
- Ralph Snyderman, M.D., chancellor emeritus of the School of Medicine, Duke University

**Approvals Required for a UCR School of Medicine**

- Review by UC President’s Advisory Council on Future Growth in the Health Professions.
- UCR Division of the Academic Senate.
- UC Academic Council.
- California Postsecondary Education Commission.
- UC Regents.
- State Legislature and Governor for funding.
Off to a Healthy Start

The UCR/UCLA Thomas Haider Program in Biomedical Sciences sponsors FastStart and the Medical Scholars Program (MSP), both designed to increase the success rate of disadvantaged students entering medical school and other health science-related careers.

FastStart, a five-week intensive summer residential program aimed at incoming UCR freshmen interested in the health sciences, gets students off to a strong start in their core science classes and helps them acclimate to the college culture. The program targets socioeconomically and/or educationally disadvantaged students, many of them underrepresented minorities. FastStart students participate in workshops on study skills and ethics, and visit local health care facilities to see doctors at work.

“Because of the program, I was able to get a head start on what to expect at UCR, especially as an incoming biology major,” said Kwasi Osei, a graduating senior who has been accepted into the Haider program and hopes to practice medicine in underserved areas one day. “Most people I associate with today were in my FastStart class, and many of them are in medical school.”

Like FastStart, MSP helps facilitate peer-based academic support. MSP scholars learn survival skills for college success, receive academic and career counseling from staff and medical faculty advisers, and participate in research internships and clinical volunteer experiences.

Also intended for socioeconomically and/or educationally disadvantaged students, MSP builds an informal network of scholars, stretching from high school to professional training programs. The program’s goal is to increase the graduation rate of premedical students at UCR — particularly students who wish to serve in medically underserved communities — and help them enter medical school or allied health disciplines.

MSP has afforded Sebastian Benavides, a junior majoring in biology, insight into what makes a passionate doctor.

“The program offered me the chance to meet doctors and to work with other premedical students,” said Benavides, who is interested in becoming a neurosurgeon and, like Osei, wants to provide health care in a medically underserved region. “By far the best program a premedical student can ask for, MSP has strengthened my love for medicine.”

Diversifying the Physician Pool

The population of California, already diverse in terms of race and culture, is expected to become even more diverse in the future. But according to the California Physician Workforce study released in December 2004 by the Center for Health Workforce Studies in Albany, N.Y., the diversity of the California physician workforce is limited compared to the state’s population. For example, in 2000 only 4.4 percent of California’s physicians were Hispanic compared to nearly 31 percent of the general population, and only 3 percent were African American compared to nearly 7 percent of the population.

UCR’s undergraduate population, ranked third in the nation for diversity among public doctoral research universities by U.S. News and World Report, could provide a valuable pipeline for achieving diversity in the School of Medicine and the physician workforce.

Indeed, the UCR/UCLA Thomas Haider Program in Biomedical Sciences already has developed innovative approaches to encourage a diverse group of students to choose a career in medicine.

“Research has shown that physicians are more effective when they share the same ethnicity and cultural values as their patients,” Grey said. “The ‘pipeline’ should prove even more effective once the full-scale School of Medicine is established at UCR. It is also likely that underrepresented students from other campuses will be attracted to the new school’s mission of serving the medically underserved.”

A Medical School Unique to Inland Southern California

The proposed School of Medicine at UCR will use a new system of health care delivery, based on a distributed clinical system, and develop specialty programs in family medicine, preventive medicine and population health. It will focus, too, on identification of risk and intervention.

Besides health care delivery programs, the school will support innovative research and development programs designed to make the university a national leader in biomedical sciences and health care research.

According to Grey, the programs, geared toward improving the health of Inland Southern Californians, likely will become models to be emulated throughout the state and nation.

“The medical school will emphasize areas of research in which it can achieve distinction and establish a national presence, focusing on diseases and health issues particular to the region and its residents, with health care policy included as a strong component,” he said.

The school also will develop the specialties required for physician licensure — internal medicine, surgery, pediatrics, obstetrics/gynecology and psychiatry. When hired, the founding dean and faculty will identify and develop more specialties that will focus on the medical needs of Inland Southern Californians.

Prominent among the health problems of the population of Riverside and San Bernardino counties is metabolic syndrome, a cluster of conditions that occur together, increasing a person’s risk for heart disease, stroke and diabetes.

Palmer, the physician assistant at Santa Rosa del Valle in Coachella, confirms this bad news.

“A good number of our patients suffer from diabetes, hypertension and asthma,” she said.

Grey notes that academic medical centers elevate the quality of care in their regions by the direct medical services they provide.

“They also serve as a consultation resource for all providers in the region and provide continuing education programs for practicing physicians,” he said. “Indeed, the quality of health care is a determining factor for major employers and their employees in choosing a location for business and personal life.”

If You Build it, the Doctors Will Come

Rather than construct its own hospital, UCR will partner with regional hospitals and clinics for its clinical programs, thus leveraging resources. The proposal calls for a two-phased approach to developing the medical school, spanning 15 years from approval to full establishment.

Phase I, from 2007 through 2012, will

The Cost

Costs for Phase I, the five-year period from the time the School of Medicine is approved until it officially opens, will total approximately $15 million, half from private sources.

During Phase II—the 10-year period from the official opening of the school to maturity—annual operating costs will start at $9 million per year and reach $124 million per year at maturity in 2022. Capital costs over the 15-year period will be approximately $492 million.
consist of launching the medical school and strengthening the foundation on which the school will be built. During this period, the founding dean and initial faculty and staff will be hired. This phase also involves planning a curriculum that will have students focus on improved primary care and specialty care, refining a financial and business plan, obtaining financial support from non-state sources, renovating existing facilities and building new ones and strengthening academic initiatives, such as the UCR/UCLA Thomas Haider Program in Biomedical Sciences, the Health Sciences Research Institute and the Center for Clinical Medical Education.

Phase II, from 2012 through 2022, focuses on expanding the school and involves enrolling the first official class, hiring more faculty and staff to further develop the curriculum, gaining full accreditation for the school, building infrastructure and expanding enrollment to meet the needs of the region and state.

Cost and Impact

The cost of the medical school, spanning the 15 years from establishment to maturity, is estimated at $1.37 billion.

The School of Medicine will be funded from a variety of sources, including state funds, educational fees, clinical revenue, contracts and grants, gifts and endowments, strategic industry partnerships and sponsorships.

The medical school is expected to double the combined economic impact UCR has in California – currently about $950 million annually – by creating new knowledge in medicine, training students for health-related careers, encouraging start-up companies in the Inland Empire and producing more high-technology jobs and companies.

“The impact the medical school would have in Inland Southern California is enormous,” Grey said. “Not only would it draw high-quality physicians and researchers to the area, but it also would elevate medical care in the region to a new height.”

Joe Gutierrez, the Riverside resident who had to look outside Inland Southern California for a specialist in 2003, wishes Grey’s words come true soon.

“It disheartens me to this day that no one in Riverside could do the exam I had to get done back then,” he said. “We need more specialists in our region.”

UCR’s proposed School of Medicine could supply these specialists. By providing a new level of regional tertiary care expertise, the school would diminish considerably the need for Inland Southern Californians like Gutierrez to have to travel to coastal areas for top-quality medical care.

A School of Medicine on campus would be a win-win for the campus and the region, Chancellor Córdova firmly believes.

“It would dramatically increase UCR’s reputation, its ability to attract and retain top-notch faculty and clinicians, and its extramural grant capacity,” she said. “It would improve, too, the region’s economy and medical profile.

“Moreover, the medical school would use Inland Southern California as a laboratory for our health-care delivery innovations, which would greatly benefit the region,” she added. “It’s worth also bearing in mind that our campus can easily build upon our existing research strengths in genomics, nanotechnology, bioengineering and socio-behavioral sciences, which, along with our Haider program, gives us a tremendous foundation upon which to build the school. UCR, therefore, has a very strong case to make for bringing a medical school to Inland Southern California.”

Douglas Bagley, chief executive officer of Riverside County Regional Medical Center, agrees.

“If you’re going to have a medical school – and this area certainly needs one – then it makes logical sense that the most qualified, really the only viable alternative for having such a medical school, would be UCR,” he said. “It’s the leading academic institution in our area.”

The Need

• Between 2000 and 2015 the Inland Empire is forecasted to grow at a rate of 47.3 percent.

• Within California, the Inland Empire (as a region) ranks last in the number of primary care physicians, with 58 per 100,000 people and third from the bottom in the number of specialists, with 98 per 100,000 people.

• Inland Empire’s projected shortfall of physicians by 2015 is 1,140 physicians according to a study conducted by Edward Salsberg, director of the Center for Health Workforce Studies at the University at Albany in New York.

• Physician demand in California is forecast to outgrow physician supply by 4.7 to 15.9 percent between 2002 and 2015.

• Only one-fourth of California’s physicians are trained in the state.

• In 2000, only 4.4 percent of California’s physicians were Hispanic, compared to nearly 31 percent of the general population and only 3 percent were African American, compared to nearly 7 percent of the population.
Recommended Reading

Education Professor Rollanda O’Connor is working with local schools to improve the reading abilities of young students.
By Ricardo Duran

For most of us, reading is as easy as rolling off a log.

But sometimes, a child’s reading efforts can be as frustrating as trying to balance on a wobbly, slippery log.

That’s where Education Professor Rollanda O’Connor’s reading fluency research comes in. She is in the middle of a three-year study that will measure the effectiveness of two approaches to building reading fluency – repeated versus continual reading – on overall reading comprehension.

Repetitive readers cover a shorter passage several times during their sessions. Continual readers read along through a story.

Reading fluently is described as reading in which words are recognized automatically. This automatic word recognition makes reading smoother, faster and more expressive. It is also the stepping stone to reading silently, which for good readers means reading much faster than reading out loud.

The study looks at 160 students in the second and fourth grades at six Riverside schools. The students include 120 struggling readers and 40 average readers.

Participating students are pulled out of class for 15-minute sessions three times a week where they read to a tutor using one of the two approaches. Over the three-years of the study, researchers will address specific questions concerning the development of reading fluency, such as the relative effects of continuous versus repeated reading, the difficulty of the text, the amount of time spent practicing reading and ultimately, the effect of fluency improvements on reading comprehension.

“We want to see whether one approach or another shows greater improvement of students’ reading comprehension and also overall reading ability,” O’Connor said. “We’re also curious about student and classroom factors that might influence growth in reading rate.”

O’Connor’s research tackles an important issue revealed in a national survey of 1,136 fourth-graders, conducted by the U.S. Department of Education in 1995, which showed that while 55 percent of survey participants were considered fluent, only 13 percent were rated at the highest level.

This highest rating, known as Level 4, means that the student can read meaningful phrase groups and though there were some regressions, repetitions and deviations, they did not appear to detract from the overall structure of the story. At this level, students preserve the author’s syntax, and some or the entire story is read with expressive interpretation.

With the pressure the federal No Child Left Behind legislation places on schools to demonstrate annual yearly progress toward 100 percent student proficiency in mathematics and reading by the year 2014, discovering what works best with struggling readers is a key piece of the puzzle.

Under the federal law, schools receiving federal aid – usually those with the poorest children or with the highest proportion of English language learners – must show annual progress or risk penalties ranging from being listed as an underperforming school, having the state take over the curriculum or requiring the replacement of teachers and administrators.

So research-based approaches in key areas, such as O’Connor’s, can help schools, especially if they show the potential for results.

A UCR pilot program began last year at Emerson Elementary School funded by a gift from Paul and Susan Shimoff, which helped O’Connor land a $1 million grant from the Institute of Education Sciences to expand the project to six schools and support seven full-time doctoral and master’s students. Each student manages the project at different schools.

Anna Waters is one of those master’s students. She works at Lake Mathews Elementary School with 50 students. Two-thirds of those students get one-on-one tutoring and one-third are in a control group that receives only testing on what they have learned in their regular classrooms. She manages three other tutors.

“I love the work because I love to read and I love helping people,” the UCR student in special education said.

She works patiently and supportively with her young charges, analyzing their individual personality quirks to keep them on task.

As fourth-grader Brennan Gastelum leans over her copy of “Black Beauty,” her

Lake Mathews Elementary School
students: Branden Thompson (far left), Shelby Taylor (left), Brennan Gastelum (above), Leslie Rodriguez (right).

long, black hair hides the sides of her face. Repeating a passage several times, she picks up speed with each try.

“A long time ago, I didn’t like it,” Brennan says of reading. “But now I do.”

Her favorite book is “Peter Pan.”

In the 15 weeks since he’s been in the program, second-grader Branden Thompson has also taken to reading.

“My favorite book is ‘Commander Toad in Space,’” he said, after completing a passage from the story. “Yeah, he’s pretty cool.”

Pretty cool seems to sum up the way Principal Pamela Williams sees the program at Lake Mathews Elementary School, despite her initial minor misgivings about the consistency of the program.

“I was uncertain because of the location of our school,” she said, referring to the nearly 15 miles separating her campus from UCR.

But uncertainty has given way to enthusiasm.

“We’re seeing great results for our kids,” Williams said. “The (UCR) tutors have been very dedicated and our teachers are reporting that they’re seeing improvements in their children.”

Williams hopes the program will continue next year at her school.

She called reading fluency a critical bridge between the simple decoding of words to the attainment of reading comprehension, where the reader understands the meanings of entire passages of text.

O’Connor says she is testing a popularly held notion in education research that couples increased fluency with increased comprehension.

“We assume that improving the rate and fluency of reading will improve the comprehension of text, but research has not demonstrated that relationship,” she said. “We’re definitely testing that idea and I’m curious to see what our research uncovers.”
New buildings seem to pop up everywhere on campus. But, as is the case of the new Commons, the work begins long before the first bulldozer makes its appearance.
By Laurie Williams

These days at UCR, spiky pylons of reinforced concrete seem to compete with the Bell Tower for skyline prominence, and construction noise sometimes drowns out the chiming of the carillon.

Students stroll to class along worksite-obscuring walls of chain-link fence and heavy green shade cloth, their iPods, cell phones and conversations challenged by the beeping and roaring of heavy machinery.

But new buildings take shape even before their bones are visible to the campus community—they emerge from growth studies and budget projections long before the first hammers swing. Each project requires years of meetings, presentations, reports, e-mails and conference calls among the people who cement UCR's role as the fastest-growing campus in the UC system and prepare it to serve bigger classes of future Highlanders.

“UCR is in a perpetual state of growth now,” said Assistant Vice Chancellor Daniel Johnson, director of UCR Design and Construction. “It is a challenge just to keep pace.”

Some of the most significant work going on now is the expansion of UCR’s 46,000-square-foot Student Commons, originally built in 1967 and last renovated in 1990. This seven-year, $50 million-plus project is expected to give the campus a new “city center” late in 2008. The 142,000-square-foot, three-story Commons will boast an outdoor piazza area with an upper deck for socializing, food service, high-tech office space for campus organizations and nine conference rooms, one of which will seat 1,000 people. Student fees and private gifts fund the project.

Design, demolition, construction and finish work are progressing according to a four-phase plan, said Project Manager Fernand J. “Mac” McGinnis, who has been overseeing construction projects at UCR for about eight years.

In April 2001, UCR students voted to renovate the Commons, agreeing to support increased quarterly student center fees. Students have been involved in planning from the beginning. They make up 50 percent of the Commons expansion committee, which has oversight of design and construction. Campus planning officials got the OKs needed from UC Regents in July 2001 and March 2002.

Next, UCR Design and Construction sought responses from architectural firms who could show experience—work with similar projects, length of time in business, etc.—that met the Commons project’s criteria. The Commons expansion committee chose three or four to present ideas.

“Normally, there's one design that's more outstanding than the others,” McGinnis said. “Personality enters into it, because typically we end up living with the people for three or four years. The job can be run smoothly or it can be rough.”

A plan was chosen and design work began, but by June 2004 there were problems, McGinnis said. The San Francisco firm of Kaplan, McLaughlin and Diaz took over the job, working from the first firm’s schematics. The UC Office of the President and the Division of the State Architect approved the design.

After getting bids, Design and Construction awarded the building work to ProWest Constructors of Wildomar, which has worked on a number of UCR projects. McGinnis has daily budget and schedule meetings with Jeff Rising, senior project manager for ProWest.

“Getting it done is a long progression,” Rising said. “It takes an extreme amount of cooperation between management and designers and the construction team to coordinate the process.”

Preconstruction, especially, melds the expertise of everyone involved.

“It’s best that way, because you’ll come up with a better plan,” McGinnis said. “Maybe someone has worked on another project and knows about a better wall panel or a more efficient window design or a new way to bring the pipes into the building. If you’re always at the table drawing, and never get out there and swing a hammer, you don’t know what’s going on.”

Sometimes, a solution requires cutting down. A coffee center has been taken out of the Commons plan for the budget’s sake, McGinnis said.

Phase 1 began in May 2005 with installation of underground utilities. Student groups and other tenants with offices in Commons buildings set for demolition were moved to temporary quarters elsewhere.

Phase 2 was demolition. The buildings that made up the old central Commons and the Terrace conference rooms were razed to make room for new construction. Costco Hall remains and will be part of the new Commons.

Phase 3, which is currently under way, is construction of the main Commons building. This phase is expected to be completed in 2007.

Phase 4, which includes a student activities center, demolition of the old kitchen and cafeteria, and creation of the piazza, is scheduled to be finished in winter 2008. Phase 4 also includes a light cosmetic upgrade of Costco Hall.

Work is going well, McGinnis said, but with no shortage of day-to-day problems.

“It’s construction, so there are always issues. We’ve had a lot of rain, so work has been interrupted. Also, this is a site in the center of campus, so there are logistical things to figure out.”

As construction winds down, inspections pick up. McGinnis will go through the new buildings to make sure everything has been done according to the plans, noting any problems on a “punch list.” Architects and engineers will go through, too, and all will have lists of deficiencies for ProWest to address.

“Very rarely is everything OK the first time through,” said Rising, the ProWest manager. “But the lists usually aren’t too long because UCR has inspectors working throughout the process. Everyone wants to get it done right.”

UCR has many building projects in the works.

Biological Sciences building: Offices and laboratories, including a biosafety level 3 lab, for cell biology, neuroscience and plant sciences. About 65,000 gross square feet. Cost: $18.6 million Status: Completed, occupancy underway

College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences building: A four-story building for general assignment classrooms, a 300-seat auditorium and department and faculty offices. Approximately 111,800 gross square feet. Cost: $31 million Status: Occupancy expected in fall 2007

Arroyo student housing project will provide 505 beds in one-, two- and four-bedroom apartment units. Cost: $54.6 million Status: Completion expected in January 2007

Arroyo restoration: Increase in capacity of above-ground storm water channels and underground structures, and construction of new detention basin to slow storm flows. Cost: $5.7 million Status: Completion expected in January 2007

East campus infrastructure improvements: Upgrades and extensions to the east campus utility systems, including sewers, domestic water, steam, condensate return, chilled water supply and return, and high-voltage electricity distribution. Cost: $9.3 million Status: Completion expected in August 2006

Projects in the planning stages include: The Barbara and Art Culver Center for the Arts, which will be located off-campus in downtown Riverside; and new buildings for science and engineering, genomics, psychology, environmental health services and student academic support, plus major renovations for geology and physics.
By Laurie Williams

The special collections department of the UCR Libraries harbors both treasure and enigma in its much-lauded trove of books by and about 20th-century writer B. Traven. Helping scholars make use of the archive requires delving into its secrets.

Other than that belonging to Traven’s family in Mexico City, which is not available to researchers, the UCR collection is the largest Traven collection in the world. It attracts scholars who hope to flesh out sketchy images of an author who claimed dozens of identities — and whose public and private life remain shrouded in mystery.

There is no shortage of biographical detail about the firmly pseudonymous author of “The Treasure of the Sierra Madre,” “General from the Jungle,” “The Death Ship” and many novels that explored the lives of Mexicans in the 1920s. It’s the wealth of conflicting information that makes it hard to pin down who the man really was.

Traven himself muddied the waters in which scholars are now fishing for him, said Heidi L. Hutchinson, a special collections cataloguer who is processing the Traven archive. “In the 1930s and ’40s, Traven had a whole P.R. machine putting information out there – controlling his information,” she said. “It’s pretty clear that Traven played fast and loose with the facts.”

Traven tried many occupations — including acting — and may have used dozens of names. After he died, his widow quoted him as having said, “I am freer than anybody else. I am free to choose the parents I want, the country I want, the age I want.”

He kept his true personal life, his real birth name, even his nationality to himself. He believed that a writer should be known only through his work.

Of course, that attitude stirred up enormous interest among readers and scholars who wanted more consistent information. Many possibilities emerged, including the idea — accepted by many experts and later supported by Traven’s widow — that he had been Ret Marut, a left-wing revolutionary and publisher of an anarchist newspaper in Germany during World War I.

Some scholars doubt that. Americanisms in Traven’s German indicate that English was his native tongue — and Marut was not an English speaker. Others point to a Germanic feel in Traven’s English, and support the Marut theory.

Hutchinson, an American who is fluent in German, doesn’t commit herself on whether Traven was Marut, but lines up with scholars who say he was German.

“His English was a little . . . well . . . wobbly,” Hutchinson said. “There are a lot of Americanisms, yes, but the sentence structure is German. You have to be bilingual to see the distinctions.”

UCR began building its B. Traven collection about 20 years ago, said Melissa Conway, head of special collections, when it occurred to Peter Briscoe, then associate university librarian and head of collection development, that Traven wasn’t being collected in depth by other institutions.

Along with books and manuscripts in German, English, Spanish and other languages, the collection boasts magazines, photos, criticism, videos, correspondence, screenplays and ephemera, plus personal archives of a number of Traven scholars.

Over the years, some scholars have claimed that the writing credited to B. Traven was the work of several authors. Others embraced theories that Traven was an illegitimate son of Kaiser Wilhelm II, adventure novelist Jack London, writer and journalist Ambrose Bierce, or former Mexican President Adolfo Lopez Mateos — or perhaps even Mateos’ sister, Esperanza, who was Traven’s translator and friend in the 1930s.

Clues gleaned from Traven’s writing and from study filled in some blanks. After he died in 1969 more information — some of it perhaps true, Hutchinson said — became available. His will stated that he was born Traven Torsvan Croves in Chicago in 1890 and was naturalized as a Mexican citizen in 1951.

Other documents show that he traveled widely and lived in both Germany and Mexico.

Traven wrote in German, for German publishers. In the 1930s the Nazis banned his novels. English-language editions emerged in the mid-1930s,
but it was not until 1948 that he gained fame in the United States, with the release of John Huston’s film “The Treasure of the Sierra Madre,” starring Humphrey Bogart and Walter Huston.

One very large UCR acquisition – several shelves of volumes dedicated to the personal B. Traven collection of German journalist Gerd Heidemann – needed special processing and indexing to be of much use to scholars. Hutchinson accepted the job as a special project, one that complemented her usual work as a subject specialist in German and Russian in the UCR Libraries. The effort has taken about 40 percent of her time for three years, and it will be three more, she estimated, before processing is finished.

The work involves poring over page after page of close-set, mimeographed German text, some of it blurry from age. Making what scholars call a “finding aid” for the information Heidemann collected throughout the 1960s and ’70s demands a special set of abilities, and Hutchinson’s language and library expertise are up to the job.

“We knew she’d be able to do it,” Conway said. “The nice thing for us is that Heidi was willing to do it, because it is an enormous, but very important, job.”
UCR Has a Larger Footprint Downtown

UCR/California Museum of Photography, the Sweeney Art Gallery and the proposed Culver Center for the Arts have combined to form the UCR Arts Block on Riverside’s downtown mall.

At the intersection of Main Street and University Avenue in Riverside, right on the downtown pedestrian mall, UC Riverside now has a larger footprint with a cluster of arts facilities bringing new life for art lovers.

“The Sweeney joins the established UCR/California Museum of Photography and the planned Barbara and Art Culver Center for the Arts, providing additional space and energy and creative treasure to UCR and to the Riverside arts community in general,” said Joel Martin, former interim dean of the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences.

Together, the area will be called the UCR Arts Block.

The opening of the Sweeney drew 400 people, buzzing with excitement about the new space. A fund-raising celebration gala for all three facilities, set for Nov. 4, will showcase student performances and the way the facilities can all share resources and opportunities downtown.

Pedestrians walking by the site of the Culver Center hear and see a video installation of people imagining what the center will bring: film screenings, gallery exhibitions, seminars, artists’ studies, and classroom and research space.

UCR/California Museum of Photography director Jonathan Green said he is elated about the combined arts center downtown because it will add density, synergy and a wide range of activities to exhibitions already offered at the museum, on the Web and touring the world.

“I have just returned from Mexico City where UCR/CMP’s exhibition on Che Guevara opened to enormous press and audience response,” he said. “Here in Riverside the combined effort of UCR in the presentation of the arts will clearly be greater than the sum of the parts.”

Jim Isermann, associate professor of art history and a recognized artist in his own right, serves as the faculty director of the Sweeney Art Gallery.

“We’re very excited about the gallery’s new location, and especially Peter Zellner’s design,” he said. “It’s high profile, and will help us attract the best art exhibits possible. As well, the location in downtown Riverside puts the gallery in the heart of the Inland Empire. This increases our ability to reach out to the community well beyond UCR.”

Juan Felipe Herrera, who is the Tomás Rivera Professor in Creative Writing, is the faculty director of the Culver Center, which takes its name from Barbara and Art Culver, former Press-Enterprise co-owners, longtime community leaders and patrons of the arts.

The center was made possible by a $5 million gift from Anthony Culver, their son. The Los Angeles firm of Chu + Gooding Architects as the design team to build the Culver Center. It is expected to open in 2009.

Summer Exhibits
From the UCR Arts Block

UCR/CMP
Exhibits
Ongoing through July 15
Supervision by Nicoline Van Harskamp and Jill Magid, at the UCR/CMP. Dutch artist Nicoline Van Harskamp makes large-scale photographic studies of men and women in uniforms as an alternative portrait of the power dynamics of the city. Her recent projects have involved the extensive research and documentation of private security guards and police forces in Amsterdam, London, Rotterdam, Istanbul, The Hague and Glasgow. Van Harskamp's work takes the form of human-scale photographic portraits, video and performance alongside the production and dissemination of free brochures detailing the range of uniforms worn by her subjects, their roles and positions within the security hierarchy. For this project Van Harskamp focuses on undercover security forces and agents in Germany to explore the tactics and psychology of observation. Jill Magid’s work also deals with ideas of observation and surveillance. For this exhibition Magid shows work made in collaboration with the Liverpool police department. Through CCTV surveillance cameras located around the city, Magid was followed and monitored by a team of five police officers over a period of 31 days. The installation takes the form of five monitors representing the individual police officers assigned to her case, a record of exchanges between herself, the public and the police, audio files documenting suspect behavior and video footage from the CCTV collected over the month of surveillance. Organized by Ciara Ennis.

August 5 through October 8
Jonathan Hollingsworth’s What We Think Now, UCR/CMP Oculorium Gallery. This exhibit charts young people’s responses to the U.S. involvement in Iraq through a series of color photographs that reveal a diversity of viewpoints on the current political situation. Hollingsworth will present a lecture, followed by a signing of his book “What We Think Now” at 5:30 p.m. on Aug. 5.
The UCR/CMP is located at 3824 Main St., Riverside, CA 92501. Information, hours and admission: www.cmp.ucr.edu or (951) 784-3686.

UCR/Sweeney Art Gallery
Separate Checks, featuring the work of UCR master’s of fine arts students, July 8 through 22. Students Nicole Belle, Matt Bryant, Mauricio Espinosa, Cheryl Gilge, Greg Kozaki, Jason Lutz, John Sisley and Lee Thompson will have exhibits on display. There will be an opening reception 7-9 p.m., Saturday, July 8.
The UCR/Sweeney Art Gallery is located at 3800 Main St., Riverside, CA 92501. Information, hours and admission: www.sweeney.ucr.edu or (951) 827-3755.

Alec Soth: Sleeping by the Mississippi, UCR/CMP Main Gallery. Comprising portraits, landscapes and interiors, Sleeping by the Mississippi is a series of large-scale photographic works by U.S. artist Alec Soth. Using the Mississippi River as his guide, Soth spent five years photographing the individual lives and communities along the way from his home town in Minnesota to the furthest reaches of Louisiana. Following in the tradition of such documentarians as Robert Frank, William Eggleston, and Steven Shore, Soth customizes and updates the genre for the 21st century with his own contributions. An opening reception will be held at 7 p.m. on Aug. 5.


August 5 through October 8
Alec Soth
Charles, Vasa, Minnesota, 2004
C-Print, 16x20 inches
Courtesy of Alec Soth/Magnum Photos.
Aug. 5 through Oct. 8

Sasha and Sloan # 21, Oakland, CA, 2003
Aug. 5 through Oct. 8
By Joan Kite

Once upon a time there was a little girl from a very small town who grew up to become a world traveler with a very important job in Seoul, South Korea.

Tracy Wood, 30, the little girl who today is a self-assured young woman, says her mother said it started with Wood’s childhood toy – the “traveling baby.”

“It was this baby in a steamer trunk. The trunk was made out of cardboard and had a metal clasp. You could stand the trunk on one end. It had little hangers and a rod to hang the baby clothes,” Wood said, describing the childhood toy. “I don’t remember the baby, but I do remember the trunk.”

Last April, Wood, a UCR graduate student currently working on her doctoral dissertation in Korean-American literature, spent a couple of weeks packing suitcases, boxes and trunks. She emptied out her home in Redlands and hopped on a plane to Seoul, South Korea. The former Teaching English as a Second Language (TESOL) instructor for International Education Programs has accepted the position as director of the Gangnam-University of California, Riverside Education Center.

“I think Tracy will be terrific as director of the Gangnam center,” said Sheila Dwight, director of International Education Programs, and Extension’s assistant dean, “She’s a fine teacher. She’s well-organized, charming and engaging.”

According to Dick Wood, his daughter, who was born in San Pedro, has traveled thousands of miles since her days as a toddler living in Death Valley, a place with few residents, 130-degree temperatures and the lowest elevation in the western world.

“I delivered her little sister out there because the hospitals were too far,” Dick Wood said.

From Death Valley, the Wood family moved to Bishop, near Mt. Whitney, which is the tallest mountain in the lower 48 states. By the time she was 5, Tracy had lived in two places of extremes.

Wood’s academic career moved quickly. Skipping the first grade, she started second grade when she was 4. At 16, she packed her bags, left her family and moved to San Diego to attend UCSD, where she earned her bachelor’s degree with a major in English and a minor in education.

While studying at UCSD, she made friends with some Korean students. Those friendships inspired her to travel to Korea in 1996 to study abroad for the first time. The Woods didn’t know it yet, but their oldest daughter had blossomed into their “traveling baby.”

The next year, Wood lived in Japan, teaching English to Japanese students in Aizuwakamatsu, Fukushima, and earned her TESOL certificate in March 2002 from UCR Extension. During this time, she returned to Korea to teach for the Gangnam-University of California, Riverside International Education Center. She ultimately became academic director, overseeing the programs and instructors.

In her newest role, Wood replaces the current director, David Probst, who returned to UC Riverside Extension in May to pursue other career opportunities.

At Gangnam, Wood is responsible for 13 instructors and approximately 1,500 students who study at the center each year.

What is Wood’s secret to success? How about a sense of adventure and a memory of a little cardboard trunk with a metal clasp?
By Ross French

In February 2002, then-freshman Jamie Yee was wrapping up the drills of her final practice before the start of the softball season when she felt a pop in her knee. The diagnosis was a torn anterior cruciate ligament, also known as a “blown-out knee.”

Yee, who was penciled in to be the Highlanders’ starting left fielder, was facing a long, hard road to recovery. The injury was devastating and heartbreaking. Most importantly, it threw her whole collegiate softball career into question.

A bad day? Maybe then. But now? Looking back, Yee believes that missing that 2002 season allowed her to begin her collegiate career in the 2003 season.

Following a pair of surgeries to fix the injury, Yee came back to join an outstanding class of freshman, led by third baseman Melissa Sanchez and left fielder Jessica Black, which formed the nucleus of a group that this year led the Highlanders to their best season in the Division I era.

What’s more, the injury did not harm her academically. Yee completed her undergraduate work on time, walking in the June 2005 ceremonies with her degree in business administration. She was subsequently accepted to the A. Gary Anderson Graduate School of Management to pursue an MBA with an emphasis in marketing, giving her the distinction of being the only current UCR graduate student to compete athletically while completing her master’s coursework.

“[At the time, I couldn’t believe this was happening to me],” Yee said. “But now I have had the chance to continue my education and have a last run at things on the field. I’m glad I’ve been a part of this season.”

She has been a key component of the Highlander offense, usually batting in the second spot in the lineup.

“Jamie makes things happen for us and her offense has stood out every year,” UC Riverside Head Softball Coach Connie Miner said. “Jamie has been a leader by example ever since she arrived on campus five years ago and her work ethic and commitment is never ending both on and off the field. She loves and believes in our softball program.”

Yee said that juggling the schedule of being a graduate student and a student-athlete is a difficult feat.

“It is tough work. I’m constantly training and doing homework during the day and going to class at night,” she said. “My fellow students in the graduate program are more than supportive, though. Many of them have stopped by to watch a couple of games. I’ve also received many compliments for juggling the two.”

“[Juggling the two] hardly does justice to the responsibilities that Yee carries. The 22-year-old is a member of the student-athlete advisory council and the student-athlete mentors programs at UCR. In 2005, she was selected to attend the NCAA Leadership Conference, which brings together student-athletes from all sports and all divisions for a week of training that prepares them to return to campus with a written action plan designed to better their campus and/or local community.

“It’s important to me to give back to those who have helped me be successful as well as giving back to the community and helping the youth around our area,” Yee said.

Yee is also putting her business acumen to work with her family’s company Dog Gone Logos. Named in honor of the Yee family’s long-haired miniature dachshund, Sara, the company offers promotional, printing and embroidery services. Yee and her younger sister Veronica, a 19-year-old business administration major and reserve outfielder on the UCR softball team, are in charge of marketing the business and researching new projects.

“We felt it was a great idea to apply what we’re learning to real life, and we’re fortunate enough to have parents who are willing to support our efforts,” Yee said.

With the end of her collegiate athletics career, Yee looks back and is amazed at how quickly the time has passed.

“When I reflect on my past five years, I really can’t believe it’s gone by this fast,” she said. “I went from Riverside being the place I went to college to Riverside being home.”
By Margene Mastin-Schepps

In the game of life, it’s often the little things that matter most. In the case of UCR classmates W. Ronald Redmond (‘62) and Margaret Ann (Fyke) Redmond (‘62), that little thing turned out to be a ping-pong ball.

“I beat Ron at ping-pong in the gym one day and our relationship flowered,” said Margaret, of their early student days. “We were engaged in the fall of our senior year and married just a month later.”

For Ron, losing the match but winning the girl sounded like a pretty good trade. It also taught him the value of goal setting, persistence, risk taking and what it really means to keep your eye on the ball – all key entrepreneurial traits that served him well in his
successful career as a leader in the fields of dentistry and orthodontics. Today, in private practice with sons Bill and John, Dr. Redmond operates several orthodontic practices in California and Washington, which are noted for their innovative patient care and state-of-the-art medical technology.

“UCR is where it all began,” said Ron. “Everything from our marriage to the close friendships we’ve enjoyed over the years to the top-notch academic preparation we received has impacted our lives in countless ways.”

As active volunteers and philanthropists for a variety of arts and educational organizations, Ron and Margaret recently recognized a unique opportunity to celebrate their ties with UCR by contributing $1 million to help establish the Sweeney Alumni Center and Rubin Visitors Center.

The 13,865-square-foot center will include a much-anticipated dining hall that will double as a 200-person banquet hall, which has been named in honor of the Redmond family. The facility will also have a large lobby, meeting rooms, a library of works by UCR authors and a formal board room.

“Our philanthropy is about adding value to an institution, about bringing people together and helping them achieve their dreams,” said Ron. “This is the place where new students and their parents will form their first impressions of UCR. It’s where alumni will be welcomed home and made to feel part of this fast-growing campus. To successfully compete with other public and private schools, both of these things are key to UCR’s future.”

With the new center slated to open in mid-2007, Ron encourages his fellow UCR alumni to “stop by and discover all the new ways to get involved . . . including giving of your time, talent and treasure.”

And to the next generation of Highlander students, Margaret advises, “Never stop learning or being creative.”

Winning words from a winning alumni couple.

Game. Set. Match.
UCR graduate student Vincent Whipple’s aspirations for a career in medicine took a detour when he discovered a love for Native American dance.

“. . . there are many contexts to healing – one of those is dance.”
Graduate student Vincent Whipple.
By Celeste Durant

Vincent Whipple walks on stage wearing native dress, decked out in white and red regalia and feathers to perform the eagle dance.

“We believe the eagle carries our thoughts and prayers to the Creator who put us here,” he tells the audience in a performance lab in the Arts building at UC Riverside.

He then dons wings made of eagle feathers that cover his hands, arms and shoulders.

Vincent Whipple disappears. His Lakota name is Maka Luta Hoksila Waste, “Good Red Earth Young Man.” About 6 feet tall and powerfully built, he simulates the flight of an eagle with startling grace. To the sound of the wind supplied by a CD player, he begins circling the stage, his arms and shoulders working their way across imaginary air currents. He is transformed, and members of the audience seem mesmerized as they visualize in their minds the purple and blue canyon this eagle-man hovers above.

When Vincent Whipple graduated from Harvard with a degree in physical anthropology, he had visions of medical school dancing in his head.

Today, the visions are of Native American dance, culture, choreography and teaching. He’s also broadened his sights to acting, where he’s had some success. This year was be his eighth as the lead in the annual Ramona Pageant in Hemet and he has appeared in the movies “Windtalkers” and “Unseen Evil.”

Whipple, a second-year graduate student working on a doctorate in UC Riverside’s dance department, says the change was part of a process, a journey that broadened his vision and put him in touch with his culture and traditions.

And while he hasn’t totally given up on becoming a doctor one day, Whipple, who is Navajo and Ogallala Sioux, says simply, “There are other ways to promote health. Health isn’t just physical, there are many contexts to healing – one of those is dance.”

After growing up in South Dakota and going to school in Massachusetts, Whipple recalls, “I wanted to take a break after college and my mother, sister and brother were living here in Southern California. I came out to visit them.”

He started as a powwow dancer, appearing at festivals. From there he became active in the Native American community. Soon he was staging Native American dance in theaters, which led him to perform at Knott’s Berry Farms’ Indian Trails.

As he traveled through Native American dance circles, he met people who inspired him to take his dancing to a higher level. He went back to school and got a master’s degree in Native American studies from UCLA. He became a dancer with the American Indian Dance Theater, the premier native dance company in the United States.

Still following his quest, he studied ballet and modern dance searching for ways to incorporate contemporary dance moves into traditional native dance. Inspired by mentors who were directors of major Native American dance companies, he decided to form his own company with his sister and family members here in Southern California.

“Some of the people I worked with were also actors and dancers and when they couldn’t perform, I would fill in and try something new. I began a foray into acting about 10 years ago,” he said.

One day he spotted an ad in a Los Angeles newspaper for auditions for the famous Ramona Pageant. He went for an audition and got cast as Alejandro, the male lead. It is a story written in the late 1800s about the treatment of Native Americans in Southern California.

“The main story line is really the love story but you can’t ignore that backdrop of genocide and prejudice that still exists and is still relevant. It lets people look back and see that American history has its ugly moments and that some of the issues confronting natives in the play still are confronting people today. There was a lot of reality for me in the script. It was very powerful for me.”

In the years since he was first cast in Ramona, Whipple has worked to make the pageant more authentic. He has added some cultural touches and now choreographs one of the major dance scenes in the play, which completed the last of its six performances for 2006 on May 13.

He also teaches culture classes for Native American children in the city of Los Angeles. His dance troupe performs for students in educational settings ranging from preschools through college, including occasional classes at UCR.

Still following his path, Whipple sees all of his various interests heading toward a goal.

“I would someday like to develop a Native American performance school to tie in the culture, the music and dance . . . Native people believe in balance — balance in body, mind and spirit. I am into traditional spiritual practices and that’s always been a good foundation for me. The traditional teaching thing has guided me along.”

Aspirations for a career in medicine took a detour when he discovered a love for Native American dance.
Becoming Abigail
By Chris Abani
Akashic Books
March 2006, 120 pages
In his latest novel, Abani follows Abigail, a troubled Nigerian teen who is threatened with becoming human trade. Abigail’s mother died giving birth to her, leaving her, as she grows, with a crippling guilt that drives her to bizarre childhood mourning rituals and, later, with the responsibility of caring for her chronically depressed father. Repeated sexual violations by male relatives and the self-imposed expectation that she live up to her idealized image of her mother create unbearable pain and contradiction. Abigail’s father sends her, at age 15, to live with her cousin by-marriage in London, as much to free her from him as to give her more opportunities. But once she arrives, her “cousin” proves malevolent, and her dehumanization begins. Information: www.akashicbooks.com.

A Perfect Union: Dolley Madison and the Creation of the American Nation
By Catherine Allgor
Henry Holt and Co.
April 2006, 512 pages
When the roar of the Revolution had finally died down, a new generation of American politicians was summoned to the Potomac to assemble in the nation’s newly minted capital. Into that unsteady atmosphere, which would soon turn into another conflict with Britain in 1812, Dolley Madison arrived, alongside her husband, James. Within a few years, she had mastered both the social and political intricacies of the city, and by her death in 1849 was the most celebrated person in Washington. In “A Perfect Union,” Catherine Allgor reveals that while Dolley’s gender prevented her from openly playing politics, those very constraints of womanhood allowed her to construct an American democratic ruling style and to achieve her husband’s political goals. Information: www.henryholt.com.

My Way
By John Martin Fischer
Oxford University Press
March 2006, 272 pages
John Martin Fischer, UCR distinguished professor of philosophy, provides a selection of essays that represents the major components of his approach to freedom of the will and moral responsibility. The collection exhibits the overall structure of Fischer’s view and shows how the various elements fit together to form a comprehensive framework for analyzing free will and moral responsibility. Topics include deliberation and practical reasoning, freedom of the will, freedom of action, various notions of control and moral accountability. Information: www.oup.com.

Tunes for ‘Toons; Music and the Hollywood Cartoon
By Daniel Goldmark ’94
The University of California Press
October 2005, 243 pages
In the first in-depth examination of music written for Hollywood animated cartoons of the 1930s through the 1950s, alumnum Daniel Goldmark provides an account of the creative effort that went into setting cartoons to music and shows how this effort shaped the characters and stories that have become embedded in American culture. Focusing on classical music, opera and jazz, Goldmark considers the genre and compositional style of cartoons produced by major Hollywood animation studios. “Tunes for ‘Toons” discusses several well-known cartoons in detail, including “What’s Opera, Doc?” the 1957 Warner Bros. parody of Wagner and opera that is one of the most popular cartoons ever created. Goldmark pays particular attention to the work of Carl Stalling and Scott Bradley, arguably the two most influential composers of music for theatrical cartoons. Information: www.ucpress.edu.

Juniper Blue: A Novel
By Susan Lang ’74, ’77 M.A.
University of Nevada Press
February 2006, 336 pages
Author and UCR alumna Susan Lang continues the saga of Ruth Farley, the independent young woman who was the protagonist of “Small Rocks Rising,” published in 2002. Ruth is still on her homestead at the end of a rugged canyon in California’s Mojave Desert, struggling to survive on her own and to recover from a brutal rape and the murder of her lover. Now she must also face the responsibility of motherhood. The ensuing story expands Ruth’s world to encompass the vast panorama of Depression-era Southern California—miners and ranchers striving to hang on until times are better, and Indians trying to preserve their ancient culture and identity. Ruth’s life also expands as she adjusts to motherhood, trying to maintain her autonomy and isolation, and preserve the tenuous web that links her to the ruthlessness of the desert and to its ancient people. Information: www.nvbooks.nevada.edu.

The Stanford Law Chronicles: Doin’ Time on the Farm
By Alfredo Mirande
University of Notre Dame Press
November 2005, 269 pages
In the midst of a long and distinguished academic career, Alfredo Mirande left his position as professor of sociology and chair of ethnic studies at UCR to attend law school at Stanford University. This book is a chronicle of the events that led him to make this change and a first-person account of the law school experience. Mirande delivers a critique of the obstacles he encountered and also reflects on the implications of an increasing number of women and minority law school students. Mirande discusses law review, the Immigration Clinic where he represented his first client and the alternative Lawyering for Social Change curriculum. He also includes autobiographical snapshots and experiences, including the death of his brother, which was the catalyst for his decision to pursue his dream of attending law school and becoming a lawyer. Information: www3.undpress.nd.edu.
Transforming Latin America: The International and Domestic Origins of Change
By David Pion-Berlin and Craig Arceneaux ('97 Ph.D.)
University of Pittsburgh Press
July 2005, 267 pages
This book by Pion-Berlin, a professor of political science, and alumnus Arceneaux offers a framework for understanding political change across Latin America. Looking broadly across the Western Hemisphere, with examples from Brazil, the Southern Cone, the Andes and Central America, the authors identify the general rules that explain influences that tip in favor of international forces in certain contexts and domestic forces in others. The book offers case studies on such central problems as neoliberal economic reform, democratization, human rights, regional security, environmental degradation, drug trafficking and immigration.
Information: upress.pitt.edu.

Mind over Muscle: Writings from the Founder of Judo
Translated by Nancy H. Ross '75
Kodansha International
March 2006, 160 pages
Translated by alumna Nancy H. Ross, this book is a collection of the life’s work and essential teachings of Jigoro Kano, who founded Kodokan Judo in Tokyo in 1882. Kodokan Judo was for Kano the culmination of a lifelong devotion to the jujutsu of the past, which he reorganized along educational lines while taking great care to retain its classical traditions. In doing so, he opened the path from jutsu (skill) to do (way), and broadened the horizons of knowledge until he reached the point at which he began to advocate seiryoku zenyo (maximum efficiency) and jita kyoei (mutual prosperity), which represent the universality and ideal of human existence, and are the core values of judo.

The Power of Plagues
By Irwin W. Sherman
ASM Press
January 2006, 468 pages
Written by Irwin Sherman, professor emeritus of biology, “The Power of Plagues” offers an examination of epidemic diseases within an historical context. The book presents the science of plagues describing the nature and evolution of diseases and conveying their significance in shaping Western culture and civilization. Major historic outbreaks are covered, including those of the Greek and Roman empires as well as the infamous Black Death. Contemporary and emerging diseases are comprehensively detailed, including HIV-AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, smallpox, SARS, West Nile virus infection, influenza and mad cow disease. “The Power of Plagues” provides insights into the struggle to attain disease control and eradication, and explores the challenge of forecasting emerging plagues.
Information: estore.asm.org.

Molecular Approaches to Malaria
Edited by Irwin W. Sherman
ASM Press
October 2005, 245 pages
“Molecular Approaches to Malaria” provides an overview of the rapid and significant developments that have occurred in malaria research. A resource for molecular biologists, biochemists, cell biologists, chemists, pathologists, parasitologists, entomologists and immunologists, “Molecular Approaches to Malaria” is a single reference source that will serve likewise to update teachers, investigators and public health officials on the status of malaria research.
Information: estore.asm.org.

A Million Nightingales
By Susan Straight
Pantheon
March 2006, 352 pages
Written by Susan Straight, professor of creative writing, “A Million Nightingales” is set in southern plantations and bayous of the Louisiana Purchase, this novel spans the life of Moinette, a “mulatresse,” beginning with the events that wrench her from her mother at age 14, to her final days in her 40s. Moinette’s first young mistress, Cephaline, exposes her to book learning, and Moinette struggles to negotiate the contradictions between the language of science and her mother’s belief in traditional Senegalese spirits. After Cephaline’s premature death, Moinette, light-skinned and beautiful, is sold upriver and separated from her mother. She repeatedly suffers sexual assaults and must use her wits to protect herself and later her son and daughters. While Straight vividly depicts the danger and degradation black women faced, she also makes feminist comparisons between Moinette’s enslavement and the situations of her wealthy white mistresses.
Information: www.randomhouse.com/pantheon.

Cars and Culture. The Life Story of a Technology
By Rudi Volti '67
Greenwood Press
October 2004, 192 pages
Written by alumnus Rudi Volti, “Cars and Culture” provides a comprehensive history of the automobile. While the book highlights the technical changes that altered the appearance and performance of automobiles, it also explores the political, economic, social and cultural forces that shaped the car’s development. The book also covers the components essential to the automotive-based transportation system – roads and highways, gasoline production, traffic laws, governmental regulation – as well as the other aspects of our social and cultural history that were deeply affected by the automobile – labor unions, suburbanization, travel and recreation, and the fast-food industry.
It’s an Honor

UCR’s Alumni Association-award recipients share memories, accomplishments and advice.

Each year, the UCR Alumni Association honors outstanding alumni who personify the university’s tradition of excellence and service. Through their personal and professional achievements, these individuals contribute to the betterment of society, enhance their communities and bring distinction to UC Riverside.

Past honorees include a U.S. ambassador, a Pulitzer-prize winning editorial cartoonist, presidents of institutions of higher education, scientists, and civic and business and community leaders.

This year, the alumni association reorganized its awards program to include honors brought to a particular college.

“The association wanted to focus the awards program and allow our colleges to recognize alumni leaders from their schools,” said Kyle D. Hoffman, assistant vice chancellor for alumni and constituent relations.

The honorees were recognized on May 6 at a celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Alumni Awards of Distinction and of the groundbreaking on the alumni and visitors center.

We asked this year’s recipients to provide some insight into their lives. Here is what they had to offer:

**Richard R. Schrock**
(’67 B.A. chemistry)

**Award:** Distinguished Alumnus Award, the most prestigious of the awards bestowed by the UCR Alumni Association. The recipient is chosen based on national and international distinction in one’s field and significant contribution to humankind.

**Occupation:** Frederick G. Keyes Professor of Chemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

**Distinctions:** Schrock is a co-recipient of the 2005 Nobel Prize in chemistry, a former Alfred P. Sloan Fellow and a Camille and Henry Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar. He has received the American Chemical Society (ACS) Award in organometallic chemistry, the Harrison Howe Award of the Rochester ACS section, an Alexander von Humboldt Award, the ACS Award in Inorganic Chemistry, the Bailar Medal from the University of Illinois, an ACS Cope Scholar Award and the Sir Geoffrey Wilkinson Medal. He was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the National Academy of Sciences.

**What inspires you?** Discovering new fundamental chemistry and how to put it to use.

**Greatest accomplishment:** I am proud of many of my accomplishments, but the Nobel Prize would have to rank at the top of course.

**Favorite UCR memory:**

**Advice to UCR students:** Keep your head down (work hard), your eyes open and find something you love to do.

**Chuck Cole**
(’70 B.A. political science)

**Award:** Alumni Service Award, which recognizes outstanding service and contribution to UCR, a community and/or fellow citizens.

**Occupation:** President of Advocacy Inc., a Sacramento-based governmental relations firm, owner of Griffith Solutions, a computer solutions company, and the administrator of the California Tax Education Council, a statutory agency that reviews and approves tax education and registers tax preparers in California.

**Distinctions:** Volunteered in several organizations including serving as an M-2 Inmate Advisor at the Preston School of Industry, chairing the departmental United Way state campaign, serving on the fundraising committee for Jericho, a non-denominational charitable organization, and volunteering for the Child Abuse Prevention Council of Placer County. He has been a member and chair of the UCR Alumni Scholarship Committee for the Sacramento region and has participated in many UC lobby days in Sacramento.

**What inspires you?** My family and friends.

**Ravish Patwardhan**
(’93 B.S. biomedical sciences)

**Award:** Outstanding Young Alumnus Award, which recognizes an alumnus under the age of 35 with a significant record of career and/or civic achievement and promise in their profession.

**Occupation:** Neurosurgeon, owner of the Comprehensive Neurosurgery Network, L.L.C., Shreveport, La.

**Distinctions:** Patwardhan helped invent a new electrode system with a graduate student from UCLA’s electrical engineering program. He did a fellowship at UCLA in epilepsy and functional neurosurgery, which allows electrical interaction with patients in diagnosis. He has since created the only existing Epilepsy and Functional Neurosurgery program in North Louisiana.

**What inspires you?** The fact that you can start with relatively little and do something great in this country.

**Greatest accomplishment:** Learning through my failures so that I could succeed the second (or third or fourth) time around.

**Favorite UCR memory:** Being allowed to pursue electrical engineering and biomedical sciences as double majors; running in the NCAA national championships with great teammates at UCR; and the friendships developed with KAs (Kappa Alpha fraternity) and others, and all their personalities.

**Advice to UCR students:** The more worthwhile goal always requires a disproportionate amount of work.
Honored Alumni Awards recognize alumni whose personal or professional achievements have brought or will bring honor and distinction to a particular college at UCR.

James C. Carrington ('82 B.S. plant science)
Award: College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences
Occupation: Director of Oregon State University's molecular and cellular biology graduate program.

Distinctions: Carrington's research in RNA silencing has been included in the 2002 scientific "Breakthrough of the Year" in the journal Science. He is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and also directs Oregon State University’s Center for Gene Research and Biotechnology.

What inspires you? There is tremendous satisfaction in seeing my students and postdoctoral scientists develop their own scientific skills and establish their own laboratories after they complete their time in my group.

Greatest accomplishment: One of the greatest accomplishments is being able to maintain a constantly evolving research lab that keeps up with and integrates new technology, assimilates rapid developments in the field and maintains funding.

Favorite UCR memory: My best memories are from the long hours I spent in research labs doing independent research and learning what it meant to be a real scientist. I have great memories working with Dr. W.O. Dawson (former UCR professor of plant pathology) and members of his lab, who treated me like I was an important part of the lab group and who gave me confidence to pursue science as a career.

Advice to UCR students: First, embrace the mistakes and learn from them. Second, very few people actually care about what you think, or what you did before but a lot of people will be interested in what you have to offer them in the future. And third, keep control of your own destiny.

Ann E. Maxwell ('66 B.A. English) and Evan Maxwell ('65 B.A. political science)
Award: College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences.

Occupation: Writers.

Distinctions: Individually and as co-authors they have written more than 60 novels and one nonfiction book, under pen names that include A.E. Maxwell and Elizabeth Lowell. There are 30 million copies of these books in print as well as reprints in 30 foreign languages. Their novels range from science fiction to historical fiction, from romance to mystery to suspense.

What inspires you? Curiosity about the world we live in.

Greatest accomplishment: Maintaining a successful family along with a demanding career.

Favorite UCR memory: Ann: The Barn. Evan: Learning from books, professors and TAs (teaching assistants) at The Barn.

Advice to UCR students: Ann: Never give up. Evan: Get a good day job.

Brian Bender ('89 B.S. computer science)
Award: Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering.

Occupation: Retired. Former founder and president of PropHead Development, a software company that designed and implemented digital television and satellite communications.

Distinctions: With leadership from fellow alumnus John Stebbins ('90), PropHead Development became the leading authority on digital set top box development. At its height, the company worked with DirecTV, AOL/TimeWarner, SONY, Hitachi, Microsoft and other Fortune 500 companies in the technical realm. In 2000, Bender and Stebbins sold PropHead to AOL/TimeWarner.

What inspires you? I love to achieve something new. It could be learning something new or doing something I have never done before. So achievement inspires me.

Greatest accomplishment: My greatest accomplishment is probably building a successful company and selling it. I would like to say it’s building a great family, but this will be my new accomplishment.

Favorite UCR memory: Some of my best times while at UCR had to be those Friday afternoons having a beer with my professors and TAs (teaching assistants) at The Barn.

Advice to UCR students: My advice is to believe you can achieve. You have been given a great gift in life. This gift is the ability to think and solve problems. Go out and use it, and you will achieve greatness.

More information about each of the recipients is available at www.alumni.ucr.edu.
60s


‘68 William Fenical (Ph.D.), a professor of oceanography at Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California, San Diego, was awarded the Ernest Guenther Award in the Chemistry of Natural Products by the American Chemical Society. Fenical is director of the Center for Marine Biotechnology and Biomedicine, which is dedicated to the exploration of the novel and diverse resources of the ocean with a focus on marine biomedicine and marine drug discovery. He has been associated with Scripps since 1973. His latest research, exploring the microorganisms from the ocean sea floor, has uncovered a treasure trove of potential new drugs. From a deep ocean site near the Bahamas, he discovered a bacterium that produces a potent anticancer agent that targets multiple myeloma. He also discovered a new anti-inflammatory drug derived from a soft coral. The drug, pseudopterosin, is currently used in skin creams and is in line for development for the treatment of human skin diseases … James Gillen recently retired after 32 years with the city and county of San Francisco as operations director for the Department of Public Health and returned to Riverside County to live in Palm Springs. Jim sings with the Caballeros - Gay Men’s Chorus of Palm Springs and serves on the chorus’ board of directors.

69 James Hull (’74 M.A.) is a psychoanalyst in private practice in midtown Manhattan, specializing in personality disorders and transference-focused psychotherapy. He was an associate professor of psychology at Weill Medical College of Cornell University from 1985-2003 … Craig Leutzinger retired from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as deputy chief of the malaria branch. He served the CDC for 35 years with assignments in Maryland, District of Columbia, Pennsylvania, Alaska and Wisconsin, and then at CDC in Atlanta with the behavioral risk factor surveillance system and the malaria branch. He also worked overseas in Bangladesh, Indonesia and Kenya, and participated in the World Health Organizations smallpox eradication program. He and his wife, Janet, remain in the Atlanta area. The couple has two sons. Chris is a graduate of the University of Georgia and Mark is a graduate of the Georgia Institute of Technology … Forrest Mosten is a lecturer of law at UCLA. He is president of Mosten Mediation Services.

70s

‘71 Irene Morales was a recipient of the 2005 YWCA Women of Achievement award honoring outstanding women in Riverside County. Irene is the executive director of Inland Counties Legal Services Inc., a nonprofit organization providing legal services to the poor and elderly in Riverside and San Bernardino counties. She lives in Riverside.

‘72 John S. Tortarolo was appointed vice president of human resource services at Palomar College. He was director of human resources at Long Beach City College for the past four years. Tortarolo will handle staffing issues for the college, which employs about 330 full-time professors, 500 part-time professors and 500 non-teaching employees. He has more than 20 years of human resources experience. Before joining the Long Beach campus he worked for Southern California Edison … Fred Yeager was appointed to the Placer Land Trust board of directors. Yeager worked in the Placer County Planning Department for 33 years, finishing as the director with 16 years of service. During his tenure as planning director, he oversaw establishment of the code enforcement division, a GIS system, an automated permit tracking system and other improvements to the planning process. He was responsible for the implementation of the Placer Legacy Open Space and Agricultural Conservation Program, which has permanently protected more than 4,000 acres of open space and agricultural lands since its inception in 1998. In 2002, the Placer Legacy program received the Governor’s Award for environmental and economic leadership. Yeager and his wife, Denise, have four children – now grown - and eight grandchildren. All reside in Northern California.

‘74 Jan Hawkins received the Indian Wells ATHENA Community Service award. The award is given to an individual who provides valuable service by contributing time and energy to improve the quality of life for others in the community. Hawkins also serves as president of the Palm Desert High School Education Foundation and, in 2004, helped raise $100,000 for academic programs. She is active with the National Charity League and was a campaign coordinator for the successful school bond Measure K, a $457 million bond initiative. Hawkins is the director of development for the Boys and Girls Club of the Coachella Valley.

‘75 Janet (Abeles) Sherman is the revenue collection administrator for the city of San Gabriel. Previously, she worked for the city of Temple City for three years, and the city of Sierra Madre before that. Sherman lives in Arcadia.

‘77 Rebecca T. Diaz has published “El Dia de Manuela,” a fictionalized tale of a Mexican immigrant woman whose story began in the early 1900s in Mexico, to the time of her death at age 97 in California. The book can be found at www.lulu.com.

‘79 Jeffrey Evelhoch (M.S., ’81 Ph.D.) married Nancy Jankov (’81) in 1981. They have three children, Eric, born in 1986, Andy, born in 1988 and Darcy, born in 1990 … Anthony Shelton (Ph.D.) received the 2005 Recognition Award from the Entomological Society of America (ESA). He is a Cornell University professor of entomology at the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station in Geneva, N.Y. The award recognizes entomologists who have made, or are making, significant contributions in agriculture. Shelton’s program focuses on developing pest management strategies for vegetables. He received the ESA’s award for Excellence in Integrated Pest Management in 1995 … Doug Wible is the associate vice president for development at California Baptist University in Riverside. He is responsible for supervising the university’s development directors and also oversees annual fund raising from golf tournaments. Wible had served as dean of enrollment since 1997. He was previously the director of undergraduate admissions at the University of La Verne.

80s

‘81 Grace Cheng Braun has been named president and CEO of WISE Senior Services, an award-winning nonprofit organization serving seniors, their families.
Behind the Lens

UCR graduate Shola Lynch, an award-winning documentary director, speaks at annual lecture.

By Kris Lovekin

It was Shirley Chisholm who in 1972 demanded to be taken seriously as a presidential candidate. The African-American woman stood tall and claimed her place in her country’s political history.

That strength of character resonated with UC Riverside graduate Shola Lynch, who researched and directed her first documentary film, “CHISHOLM ’72 – Unbought & Unbassaed,” shown at the 2004 Sundance Film Festival and last year on “P.O.V.,” American television’s longest-running independent documentary series. The project also won the prestigious George Foster Peabody Award.

“Our goal was to make a documentary as passionate and powerful as Chisholm herself,” Lynch said. “Her story is an important reminder of the power of a dedicated individual to make a difference. It also reminds us that the country belongs to each of us only if we dare to claim our place in it.”

Lynch, who returned to campus to give this year’s Knox and Carlotta Mellon Lecture in Public History on May 12, said her UCR education helped shape her outlook on filmmaking.

“I had a great experience at UCR,” Lynch said. “I wanted to be a museum curator and I had three professors who were influential — Sterling Stuckey, Carlos Cortes and Jonathan Green, who is the director of the UCR/OMP.”

She said Stuckey held her to a high standard of scholarship and Cortes was a stickler for explaining things well.

“And Jonathan Green, I pitched him an idea for a photo exhibition. He said, ‘OK, if you can raise the money,’ I did it and the show turned out so well,” she said.

Her thesis was an exhibition at the museum called “How Far Have We Come? Past and Present Images of African Americans.”

She said making a film is exactly the same. “You have the idea, raise the money and implement the idea. I learned so much and it was completely applicable to documentary filmmaking,” she said.

Lynch grew up in New York City and lives there today. A nationally ranked track athlete in the 800 and 1500 meters, she did her undergraduate work at the University of Texas before earning a master’s degree in American history. She then worked in nonprofit development, and became a published academic author.

Lynch previously worked with Ken Burns and Florentine Films on the Peabody Award-winning HBO sports documentary, “Do You Believe in Miracles? The Story of the 1980 U.S. Olympic Hockey Team.”

She is currently developing her next documentary project.

Lisa H. Iyer

(Ph.D.)

Cortes and Jonathan Green, who is the director of the UCR/CMP.”

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Los Angeles Chapter Annual Hollywood Bowl Outing

UCR alumni and friends are invited to join the Los Angeles Chapter of the UCR Alumni Association at its annual Hollywood Bowl outing on Saturday, Aug. 19.

The program will be “The Great American Concert: Walt Disney’s Fantasia with Fireworks,” featuring the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

Nearly 70 years ago, Walt Disney used the skill of his world-class animators to visualize the world of classical music. The result was Walt Disney’s “Fantasia.” For the first time, John Mauceri and the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra will recreate the movie with an evening of musical selections with film clips shown on the bowl’s big screens. The performance will include the favorites as well as the world premiere of “Clair de Lune,” plus a glimpse of the artwork and unfinished segments of the masterpiece. The evening ends with fireworks.

Tickets are $35 for Alumni Association members and $38 for nonmembers. Tickets will be mailed about two to three weeks prior to the concert. Contact the Alumni Association for more information at (800) 426-ALUM or e-mail at ucralum@ucr.edu.

CLASS NOTES

‘90 Ingrid Cheng was in Asia last year and plans to go there again this year. She is a client service specialist in Los Angeles.

‘91 Mohamed Almulla (M.B.A.) is the chief executive officer for HSBC Bank Middle East Limited in Abu Dhabi. He has been with the bank since 1995. Prior to his appointment, he was senior manager of commercial banking. He has extensive experience in human resources, credit and risk, and corporate and commercial banking. Almulla is also the chairman of HSBC in the Community Middle East Foundation. ... Diana Gibson Pace is regional vice president of large group and national account sales for Health Net of California. Gibson Pace plays a key role in increasing Health Net’s commercial portfolio. She is responsible for sales to employers with more than 200 employees, and building relationships with national and Northern California consulting groups. She has more than 15 years of experience in the employee benefits field. Previously, Gibson Pace was vice president of national account sales for CIGNA HealthCare. Prior to that, she was Health Net’s director of special account sales in Northern California. She has also held sales and account management positions with Prudential HealthCare and Aetna.

‘92 Andrew Godfrey is an intermediate elementary school principal at Hans Herr Elementary in Lampeter-Strasburg School District. He most recently served in a York County School District as a middle school assistant principal. ... Amin Khakiani successfully launched his own independent financial portfolio management firm in 2004. Focusing on building diversified portfolios and moderating risk, his portfolios have returned in excess of 30 percent during the...
So That’s What Verdi had in Mind for the Anvil Chorus...

By Laurie Williams

“Watch more cartoons!” may never become as hallowed a scholarly rallying cry as “Publish or perish!” But cartoon music has provided much of the soundtrack for UCR graduate Daniel Goldmark’s career, and his fascination with Bugs Bunny, Popeye and Tom & Jerry, among others, is translating into academic success.

That hasn’t kept him from watching cartoons for fun, though.

“Let’s see . . . I watch ‘South Park,’” Goldmark said. “Also ‘The Simpsons’ and ‘Fairly Odd Parents’ and ‘Futurama.’”


Hailed by critics as the first in-depth examination of music written for cartoons of the 1930s through the 1950s, “Tunes for ‘Toons” focuses on classical music, opera and jazz as melodic and rhythmic reflections of cartoon characters’ antics, and explores ways in which studios insinuated “serious music” into the minds of generations of children.

It’s still going on today, Goldmark said: “The Simpsons” is loaded with references from all genres of music; “Fairly Odd Parents” composer Guy Moon mixes cartoon-music cliches into fresh comedy; and “South Park” relies heavily on expert songwriting.

One of Goldmark’s recent favorites is French filmmaker Sylvain Chomet’s animated “The Triplets of Belleville,” which relies on music to tell the story: Madame Souza and her dog, Bruno, team up with the Belleville Sisters—aged song-and-dance team—to rescue her grandson, who has been kidnapped during the Tour de France.

Benot Charest's Oscar-nominated score offers a wealth of detail about characters, setting and story—and that’s very important, Goldmark said, because there is no dialogue. An artful combination of sound effects, jazz and themes from Mozart and Bach tells the sometimes scary, sometimes silly story more effectively than words could, Goldmark said.

Goldmark earned his bachelor’s degree in music at UCR and his master’s degree and doctorate in musicology at UCLA. He worked in the animation industry in Los Angeles before moving to the University of Alabama to begin his academic career.

Goldmark’s specialties at Case Western are American popular music, film and cartoon music, and the history of the music industry. His current research involves music publishing and Tin Pan Alley in the early 1900s.

This last winter was his first in Ohio, he said.

“It was a pretty mild winter, as winters go here. My dog and I went outside in the snow, and it was a lot of fun. My dog is from Southern California, too, but really enjoyed it. We had a great time.”

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also teaches photography, multimedia and art classes at Los Angeles Mission College, Mt. San Jacinto and Riverside community colleges.

'98 Tracy Fukuda is information technology systems trainer for ResortQuest Hawaii. She is responsible for providing basic computer hardware and software training throughout all of ResortQuest Hawaii’s 28 properties, including the Kauai properties such as Waimea Plantation Cottages, Hanalei Bay Resort, Poipu Kai and Islander on the Beach. Prior to joining ResortQuest Hawaii, she was a business analyst with the Kapi’olani Medical Center for Women & Children, where she was responsible for new user training and support of a computerized charting system. Fukuda was also a systems analyst for San Diego-based Clincomp International, whose leaders develop electronic medical record-keeping systems.

'99 Rudobaldo Cuarto was married Nov. 20, 2004, and became a father in October 2005.

'00 Joy Wilson ('01 teaching credential) is a math and dance teacher at Norco High School. She spends her Tuesdays inviting students from the Life Skills program into her dance class as an alternative to the normal physical education routine. The Life Skills students – youngsters with disabilities – are working on a dance project they will present to the class. Wilson started a nonprofit dance company, Dance4Joy, with all proceeds going to the Life Skills program.

'01 Paula L. Zecchini has joined the law offices of Klinedinst PC in San Diego. A graduate of Washington University School of Law, Zecchini is a graduate of Klinedinst’s Summer Law Clerk program. She brings with her a wealth of experience from her work inside and outside the classroom. While at Washington University School of Law, Zecchini was a member of the

The Survivor

Focus, determination and a strong mentor, Lorraine Anderson is on the road to victory in her quest to become a doctor.

By Iqbal Pittalwala

Lorraine L. Anderson ('02) believes in giving back, and give back she did when she visited campus in April to share with members of the African Americans United in Science club how, despite hardships and obstacles, she has been accepted in four medical schools and is on the waiting list at three others.

"Be resourceful," she told the audience. "Know your background and limitations. Be focused, seek help when necessary, and, most important, never give up, never surrender."

She nearly gave up at UCR, where she began her studies in the summer of 1997 with a major in biology.

An immigrant from Guyana, Anderson was encouraged to attend a four-year college by her older brother, who had received a community college education in the United States. The family – Anderson, her parents, her brother and a younger sister – immigrated in 1990. Initially they were fearful of their new environment and were unsure what resources the new country offered.

Such uncertainty and anxiety characterized most of Anderson’s years at UCR. As a college sophomore, it became necessary for her to work. She became a resident adviser and took on a work study job.

"As I worked harder outside of the classroom, my grades suffered and my dream of becoming a doctor was dashed."

But then Anderson quit her job, borrowed money and stayed an extra year at UCR to boost her grade point average.

She also found a mentor in an area physician – Dr. Ernest C. Levister Jr., adviser to many African-American students on campus and a member of the UCR/UCLA Thomas Harrier Program in Biomedical Sciences Dean’s Medical Mission Committee. Anderson said Levister taught her to persist in her endeavors in the face of difficulties.

"UCR is where I found my voice and realized my potential," said Anderson, the first in her family to graduate from a four-year college. "In many ways, it was the beginning of great things for me."

Soon after graduation, she joined a post-baccalaureate program at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. She studied hard for her MCAT and, by working as a smoking-cessation counselor for military veterans, became deeply involved with the clinical aspect of medicine.

"My experiences along the way affirmed my decision to become a physician and gave me the confidence necessary to adapt when things didn’t go as planned," Anderson said.

When she receives her medical degree, Anderson plans to practice, raise a family and educate people about the benefits of preventive medicine. In the meantime, she uses every opportunity she gets to share her experiences with those who seek to follow her path to medical school.

"Remember what your main goal is and never lose sight of it," she advised her UCR audience. "Hard work can pay off when done in a systematic way and produce the results you want."


Professor Emerita Ruth apRoberts died March 26 at the age of 86.
Hired as a professor in the Department of English in 1971, Dr. apRoberts retired in 1990 but continued teaching on campus. A scholar of Victorian and religious literatures, her work focused on 19th-century British literature as it intersected with philosophical issues and spiritual traditions.
At UCR, Dr. apRoberts held the positions of graduate adviser and chair of the Department of English. She held a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1978-79 and was awarded the UCR Distinguished Teaching Award in 1977 and the Distinguished Emeritus Award in 1995.
Her late husband was Robert apRoberts, a noted scholar of medieval literature who taught at California State University, Northridge. They had four children: Alison apRoberts, Lucy apRoberts, Mary Garnett West and Evan apRoberts.

Professor W. F. "Bill" Bitters, a long-time UCR citrus researcher died March 30 at the age of 90.
Curator of the Citrus Variety Collection from 1947 to 1982, he researched citrus rootstocks and varieties, and traveled the world to help the California citrus industry survive threats such as the citrus tristeza virus. In 1946 Dr. Bitters accepted a job as an assistant horticulturist at the Citrus Experiment Station. His initial assignment was to work on horticultural aspects of tristeza, a serious vector-transmitted virus disease that threatened to destroy California citrus orchards.

Another important contribution was his developmental work with “Flying Dragon” trifoliate rootstock, which is able to dwarf most standard cultivars by 90 percent, making them easier to harvest.
When he became the curator in 1947, he refocused the collection on citrus. As a result of his work the collection is still viewed as one of the major collections of citrus genetic resources in the world.
He became a UCR professor in 1961. After his retirement in 1982, Dr. Bitters continued to work with other UCR researchers to improve the quality of the variety collection and to advise others working in citiculture.
Dr. Bitters is survived by his children, Tom and Katie.

Emeritus Associate Professor Francis H. Cook passed away on March 24. He was 76.
Dr. Cook was an active member of the religious studies faculty from 1970 until his retirement in 1988. He taught courses in Asian religions. His research focused on Chinese and Japanese Buddhism.
In his retirement Dr. Cook translated the Vijñaptimātratā-siddhi, a major Buddhist philosophical exposition on human consciousness. Continuing this interest, he became the U.S. publications director for the Numata Center for Buddhist Translation and Research.
Dr. Cook’s honors include a Fulbright Scholarship for thesis research at Kyoto University in Japan.
He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth, and children Lizette, Rosamonde, Zoe and Paul.
Alumni Life Members

I recently purchased a lifetime membership in the UCR Alumni Association for our son, Matthew C. Nelson. It was our small way of demonstrating how much we appreciated the association scholarship that Matthew received. UCR has been such a wonderful school.

My husband and I definitely wanted Matthew to join the Alumni Association because we feel the investment that you made in our son has been a very worthwhile one. He has benefited so much from his experience at UCR. His grades have been excellent and I am very proud to tell you that he has decided to attend Columbia University for his master's in English. Ultimately he hopes to be a college professor and I believe he will achieve his goals. I just want to express our sincere thanks to the UCR Alumni Association for their help and belief in our son and hope that they continue to keep up the good work.

Thank you again,
Donna Nelson
Proud Parent of a 2006 UCR Graduate

UCRAA – Where UCR Alumni Belong!

Alumni Update & Membership Application

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Employer __________________________________ Business Phone (______) ______________

E-mail Address ________________________________________________________________

Spouse’s Name __________________________________ Class Year ______________________

News you would like to share in the class notes section of Fiat Lux

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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Good Chemistry

Michael Pirrung finds that a career in the academic world of UCR suits him fine.

By Celeste Durant

A tall, lanky man stands in front of a deep, bowl-like lecture hall and gazes up at 250 young faces. “First of all, I’m Mike Pirrung . . . welcome to Chem 112C,” he says, smiling. He writes his name on the board in large letters, then turns to his audience, the smile still on his lips.

“This is the last chemistry class most of you will take,” he says. “I hope to make this worth your while and mine as well.”

So began the first session of Michael Pirrung’s sophomore organic chemistry, the first class he’s taught since arriving at UC Riverside in 2004. It’s a far cry from what he thought he’d be doing when he graduated from the University of Texas at Austin in 1975.

A resident of Mesquite, Texas, the self-proclaimed “Rodeo Capital,” his plan was to get a doctorate in organic chemistry at UC Berkeley, then return to Texas for a job in private industry.

But at Berkeley things took a fortunate turn when he became a student of fellow Texan Clayton Heathcock, the professor who became his mentor.

“He was an excellent scientist, a fine person and someone who was widely admired by all,” Pirrung says fondly. “So, by the time I was done at Berkeley I had a different vision of my future and that was to become a professor.”

With this new goal in his sights, Pirrung won a National Science Foundation postdoctoral fellowship in organic chemistry at Columbia University in New York.

From there he got faculty positions at Stanford and Duke universities with a short detour into private industry as part of a scientific working group that started Affymax, a drug development company.

He left Affymax to go to Duke, where he was director of the Duke University Center for Biological Chemistry, an interdepartmental graduate training group.

Pirrung returned to the southwestern United States in 2005. “The East didn’t suit me personally as well and my wife is from Orange County and she was a big cheerleader for our coming back to California,” he said.

With a UC Presidential Chair in chemistry at UCR, Pirrung describes himself as, “a synthetic organic chemist who specializes in making new molecules that are useful for something.”

His research areas include chemical biology, synthesis and nucleic acids. He is a pioneer in the field of microarrays, which have important biological applications in genomics, the study of genes and their functions.

Pirrung feels lucky to be at UCR in what he describes as exciting times.

“There is a tremendous up-swell of interest on campus in this emerging area of research called chemical genetics and its purpose is to use chemical compounds the way geneticists have used mutations in genes to study biology.”

At UCR the focus in chemical genetics is in plant biology, conducted by researchers at the Center for Plant Cell Biology (CEPCEB). The center is headed by Natasha Raikhel who, Pirrung says, was instrumental in persuading him to come to UCR.

As a member of the CEPCEB, Pirrung is one of 38 faculty members from various disciplines including engineers, plant biologists, chemists, computer scientists, physicists and plant pathologists doing research in plant cell biology, genetics and genomics. Their goal is to develop a comprehensive understanding of how plants function as organisms.

“This collaborative approach is something new. “The idea is that science today, and in the future, is going to be less discipline focused and more interdisciplinary,” Pirrung says. “It’s putting together teams.”

As exciting as all this research is, Pirrung does not want to lose sight of what he learned from his mentor, Clayton Heathcock.

“What we are here to do is to train students,” he said paraphrasing Heathcock. “They are not here for you, you are there for them as a professor.”

Although he’s been on campus more than a year he hadn’t taught classes because he’s been moving his office and three labs into new quarters on the fourth floor of the new Physical Sciences Unit 1 building.

“There are definitely snags in moving labs, setting them up and getting them running at full speed.”

Now that all that is behind him, he’s obviously glad to be back in the classroom on this first day as he goes over class requirements.

“There is a pre-lecture quiz . . . there is a post-lecture quiz. These are one-question, one-point quizzes. These are going to be the easiest points you’ve ever made,” he says jokingly and the class erupts into a loud buzz. “If anybody gets all 50 of them right, I will take you to lunch.”