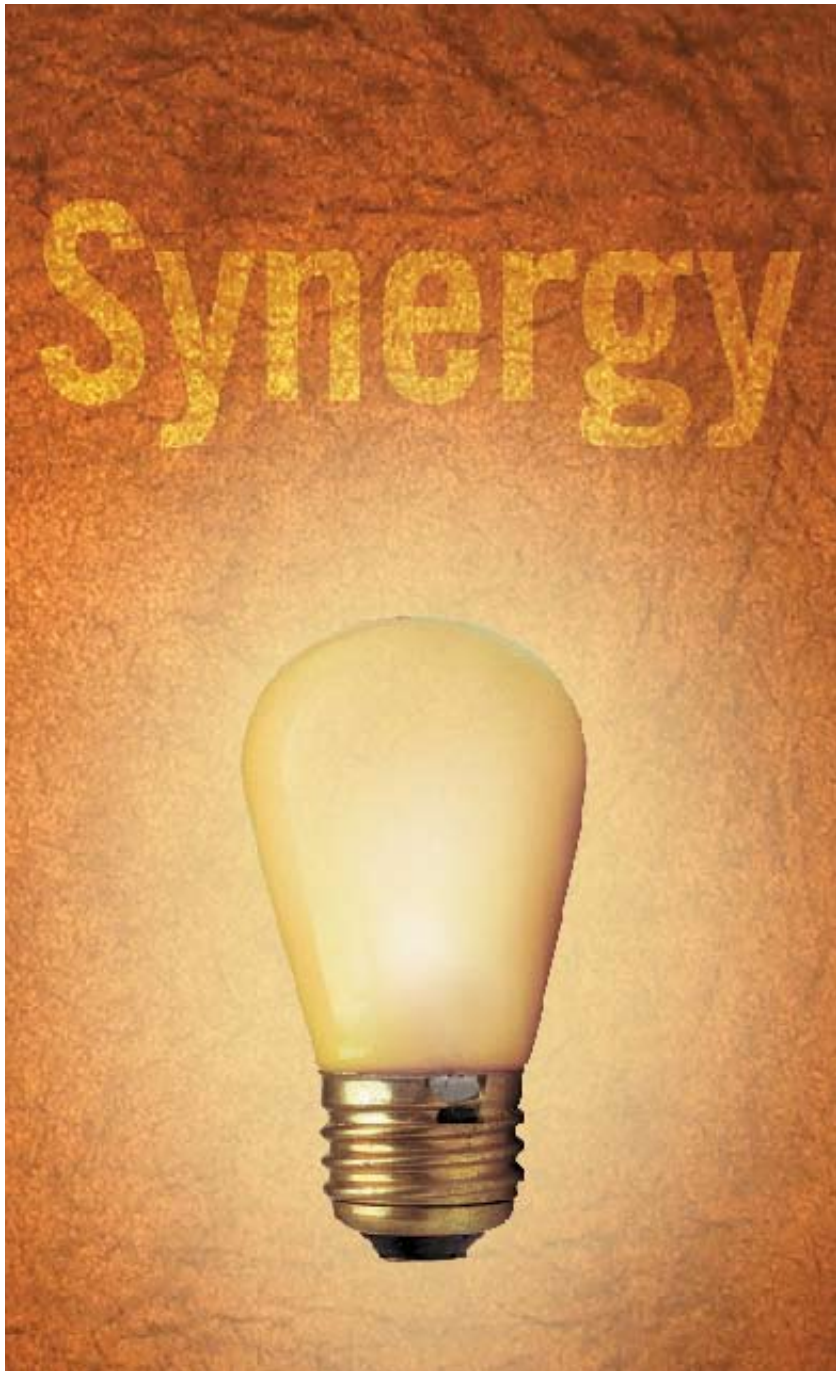


FEATURES

DEPARTMENTS

Summer Events at UCR

For more on UCR events, look on the Web at **www.events.ucr.edu**.

UCR ARTSblock

The home of the UCR Sweeney Art Gallery and the UCR/California Museum of Photography is offering a variety of exhibits and classes throughout the summer and into the fall. A sampling of offerings is listed here.

7.28 – 9.08

Compass 2007: New Art from the University of California's MFA Programs

UCR's Sweeney Art Gallery and California Museum of Photography exhibits examine artwork by 2007 Master of Fine Arts graduates of the University of California campuses. An opening reception will be held at 7 p.m., July 28.

Fall exhibits at the Sweeney Art Gallery

9.29 – 1.05.08

Pedro Álvarez: A Survey

The work of Cuban painter Pedro Álvarez (1967-2004) addresses specific issues important to Cubans and engages global concerns including colonialism and ways in which we perpetuate colonialism without even being aware of it.

Gabriela León: Sunday Walk to the Zocalo of Oaxaca

León's installation, realized during the sociopolitical conflict in Oaxaca, Mexico, that occurred from June to December 2006, consists of a video projection, photographs, a sound installation, prints and an outdoor installation. An opening reception will be held for both exhibits at 7 p.m., Oct. 6.

www.sweeney.ucr.edu

UCR/California Museum of Photography

Through 7.27

No More Heroes

The exhibit presents traditional images of sporting activities and stars drawn from the UCR/CMP's Keystone-Mast and Will Connell collections that include Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Jack Dempsey and Amelia Earhart.

7.28 – 9.08

New Light: Joshua Tree National Park

Co-organized by UCR/CMP, the National Parks Conservation Association and Riverside Art Museum, the annual program highlights the social impact possible when arts organizations collaborate with environmental groups. An opening reception will be held at 7 p.m., July 28.

9.29 – 1.06.08

YouTube: The Museum Show

This exhibit investigates YouTube and examines the new Web-based video-sharing communities as sites for communication, art and social action. An opening reception will be held from 7 to 9 p.m., Sept. 29.

www.cmp.ucr.edu

7.9 – 8.17

UCR/CMP Digital Studio @ UCR/CMP

UCR/CMP and Human Rights Watch High School Program

My Global Village: Media Summer Session. Each week high school students and teachers screen an award-winning film dealing with human rights issues. Teachers spend the next four days developing a related curriculum, while students produce a documentary video or public service announcement. The class fosters media literacy skills and promotes leadership on social issues. $100 per week/$550 for the six-week session.

Education Programs

- My Story: Photo, a basic class exploring digital photography, virtual paint, design, and storytelling, Sept. 10-13, Oct. 8-12.
- Digital Witness: Video, an intro class mixing photo journalism and documentary filmmaking, Sept. 17-20, Oct. 15-18.
- Spoken 1.0: Audiom, a workshop for artists and others interested in sound, Sept. 24-27, Oct. 22-25. $25 per session.

Open Studio

1-4 p.m. Saturdays throughout September and October. Free.

www.digitalstudio.ucr.edu

Córdova Leaves to Become President of Purdue

After five years at UCR, Chancellor France A. Córdova is headed to Indiana's Purdue University.

Córdova led UCR's successful effort to obtain initial approval from the UC Regents to establish the first UC medical school in nearly 40 years. A related Health Sciences Research Institute is already under way.

Academic Senate Chair Thomas Cogswell lauded Córdova for leading the push for a medical school and, above all else, making Riverside the UC campus that reflects the "face of California," encouraging not only diversity, but diversity and student success.

"The faculty now all wish her well in her new post as we close ranks and continue to move the campus forward," he said.

Barbara Robinson, chair of the UC Riverside Foundation, commended the chancellor for building a strong administrative team.

"When she came to our campus, a lot of key positions were open," she said. "She has done a fantastic job of selecting the right team to fill these vacancies. She definitely left the campus in a stronger position."

Robert Dynes, the president of the University of California system, is expected to announce an acting chancellor by July 1.

The search for a permanent successor will take several months and will involve a committee made up of UC Regents, faculty members, and at least one undergraduate student, one graduate student, one alumnus and one staff member. The final decision will be made by the full UC Board of Regents.

An astrophysicist, Córdova was chief scientist at NASA from 1993 to 1996. She earned a bachelor's degree from Stanford University and a Ph.D. in physics from the California Institute of Technology. Córdova is married to Christian J. Foster, director of undergraduate research at UCR's Bourns College of Engineering. They have two children in college.

A Farewell Message

This summer I will be leaving UC Riverside to assume the presidency of Purdue University. I have been deeply moved by the many expressions of appreciation I have received since making this announcement. In return, I have many people to thank for making my five years at UCR so memorable.

I thank the faculty, upon whom this institution is built, for taking our campus to new heights. They have done much to increase UCR's reputational ranking by aggressively seeking extramural funding, including our first IGERT (Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship); by recruiting top undergraduate and graduate students; and by rallying around new initiatives, even when those initiatives are outside their own areas of research. I especially appreciate their commitment to innovative teaching and to the success of every student.

I thank our students, whose fresh faces and enthusiastic ideas provide inspiration to us all. I have watched with pride as they have taken on societal issues in an effort to improve our campus and our world. I've enjoyed so much attending some of the wonderful events they have sponsored.

Our staff deserve a special thanks. Working diligently and often behind the scenes, they are the engine that keeps UCR running smoothly. This past year they have come forward to improve the campus climate for us all, collaborating with campus leadership to implement recommendations arising from a recent survey.

I thank our alumni, who continue to give back to the campus in so many ways. They support our athletic teams, our academic programs, our events and performances, and our students, through scholarships and mentoring. Soon the Alumni and Visitors Center will open, a testament to their commitment.

Finally, where would UCR be without our community? We are often touted as the UC campus with the strongest community relationships and support. I thank the many business leaders, elected officials and other community volunteers who have come to our aid so eagerly and so often. From its inception, UCR has been blessed to have such steadfast support.

My husband, Chris, and I have enjoyed immensely five wonderful years here. We thank you, not for the years, but for each day that we moved UCR forward together. This campus will always be a most extraordinary, most special place for us.

CHANCELLOR France A. Córdova

Looking Back, Moving Forward

Five years. A half decade. 1,825 days. It can seem like a lifetime for the very young or the blink of an eye to the older generation. But no matter what your perspective, a lot can happen in that time. And at UCR a lot did. UCR's magazine takes a look at a few of the events, milestones and achievements that transformed the campus under the watch of Chancellor France A. Córdova, who is leaving to become president of Purdue University in Indiana.

2002

New Student Convocation In September 2002, incoming freshmen and transfer students were invited to attend the first of what would become an annual New Student Convocation. The ceremony is designed to welcome new students and introduce them to the shared values of the university: free inquiry, intellectual honesty, personal integrity and respect for human dignity.

2003

An Official Welcome Governor Gray Davis and UC President Richard Atkinson welcomed France A. Córdova as the seventh chancellor of UCR during a March 2003 inauguration ceremony.

2004

Softball Field Renovated UC Riverside dedicated its revitalized softball field in March 2004, naming it after UCR sports legend Amy S. Harrison, who lettered in women's basketball, volleyball, tennis, track and field, and softball.

2005

Distinguished Lecture Series Chancellor Córdova met with Mary Robinson, the first woman president of Ireland, who was a speaker in the Chancellor's Distinguished Lecture Series. Started in February 2005, the series was designed to stimulate the region's intellectual community, to inspire students to think beyond the lecture hall and lab, and to involve members of the community in the academic life of the UCR campus. The series also brought to campus an alumnus who won

the Nobel Prize in chemistry, Nobel Prize winners in physics, economics and literature, two poet laureates and a United States ambassador to the State of Qatar.

A Collaborative Effort The California Community College Collaborative, a partnership between the University of California and the state's community colleges, was formed in June 2005. Dubbed C4 and headquartered at UC Riverside, the program is designed to provide professional development, leadership training and policy research designed to help the state's community colleges meet the challenges of serving a growing and increasingly diverse student population.

Global Partners In September 2005, Chancellor Córdova and Ellen Wartella, executive vice chancellor and provost, traveled to China to pursue UCR's interests in agricultural and environmental areas of study with four Chinese universities. During the visit they renewed a five-year agreement with China Agricultural University and signed memoranda of understanding with Shanghai Jiaotong and Xi'an Jiaotong universities.

Palm Desert Campus UCR's Palm Desert Graduate Center opened in September 2005, offering an M.B.A. program and an M.F.A. program in creative writing and writing for the performing arts. The campus' state-of-the-art facilities include a high-tech, 300-seat conference hall, teleconferencing and distance learning capabilities, classrooms and seminar rooms, computer labs, faculty and administrative offices, and student support areas. The center graduated its first class this spring.

2006

HSRI Begins In early 2006, UCR launched the Health Sciences Research Institute (HSRI), which aims to strengthen and focus research and graduate education in the biomedical and health sciences. HSRI brings together researchers from all sectors of health research to produce groundbreaking discoveries and to transfer new knowledge and treatments into the community. The new institute also will facilitate a dialogue with academics and the external health community on health-related issues and discoveries.

Child Care Expands In November 2006, the chancellor approved an $8 million expansion project that will double the UCR Child Care Center's current capacity from 144 to 288 children. Scheduled to open in late 2008, the building will be constructed at the corner of Watkins Drive and Blaine Street near the existing center. The expansion was one of the principal recommendations made in a January 2006 report issued by the Child Care Taskforce, which was established by the chancellor and consisted of faculty, staff and undergraduate and graduate student representatives.

Medical School In November 2006, UCR received approval from the University of California Board of Regents to proceed with plans for a medical school that will serve the medically underserved in Inland Southern

California. The final proposal for the medical school is being prepared for submission to UC officials. UC President Robert Dynes has said that efforts to open a medical school in Riverside will continue in Córdova's absence.

2007

Woman of the Year Chancellor Córdova, pictured with Assembly Speaker Fabian Nuñez, left, and Assemblyman John J. Benoit, R-Bermuda Dunes, right, was honored in March 2007 at the California Capitol as a "Woman of the Year" for her lifetime of achievements in the scientific community and in higher education.

100th Anniversary UCR ended a yearlong celebration of the 100th anniversary of its Citrus Research Center/Agricultural Experiment Station with an open house in April 2007. Founded in 1907, the research conducted at the station serves as the basis for new, improved plant varieties for both agricultural and urban landscapes, as well as new, more sustainable agricultural practices to combat insect and disease infestations and to enhance crop productivity.

Sports Winners Since 2003 UCR has sent seven teams to their respective NCAA tournaments. The UC Riverside Highlanders baseball team was the most recent, when it earned a No. 2 seed in the first round of the 2007 NCAA Baseball Championships after winning the Big West Conference Championship for the first time. The baseball team also made it to the tournament in 2003. The UCR women's basketball team won the Big West Tournament and reached the NCAA tournament in 2006 and 2007. In 2005, the women's soccer team reached the NCAA tournament and the men's golf team was the first team to reach the postseason twice, winning back-to-back Big West titles and going to the regional tournament in 2004 and 2005.

Construction on Campus Campus construction added 1.8 million square feet of new or renovated space over the past five years. This included the $6 million Alumni and Visitors Center, designed to be UCR's "front door," which is scheduled to open this summer.

Other projects under way:

- A $55 million building that will house the Genomics Institute is scheduled to be completed in summer 2009.
- The $37 million CHASS II building is scheduled to open in fall 2007.
- The $66 million renovation and expansion of the Student Commons. The main building is scheduled to be completed this summer.
- The $55 million Glen Mor Student Housing project is scheduled to be completed this summer.
- A $35.5 million building that will house the Department of Psychology building, which is scheduled to be completed by fall 2008.

Senior Appointments UC Riverside added to its team of high-end leaders. New senior appointments included:

- Reza Abbaschian, dean of the Bourns College of Engineering
- William Boldt, vice chancellor of university advancement
- Steven Bossert, dean of the College of Education
- Stephen E. Cullenberg, dean of the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences
- Al Diaz, vice chancellor of administration
- Charles F. Louis, vice chancellor of research
- David Stewart, dean, A. Gary Anderson Graduate, School of Management
- Ellen Wartella, executive vice chancellor and provost

Diversity Diversity continued to be a focus for the campus. New appointments include an associate vice provost for faculty equity and diversity and the chancellor's special assistant for excellence and diversity. Women comprised approximately 34 percent and underrepresented minorities approximately 11 percent of the 211 new faculty hires over the past five years.

Endowment Grows UCR increased its endowment in 2006 to $95.6 million. In addition, $17.5 million in planned gifts from the charitable trusts of Bart and Barbara Singletary, and William and Toby Austin were received. The gifts will be used to create professorships in social sciences, medical education and research, and agriculture. Fund raising increased from $11.6 million in 2003-04 to $40.1 million in 2005-06.

UCR/City Collaborations UCR formed partnerships with the city of Riverside to initiate collaborative projects such as the ARTSblock, which includes the UCR/California Museum of Photography, the Sweeney Art Gallery and the future Barbara and Art Culver Center for the Arts; the City-University Task Force; and the University Research Park.

Medical School Planning Continues

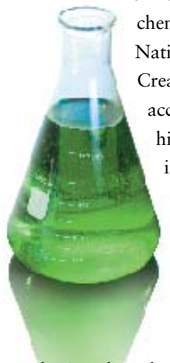
The University of California Office of the President has reaffirmed support for the proposed medical school at UC Riverside in light of Chancellor France A. Córdova's departure this summer for Purdue University.

Wyatt R. Hume, the UC's provost and executive vice president, academic and health affairs, stressed that "the president's and the regents' decision to support UCR's continued planning effort is based upon our commitment to addressing state workforce needs and expanding educational opportunities for students. These commitments have not changed."

Ellen Wartella, executive vice chancellor and provost at UCR, said the medical school effort remains a high priority for the campus because of the enormous value it could bring to the campus and the entire Inland Southern California region.

Wartella noted that the final proposal for the medical school is being prepared for submission to UC officials, a new Office of Health Affairs has been established on campus and a national search for the school's founding dean has been launched.

UCR Chemist Receives National Science Foundation's Special Creativity Award



Christopher Reed, a distinguished professor of chemistry at UC Riverside, has received the National Science Foundation's Special Creativity Award for his research accomplishments and the broad impact that his research has had on both organic and inorganic chemistry.

Reed specializes in making molecules that haven't been made before. He also works on stabilizing molecules previously considered to be unstable. Credited with the discovery of new "strong-yet-gentle" acids called carborane acids, Reed's biggest contributions have been in the field of superacids — acids stronger than 100 percent sulfuric acid.

His synthetic coordination project aims to get carborane acids to react with the inert gas xenon — a reaction that has yet to be observed — and with hydrocarbons.

The award will extend funding for Reed's current project, "Synthetic Coordination Chemistry," for an additional two years.

UC Riverside Engineering Students Compete in Canstruction Community Fund-raiser

A mountain of canned baked beans, an 8-foot-tall bell tower of albacore cans and sardine-can arches built by UC Riverside engineering students won the hearts of judges in Canstruction, a Riverside Arts Alliance fund-raiser for the Riverside Art Museum.

The Bourns College of Engineering team's design, which incorporated well-known features of the UCR campus, won the award for best use of labels in the April event. They will advance to international competition. The 6,000 cans of baked beans, green beans, sardines, albacore and mandarin oranges used in the entry will help feed hungry residents of the Inland Empire.

Canstruction is an international service project of the design and construction industry, and credited to The Society for Design Administration. Five Southern California teams competed in the Riverside event, which produced thousands of cans of food for Second Harvest Food Bank Serving Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

Christian Foster, director of undergraduate research at Bourns College of Engineering, served as faculty adviser. He said Canstruction provided a valuable experience for students in teamwork, computer-aided design, estimation and fabrication.

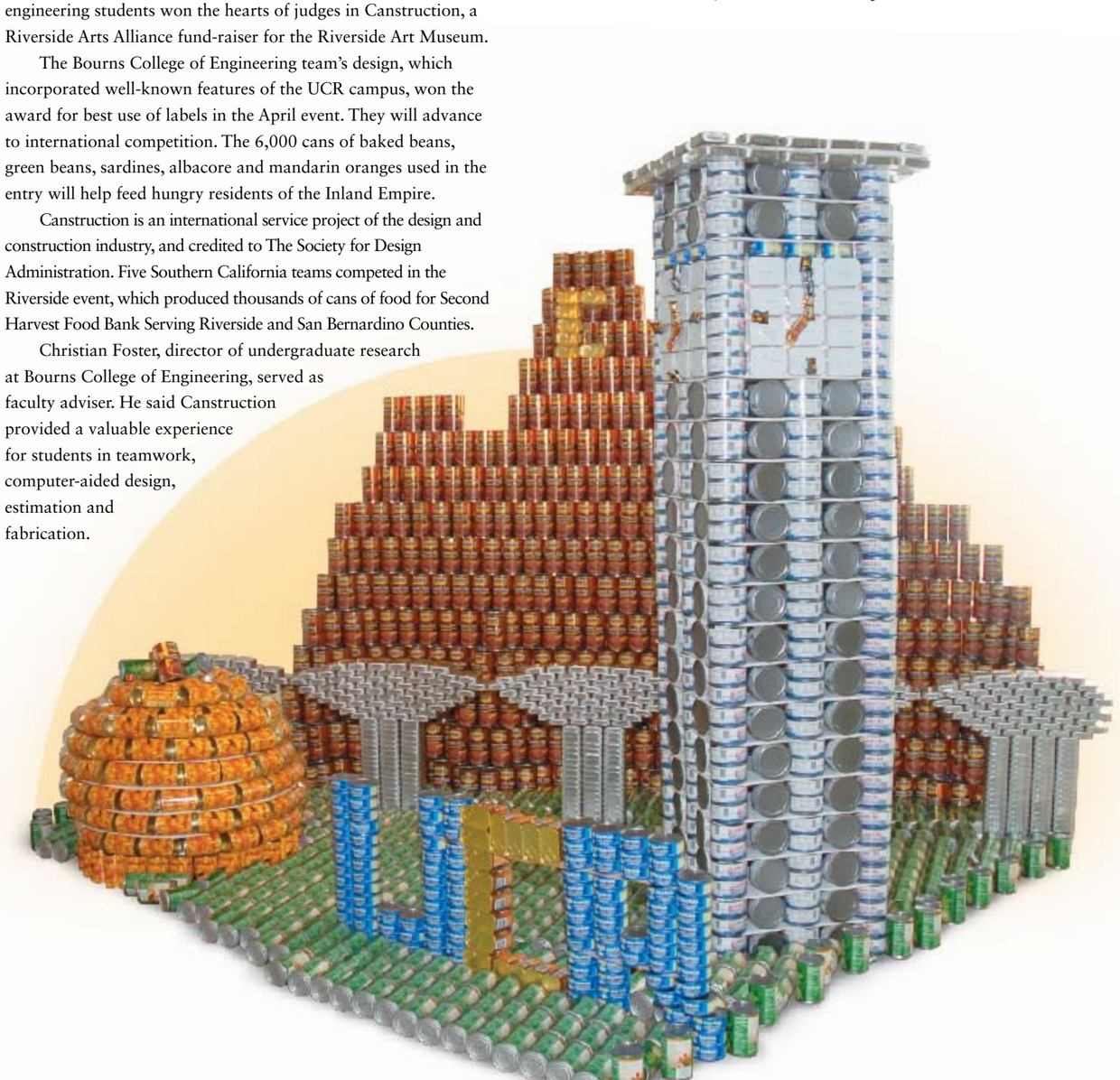
"The opportunity to do something in the community is important," he added.

Team Captain Nichola Kinsinger said designing an entry that was attractive, nutritious and sturdy enough to stand for one month challenged the students' skills.

Allen Pham, a senior who used silver sardine cans in designing arches to resemble those of the Tomás Rivera Library, said the competition was fun and benefited a worthwhile cause.

"This is a chance to give back to the community," he said.

In addition to Kinsinger and Pham, UCR team members included Christina Zapata, Giovanni Devina, Deep Shah, Su Nwe, Jesse Banuelos, Brian Hawkinson, Martin Gawecki, Jason Niccoli, Anand Panchal and Jordan Barta.



UC Riverside Poet Awarded Prestigious Guggenheim Fellowship

UC Riverside poet Christopher Buckley has been awarded a prestigious Guggenheim Fellowship.

Buckley, a professor of creative writing, has published 14 books of poetry. His newest collection of poetry, "Modern History," will be published next year by Tupelo Press.

The John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation provides fellowships for advanced professionals in natural sciences, social sciences, humanities and creative arts, based on distinguished achievement in the past and exceptional promise for future accomplishment.

Buckley said the grant of about $40,000 will enable him to take the 2007-08 year off, reading, he said, everything from collections of poetry to books about cosmology and astrophysics.

UCR Hires Vice Provost for Health Affairs

Kiki Nocella, a family medicine scholar, has been appointed the founding vice provost of health affairs at UC Riverside. She will play a leading role in developing UCR's medical school plans, while building research and health-care delivery programs to improve the health of the medically underserved in Inland Southern California.

Before coming to UCR, Nocella was a clinical assistant professor of family medicine at the University of Southern California's Keck School of Medicine and also served as the vice chair for finance and administration for the Family Medicine Department at the Keck School of Medicine.

Nocella will assist in building components of the business plan for the medical school and developing plans for UCR's Center for Clinical Medical Education. She also will develop critical infrastructure for managing health-related fields on campus and will advise UCR administrators on the development of medical residency programs.

In November 2006, UC Riverside's preliminary proposal to establish a School of Medicine received initial approval from the UC Regents. The endorsement authorized UCR to proceed with planning for the school and submit a full proposal for final approval.

UCR Professor Bets Math Can Help Fight Terrorists

UC Riverside Assistant Professor of Computer Science Christian Shelton will work over the next three years on algorithms. He will help the U.S. Air Force conduct computer modeling that will better predict the behavior of groups ranging from several dozen people to the dynamics of nations — known as social and cultural modeling.

"We have models but they need to be extended mathematically and algorithmically," Shelton said. "By doing this we can have a higher degree of accuracy in approximating inferences as to how a group of people will react."

Shelton said the new developments in this research will be in extending what computer scientists call discrete time processes — slices of time analyzed and sequenced — into continuous time processes, which attempt to fill the gaps between those slices of time and improve estimates of likely future moves.

The Air Force Office of Scientific Research's (AFOS) Young Investigator Program, which is funding Shelton's project, is designed to foster creative basic research in science and engineering and to enhance early career development of outstanding young investigators. The program also seeks to increase opportunities for young investigators to recognize the Air Force mission and related challenges in science and engineering. Each award brings with it $100,000 annually for three years.

UCR Gets Graduate Bioengineering Program

Capping a two-year effort, the University of California has given the go-ahead for UC Riverside to enroll masters and doctoral students into a newly created Interdepartmental Bioengineering Graduate Program.

Over the past two years, officials at the Bourns College of Engineering established the Department of Bioengineering, a bachelor's degree curriculum in bioengineering.

The campus has supported the development of bioengineering by hiring a core faculty of seven and offering support from 30 affiliated faculty from other departments and from the College of Agricultural and Natural Sciences. The department recently acquired state-of-the-art facilities for high-throughput screening of biological systems, biophotonics laboratories and microfluidic systems for its new group of graduate students. The bioengineering department is slated to move into a new $65 million Material Science and Engineering Building, to be completed in summer 2009.

Survey Research Center Launched

Regional policymakers and UC Riverside researchers who need polling data to complete their studies have a new resource: the UCR Survey Research Center.

The center is an interdisciplinary project that provides researchers on and off campus with the ability to poll by telephone, Internet or mail, said Martin Johnson, director of the center and an assistant professor of political science.

Having the ability for faculty to analyze local and national issues will place UCR among the nation's top research universities in the social sciences and will make it easier to recruit faculty as well, said Scott Coltrane, associate dean for the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (CHASS).

The Survey Research Center is the third project launched in the past four years that will benefit researchers and regional policymakers. Policy Matters is a quarterly publication started in 2006 that provides research and guidance on various issues. The Statistical Consulting Collaboratory is a fee-based consulting service that began in 2004.

Donald Trump to UC Riverside Graduate: "You're Hired"

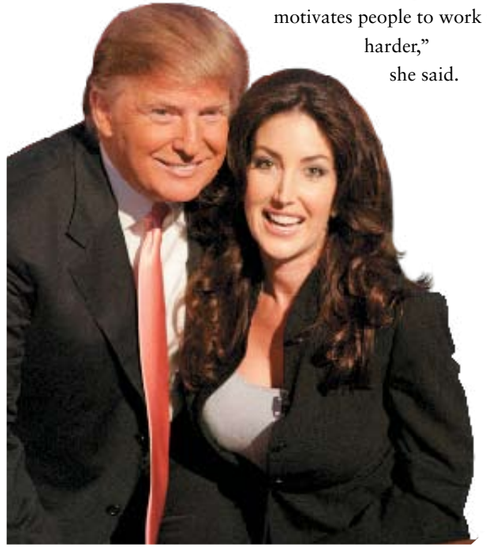
Stefani Schaeffer, a 1996 graduate of UC Riverside, and one of 18 project managers vying for a permanent position working for Donald Trump, was hired as the next apprentice on NBC's "The Apprentice." Schaeffer, formerly from Palm Springs, Calif., majored in English and psychology at UCR before attending law school.

Selected as a *Los Angeles Magazine* "Young Rising Star" in 2006 for excellence in law, Stefani is now a trial attorney for one of the largest California defense firms. She makes her home in Los Angeles.

Season six of "The Apprentice" was set in Los Angeles. Trump remained in charge and made the ultimate decision as to whether project managers stayed or were sent home. The winner receives the title of "The Apprentice" and the career opportunity to work for the legendary business tycoon. Schaeffer had the choice of working on Trump's new resort development in the Caribbean or a condo project in Atlanta. She chose the Caribbean.

Schaeffer cited enthusiasm as one of her attributes qualifying her for "The Apprentice."

"I lead by being enthusiastic, and enthusiasm is contagious and motivates people to work much harder," she said.



NBC Photo: Chris Haston

Highlanders Get New Men's Basketball Coach

Jim Wooldridge has been named coach of the UC Riverside men's basketball team.

Wooldridge has a 312-237 record in 19 seasons as a collegiate head coach. The Oklahoma City native has earned the reputation as a skilled program builder and coach whose teams emphasize teamwork, hard-nosed defense and rebounding.

"Jim Wooldridge brings a wealth of knowledge about what it takes to build a program and to position a team to not only compete, but to win," said Stan Morrison, director of athletics. "His single focus will be immediately apparent to his players, assistants and colleagues in the department. At the same time, he will be in our community in a number of ways and he will serve as a wonderful ambassador of his program, our department of athletics and our university."

Wooldridge has coached at the collegiate or professional level for 29 years, including stops as head coach at Central Missouri State, Texas State, Louisiana Tech and Kansas State and two years as an assistant coach to Tim Floyd with the Chicago Bulls.

Synergy

Sometimes discovery is a product of solitary endeavor: a single scholar, expert in a single discipline, achieves a breakthrough. But increasingly, new knowledge grows from multiple minds, working together across disciplines. In this issue of UCR, three scholars talk about how collaboration sparks new ways of teaching, learning, and thinking; launches journeys of discovery into new territory; and shows us that, although we might come up with great ideas on our own, often we are even better when we work together.

By Betsy Brown and Rosalyn Kulick

Emory Elliott, Julia Bailey-Serres and Christine Ward Gailey are not three UCR professors one might expect to find working together. But in the increasingly collaborative and interdisciplinary environment that is the modern university in general — and UCR in particular — who knows? Some day these three great minds might find themselves thinking and working along the same lines.

Elliott, professor of English, mentors literature students, and writes and lectures in American studies. Bailey-Serres, a genetics professor in the Center for Plant Cell Biology in the Department of Botany and Plant Sciences, is studying how different strains of rice plants tolerate total submersion of their roots — an important advantage in flood-prone regions of Asia and Africa. And Ward Gailey is a professor of women's studies and anthropology, exploring topics as diverse as gender and militarism, and society's pursuit of the "perfect baby."

Their voices come together to explore what happens when science and humanities experts join forces.

Enter the Renaissance Man

Let's go back several centuries to the concept of the Renaissance man, the educational ideal among European humanists of the period.

"Fourteenth-century scholars had to know about philosophy, science, biology, art and literature," American studies professor Emory Elliott points out. "It wasn't until the 18th and 19th centuries that scholars began to narrow down their studies to a specialty and became experts in one discipline."

"And the social sciences and the humanities weren't really separate disciplines until the beginning of the 20th century," said women's studies Professor Christine Ward Gailey.

As the world became more complex and technology came into play in the early 20th century, scientists in particular were compelled to realize that they'd have to think and often partner outside artificial academic borders to make a difference. In the 1920s and 1930s, with the advent of radio and TV, came increasing pressure to collaborate.

"For example, scholars in biology and chemistry recognized that biochemistry needed to be a new field in order for science and medicine to advance and that you needed molecular biology and physics to understand genetics," said Elliott.

The move toward interdisciplinary thinking and collaborating most likely blossomed all over the country at the same time, taking root in the humanities as well as the sciences, Elliott points out. Providing an environment that supported collaboration allowed universities to hire the best and the brightest as they came out of grad school. And when the best and brightest began to work together, new and previously unexplored academic frontiers emerged.

"Literature professors realized that they couldn't teach without knowledge of history, music and social sciences to put literature in context."

— Emory Elliott

A Hybrid is Born: American Studies

As an example of the birth of a new interdisciplinary "discipline" in the humanities, Elliott sites the origins of his own field, American studies, in the 1930s.

"Literature professors realized that they couldn't teach without knowledge of history, music and social sciences to put literature in context," he said.

The first interdisciplinary courses in American studies at Princeton were taught in the late 1930s, and the American Studies Program opened in 1942. But even in 1972, when Elliott joined Princeton's faculty after stints teaching English at both West Point and the University of Illinois, American studies wasn't a separate department.

Princeton offered just three American studies courses and students received a certificate after completing them.

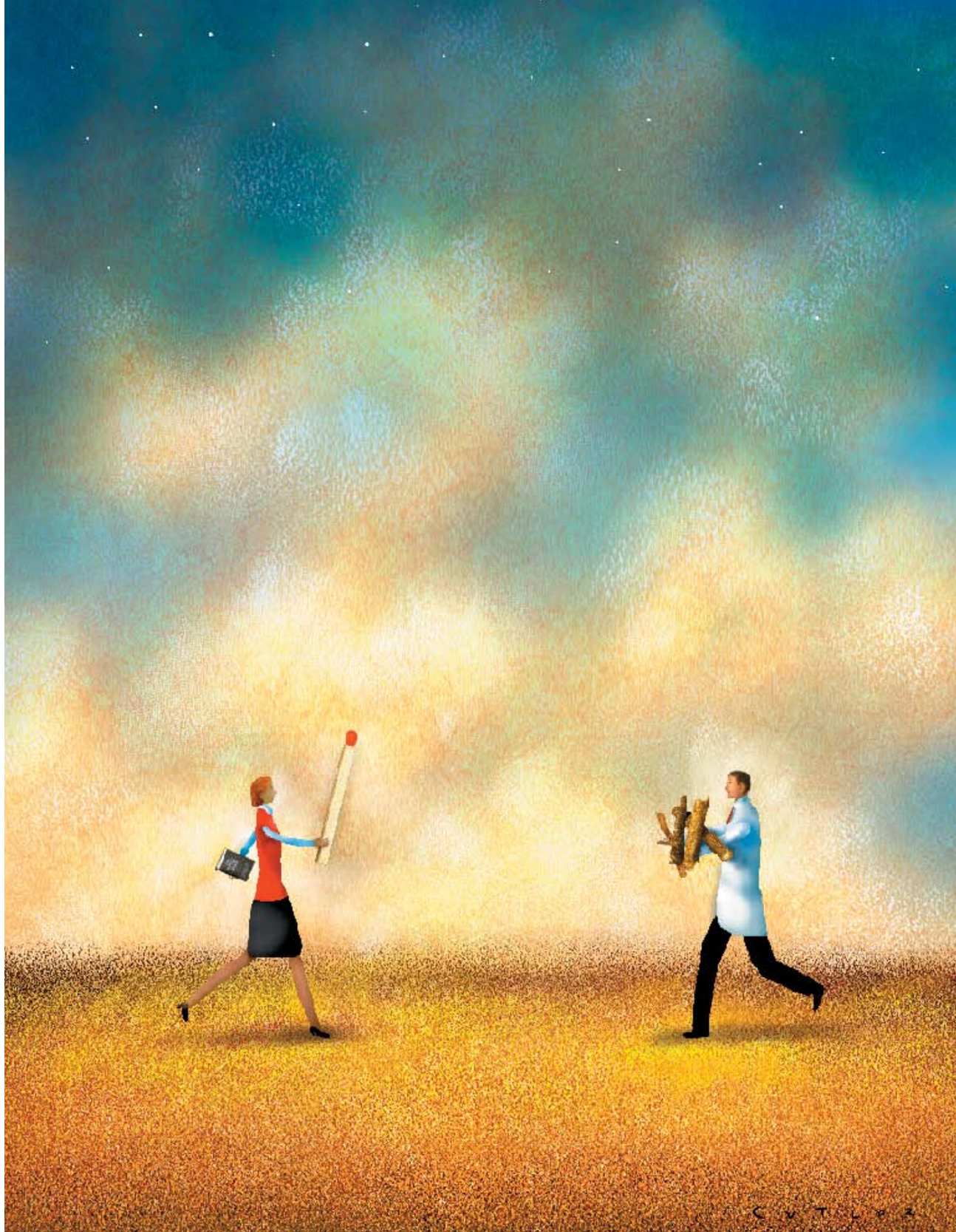
"The young visionary president, William Bowen, recognized the need to hire new people with new ideas. Because of my non-traditional background, I was hired, along with a man from the University of Chicago and two young women professors from the University of Indiana and Berkeley, making them the second and third women faculty to ever teach there," Elliott said. "The number of students who wanted to join the American Studies Program jumped from 20 to 30 to nearly 100, but we had to cap the enrollment at 50 because we did not have enough staff to handle them all."

"Today, there are about 6,000 members in the American Studies Association in the United States," Elliott said. "Not that long ago, there were only 1,800."

Women's Studies: Merging Theory and Practice to Create a Discipline with Impact

Whenever scholars think and work together across disciplines, tremendous energy is released. In the case of Christine Ward Gailey's specialty, the sense of freedom that comes when the strictures of old disciplines are doffed gave way to a vital new intellectual frontier, starting in the late 1960s in the United States. But it took time and collaboration for scholars in this new field to gain the respect of the academic world and earn recognition for women's studies as a legitimate academic area that combines theory and practice. "At first, many people saw women's studies as 'flaky,'" said Ward Gailey. "We had to show our white, male colleagues that we weren't just ungrateful wretches, closeted sex workers or man-haters," she added with a wry laugh.

Women's studies pioneers were asking questions that had never been asked before, and, together, found the answers across a



wide range of disciplines: history, anthropology, natural sciences, literature, interpretive humanities and philosophy, recalls Ward Gailey, whose original area of expertise was anthropology. "But we had to recognize that there are limitations. There's no change in society for women without practical knowledge, without being socially engaged. We learned that from the civil rights movement of the 1960s. Producing sources of useful knowledge transformed the discipline." And as women's studies became recognized for its practical impact as well as its theoretical richness, the field earned a place among legitimate academic pursuits.

Beyond UCR: Reaching Out to Understand Plant Genetics

To plant genetics Professor Julia Bailey-Serres, collaboration is more than just a nice thing to do. "Today it's really the key to success in science," she said.

Collaboration hasn't always been the norm. "In the scientific culture in which I learned as a graduate student and post-doc, one typically worked autonomously on a research question" — a paradigm that changed over the past 15 years with the sequencing of a large number of genes and complete genomes of organisms, including humans, fruit flies, yeast and bacteria, Bailey-Serres said. "Because of the wealth of information, research now moves more rapidly and more radially." Scientists and funding agencies have realized that cohesive teams of scientists may be better able to make more effective progress, she adds.

Collaboration plays a key role in Bailey-Serres' own research, dating back to her doctoral studies at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland, where she was fortunate to work with one of the world's top researchers in the field of plant mitochondria, the structures responsible for energy production in plant cells. After post-doc work at UC Berkeley, Bailey-Serres came to UCR in 1990, where she has launched groundbreaking plant genetics studies of her own. It was only a matter of time before her discovery path at UCR led to collaboration.

From Page to Performance: UCR Interdisciplinary M.F.A. Bridges the Gap

Playwrights working with performers, screenwriters dabbling in nonfiction, poets writing music — it makes sense that creative types might wander across the boundaries of their genres, sampling each other's arts. After all, in the real world, it's not uncommon for the writer to become a director, for the director to write his or her memoir, or for the poet to pen songs. But before UCR introduced its Master of Fine Arts degree in creative writing and writing for the performing arts, in 2002, such interdisciplinary intermingling was rare in the academic settings that train tomorrow's creative professionals.

The popular M.F.A. program was the brainchild of English Professor Susan Straight and Theatre Department Chair Eric Barr.

"We thought it would be enriching for creative writing students and writing-for-the-performing-arts students to work in multiple genres," said Barr.

But many M.F.A. programs don't allow work in other genres, Barr said. As a result, students hone their chops in their own field — say, writing fiction or poetry — but miss out on collaborative experiences that might stretch both skills and imaginations. "When people work in a genre outside their principle discipline, they learn to think in different ways," Barr said.

UCR's M.F.A. program encourages interaction between creative writing and performing arts students. Participants work across five genres: fiction, creative nonfiction, poetry, playwriting and screenwriting. "We challenge students to think in multiple ways, to develop different writing voices," Barr said. "We want them to go beyond the basic information and make their own material.

"Last year one of our grad students, a poet, took a graphic novel course. By showing her how to make literature visually exciting, the course inspired her to develop a one-woman performance piece for her final project, incorporating poetry, original music and visual images," said Barr. The student is now performing the piece in Los Angeles.

Collaborative exploration benefits more than students, Barr said. "A few years ago, Stephanie Hammer, a comparative literature professor, and I developed a team-taught class on autobiography, literature and performance," he said. Students explored the theatrical space, ideas about literature and their own life stories, then put together a 20-minute performance piece. Not only did the class prove popular — Barr and Hammer have been asked to bring it back — but the professors found that their own partnership was instrumental in demonstrating how collaboration can feed the thinking, teaching and creative processes.

Barr sees abundant opportunities to expand the program's horizons — creatively and practically. "In the M.F.A. program, we offer a very important team-taught course called 'The Writer's Life,'" he said. "We bring in agents, publishers, producers and critics so that students will be able to interact with professionals in their fields, find out how to write a query letter, how to submit their work and more."

The fruit of collaboration, Barr finds, is often fresh and relevant in ways single-minded thinking isn't. "Collaboration creates heat and excitement," he said. "Playwrights work with dancers to create hip-hop pieces. Ideas for TV spring up." The interdisciplinary partnerships keep artists charged and able to create spontaneously — a sure antidote to "writer's block." "Some things come together because you plan them," he notes. "Others just happen organically."

"My lab had been studying how plants respond when they have insufficient oxygen, which happens when roots are flooded or the plant is completely submerged," she said. "I wanted to test whether the molecular mechanism we had found in the model plant, Arabidopsis thaliana, also operated in rice, a major crop plant."

Bailey-Serres' lab had already received genetic material from a rice line able to endure prolonged submergence from the extensive collection of the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), a nonprofit organization in the Philippines, funded through governments and the United Nations, that provides seed material for farmers in Asia and Africa. And Bailey-Serres knew from reading descriptions of other research projects competing for USDA funding that a group at UC Davis was working to identify the genes responsible for submergence tolerance. To move her own project into a new realm, she reached out — not just across disciplines, but also across institutions. "I simply phoned Pamela Ronald, the researcher who was in charge of the UC Davis project, and said, 'Let's talk.'"

Synergies quickly emerged between Bailey-Serres' work and the project undertaken by Ronald and her UC Davis post-doc, both experienced in gene mapping and rice transformation. Bailey-Serres' lab contributed years of experience on the physiology and gene regulation that occurs in response to low oxygen stress when plants are submerged. And the IRRI's Dave Mackill, the plant breeder responsible for developing the submergence-tolerant lines from a rice race found in eastern India in the 1940s, brought his expertise to the team.

"Putting our minds together allowed us to figure out that the submergence-tolerance trait we sought to identify was controlled not by one gene but by a group of genes found together on a rice chromosome," said Bailey-Serres.

"Working together, we were able to accomplish in six months what would have taken two years otherwise," she said.

Incubating Collaboration

With new disciplines and groundbreaking research emerging from collaborations, universities like UCR are creating new organizations to encourage and support collaborative thinking and research.

Prompted by the UC-wide Humanities Research Initiative, which began in 1989, UCR created the Center for Ideas and Society, a vehicle for collaboration within and beyond the humanities, including engineering, education, social sciences and the arts. Professor Elliott has directed the center since 1997.

Today, the center brings together faculty from all over campus.

"With our encouragement, faculty from different disciplines seek out others whose work touches the edges of their own, and they form groups of four. In residence at the center for 10 weeks, they do their own research while learning from each other," said Elliott.

"Working together, we were able to accomplish in six months what would have taken two years otherwise."

— Julia Bailey-Serres

"Each group develops an umbrella theme or topic that is broad enough to accommodate interdisciplinary collaboration. … We also have some who apply as individuals, and then we put them together into a group in which their research may cross over the disciplinary borders," Elliott said.

At first, participants join for the sense of fellowship, without imagining collaboration will be the result. "But in their exit comments they tell us how much they've learned from people in other fields, that the collaboration turned out to be the best part of the center experience," he said.

Ward Gailey is another scholar who has found inspiration through center collaboration. "I love the center," she said. "I'm going to be part of a seminar there on cloning, looking at it from a psychological, historical, sociological and anthropological perspective. We're also looking at what is gained and lost in the pursuit of 'the perfect baby'" — a topic that truly transcends disciplines.

In Bailey-Serres' realm, there's UCR's Integrative Graduate Education Research Trainee (IGERT) program, funded by an National Science Foundation grant. IGERT aims to address fundamental questions of plant biology through use of "chemical genomics." In this new interdisciplinary approach, students are encouraged to incorporate small chemical compounds (almost like drugs) in their studies of cell biology, plant growth and response to a constantly variable environment. The field brings together a diverse group of experts in cell biology, genetics, genomics, bioinformatics, chemistry, engineering and computer sciences.

Through UCR's program, called ChemGen IGERT, participants meet regularly to discuss research papers, host international speakers and get involved in each other's work. The program has fostered the establishment of two interdisciplinary courses, including a design studio that is co-instructed by biologists and engineers. "The chemists are in biology labs, and the biologists are working with chemists. And the computer scientists learn to grow plants and monitor the effects of chemical compounds," Bailey-Serres said.

Benefits for All

Whether they work in the humanities, the sciences or both, whether across campus or at different universities, many

scholars will tell you that collaboration is one of the most rewarding aspects of their work, bringing benefits to educators, researchers and students alike.

People studying and working in an academic environment need to open the windows and let in new ideas, said Elliott. "Scholarly work is often seen as isolated. You go off to the library and do your research and write your book — all by yourself," he said. "But scholars need to talk, to debate, to co-author, to read and critique each other's work. They need to open themselves up as people, to share their knowledge with someone who brings something from another discipline. The exchange process provides growth for everyone."

Bringing more minds from different disciplines to the table improves the process of research itself, said Ward Gailey.

"Different questions are asked. More demands are made of your research and you get more results," she said.

She finds that collaboration breaks down the barriers between the researchers and the "researched."

"Unless you're in the actual setting where the research takes place, you can't ask all the questions of the research subjects that you need to," said Ward Gailey. "With collaboration, researchers become producers of knowledge, rather than just sources of evidence."

Bailey-Serres sees similar results in scientific research and study.

"Progressive research now and in the future requires scientists to work across disciplines," she said. To be effective in the chemical genomics approach taught through the ChemGen IGERT program, for example, researchers need to integrate cell biology, chemistry, computational science and engineering. Biologists have to learn how the system of the cell, the system of the organism works. "In the ChemGen IGERT program, we see that we're training a cohort of scientists who are better prepared for the challenging questions of the future. Our students will have the breadth they need to address the complexity of cellular systems." Not only will these students be better prepared for their careers in academia or industry — but they'll also discover a deeper passion for science. "Biologists are finding that they're interested in organic and analytical chemistry. Chemists are getting excited about biology."

But what about collaborations that cross from the humanities to the sciences?

"Combining technology and the humanities helps students go beyond 'book learning,'" said Elliott, who's seen the same impact on his scholarly cohorts at the Center for Ideas and Society. "It gives them skills they can use in research and teaching. It changes them. It makes them more collaborative as people."

Adds Ward Gailey: "It helps them go beyond competence into exciting new areas of discovery. They become part of the development of a universe of knowledge for the future."

"With collaboration, researchers become producers of knowledge, rather than just sources of evidence."

— Christine Ward Gailey

True Synergy

And what about the university that fosters collaboration? What benefits does it reap? In addition to recognition for the excellence and achievement of its faculty, students and graduates, a university like UC Riverside earns the satisfaction of fulfilling its mission: Preparing people to make truly relevant contributions to the world — to catalyze change.

"Interdisciplinary science is the future," said Bailey-Serres. "Scientists need to be well-versed within their discipline and familiar with the basic tenets, approaches and technologies of other disciplines. At UCR, that's the kind of preparation we hope to provide."

Scholars who have experienced collaboration firsthand say the impact goes deep and touches the future in many ways. "You can't create a truly multicultural, diverse society without interdisciplinary collaboration," said Elliott.

For example, he points out, grad students in the '70s thought there was a lot to be learned by looking at women writers or African-American literature. But many white male scholars weren't interested in reaching out. "Barriers had to be broken down," said Elliott. "The definition of what was 'worthy' of study had to change. And as it did, new fields of study began to emerge, such as Asian-American studies, Chicano/a studies, Native American studies, ethnic studies, and gay and lesbian studies.
The new programs and departments in these previously unrecognized fields of research have had a tremendous impact on current knowledge."

Ward Gailey sees a wealth of opportunities for universities to impact culture through interdisciplinary collaboration and the exploration of new "hybrid" academic fields.

"The key is to ask questions that haven't been asked before — for example, looking at how to bridge scientific and technological studies in contraception, or looking at questions of gender and sexuality under the umbrella of women's studies. We could produce tremendous new knowledge informed by feminist theories."

Elliott finds ideas like these particularly relevant to the future of UC Riverside.

"As we head toward a medical school on campus, it's important to ask: 'What are the roles of the humanities and social sciences in relation to the medical school?' 'How can we conduct medical research and education from a "humanistic" point of view?'" said Elliott.

Synergy and Social Change

How Interdisciplinary Energy Can Fuel a Movement

For an example of how collaboration can change the world, look no further than American history: Abolitionists coming together to redefine freedom … the industrial revolution, sharing life-changing early technology … the women's suffrage movement … the American civil rights movement of the '50s and '60s.

None of these historical turning points could have taken place without the kind of grassroots collaboration that can transform a thought into a conversation that engages many voices. Jonathan Walton, assistant professor of religious studies, has dedicated his career to studying those kinds of conversations — whether they begin in the basement of an African-American church, from a televangelist's pulpit or in cyberspace.

From Pulpit to Scholarship

Walton has a Master of Divinity degree and a Ph.D. in religion and society from Princeton Theological Seminary, and is familiar with the pulpit. "I always knew I wanted to work on behalf of the community — not just the African-American community, but the larger humanity — and I wanted to be a preacher because of what I saw in black preachers," he said. "The freedom, creativity and artistry I saw embodied in them attracted me."

Walton's scholarly work addresses the intersections between religion, politics and popular culture, with a particular interest in megachurches and televangelism. In the course of his research, Walton has examined the role that African-American churches played in the civil rights movement — the period from 1954 through Brown vs. the Board of Education to 1968, when President Lyndon Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act.

"It was a wonderful moment in American history for multiracial democracy. People arose from the altars of individuality to cross the dividing lines of race, class, gender and religious affiliation," he said. "It wasn't perfect, but it was a beautiful thing."

Churches as Conveners and Change Agents

Churches, Walton observes, played a powerful convening role both in the communities they served and in the rally for civil rights. "For people who were denied citizenship and federal resources, who were a nation within a nation, the church brought everyone together," he said. "It was the community's social center and its nucleus. It was the moral arbiter, the location for social organizing and political activism."

What's more, Walton points out, the church offered more than spiritual nourishment. "Among many prominent congregations in the north, for example, it was the place you went to buy life insurance, or for unemployment insurance and other social services. So it was logical that during the civil rights movement the church basements and social fellowship halls were the gathering place. And it is important to emphasize that most of this work, like the work of the church, was done by women. This was their domain."

But although the deep community that churches engendered fed the movement, the movement itself sometimes conflicted with the bureaucratic values of the church. "Scholars often look at black churches through rose-colored glasses," Walton said, "but the progressive civil rights activists were not in the best interest of the institution of the church. Some church leaders had a vested interest in maintaining the status quo."

Televangelists, the Intelligentsia and Everyday People

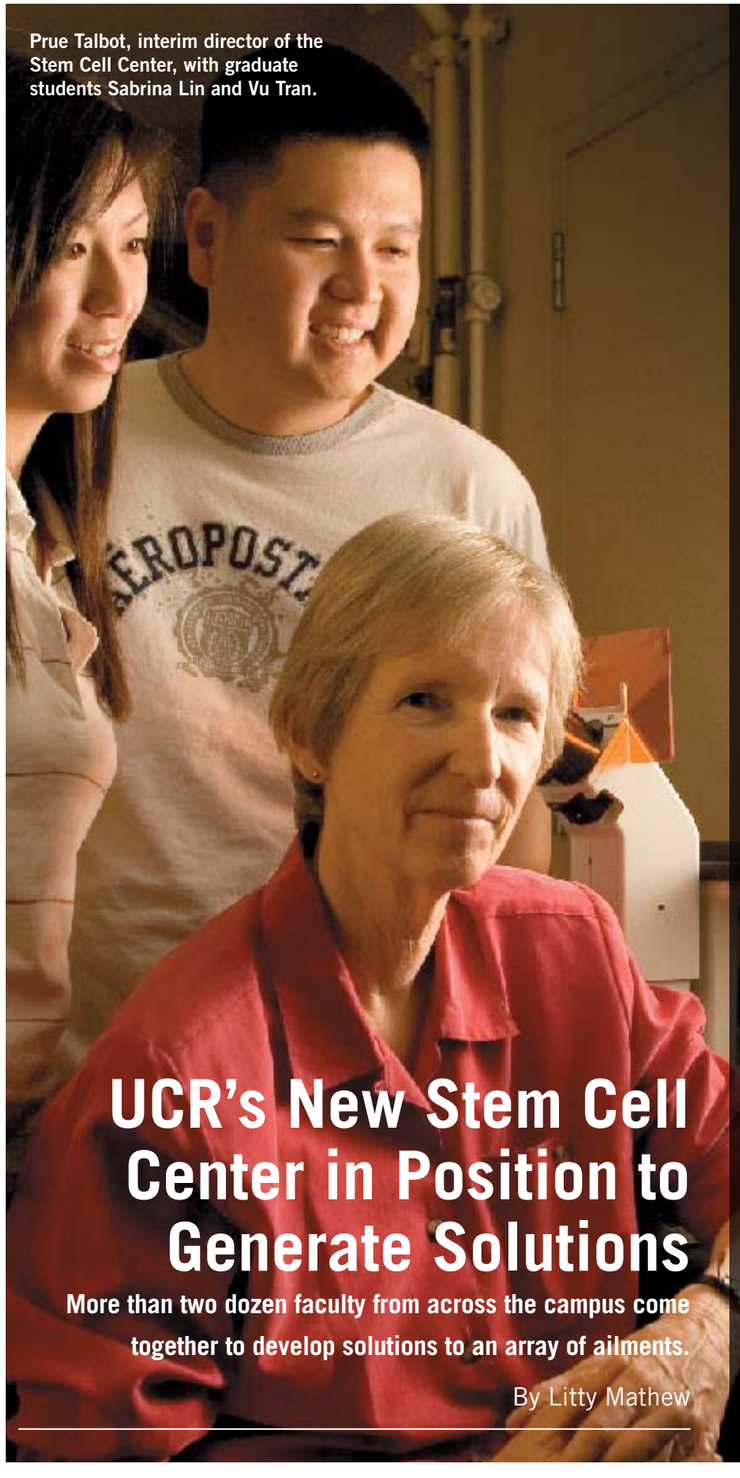
Walton's next book, to be published this winter, is called "Watch This! Televangelism and African American Religious Culture."

"Televangelists aren't given credence because of social stigma. They're not considered racially or religiously respectable. They haven't been taken seriously by the 'intelligentsia' class," he said. "But they can come into any major metropolitan area and pack an arena with up to 100,000 people — black, white, Hispanic."

Walton's goal, through his scholarship, is to engage the intelligentsia in richer conversation with everyday people concerning religious choice and spiritual aspirations. He's also interested in the grassroots power of electronic media.

On his Web site — **www.jonathanlwalton.com** — Walton posts book reviews and blog entries on diverse contemporary cultural and spiritual issues, from plagiarizing preachers and hip-hop culture to the behavior gridiron heroes and the Don Imus scandal.

"Blogs are the soapboxes of the 21st century, particularly in the age of huge media corporations and conglomerates," Walton said. "The Web puts information back in the hands of everyday people and recreates the town hall meeting, giving people a voice that can't be drowned out the by the ideological slant of CNN or Fox." In cyberspace, Walton points out, politicians and others are forced to engage with the public.



Prue Talbot, interim director of the Stem Cell Center, with graduate students Sabrina Lin and Vu Tran.

UCR's New Stem Cell Center in Position to Generate Solutions

More than two dozen faculty from across the campus come together to develop solutions to an array of ailments.

By Litty Mathew

With the launch of UCR's Stem Cell Center, a research collaboration dedicated to understanding the mechanisms underlying stem cell self-renewal and differentiation, the university has entered California's scientific boon. A field so new that until 1998 researchers had yet to discover how to isolate stem cells from human embryos and grow them in a laboratory setting.

"UCR is well-positioned to make important contributions to stem cell research, a cornerstone of developmental biology," notes Charles Louis, vice chancellor of research. "Breakthroughs in this field will lead to advances in regenerative medicine, drug testing and toxicology and will have the potential to ultimately provide relief from numerous medical conditions such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and diabetes."

Why UCR? Why now?

In 2004, California voters said yes to Proposition 71, the California Stem Cell Research and Cures Initiative that would raise $3 billion over 10 years for human embryonic research. It is the largest state-supported scientific research initiative in the United States. The measure paved the way for institutions like UCR to plan for stem cell study.

And while larger, more well-funded institutions get the big breaks in many research situations, stem cell investigation promises to be different.

"Research in America is defined by creativity," explains Arlene Chiu, interim chief scientific officer of the California Institute of Regenerative Medicine (CIRM), the entity established with the passage of Proposition 71 to make loans and provide grants for stem cell research. "It's a level playing field here when it comes to creativity so you can compete at the same level with larger, wealthier institutions. We can't predict where the crucial discovery will come from."

To this end, CIRM awarded two UCR faculty — Michael Pirrung and Frank Sauer — SEED (Scientific Excellence through Exploration and Development) grants for their related research.

"With these grants, we want to attract young or new investigators, often from other disciplines, who can use their tools in stem cell research," Chiu says.

Pirrung's grant will allow him to identify small organic molecules used to maintain pluripotency (the potential of a cell to develop into more than one type of mature cell) of embryonic stem cells and to control differentiation. Researchers like Pirrung might have limited experience in stem cells but rely on the center's environment for equipment and facilities, and other researchers for advice and training.

"Our work is not directly relevant to an envisioned stem cell or regenerative medicine therapy," explains Pirrung. "What we will do is provide one of the links in the chain that will eventually be needed to take stem cells and turn them into a therapy. Success in our work will enable a lab to take a few stem cells and grow them well. Think of them as 'stem cell fertilizer.'"

Sauer will study the role of non-coding RNA in differentiation of stem cells. "We don't understand how genes are regulated," explains Chiu. "Do they play a role in stem cell renewal? It's a fascinating question to ask."

This sense of excitement and urgency has brought together many UCR disciplines in record time.

"It has taken about two years from the time we launched stem cell biology at UCR until the center was formed," says Prue Talbot, the center's interim director. "It came together quickly because there is tremendous interest in this area at UCR."

More than 30 participating faculty representing three colleges and 12 different graduate programs, including philosophy and engineering, form the center's core. "UCR's greatest strength in support of the Stem Cell Center is the very broad base of faculty expertise upon which the center will be built," says Vice Chancellor Louis.

The center is also a boon for students. While graduate students at the center number less than a dozen, the future promises more. Center members are discussing the best ways to introduce stem cells into the undergraduate curriculum as universities in California gear up to educate enough students with this experience to work in the new industry.

Sabrina Lin, a graduate student at the center, said her interest in pursuing medicine would take into account that the research focus for disease treatments has shifted dramatically toward using stem cell therapeutics. This quest to integrate stem cell research into their fields of study will move UCR students ahead of many of their counterparts in the United States.

"If Prop. 71 works out as hoped, there will be a burgeoning industry in stem cell science in California," notes Pirrung. "I expect that the experience gained in working on projects will prepare students for these jobs once they have graduated and will enable them to compete better with chemists who might not have had the same opportunities."

While the center is currently in its infancy, the goal is to add more research labs by recruiting new faculty and by building within UCR's existing faculty.

"In five years, we will have a strong interface with the Health Sciences Research Institute and the proposed medical school, and some of our labs will begin moving into clinical applications," predicts Talbot.

Addressing the controversy and concerns that surround stem cell research is part of the plan, said Louis.

"Stem cell research may be most controversial because it is not clearly understood. Education and outreach are among the center's main goals," he said, noting that new courses in stem cell biology and bioethics have been added to the graduate curriculum. Undergraduate seminars in stem cell biology and bioethical issues are also being planned. "These will provide students with important information needed not only for biological study but for making responsible decisions on political and societal issues."

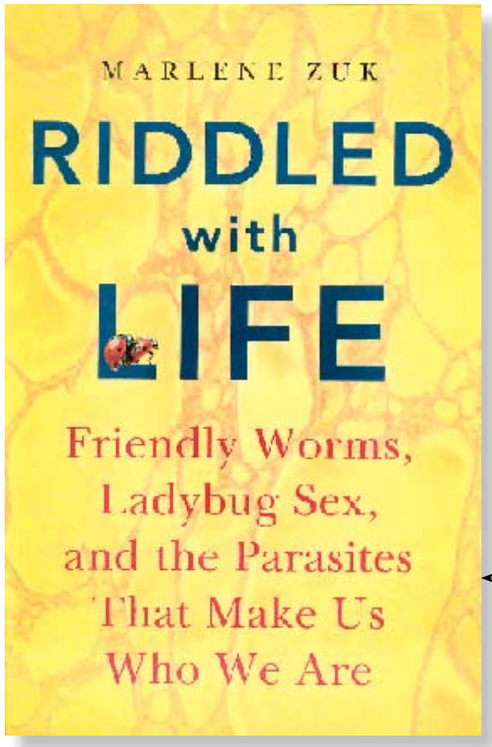
Stem Cell Research on Campus

Besides Pirrung and Sauer, other members of the Stem Cell Center are:

- Monica Carson, associate professor of biomedical sciences, who will utilize embryonic stem cells to determine if microglia — brain immune cells that are critically involved, for example, in neurodegenerative diseases and strokes — can be used to manipulate the diseased and injured central-nervous system.
- Noboru Sato, assistant professor of biochemistry, who is using mouse and human embryonic stem cells to understand how a single cell can generate such a high number of specialized cells, which are integrated in space and time.
- Frances Sladek, professor of cell biology, who is planning to use human embryonic stem cells to study the early steps of differentiating embryonic cells into hepatocytes, the main cell type in the liver.
- Laura Zanello, assistant professor of biochemistry, who plans to work on the "expression of ion channels" — membrane proteins that facilitate transport of ions across cell membranes — as stem cells differentiate into bone cells.

Pages of Parasites, Processed Food, Plants and More

Squirmy germs and deadly disease. Fat-laden junk food and sugar-induced snacks. A tale of friendship among some eccentric misfits in East L.A. It's enough to make you want to pick up a book and read. Take a look at this issue's offerings.



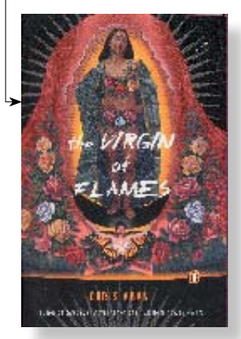
Riddled with Life: Friendly Worms, Ladybug Sex, and the Parasites That Make Us Who We Are
By Marlene Zuk
Harcourt
April 2007, 336 pages

Most people think of disease as an enemy but in this book, evolutionary biologist Marlene Zuk, UCR professor of biology, reveals that disease is our partner and is responsible for everything from how we look to how we have sex. Zuk explains the role of disease in answering a range of questions: Why do men die younger than women? Why do we — and lots of other animals — get sexually transmitted diseases? How can our obsession with cleanliness make us sicker? And how can parasites sometimes make us well?

Using her own work on sexual selection as well as a sampling of stories from the natural world, the books seeks to make us reconsider the fearsome parasite.

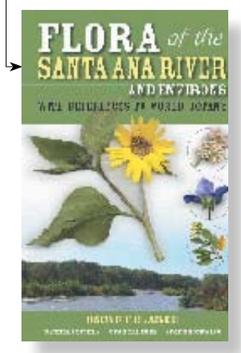
Virgin of Flames
By Chris Abani
Penguin
January 2007, 304 pages

For Black, a mural artist in East L.A., his city's tumbledown landscape is his canvas. Residing in a ramshackle apartment above the Ugly Story, he lives for his art and obsesses over Sweet Girl, the transsexual stripper who serves as his muse. As Black navigates life alongside the Los Angeles River, "iridescent in its concrete sleeve," he enlists his friends Iggy, the beautiful tattoo artist who has beguiled Hollywood's elite, and Bomboy, a wealthy Rwandan butcher — as he confronts his past and struggles to find his place in the world. Abani, an associate professor of creative writing, is the author of several books and is the recipient of the Hemingway/PEN Prize, a Hurston/Wright Legacy Award and a Silver Medal in the California Book Awards, and was a finalist for the IMPAC Dublin Award and the Los Angeles Times Book Prize.



Flora of the Santa Ana River and Environs: With References to World Botany
By Oscar F. Clarke, Greg Ballmer, Arlee Montalvo and Daniella Svehla
Heyday Books
March 2007, 495 pages

The Santa Ana River, the largest watercourse in the heavily populated coastal plain of Southern California, is home to nearly 1,400 plant species. Clarke and his team have compiled descriptions of 900 plant species, accompanied by 3,200 images and illustrations. Clarke is the founder of the UCR herbarium, Ballmer is a staff research associate from the Department of Entomology, Montalvo is an associate in the Agricultural Experiment Station and Svehla is studying plant community ecology at UC Berkeley.



How Real Is Race? A Sourcebook on Race, Culture and Biology
By Yolanda Moses ('75 M.A., '76 Ph.D.), Carol Chapnick Mukhopadhyay ('80 Ph.D.), James Banks, Rosemary Henze
Rowman & Littlefield Publisher Inc.
February 2007, 232 pages

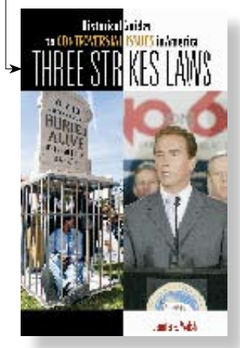
"How Real is Race?" brings together biological and cultural information to help people make sense of the contradictory messages about race in the United States and elsewhere. The book explores biological fact and fictions of race, the role of culture in race and the meaning of "social construction" among other topics. With accessible, clear language and suggested teaching activities in every chapter, the book is designed as a source for anyone interested in addressing the many questions surrounding race. Yolanda Moses is a UCR professor of anthropology and the special assistant to the chancellor for excellence and diversity and vice provost of conflict resolution.

Encyclopedia of Junk Food and Fast Food
By Andrew Smith ('70)
Greenwood Press
August 2006, 368 pages

Through increased globalization, American popular-food culture is increasingly being emulated elsewhere in the world with the potential for similar disastrous consequences. This A-to-Z reference is the first to focus on the junk food and fast food phenomena from a multitude of angles in addition to health and diet concerns. More than 250 essay entries illuminate the American way through products, corporations and entrepreneurs, social history, popular culture, organizations, issues, politics, commercialism, consumerism and more.

Three Strikes Law
By Jennifer E. Walsh ('92)
Greenwood Press
January 2007, 208 pages

Walsh covers the "get tough movement" that led to the three-strikes laws in sentencing, the constitutional challenges that three-strikes laws have survived and the continuing controversies over their implementation and effectiveness. Despite controversy, three-strikes laws are still popular more than a decade after their implementation and the laws continue to affect thousands of offenders each year.



Also published:

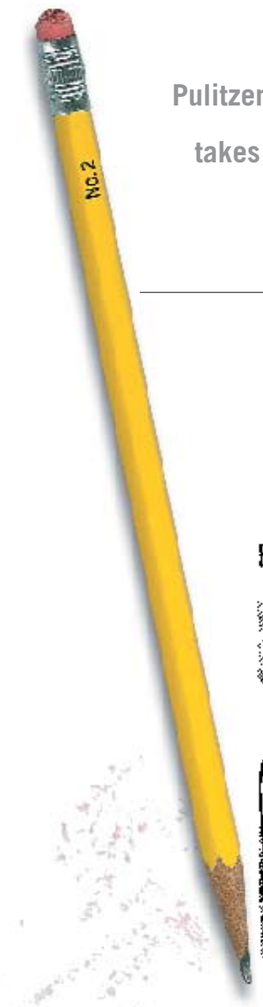
Settlement Archaeology at Quirigua, Guatemala
By Wendy Ashmore
University of Pennsylvania Museum Publication
February 2007, 376 pages

*These books are available for purchase at the UCR Bookstore and online at **www.bookstore.ucr.edu**. They have been discounted up to 30 percent.*

His Pencil is Mightier than the Word

With a No. 2 pencil as his weapon, editorial cartoonist and Pulitzer Prize winner Steve Breen takes a satirical stab at politics and current events.

By Litty Mathew



Located just a mile from campus, the Kmart on Iowa Street has served a vital function for generations of UCR students.

For editorial cartoonist Steve Breen, it was more than functional. It was inspirational.

In November 1989, as a 19-year-old sophomore walking to his off-campus apartment, Breen was deep in thought — neither of finals just a month away nor of his next visit to his favorite campus hangout, the Bull and Mouth. He was contemplating how to distill the breakup of the Soviet Union into one succinct pictorial commentary.

"My editor at *The Highlander*, Mark Acosta, told me to think about glasnost and the USSR as a cartoon topic," says Breen. "As I was walking home, I looked over and saw the store and that got my wheels turning: 'How can I make Kmart into something Soviet?"

Breen achieved this by drawing a frame of Russian ladies, babushkas and all, carrying shopping bags outside a superstore called Kmarx.

"Kmarx was my big success as cartoonist," says Breen. In December 1989, a national publication picked up the cartoon. "I sent Newsweek a letter saying I wasn't anyone they had heard of but if

Photograph by Jim Skovmand, San Diego Union-Tribune.

Go to work with Steve...

What does a cartoonist do all day? It involves a large Diet Pepsi and a No. 2 pencil. A really sharp No. 2 pencil.

10:30 a.m. Breen enters the *Times-Union*, having filled up on Frosted Mini-Wheats with his kids.

He greets his colleagues, checks his e-mails and gets down to the daily routine — reading newspapers. For the uninitiated, Breen might look like a slacker, but this step is key. "I do as much reading as I can. My goal is to have all my reading — *New York Times*, *USA Today*, *San Diego Union-Tribune* and sometimes the *LA Times* — done before lunch."

Breen keeps a notebook on the side to sketch ideas as he sifts through the news.

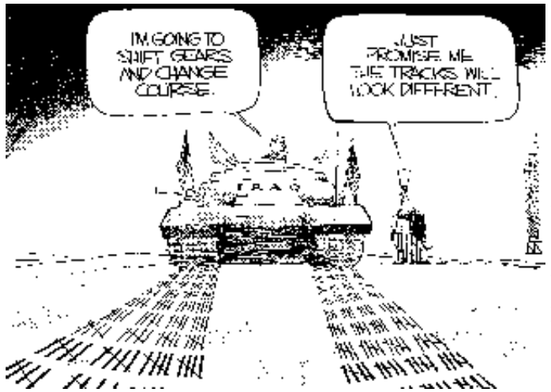
1 p.m. Breen heads down to the Union-Tribune cafeteria for a bowl of chili and a very large Diet Coke. As his body takes a break, his brain clocks overtime. "I imagine my mind percolating the information I've read. Good cartoon ideas come when I've done a lot of reading on a topic, have an interest or passion, and you know enough to be comfortable making fun of it."

1:45 p.m. Breen is back at his desk. Is it hot? Are these pencils sharpened? More soda? "I don't have a ritual but I'm a bit nervous to sit down and get started." Eventually, he settles with a stack of blank copy paper and a No. 2 pencil to make rough sketches.

In two hours, he'll have five or six sketches to show his editor. They could be variations on the same topic or on several different themes. The editor looks through the cartoons and sets aside the two he likes. Breen picks the one he feels is stronger of the two.

4:15 p.m. The editor has approved the idea. Now Breen needs about two to three hours to ink it in. Back in his office, he turns on the light table and uses the rough draft as a template. "You can never get better than the rough draft in terms of composition because you're much more relaxed when you sketch the rough draft."

6:30 p.m. Phew! He's scanned it and turned it in on time. But you're only as good as your next idea. Tomorrow, Breen's on to a new cartoon.



Reprinted courtesy of Copley News Service

you want to reprint this cartoon, I'd be honored. And indeed, I was! Plus they paid $100, which is a lot of Taco Bell for a college sophomore."

"I barely remember suggesting the topic, but I do remember laughing out loud when I first saw it," notes Acosta, now an assistant metro editor at *The Press-Enterprise* in Riverside. "That one was an instant classic because of the cartoon's wit and simplicity."

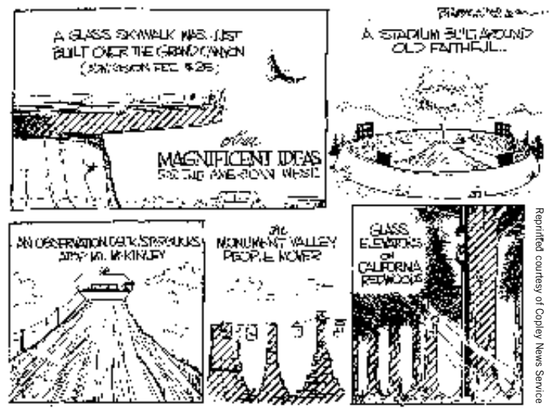
Currently at the *San Diego Union-Tribune*, Breen, who won the Pulitzer Prize in editorial cartooning in 1997, is charged with creating five editorial cartoons each week that sum up the day's news. He also writes and illustrates children's books—a burgeoning interest now that he and his wife, Cathy, have three kids of their own and another on the way. Breen is also developing a new cartoon strip.

> **"He always had a sharp, even refined, appreciation and understanding of history, and that's helped him to achieve excellence in his cartooning."**
>
> **— Bruce Reynolds**

But it was UCR that put Breen on the path to professional cartooning.

For Breen, a career as a political cartoonist wasn't on the radar until his UCR adviser at the time, Bruce Reynolds, suggested it.

"His drawing was mature, and he understood things about shading and making a point in a drawing in a way no college freshman had any right to be able to do," Reynolds said in a recent interview. "He always had a sharp, even refined, appreciation and understanding of history, and that's helped him to achieve excellence in his cartooning."



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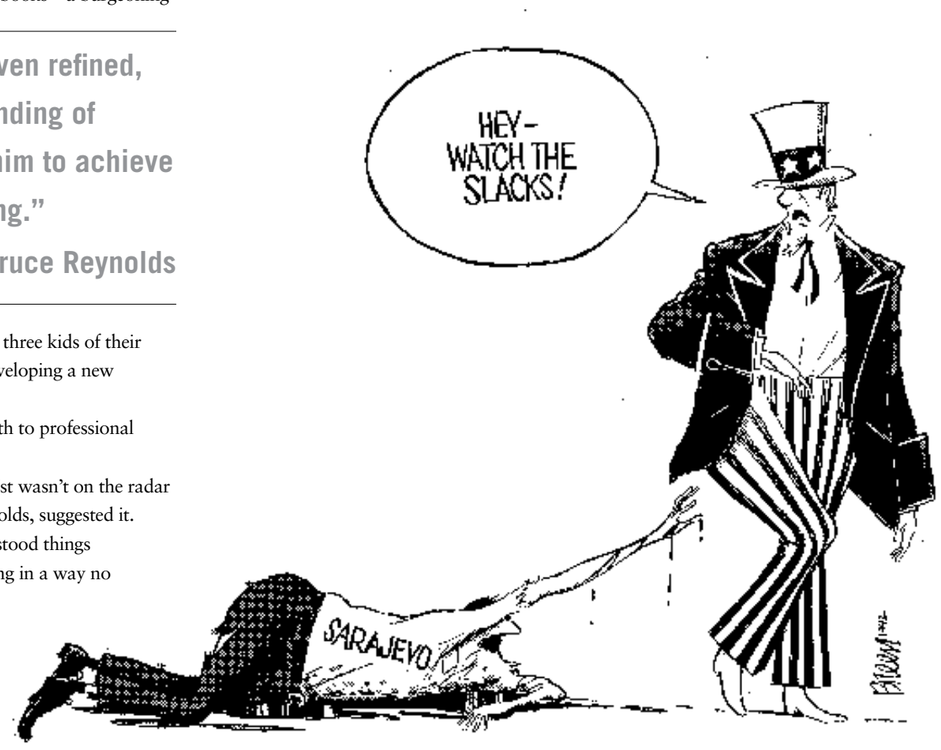


Reprinted courtesy of Copley News Service

honor — credits for his Pulitzer.

"You have to cut your teeth somewhere. The Highlander accepted my cartoons … even the bad ones," notes Breen. "That's the role of a school paper — to teach. I honed my skills there."

Breen's trip to the Pulitzer was short and direct. After just a year as a full-time editorial cartoonist at the Asbury Park Press in New Jersey, he won journalism's most coveted prize at the age of 27. This, after a stint as a paginator, his first post-UCR job and the Park Press' only available position.

Although he might have been perplexed by the win, others knew it was just a matter of time.

"I fully expected him to win the Pulitzer because of his style and his intelligence," says Reynolds. "My complaint was that he was too nice, that he wouldn't hit as hard as his competitors. I was right about that, but he won it anyway. Fundamentally, Breen is such a good person, he doesn't have it in him to skewer people, including politicians, the way I wished then and still wish he would."

Since the Pulitzer, Breen's work has evolved. Matured, perhaps.

"I think I'm more consistent," says Breen. "With more experience, you get better."

In a Russian-themed cartoon that ran in the Union-Tribune on April 24, Breen depicted Boris Yeltsin's legacy with a large, ruddy man holding a vodka bottle in each hand. One labeled "reform," the other "corruption." The caption reads "Absolut Yeltsin."

"The thing about awards is the glow fades after a while," Breen explains. How do you top a Pulitzer? "I guess winning a second Pulitzer. But most importantly, living a good life and being a good person is the brass ring."

Overall, Teachers Give Poor Marks to No Child Left Behind

But some do feel that the act, which was passed in 2002 and is coming up for reauthorization, is helpful.

By Todd Ransom

If you ask a roomful of teachers to raise their hands if they don't like the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act, chances are you'll see more hands in the air than if you asked a group of kids if they want to go to recess.

A recent UCR study conducted by Steven G. Brint, professor of sociology, and Susan Teele, director of education at UCR Extension, shows that nearly 80 percent of teachers polled see the No Child Left Behind Act in an unfavorable light. Nearly 40 percent held a very unfavorable view of the bill.

Although the original bill passed by an overwhelming bipartisan majority in Congress and was quickly signed into law in 2002, its reauthorization has become a lightning rod on both sides of the aisle. The voice not heard from in much of the discussion is that of the teacher who is charged with and held accountable for much of the success or failure of provisions under NCLB.

"The teachers are on the front line of change and their input is crucial," said Brint. "And, since there has rarely been a piece of education legislation that has aroused such strong and contradictory emotions, we wanted to see where the views of the teachers fell."

The study, which drew from survey responses of 300 teachers, revealed that having their creativity erased in the classroom as a result of NCLB has left them less than enthusiastic about its reauthorization sometime this year. Many said that NCLB fails to draw on teachers' professional skills and has forced them to teach to the test.

The numbers tell the story of the three weakest points of NCLB. Nearly 76 percent said it sets unrealistic goals, 60 percent said it diminished creativity in the classroom, and 53 percent said it is based on an overly narrow concept of education.

"Only one out of every five respondents in our sample had an overall favorable assessment of the act," said Brint. "Teachers polled who held favorable views of the act worked in low-performing schools with high minority populations."

In fact, 37 percent said that NCLB would bring greater accountability to public schools, while 23 percent said it would bring more qualified teachers into the profession. One-quarter of those surveyed found the act had no strong points at all, compared with just 1 percent who found no weak points in the law.

One teacher who was not involved in the study but read about it falls into the category of seeing more successes than failures. Bryan Wilkins, a teacher at Sultana High School in Hesperia, Calif., believes education was failing "big time" prior to NCLB.

He saw less professionalism prior to the law and believes that it was full of "feel good" education that gave functionally illiterate students a high school diploma. In his eyes, teachers had no accountability and principals pressured teachers to pass students without regard to achievement.

"With the advent of NCLB and high-stakes testing, things began to change, though not without a lot of whining from many quarters," Wilkins said. "The best teachers have very little problem with NCLB since they already taught the required material and their students learned. The lesser teachers did not want to be held accountable and are still fighting the system."

One of the most important findings of the study, according to Brint, is that teachers who said that their schools were not making adequate yearly progress were more likely to be favorable toward NCLB than teachers at schools that were making progress.

"We found this surprising because we expected teachers in the low-performing schools, who most likely would be under intense pressure to perform, would be less likely to embrace the act," Brint said.

Brint and Teele believe this could be attributed to the fact that these teachers find the clear focus, narrow curriculum and repetition mandated by the act well-suited for the knowledge level of their students.

Brint points out they could also feel pressure to identify with NCLB goals in order to hang on to their jobs. That said, teachers on the other side of the spectrum where their school is making adequate yearly progress may have more confidence in their students' abilities and less pressure to identify with the goals of the NCLB.

Chris Marker-Morse, a UCR alumnus who teaches sixth grade at Riverside's Magnolia Elementary School, sees the push for achievement in limited areas as coming at a tremendous cost to the students and their futures. Out of five hours of classroom instruction, Marker-Morse said, three and a half hours are spent on reading and language arts; this leaves only one and a half hours to teach the remaining subjects.

"We are cutting off our heads to grow a bigger tail," he said. "I'm not against reading, but children need a rich and balanced education. The act's goal of accountability is limiting the educational choices, what they learn and how they learn it."

Although Marker-Morse said his school is blessed balanced classrooms, other schools aren't as lucky. Some, he said, are told not to teach social studies until after the mandatory testing in reading is completed. Even California-mandated standards are largely pushed aside or ignored to meet the NCLB provisions, he said.

"It's hurting the very kids the act was supposed to help," he said.

Finding New Neighbors in Mississippi

For spring break, rather than head to the beach or mountains, I took my three daughters to help faraway neighbors repaint, carpet and lay hardwood floor. Along with 19 other members of my church, we flew to Gulfport, Miss., to renovate homes damaged by Hurricane Katrina in August 2005.

We were hosted by Trinity United Methodist Church in Gulfport, a coastal city that took a terrible beating from the hurricane. The storm surge reached 30 feet along the beach, and the 120 mph winds of Katrina did major damage throughout the city, as water pushed into every creek and bayou.
No one was immune, wealthy or not. Even 18 months after the storm, we saw houses still in ruin.

Trinity is on high ground and received minimal storm damage. The night after the storm, volunteers realized that without refrigeration, stored food at the church and a nearby school would spoil, so they cooked a huge meal and served it in the church parking lot. They fed 300 that first night, and that grew to 1,000 per day for weeks. Gradually, Trinity UMC built a team and took on a new mission. They began to help rebuild homes, hosting volunteer workers from around the nation. As of the time we were there, 3,600 volunteers had worked on 560 homes.

My work crew was instructed to lay carpet and finish a house so the owners, Pastor Mattie Harper of Victory Temple Outreach and her husband, Johnnie, a mechanic, could move back in with 6-year-old Niya, one of their granddaughters. They had lived in a FEMA trailer in their driveway for many months, but had moved to a relative's home when the power had to be interrupted frequently for work on their home. We varnished the cabinets, painted the kitchen, repaired drywall seams and painted bedrooms, laid carpet and finished electrical outlets.

While we worked, I watched Mattie Harper try to minister to people from her car, as her church had also been severely damaged and was still under repair. Countless people dropped by this small house in a very damaged old neighborhood to speak to their pastor, to have their cars repaired by her husband, to borrow lawnmowers and tools, and just to be neighborly.

Susan Straight and the eldest of her three daughters, Gaila, after a long day of painting a house in Mississippi.

I realized that this was what Gulfport, and all of the Gulf Coast, needed still. They need their neighborhoods back.

Mrs. Harper invited us to her church, only two blocks away. It had severe damage from the storm. A 180-year-old brick building with beautiful architecture, it had lost the bell tower, had rough plywood floors and was only partially dry-walled. It had a new roof, but then Pastor Harper explained that the roofers had just put the new roof over old rotted wood. It had to be torn off again.

She was not alone. Our crews worked on houses owned by elderly single women who needed ceiling fans and paint and other finish work. My children ripped out moldy carpet and laid Pergo flooring in a bedroom and hallway for a retired elderly man with an amazing stamp collection. Other people on our team straightened and supported a pole shed in a rural area north of the city. And other crews demolished homes that had been untouched since the storm.

What my daughters and I decided, while we waited to board our plane home, was that it wasn't too different than helping out our own neighbors, as we do in Riverside. We live in a 100-year-old house on a block of old homes, and we're the kind of street where everyone helps out. If I'm in need, I can call a neighbor who's a contractor, and my neighbor whose son is autistic can call us. We share food, carpooling, engine work, more food and ourselves. That is what the Gulf Coast needs — to get their neighborhoods back, with our help.

As for my family, we won't forget that Mississippi is closer to home than we realized. In fact, during that week, I think we found some new neighbors.

Susan Straight is a novelist and a creative writing professor at UC Riverside. Her newest book, "A Million Nightingales," is set in Louisiana.

Richard and Laura Small

Little did Dr. Richard Small know his student job at UCR's Citrus Experiment Station would come in handy years later. Richard and his wife, Laura, a food safety instructor at University of Nevada, Las Vegas, live on a 33-acre avocado farm in Fallbrook, Calif., near Escondido.

A zoology major at UCR, he graduated in 1961 with good friends Drs. Fred Bryant and Carl Fuglie. Richard went on to medical school at UCLA and became a radiation oncologist.

The Gift
The Smalls have supported UCR since 1977. Since 2004, they've donated $10,000 a year to the Carl Fuglie Scholarship fund, in memory of his friend who died of cancer in his 30s. Last year, Richard and Fred Bryant started the Bryant-Small Scholarship to also benefit a deserving medical student.

Why did he do it?
"I think of it as payback to UCR," said Richard. And he means it in the nicest of ways. "UCR was instrumental in guiding me to my occupation. To my goals. I want to help others get there, too."

The Future
One of the young people whom he's helping get there is daughter Jacquie, a community college student. She'd like to follow in her dad's footsteps and become a doctor.

Photography by Walter Urie

UCR's Best of the Best Honored

On April 21 the UCR Alumni Association held its annual awards ceremony to honor outstanding alumni who exemplify 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.

By Lisa Hill

Edward J. Blakely ('60, history, political science, economics)

Distinguished Alumnus Award

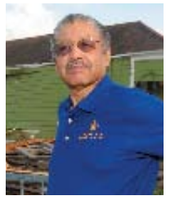


Photo by Michael Elderman

As an 11-year-old, Edward J. Blakely drafted a list of five goals. He wanted to be involved in sports, work on international issues, be involved in public affairs, live in Oakland and do something that would have significant impact on the world.

Blakely, the mayor's executive director of recovery for the city of New Orleans, has achieved each one of his goals and far exceeded them.

"It sounds totally crazy," said Blakely, this year's recipient of the Distinguished Alumnus Award. "I made this plan in five areas and I've been fortunate enough to do it."

The Distinguished Alumnus Award is based on national and international distinction in one's field and significant contribution to humankind.

A leading scholar and practitioner in the fields of planning and local economic development, Blakely has a resume that is both long and impressive. He has been at the helm in numerous times of crisis: He organized and led the Oakland response to the earthquake in 1989 and to the Oakland Fire in 1991, the largest urban fire in the 20th century. He is credited with helping transform Pittsburgh, Pa. in the mid-1970s.

Recently, he unveiled his recovery plan for New Orleans. The plan focuses on rebuilding 17 areas a half-mile in diameter, most in the western part of the city. His plan also proposes spending on areas such as the Lower Ninth Ward.

"I just bundled up those experiences to see which ones would fit New Orleans," he said. "I took some from Oakland, some from Los Angeles, some from 9/11. That's how we came up with a plan."

Blakely retired in 1994 and said he has been working on whatever comes up.

"Unfortunately, the things that keep coming up are disasters," he said.

Jean Easum ('75, math)

Alumni Service Award

When Jean Easum received word that she had won the Alumni Service Award, she asked if the caller had the right number. She was shocked, she said, to be added to a list of such distinguished honorees.

"They're all phenomenal people who have made major contributions to the community and when I look at the things that I do, they're little things," said Easum, who earned a bachelor's degree in math from UCR. "I just do the things that are placed in front of me."

The Alumni Service Award recognizes outstanding service and contribution to UCR, a community and/or fellow citizens. It's a new category that combines three former services awards: the Alumni Public Service Award, Alumni Community Service Award and the Alumni University Service Award.

Easum, a 26-year employee at the Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) Corona division, has been a trailblazer, both in her career and in her role as an advocate of science.

She has recruited engineers from colleges and universities throughout the United States. She chaired the Science and Technology Education Partnership (STEP) Teacher Conference in Riverside for the past four years and coordinated the Regional Science Olympiad Competition. She has worked with the Inland Area Science Teachers' Association (IASTA) and has dedicated herself to the advancement of students of all ages in scientific fields.

"I think science is the most important thing we have," she said. "I think it's imperative that we understand the need to capture young minds early on because science is what's going to help us with survival," she said.

When Easum attended UCR, she was one of a few female math majors. She said she struggled in her first quarter of calculus but credits a teaching assistant with helping her understand.

"It was one of those turning points in your life," she said. "I never looked back."

Easum says she's been lucky to find a career that she enjoys.

"The most important thing you can do is find something you are passionate about and if you're lucky, that will become your career and you'll never be bored."

Daniel Goldmark ('94, music)

Outstanding Young Alumnus

Daniel Goldmark was in a music history class when his instructor played a piece by Schubert that sounded very familiar.

"What I thought was, 'Why am I thinking of Yosemite Sam?'" said Goldmark, an assistant professor of musicology at Case Western Reserve University.

Goldmark soon discovered that the piece, "Erlkonig," was a standard used in silent films to convey fear or danger. He later found out that the composer who used it in silent films went on to score most of the Warner Bros. cartoons.

It was a revelation that would prove pivotal to Goldmark's career.

"Once you say, 'Oh, there's a classical piece in cartoons,' 99 percent of the time, everyone will know one," he said. "Especially if you grew up with Looney Tunes on TV."

Goldmark, 33, is the winner of this year's Outstanding Young Alumnus award, which recognizes alumni 35 years of age or younger who have demonstrated significant career or civic achievements, and promise in their profession.

Goldmark, who began playing piano at age 5, enjoys all kinds of music.

"I am a musical omnivore and yet I can usually turn my brain off and listen to something and not be thinking about it," he said.

His monograph, "Tunes for 'Toons: Music and the Hollywood Cartoon," was published in fall 2005. In "Tunes for 'Toons," Goldmark examines cartoon music during its heyday from the 1930s to the 1950s when the film companies had their own animation studios — and some, like Warner Bros. had full-time orchestras.

Goldmark is now researching sheet music and music publishing in the United States in the early 20th century and Tin Pan Alley in the early 1900s. He has produced a two-CD collection of the music of Tom and Jerry composer Scott Bradley, and a two-disc anthology called "Courage: The Complete Atlantic Recordings of Rufus Harley," the world's first and only jazz bagpiper.

"You have to really enjoy what you are doing," Goldmark said of his job. "I still don't look at cartoons as work. I joke with my wife, 'Am I watching it for work or am I watching it to watch it?'"

Joel Reynolds ('75, political science)

Honored Alumni Award, College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences

Joel Reynolds says he and his siblings were raised at UCR.

Reynolds, this year's winner of the Honored Alumni Award for the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, was frequently on campus with his father, William, a founding faculty member in the music department and longtime choral director.

William Reynolds worked at the university for four decades. The elder Reynolds instilled his love of music in his children.

The Honored Alumni Award recognizes alumni whose personal or professional achievements have brought or will bring honor and distinction to a particular college at UCR.

A senior attorney at the Natural Resources Defense Council's Los Angeles office, Reynolds studied political science and music at UCR.

"I didn't focus on law until the middle of college," he said. "There were two people who influenced that. One was Jim Krieger, who taught environmental law at UCR and was a very successful lawyer at Best, Best and Krieger," he said.

The other person was Riverside Mayor Ron Loveridge, who taught in the political science department. Loveridge ran the internship program and Reynolds spent seven months with the Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, D.C.

"He was a wonderful mentor," Reynolds said of Loveridge.

After graduating, Reynolds went to Columbia Law School. He then clerked for a U.S. district judge in the Eastern District of New York and later took a fellowship with the Center for Law in the Public Interest in Los Angeles. The center hired him.

Reynolds joined the staff of the Natural Resources Defense Council's (NRDC) Los Angeles office as a senior attorney in 1990, after 10 years with the Center for Law in the Public Interest and the Western Center on Law and Poverty, both in Los Angeles.

Since 1980, he has specialized in complex law reform litigation and has argued cases on behalf of environmental and community organizations at all levels of the federal courts, including the U.S. Supreme Court. He currently specializes in issues of coastal protection, land use, marine mammal protection, environmental justice and transportation.

Growing up in the Inland Empire helped focus his career, he said.

"You can't grow up in Riverside without being interested in the environment," he said.

Reynolds is director of NRDC's Urban and Southern

California programs. As head of NRDC's Coastal Ecosystem and Marine Mammal Protection projects, he has spearheaded NRDC's efforts to obtain or preserve legal protection for wildlife and its habitat in California and Baja California, including the coastal California gnatcatcher and the Pacific gray whale.

"We all have to try and make a difference for the better and my work allows me every day to focus on things that I care about," he said. "Not for reason of income but purely for reasons of ideology and principle, and not everybody can say that. It certainly has always been what attracted me to this."

William Fenical ('68, Ph.D. chemistry)

Honored Alumni Award, College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences

William Fenical's career path began during a family trip to Florida when he was 12.

There he found that the ocean and the different and complex forms of marine life fascinated him.

The ocean occupies 70 percent of the Earth but remains unexplored, said Fenical, whose interest in the ocean increased after his family moved from Chicago to California.

"I have always considered the oceans to be the 'last frontier' and a major, undeveloped resource for the discovery of new agents to treat human diseases," said Fenical, who is the recipient of the Honored Alumni Award for the College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences.

Fenical took up scuba diving while studying organic chemistry. Determined to blend his love of the ocean with his career, he obtained an assistant research chemist position at Scripps Institute of Oceanography in 1973. Since then, he has studied marine chemical ecology with particular interest in the role of chemical defense in thwarting predation on vulnerable marine organisms.

It is from this research, and the resultant discovery of new chemical compounds, that he became interested in the medical potential of the oceans. Today, his research focuses on the discovery of medicinally valuable compounds derived from marine microorganisms collected locally and from tropical locations, as well as extreme environments such as the deep-sea and arctic waters.

As a Distinguished Professor of Oceanography and Pharmaceutical Science and director of the marine research division at the Scripps Institute of Oceanography and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Fenical and generations of students and fellow researchers have been reinventing how scientists search for medicines. He has traveled extensively to do research, conducting 27 major shipboard expeditions as the director of the Center for Marine Biotechnology and Biomedicine at Scripps Institute of Oceanography and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

He is also co-founder of Nereus Pharmaceuticals, a private company licensed through the university to take marine medical discoveries to market.

Only one marine drug is being used clinically, Fenical said. It's a potent painkiller derived from the cone snail and is used to treat severe, chronic pain.

Fenical's laboratory has discovered about 20 molecules that have the potential to treat various cancers.

"Currently, we have two drugs in human clinical trials," he said. "One is for multiple myeloma and the other targeted to breast and ovarian cancer."

Brian Hawley ('89, computer science; '91, M.S. computer science)

Honored Alumni Award, Bourns College of Engineering:

As a high school senior, a time when many teenagers are giddy about graduation or the prom, Brian Hawley was busy running his own company.

Computer Systems International was a lofty title for a company owned and operated by a 17-year-old boy. But Hawley was talented working with computers and word got around.

The effort snowballed, he said.

"I was in the right place at the right time," he said. "Somebody knew that I knew how to do that sort of stuff."

Hawley went on to earn a bachelor's and master's degree in computer science from UCR.

Now Hawley is chairman and chief technical officer of Luminex, a company he founded with two friends in 1994. The privately held company develops distinctive data storage products for storing, archiving, distributing and protecting data. In 2002 and 2003, Luminex was named to the Deloitte Fast 50 list as being one of the fastest-growing technology companies in Southern California.

Hawley said he fell in love with computers when he was a teenager.

"I just got hooked on it," he said. "Before that, I was thinking about being a doctor." But computers, he said, were "just a natural fit for me."

The son of an engineer, Hawley said he inherited the ability to look at things logically and analyze them.

"I knew it was going to pervade every aspect of life, just like cell phones and Internet do now," he said. "For me, it was a natural tool for doing things."

Luminex's 42 employees are headquartered in Riverside, with additional development offices in San Diego, Calif., and Beaverton, Ore.

Hawley and his wife, Vickie, have raised two Labrador retrievers named Sadie and Kelsa. The couple also have a Siberian husky named Destiny, whom they rescued from a freeway.

Hawley attributes his success to dedication, passion and the ability to stay in niche markets rather than trying to compete with IBM.

"I've always been pretty much a Type A personality that needs to have 27 balls in the air," he said.

Franklin A. "Lindy" Lindeburg

Distinguished Service Award

It rained on the first day UCR held classes in 1954. So school officials came up with an unusual solution to protect

students from the weather: they placed plywood around the university's five buildings.

"There wasn't a blade of grass. Everything was just flat," said Franklin A."Lindy" Lindeburg, UCR's first athletic director who was on campus that day.

Lindeburg's tenure at UCR lasted more than three decades. He was a physical education instructor, assistant football coach, basketball coach and golf coach. He retired in 1988.

The UCR Alumni Association is honoring Lindeburg with the Distinguished Service Award, which recognizes faculty or administrators for time and service to the alumni association; longstanding, widely recognized, quality instruction; or for a record of longstanding service to students.

Lindeburg said he was "flabbergasted" when he was told he was being honored more," he said. "I've always felt that if you can help others, (you should). That was my philosophy. I enjoyed every day I went to school to work."

In its infancy, UCR was more like a big family, with about 500 students and 126 faculty members, he said.

"The faculty members that wanted to hosted students in their homes," said Lindeburg. He and his wife did so, hosting about 20 people who sat on the floor and asked questions about the school.

UCR was supposed to be a small liberal arts college, like 2,500 students," he said. "A lot of the faculty was hired with that idea in mind but it soon became obvious that they couldn't keep the school small because the University of California, throughout the state, needed room for students. After about five years, we went to a general campus. Of course, now there are 17,000 students here."

The first basketball team lost all of its games, Lindeburg recalls. "I was the assistant football coach and we won a couple of games and we tied a couple of games. In the spring of 1955, we had a golf team and they came third out of 20 schools in Southern California golf championships," he said.

Lindeburg continues to attend UCR basketball games and baseball games.

07.14

L.A. Alumni Chapter Annual Hollywood Bowl Event

Join the Los Angeles Chapter of the UCR Alumni Association for an annual Hollywood Bowl outing featuring "John Williams: Maestro of the Movies" with the Los Angels Philharmonic, conducted by John Williams.

07.16

Alumni Association New Board Member Orientation

4-5 p.m., Alumni & Visitors Center
Erickson Conference Room

Alumni Association Executive Committee Retreat

5:30-7:30 p.m., Alumni & Visitors Center

08.17 – 19

African Student Programs Reunion

Various locations throughout Los Angeles region.
Contact African Student Programs at (951) 827-4576

08.24 – 25

Alumni Association Board Retreat

Morgan Run Resort & Club

How to contact the UCR Alumni Association
(951) UCR-ALUM or (800) 426-ALUM (2586)
ucralum@ucr.edu
www.alumni.ucr.edu

For more information about these and other alumni events, visit **www.alumni.ucr.edu**

Fall 2007

Alumni & Visitors Center Grand Opening

The 14,000-square-foot center, which will serve as the campus' front door, will house a large lobby, meeting rooms, a library of works by UCR authors, a formal board room and a dining facility that can also double as a banquet space. Find out more at **www.alumni.ucr.edu/groundbreaking.html**

10.13

Alumni Association Scholars' Brunch

10 a.m.-noon, Student Commons

11.15

Alumni Association Fall Quarter Meeting

Executive Committee Meeting
1:30-3 p.m., Alumni & Visitors Center, Erickson Conference Room

UCR Alumni Association fall board meeting,
3-6 p.m., Alumni & Visitors Center, Johnson Board Room

Amazon River Journey

Join the UCR Alumni Association for a journey to the Amazon

River. The tour is scheduled for March 7-16, 2008, for $3,795. Reservations made by Aug. 10 will receive a $300 early-booking discount.

50s

'58 **Richard T. "Nick" Nicolls** and **Gail (Moore) Nicolls** retired in 1991 to Guemes Island, Wash., after 25 years living, working and raising four daughters in Saudi Arabia, the Marshall Islands, North Sumatra and Germany. Nick, formerly a physician, is now a fire commissioner for their on-island volunteer fire department, secretary of the island's property-owners association, and manager of the community center well and water system. Gail retired from teaching and is now chair of the Skagit County Democrats, secretary of the island's environmental trust and coordinator of the island's community emergency response team.

60s

'62 **Frank Bidart** was awarded Yale University's $100,000 Bollingen Prize in Poetry for 2007. Frank is an English professor at Wellesley College. The prize was established in 1949 by Paul Mellon and is awarded biennially by the Yale University Library for the best poetry book published or for the lifetime achievement of an American poet. Frank joined the Wellesley English department in 1972 where he teaches poetry workshops and 20th century poetry.

Elmer Thomas

Bachelor of Science '02, Computer Engineering

Elmer Thomas is chief executive of ThemBid.com, where consumers can present their needs, and suppliers or companies can bid on the jobs. In 2003, Thomas founded his first company, Above the Limit Inc., which specializes in Web design and hosting.

1. **How did you and your business partners come up with the idea for ThemBid.com?**
Isaac Saldana (our CTO) came up with the idea for ThemBid.com more than a year ago. He had a home repair problem and finding a service provider through the yellow pages was time consuming. Who do you choose? The person with the biggest ad? How do you know who is good? He thought, wouldn't it be great if you could just post your request online and have businesses bid on your request and then be able to select the business based on value using a rating system. So the idea came: Stop searching and make Them Bid!

2. **What advice do you have for someone who wants to start an online business?**
First, you need to define the overall goals and results you are after, then define the purpose behind those goals and results. If the purpose is not strong and you do not have a burning desire to achieve those goals and results, seriously think about another vision to pursue. Second, find mentors who have already been successful in the industry they are trying to get into. Then, find your mastermind team, who all share your vision passionately, each with different areas of expertise. Finally, the whole thing must be fun for you, to the point where work is no longer work, something that you are excited about when you jump out of the bed in the morning (and I do literally mean jump).

3. **Do you have a hero?**
I do not have any one hero. In fact, I have not thought much about that. I believe wisdom is best obtained by the study of many different people of many different cultures. So my hero would be a combination of all that is good in all of the people I have studied and those that I have not.

4. **How do you spend your time away from work?**
I enjoy spending time with my family. I have a wonderful wife and a very happy and active 2-year-old daughter. I also enjoy reading, in particular, I love to read about successful people, their methodologies and philosophies. I also enjoy programming for fun. Currently, I am enjoying Symfony (a PHP5 framework).

5. **What is one important lesson you learned at UC Riverside?**
My mentor, Jay Farrell from the Department of Electrical Engineering, taught me valuable lessons about independence, self-motivation and responsibility as an undergraduate researcher. He gave me the freedom to find my own path and the responsibility to lead others.

Names printed in **Blue** indicate members of the UCR Alumni Association. To update your membership, or to share information and photos for possible use in Class Acts, visit **www.alumni.ucr.edu**.

TAKE FIVE

Ronald A. Sherman M.D., M.Sc.

Bachelor of Science, '79 Entomology

Sherman, the most well-known researcher of modern maggot therapy, co-founded and directs Monarch Labs, which produces and distributes medical maggots. He maintains a lab at UC Irvine devoted to the biology and clinical impact of myiasis (maggot infestations).

1. **You started officially experimenting with maggots in 1989. What led you to explore this line of study?**
I had always been interested in parasitology and medical entomology. I was intrigued not only by the "bad bugs" but also by the good bugs, which had historically been used as medicine or food. As an infectious-diseases fellow at UC Irvine in 1989, I was asked to assist with serious, chronic wounds that failed to respond to modern surgical and medical care. Everything just came together at that point, inspiring me to design and conduct the first controlled, comparative clinical trials of maggot therapy (maggot-induced wound healing) for treating bed sores and diabetic foot ulcers.

2. **Some refer to you as the father of modern maggot therapy. How do you feel about that title?**
That's a lot better than what everyone else calls me.

3. **Most people shudder at the thought of maggots. Do you have any such reaction?**
I must confess that once I did get a little disgusted … I came home late one night, starving and tired after 36 hours on-call. The first thing I did was run to the porch to see if my fly traps had collected anything over the past few days. One of these traps was a soup bowl filled with rotting chicken. Tired and weary, I stumbled out to the porch and put my face up close to the bowl, carefully lifting the saucer on top to peek inside without disturbing anything. All at once, hundreds of very large maggots (nearly 1 inch long) and a vicious stench leaped right into my face. I went to bed hungry.

4. **How did your time at UCR contribute to your research in maggot therapy?**
My education at UCR harnessed my passions for bugs and music through formal education, work, study and play. Clearly, without the formal education I received in entomology, and the experience I received doing research and working in the insectary, I would never have been able to ask — let alone answer — the question that has been, to me, a source of pleasure and intellectual stimulation for the past 20 years: How can fly larvae help wounds heal?

5. **What was your favorite class at UCR?**
This question has taxed me because I liked most of my classes at UCR. My favorite class might have been carillon. Although I loved all of my classes as an entomology major and music minor, playing and writing music for UCR's carillon holds a special place in my heart, probably because there were so few of us playing music up in the tower, and because it was an experience that was possible almost nowhere else.

'66 **Patrick Wegner** (Ph.D.) is an emeritus professor of chemistry and biochemistry at California State University, Fullerton. He developed a software and online program for chemistry coursework currently in use in the Anaheim Union High School District, at Fullerton College, Coastline College and UC Irvine. The program, which is used by 6,000 students during the school year, provides detailed examples of chemical processes and uses variables to give each student a different question to solve. Professors or teachers can track a student's progress and customize an approach for assistance. John Wiley Books purchased the program for its offerings in educational materials. In January, Patrick was honored by the Orange County Section of the American Chemical Society (ACS) for his educational program.

'67 **August Saibeni** wrote an article published in the April 2007 issue of the *CPA Journal,* "How About a Vacation from the Complexity of Vacation Home Rules," to help those owning vacation homes understand the federal income tax rules associated with vacation home income-tax compliance.

'68 **Barbara Kerr** is president of the California Teachers Association (CTA). She was first elected president of CTA in 2003 and re-elected to a second term in 2005. In March, Barbara spoke at UCR to students and educators about the future of education in California schools.

Photography by Michael Elderman

SEARCH and Rescue for Families with Autistic Children

Iris Mink, UCR alumna and retired psychologist from UCLA, invited friends to attend a gathering at her home in Los Angeles in April. The event was designed to showcase the newly established Support, Education, Advocacy, Resources, Community and Hope (SEARCH). Led by UC Riverside Professor of Education Jan Blacher, the center will help families with autistic children find necessary educational resources.

"With six out of every 1,000 children diagnosed with autism in the United States, we saw a need to bridge the gap between diagnosis and available services," Blacher told the group, which included actress Rene Russo.

The center's faculty and graduate students will work in partnership with K-12 administrative leaders, the Riverside County Office of Education, the Loma Linda University Medical Center and regional centers to develop bilingual training programs and materials. SEARCH will also assist families who have previously been underserved, especially those who fall into the low-income bracket.

The center, which is slated to open in fall 2007, will be located in the UCR Eady Center.

70s

'71 **Stephen Reed** ('73 M.A.) retired from the Social Security Administration and is beginning a new career as a full-time history professor at Santiago Canyon College in Orange. He has been teaching part time for 16 years in 12 different colleges and universities in Southern California.

'73 **William Hemmerdinger** is an artist with work currently on exhibit in "Claremont Connections" at the Long Beach Museum of Art. A painting from his "Manuscripts and Palimpsests" group will be exhibited through Aug. 31. The series is executed on newsprint whose messages are gradually obscured by several layers of overpainting, using acrylic, watercolor and Rhoplex.

'74 **Esperanza Luna** is an artist in Newport, Ore. Her framed oil painting "Refugees" was featured in a live auction at the 12th annual Children's Center Charity Ball, the primary fund-raiser for the Lincoln County (Ore.) Children's Advocacy Center. Esperanza retired from the Los Angeles County Probation Department in 2004 after 29 years of service. She joined the staff of the Children's Advocacy Center's Prevention Program in 2006, and works with at-risk children and families throughout Lincoln County.

'75 **Lucy Dechene** (M.S., '77 Ph.D.) is a mathematics professor at Fitchburg State College in Massachusetts. She also plays the carillon and was invited to UCR in January to perform during the Chancellor's Carillon Concert Series sponsored by UCR's Department of Music ... **Darryl Fisher** is the medical director of Avalon Community Hospital on Santa Catalina Island.

'76 **Gregory Aloia** (Ph.D.) was a semifinalist for West Liberty State College's presidency. Greg has served as dean of the college of education and as professor of special education at Florida Atlantic University since 2001 ... **Irma Poole Asberry** was appointed Riverside County's first African-American female judge. She has had a private family law practice in Riverside

since 1998 and was previously with the firm Butterwick & Bright from 1980 until 1998. Irma was president of the Riverside County Bar Association in 1997-1998 ... **Cheryl Schuler** was selected as the California Council for the Social Studies Senior High School Outstanding Teacher of the Year. Cheryl has taught at La Quinta High School since 1996. She has been married for 30 years and is the mother of three children.

'77 **Eric Mathur** is vice president of the J. Craig Venter Co. in La Jolla, Calif. He was previously a research scientist at UCR, the Scripps Institute, Stratagene Cloning System Inc. and Diversa Corp. (as co-founder) and recently was distinguished scientific consultant and research fellow at the J. Craig Venter Institute and its Synthetic Geonomics Inc. Most of Eric's activities are in the field of genetic engineering and sciences boundaries. He has published more than 60 scientific papers, and is named as inventor on more than 50 issued U.S. and world patents. He has presented at more than 100 scientific lectures.

80s

'80 **Gail Hoak** ('85 M.A.) is the dance department chair at Mt. San Jacinto College, where she has served on the faculty since 1980. She directed "Wonderful Town" with a cast of more than 40 singers and dancers with music by a 10-piece orchestra. She has choreographed more than 20 musicals and directed seven.

'82 **Bonnie Flach** has been working for the Department of the Navy for the past 24 years. Next year she retires from the Air Force Reserves with 20 years of service ... **Richard Hanks** ('98 M.A., '06 Ph.D.) is an associate archivist at the A.K. Smiley Public Library and Lincoln Memorial Shrine in Redlands, Calif. ... **Glenn Nedwin** (Ph.D.) was founder of Novozynes Inc., a world leader in the cellulosic ethanol industry. Novozynes Inc. was founded in 1992 as a subsidiary of the Denmark-based enzyme and pharmaceutical company Novo Nordisk. In the 1990s, Glenn's company designed enzymes that nibbled at the fabric in jeans, making them look stylishly worn-out. Then in 2000, he and a partner developed enzymes that would dissolve the fibers of most any plant into a sugary mush, which could then be fermented into cellulosic ethanol. Cellulosic ethanol is made from virtually any plant matter. Current U.S. ethanol refineries use just the kernels of the corn plant. In theory, with Glenn's new enzyme it should be possible to make a gallon of cellulosic ethanol using less land and money than it takes to make a gallon of corn-based ethanol. Glenn decided to leave Novozymes in March 2006 for an opportunity at a smaller company. He was named chief science officer with a growing biotech firm, Dyadic International, based in Florida. The company has a $10 million research-funding commitment from the world's second-largest ethanol maker, Abengoa Bioenergy. Glenn is opening an office in Davis, which will become Dyadic's research and business development headquarters.

'84 **Kevin Grangetto** ('85 M.S.) is co-owner of Grangetto's Farm and Supply, a one-stop shop for farmers, landscapers and gardeners in San Diego's North County. For years, the family has grown citrus and avocado trees on their Escondido ranch ... **Rick Uhls** is pastor of Belmont Heights United Methodist Church in Long Beach. He is celebrating his 20th anniversary as a United Methodist pastor.

'85 **Ruben Barrales** is the new president and CEO of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce. He and his wife, **Kelly (Forcier) Barrales** ('85), and their children, Ryan and Rachel, moved back to California from Arlington, Va.

'86 **John Carratello** (teaching credential) is a music specialist with the San Jacinto Unified School District and has twice been selected as the district's Teacher of the Year. He has taught for more than 20 years at Hyatt and San Jacinto elementary schools.

'87 **Mark Lawler** owns ProSight Inc., which recently completed a successful private equity exit with Primavera Systems, acquiring the company at the end of 2006. Mark was one of the U.S. co-founders of ProSight in 1999. He held the positions of chief technical officer and vice president of product management. ProSight is recognized by industry analysts as one of the companies that started the information technology portfolio-management market. Today, more than $30 billion of the United State's federal information technology budget is planned and managed within the ProSight system. The company's Portland office grew from Mark's den to a profitable company with more than $25 million in recognized revenue, more than 300 percent compounded annual growth rates, and more than 100 employees. ProSight was ranked as the fourth fastest-growing U. S. software company and was profiled in Federal Computer Week's 2004 article on "Top 10 Hot Companies to Watch." Mark is now the vice president of ProSight Product Strategy at Primavera Systems Inc.

'83 **Judith Posnikoff** ('85 M.B.A., '93 Ph.D.) is one of the founders and a managing director of Pacific Alternative Asset Management Co., LLC, an institutional fund-of-funds firm based in Irvine, Calif., established in 2000. As a member of the Investment Management Committee, Judy is involved in all stages of the investment process. She specifically focuses on the complex customized portfolios of the firm's Asia/Pacific institutional accounts. Other partners in the firm include UCR alumni **James (Jim) Berens** ('89 M.A.), **Patricia Watters** ('93 M.A., '95 Ph.D.), and **William (Bill) Knight** ('81 Ph.D.).

90s

'90 **Ariel Vitali** is a resident of neuropsychiatry at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. He received his medical degree from Dartmouth Medical School in 1994.

'91 **Tim Cannavo** is the new head football coach for Yucca Valley High School. He has seven years of coaching experience at Yucca Valley and five years at Joshua Springs High School. He has taught algebra and geometry for 13 years. For the past six years, Tim has also served in the Marine Corps Reserve, including one tour in Iraq with 4th H&S Company in 2005 ... **Vincent**

Reyes has lived in Westwood for the past seven years with his wife and 4-year-old daughter. After working for the past 14 years as a NASDAQ trader for three major investment banking firms, he has taken a position as head trader and analyst for Signature Estate Investment Advisory, a private wealth-management firm in Century City.

'92 **Trina (Bremenstuhl) Elerts** ('93 teaching credential) has worked at UCR for the past 13 years and is currently serving as program coordinator for the UC Washington Academic Internship Program (UCDC) and the UC Center Sacramento Scholar Intern Program. She and her husband, Adam, live in Riverside's historic "wood streets" area and have two children, Sarah and Nathan … **Jennifer Walsh** is associate professor of political science at Azusa Pacific University. From 2000 to 2006, she served as an assistant professor of criminal justice at California State University, Los Angeles. She graduated from Claremont Graduate University with M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in political science.

'93 **Steven Ackerman** is the health department chair at his high school alma mater, University High School in West Los Angeles. He is also the student council faculty adviser and the boys varsity basketball coach. Steven has been married for three years and has no children … **G. Allen Gaither** (M.A., '94 administrative credential) was interim principal at Temescal Canyon High School. He was most recently the principal of California Military Academy in Perris, Calif.

'94 **James H. Park** was one of three candidates running for the District 7 office of the California State Bar Board of Governors. James was admitted to the State Bar in 1997 and is currently of counsel to Ropers Majeski Kohn & Bentley, specializing in commercial real estate transactions and disputes. He also has experience in enforcing and defending contracts, particularly indemnification provisions … **Erik Pritchard** is a partner in Ross, Dixon & Bell, LLP and practices in the firm's Orange County, Calif., office. He is admitted to practice in California, Maryland and the District of Columbia. Since joining the firm in 1999, Erik has maintained a diverse civil litigation practice in state and federal courts. He graduated from the University of Virginia School of Law, where he was editor in chief of the Journal of Law & Politics … **Tobin Sloane** ('96 M.B.A.) is chief financial officer for Ware Malcomb, a national design firm that offers planning, architecture, interior design, graphic design and site development services to commercial real estate clients.

'95 **Jennifer Stoever** ('96 teaching credential) received a Ph.D. in American studies and ethnicity from the University of Southern California in May 2007. After marrying Charles Ackerman in July, she will be beginning a tenure-track position as assistant professor of English at Binghamton University in fall 2007.

'98 **Laura Hansen** ('01 M.A., '04 Ph.D.) was named director of the criminal justice program at the University of Massachusetts for 2007-08. Laura also serves on a hearing committee for the board of overseers, Massachusetts Bar Association.

'99 **David Anderson** joined America's Vacation Center (AVC) in 1999 after graduating from UCR. When he joined AVC, the company had no Web site and was focused solely on the San Diego local market. Over the past seven years, David worked to develop an agency operating software that has enabled AVC to become one of the largest sellers of cruises and vacations in the country. This year, AVC received three awards for Agency of the Year from Norwegian Cruise Lines, Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines and Oceanic Cruises. David was on board the Norwegian Pearl in the Caribbean to accept the latest award … **Jesse Randolph** joined the international law firm Bryan Cave LLP as an associate in the firm's Irvine office. Jesse has practiced labor and employment law and will continue to do so with Bryan Cave's labor and employment group. He advises clients on all aspects of labor and employment law, serving as both a litigator and adviser. He has experience defending clients in matters involving sexual harassment, wrongful termination, employment discrimination, wage and hour violations and unfair competition … **Ricardo Souza** (Ph.D.) and Claudia Dolinski (Ph.D.) are associate professors at UENF, a state university in Brazil, where they lead a research group on diseases and pests of guava and coffee.

00s

'01 **Heather (Christopher) Dennis** received her juris doctorate from the University of California, Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law in 2004. She is now a corporate associate at the Los Angeles office of Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP, specializing in mergers and acquisitions, public and private offerings of equity and debt securities, corporate governance and general corporate representation.

'02 **Jennifer Rustigian** is a field representative for Congressman Joe Baca (D-CA) and is responsible for women and media issues. In her spare time, Jennifer travels to Mexico, Italy and other parts of the world, photographing everything that catches her eye. An exhibit of her work, "Digital Destinations," featuring 25 black-and-white and color photographs, was showcased at a Riverside coffeehouse. She became interested in photography a few years ago while working for congressman Baca to keep a photographic record of the office and the events the Congressman hosts or attends.

'03 **Ruben Hernandez** would like anyone who has a video or DVD of the 2003 commencement ceremony to get in touch with him. He can be e-mailed at jazz2knight@aol.com.

'04 **Selena Brown** earned a Master of Arts degree in theater and performance studies from the department of theatre, speech and dance at Brown University in Providence, R.I. She is continuing to work toward her Ph.D. at Brown. Her first play, *So(L)una*, premiered at Rites & Reason Theatre on the Brown campus … **Tony Festa** was a utility player for West Virginia, the Milwaukee Brewers' low Class A affiliate minor league baseball team. He met the love of his life, Megan McCoy, a West Virginia University Tech student who worked at Appalachian Power Park. Tony is now a sales executive for WeSave, a members-benefit program for public employees.

'05 **Taylor Fry** is a volunteer with San Bernardino County's Coroners Office, where she checks employee backgrounds for a screening agency. Taylor is part of the 20-member Citizen Volunteer division with San Bernardino County Coroner's Office … **Rachel Ginsberg** is a geographic information systems (GIS) technician for Rand McNally, the publisher of maps, atlases and globes for travel, commercial and educational purposes. Rachel was hired last September, only three weeks after she completed the GIS Summer School at UCR Extension.

'06 **Tiffani King** started a mortgage and real estate company with her business partner. The company offers an internship program to UCR students in which they can experience a career in real estate and home financing while earning units toward graduation. She is now in the process of starting a bank in which they will be able to lend and warehouse mortgage loans … **Ashleigh Micklis** was a financial assistant for a hedge fund and a legal assistant for Morgan Stanley Corporate in New York. In fall 2007, Ashleigh will attend the Thomas Jefferson School of Law in San Diego, Calif.

Marriages, Births, Anniversaries

'56 **Vaughn** and **Irene Blankenship** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a four-week 5,600-mile cross-country trip. During the drive they traveled up Route 1 along the California coast, as they did on their honeymoon. The couple also visited the UCR campus, where they met as students.

'90 **Sally (Timlin) Cherry** married Ryan Cherry in January 2006 in Santa Barbara, Calif. The couple honeymooned in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. Their daughter, Jubilee, was born in November 2006. She weighed 7 pounds 10 ounces and was 20 inches long.

'95 **Jenifer Johnson** married John Schmutz in February 2007. She participated in AIDS/Lifecycle, a 545-mile bicycle ride from San Francisco to Los Angeles to raise money to help people living with HIV and AIDS.

'96 **Theodore Snyder** and **Jennifer Linnig** ('00) married in Wisconsin in October 2006 after meeting in an English class at UCR in 1992.

'02 **Julia Wade** married Erik Murphy-Chutorian in May 2006. She is in her third year of law school at California Western School of Law and Erik is in his fifth year pursuing a Ph.D. in electrical engineering at UCSD.

WE REMEMBER

FACULTY AND STAFF

Caril Dundon ('94), an admissions assistant in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, died March 2007. She had worked at UC Riverside for more than 10 years. She is survived by her husband, James Dundon; daughter, Laura Paulsen; and sister, Janis Kraus.

Wistaria Linton, former UC Riverside staff photographer, died February 2007 in Phoenix, Ariz. She was the daughter of Sadakichi Hartmann, a well-known writer and art critic.

ALUMNI AND STUDENTS

'70 **Ruth Eloise Coe**, retired elementary school teacher, November 2006.

'84 **Maricarmen Ruiz-Torres** ('89 M.A.), curator of the Museum of History and Art, October 2006.

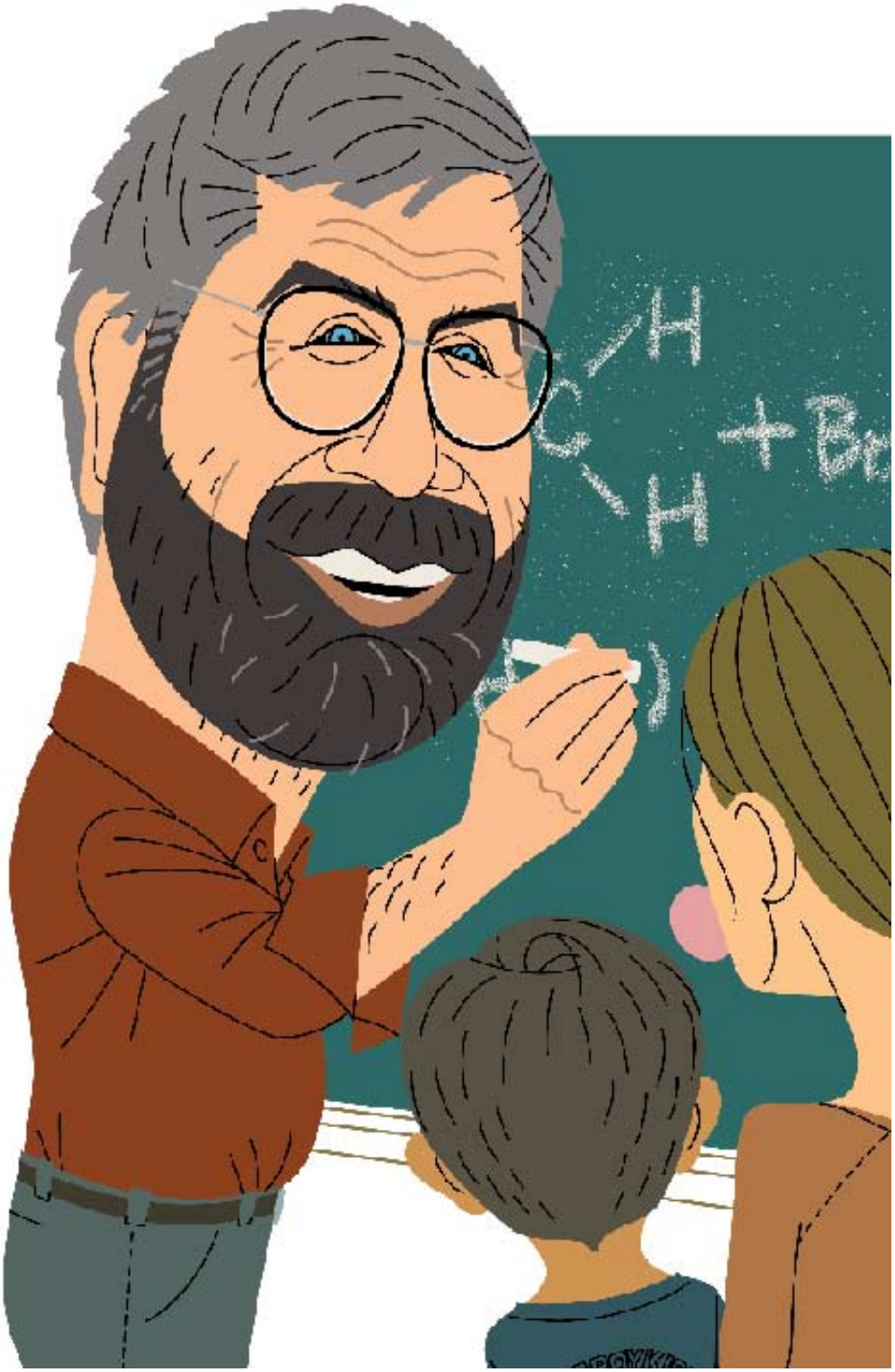
'89 **Jacquelynn "Jackie" Renee Moe**, math teacher at Redlands High School, January 2007.

'98 **Kenneth C. Bernal**, high school teacher, February 2007.

Linda Thi Vinh Nguyen, student, third-year College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, March 2007.

Richard Cardullo

Chair, Department of Biology



To Richard Cardullo, "synergy" means working with local schools to inspire future scientists.

By Litty Mathew

Richard Cardullo, chair of the Department of Biology, has an ALIAS. He's not penning a celebrity tell-all nor is he on the run from the law. Cardullo's ALIAS — Accelerated Literacy Integrating Algebra and Science — is a science and math outreach program.

And for the past eight years, he has spearheaded the effort to help promote the study and love of science in local schools with children who might not otherwise be exposed to science.

"Kids are natural scientists," notes Cardullo. "They're inquisitive and creative. They are not afraid to play around, hypothesize and experiment. We have to tap into this as early as possible to keep them interested in science as older students."

California's students score at the very bottom in science literacy and performance in the United States. The country scored in the bottom third worldwide.

"I feel fortunate to have grown up in rural Massachusetts during the Sputnik era," explains Cardullo. "Science was big when we were growing up. We were encouraged to probe and experiment." In California, a state with a strong high-tech industry, yet with notable outsourcing of jobs to other countries, the concerns are economic as well as academic.

"It's about creating a future but it's also about making college accessible to kids who never thought they could go," says Cardullo. "This is part of our responsibility, especially as a public institution."