

UCR

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AAGAARD

Election 2008 – Who Gets Our Vote?

Getting Bugs into
the Computer

Starry-Eyed Research

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FEATURES

16

Bug Shapes

The departments of engineering and entomology have created an innovative way for computers to recognize objects using documented shapes of insects.

26

Working Hard to Make a Difference

UCR graduate student Louise Hendrickson is an officer in the Graduate Student Association and president of the systemwide UC Student Association.

28

Starry-Eyed Research

The Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics at UCR studies the universe.



08

Who Gets Our Vote?

The 2008 election means that we will be inundated with ads, speeches, literature and phone calls from candidates and political parties. What factors and issues play a role in how we vote?

DEPARTMENTS

04

R Space

A glimpse of what's going on at UCR.

20

Page Turners

24

As I See It

Henry Snyder tells how it came to be that he received the National Humanities Medal from President Bush.

25

Gifted

32

Alumni Connections and Class Acts

40

C Scape

Francis Carney, political science professor emeritus, has been a guiding force for political science students for almost a half-century.

Inside Back:

The Goldware Family Library in the Alumni and Visitors Center offers a place for relaxation and rest.

Explore Happiness, Grief, Beauty, the Unusual and the Extraordinary

For more on UCR events, visit the calendar at www.events.ucr.edu.



Through 3.29

Incognegro: New Works by Mark Steven Greenfield

Steven Greenfield's multimedia exhibition explores race through a contemporary illustration of one of the most infamous and controversial American forms of entertainment – blackface performance.

sweeney.ucr.edu



Through 4.05

Transpersonae

Artists Bob Debris, Robbie Miller and Naida Oslone present works that explore the diverse personae chosen by individuals and how personal expression defines who we are and affects our surroundings.

www.cmp.ucr.edu



2.21

I, Land

Keo Woolford performs a combination of hula, Hawaiian talk-story and hip-hop to relay his self-acceptance as a male hula dancer.

www.culturalevents.ucr.edu



2.28

The Winter's Tale

The UCR Department of Theatre opens the production of "The Winter's Tale," by William Shakespeare. In the play, Leontes' jealousy destroys his family, his baby is abandoned, and his son and wife die of grief. Meanwhile, shepherds find a baby and time reveals all.

www.theatre.ucr.edu



3.06-08

UCR is Dancing

Neil Greenberg, assistant professor of dance, directs the annual performance of original choreography by UCR students.

www.dance.ucr.edu



3.22

A Day with Sam Maloof, Master Woodworker

Sam Maloof will introduce methods and techniques of making furniture. Participants in this one-day workshop will also have a chance to see furniture that Maloof created for his own home.

www.extension.ucr.edu



4.11

Robert Moses' Kin

The Robert Moses' Kin dance company, based in San Francisco, will perform in a mix of energetic dances with a modern spirit.

www.culturalevents.ucr.edu



5.04

UCR Chamber Orchestra

Guest artist Eileen Holt joins the UCR Chamber Orchestra for a night of music by Mozart, Respighi, Corigliano and more.

www.music.ucr.edu



5.28-31

PLAYWORKS by UCR Playwrights

Premiere productions exploring issues and textures of contemporary life are presented by UCR student playwrights. A different slate of work is scheduled for each performance. Theatre Lab, Humanities 411, located next to the University Theatre.

www.theatre.ucr.edu

Embracing Diversity

Dear Friends:

In September 2007, the UC Regents adopted a statement of principles regarding the importance of diversity in the University of California. This statement, originally crafted by the systemwide Assembly of the Academic Senate, reads in part:

Because the core mission of the University of California is to serve the interests of the state of California, it must seek to achieve diversity among its student bodies and among its employees. The state of California has a compelling interest in making sure that people from all backgrounds perceive that access to the university is possible for talented students, staff and faculty from all groups. The knowledge that the University of California is open to qualified students from all groups, and thus serves all parts of the community equitably, helps sustain the social fabric of the state.

In my view this action by the regents is a major step forward in promoting the intellectual and cultural richness that can be achieved by embracing diversity among our students, faculty and staff.

Recently, I had the opportunity to participate in a scholarship event for UCR undergraduates. I was struck by the tapestry of races, ethnicities and nationalities represented by our students and their families. Our campus is blessed to have such a wealth of cultures and backgrounds among our student body, particularly at the undergraduate level. We know well that not all learning in college occurs in the classroom. Students learn from each other and form lifelong bonds with their classmates. That's one of the reasons diversity on a university campus is so important. It can broaden and deepen the educational experience of our students, preparing them to interact and prosper in our complex global society. Faculty, too, benefit: several faculty members have told me that their scholarship has taken new, unexpected directions because of the diversity in their classrooms.

Universities are at their best when they foster

an exchange of ideas and practices through respectful discourse. At UCR, our goal is to provide a safe forum where a multiplicity of perspectives and beliefs can be shared. These encounters – often spirited and sometimes contentious – can lead to new thinking, new knowledge, new ideas, new policies and novel ways of putting things together that otherwise would not have occurred.

UCR is increasingly recognized for its diversity, and for the benefits it brings to the academic enterprise. But we have more to do. I ask you to join me in celebrating our achievements, but also in rededicating ourselves to enhancing diversity in all its dimensions and at all levels of the institution, and to creating a welcoming, healthy campus climate that honors the rich and varied backgrounds and experiences of each member of our diverse and expanding UCR community.

Robert D. Grey
Acting Chancellor

“ Recently, I had the opportunity to participate in a scholarship event for UCR undergraduates. I was struck by the tapestry of races, ethnicities and nationalities represented by our students and their families. ”





Cowpea Research Gets a Healthy Boost

Scientists at UC Riverside have been awarded a three-year, \$1.7 million grant from the Generation Challenge Program of the Consultative Group of International Agriculture Research (CGIAR) to study cowpea, a protein-rich legume crop important in the diets of millions of Africans.



Produced on more than 30 million acres in hot, drought-prone regions of the tropics and subtropics, cowpea not only provides nutritious food for millions of people and their livestock, but also generates income for rural producers, traders and small-scale urban food vendors, while at the same time enhancing soil fertility.

Jeff Ehlers, specialist in the Department of Botany and Plant Sciences; Philip Roberts, professor of nematology; and Timothy Close, professor of genetics, will work with programmers, postdoctoral researchers and students to develop a genetic "roadmap" of cowpea.

The researchers will apply genomic technology to develop new cowpea cultivars that are more drought-tolerant and resistant to pests and diseases.

View a cowpea research video at www.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/article/16901.



Culver Center Construction Starts

Renovation of the historic Rouse Building, which will become the home of the Barbara and Art Culver Center of the Arts in downtown Riverside, is under way and is expected to be completed in spring 2009.

UC Riverside awarded a \$12.6 million contract to Tovey/Schultz Construction Inc. of Lake Elsinore to complete work on the center, which is the third component of ARTSblock, the UCR arts center on Main Street that includes the California Museum of Photography and Sweeney Art Gallery.

Among the project's features are a cafe, exhibition and performance facilities, dance studios, digital art and digital computer studios, a 90-seat screening room, and climate-controlled archives that will house the prestigious Keystone-Mast Collection of glass plate negatives used in stereographic photography.

Jonathan Green, who served as director of the UCR/California Museum of Photography for 17 years, is executive director of ARTSblock.

View a photo of the groundbreaking event on page 23.



A Green University Thumbs Up

The University of California and its 10 campuses, including UC Riverside, landed the No. 4 spot when Sierra Magazine published a list of the Top 10 "Coolest Schools," a ranking of the greenest colleges and universities in the nation.

UCR has made significant strides in achieving campus sustainability, said Al Diaz, vice chancellor for administration.

"At UCR, we realize that combined efforts can have a significant impact on California's environment," said Diaz. "Working together to slow global warming is embraced by the students, faculty and staff here at UCR and that commitment is illustrated by our own local initiatives."



Among recent accomplishments:

- UCR has one of the largest alternative-fuel vehicle fleets in the University of California system.
- Dining Services uses citrus from campus groves and recycles its cooking oil to be made into biodiesel.
- Physical Plant uses computer-controlled irrigation systems that sense moisture levels and irrigate only when and where needed.
- Printing and Reprographics uses environmentally safe water-based solvents, and inks used for printing are 90 percent soy-based. More than 60 percent of paper used – about 4 million sheets per year – is recycled.



"A Million Nightingales": a National Fiction Award

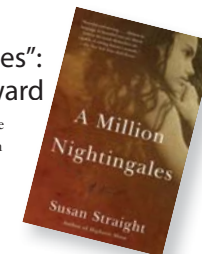
Susan Straight, professor of creative writing, has won the prestigious Lannan Literary Award for Fiction.

The Lannan Foundation said her latest novel, "A Million Nightingales," "continues her singularly beautiful exploration of race in America."

Straight said she was honored to receive the award.

"It is a recognition of my body of work over the last 17 years by a wonderful foundation known for its intellectual and cultural strengths," she said. "This will allow me to take time off from teaching to finish my new novel, the second in a trilogy about slavery and its legacy, motherhood and love."

Straight is an award-winning author who has published six novels, three children's books and many works of short fiction, essays and articles. Her fifth novel, "Highwire Moon," was optioned for film by Little Monument Pictures and is in development. Her commentaries are frequently heard on National Public Radio's "All Things Considered."



Retired Judge, UCR Alumnus, Appointed to UC Board of Regents



Ronald Stovitz ('64), a former president of UCR's Alumni Association, will serve a two-year term as an alumni representative to the UC Board of Regents. His two-year appointment will begin July 1.

He will begin his term as regent-designate and secretary of the Alumni Associations of the University of California. In July 2009 he will have voting power as a regent and will become president of the alumni associations.

His primary responsibility in his new position will be to serve as an alumni representative on the Board of Regents where he will help convey systemwide concerns of the alumni.

Stovitz, who was presiding judge for the State Bar Court in San Francisco, first volunteered to help his alma mater with scholarships and student recruitment. In 1993, he became a member of the UCR Alumni Association Board of Directors. He served as president of the Alumni Association from 2004 to 2006.



Med School Draft Proposal Circulated Among Faculty and Community Stakeholders

A draft proposal to establish a research-based UC Riverside medical school utilizing an innovative clinical education model has been circulated among faculty and community stakeholders.

The draft plan, based on the recommendations of some 80 campus and community representatives, provides the framework for establishing a University of California medical school with research, teaching and service programs to improve the health of Californians, with special attention to the needs of the diverse and growing Inland Southern California region.

When finalized, the plan will form the basis of UCR's proposal to establish a medical school, opening in fall of 2012.

"We have the opportunity to build a nationally distinctive school of medicine tailored especially for the needs of our region, which is already medically underserved and facing a physician shortage of crisis proportions in just a few years time," said Acting Chancellor Robert D. Grey.

As planned, the medical school will build upon the existing UCR/UCLA Thomas Haider Program in Biomedical Sciences, which offers the first two years of medical school instruction to admitted UCR students who then transfer to the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA to finish their M.D.

The medical school will enroll at full build-out a total of 400 medical students, 160 graduate students and 160 residents.



\$3.1 Million Gift to Fund Endowed Chair in Finance

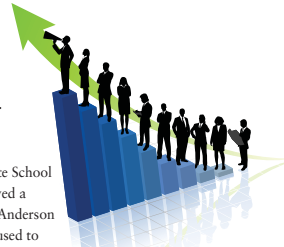
The A. Gary Anderson Graduate School of Management (AGSM) has received a \$3.1 million gift from the A. Gary Anderson Family Foundation, which will be used to support an endowed chair in finance as well as for scholarship funding.

The foundation had previously given a generous endowment to AGSM in 1994. The school is named for A. Gary Anderson, the founder of Director's Mortgage.

With the gift, Dean David W. Stewart plans to add several new programs to AGSM's portfolio and to build a unique identity for the school.

"Such an identity would be very consistent with the school's location in a rapidly growing region that faces all of the growth markets of the future and has all of the growth industries for the future in its back yard," said Stewart.

The school was recently named one of the top 25 graduate business programs from among 900 top universities in the country by Entrepreneur Magazine and the Princeton Review.



Exploring the Wild Galaxy

New images taken with NASA's Hubble Space Telescope – part of a research project led by UCR's Gabriela Canalizo, an assistant professor of astrophysics and a member of the Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics (IGPP) – have revealed the wild side of an elliptical galaxy, nearly 2 billion light-years away.

The new Hubble observations reveal at least five inner shells and additional debris traveling away from the galaxy's center. The shells, which sparkle with stars, resemble ripples forming in a pond when a stone is tossed in. They formed during a collision with another galaxy in the relatively recent past. Some of the galaxy's stars were swept up in the elliptical galaxy's gravitational field, creating the outward-moving shells. The farthest shell is about 40,000 light-years away from the center.

Canalizo was joined in the study by Nicola Bennert of UCR; Francois Schweizer of the Carnegie Observatories in Pasadena; UCR's Bruno Jungwiert, who was in charge of the numerical simulations; Alan Stockton of the University of Hawaii, Honolulu; Mark Lacy of the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena; and Chien Peng of the Herzberg Institute of Astrophysics in Victoria, British Columbia.

To read more about the work being done at IGPP go to page 28.

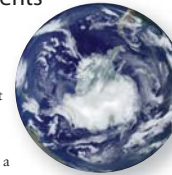


Exploring the Cold Reality of How Life Adapts to Harsh Environments

Researchers from UC Riverside and the University of Delaware have thawed ice estimated to be perhaps 1 million years old or more from above Lake Vostok, an ancient lake that lies hidden more than two miles beneath the frozen surface of Antarctica.

The research team, led by Brian Lanoil, a UCR assistant professor of environmental sciences, is examining the cons-old water for microorganisms. Using novel genomic techniques, the team is trying to determine how the tiny, living "time capsules" survived the ages in total darkness, in freezing cold and without food and energy from the sun.

Lanoil and Craig Cary of the University of Delaware are being joined in the research by James Gosses of UCR; Julie Smith of the University of Delaware; and Philip Hugenholtz, Victor Kunin and Brian Rabkin of the U.S. Department of Energy's Joint Genome Institute. A grant from the National Science Foundation is funding the study.



Finding the Greenest Path

UC Riverside has partnered with Audi and UC Berkeley on a \$650,000 project that will allow drivers to determine the greenest route possible.

The project, "Clean Air, a Viable Planet," aims to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by giving drivers more specific information about the most environmentally responsible route for their particular car in current traffic conditions.

All vehicles will use less fuel getting from A to B when cruising at a constant speed rather than speeding up, slowing down and idling in traffic.

"Our goal is to be part of a real solution to the constant dilemma commuters face: What is the best way to get there?" said Matt Barth, professor of electrical engineering and director of the College of Engineering Center for Environmental Research and Technology (CE-CERT). "Sometimes the best way to get there is the one that causes the least damage to the planet."

UCR and UC Berkeley will work together to combine up-to-date map attributes such as road grade and speed limit with reliable real-time measures of traffic congestion to provide the most environmentally friendly navigation route options.



\$2.1 Million Stem Cell Grant Received to Study Alzheimer's Disease

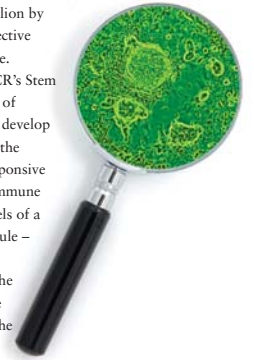
Douglas Ethell, a UCR assistant professor of biomedical sciences who studies how brain cells die in disorders such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's, has been awarded a \$2.1 million five-year grant by the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM), California's stem cell research initiative.

Alzheimer's disease affects more than 5 million people in the United States. It has been estimated that the number of Alzheimer's disease patients in the country will grow to 13 million by 2050. Currently, there is no effective treatment or cure for the disease.

Ethell's research within UCR's Stem Cell Center will involve the use of human embryonic stem cells to develop a method that would stimulate the production of beta-amyloid responsive T cells – cells that coordinate immune responses that reduce brain levels of a toxic Alzheimer's-related molecule – called beta-amyloid peptide.

Ethell's lab will stimulate the embryonic stem cells to become dendritic cells. By engineering the stem cells to express certain proteins, his lab will attempt to coax the dendritic cells into activating Alzheimer's specific immune responses.

"This approach will allow us to determine the best strategies for turning on beneficial Alzheimer's immune responses in human patients," Ethell said. "An eventual therapeutic strategy for the disease may be isolating different kinds of stem cells from a patient to make dendritic cells that can then be given back to the same patient, which would turn the beneficial responses back on. Such a therapeutic approach could greatly reduce cognitive decline in Alzheimer's disease and alleviate some of the enormous emotional, social and financial burden caused by this disease."



Voting Gets Personal

We got it, they want it. How do we decide which candidate gets our nod?

By Lisa O'Neill Hill

We do it because we can. Because we want to. Because we have been asked to.

College graduates do it more often than those without degrees. Older people do it more often than younger people. Minorities do it less often than whites.

Voting is a fundamental American right, an act so cherished by some of us that we cast our ballots every time we're able, whether it's in local, midterm or presidential elections. Others of us feel disenfranchised, refusing to take part in a political system we believe no longer represents our interests.

Who votes, why we vote, how we connect with candidates, and how our identities become intertwined with our political leanings all are of interest to UCR researchers who have been monitoring the 2008 presidential campaign.

Although voters can be drawn to a candidate because of charisma, the American electorate is becoming increasingly sophisticated, seeing beyond the rhetoric and personalities. Voters often cast their ballots based on where the candidates stand on issues that they feel will affect their lives, like Iraq and the state of the economy.

So far this presidential race has had the makings of good politics: lots of competition for an open seat; a diverse group of candidates that includes a woman, an African-American and a Mormon; big,

divisive issues; even high-profile celebrity endorsements.

These and other factors could set the stage for a high voter turnout this year, matching or possibly topping numbers from the previous presidential election. People turn out to vote in higher numbers when there is a lot at stake and when the candidates that are far apart on the issues, researchers say.

"We expect every member of the voting public to be William F. Buckley, to expand at length on their deeply felt rationales for their decision," said Johnson, co-director of UCR's Survey Research Center.

Martin said, "Just because they're not professional politicians doesn't mean they are dumb. It just means they don't have a degree in political science. People need to be able to



Political scientists have a term for voters who don't declare an affiliation with either party but veer toward one: "leaners." For leaners, issues and candidates matter significantly.

Martin Johnson, associate professor of political science

Voting empowers people, giving them an opportunity to express themselves in an authoritative way, said Martin Johnson, a UCR associate professor of political science.

And although there is a perception that people don't care about politics or public policy, that's not really the case, he said. Researchers have made that judgment based in part on the way Americans talk about their political decisions.

make some kind of snap judgment. I sort of expect that. People tend not to express what they believe in politics in a manner that is like reasoned political philosophy."

Parental Influence

Voters acquire their political attitudes early on, sometimes without even knowing it. Children and teenagers are influenced by their parents' political leanings and



comments, including their reactions to current events. Some young people follow their parents' ideologies; others rebel against them.

Kat Sanchez, a 20-year-old creative writing major at UCR, is a registered Democrat who says she was affected by her parents' stances, particularly on social justice issues. She said her views reflect those of her mother.

"She's very open socially, so that kind of translated to me as well," Sanchez said. "Growing up just watching the news and finding out what made me uncomfortable about certain viewpoints, I just kind of strayed toward the liberal side."

There are defining moments in our lives that orient us one way or another, said Karthick Ramakrishnan, a UCR assistant professor of political science. There is also some research to support the idea that, to a degree, party affiliation might be genetically linked, he said.

"Whatever party you come to identify with by the age of 25 or 30 remains pretty stable for the rest of your lifetime, but you also have this phenomenon (where people) are more idealistic in their youth and once they start paying taxes, they become more moderate and conservative," Ramakrishnan said.

People with strong party identification vote in greater numbers in midterm elections. They come out even when elections don't generate that much media interest, he said.

Presidential elections are different. "When it comes to presidential elections you have people who don't have as strong a party identification getting involved and that's why issues and candidate appeal come into play," he said. Still, one-half to two-thirds of the electors already have committed their votes, he said.

Political scientists have a term for voters who don't declare an affiliation with either party but veer toward one: "leaners." For leaners, issues and candidates matter significantly. Johnson says some political scientists don't believe in the existence of leaners, arguing that weak partisans are still partisans.

What's clear is that people who vote

regularly have some traits in common: Those who own homes and have children in school are much more likely to vote than renters who don't have children; Americans are also more apt to vote if their friends and relatives also vote and voting is part of a social experience.

For some people, voting is inconvenient or meaningless, said Shaun Bowler, a UCR political science professor.

"Lots of people don't want to vote. It's a pain. They don't see any point," he said. "They don't like the candidates. By contrast, people do vote because they like them (the candidates), they're energized by them. Or some people vote because it's their responsibility to vote as a citizen; it's their job."

Whites vote more frequently than non-

Bush. It's not clear to me what Democrats got out of this by being so staunchly pro-Bill Clinton. It's not like they're coming over for tea; it's not like they're your best friends."

The Deal Breakers

For UCR alumnus and Republican Andrew Karl, the war in Iraq is the biggest issue this election year. He's not alone. UCR political scientists say the war is undoubtedly one of the major issues this year

Karl, 23, says he tries to vote within his party. He voted for President Bush in the last election but said he wouldn't do so again if given the option.

"The biggest thing I'm passionate about is the war; I'm anti-war. They're spending so much money, spending a billion dollars a



"There's a way in which Oprah stands in as the celebrity who authorizes Obama even as she sort of upstages him."

Erica Edwards, a UCR assistant professor of English

white immigrants who might be from countries that don't have democratic elections and are not used to the idea, Bowler said.

Some people don't have the kinds of jobs that allow them the flexibility to vote. People who are paid hourly wages and who will not be paid if they take time off to vote might not do so, he said.

Among regular voters are those who define themselves by their party affiliation. Bowler said he doesn't understand why political parties are so important to voters.

"What's puzzling is the fact that different people see things in different ways," Bowler said. "That explains why Adam Sandler is a major movie star, despite all evidence to the contrary. It explains to me why 'ER' is still on TV. I just don't get it. What's puzzling, I think, is why parties should matter so much to so many people."

"It's not clear to me what Republicans get out of being so staunchly pro-George

day in Iraq. I have a real big problem with the war," he said.

On the Democratic side, health care and Social Security are big issues, but the three leading contenders – Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama and John Edwards – don't differ that much, Ramakrishnan said. But they have argued passionately about the details.

"A lot of voters consistently ranked the economy as a very important issue in 2007, but most of the Republican and Democratic candidates did not pay much attention to it until later in the primary season," Ramakrishnan said. "With sudden drops in the stock market and the fear of a national recession, the economy came to the forefront of many campaigns."

Ramakrishnan said it's been interesting to see how huge the immigration issue has been for the Republicans. He said the focus on immigration could have negative consequences for Republicans, pushing Latinos out of the party.



The Role of the First Lady (or First Gentleman)

Spouses can help – or hinder – their mate’s political career.

By Lisa O’Neill Hill

A first lady has two distinct jobs: to be in charge of the “unofficial sphere” of politics that includes parties and other social events, and to be a charismatic figure who conveys messages of reassurance.

Among the wives – and husband – of those who have been running for president, one particular spouse is best suited for handling those duties, said Catherine Allgor, a UC Riverside history professor and author who studies first ladies.

“It’s Bill Clinton,” Allgor said. “People say that when he talks to you, you feel like you’re the only person in the room. He has that gift of charisma. We would feel well-ruled under President Hillary whether we were or not. He’d be great in the unofficial sphere.”

And, she said, “In some funny way, Bill Clinton softens her up.”

If Hillary Clinton were elected president, her husband would have a much easier time as the first spouse than she did when he was president, according to Allgor.

Hillary Clinton was an interesting first lady, not as successful as some, precisely because she had been successful in the official sphere, Allgor said. She went to Yale, got a law degree and worked her way up in her profession. She approached the role of first lady as a regular job, as when she tackled health care reform.

First ladies have had varying degrees of comfort in their roles. Allgor points to Dolley Madison, Eleanor Roosevelt and Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy as being the most charismatic and successful first ladies.

“Nobody marries a man thinking he’s going to be president,” Allgor said. “They have a very different reaction to the role. Some of them exploit it and do a great job with it. Others are just kind of floored because it really wasn’t what they signed on for.”

Allgor places Laura Bush in the latter category. The first lady is not a strong charismatic personality and is much more of a regular person, Allgor said.

Some first ladies have been popular in their own right, which has helped their husbands. In the mid-1970s, Betty Ford broke convention and told the country about her breast cancer surgery. Public admiration for her grew. A bumper sticker at the time said, “Vote for Betty’s husband!” Allgor said.

“Here’s the deal and I’m not sure it’s a bad deal: people look at men and their families as a way of measuring character,” Allgor said.

If the man and his wife appear to have a loving relationship, have stayed together for a long time, the man’s worth rises, Allgor said. Such was the case with John F. Kennedy and Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy.

On the other side of the spectrum were Richard and Pat Nixon.

“Pat Nixon could never have saved her husband,” Allgor said. “They were not really a team. They had a very flawed marriage. That just became a null case.”

“If we’re lucky, we’ll get a president who is smart and a great in the official sphere and a partner – male or female – who is great in the psychological and emotional capacity,” Allgor said.

“If we’re lucky, we’ll get that.”

And in this election year, Latino participation has a much larger impact than in the past, Ramakrishnan said.

Connecting with the Candidates

Are voters inspired to vote because they can identify with a candidate or because of a candidate’s race or gender?

There are some segments of the population that would never vote for a woman or an African-American or a Mormon, Bowler said.

“That said, I think the surprising thing is nobody really cares. It’s surprising how little attention it’s attracting. I don’t think it’s the demographics of Romney, Clinton, Obama. It’s the candidates and what they stand for, generally speaking,” he said.

Erica Edwards, a UCR assistant professor of English, has been particularly interested in Oprah Winfrey’s support of Obama, which



“It’s not clear to me what Republicans get out of being so staunchly pro-George Bush. It’s not clear to me what Democrats get out of this by being so staunchly pro-Bill Clinton.”

Shaun Bowler, professor of political science

she believes is a way to appeal to black voters who might be concerned about whether Obama is black enough.

“It seems to me that part of Oprah’s endorsement is to gain some footing with black voters,” she said.

The endorsement drew the interest of voters and the media, with Oprah joining Obama on a tour through a few early voting states. But it was sometimes difficult to figure out exactly who was drawing the crowds.



Illustrations and cover by Gary Aagaard

"There's a way in which Oprah stands in as the celebrity who authorizes Obama even as she sort of upstages him," she said.

Candidates are campaigning differently because of the changing nature of celebrity, which also has something to do with charisma, she said.

Anyone can become a celebrity through MySpace, Facebook or YouTube, she said. Politicians now have to work even harder, participating in debates through some of those mediums, she said. Information about them is easily accessible in a variety of places.

"I'm curious about how that is going to affect the outcome of the election and also how we think about candidate appeal," she said. "The way we access information is so radically different now, not just through TV or radio. Now the way we access political information is broken into smaller and smaller chunks so that candidates have less time but are expected to make a greater and greater impact."

All of that puts pressure on candidates to deliver solutions or proposed solutions to problems we face, Edwards said.

People can be drawn to candidates because of charisma or because of that "X factor," Edwards said, but they don't want to be wooed by political rhetoric.

"This election in particular, we're dealing with really pressing issues like war and the economy – given the mortgage crisis – and health care. Charisma draws people to candidates, but I think more and more, we're looking at an informed electorate."

The presidential election is going to be about the issues, she said. "I do think that things like appearance and popularity will go a long way. But they're not going to win an election."

On the flip side of the coin, some candidates are fighting back against hostility or unpopular sentiment because of who they are or what they believe. Some voters just dislike Hillary Clinton.

And Mitt Romney's religion is a significant hurdle, said Ivan Strenski, a UCR professor of religious studies.

"It's huge because Romney has got such resources and he lost in Iowa to a guy who had almost no resources

(Huckabee) just on the basis of religious affiliation. That counts an awful lot, it seems to me," he said.

Although Americans have accepted that their political leaders have religious lives – think John F. Kennedy and Catholicism – Mormonism is different because of the numerous misconceptions about the religion, he said.

"The Kennedys are very strong on social justice issues. The Catholic Church has been very strong as well on teaching about social justice. The Kennedys are constantly advocating policies that are based on those Catholic values. No one bats an eyelash now, although at the time it broke a barrier," Strenski said. "When a Mormon comes along, maybe we react because we don't know what those values are or because the whole structure of Mormonism seems foreign to people outside the tradition. In my view, it is natural for voters to be a little wary about something outside their own experience."

One of the things that makes people, particularly Evangelicals, uneasy is the idea that Mormons have a different view of Christ, Strenski said. The name of the church is the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, but there are some nuances in how Jesus is understood, he said. For instance, the belief that Christ appeared to the founder of Mormonism, Joseph Smith, could make it seem that Mormonism portrays itself as the successor to Christianity, the way that Christianity always saw itself as the successor to Judaism, Strenski said. "You can see how that might not sit well with Evangelicals."

Strenski said that the stories and beliefs in the Book of Mormon are really no more outlandish than those contained in the Bible. "In both cases, Mormonism doesn't look any worse than Christianity and Judaism in terms of its beliefs," Strenski said. "It's just different and new, and we're just not accustomed to it in the same way that people weren't accustomed to a Catholic in the White House."

Karl, the Republican, said he didn't vote for Romney because he's so conservative and because he's Mormon.

"I don't think it's right that I'm judging him for being Mormon," Karl said. "I won't vote for him because he's really right-wing and because he's Mormon."

"I know it's bad but that's just how I feel."

Knowing the Issues

The belief that voters are ignorant about politics and the workings of the government has been based, in part, on the results of "pop quiz" telephone surveys that usually interrupt family dinners. Researchers have interpreted those results to mean that American votes can't be meaningful if Americans don't know, for example, which party has the majority hold in Congress.

But Kevin Esterling, a UCR assistant professor of political science, said it's hard for people to come up with answers off the top of their heads when someone calls them out of the blue.

"For the most part, Americans don't spend a lot of time thinking about politics because they don't need to in their day-to-day lives," he said. "So they don't know in their short-term memory what the answers are to these questions."

In summer 2006, Esterling and other researchers conducted a field experiment in which they recruited members of the U.S. Congress to discuss immigration with random constituents. They found that participants educated themselves on immigration policy, were engaged, and were more likely to vote in the next election.

The experiment gave the people involved a reason to learn about the topic; constituents wanted to be prepared for the interaction with the elected officials, Esterling said.

The people who were involved in the experiment took it very seriously and were enthusiastic about the chance to feel, in a direct way, part of democracy, he said.

"Democracy is about citizens having the capacity to become informed about issues in the event they need to," Esterling said.

Sanchez, the creative writing major, takes her role in the democratic process seriously. She said she believes her vote matters, that she makes a difference.

"I like to think that I do," she said. "I guess that's what keeps us voting." ❧

"We All Have a Voice"

Student activism is alive and well at UCR.

By Lisa O'Neill Hill

Jennings Imel said a waffle stand piqued his interest.

When Melissa Mazariegos didn't find the club she was looking for at UCR, she founded it.

The two UCR students are campus leaders, young people who sacrifice free time to be politically active because they believe in what they are doing. Each hopes to inspire more students to be politically aware. They are also members of two of nearly two dozen organizations on campus dedicated to politics and social activism.

Imel, a 21-year-old senior who aspires to work for the U.S. State Department, is president of the College Republicans at UCR. Mazariegos, 20, wants to become a doctor and is president of Amnesty International on campus.

"I think it's important that people get involved politically," Imel said. "I encourage people to do something about politics. I just want people to be interested in politics and know what's going on because that's the most important thing. That's the only way our democracy, our republic, can survive. I truly believe apathy is one of the last stages of a democracy. After apathy, you have the beginning of the end."

Mazariegos said she considers herself a political activist.

"I think I'm a responsible citizen," she said. "I think I've been raised to be a responsible citizen, to be aware. To speak for those who are not seen and not heard. I don't buy what the media tells me. I look at the history of things."

Imel said he's been interested in politics for 12 years. He co-founded the Republican club in high school and was president his senior year.

In 2004, Imel was walking across campus and saw an event organized by the newly formed College Republicans. Club members were making fun of Sen. John Kerry, the Democratic candidate for president. Kerry had been accused of waffling on issues. Club members were selling waffles.

"I thought it was kind of funny," said Imel, who began producing pamphlets and fliers for the club. "Ever since then, I just got involved."

More than 200 students are registered members of College Republicans at UCR. The club hosts events and protests and engages in political dialogue, he said. The group also contributes to political campaigns and networks with other Republican clubs.

Imel said he prefers that people be politically active, even when they strongly disagree with his views.

"So many people are apathetic, they generally don't care. In some sense, I wish they would be more hostile. At least that would show people are involved," he said.

Mazariegos didn't see an Amnesty International club on campus when she applied to UCR. She was looking forward to joining but instead wound up starting the club, she said.

This is her second year running the club, which has about 35 people who regularly attend meetings and participate in events. Lately, she's been busy organizing a candlelight vigil. The group has focused on children's rights, Darfur and other similar causes.

She said she's always been curious. As a child, she was the kid who always wanted to help, she said. She wanted to grow up so she could contribute and be active, she said.

People all are linked, she said, but it's easy for people to get desensitized to the plight of others.

"When you go on campus, everybody is just thinking about school and stress and midterms," she said. "They're not thinking of saving the world or anything. It's just something I like to do. This is my fun. This is how I take my mind away from school."

Mazariegos said she wants to help people become independent and draw attention to human-rights violations.

Mazariegos, who is from Guatemala, became a U.S. citizen over the summer. She says she is looking forward to voting in her first election. It's another way to take action.

"I think everyone should take that responsibility," she said. "We all have a voice."



Researchers Working to Get the Bugs Into the Computer Program

A joint effort between UCR and ISCA Technologies is providing the shape of things to come.

By Todd Ransom

A shopper browses the magazine rack while at the grocery store checkout stand. She grabs a tabloid but not for the stories, it's for the photo of Paris Hilton at a chic Hollywood club. After she gets the magazine home, she scans the photo of Hilton into her computer and types in the command "find shoes like these" and begins perusing the selection. Sound far-fetched? Not if a recent research project on image databases reaches commercialization.

UCR computer science and engineering Associate Professor Eamonn Keogh's previous work with entomologist Agenor Mafra-Neto of ISCA Technologies in Riverside on indexing and classifying images and videos of insects caught the attention of the United States Army. As a result, Keogh and Mafra-Neto have been awarded a grant from the Army for a project titled "Algorithms for Image Content Indexing and Information Retrieval from Unstructured or Semi-structured Complex Database."

"The six-month project is now in its fifth month and it could turn out to be a

two-year, \$1 million project," said Keogh. "The project involves building a tool to allow military intelligence officers to quickly search through massive collections of image data."

Researchers will also build a library of vehicles, weapons, and tire and shoe

"All kinds of images will be collected for military targets, planes, tanks," Keogh said. "But also parts of these items (will be cataloged) so that the database can search for a part and identify what type of vehicle it came from or simply find a replacement part."



"The military is also very interested in insects because they can cause more problems than bullets."

Eamonn Keogh, associate professor of computer science and engineering

means for matching visual similarities. In addition, operators deployed in Iraq will be able to photograph improvised explosive devices and quickly search an image database for similar devices, thus providing useful information on how to defuse the device.

Such a database would include graffiti symbols used in foreign countries because some symbols cannot be transcribed into text, but they can be searched by image. This can provide military intelligence with the ability to get a sense of the sentiment in foreign communities.



"The military is also very interested in insects because they can cause more problems than bullets," Keogh said. "This research project will have a broad impact in both life sciences and information technology."

Keogh said there are as many as 200,000 moth species and 20,000 butterfly species. Identifying one insect out of 20,000 provided the researchers with sound argument to develop a database model.

"We did a demo that lets you search databases of butterflies by color or texture," Keogh said. "When you click on it and choose the one that you're interested in, the system will pull up the nine most similar to that one."

The user has the option of choosing any of the nine examples for a detailed description or selecting "more like this" to see similar species or colors. The butterfly model can easily be adapted to other objects based on size, color or texture.

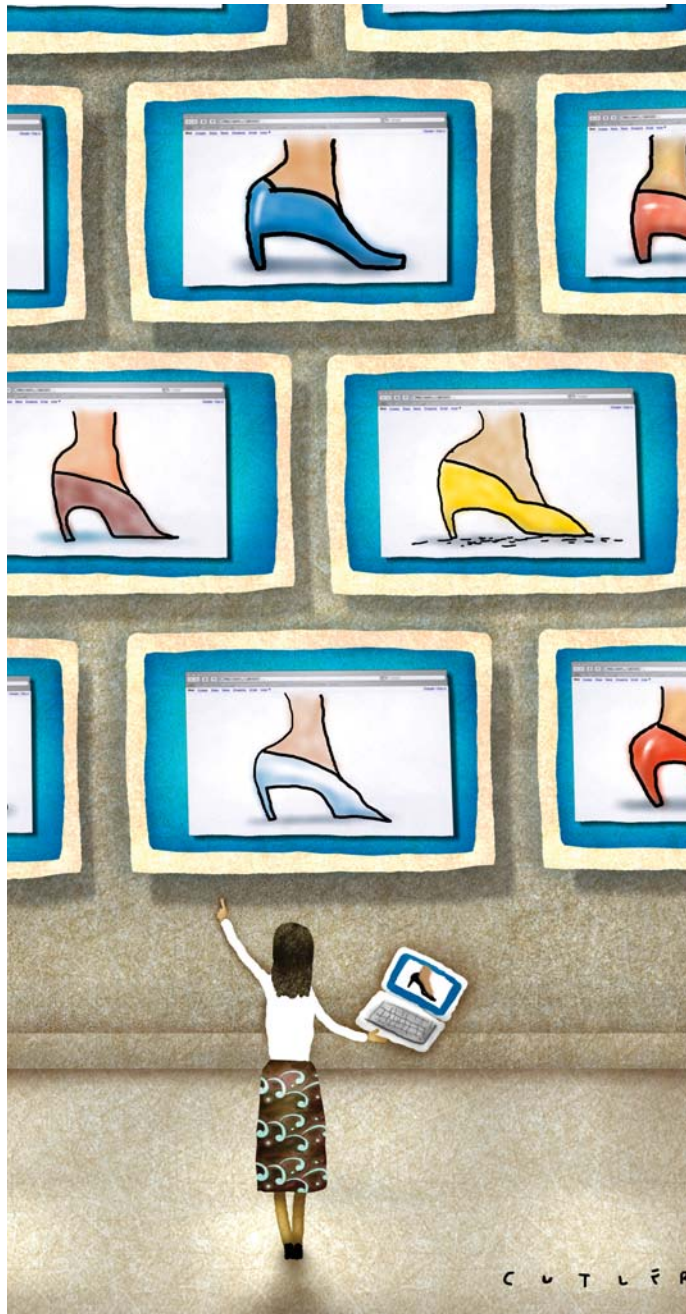
The uses for shape-based data are almost as immense as the number of insect species.

For example, commercial applications of insect shape matching could be used by farmers or home gardeners who could submit photos of plants with insect bites on the leaves and matching those bite patterns with inspect species. It could help determine if, for instance, the plants were being attacked by the glassy-winged sharpshooter, which wreaked havoc on the grape industry several year ago.

Keogh believes these types of commercialization projects could be just months away.

A stipulation of U.S. Army-commissioned research is that researchers simultaneously spin off applications for commercial use, said Keogh.

"When the Army funds a research project such as this, it expects scientists



to make something that isn't just for them; it hopes you will find commercial applications so that the source supplying the software technology has additional streams of income, not simply one coming from the military."

A strong possibility for commercialization is a shape-matching database that would allow people to shop for handbags, shoes or any other item that they may see in a photograph.

Although consumers may not know that the origin of what they are purchasing can be traced back to military use, it is a fairly common practice.

"Technology and products that began with military application often find their way into the commercial market," said David Stewart, dean of the A. Gary Anderson Graduate School of Management and a consumer behavior expert. "Products and technologies as diverse as the Jeep, the Humvee, the Internet, global-positioning systems and food irradiation began as military applications and found their way into commercial products."

What makes this particular research project ripe for transition from military to consumer use is the fact that tools common to most consumers (computers and cell phone cameras) are all that are necessary once the data is in place.

For instance, if someone was bitten by a spider and wanted to know if it were poisonous, a photo could be snapped of the spider with a cell phone. That image could then be entered into the database for a shape match to determine what kind of spider did the biting.

The challenging aspect of the research is in making the search process a quick one. A person bitten by a spider can't wait days to find out if the bite is harmless or not, and the Army can't wait two weeks to see whether or not something is a bomb.

"It can take one second for comparison," Keogh said. "However, text, such as used in a Google search, is easy because it can be alphabetized, but colors can't be done that way. As a result you will sift through false positives and false negatives. You might get some back that are wrong and some don't come back at all."

Instead, the system provides relevance feedback. When an insect shape is submitted, two examples are provided. One is good, the other is bad. The computer has to decide why it is good and provide other more relevant examples.

The goal is to reduce the false positives and false negatives.

"If you have clean data, it can go fast," he said.

That said, although the technology will be in place soon to help consumers select the shoes worn by photographed celebrities such as Hilton, the challenge of identifying the product relies on the quality of the photo. The nightclub photo in question most likely will be dark, possibly out of focus or over- or underexposed.

Better cameras in the future will help, but in the meantime, the deciding factor on selection will remain the human eye. ■

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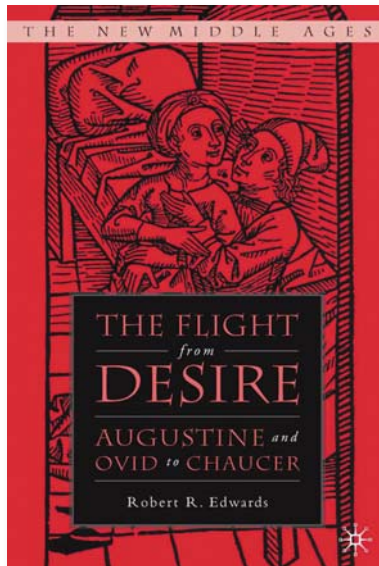
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PLANNING FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Start the new year by reading a book. Need a few suggestions? Here are some recently published works by UCR authors.



The Flight from Desire: Augustine and Ovid to Chaucer
By Robert R. Edwards ('68, '69 M.A., '72 Ph.D.)
Palgrave Macmillan
April 2006, 232 pages

"The Flight from Desire" seeks to revise our understanding of love in literary texts from the high and late Middle Ages. Starting from the traditions of Augustine and Ovid, it traces the interplay of medieval theories about love with the unruly and uncontrollable workings of desire.

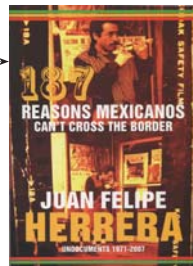
Individual chapters offer fresh readings of the letters of Abelard and Heloise, "The Lais of Marie de France," the "Roman de la Rose," Dante's "La Vita Nuova," and the Troilus story told by Boccaccio and Chaucer. In these works, desire affects ideas of selfhood and social identity, the terms of moral judgment and even the role of authorship.

Edwards is a distinguished professor of English and comparative literature at Pennsylvania State University.

187 Reasons Mexicanos Can't Cross the Border: Undocuments 1971 - 2007
By Juan Felipe Herrera
City Lights Books
November 2007, 278 pages

A hybrid collection of texts written and performed on the road, from Mexico City to San Francisco, from Central America to Central California, illustrated throughout with photos and artwork. Rants, manifestos, newspaper clippings, street theater, anti-lectures, love poems and riffs tell the story of what it's like to live as an undocumented worker in the United States.

Herrera is a UCR professor of creative writing.



Xiu Xiu: The Polaroid Project: The Book
By David Horvitz ('04)
Mark Batty Publisher
November 2007, 126 pages

David Horvitz, road manager for indie rock band Xiu Xiu, devised the idea to document the band's tours by encouraging fans to bring Polaroid film to shows. Photographs of life on the road were shot and returned to the fans, but not before Horvitz scanned them and compiled a visual diary that captures the nonmusical, bare-naked zen of touring life.

Horvitz graduated in 2004 as a humanities and social sciences major.



Words to Be Looked At: Language in 1960s Art
By Liz Kotz
The MIT Press
October 2007, 352 pages

Language has been a primary element in visual art since the 1960s – whether in the form of printed texts, painted signs, words on the wall, or recorded speech. In "Words to Be Looked At," Kotz traces this practice to its beginnings, examining works of visual art, poetry and experimental music created in and around New York City from 1958 to 1968. Examining works by artists and poets, Kotz argues that the turn to language in 1960s art was a reaction to the development of new recording and transmission media: words took on a new materiality and urgency in the face of magnetic sound, videotape and other emerging electronic technologies.

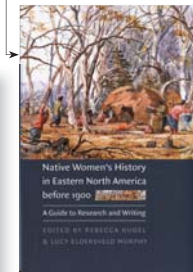
Kotz is an assistant professor of history of art at UC Riverside.



Native Women's History in Eastern North America Before 1900
Edited by Rebecca Kugel and Lucy Eldersveld Murphy
University of Nebraska Press
October 2007, 503 pages

This anthology is a guide to the significance, experiences and histories of Native American women and includes 16 classic essays plus new commentary. This collection offers guidelines for extracting valuable information from diverse sources and assesses the significance of such variables as religious affiliation, changes in women's power after colonization, connections between economics and gender, and representations and misrepresentations of Native American women.

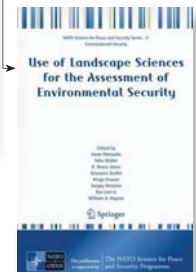
Kugel is a UCR associate professor of history. Christine Ward Gailey, a UCR professor of anthropology, is a contributor in this book.



Use of Landscape Sciences for the Assessment of Environmental Security
Edited by Bai-Lian Li and colleagues
Springer
October 2007, 497 pages

This book focuses on the relationship between environmental security and landscape assessment. It is the fruit of experiences incubated during the last five years in the context of a pilot study project sponsored by the NATO Committee on the Challenges of Modern Society. The growing knowledge about environmental change, stress and degradation has increased the visibility of environmental condition as an important focus of security. This book discusses the concept of environmental security from subjective and objective perspectives using different approaches and tools typical of landscape assessment. Other editors include Irene Petrosillo, Felix Muller, K. Bruce Jones, Giovanni Zurlini, Kinga Krausz, Sergey Victorov, William G. Kepner.

Bai-Lian Li is a UCR professor of ecology.

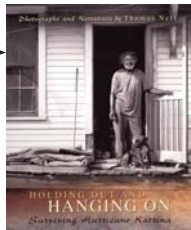


These books are available for purchase at the UCR Campus Store and online at www.ucrcampusstore.ucr.edu. They have been discounted up to 30 percent.

Holding Out and Hanging on:
Surviving Hurricane Katrina,
by Thomas Neff ('76)
University of Missouri Press
December 2007, 128 pages

A volunteer in New Orleans in the early days after Hurricane Katrina, Thomas Neff, a Baton Rouge photographer, witnessed firsthand the confusion and suffering, as well as the persistence and strength, of those who stuck it out. The friendship he extended to residents enabled him to approach his subjects from a personal perspective. Readers will meet people from all walks of life who are exhausted by grief and shock but who are determined to hold on to their culture and their city. Neff's gripping black-and-white images and poignant narratives show individuals reorganizing their lives, trying to maintain their individuality, and even enriching their souls as they help one another. These are the stories that New Orleans citizens told each other and photographs that show the city as it knows itself.

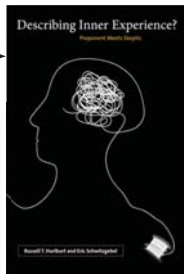
Neff is a professor of art at Louisiana State University.



Describing Inner Experience?
Proponent Meets Skeptic
By Eric Schwitzgebel and
Russell T. Hurlburt
The MIT Press
November 2007, 326 pages

Hurlburt and Schwitzgebel recruited a subject, "Melanie," to report on her conscious experience using Hurlburt's "descriptive experience sampling" method (in which the subject is cued by random beeps to describe her conscious experience). The heart of the book contains Melanie's accounts, Hurlburt's and Schwitzgebel's interviews with her, and their subsequent discussions while studying the transcripts of the interviews. The authors take opposing viewpoints and dispute the general reliability of introspective reporting through specific debates about the extent to which Melanie's particular reports are believable.

Schwitzgebel is a UCR associate professor of philosophy.



Hugo Gernsback and the Century of Science Fiction
By Gary Westfahl
McFarland & Co.
July 2007, 283 pages

An examination of science fiction editor and author Hugo Gernsback's career, this critical study explores the many ways in which his work influenced the genre. It summarizes the science fiction theories of Gernsback and his successors, considers his efforts to define science fiction both verbally and visually, and for the first time offers detailed studies of his rarest periodicals, including *Technocracy Review*, *Superworld Comic*, and *Science-Fiction Plus*. An analysis of his ground-breaking novel, "Ralph 124C 41+; A Romance of the Year 2660, and how it influenced a variety of science fiction novels, films and television programs is also offered.

Westfahl is coordinator of UCR's Learning Center at Your Service.

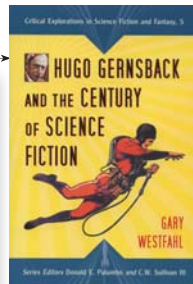


Photo by Peter Phun

On Nov. 9, UCR held groundbreaking ceremonies for the Barbara and Art Culver Center of the Arts. Scheduled to be completed in spring 2009. Those in attendance included (left to right) Deborah Culver Lawlor; Susan Harlow, interim vice chancellor for advancement; Robert D. Grey, acting chancellor; Frances Culver; Jonathan Green, executive director of UCR's ARTSblock; Dom Betro, then-Riverside city councilman; and Al Diaz, vice chancellor for administration.

For more information about the center see page 4.



Photo by Michael Edlerman

More than 75 people, including leading physicians in the Inland Empire, attended a reception and dinner with Acting Chancellor Robert D. Grey at the Riverside home of Dr. Prabhu Dhalla and Dr. Prabha Dhalla. Chancellor Grey shared UCR's vision for establishing a School of Medicine to help address a looming shortage of physicians in the region, to diversify the physician workforce, and to develop innovative research and health care delivery programs that will improve the health of the medically underserved.

Preserving History Page by Page



Henry Snyder, professor of history emeritus, went to the White House to receive the National Humanities Medal. Snyder recounts the work that led up to that trip to Washington, D.C.

By Henry Snyder



On Nov. 15 I was presented the National Humanities Medal by President Bush. It was a most moving experience.

There were 10 recipients of the National Humanities Medal and another 10 recipients of the National Arts Medal, their guests and other involved individuals present. I was fortunate that I was allowed to bring my wife, three sons, and three other family members.

President Bush was gracious and considerate. Even though the whole ceremony took place in 26 minutes he handled it efficiently and informally, chatting with each of the participants and helping the infirm off the stage.

It was a grand occasion.

The ceremony for me was the culmination of 30 years of work on two major online bibliographical projects – the English Short Title Catalog (ESTC), which I manage with the British Library, and the California Newspaper Project. There is a third project, a Latin American catalog, which I began in 2000 as a retirement project.

I took on responsibility for the ESTC in 1978 on very short notice and am still deeply involved three decades later. It has taken me to hundreds of libraries on five continents and a bewildering succession of librarians, custodians and individual collections, each with their own special qualities and difficulties.

The ESTC, a catalog of imprints of the British Isles and North America published before 1801, contains some 480,000 entries

and more than 3 million holdings from more than 2,000 libraries around the world. It is an amazing research tool.

I undertook the California Newspaper Project in 1990, part of a federally funded, state-administered endeavor to inventory and preserve surviving U.S. newspapers. I did so because as a historian and native Californian, I realized the importance of the project.

It was a 15-year effort, involving three canvass teams located in Sacramento, Berkeley and Riverside. We visited more than 1,400 repositories, recorded 9,000 California titles, and more than 5,000 out-of-state titles, and added more than 40,000 locations to the national serials database.

Newspapers published from the 1870s self-destruct with time because of the sulphuric acid content in the paper. Thus microfilms made from the originals are the only durable preservation medium. The great majority are stored by the filers and when we found they were at risk we moved quickly to acquire them.


UCR now has far and away the largest film archive in existence of California newspaper master negatives, nearly 100,000 100-foot reels.

I expected to finish the project in 2007, but it took on new life in 2004 when the NEH announced a new program to digitize select titles and make them available free through the Library of Congress Web page (see it at www.loc.gov/chroniclingamerica). We were chosen to be one of the six test sites and have since received a second grant

to digitize a total of 200,000 pages. We are going to double that number with support from the State Library and are mounting them all together for free public access on the UCR Center for Bibliographical Studies and Research Web site at cbsr.ucr.edu. It will be a marvelous research tool for our citizens from K-12 through seniors working on family history.

It has been a tremendous technical challenge and an expensive one. Newspapers because of their sheer size, small type and often poor quality sometimes defy the current capabilities of scanners and optical character readers to present readable, text-searchable images. We are fortunate in the vendors we have chosen and are even developing our own presentation software, which we believe is faster and more intuitive than anything on the market.

So as I sat in the East Room of the White House, waiting for my name to be called so that I could walk up to meet the president, it seemed to make all the long years of slogging in the trenches worthwhile. And I look upon it not only as a gratifying recognition of my own efforts but also those of the many individuals on my staff who did the bulk of the work, and the hundreds of professionals and volunteers throughout the state, the country and the world who have made it all possible.

Find out more about Henry Snyder's efforts at the Center for Bibliographical Studies and Research Web site at cbsr.ucr.edu. 

Virginia Blumenthal

Whether in court, on the court or in the game of life, well-known attorney and Riverside community leader Virginia Blumenthal knows a thing or two about what it takes to win. As an enthusiastic fan of UCR women's basketball, she enjoys attending games both at home and on the road. Last year, she and her husband, Duane, helped cheer the Lady Highlanders to a Big West championship. They later made a gift to provide keepsake championship rings for the team.

Life So Far

As one of Riverside's most prominent criminal defense attorneys and owner of a successful law firm, she was recently named one of the "Most Influential Attorneys in California" by the Daily Journal. She is the 2004 recipient of the ATHENA Award for outstanding community service, and served as president of the Riverside County Philharmonic. For more than 25 years, she has worked to establish a nationally competitive mock-trial program for local high school students. She is a mother of five, including three UCR graduates: Zachary ('95), Jon ('04) and Heather ('06).

A Favorite UCR Experience

"Serving as an honorary coach for the team has been great fun, as has being a member of the Riverside Wild Women, a group of exceptionally accomplished community and business leaders who love our Highlanders. We wear our blue and gold, paint our faces and cheer our women out on the court. Once, after a particularly tough loss, we met with the team to encourage and honor them for their talent, dedication and ambition. We reassured them that, for each of us, the road to success almost always involves the opportunity to learn from failure."

Definition of Success

"Making a difference every day by doing what you love – and what you're good at – for a living."



Bossy? Maybe. Effective? Without a Doubt.

Graduate student Louise Hendrickson is a take-charge kind of person.

By Betty Miller

Bossy. Intimidating. Competitive.

Louise Hendrickson, the executive vice president of UCR's Graduate Student Association and president of the UC Student Association, has heard those descriptions applied to her in the past.

Colleagues in student government and others who have observed her eloquent appeals to UC Regents on behalf of graduate students use a different lexicon to describe her.

Confident. Businesslike. Respected.

Hendrickson, 27, concedes a childhood bossy streak, a quality that long ago transformed into a passion for inclusiveness and influencing power-brokers to adopt policies aimed at creating an egalitarian society.

It's a passion born in the quest to discover why her paternal grandparents abandoned the traditions of their Laplander culture.

"My grandparents came here because of the lure of the American dream," Hendrickson said. "They wanted a better way of living than chasing elk and eating boiled potatoes. I wanted to know why my family abandoned its rich cultural traditions and background and were assimilated while others have fought to maintain their traditions. That morphed into issues of diversity and politics."

Hoping for a career as a professor of political science and perhaps in politics, Hendrickson turned to student government as a venue for putting into practice what she was learning in the classroom. She co-chaired the fledgling Political Science Graduate Student Association at San Francisco State University while earning a master's degree in political science, and got

involved with the Graduate Student Association (GSA) soon after she arrived at UCR in fall 2005.

Hendrickson represents the Riverside campus to the UC Student Association board. Every month she attends the weekend-long UCSA board meeting, which includes three to five committee meetings, and participates in several conference calls. She also attends two GSA meetings a month and keeps office hours. There are conferences and lobbying trips to legislators' offices in Sacramento and the Inland Empire.

Balancing the demands of a rigorous Ph.D. program and student government is a challenge, she said.

"It's insane sometimes," Hendrickson said. "I don't sleep much. It's constantly a challenge and a juggling act. I function better when I'm busy."

A nationally ranked rower at her high school in San Francisco and at Syracuse University, the statuesque Hendrickson had Olympic aspirations until her father was seriously injured in an automobile accident in her junior year in New York. Her focus shifted from athletic to academic endeavors.

She chose UCR for her doctoral program in large part because of the diversity of the campus and the region.

"We need a diverse group of people making decisions in our society," she said. "It's diversity of ethnicity and race, of gender and economic class. What makes us different makes us interesting. All little kids should be told they can do what they want. To do that, they have to have access (to education and jobs)."

Diversity and tuition issues top her list

of concerns for students in the UC system. At the regents meeting in November she argued for consistent funding of outreach programs that encourage underrepresented minorities to seek a college education and for a reprieve from annual tuition increases.

"It's hard to make campuses diverse if the K-12 feed to universities is not diverse," she said. "If the undergraduate student population is not diverse, graduate students will not be diverse. If there is no diversity among graduate students it's hard to get a diverse faculty. ... Everyone needs a place at the table."

Repeated and substantial tuition increases are taking their toll on all students, Hendrickson said.

"We're out-pricing the vast majority of students. Financial aid is not keeping up with the costs of school. These increases are squeezing low-income and middle-class students," she said. "We're a public university and it's beginning to look like a private school. ... They say it's a privilege to go to college. It should be a right, especially if you live in a society where an education is required to be successful."

UCR Assistant Chancellor Cindy Giorgio said Hendrickson was particularly eloquent at the November meeting when she addressed the regents about diversity, academic preparation programs and the affordability of a UC education.

"Sitting in the audience at regents' meetings, I have always felt proud of UCR when Louise has spoken," Giorgio said. "She is always succinct, confident and on point. She has done her homework. In public comment sessions some students use anger or drama to express their viewpoints.



"It's insane sometimes. I don't sleep much. It's constantly a challenge and a juggling act. I function better when I'm busy."
Louise Hendrickson

Photo by Walter Urie

Louise is always businesslike and, therefore, respected. Louise puts a very human face on the challenges facing our students, particularly in terms of financial impacts."

Colleagues at UCSA and UCR's GSA share those sentiments. GSA President Alex Cortez and UCSA Executive Director Liz Hall have known Hendrickson for two years and describe her as dedicated, passionate and businesslike.

"She's the right person for the job," Cortez said. "She's very fair and sticks to business. She is passionate about pushing for lower student fees and more financial aid. She is a leader and has been a great mentor to me."

Hall said Hendrickson is personally affected by issues that matter to other graduate students, but relates also to a variety of student experiences.

"She is able to present the student agenda effectively to the regents and internally brings students together around their collective priorities," she said.

Hendrickson was so compelling in a

presentation to regents last year that she was invited to serve on a working group on student-loan policies, Hall said.

"She talked about her experience with student-loan debt and what it's like to be a grad student in the UC system and how financial aid is not working," Hall recalled. "There are so many issues affecting students in higher education and they're all really important. The only way students are going to be heard on a systemwide level and to win campaigns is if they all can get on the same page about issues and strategy. Louise is really good at bringing people together around shared priorities."

Hendrickson said she is proud of the changes the Graduate Student Association is making at UC Riverside. A \$4-per-quarter fee increase in fall 2007 – the first in 10 years – increased the GSA budget for a variety of programs. A seminar series that is bringing professionals from a variety of disciplines and career paths to campus is under way. More social events, such as Grad Night at the Barn, hold the promise of creating a stronger sense of community

among the university's graduate students. And the GSA continues to lobby for better housing options and health care for grad students as well as financial aid that sustains summer research activities.

Someone must speak for students and the have-nots, Hendrickson believes. If not, the status quo will continue. She is determined to see that it doesn't.

"It's absurd that in the United States so many people should be living in so much poverty," she said. "There should be a shift in the way we reward some people for some things and others with nothing. There's enough for everyone on this planet, but that's not the way things work."

Decades from now she hopes she will have left a legacy of increased equality and access, especially with regard to higher education.

"It would be nice if more people had more compassion for people they don't know," she said, "if they had more consideration for human beings as a whole." ☺

fly^A on the wall at the end of our world

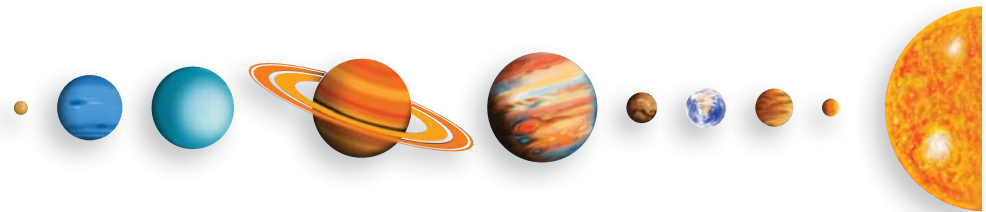


Artist's impression of the Voyager 2 spacecraft showing the communication dish and booms with instruments that measure magnetic fields, energetic particles, plasma, and radio waves.

NASA/JPL

The successful prediction by UCR's Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics of when Voyager 2 would exit the solar system is just one area of research taking place at one of the campus' fastest-growing institutes.

By Litty Mathew



In a particularly busy corner of UCR's Pierce Hall, Haruichi Washimi and his team were in the prediction business. Their task: Calculate when and where the spacecraft Voyager 2 would exit our solar system. Their crystal ball: a complex computer model that digested so much information it could probably fill outer space.

As researchers at UCR's Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics, or IGPP, they predicted the location of "termination shock," the spherical shell around our solar system that marks where the solar wind slows down to less than the speed of sound (from million-mile-per-hour solar winds to about 250,000 m.p.h.). This location, some 7 billion to 8.5 billion miles from our sun, is the farthest a man-made object has



"It's important that the institute is systemwide so you get to interact and share information across the various campuses. It's a mechanism to collaborate and share expertise."

Gary Zank, director of the IGPP

ever been. From here, it's galactic space.

Aug. 30, 2007, is a date very few at IGPP will forget. That day, Voyager 2 showed up for the party on time.

"This prediction was a remarkable task, considering the complexities of physics, temporal and spatial scales plus

the variability of solar wind conditions," says IGPP Director Gary Zank, who is also the systemwide director. "Think of being in the ocean during a big storm. You can get blown way off course."

The boundary of the termination shock is not fixed. It wobbles and

fluctuates in both time and distance from the sun, depending on solar activity.

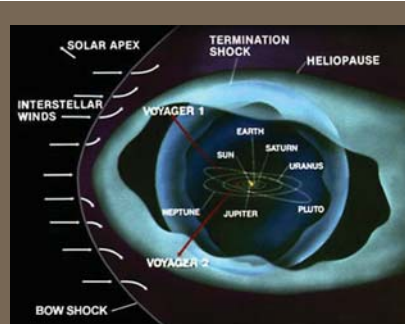
And for Voyager 2 to be this far from home? Few ever thought it possible. But how often do you get to be a fly on the wall at the end of our world? Being able to find impossible bits of information about our universe is what the IGPP does best.

The IGPP, a multicampus research unit, promotes basic research in the structure, origin and evolution of the universe, including the solar system and its planets. For 40 years, UCR's IGPP participants have been asking the Star Trek questions – what's out there and what does it mean to us? These questions are more easily asked (and answered) when the daily pressures of teaching are put on hold and time is devoted wholly to research.

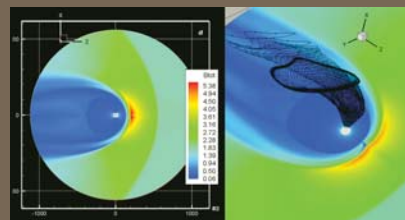
Today, 25 professional and student researchers focus on two centers of study at IGPP UCR – plasma and high-energy astrophysics and earthquake physics. The institute is one of the largest and most active research groups on campus. Both areas have a strong focus on computational modeling that sets it apart from similar programs.

“With models, you're building a replica that resembles the real thing, like a car or airplane,” explains Assistant Research Physicist Vladimir Florinski. “But it's almost impossible to model conditions in space with physical building blocks since many processes don't scale.”

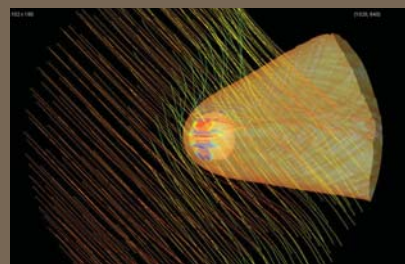
That's where computers allow researchers to reproduce the physics with a set of equations describing the properties of the modeling subject. To hypothesize, for example, what the conditions are at the real location of termination shock and plan for the actual visit. The model that Washimi's team put together resulted in a plot of



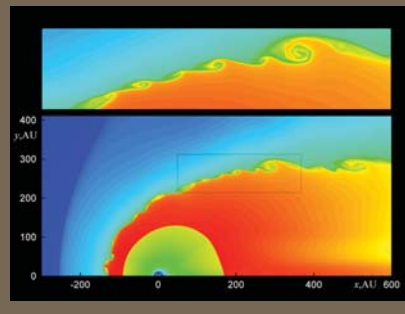
Schematic illustrating the interaction of the solar wind with the interstellar medium. The Sun (and solar system) move through interstellar space at approximately 26 km/sec, leading to the creation of a bow shock. The interstellar medium and interplanetary medium are separated by a boundary called the heliopause, and the supersonic solar wind is decelerated to subsonic speeds at the termination shock. The location of the planets and the two Voyager spacecraft relative to the boundaries is shown.



Figures obtained from computer simulations show the global structure of the boundaries and the magnetic field of the Sun extending into the supersonic solar wind.



A related computer simulation showing the interaction of the interstellar magnetic field with the heliosphere.



The boundaries between the solar wind and the interstellar medium can be highly unstable, exhibiting very complicated motions. An example of the unstable region from a computer simulation is shown here.

the termination shock location superimposed on a plot of the Voyager trajectory.

“As computers become faster,” notes graduate student Ross Bedross, who studies shock waves, “it becomes reasonable to resolve difficult questions. Something that took 100 hours to compute might be able to be done in an hour.”

UCR's IGPP has developed very sophisticated modeling techniques using computer-science mathematics and

one opportunity and we have to ensure the appropriate onboard instruments are turned on and transmitting information at a particularly important moment.”

These projects are often complicated and IGPP plays an important role in giving researchers time and access to solve problems they may not have in other academic settings.

“It's important that the institute is systemwide so you get to interact and share information across the various campuses. It's a mechanism to

“As computers become faster it becomes reasonable to resolve difficult questions. Something that took 100 hours to compute might be able to be done in an hour.”

Ross Bedross, a graduate student who studies shock waves

applied physics. And these models aren't just used to solve problems in space.

Application in engineering and finance (and even gambling) makes modeling down to earth.

“Wherever there is an element of randomness, modeling is useful,” said Zank.

Modeling also becomes crucial when money and opportunity are at stake.

Take the Voyager mission. It was and is a very expensive mission, but the cost is also coupled with Voyager 2's unique position.

When Voyagers 1 and 2 left Earth more than 30 years ago, they were charged with exploring Jupiter and Saturn. Voyager 2 went on to Uranus and Neptune, and now beyond. No other craft will get near its current location for decades.

“So you want to maximize the science return,” explains Zank. “There's only

collaborate and share expertise,” said Zank.

IGPP's longtime researcher Allen Zych, who studies gamma rays, puts it this way. “The institute gives you the critical mass – enough people working on the same subject – to make a difference.”

“It's something special,” explains graduate student Peter Hunana, who studies space turbulence. “In a normal academic environment, you're often working alone on a complex problem. IGPP makes it easy to interact. You become a part of the community that has similar interests so it becomes very collaborative.”

Out in space, Voyager 2 may be alone on a journey to uncharted territory. But at IGPP, there's a community keeping it company and ready for its next adventure. ▮

IGPP at other UC campuses

The Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics is a multicampus research unit that is associated with two UC-affiliated national laboratories, Los Alamos and Lawrence Livermore, whose research applies to U.S. national security and contributes findings to bioscience, chemistry, physics, computer science, earth and environmental sciences and material science. IGPP UCR formed in 1967. Currently, six other UC campuses participate ... without the stress of national security.

Los Angeles – The founding IGPP center, which started in 1946, focuses on astrobiology, space physics, global climate change and evolution.

San Diego – Linked to the Scripps Institute of Oceanography, the main areas of study include global and marine seismology, geodesy and marine acoustics.

Santa Cruz – Encompasses traditional disciplines of astronomy, earth sciences and ocean/atmospheric science with a new center for adaptive optics.

Irvine – Studies global environmental change with three main areas of study that include the chemistry and composition of the atmosphere, biogeochemical cycling and ocean, atmosphere and climate dynamics.

Davis – New to IGPP, the major areas of study will include climate change.

Berkeley – New to IGPP, researchers plan for a space access center that will provide resources and access to expertise in spacecraft engineering and management.

ALUMNI CONNECTION



2.12 and 3.18

All-UC Alumni Career Conferences –

“Making the Right Next Move”

Join fellow UC alumni to network and take part in this conference designed to meet the needs of alumni from all industries and fields of work.

- Feb. 12, Los Angeles, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the UCLA Covel Commons and featuring keynote speaker L.A. County Sheriff Lee Baca speaking on “Finding Your Calling In Life.”
- March 18, San Francisco, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Parc 55 Hotel.

Visit www.seasonedpro.com to register for either event.



2.19-23

Homecoming 2008

“Come Home, Come Celebrate and Come Play”

Events include a young alumni reunion reception (1998-2007), back-to-class presentations by UCR faculty, a hike to the “C” on Box Springs Mountain, an Honors Program 20th anniversary celebration, college alumni events, the Homecoming basketball game, HEAT 2008 music fest and more. Visit www.alumni.ucr.edu/homecoming for more details.



3.3-4

UC Day in Sacramento

Support UCR and higher education by serving as a delegate and join fellow alumni from all the UC campuses to share issues with elected officials concerning the University of California. www.alumni.ucr.edu/involved/uc_day.html. All-day event, Sacramento.

Welcome Reception for Newly Admitted High School Seniors

3.15 – Los Angeles

3.16 – Oakland

4.19, 4.26 – UCR

The Alumni Association is seeking volunteers to serve as ambassadors for these events.

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



4.5

Alumni Family BBQ and UCR Baseball Game

Noon, family BBQ at UCR Sports Complex; 2 p.m., vs. Long Beach State at the UCR Sports Complex.



5.17

Celebrate Alumni Achievement

Join the Alumni Association as UCR recognizes this year's most distinguished alumni at the 22nd annual Alumni Awards of Distinction. Through their personal and professional achievements, these individuals bring distinction to UCR, contribute to the betterment of society and enhance their communities. For more details about the banquet and to read more about who will be receiving this year's awards, visit the alumni Web site at www.alumni.ucr.edu.



5.24

50 Years of UCR Baseball

Noon, picnic lunch at the UCR/City Sports Center; 2 p.m., game vs. Cal Poly, Pomona; 6 p.m., reception at the Alumni and Visitors Center.

Travel with Friends

Join fellow Highlanders for a journey of discovery to the Highlands of Scotland. The itinerary includes Edinburgh, the isles of Mull and Skye, Stirling, St. Andrews and Dundee, Oban, the Slate Islands, and lochs Lomond and Ness. The tour is scheduled for June 8-17. Interested in what is going on in the world? Travel with the UCR Alumni Association on a tour to China and Tibet. Visit Beijing, Xi'an, Tibet, Chengdu, Guilin and Shanghai. Tour dates are Sept. 15-30. Contact the UCR Alumni Association to request a detailed travel brochure.

60s

'67 **Pamela Lewis** was promoted to interim director of communications at the University of Texas Health Science Center on Dec. 1 ... Ann Aurelia Lopez completed her master of arts degree in biology at UCSB in 1969. She graduated from UC Santa Cruz (UCSC) with a Ph.D. in environmental studies in June 2002 and became the first Latina in the country to earn a Ph.D. in environmental studies/sciences. She was a UC Office of the President postdoctoral fellow at UC Berkeley in the department of environmental science, policy and management from 2004 to 2006. In May 2007, Ann completed a nearly lifelong teaching career in the biology department at San Jose City College. Her book, “The Farmworkers’ Journey,” was featured in the Science Library at UCSC in June. She is currently a research associate with the center for agroecology and sustainable food systems at UCSC, and has established the Center for Farmworker Families, a nonprofit organization that promotes awareness about the difficult life circumstances of binational families.

'68 Greg Foster is headmaster at St. John's Country Day School, Orange Park, Fla. He has taught for 27

TAKE FIVE



Denyse Olsen

'99 Biochemistry

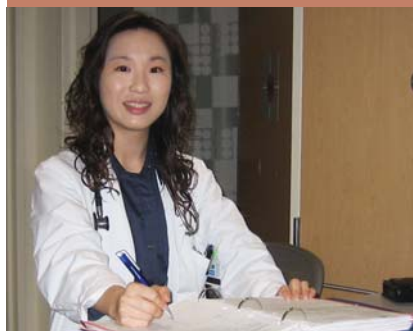
Denyse and her husband, Chris, own La Montanita Vineyard, a 5-acre vineyard located near Cambria. They established the vineyard in 2002 and produced their first vintage in 2006. Find out more at www.lamontanitavineyard.com.

1. How is it that you came to own a winery?
When we tasted our first year's grapes, we liked the flavor and the color, so we decided to venture out and make wine for ourselves, instead of just trying to sell the grapes to other winemakers. Also, I really wanted to apply some of the techniques and knowledge obtained during my studies at UCR.
2. What is your favorite wine and why?
Of course, it is a very subjective notion but it's our Estate Syrah because I've put out effort for more than 24 months during the process of making that wine. Most of all, I've watched the grapes grow to maturity.
3. What is your favorite memory about UCR?
Struggling, spending time with T.A.s and demanding their patience with my brain. Thanks to all T.A.s.
4. Running a vineyard must take a lot of your time. What do you like to do when you can get away?
I would like to be able to visit vineyards and wineries in France, Italy and Spain to meet with the farmers and winemakers to ask questions, listen to their life's experiences and to watch them working. Also, simply taking time out for myself to have a quiet time to read good books and do some paintings.
5. How do you apply your biochemistry knowledge to wine-making?
I think wine-making itself seems to require a very basic knowledge of biochemistry and chemistry. However, where I most often apply the knowledge is when I read research papers and related books on wine-making and viticulture.

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.

Embrace a healthy dose of UCR Pride...

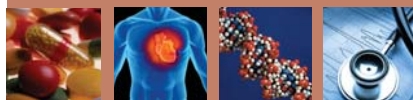
Join the UCR Alumni Association for Life



Esther Oh '06
Proud UCRAA Life Member

"UCR has provided me with many opportunities to succeed. I am so grateful for the scholarship support that made my dream of a superior medical education come true. Joining the UCR Alumni Association is not only a way to give back to the campus, nor is it just joining an association. It is a great way to stay connected and to create a helpful care network. As a former scholarship recipient and current member of the UCR Alumni Association, I encourage you to join in the rewards as a life member."

Esther Oh is a 3rd year medical student at UCLA. At UCR she was selected for one of the 24 coveted spots in the UCR/UCLA Thomas Haider Program in Biomedical Sciences. While at UCR, Esther received Regents, UCR Alumni Association Freshman, and the Britheine Continuing Students Scholarships.



Become a lifetime member of the UCRAA. To join, call (951) UCR-ALUM (827-2586)

www.alumni.ucr.edu/membership

years at independent college preparatory schools in California, Hawaii and Colorado. He most recently served eight years as a headmaster at the Alexander Dawson School in Denver.

'69 **John Davis** received the 2007 Rick Best Environmental Advocacy Award from the California Resource Recovery Association. The award honors lifetime environmental stewardship achievements and recognizes those who effectively advocate for Earth's natural systems. John shared the award with Terry Tamminen, Gov. Schwarzenegger's environmental advisory.

70s

'73 **Byron H.**

Pollitt is the chief financial officer of Visa Inc. Byron is responsible for developing Visa Inc.'s financial plan and for financial reporting, including compliance with Sarbanes-Oxley and other regulatory requirements. Prior to joining Visa Inc., Byron worked at Gap Inc. from January 2003 until September 2007 as executive vice president and chief financial officer. Before joining Gap Inc., Byron worked at the Walt Disney Co. from 1990 until 2003, most recently as the executive vice president and chief financial officer of Walt Disney Parks and Resorts



... **Greg Stepanich**

is a municipal law attorney and shareholder in the public law department at Richards, Watson & Gershon with more than 28 years of experience representing public agencies. Greg serves as city attorney for the cities of Fairfield and Mill Valley, and as general counsel for the Marin Telecommunications Agency, Marin Emergency Radio Authority and the San Francisco Creek Joint Powers Authority. He previously served as city attorney of Agoura Hills, Beverly Hills and Seal Beach. Greg concentrates on the representation of public agencies in a wide range of government law areas, including land use, local taxation and development fees, and telecommunications. Greg has lectured extensively on a variety of public law issues at conferences and seminars.

'74 **Lowell Dingus**

('79 M.S.) was named recipient of the 2008 AAAS/Subaru SB&F Prize for Excellence in Science Books. The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) selected his book "Dinosaur Eggs Discovered!" as the winner in the middle grades science book category. Lowell is a research associate in the Department of Paleontology at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. He is also president of



InfoQuest, a private, nonprofit foundation that is devoted to public education and research involving paleontology, geology and technology ... Randy Rawson is a clinical laboratory scientist at Corona Regional Medical Center. He took up bowling at age 5 and has been an avid bowler ever since. Randy is on the Green River Vegas Bowling League and averages in the 170s. He and his wife, Susie, have two adult children.

80s

'80 **Stanley Sniff**

Jr. is sheriff-coroner for Riverside County. The 28-year law enforcement veteran started his career as a police officer with the city of Coachella in 1975. In 1979, he transferred to the Riverside County Sheriff's Department where he quickly gained the respect and attention of law enforcement brass. In 1986, Stanley was selected as the Indio Sheriff Station's Officer of the Year. In 2003, the Riverside Sheriff's Department honored him with the National Defense Award. In January 2004, he was appointed assistant sheriff, overseeing 1,200 sheriff's employees in the civil court and corrections division.



'81 **Katie Vaclavik** is the owner of Katie's Place, a multifaceted retail store in Platteville, Wis.

Katie transformed a former funeral home into a store selling everything from quilts, clothing and jewelry to collectibles and toys.

'86 **Ross Mitchell** ('93 teaching credential, '01 Ph.D.) moved back to the Inland Empire with his wife, Connie, and their three children, Kevin, Tim and Sylvie. Ross is on the faculty of the School of Education at the University of Redlands, where he teaches quantitative research methods for the M.A. programs and the new Ed.D. program. He previously served as a full-time research scientist with Gallaudet Research Institute at Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C. for six years.

'88 **David Simmons** (M.A.) is the director of the Fond du Lac Women's Chorus in Wisconsin. He serves as the music director of the Federated Church of Green Lake. David has composed several musical pieces, including "A Christmas Gift of God," a youth musical Christmas play and pageant.

90s

'90 **Linda Kelly** (M.A.) was appointed city manager of Sonoma, Calif. She began her new position in January. Linda has nearly 20 years of local government service. She served as town manager of Fairfax, assistant to the city

manager of the city of Atherton, senior management analyst with the Sunnyvale city manager's office, city clerk/administrative services director of La Puente and as chief deputy city clerk and administrative analyst with the city of Long Beach. She and her husband, Gary, have two children, Jesse, 3, and Jamie, 10.

'91 **Allen Austin** and his wife, Heather, announce the arrival of their daughter, Hannah Austin, born in August. The family lives in Irvine. Allen is a partner with the Austin Optometry Group and practices at the UCI Medical Center.

'92 **Shanyun Behn** has self-published a book "Bridging the Gap" (AuthorHouse) under the pen name Shannon Behn. It is a science fiction story about a young woman searching for answers and understanding in the far reaches of outer space. Shannon is a former probation officer and a former Peace Corps volunteer ... **Michael Bergler** ('95 M.S.) completed the process to be designated as a Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE). He is the executive director of alumni and family relations and advancement services at Concordia University, where he has worked since January 2004 ... **René Jones** and her husband, Roy Houlette, announce the birth of their son, Chase Reed, born in November. He weighed 7 lbs. 14 oz. and was 21 1/2

inches long. **Rene** is director of the UTA Foundation, the charitable arm of United Talent Agency, one of the entertainment industry's leading talent and literary agencies ... **Lloyd Levine** is engaged to Edie Lambert, a KCRA-TV journalist. Lloyd is a three-term California assemblyman from Van Nuys. The couple met two years ago in a Seattle airport ...

'94 **Brian P. McGowan** was appointed deputy secretary for economic development and commerce in the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency of the state of California. Since 2006, Brian has served as the Economic Development Agency administrator for San Bernardino County, where he oversaw redevelopment, community development and housing, workforce development and economic development. Prior to that, Brian served as the economic development manager for Ontario from 2000 to 2006 and was an economic development specialist for Palm Springs from 1993 to 2000. Additionally, from 2000 to July 2007, he was a consultant for the Local Economic Development Program under the U.S. Department of State assisting in the economic development of cities in Bulgaria and Serbia. Brian serves on the board of the California Association of Local Economic Development, is vice president of Team California and is a member of the Pacific



Council on International Policy ... **Jill Shively** and **Jerry Shively** ('88) announce the birth of their second daughter, Violet Marie Shively, born in October. She joins her 5-year-old big sister, Malia.

'95 Sherwood Best (Ph.D.) received an outstanding professor award from Cal State Los Angeles. She is a leader in special education in California with expertise in physical and health impairments. Sherwood is the author of numerous journal articles, book chapters and the only textbook of its kind in the field of physical and health impairments. In 2004, Sherwood traveled to Bangalore, India, to help establish an early intervention program for infants and young children with special needs at the Vydehi Institute of Medical Rehabilitation. She returned to Bangalore the following summer to assist with the opening of an early intervention center and also to teach graduate courses to occupational, physical and speech therapists in the center. She has been involved in leadership in national and state organizations, including service in the National Division of Physical and Health Disabilities of the Council for Exceptional Children, the California Association for Physical and Health Impairments, and the Association for the Education of Children with Medical Needs. In 2007, she was appointed to a state-level workgroup to make recommendations to the California Commission on

Teacher Credentialing Workgroup for special education credentials. She has been a faculty member at Cal State Los Angeles since 1993.

'96 **Christine (Bleyenburg) Tapia** was promoted from manager of travel agent and tour operator programs to senior business development manager for Travel Zoo Inc. in November 2006. Christine remarried in January 2005 and gave birth to a son in September that same year.

'97 **Nertha Arroyo-Vite** is vice principal at Belvedere Elementary School in the San Bernardino City Unified School District. She is the mother of a 4-year-old son and a 3-year-old daughter. Nertha became a kindergarten teacher in 1998. She began her career in education when she won the Miss Hispanic San Bernardino pageant in 1992. She received funds for college and was able to make political and educational contacts ... **E. John McGowan** is the regional manager for Becker Professional Review. He was previously the corporate education director, California region, at Kaplan Test Preparation.

'99 **Ivy (Ewell) Eldridge** was elected teacher of the year for her school, Eastvale Elementary, as well as teacher of the year for the entire Corona-Norco Unified School District. She and her husband, Taj, are raising three children, Ava, Luc and Lea, all under the age of 5.

00s

'01 **Trevor Winn** completed his M.B.A. at Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia, where he won the Strauss Award for Marketing Excellence. He is now an associate marketing manager at General Mills, working on new products for Green Giant. He has relocated to Minneapolis.

'02 **Martena Wilson** was a finalist for the 2007 Inland Empire Spirit of the Entrepreneur Awards. Martena is president of Inland Yoga, a full-service yoga studio offering more than 60 classes a week in all styles of yoga. In addition to offering yoga classes in the Inland Empire, Inland Yoga provides a yoga community for people in Southern California and provides the necessary resources for people who want to travel abroad to study yoga, ayurveda and Indian culture.

'03 **Michael Yung-Chih Hsiao** started an e-commerce business, www.swankpets.com, which sells products and apparel for small dogs. The site also offers comprehensive health care information and an active "dog blog." Swank Pets was started in early 2005, when clients of Chic Yorkies needed specialized clothing for their new companions.

'04 **Brian Sylva** is the sports information director for San Bernardino Valley College (SBVC). Brian and Jennie Rose

(Dolloff) Sylva ('03, '04 M.A.) have been married for three years. Jennie Rose is in her fourth year of teaching English and is also the English language development facilitator at Norte Vista High School in Riverside. They live in Riverside and have a beagle named Macy.

'05 **Ruel Asuncion** is involved in the multicultural hip-hop group E.A.R.T.H. In April, the group was chosen to perform in the mtVU Campus Invasion Music Festival in Atlanta. E.A.R.T.H. was qualified to take part in a "battle of the bands" competition that could lead to a \$1 million recording contract. E.A.R.T.H. (which stands for Everything Around Revolves Through Hip hop) won over the audience with its fresh music, which is a blend of West Coast rap ranging from The Game to Jurassic 5, with punchlines that resemble East Coast artists such as Jay-Z and Nas. Bridging the gap between different social and ethnic groups, E.A.R.T.H.'s members have African-American, Persian, Salvadoran, Filipino and German backgrounds. Ruel works in the production department at the Fontana Herald News, but his goal is for E.A.R.T.H. to get a big recording contract ... **Jill Deppe** (Ph.D.) is a participant in the NASA Postdoctoral Program at the Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md. She is studying avian migration on continental scales to



understand the potential impacts of climate change, natural disasters and human activities on migratory birds. One area of interest to NASA scientists is demonstrating how the agency's remote-sensing data and models can be used to understand the distribution of organisms on the planet. Jill's research is supported by the NASA Postdoctoral Program, which is administered by Oak Ridge Associated Universities and provides opportunities to participants to advance NASA's missions ... **Matt Longacre** and **William Lorentz** were elected into the Delta Chapter of Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA). Now at UCLA, Matt and William are expected to graduate from the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA in 2008. As the only national honor medical society, AOA's mission is to recognize and enhance professionalism, academic excellence, service and leadership within the profession.



'06 **Jean Paul Jamarne** received a certificate of merit in research and writing at Thomas M. Cooley Law School.

'07 **Kevin Cramer** (M.F.A.) placed fourth in the 52nd Samuel Goldwyn Writing Awards Competition for feature-length screenplays written by University of California students.

The prize included a \$2,000 cash award. This year's

TAKE FIVE



Joan Roberts

'99 Ph.D. Education

Roberts is the owner of Visiting Angels of Riverside County, a nonmedical, private-duty home care agency that helps the elderly and other adults to continue to live in their homes. She was a finalist for the 2007 Inland Empire Spirit of the Entrepreneur Awards.

- How do you help people deal with the difficult decisions involving caring for elderly family members?
Each one of my clients is a special person with a unique history. However, they all share the desire to remain as independent as possible. The most important thing in working with families is to understand a person's needs and their tolerance for assistance. We work with families to develop a plan of care and a schedule of care that will allow their loved one to receive the assistance that they need to live as safely and as independently as possible.
- What is your best memory of UC Riverside?
UCR has been a constant presence in my life since my earliest memories. My mother, Benita Roberts, received her B.A. in history from UCR. My relatives, Edward Blakely (namesake of UCR's Edward J. Blakely Center for Sustainable Suburban Development), Warren Blakely, Jesse Norman, Sharon Richards and Stacy Richards received their undergraduate degrees from UCR. In addition, my late brother, Edwin A. Roberts, received his M.A. and Ph.D. from UCR. When I was 5 years old, I told my parents that I was going to get a Ph.D. from UCR. I changed my mind after I received my M.S. exactly 12 months after receiving my B.A., but decided to enroll in a doctoral program seven years later.
- Tell us about a defining moment in your life.
Owning a business is a 24/7 venture. It is very easy to see yourself as your business. One Saturday afternoon while reading personal development literature, I realized that I am the owner of a business that reflects my values; however, my business does not own me. At that moment, I accepted the slogan, "Life is a journey, not a destination." I now go to the office with the attitude that I want to see each and every day how strong I can make my business. You experience a tremendous sense of peace when you realize that you control your business, your business does not control you.
- Tell us one thing about yourself that you want the world to know.
Every night, I begin my prayers by thanking God for my blessings, my family, friends, church members, employees, clients, business and my education. I then pray to God to shower the gifts of love and abundance on the homeless, jobless, marginalized, lonely, mentally ill, abused, neglected, and our first responders and our troops. It takes a while to get through my prayers but I truly believe that it is important to express gratitude for our blessings.
- Who is your hero and why?
My hero is my late brother, Edwin A. Roberts ('85 M.A., '89 Ph.D.). My little brother was a brilliant and compassionate man who overcame dyslexia to become a well-respected full professor of political science and an author. He was also well-respected by students and peers. The outpouring of grief and emotion expressed by his students in letters written to my parents exemplified a life that we should all strive to lead.

competition included 123 entries from eight UC campuses. Kevin's screenplay, "Zen Dog in the Clouds," was the only one to be named one of the five finalists by all three judges. It is the story of a young soldier on a two-week leave from Iraq who stumbles into a drug deal gone wrong in the mountains of Montana. The Samuel Goldwyn Writing Awards were founded in 1955 and are bestowed by the Samuel Goldwyn Foundation in honor of the late producer.

WE REMEMBER

ALUMNI AND STUDENTS

'77 Jeffery Earl Douglas, a member of the IBM sales team in Los Angeles for 14 years. November 2007.

'67 Michael Gebhardt, played football for UCR in the mid-1960s. October 2007.

'06 Valerie Dunham, a business administration graduate. January 2008.

Crystal Rose Araujo, a biology student. November 2007.

CAMPUS FRIENDS

Mary Lee Kingman Reynolds, wife of founding faculty member William H. Reynolds, died December in Madison, Wis. She was widely known on campus as a "den mother" to the UCR singers and donor to the UCR carillon fund.

She is survived by her six children, Christopher, Joel, Ellen, Anne Marie, Susan and Martha, all of whom graduated from UCR.

TAKE FIVE



Paul Niwa

'92 B.A. Economics Major, Journalism

Niwa is an assistant professor of journalism at Emerson College in Boston. Previously, he produced television news programs for national and international networks, national cable, national syndication, local stations and local all-news cable. He won two Golden Mikes for documentary and feature reporting while an undergraduate at UCR.

1. What inspired you to make the jump from the news business to higher education? UCR made me hungry for intellectual fulfillment. As my newsroom and others became more focused on chasing ratings, journalists became less interested in serving society with stories that are essential to the civic fabric of our civilization. I thought I could have a greater impact on the profession I love by educating an army of young, hungry reporters.
2. What is the most exciting news story you ever covered and how did it impact you? The most important story that I covered was the financial collapse of Russia, Brazil and the Asian tiger economies. [The collapse started in July 1997 and continued for nearly a year.] I was in charge of CNBC's "Today's Business," the program that Wall Street woke up to. I had a privileged seat at an extraordinary time. The financial markets had globalized. But most individual traders and financial journalists didn't really know what was going on outside of their country. As the producer of a global program, I was able to talk to bankers, political leaders and journalists around the world to try to figure out why the money was flowing in the direction it was moving. As I whispered orders to my control-room team and the anchors on set, a Reuters terminal showed me how markets reacted to the information on my program. Seeing billions of dollars leap from country-to-country was a sobering reminder of the responsibility and impact that a journalist can make on the world.
3. Do you miss the hectic life of a journalist? It's hard to match the thrill of hunting a good story. But, I prize the freedom of academia. At the end of every semester I get to pursue whatever story interests me. Last summer, I interviewed homeowners who were victims of mortgage fraud. And this fall and winter, I co-produced a pilot show called "AsI Am with Helen Zia" for public radio stations. I am spending spring break as a guest of the Foreign Ministry of Japan and the summer as a guest of the Beijing Olympic Committee.
4. Who's your hero? My father and his generation. My father, Ujinobu Niwa, graduated high school in a concentration camp for Japanese Americans in World War II. There were only a handful of colleges that would educate Japanese Americans. So, he didn't have the opportunity to attend a good school like UCR. When my father graduated college, no newsroom trusted Japanese Americans to edit a newspaper or broadcast a news program. It was because my father and his generation worked their entire lives to prove to other Americans that Japanese Americans were loyal citizens that I was able to pursue any career of my interest. No matter what I achieve, I still stand on the shoulders of giants like my father.
5. How do you unwind? I have been blessed with a 17-month-old son. He has helped me redefine what love means. All is forgiven when I see him smile. And I will do anything to make him giggle.

Commencement Ceremonies to be Held on Pierce Lawn

UC Riverside will hold six ceremonies to celebrate the campus's 54th commencement. Each ceremony will be held on Pierce Lawn and the UCR Bell Tower, and tickets will be required for all guests.

The commencement ceremonies are scheduled as follows:
 Friday, June 13
 7 p.m., College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences - Business Administration
 Saturday, June 14
 8 a.m., Bourns College of Engineering, College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences
 6 p.m., College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences Group 1

(Departments: psychology, sociology, religious studies, women's studies)
 Sunday, June 15
 8 a.m., College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences Group 2 (Departments: art, art history, comparative literature and foreign languages, creative writing, dance, English, ethnic studies, film and visual culture, hispanic studies, interdisciplinary programs and liberal studies, music, theatre)
 6 p.m., College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences Group 3 (Departments: anthropology, economics, history, philosophy, political science)



Monday, June 16
 7 p.m., Graduate Division (Ph.D. and master's degree candidates), Teacher Education Program (teaching credential candidates)

For more information call (951) 827-3144 or visit www commencement.ucr.edu.

Homecoming Gets Bigger and Better

Remember your college days at UCR, hanging out with friends, attending classes, watching UCR's basketball games or hiking to the "C" on Box Springs Mountain?

This year's homecoming offers a chance to do all these things and more during the upcoming homecoming celebration Feb. 19 - 23.

"By including classes and arts events with more traditional activities, such as reunions, more alumni can get involved and current students can get the full scope of campus life," says Kyle Hoffman, assistant vice chancellor of alumni and constituent relations.

Alumni and Constituent Relations has partnered with

campus departments and colleges to create a wide variety for this year's event, which is being called "Come Play, Come Celebrate, Come Home."

Homecoming is designed to reconnect alumni, especially those who recently graduated, and to showcase what's going on campus, said Hoffman.

"UCR is still a relatively young campus with unique

demographics," said Hoffman. "About half of our alumni graduated within the last decade, so we're trying to offer programs geared toward that younger audience."

More activities will be offered this year than any other year, said Hoffman.

This includes college-specific reunions, a Homecoming bonfire, a tailgate

party, and tennis, baseball and basketball games.

Alumni will have the chance to reconnect with professors and experience how classes have changed over the years.

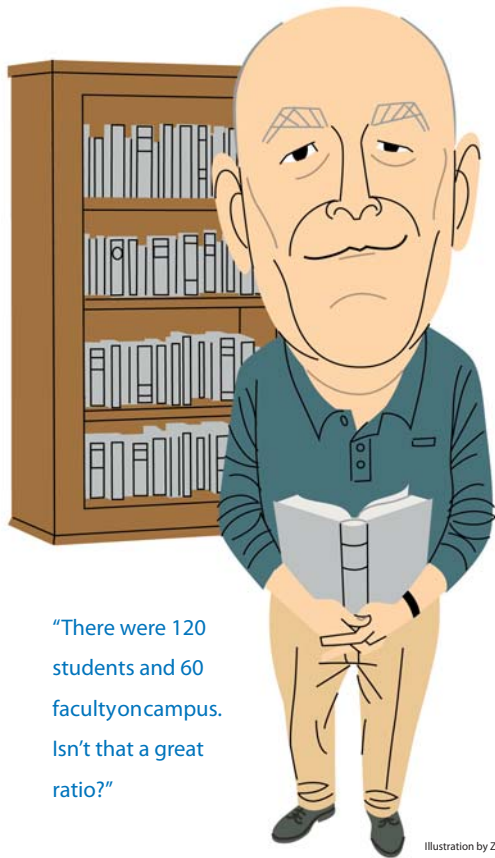
The "Back to Class" series offers classes taught by faculty members such as Pam Clute, executive director of the ALPHA Center; Donna Hoffman, Professor of marketing; Martin Johnson, associate professor of political science; Scott Coltrane, associate dean and professor of sociology; and Mark Matsumoto, associate dean and professor of environmental engineering.

For a complete schedule of events, visit www.alumni.ucr.edu/homecoming.



Francis Carney

Professor emeritus of political science and founding faculty member



“There were 120 students and 60 faculty on campus. Isn’t that a great ratio?”

Illustration by Zach Trenholm

Francis Carney started his teaching career at UCR on the first day the campus opened in 1954.

By Litty Mathew

If Francis Carney were on Broadway he’d be “Cats,” one of the longest-running shows. Carney, who was part of the original UCR faculty, taught classes on opening day, Feb. 1, 1954. It was Poli. Sci. 1 and he was an acting instructor, having just turned in his Ph.D. thesis.

“There were 120 students and 60 faculty on campus,” he notes. “Isn’t that a great ratio?”

Being part of UCR’s birth gave Carney a unique hand in forming the university. It was an intellectually and academically exciting time, and the founding faculty had a say in how the university would run, what students would learn and how they would learn it.

A fixture in jeans, button-down shirt and tie and a “King And I” hairstyle, Carney had a front-row seat to the changing campus.

From the traditional ‘50s to the political activism of the ‘60s and early ‘70s, “Whatever was going on in the nation was also happening at UCR,” notes Carney. “I’ve seen it mature.”

But one thing that hasn’t changed, according to Carney, is the students who tend to be open-minded and eager for new ideas.

Looking back at nearly a half-century at UCR, what has Carney learned?

“I hadn’t made a mistake in my professional choice,” he says. “Teaching at UCR was important. It’s a good thing to know.”

Carney taught his last class in June 2003. He now devotes his time to catching up on reading and, if inspired, a little writing.



Photo by Michael Elderman

Take it Easy

Visitors who pass through the Alumni and Visitors Center – UCR’s “front door” – will find an opportunity to relax in comfortable sofas among the works of alumni authors and artists.

Located up the stairs, and to the left, the center’s Goldware Family Library is designed to provide peace and tranquility for campus visitors.

“When we began planning for the Alumni and Visitors Center, one of our first priorities was to provide a warm and quiet space for informal gathering within the facility,” said Kyle Hoffman, assistant vice chancellor for alumni and constituent relations. “With its fireplace, comfortable furnishings and attractive views of the campus and Box Springs Mountains, the Goldware Family Library not only achieves, but surpasses, our original vision.”

The library is named after Nick and Susan Goldware (’69). Nick is chair of the UC Riverside Foundation and past president of the Alumni Association.

Art created by UCR graduates will also be displayed in the library in quarterly exhibits curated by UCR’s Sweeney Art Gallery. Currently, the work of John Holland (’62), a former president of the UCR Alumni Association, is on display.

Alumni artists and authors who would like to have their work displayed in the Goldware Library can contact the UCR Alumni Association at (951) 827-2586.

To see more photos of the Alumni and Visitors Center visit www.ucrmagazine.ucr.edu.

