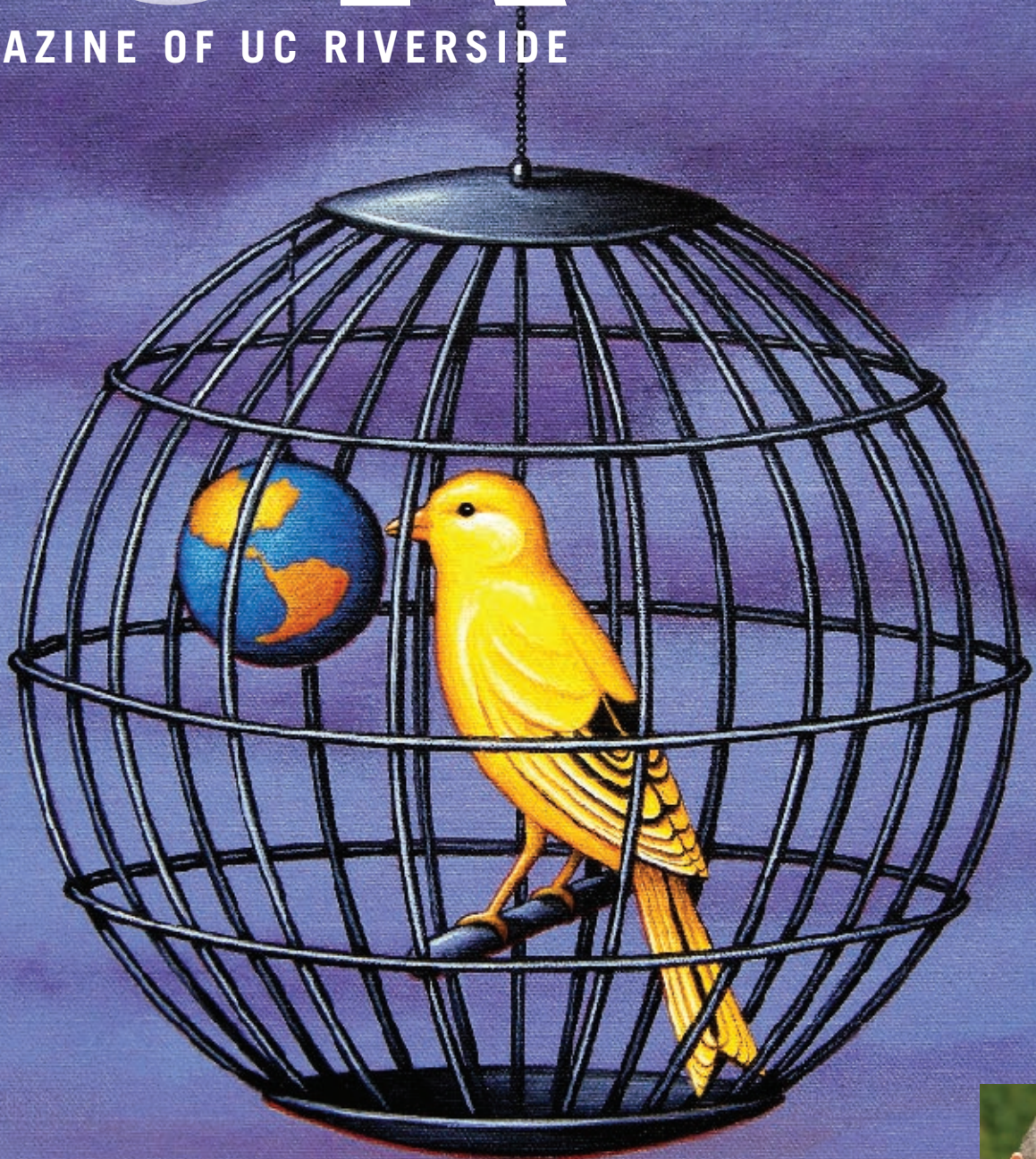


# UCR

THE MAGAZINE OF UC RIVERSIDE

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## A Global Warning

UCR's Eighth  
Chancellor  
Timothy P. White



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# Escape the Heat: UCR's ARTSblock offers something for everyone.

For more on UCR events, visit the calendar at [www.events.ucr.edu](http://www.events.ucr.edu).

## UCR California Museum of Photography



### Through 7.5 And These Natural Things

An exhibition by Melissa Martinez, "And These Natural Things," illustrates the desert's natural resources within familiar urban landscapes and nature's encroachment into residential settings. The exhibition includes a projection with orchestrated sound and sculptural video displays that document nature's eeriness, celebration, disembodiment and melancholy.



### Through 7.12 Balancing the Lenses: Stereo Views of the Middle East

This exhibition features photographs of the Middle East and India taken between 1890 and 1940. The photos are from the UCR California Museum of Photography's Keystone-Mast Collection. The exhibit offers a broad perspective of the Middle East by representing both the everyday and exalted aspects of life.

[www.cmp.ucr.edu](http://www.cmp.ucr.edu)

## UCR Sweeney Art Gallery



7.26-10.4

### Absurd Re-creation: Contemporary Art from China

Nine artists collaborate in this multimedia exhibition that uses playful, humorous and ritualistic imagery. The result is an absurdist re-creation of settings, events and situations in reaction to the rapidly changing political, social, cultural, economic and environmental landscapes in China.



10.25-1.03

### Like Lifelike: Painting in the Third Dimension

This exhibition features paintings that break from the wall as fully formed sculptural objects. The works have been created mainly with traditional brushes and pigments, but confront unfamiliar issues when the paintings are transplanted into real space.



10.25-1.03

### Rich: An Installation by Kyungmi Shin

"Rich" explores varying cultural rites of passage inspired by the artist's cultural background. The installation includes a video projection of a Ghanaian funeral dance and depictions of weddings and funerals from African-American families in Los Angeles.

[sweeney.ucr.edu](http://sweeney.ucr.edu)

## Summer @ ARTSblock Digital Studio



6.5-7.5

### Student Exhibition

Graphic design and interactive media exhibit, Art Institute of California – Inland Empire, organized by Michael Swank. Digital Studio Gallery. A reception will be held at 6 p.m. June 5 in The Press-Enterprise Oculorium.



8.7-9.2

### Student Exhibition

Youth Media: Riverside to San Jose, selections from EYEBEAM.org and 01 Global Youth Voices Workshops. Organized by William Bejarano. Digital Studio Gallery. A reception will be held at 6 p.m. Aug. 7 in The Press-Enterprise Oculorium.

### Summer Session

MyGlobalVillage – High School Summer Session, presented by UCR/CMP and Human Rights Watch Film Festival. Session I: July 7-18; Session II: July 21-Aug. 1; Session III: Aug. 4-15. Requires teacher or adviser referral. Maximum 10 students per class.

### Open Studio Access

Tech Thursday Nights @ the Museum. Beginner and advanced training and tutorials in digital photo, video, audio, 5-8 p.m., in June, July and August in the Digital Studio.

[www.digitalstudio.ucr.edu](http://www.digitalstudio.ucr.edu)

# Saying Goodbye

As I near the end of my term as acting chancellor at UC Riverside, I want to take this opportunity to reflect on the time we've spent together. We've had a very good year.

Our most important goal for the year was to maintain the forward momentum that is propelling UC Riverside to an even higher level of excellence and effectiveness. I'm pleased to say that we all — administration, Academic Senate and staff — worked hard and in collaboration to achieve that goal. Here are a few of the highlights that stand out for me:

- **Completion of the plan for the School of Medicine.** This was the biggest challenge on this year's "to do" list. With the help of more than 80 people from the faculty, staff, community and sister campuses, we completed the final proposal for the new school. This wouldn't have been possible without splendid collaboration with the Academic Senate, whose members participated actively in the planning process and in the review of the final plan itself. With the senate's unanimous endorsement, UCR's proposal has been forwarded to the UC president, and we're looking forward to admitting our first class in the UCR School of Medicine in 2012. Find out more on page 8.
- **Submission of the plan for a new School of Public Policy.** UCR's proposed new School of Public Policy also received unanimous approval by the senate and is now under review by Office of the President. With its focus on environmental, economic, health and social policy, the new school will have an important impact on the region, state and nation.
- **A new vision for growth of UCR.** In September, the campus leadership held a retreat and emerged with a new enrollment plan through 2021. The plan is ambitious but achievable, calling for growth to 25,000 students by that date, with 25 percent at the graduate level. Scholarships and fellowships will play a critical role in achieving this goal.

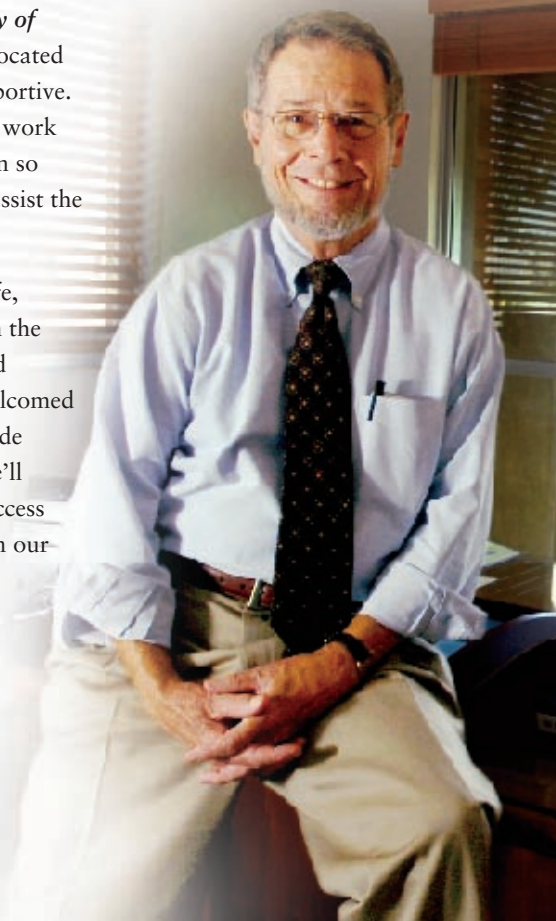
- **Launch of the college-eligibility project.** An awakening for me was the realization that the Inland Empire has some of the lowest rates of college eligibility in the state. UCR joined forces with the Community Foundation, school districts, community colleges, and business and community leaders to launch an initiative aimed at reversing this trend. This is important for the prosperity of both affected individuals and the region. Find out more on page 10.
- **The Academic Senate's Chili Cook-off.** What a marvelous example of the esprit de corps at UCR!
- **Homecoming and alumni events.** It rained a bit during homecoming, but that didn't deter hundreds of alumni from returning to their alma mater. I met many enthusiastic UCR graduates that day, as I did at alumni receptions in San Francisco and Pasadena and at UC Day in Sacramento. The passionate support for UCR was inspirational.
- **The avid support from the community of Riverside.** UCR is so fortunate to be located in a community that is incredibly supportive. It was a genuine pleasure to meet and work with community leaders. All have been so supportive of UCR and so willing to assist the campus as it moves forward.

It has been such a pleasure for my wife, Kathleen, and me to be members of both the campus community and the larger Inland Empire community. We were warmly welcomed and made to feel at home, and we've made many friends. Please rest assured that we'll always be watching UCR's continued success and cheering it on as we reflect fondly on our wonderful year here.



Robert D. Grey  
Acting Chancellor

“UCR’s proposal has been forwarded to the UC president, and we’re looking forward to admitting our first class in the UCR School of Medicine in 2012.”





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# “We Will Be the Next Great University of California Campus”

UCR’s eighth chancellor Timothy P. White, said he looks forward to working with the campus and community in promoting the interests of the campus and leading the charge to open California’s first public medical school in more than 40 years.

By Kris Lovekin

Timothy P. White is interested in vitality – the vitality of the human body, and the vitality of a great university.

White, selected May 15 as UCR’s next chancellor, is a member of California’s vital immigrant population and a first-generation college graduate who took advantage of the state’s three-part system for higher education. He started at Diablo Valley Community College, bridged to Cal State Fresno and Cal State Hayward, and then earned his Ph.D. at UC Berkeley in exercise physiology.

A nationally known researcher in the

field of exercise science with a focus on skeletal muscle plasticity, White’s expertise gives him a head start as an advocate for UCR’s proposed medical school and provides the university another knowledgeable voice in sports medicine and the stresses and strains of NCAA Division I competition. He is a fellow and past president of the American College of Sports Medicine.

His work reflects the idea that the health of the body and the mind are linked, and the vitality of the human brain is directly connected to the pumping of the muscles and the blood.

## At a Glance

**Timothy P. White, UCR’s Eighth Chancellor**

**Age: 58**

**Start Date: By Sept. 1**

**Previous leadership role:** President of the University of Idaho, a land-grant institution, which has five campuses and a total student enrollment of 11,636.

**Birth Place:** Argentina. His parents immigrated to Canada and then to California when he was young.

**Education:** B.A., California State University, Fresno, California; M.S., California State University, Hayward, California; Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley, California. He is a first-generation college graduate.

**Research area:** He is internationally recognized for his work in muscle plasticity, injury and aging.

**Family:** Married to Karen N. White, who earned her Ph.D. in kinesiology at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He has three grown children: Randy, Tim and Alex and a 4-year-old son, Logan.

**Hobbies:** Photography, hiking, boating, skiing.



He said he wants to honor the connectedness of different aspects of the university.

“This is an amazing privilege for me to take over just as the campus is poised for a rapid ascent,” he said. “The medical school and its ancillary opportunities for biomedical research will be fueling the economy.”

He said he was humbled and honored by the opportunity to make UCR the “next great UC campus.”

He visited the campus on May 4 and said he was excited to see many new buildings and a growing research footprint on campus, including the materials science building and the genomics building.

An avid photographer, he said he looks forward to a visit to UCR’s exceptional photography museum. He said campus themes of excellence and diversity speak to him, not only because

of his own family background, but because he has spent four years at the University of Idaho building an infrastructure to increase the student body’s diversity and developing better relationships with the Native American and Hispanic communities.

“It was challenging in a community that was more monochromatic, so I am really looking forward to working in Riverside. A great university must be student-centered, interacting with and reflecting the diversity of the surrounding community,” he said. “That is not only my philosophy, but that is clearly the philosophy of the UCR community. Academic excellence is achieved through the richness of a diverse faculty, staff, student body and surrounding communities. There are enormous opportunities at UCR, really stunning. The momentum is enormous.”

Bruce Varner, a UC Regent from the

Inland region who served on the chancellor search committee, said he looks forward to this new leadership.

“I was especially impressed that Tim White understands how to deal with faculty and academic issues as well as with students and staff,” Varner said. “He also knows of the need to relate to the community.”

After moving from Argentina to Canada, White’s family settled when he was 8 years old in the Bay Area of California, where he attended college. He likes to say that he never left the university life, as he crisscrossed the nation to pursue his career in academia, from Berkeley to the University of Michigan, back to Berkeley, to Oregon State University and then to the University of Idaho.

*To see a slide show of Chancellor White’s visit to campus, go to [www.ucrmagazine.ucr.edu](http://www.ucrmagazine.ucr.edu).*



# What a Year

In the fall 2007 issue of UCR magazine, Acting Chancellor Grey identified five priorities for the academic year. Under his leadership, significant progress has been made. Following are highlights from each of the five priority areas:

## UCR School of Medicine:

- ◆ Developed a comprehensive proposal that includes a curriculum and business plan
- ◆ Received unanimous approval from the UCR Academic Senate for both the curriculum and the full proposal
- ◆ Submitted the proposal to the UC Office of the President and systemwide Academic Senate for review and approval

## School of Public Policy:

- ◆ Unanimously approved by the UCR Academic Senate
- ◆ Currently under review by the systemwide senate

## ARTSBlock:

- ◆ Named Jonathan Green as executive director
- ◆ Began construction of the Barbara and Art Culver Center of the Arts
- ◆ Created a structure to promote and coordinate all UCR arts events

## Staff Climate Survey:

- ◆ Improved communications through
  - ❖ A new Web-based staff portal with a broad array of communication tools
  - ❖ Additional strategies for staff with no computer access
  - ❖ A new campus-wide emergency-notification system
- ◆ Increased staff recognition through
  - ❖ Service awards for employees with five years of service
  - ❖ Unit-based recognition programs for staff appreciation
  - ❖ Revision of performance standards to include categories for communications and recognition
- ◆ Enhanced focus on career opportunities through
  - ❖ Development of a Career Discovery Series
  - ❖ Implementation of exit and new-hire surveys

## Enrollment:

- ◆ Submitted a new strategic plan for enrollment, calling for growth to 25,000 students by 2021, with 25 percent at the graduate level
- ◆ Launched a major effort to generate scholarships and fellowships





## UCR Scientist Receives Unusual Grant from Department of Energy

Nikolai V. Pogorelov, research scientist with the Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics (IGPP), has received an unusual grant from the Department of Energy. There is no dollar value to the grant. Instead, he has been

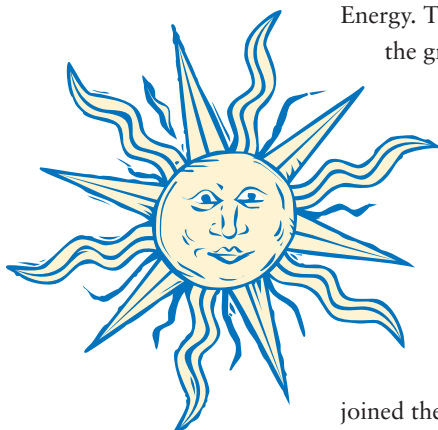
awarded 850,000 processor hours on the seventh-fastest computer in the world, housed at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee.

Pogorelov, who joined the IGPP in 2003, and co-investigator Jacob Heerikhuisen will use the hours to model processes in the heliosphere, the area in space that encompasses the solar system, the solar wind and the solar magnetic field.

Their research could help in the planning of manned space missions to other planets.

The allocations of supercomputing and data-storage resources to Pogorelov are being made under the Department of Energy's Innovative and Novel Computational Impact on Theory and Experiment (INCITE) program, which supports computationally intensive, large-scale research projects.

The research project was one of only 17 projects from universities nationwide to receive support from the Department of Energy.



## Academic Senate Gives Thumbs Up to Medical School

The Riverside Division of the Academic Senate has voted unanimously to approve the curriculum for the proposed UCR medical school and, in a separate action, voted unanimously to support establishment of the school.

"I want to thank the many UCR faculty members who served on the work groups that developed the medical school plan and who as members of senate committees thoroughly evaluated the proposal," said Acting Chancellor Robert D. Grey. "I also want to express gratitude to the community representatives, medical community leadership, staff and alumni who have participated. This monumental effort has resulted in a compelling proposal due to the expertise, time and dedication of all involved."

The final proposal includes the financial and operational



## The Opportunity to Catch a Quake

An idea for monitoring earthquakes, which was designed by Elizabeth Cochran, assistant professor of earth science, has the potential to save lives.

The idea involves inviting the public to help monitor earthquakes by using their laptop computers at home.

Anyone with a personal computer will be able to participate in the experiment once software linking the computers to the project is publicly released, tentatively this summer. The free software will be available at [boinc.berkeley.edu](http://boinc.berkeley.edu).

Called "Quake-Catcher Network," the project makes use of inexpensive motion sensors, called accelerometers, which are already in place as safety devices in most new laptops.

"We're turning the laptops' accelerometers into earthquake



framework for the medical school, as well as the curriculum. Key elements of the medical school's mission are training a diverse physician workforce and developing research and health care delivery programs to improve the health of medically underserved populations in the region.

Academic Senate Chair Tom Cogswell noted that there was broad support across campus for the initiative and praised campus leadership for an inclusive planning process that gave faculty abundant opportunity to influence the plan and ask questions. "This will be a transformational event in the history of the campus and the Inland Empire," he said.

The campus proposal has been submitted to the UC Office of the President and the systemwide Academic Council. The proposal must also be voted on by the UC Board of Regents, anticipated in July.

monitors," said Cochran. "With a dense grid of detectors in place, an early warning can be sent through the Internet to neighboring cities should an earthquake strike, giving people up to 10-20 seconds to prepare themselves before the seismic waves reach them."

Already, about 300 people around the world are taking part in the Quake-Catcher Network.

Currently, approximately 350 stations monitor earthquakes in Southern California using underground sensors. They do so, however, not in real time.

"There is a delay of 10-15 seconds from when the sensors record an earthquake to when the data is processed at either Caltech in Southern California or UC Berkeley in Northern California," Cochran explained. "Quake-Catcher Network would process data in real time, as it comes in. And the network can stretch out to any region of the world. Besides being inexpensive, it makes an extremely small demand on CPU resources."



## Researchers Discover New Way to Store Information Via DNA

Researchers at UC Riverside have found a way to get into your body and your bloodstream. No, they're not spiritual gurus or B-movie mad scientists. They are just talented when it comes to manipulating DNA.

The researchers – Nathaniel G. Portney, Yonghui Wu, Stefano Lonardi and Mihri Ozkan from UCR's departments of bioengineering, computer science and engineering, biochemistry, and electrical engineering, and the Center for Nanoscale Science and Engineering – discovered a system to encode digital information within DNA. This method relies on the length of the fragments obtained by the partial restriction digest rather than the actual content of the nucleotide sequence. As a result, the technology eliminates the need to use expensive sequencing machinery.

Why is this discovery important? The human genome consists of the equivalent of approximately 750 megabytes of data – a significant amount of storage space. However, only about 3 percent of DNA goes into composing the more than 22,000 genes that make us what we are. The remaining 97 percent leaves plenty of room to encode information in a genome, allowing the information to be preserved and replicated in perpetuity.

By storing messages within DNA, organizations can "tag" objects to verify authenticity, as well as to inconspicuously send data to a specific destination.

"Already there are several companies using DNA to tag objects that they certify to be original and which then can be very difficult to counterfeit," said Lonardi, associate professor of computer science and engineering.





## Initiative Aims to Reduce High School Dropout Rate, Increase Number of College-bound Students

UC Riverside Acting Chancellor Robert Grey has created the College Eligibility Project, an initiative that aims to assist the Inland region in its efforts to develop a knowledge-based economy by improving the college-going rates.

“There is much to be gained by increasing the percentage of high school graduates who go to college,” Grey said. “The most important gain is for the students themselves, but the region and its economy benefit as well.”

In February, Grey and Community Foundation President Jim Erickson co-chaired a forum that included regional higher education leaders and county school superintendents. They reviewed current outreach efforts and explored opportunities for further collaboration among educational leaders and their institutions.

UCR has entered into an agreement with NASA to bring Angela Phillips Diaz, a senior space agency executive, to campus for two years to focus on the issue. She will work with a variety of stakeholders to initiate and enhance programs that encourage students to stay in school, study math and science, and go to college. She will remain a NASA employee and NASA will pay her salary.

The effort will also include UCR’s Academy of Learning Through Partnerships for Higher Achievement (ALPHA). The center serves as catalyst for programs that engage ladder-rank faculty and UCR students in activities related to educational engagement with K-12 education, other institutions of higher education, business and the community.



## The Library of Congress in Your Wristwatch

Every advance in memory-storage devices presents a new marvel of just how much can be squeezed into very small spaces.

Sakhrat Khizroev, associate professor of engineering at UCR, and colleagues at the University of Houston are exploring lasers so tiny that they point to a future where a 10-terabit hard drive is only 1-inch square. That is 50 times the data density of today’s magnetic storage technology.

They have so far developed a nanolaser that can concentrate light as small as 30 nanometers and can focus 250 nanowatts of power, enough to ensure effective storage of information.

Khizroev said there are a number of challenges for getting the tiny disk drives to the market, including lubricating tiny parts and integrating the nanolaser with a recording head. Still, he insisted, the 10-terabit hard drive will be a near-term innovation, appearing in as little as two years.



## Robert Rosenthal Honored by UC Regents

Robert Rosenthal, distinguished professor of psychology, has been honored by the UC Regents with the title of University Professor, a designation reserved for scholars of international distinction who are also recognized as scholars and teachers of exceptional ability.

The appointment allows these distinguished scholars to visit other UC campuses to give special seminars and presentations and to meet with students and faculty.

Rosenthal is one of two current UCR professors who have received the honor. The other is Emory Elliott, professor of English and director of the Center for Ideas and Society. Arturo Gomez-Pompa, distinguished professor of botany emeritus, was named a University Professor in 1999.

The psychology professor’s groundbreaking research into experimenter bias and self-fulfilling prophecy – known as the Rosenthal Effect – led to the development of double-blind studies in the social and biomedical sciences, and ultimately challenged two generations of researchers to focus on how body language and tone of voice can influence the results of jury trials, student performance and patient outcomes.



## More Men Tackle Household Tasks

American men are helping with chores and child care more than ever, a trend that ultimately contributes to healthier marriages, according to a UC Riverside researcher.

In a paper published on March 6 by the Council on Contemporary Families, sociologists Scott Coltrane of UCR and Oriel Sullivan of Ben Gurion University reported a steady trend in the past 40 years of more couples of all ages sharing family tasks.

“Men and women may not be fully equal yet, but the rules of the game have been profoundly and irreversibly changed,” they wrote in their paper, “Men’s Changing Contribution to Housework and Child Care.”

Coltrane and Sullivan found that men’s contributions to household chores have doubled since the 1960s, to more than 30 percent of the total from about 15 percent. The average woman – employed full or part time – with children is doing two hours less housework per week than in 1965.

During the same period fathers tripled the amount of time spent in child care, and mothers doubled the time spent with children.

“This mutual increase in child care appears to be related to high standards for both mothers and fathers about spending time with children,” the researchers wrote.



## Library Acquires 14,000 Thai Books

This past fall, UCR acquired nearly 14,000 volumes in the Thai language, making the UC Riverside collection of Southeast Asian books the largest in the Southwest and one of the finest in the United States.

The UCR Libraries obtained the Ton Chapab collection of 19th and 20th century books as a special initiative to support expansion and excellence in the campus’s newly established Southeast Asian academic and research programs, according to Ruth M. Jackson, university librarian.

Among the highlights of the new acquisitions for the collection are a rare seven-volume Thai encyclopedia of Chinese literature; very rare photo albums of King Chulalongkorn (Rama V), who died in 1910; and a large collection of rare funerary books distributed during funeral ceremonies of Thai dignitaries, royalty and important monks.

Most of the books are in Thai, but some are written in Burmese, Cambodian or French.



## Listen Carefully Before Crossing the Street

Hybrid cars are so quiet when operating only with their electric motors that they may pose a risk to the blind and some other pedestrians, according to research by Lawrence Rosenblum, a UCR professor of psychology. His findings have implications for pedestrians who are blind, small children, the elderly, runners, cyclists and others, he said.

In an on-going research project funded by the National Federation of the Blind, Rosenblum made audio recordings of hybrid and combustion-engine cars approaching from two directions at 5 mph. The hybrid car operated only with its electric motor. Subjects in a lab listened to the recordings and indicated when they could determine from which direction the cars approached.

“Subjects could correctly judge the approach of the combustion car when it was about 28 feet away,” Rosenblum said. “But they could only judge the hybrid’s approach direction when it was 7 feet away.”

This means that a pedestrian would not be able to correctly determine the hybrid’s approach until it was 1 second away, he said.

At speeds above 20 to 25 mph hybrid cars likely generate enough tire and aerodynamic noise to make them sufficiently audible, said Rosenblum.

Changes must be made in the audibility of hybrid cars, said Rosenblum, who has spent many years researching perception of approaching cars and similarities between visual and auditory perception of approach.

“We are not talking about major changes to the way automobiles are designed, but about slightly increasing their audibility when they are traveling slowly.”



# Global Warning

## It's time for us to green-up our act.

Scientists throughout the world agree on the need to protect Earth from environmental devastation.

By Bettye Miller

**M**anmade substances contaminate our air, water, and bodies. Devastating fires rip through dense forests in the Western United States, devouring habitat, structures and billions of dollars in firefighting costs. Many of the brilliant palette of wildflowers that once blanketed Southern California hillsides are fading beneath suffocating invasive weeds and grasses.

Evidence of human impact on our environment is pervasive.

“It’s the canary in the coal mine,” said Edith Allen, professor of plant ecology. “Many plants have already gone extinct because of invasive species. Our environment is not healthy for those species. ... As species disappear, we should be fearing for our survival.”

Most respected scientific bodies agree that environmental degradation and climate change are endangering our survival and that people are a major



**“It will take a collective body, from policymakers to engineers to scientists to climatologists, to work toward solutions.”**

**Mark Matsumoto,  
professor of environmental engineering**

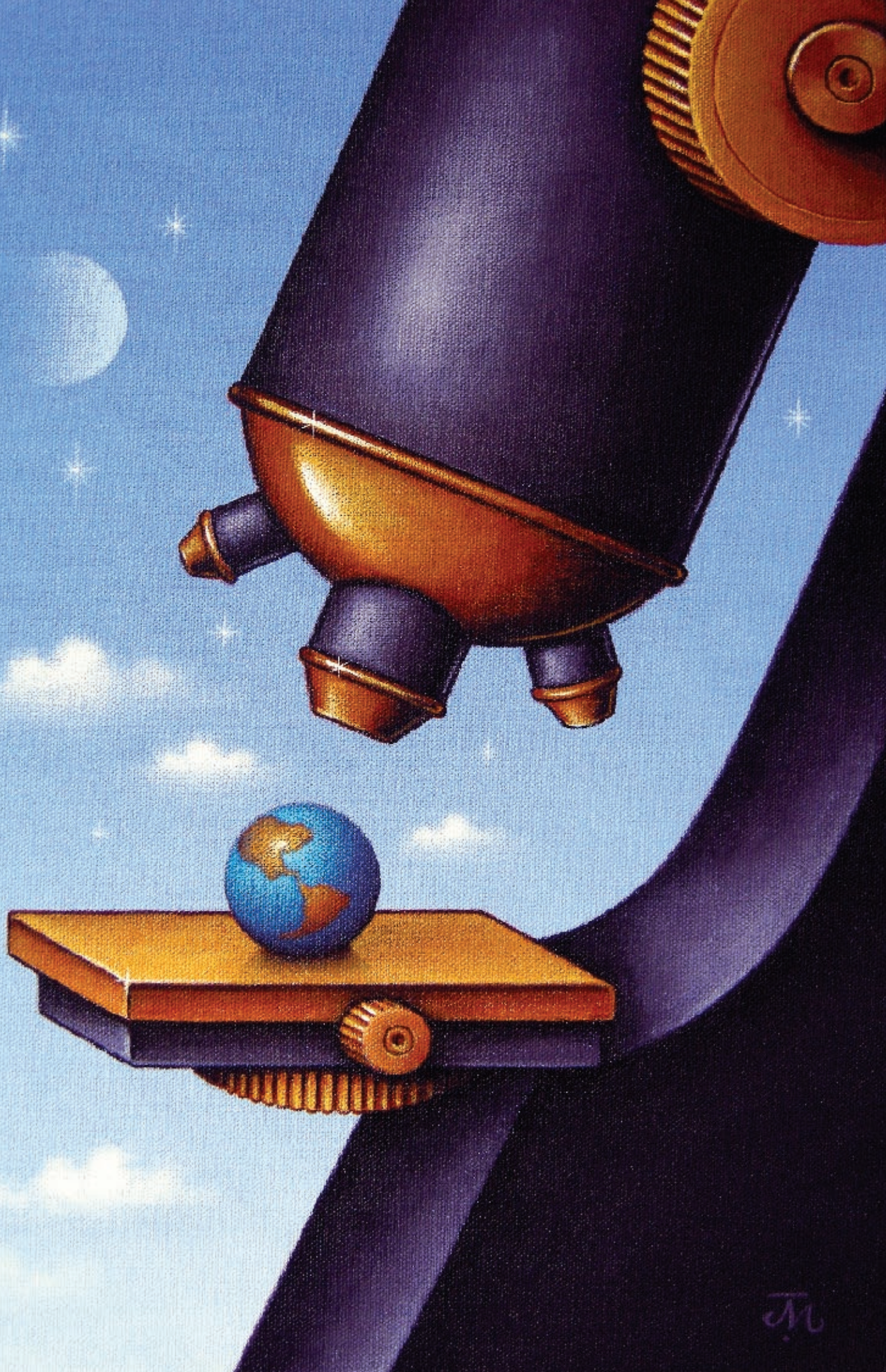
contributor to the problem. The only debate in the scientific community is how fast we will reach the point of no return. Some say by the end of the century, others say in decades.

As concern grows, UCR researchers in many disciplines are working to understand the impact of humans on the natural world, how to mitigate environmental damage and how to aid policymakers charged with protecting public health and regulating the conduct of business.

“It will take a collective body, from policymakers to engineers to scientists to climatologists, to work toward solutions,” said Mark Matsumoto, associate dean of Bourns College of Engineering and a professor of environmental engineering.

The role of human activity in altering weather patterns, melting polar ice and raising temperatures and sea levels dominates global debates about climate change.

There is reason to worry, said Martin Kennedy, UCR professor of geology. Catastrophic climate change has



TM

occurred many times in Earth's history. Those events were nearly always accompanied by mass extinction, Kennedy said. Glaciers that stretched as far south as Pennsylvania have receded within decades to Northern Canada many times in the ice age in which we are living.

In the past decade scientists examining ice core records have found that these phases of global warming occurred in very short periods of time – decades or less – suggesting that the climate system can respond drastically when forced. Most

the methane reservoir. Very abrupt warming is possible, warming we could never manage," he said. "I started out pretty skeptical about climate change," Kennedy said. "Now I am pretty concerned about the next 10 years."

A perceived "education gap" between what climate records actually show and what is sometimes presented as fact prompted UCR's Department of Earth Sciences to launch a graduate program on Global Climate and Environmental Change in fall 2007. The two-year master's

devastating fires.

Non-native grasses first arrived in animal fodder in the 18th century with Franciscan missionaries and generally remained along the California coast. More invasive species arrived as ballast in ships and in seed sacks between 1890 and 1920. These plants invaded the state's interior valleys and led to the demise of many of the spectacular wildflower displays that Californians once took for granted.

"People have forgotten the legacy," said UCR geography professor Richard Minnich. "Four problem grasses – two bromes and two oats – have made a mess of this state."

Non-native grasses choke out native plants on which many species of animals and insects survive. The dried grasses persist in the summer, unlike the native flowers that drop their leaves, said botanist Allen, making them a dangerous source of fuel capable of quickly spreading wildland fires. That is particularly evident in California's coastal sage scrub and desert regions, where non-native vegetation has been responsible for most of the disastrous fires that have occurred since the 1980s, Minnich said.

Exacerbating the alteration of native landscape is air pollution, particularly the deposition of nitrogen from auto exhaust, Allen said. Native plants don't adapt to nitrogen-rich soil. Invasive species that dominate the Southern California landscape tend to be nitrogen-loving, however, and the deposition of quantities of nitrogen equivalent to those of a farmer fertilizing an annual grain crop speeds their growth.

Allen is one of 11 California researchers participating in a five-year National Science Foundation study of the impact of nitrogen on soils and landscape changes.

"We're hoping we can come up with a value or critical load for nitrogen deposition to help legislators set limits to avoid drastic changes in vegetation such as we have seen in the Box Springs Mountains and other local mountains," where native wildflowers have all but vanished, she said.



**"People have forgotten the legacy. Four problem grasses have made a mess of this state. These plants invaded the state's interior valleys and led to the demise of spectacular wildflower displays Californians once took for granted."**

**Richard Minnich,  
professor of geography**

concerning, Kennedy said, is that the current rate of carbon dioxide increase and related greenhouse warming has never occurred in the geologic record. "Catastrophic change occurs when we pass some temperature trigger," he said. "We're trying to determine what those triggers are."

A likely trigger that Kennedy and others are studying lies in frozen methane clathrate crystals that occur in ocean sediments and beneath permafrost. When they warm, methane clathrates release methane, which is a far more powerful greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide, the worrisome byproduct of burning fossil fuels.

There is evidence, Kennedy said, that large quantities of methane gas were released when ice sheets melted about 600 million years ago. It takes only subtle warming to destabilize pools of methane clathrates and free methane gas, which then causes more warming and more releases of methane.

"That ultimately leads to unzipping of

program – the first of its kind in the UC system – is a sort of climate boot camp that takes students into the field to learn how to collect, analyze and interpret climate records, and understand the complexities of the Earth's climate system. Kennedy, who directs the program, said the hope is that program graduates will become researchers, lawyers or policymakers.

"We need people leading the discussion on this issue who are informed," he said.

### California's Altered Landscape

**A**ir pollution, land-management and fire-suppression policies, and non-native plants have significantly altered the Southern California landscape. Exotic grasses from the Mediterranean and Middle East suffocate hillsides that fielded annual rainbows of California poppies and other wildflowers until the late 1960s. Forests that were healthy a century ago now feature dense growth that is far more vulnerable to drought, insects and





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# An Environment of Change

## UCR's Green-up Efforts

By Bettye Miller

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Two years ago, half of the disposable plates, cups and food containers used in UCR dining halls, eateries and catered functions were made of polystyrene, a plastic that is neither biodegradable nor easily recycled.

Today, virtually every disposable item used by Dining Services throughout the campus is compostable, from eating utensils made of cornstarch to fiberboard food containers. Napkins are located in baskets on individual tables rather than in food lines, a practice that can reduce consumption by 50 percent.

Although slightly more expensive than nonbiodegradable alternatives, switching to eco-friendly items “is the right thing to do,” said Gustavo Plascencia, general manager of residential dining and a member of the Chancellor’s Committee on Sustainability.

The switch to biodegradable materials in campus dining facilities is one of many initiatives designed to reduce UCR’s impact on the environment. Some of those efforts – such as composting green waste for agricultural operations, using sensors to determine soil moisture levels in irrigation systems and recycling used cooking oil for biodiesel, pet food and cosmetics – have been in place for years. Others reflect new policies of the UC Office of the President, such as environmentally friendly building design, reduction of vehicle emissions and diversion of all waste from landfills by 2020.

UC policies reflect a commitment to stewardship of the environment and to a reduction of dependence on nonrenewable energy sources, said Brian Kermath, UCR sustainability manager.

“Fossil fuel resources are finite,” Kermath said. “Think about how long it’s taken to use half of the world’s oil and who used it – the West in the last 50 years. The global population is much bigger now. China and India are industrialized. The second half of petroleum resources is the harder, more expensive half to extract and refine. From a cost perspective alone it makes sense to move to renewable energy resources.”

UCR recently completed the first analysis of the campus’s carbon footprint – the amount of carbon dioxide the campus emits – to use as a baseline from which to measure future reductions in greenhouse emissions, Kermath said.

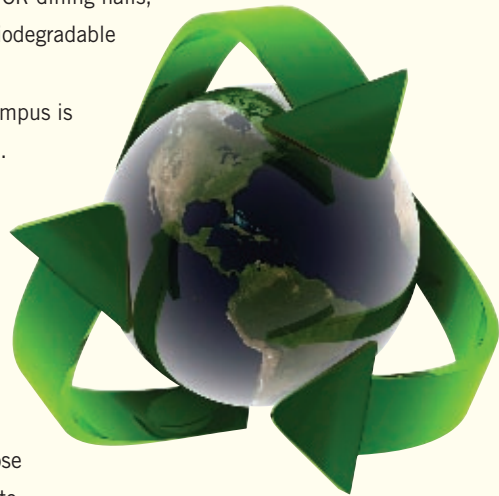
“We have a huge ecological footprint, as all universities do,” he said.

The university is reducing that footprint by switching to low-energy-use electronics and appliances, computer-controlled irrigation systems, waterless urinals and biodegradable cleaning solutions; using recycled paper and soy-based inks; expanding its fleet of electric and alternative-fuel vehicles; promoting carpools, vanpools and public transportation; and retrofitting the largest heat-producing boiler on campus to reduce emissions and increase efficiency.

In addition, new construction on campus will be designed to attain at least silver certification from the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design program of the U.S. Green Building Council, a program that recognizes buildings that are energy efficient, use recycled materials and minimize building-site impacts. Sustainability leaders are considering some landscape changes that might incorporate the use of plants that are native, conserve water and shade buildings during hot summer weather, Kermath said.

Also high on the priority list is a significant expansion of recycling of paper, plastics, metal, and green and food waste. Kermath said the university is seeking vendors to compost food waste and biodegradable products. At Lothian Residence Hall, Plascencia hopes to test a system that would convert 100 pounds of food waste into compost in 45 days and use that compost to maintain a kitchen garden he wants to plant near the dining hall.

“In a perfect world we would keep all organic waste on campus and compost it,” Kermath said. “We don’t have a system for that yet. We need to. Every time you move waste around you add energy to it.”



Allen also is studying how to re-establish native species, experimenting with ways to promote nitrogen-scrubbing fungi and bacteria by introducing sugar or sawdust into the soil. None of those methods is a substitute for cleaning up the air, however, she said. “We do have cars that emit no nitrogen oxides. We are making a case to adopt clean-car technology.”

While non-native vegetation is a factor, land-management and fire-suppression policies of the past century are to blame for increasingly catastrophic blazes in the western United States, said Minnich, a fire ecologist whose comparisons of fire behavior in Southern California and Baja California are slowly impacting a century-old policy of extinguishing every wildland and forest fire.

“In Southern California, the last six (fire) seasons have burned 2 million acres of chaparral, 38 percent of all chaparral in the region. At this rate all of the chaparral would burn in a 15-year interval. Normally, it burns in 50-year intervals,” Minnich said. “If we had no suppression we would come out better.”

Mexico allows fires to burn, purging the young trees and shrubs beneath the forest canopy, which produces healthier forests with open stands of trees and a heterogeneous mosaic of vegetation that fuels fires of average size. Forests in the western United States, however, generally are characterized by old chaparral, which burns faster than young shrubs, and more than five times the number of trees the land can sustain, Minnich said. Since the mid-20th century, Southern California has had numerous large, intense fires that have killed large swaths of forest, often in the most extreme weather. Northern Mexico, with a similar climate and terrain, has not.

“We need to reintroduce fire into ecosystems,” said Minnich, who teaches courses at the National Advanced Fire and Resource Institute in Arizona and hopes to influence how forests and fires are managed. “We should work toward a Mexican model, which will become a low-maintenance management system.”

Land-use policies that permit building

in indefensible spaces exacerbate the problem, Minnich said.

“You can’t live in nature in Southern California,” he said. “You can save structures in an urban setting because they’re surrounded by pavement and watered lawns. In wildlands, you have solitary structures in the middle of a field that behaves like gasoline. It is indefensible and should not get public support. We’re burning billions of dollars (on fire suppression) in the western United States. That money should be budgeted up front to manage.”

### The Environmental Ravages of War

**W**ar leaves a lasting impact on natural landscapes as well and, in the case of Vietnam, disrupts conservation efforts for decades. Post-war efforts to reforest areas of the Mekong Delta obliterated by napalm have struggled under the weight of expense and practices of two generations of farmers who have done whatever necessary to survive, including allowing livestock to graze on newly planted seedlings, said UCR historian David Biggs.

continues to study environmental impacts of the war on the Mekong Delta. Cleanup costs are estimated in the tens of millions of dollars.

“Looking at the war from an environmental perspective is complicated,” he said. “Even today, issues have yet to be resolved. Vietnam was recently admitted to the World Trade Organization and is sensitive about its relations with the U.S.”

### Silent Dangers

**E**nvironmental pollutants are invisible travelers and invaders, contaminating air, water and human bodies. Approximately 265 manmade substances have been identified in the bodies of Americans by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Many of those chemicals pose risks to human health. All are present without our permission.

“By living an ordinary life we’re collecting these things in our bodies,” said UCR Philosophy Professor Carl Cranor. For example, PBDE (polybrominated diphenyl ether), which is linked to liver and thyroid damage and neurodevelopmental problems, is a key ingredient of flame retardant used



**“We do have cars that emit no nitrogen oxides. We are making a case to adopt clean-car technology.”**

**Edith Allen,  
professor of plant ecology**

At the same time, many Vietnamese suffer illnesses or birth defects caused by exposure to toxic waste, notably dioxin, remaining at U.S.-built airbases. notably dioxin. More than 30 years after the war ended, groundwater near some of these bases contains levels of dioxin 300 times the EPA limit. Villages built around these airfields report high incidences of birth defects and cancers, said Biggs, who

in manufacturing beds, furniture and electronics. Bisphenol A – used in reusable water bottles, food cans, water pipes and dental sealants – has been shown to affect reproduction and brain development in animal studies. “These are silent dangers we’re carrying around in our bodies and in our houses that may cause our kids problems.”

Environmental laws adopted in the

United States between 1968 and 1980 generally do not control toxic substances until a problem appears, said Cranor, who is a national expert on the regulation of toxic substances. That post-market policy, which places the burden on government to identify a problem and correct it, has essentially allowed industry to delay action for years, confuse some judges by creating uncertainty about the science and, as a result, use Americans as test subjects without their permission, he said.

“If we do not want our children to be the next canaries on the list, legally we will need to address the safety of these substances before they cause harm,” he said.



**“If we do not want our children to be the next canaries on the list, legally we will need to address the safety of these substances before they cause harm.”**

**Carl Cranor,  
professor of philosophy**

“The sciences are going through a paradigm shift in what they’re discovering about how things behave and what we should do. We need to have a paradigm shift with how toxicants are viewed legally,” said Cranor, who has served on advisory panels in California that speeded up risk assessments for carcinogens and reproductive toxicants while protecting manufacturers from liability if they followed state EPA standards. He also helped set the state standard for perchlorate in drinking water.

Europe is undergoing such a shift with the European Union’s adoption in December 2006 of the REACH program – Registration, Evaluation and Authorization of Chemicals. This will require the registration and testing of an estimated 30,000 chemicals, a process that will limit or ban the use of the most hazardous substances. It’s a permission

model of regulation the United States should consider, Cranor said.

The drive to remove contaminants from air, water and food supplies is taking on new urgency as scientists work to remediate pollutants that have been known for some time to pose health risks and to tackle emerging contaminants such as hormones, pharmaceuticals and nanomaterials. As more communities recycle water, filtering out those substances will become even more critical, according to Matsumoto and Sharon Walker, an assistant professor in environmental engineering.

The challenge, Walker said, is to develop

methods of removing those contaminants in ways that consume less energy, utilize existing water-treatment infrastructure and keep it all affordable. She is participating in a study funded by a UC toxics research grant to investigate methods of removing nanomaterials from water supplies using traditional filtration systems.

“The problem is, they are so small,” she said. “They can get into cells and inhibit cell processes and the health of organisms.”

One contaminant for which UCR researchers are developing a cost-effective solution is perchlorate, a salt used to make rocket fuel, fireworks and flares that has contaminated drinking water in the Inland Empire and more than 30 states. Perchlorate inhibits the thyroid gland’s ability to absorb iodine. In pregnant women there is a concern that perchlorate may cause neurodevelopmental effects in their developing children.

Ion exchange systems that work like home water softeners to remove perchlorate from drinking-water wells are effective, but expensive, Matsumoto said. He is part of a team developing a system that injects zero-valent iron into a treatment system to encourage the growth of specific bacteria that cause perchlorate to degrade. Zero-valent iron already is used to remove the carcinogen PCB from hazardous-waste sites. For the past year the zero-valent iron system has been tested on a contaminated well in Rialto, with promising results. Water that previously tested at about 50 parts per billion (ppb) of perchlorate dropped below the California standard of 6 ppb.

“Bacteria can do this very cheaply,” Matsumoto said. “You don’t have to regenerate the ion exchange.” The system also is effective in removing other contaminants, including the solvent TCE, he said.

Walker has spent nearly a decade studying how bacteria move through soil and engineered filtering systems, focusing on the behavior of E.coli 0157:H7 and Salmonella species. It is research she hopes will contribute to understanding how certain polymers – like hair on bacteria – on the surfaces of pathogens affect their ability to stick to other surfaces.

“Understanding what makes them adhere to a surface will allow us to design better filters and to predict whether certain drinking-water wells are at risk,” she said. “The Achilles’ heel is predicting the fate of bacteria – bacteria you want to move to filter out and bacteria you don’t want to move because they degrade water quality. There are pathogens in treated wastewater. We need to know how they are going to move.”

Walker is collaborating with a colleague at UCLA, Jennifer Jay, to study the fate of pathogens in beach sand. Jay’s work to date has found high levels of pathogens in beach sediment, long after storm runoff has gone.

“We think beach sand acts as a reservoir that releases pathogens,” she said. “We’re trying to identify the health risks, how pathogens stick to sediment

# 50 Ways to Save the Environment

There are lots of ways to pitch in with green-up efforts. Below are just a few.

*This information was reprinted with permission from justgive.org.*

## In your home

1. Recycle everything: newspapers, bottles and cans, aluminum foil, etc.
2. Don't use electrical appliances for tasks that you can easily do by hand, such as opening cans.
3. Use cold water in the washer whenever possible.
4. Re-use brown paper bags to line your trash can instead of plastic bags. Re-use bread bags and produce bags.
5. Store food in re-usable containers.
6. Save wire hangers and return them to the dry cleaners.
7. Donate used items to a charitable organization or thrift shop.
8. Don't leave water running needlessly.
9. Turn your heat down, and wear a sweater.
10. Turn off the lights, TV, or other electrical appliances when you are out of a room.
11. Flush the toilet less often.
12. Turn down the air conditioning and turn off the water heater before you leave for vacation.
13. Recycle your Christmas tree.

## In the yard

14. Start a compost pile.
15. Put up birdfeeders, birdhouses, and birdbaths.
16. Pull weeds instead of using herbicides.
17. Use only organic fertilizers.
18. Compost your leaves and yard debris, or take them to a yard debris recycler.
19. Take extra plastic and rubber pots back to the nursery.
20. Plant short, dense shrubs close to your home's foundation to help insulate your home against cold.
21. Use mulch to conserve water in your garden.

## In the car

22. Keep your car tuned up and your oil changed.
23. Carpool, if possible.
24. Use public transit whenever possible.
25. On weekends, ride your bike or walk instead.
26. Buy a car that is more fuel-efficient and produces lower emissions.
27. Recycle your engine oil.
28. Keep your tires properly inflated.
29. Keep your wheels properly aligned.
30. Save trash and dispose of it at a rest stop.

## In the office

31. Recycle office and computer paper, cardboard, etc.
32. Use scrap paper for informal notes to yourself and others.
33. Print or copy on both sides of the paper.
34. Use smaller paper for smaller memos.
35. Re-use manila envelopes and file folders.
36. Use dishes, glassware and coffee cups instead of disposable dishes and cups.

## At the store

37. Avoid buying food or products packaged in plastic or Styrofoam containers since they cannot be recycled.
38. Think twice about buying "disposable" products. (They end up in landfills.)
39. Buy paper products instead of plastic if you must buy "disposables."
40. Buy energy-efficient appliances.
41. Don't buy products, such as Styrofoam, that are hazardous to the environment or manufactured at the expense of important habitats such as rainforests.
42. Buy locally grown food and locally made products when possible.
43. Don't buy products made from endangered animals.

## In your life

44. Join a conservation organization.
45. Volunteer your time to conservation projects.
46. Give money to conservation projects.
47. Switch to a vegetarian diet. (Raising animals for food consumes vast quantities of natural resources, including water, land and oil; destroys habitats; and generates a tremendous amount of water and air pollution.)
48. Encourage your family, friends and neighbors to save resources, too.
49. Learn about conservation issues in your community or state. Write your legislators and let them know where you stand on the issues.
50. Teach children to respect nature and the environment. Take them on hikes or camping. Help them plant a tree or build a birdhouse.

surfaces and why they come off. It's amazing how prevalent they are, from Malibu to Catalina. There are so many pathogens. How do you know there is a problem? You look at indicator species, such as fecal coliforms. E.coli is one of them. My research shows fecal coliforms and pathogens don't always transport the same way as was traditionally thought."

## Economic impacts

**S**olving environmental challenges doesn't come cheap. Who should pay – the polluter or the public? How can we know if certain policies or remedies are cost-effective? Are there financial incentives that make certain remedies more appealing or practical than others?

Linda Fernandez, a UCR environmental and natural-resource economist, tackles those questions and

improves public health and creates jobs.

"I include the real-world institutional framework in the model of decision-making over time and space," she said. "Are projects paying for themselves, are they solving problems on both sides of the border, are they growth-inducing?"

Working with marine biologists in Canada, Mexico and the United States, Fernandez analyzed damage to Canadian shell fisheries resulting from marine invasive species such as nemertea worms transported in ballast water or on the hulls of ships that traverse the Pacific coastline between Mexico and Canada. "They can obliterate shell fisheries," she said.

As a result of litigation, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has until September to develop policies to address marine invasive species, she said. Fernandez said her research is contributing to that effort, particularly

production of alternative fuels.

"We can convert carbon-containing material from landfills, mitigate a social problem (trash) and create a value product," said Joseph Norbeck, founding director of CE-CERT. "We see the current energy crisis as a global problem: What happens when we run out of oil?"

By the end of this year Riverside-based Viresco Energy LLC plans to break ground on a \$25 million pilot plant that will lead to the commercial production of synthetic fuels using the hydrogasification process developed at CE-CERT. By the end of next year, the plant could be in operation, converting trees, trash, coal, crops, manure – any carbon-based substance – into fuel that will power existing engines and reduce emissions, Norbeck said. Another project, funded by the city of Riverside, will investigate converting solids from the city wastewater treatment plant into diesel fuel to power city-owned vehicles. This technology can also generate electricity using waste heat resulting from the hydrogasification process.

U.S. Department of Energy scientists who are analyzing the hydrogasification process via a cooperative research and development agreement with UCR have said it looks simple, efficient and cheap compared with other processes, Norbeck said. The process could produce diesel fuel at a cost as low as \$1.65 a gallon, depending on which materials are used. Even with markups at the pump, the cost to consumers will be significantly cheaper than prices that are approaching \$4 per gallon.

"It is too early to predict success, but unless something comes up we're not aware of, we will have a commercial prototype facility in two years," Norbeck said. "This process has the potential to create a new industry. Our long-term goal is to help this country become a world leader in the production of clean synthetic sustainable fuel and in the process become independent of foreign oil." ❧



**"We can convert carbon-containing material from landfills, mitigate a social problem (trash) and create a value product."**

**Joseph Norbeck,  
founding director of CE-CERT**

others, particularly as they relate to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and environmental issues along United States borders with Mexico and Canada.

Applying game theory to data, Fernandez studies environmental problems and solutions by considering decision-making options of multiple parties. She analyzes costs and benefits, investigates funding sources and examines how money was spent. For example, her study of water pollution issues along the Rio Grande found that NAFTA provides economic incentives to both Mexico and the United States to treat and reclaim wastewater to irrigate tradable crops, such as cotton, a practice that both

with regard to financial incentives for shipping companies to eliminate offending species from their ships. "I don't think the U.S. would have taken this problem as seriously without the analysis of impacts," she said.

Some solutions take time before they make economic sense. When it comes to synthetic fuels, the time is now. With the price of oil hitting record highs, engineers at the College of Engineering's Center for Environmental Research and Technology (CE-CERT) are ready to develop a pilot plant to evaluate the production of synthetic diesel and gasoline, a process that holds the promise of cleaner air and cheaper fuel. It will help establish the United States as a world leader in the



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# Hinds Sight

**Assistant professor Rickerby Hinds' latest endeavor combines dance with theater to provide underprivileged youth with a nonviolent way to communicate and resolve conflicts.**

By Litty Mathew

It's a full house. The darkness is punctuated by an occasional cough, some rustling and the crowd's anticipation. Suddenly, the music soars. It's grand and orchestral with the swishing sounds of comets. There are bursts of light. Nine bodies lurch up to a primordial birth from within the audience, dancing vividly, their sinewy bodies jerking and popping to the words of two poets as they recite "in the beginning, was the word." The dancers from within the audience respond a deep resounding "yeah." The crowd gasps with surprise and delight.

This is the opening scene from "Buck World One," the latest theatrical piece from Rickerby Hinds, UCR assistant professor of theater.

"Buck World One," which looks at young people from challenging backgrounds and their position in the universe, had its debut a year ago and still makes an impression. It portrays how the worlds might have begun 13.7 billion years ago — the universe, the Earth, continents and countries and neighborhoods down to the individual. It's a poetic, audiovisual and dance manifestation of issues that affect the

life of urban youth, showing that everyone is part of the larger picture. Participants are not professional performers.

To understand why "Buck World One" resonates with a whole new era of theatergoers is to understand Hinds' own journey.

Hinds, a UCR alumnus (class of 1993), was a late bloomer in the theater world. A business and economics major, he didn't discover his calling until Martin Luther King Day in 1988.

"The UCR African Student Programs was putting on a program and I couldn't find a sketch that expressed what I was looking for," says Hinds. "So, I wrote something."

Those who attended got the lines, appreciated the timing, clapped heartily at the end and came up to say how much they enjoyed it. They made an impression on Hinds. At 2 in the morning, he was still thinking of his audience.

"I knew then I could do this the rest of my life," says Hinds.

Hinds is widely known as one of the first to use hip-hop — the urban subculture of rap music associated with African-American youth — to power his plays. His first major play, "Daze to Come," a story about a rap

community forced into exile, helped introduce the genre of hip-hop theater.

"I was looking to create theater that was interesting to me and my friends," explains Hinds, who moved to Los Angeles with his family from Honduras at 13. "I wanted the language and pacing similar to cuts and scratches from rapping and DJing. It spoke to my generation."

Shortly after his Martin Luther King Day experience, Hinds took a play-reading class with Carlos Morton, a former UCR professor of theater who is now at the Department of Theater and Dance at UCSB.

"We were reading a Luis Valdez play, and there was this sassy young black guy getting all the Chicano jokes," notes Morton. (Hinds, originally from Roatan, the English-speaking island off of Honduras, understood Spanish.) The complexity of being from a Spanish-speaking country yet of a different race than its population gave him a deep understanding of conflict and human nature.

The turning point for Hinds was the summer of 1993 when he entered a play in a University of California playwriting festival, where students throughout the UC system show their handiwork. The chair of





the UCLA M.F.A. playwriting program saw his work and invited him to apply.

Skip forward a year and he'd already won UCLA's coveted Audrey Skirball-Kenis (ASK) Award for best play, which he won again the following year. The first African-American to win the award and the first person to win twice in a row.

Hinds was asked to read his winning play, "Blackballin'," which examines the issue of race and history in American sports and society, at London's Royal Court Theatre. He took his mother, Marva Hinds, who still marvels at the experience 12 years later.

"I can't explain the feeling when I saw him read in London. I saw the talent that he has," she mused over the phone. "I remember my brother telling him once, 'You need to get a real job. This can't work out for you.' But Kirby wasn't going to turn back."

In fact, Hinds would push the limits further. In "Keep Hedz Ringin'," a "hip-hopera" retelling of Richard Wagner's "Ring Cycle," Hinds sets out to demonstrate that hip-hop culture and expression, like grand opera, could elevate both performers and audiences. "Keep Hedz Ringin'" epitomized Hinds' belief in what theater can accomplish when approached from a very inclusive starting point.

"Kirby's plays are surprising and topical," explains Morton, a longtime mentor. "He's quick to embrace new themes and styles."

With "BuckWorld One," it's a progression in exploring African-

American youth culture. Buck (sometimes called Krump) is an energetic, expressive and very physical new dance form that grew out of South L.A. neighborhoods. If you've seen a recent Missy Elliott or Chris Brown music video, or the movie "Stomp the Yard," you've probably seen Krump, which stands for Kingdom Radically Uplifted Mighty Praise. It allows participants to let go of aggression or challenge someone without violence.

Hinds got the idea of a full-length performance after a friend invited him to his after-school ministry at the Central City Lutheran Mission in San Bernardino. Here, kids who might not be on friendly terms outside the room tried to outdance each other.

"It was about control," notes Hinds. "You come as close to a person as possible without touching them."

"Dance is everything," says "Buck World One's" 18-year-old Timothy Dupree. "I feel like I'm escaping when I'm dancing. I let go."

Hinds watched them for two months. Listened to them.

"They were telling stories with their bodies. Dealing with frustrations. Manifesting themselves. They were already doing theater," he says. He soon recruited 10 dancers and four poets from this dancing community.

"At first, I didn't know where this was going," says 19-year-old Davion Clayton, a dancer in the production. "I just wasn't feeling it," he says of the seven months of rehearsals and extreme discipline. But as it came together, Clayton describes an enormous feeling of purpose. One that propelled him to get his GED and think of his future. "I

don't take life for granted anymore."

Experts say that theater and dance give participants a sense of self.

"Artistic creation by its very nature stands in direct opposition to the destruction that pervades the lives of many young people," says Craig Haen, drama therapist and co-editor of "Clinical Applications of Drama Therapy in Child and Adolescent Treatment."

"Instead of being trapped in the rigid definitions that society has provided for them, the cast members begin to develop a new role: that of artist. By stepping onto a stage and having their artistic work witnessed by others, they feel transcendent, effective and validated. The resulting sense of purpose is powerful and lasting, staying with them long after the production ends."

"These are the tangible results of what art can do," says Hinds. "It can affect participants just as the audience."

Hinds' own son, 15-year-old Alexander Brown-Hinds, also a "Buck World One" dancer, described it as motivating.

"Everything clicked in my head. It made me want to express how I felt about dancing. This is what I want to do."

With "Buck World One," a new generation has embraced theater. "Hey, Shakespeare was considered hip," notes Hinds. "The evolution of theater is what makes art interesting and some would argue that Shakespeare probably would have enjoyed hip-hop theater."

Incidentally, the entire production was recently invited to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival to perform in June. ❧

See video at [www.chass.ucr.edu/CHASStv](http://www.chass.ucr.edu/CHASStv).

# Summer Reading

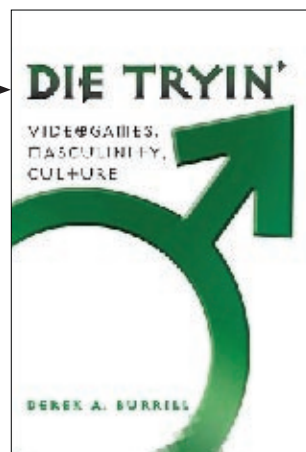
Hollywood, happiness and history are the focus of some of the books being offered by UCR authors.

## Die Tryin': Videogames, Masculinity, and Culture

By Derek A. Burrill  
Peter Lang Pub Inc.  
February 2008, 184 pages

"Die Tryin'" examines the cultural connections between videogames, masculinity and digital culture. Burrill analyzes the real and imagined masculinity that exists in perpetual adolescence that is perpetuated through videogames by fusing feminist, psychoanalytic, Marxist and poststructuralist theory. The book favors a game-specific approach that unites visual culture, cultural studies and performance studies, rather than a sociological/structural inspection of the form.

*Burrill is a UCR assistant professor of dance.*

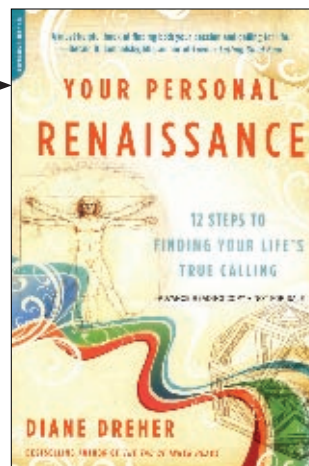


## Your Personal Renaissance: 12 Steps to Finding Your Life's True Calling

By Diane Dreher ('68)  
Da Capo Lifelong Books  
May 2008, 288 pages

Whether graduating, changing careers, getting divorced, retiring or just confused about what's next, "Your Personal Renaissance" is intended to help readers find their calling. Combining the lost wisdom of the Renaissance with groundbreaking research in positive psychology, the book is a program of contemplative steps – discovery, detachment, discernment and direction – and practices that help readers combat overscheduling, stress and depression.

*Dreher is a professor of English at Santa Clara University.*

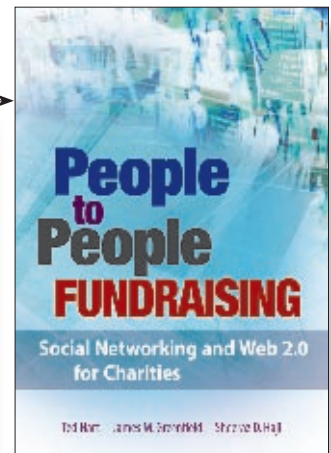


## People to People Fundraising: Social Networking and Web 2.0 for Charities

By James Greenfield ('58), Ted Hart, Sheeraz D. Haji  
Wiley  
December 2007, 288 pages

This book serves as a practical manual for nonprofit staff providing strategies, data and techniques from the world's foremost ePhilanthropy experts. Giving donors the chance to participate in and contribute to the success of a charity beyond the online gift is proving to be successful for many nonprofits. Find out how to make the most of online fund-raising efforts.

*Alumnus Greenfield is retired after 40 years as a fund-raising professional at five hospitals and three universities.*



These books are available for purchase at the UCR Campus Store and online at [www.ucrcampusstore.ucr.edu](http://www.ucrcampusstore.ucr.edu). They have been discounted up to 30 percent.

**Orthodoxies and Heterodoxies in Early Modern German Culture**

Edited by Randolph C. Head and Daniel Christensen  
Brill

November 2007, 320 pages

This interdisciplinary collection of essays about early modern Germany addresses the tensions, both fruitful and destructive, between normative systems of order on the one hand, and a growing diversity of practices on the other. Individual essays address struggles over religious orthodoxy after the Reformation, the transformation of political loyalties through propaganda and literature, and efforts to redefine both canonical forms and new challenges to them in literature, music and the arts.

*Head is a UCR associate professor of history.*



**The How of Happiness: A Scientific Approach to Getting the Life You Want**

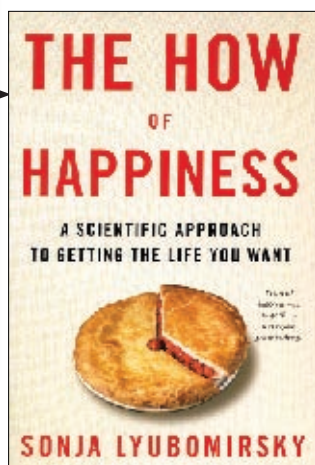
By Sonja Lyubomirsky  
Penguin Press HC

December 2007, 384 pages

Sonja Lyubomirsky's "The How of Happiness" offers a research-supported comprehensive guide to understanding what happiness is and isn't, and what can be done to bring us closer to a happy life.

Lyubomirsky's happiness strategies introduce readers to intentional activities that can be used to achieve a happier life, including exercises in practicing optimism when imagining the future, instruction in how best to savor life's pleasures and an explanation of the importance of staying active to being happy.

*Lyubomirsky is a professor of psychology at UCR.*



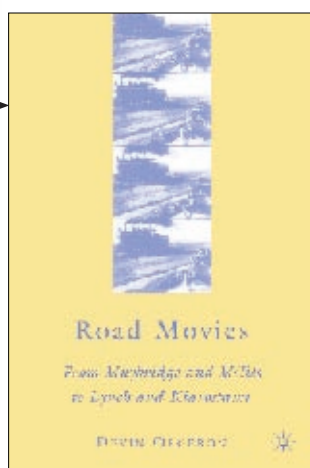
**Road Movies: From Muybridge and Melies to Lynch and Kiarostami**

By Devin Orgeron ('92, '94 M.A.)  
Palgrave Macmillan

December 2007, 256 pages

"Road Movies" engages with two foundational 20th century technologies: cinematic and automotive. It is a book about road movies. It is also a book about images of human mobility more generally and the social function those images have served. From Eadweard Muybridge's pre-cinematic experiments through contemporary films by David Lynch and Abbas Kiarostami, road movies often explore the consequences of a culture moving, often quite rapidly, away from the stabilizing structures of community and communication.

*Alumnus Orgeron is an assistant professor of film studies at North Carolina State University.*

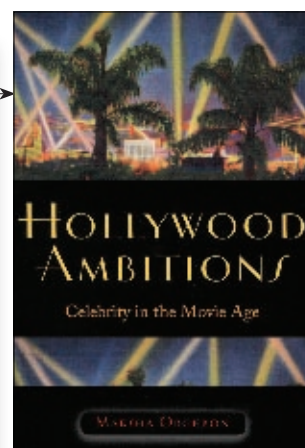


**Hollywood Ambitions: Celebrity in the Movie Age**

By Marsha Orgeron ('93)  
Wesleyan University Press  
March 2008, 272 pages

Working with a varied and untraditional cast of characters – Wyatt Earp, Jack London, Clara Bow, Gertrude Stein and Ida Lupino – Orgeron illustrates the implications of film celebrity during the era in which cinema's impact was first felt. The aspirations of these individuals demonstrate the unifying role that the American motion picture capital played in shaping cultural notions of reputation, success, glamour and visibility. Through extensive research and analyses of films, texts and personal writings, each chapter provides insight into its subject's dealings in Hollywood.

*Alumna Orgeron is an assistant professor and director of the film studies program at North Carolina State University.*

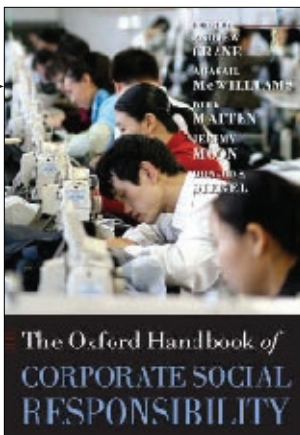


**The Oxford Handbook of Corporate Social Responsibility**

Edited by Donald S. Siegel, Andrew Crane, Abigail McWilliams, Dirk Matten and Jeremy Moon  
Oxford University Press  
April 2008, 656 pages

Business schools, the media, the corporate sector, governments and non-governmental organizations have all begun to pay more attention to issues of corporate social responsibility in recent years. These issues encompass broad questions about the changing relationship among business, society and government, environmental issues, corporate governance, the social and ethical dimensions of management, globalization, stakeholder debates, shareholder and consumer activism, changing political systems and values, and the ways in which corporations can respond to new social imperatives. This Oxford Handbook is a review of the academic research that has both prompted and responded to these issues.

*Siegel is a UCR professor of management.*



**The Signs Pile Up: Paintings by Pedro Álvarez**

Edited by Tyler Stallings  
Smart Art Press and the UCR  
Sweeney Art Gallery  
March 2008, 144 pages

"The Signs Pile Up: Paintings by Pedro Álvarez" is a comprehensive book that surveys the work of Cuban artist Pedro Álvarez. It examines much of Álvarez's career – the Periodo Especial, the Dollarscape series, his use of American cars from the 1950s drawing on the complicated U.S.–Cuba relations, and identity issues. Álvarez utilized collage and appropriation in his evocative, large-scale paintings as a postmodern technique for examining cultural identity. Much of the subject matter in the paintings deals with the cultural interchange between Cuba and the U.S., Afro-Cuban history, U.S. slavery, the effects of the legalization of the U.S. dollar in Cuba in the '90s, and the role of landscape painting within a highly charged socio-political context. The book includes essays by Tyler Stallings, Kevin Power, Antonio Eligio Fernández (Tonel), Orlando Hernández, Ry Cooder and Tom Patchett, and 75 reproductions of Álvarez's work.

*Stallings is the director of the UCR Sweeney Art Gallery.*



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Photos by Micheal Elderman

The Watkins Society program and luncheon took place March 12. The annual event honors UCR friends who have remembered the university in their estate plans – through a will, a living trust or a life income gift plan such as a charitable gift annuity. Cheryl Hayashi, associate professor of biology and 2007 MacArthur Fellow (pictured in orange blouse above), was the featured speaker at the morning program, held at the Alumni and Visitors Center. Collette Lee, chair of the Watkins Society (standing in photo on the bottom left), emceed the program during the luncheon, which was held at the chancellor's residence.

# Talking Tech Trash



**Toby Miller warns that our cast-off computers and televisions are endangering the health of those who live in some of the poorest nations in the world.**

By Toby Miller



The Environmental Protection Agency estimates that U.S. residents own approximately 3 billion electronic devices. The Consumer Electronics Association says we spent \$145 billion on them last year. That's a 13 percent increase from 2005. The association celebrates what it calls a "consumer love affair with technology."

We are all supposed to applaud the uptake of this new technology. After all, doesn't it represent clean and green business – a post-manufacturing utopia for workers, consumers and residents, where the byproducts are electronic code rather than smoke?

But electronic waste (e-waste) is the fastest-growing part of municipal cleanups in developed countries. Pollution from today's electronic media includes such highly toxic contaminants as trichloroethylene (a probable carcinogen that can enter groundwater, pass into soil and then return to waterways) and heavy-metal sources such as lead, zinc, copper, cobalt, mercury and cadmium. About 70 percent of heavy metals in the world's landfills are e-waste.

More than 80 percent of electronic scrap is being exported to the poorest quarters of the world. A hundred thousand PCs entered the port of Lagos, Nigeria, each month in

2006 – 75,000 of them unusable other than as scrap. California alone shipped about 20 million pounds of e-waste last year to Malaysia, Brazil, South Korea, China, Mexico, Vietnam and India.

Across the United States, perhaps 60 million PCs and their detritus are seeping through our own landfills or being burned in incinerators, while the transition to exclusively digital broadcasting in 2009 will see an e-waste hurricane of 270 million outdated analog TVs hitting landfills across the nation and the world.

E-waste salvage yards have generated serious concerns regarding worker health and safety as plastics and wires are burned, and circuit boards are leached with acid or grilled. They are then dumped into streams after first being stripped of valuable items such as nickel or copper.

Young Chinese, Nigerian and Indian girls do a lot of electronic recycling, picking away without protection at discarded televisions and computers from developed countries. Their hope is to find precious metals, leaving the remains in landfills.

The city of Guiyu, China's principal dump, boasts more than 5,000 electronic recycling businesses. Eighty-two percent of the city's children younger than age 6 have

lead poisoning

Tragically, the United States has failed to ratify the key international accord on this matter, the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, or its subsequent updates. The Basel agreements seek to prevent the export of e-waste.

We are all too used to the federal government failing to take a serious role on the environment, let alone a leading one. But we are also used to vibrant environmental critiques and innovations deriving from our civil society and local government.

Let's honor the latter tradition and pressure the federal government to join other developed economies in working to outlaw the international export of e-waste, and to require corporations to act more responsibly at home and abroad by adopting the principle that they are responsible for the post-consumption fate of technology.

In the meantime, keep buying those 3 billion electronic gadgets. But when that sleek new flat-screen TV arrives in your living room, you might ask yourself, where did your old fat-screen TV end up? ❏

*Toby Miller is chair of the Department of Media and Cultural Studies.*

## Mir and Lelia Mulla

Mir S. Mulla, distinguished professor emeritus of entomology, is passionate about solving problems.

### Life so Far

For more than 50 years at UCR, he has conducted basic and applied research on insects of medical importance. He has used his broad knowledge of entomological sciences to unearth solutions to vector-borne diseases and pest-related problems both nationally and internationally.

For his extensive work in reducing the number of noxious and pestiferous insects in the Coachella Valley, the Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District (CVMVCD), which is headquartered in Indio, honored Mulla by naming its new state-of-the-art biological control facility after him during a dedication ceremony in April 2006.

In addition to his partnership with the CVMVCD and other vector-control agencies in California, Mulla has served as science adviser and member of the expert panel on vectors and vector-borne diseases for the World Health Organization (WHO) to improve health conditions around the globe. As a consultant to WHO, he has had the opportunity to promote and establish research programs, training courses and capacity building of scientists in several developing countries. Currently he is involved in collaborative research with former students and scientists in developing countries.

### Staying Connected

Since retiring in 2006, Mulla has continued his research and with wife, Lelia, has focused on solving another problem — the rising cost of higher education.

“My wife and I decided it would be a good idea to establish a scholarship for students. Education is paramount and essential to the future life of students and everyone else. The cost of education is increasing all of the time, and students, especially those who are scholarly and interested in education, need some kind of support to see them through their tenure at the university.”

The Mullas recently established the Mir S. Mulla and Lelia L. Mulla Endowed Scholarship Fund. Students with high scholastic achievement in the College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences will be eligible to receive funding from this endowment.

“There are tremendous opportunities at UCR. Students should take advantage of these opportunities and seek assistance and help in advancing their education and careers goals for the future.”



Photo by Carlos Puma

# Fixing a Broken City During Spring Break

**Nine UCR students forgo traditional vacation to help provide others a break this spring.**

By Todd Ransom

When nine UC Riverside students and one staff person were getting ready for spring break, they didn't take bathing suits and suntan lotion. They packed work clothes and antiperspirant.

Instead of basking in sun during the day and partying at night, they traveled to Biloxi, Miss., where they attended an alternative spring break: volunteering to work on hurricane relief.

When hurricanes Katrina and Rita hit in 2005, media coverage was extensive. While the press has largely lost interest, the devastation remains, said George Luna, the recent UCR graduate who organized the trip.

"As time goes on, people forget about the tragedies that others continue to face almost three years later," he said.

Luna first visited the hurricane-ravaged Gulf Coast in 2006. He vowed to go back. He said he knew that it would take time to rebuild the communities nearly destroyed by the hurricane. He also believed that New Orleans had received more attention and resources so his efforts

might be better spent in Biloxi.

"I fell in love with the community and with the people I worked with," Luna said. "There is still much work to be done there. I was going to go back by myself and thought why not bring others."

Luna sought guidance from Susan Allen Ortega, UCR's assistant vice chancellor for student affairs and the dean of students. Her office helped him send out a request for volunteers. Thirty students applied to fill the slots.

"I was surprised because they each had to pay their own way and the cost to go was significant," said Luna. "Even though we got a good deal on housing, the transportation costs were still pretty high."

Luna was able to determine that a non-profit organization called Hands On would actually supply room and board for the volunteers for only \$10 a day, which left airfare as the largest cash outlay for the students.

During their stay from March 24 through 30, UCR students worked on road beautification, home repairs and sign painting. They also served in a soup

kitchen, distributed fliers on disaster relief and tutored at the Boys and Girls Club.

"We were pretty tired, especially that first day," Luna said. "We took a red eye and had no sleep but it was completely worth it. Things do look better, but there's a lot to be done. There are still some areas that need a lot of work."

In addition to Luna, UCR students who chose to spend their spring break in Biloxi were Danielle Wickman, Phillip Okhovat, Adriana Diaz-Ordaz, Rochelle Faugier, Carolyn Meeker, Vanessa Melendez, Saori Ida, Adam Robarge and Joseph Spellman.

Luna spent his winter break going over applications and trying to choose the best candidates for the project.

"I focused on the answers that inspired or seemed the most sincere," he said. "I felt bad that we couldn't take everyone."

Most of the participants expressed a need to give back to the community.

Okhovat, a biological sciences major with a minor in Spanish, said that helping underserved populations and volunteering for community projects such as Hands On







UCR students pictured include Danielle Wickman, Rochelle Faugier, George Luna, Adam Robarge, Joseph Spellman, Phillip Okhovat, Adriana Diaz-Ordaz, Vanessa Melendez, Saori Ida.

Gulf Coast are important to him.

"I plan on going into a health career in the future, and volunteering with such humanitarian organizations is just one way to build empathy and fulfill my desire of reaching out to the community," he said.

Spellman, a senior biological sciences-environmental ecology major, came on board with similar sentiment.

"I hope to one day lead a group of volunteer students from the American Medical Student Association (AMSA) and Medical Scholars Program (MSP)," Spellman said. "I would like an effort to represent University of California, Riverside, so that our effort of national contribution may be seen by people and students all over the country."

Diaz-Ordaz, a third-year political science major, believes in giving back to the community, too.

Faugier is a third-year student at UCR, majoring in political science with a minor in law and society.

Meeker, a resident director, said she wanted to volunteer earlier with like-

minded citizens but either didn't have the time or the money to take this kind of trip. Once she had the vacation time to go, she signed on for the alternative spring break.

"I knew it would be hard work but very rewarding," she said. "I see community as society in general and believe in lending a hand."

Before going she imagined she would be scraping mold off walls but ended with chores that she found more pleasant, such as working in a soup kitchen and volunteering for the local Head Start program.

"For me, the soup kitchen was the most rewarding because you can see it helping people right on the spot," she said.

Overall, Meeker said the entire experience was positive.

"Everyone was there because they wanted to give back," she said. "It was a nice feeling, a real sense of community."

All the participants had expectations of hard work and perhaps knew some of the tasks might be unpleasant. What they didn't bargain on was how the scene of destruction would affect them emotionally.

"It really hit them hard when they took a tour of the city," Luna said. "We would be driving down the street and we would stop and look at the water line and see how high the water got."

UCR was among 30 schools chosen to help in Biloxi, and the only California university to take part.

"We were the ones actually traveling the farthest," he said. "Other schools there included Harvard and the University of Colorado. We . . . made a lot of new friends."

The high interest level among UCR students also brought Hands On organizers to campus to conduct team leader training. Now, 45 students can be team leaders for projects in Riverside and surrounding areas.

Luna is an example of how to get things rolling.

"One of my goals is to get this going each year," Luna said. "I hope those going this year will learn their leadership roles and come back and give back to this community as well. I definitely want to go back and would consider going on my own." ❧

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# A Look at Some of UCR's Best

In May, the UCR Alumni Association holds its annual event to honor five alumni who represent a spirit of giving and excellence in their personal and professional lives.

By Lisa Hill

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## Distinguished Alumnus Award David Song

'92 B.S. *biomedical sciences*

The youngest chief of plastic surgery in the country, David Song at one point considered abandoning pre-med studies to pursue the classics.

Song's father, seeing his son juggle classical studies while preparing for the MCATs, suggested medicine might be too difficult. That was exactly the motivation Song needed.

"It sort of worked in an inspirational way and I guess the rest is history," said Song, chief of the section of plastic and reconstructive surgery at the University of Chicago Medical Center.

Song, who specializes in breast reconstruction for women who have had cancer and who performs pro bono reconstructive surgery on children in Latin America, is this year's recipient of the Distinguished Alumnus Award. The

award, the association's most prestigious, is based on national and international distinction in one's field and significant contribution to humankind.

Most of the work done by plastic surgeons, such as fixing congenital deformities and helping burn victims, is not glamorous enough to be on television, Song said.

But the public's perception about what plastic surgeons do has been influenced by shows such as "Dr. 90210," he said.

"I see it as one of my missions in life to make sure people understand what an enriching and, I think, noble field plastic surgery is. Unfortunately, in many ways, it's been sullied by Hollywood," Song said.

Song gets satisfaction from performing reconstructive surgery on breast cancer survivors.

"It really sort of restores what cancer has taken away," he said.

Song, who once won \$25,000 in the California lottery, is a pioneer in robotic surgery for nerve reconstruction. He also was one of a group of surgeons who removed a 200-pound tumor from a woman, a surgery that was chronicled on the Discovery Health Channel.

The competitive biomedical sciences program at UCR required lots of late nights and early mornings, a schedule that Song said helped prepare him for life as a surgeon. The course load also demanded a rigorous work ethic that played a big part in his early ascension into the chief's position, he said.

Since 2002, Song has been on the board of the philanthropic organization Medical Aid for Children of Latin America. He travels to the Dominican Republic and Bolivia to perform surgery on children with congenital deformities, such as cleft palates.

"I often tell people it's two weeks of doing unadulterated good. This is as pure as it gets. There's no payment, there's no ulterior motive," he said. "It's a tremendous experience. Sometimes it gets very emotional."



## Alumni Public Service Award Tod A. Burnett

'85 B.A. *political science/administrative studies*

Tod Burnett turned down UC Berkeley to attend UCR.

Active in student government in high school and a student body president, Burnett researched the political science

programs at all the UC schools. He also was interested in business and management. Berkeley and UCR were the two universities that offered political science/administrative studies programs.

Burnett felt UCR was a better fit. He had never seen the campus before he arrived.

Today, he is vice chancellor of strategic planning and communications for the California Community Colleges, the largest higher education system in the world with 109 colleges and 2.5 million students each year.

"I believe my education at UC Riverside is what got me started," Burnett said. "If it wasn't for Riverside, I don't know where I'd be."

His career in the public sector is long and distinguished: He was the deputy appointments secretary for Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, was appointed to a post in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency by President Bush, and has worked for former Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan. His devotion to public service earned him this year's Alumni Public Service Award, which recognizes service to the public sector or a contribution to the arts that has positively represented the university and fellow citizens.

Burnett grew up in a family that discussed politics at the dinner table. He remembers watching the national conventions.

He has fond memories of his college years, where he was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity. He enjoyed living in the dorms, eating at Bob's Big Boy and Naugles restaurants, and winning the annual lip-synch competition.

Asked for advice for UCR students, Burnett responded that the key is following your passions.

"If you love what you are doing, you are going to be good at what you're doing and get rewarded financially," he said. "The second thing I'd say is we have a responsibility to be involved with our nation's democratic system. I would highly encourage (students) to at the very least vote and to be as involved as possible in shaping public policy."



### Alumna Community Service Award Katherine Wright

'81 M.A. administration

As a child, Katherine Wright rode her bicycle and rollerskated through the UCR campus. Her family lived on nearby Highlander Drive and she recalls enjoying walks through the married-student housing area. There was so much open space back then, she said.

Wright's parents wanted her to attend UCR but it was just too close to home. She went to San Diego State but earned her teaching credential, master's degree and administrative services credential from UCR.

Wright, the interim superintendent of the Alvord Unified School District, is well-known in the educational community and in the community at large. She's been active in numerous organizations including the YWCA, the Rape Crisis Center, Riverside Against Drugs, Meals on Wheels, Riverside Community Hospital Foundation and the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce's Leadership Riverside program.

Despite those contributions, Wright said she was surprised to hear that she had been chosen as this year's recipient of the Alumni Community Service Award, which recognizes active and superior service as a community volunteer that goes beyond the call of business or professional duty.

"I just thought, oh my gosh, I'm not doing as much as I used to," because of work demands, she said. "It's very much an honor to be selected and I just feel like I'm representing many, many other people in the community who do good work."

She's currently enjoying her work with Greater Riverside Dollars for Scholars.

"It's really lots of fun giving away other people's money," she said.

Wright said she grew up in a family that instilled in her the importance of doing things for other people.

"It sounds like a cliché to a certain extent but I feel like it's my sort of community responsibility, my civic responsibility just to make a contribution and to help make our community a better place for everybody," she said.

In the little spare time she has, Wright reads murder mysteries and enjoys going to the movies with her husband, Dwight Tate.

This summer, she is looking forward to getting some much-needed rest. In June, she will retire from the district where she has worked since 1975.

She has fond memories of UCR.

"I had a great experience in my master's program. I had been out of school for 10 years and when I went back, it was really scary," she said.

But her fears were soon calmed. The personal attention and the rigor of the program made it a wonderful experience, she said.



### Alumni University Service Award James E. Baldwin

'60 B.A. history

Years ago, when James E. Baldwin was on the board of directors of the Alumni Association, he and others tossed around the idea of recognizing prominent alumni with an awards ceremony.

He never dreamed he'd be one of the recipients.

This year, Baldwin, who worked for the Los Angeles Unified School District for more than three decades, is being honored with the Alumni University Service Award, which honors a sustained pattern of volunteer service, contribution and support for the benefit of UCR.

Baldwin grew up in San Bernardino. Being one of the pioneers at UCR had allure for him. Classes were tiny – eight, 10, or 12 students. He got to know every building on campus through his job delivering campus mail.

Baldwin has degrees from several other universities but has advocated continuously for UCR. He was the founding member of the Los Angeles Chapter of the UCR Alumni Association, and the former chair and member of the UCR Alumni Association's scholarship committee. He's also taken on numerous other duties on behalf of the university.

"It has been UCR I have chosen to return to and work in the best interest of over the long haul," he said. One of the reasons is the relationships students can forge with professors.

"Even though the campus is larger now, still there is a feeling of a smaller campus where things are very much personalized, friendly, open."

Baldwin and his wife, Mary, returned from Bangkok to find a message on their answering machine. Baldwin called back and was told he was going to be honored for his years of service.

"It was a great surprise because I've worked behind the scenes in a quiet way, not always up front but doing the things that need to be done," he said. "It's very nice to be thought of in this way."

He and Mary have tried to be as supportive as possible to the university.

"I think it's important for everyone to do what they can as far as serving," he said. "Don't be afraid to volunteer, serve on a committee, head up a committee, possibly serve in an office for an organization such as the UCR Alumni Association. Be supportive if something important is happening."



### Outstanding Young Alumnus Award David R. Cocker III

'96 B.S. *environmental engineering and chemistry*

David Cocker sees himself in his students.

The 34-year-old assistant professor in the Department of Chemical and Environmental Engineering at Bourns College of Engineering now teaches some of the courses that he took when he attended UCR.

"It's been a lot of fun teaching the undergraduates because I have a lot in common with them," said Cocker, who has been at UCR since 2001.

Cocker's research on fine particulate matter in the atmosphere has led to more stringent air quality regulations in California and on the federal level. He is this year's recipient of the Outstanding Young Alumnus Award. The award recognizes alumni under the age of 35 who demonstrate a significant record of career and/or civic achievement and promise in their profession.

"I was quite excited and honored," Cocker said of receiving the award. "It's a large campus. We have a large body of alumni now. It really made my day."

His research has included air quality studies in Mira Loma, Calif., and in India, and the contribution of diesel emissions to air pollution. He also works with a state-of-the-art smog chamber at the College of Engineering's Center for Environmental Research and Technology (CE-CERT).

Cocker's research concentration is on the physical and chemical processes leading to aerosol formation in the atmosphere. This includes research into gas-to-particle conversion and transformation processes of aerosols. He received a National Science Foundation Early Development CAREER award to investigate secondary organic aerosol (SOA) processes.

Cocker, who earned his Ph.D. at California Institute of Technology, had quite a few choices when it came to choosing a college but decided on UCR in part because of the size of the campus.

"I didn't want to be just a number at a bigger school like UCLA," he said.

He was also interested in the new environmental engineering program. The size of the campus allowed him numerous research opportunities.

His research interests stem, in part, from his sporting interests.

"I was a runner in Southern California and that's partially what drew me to study air quality," he said.

He met his wife, Kathalena, when they were both undergraduates. She works in CE-CERT as a development engineer. They have two daughters, Allison, 4, and Caroline, 2.

"My research is on fine particulate matter in the atmosphere, which impacts everyone in Southern California as well as worldwide," Cocker said. "The research has led to new regulations in California and on the federal level. It's quite exciting to be part of the scientific process helping lead toward cleaner air."

### Nominations Sought Next Year's Alumni Awards of Distinction

The Alumni Association invites nominations for alumni who have distinguished themselves through personal and professional achievements. For more details about the award categories and to submit a nomination visit the alumni Web site at [www.alumni.ucr.edu/about/awardnom.html](http://www.alumni.ucr.edu/about/awardnom.html).



## What's New at the Alumni and Visitors Center?

### Couple Honor Former Coach

Ronald ('59) and Judy Endeman ('60) recently made a \$100,000 commitment to name the center's lobby in honor of Coach Franklin Lindeburg, UCR's first athletic director. Lindeburg also served as a physical education instructor, assistant football coach, basketball coach and golf coach before he retired in 1998.



Ron was a basketball player and was coached by Lindeburg.

"There are a few people in everyone's life who have a positive influence," he said. "Coach Lindy had a tremendous impact on me. He really had a positive attitude about things."

### Spring Art Exhibit

This spring, artwork by alumna Judy Field Baker ('58) was exhibited in the Goldware Library. Baker is an Idyllwild artist known for her pen-and-ink drawings of Inland Empire buildings. She recently donated 23 original works to UCR's Sweeney Art Gallery. Baker, who was part of the first class to attend the university for four full years, has served on the boards of the Sweeney Art Gallery, the UCR Foundation and the Alumni Association, the California Museum of Photography Support Committee, the Citizens University Committee and the Advisory Committee for the Graduate School of Education.

### Cafe Opens

The center's Arroyo Vista Cafe is now open for business. Lunch is served 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday through Friday. Professionally trained staff, under the creative direction of Executive Chef Lanette Dickerson, developed the three-course, fixed-price menu. Selections change on a weekly basis and reflect the changing seasonal variety of fresh products available from local growers. The cafe provides a choice of several starters, entrees and desserts priced at \$14.95 per person.



**How to contact the UCR Alumni Association:**  
**(951) UCR-ALUM (827-2586) 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](http://www.alumni.ucr.edu)



## 08.10

### Alumni Day at the Races

Noon. Lunch and afternoon at the races, Del Mar Race Track.



## Fall 2008

### Alumni Association Scholars Recognition Brunch

10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Student Commons



### Save the Dates

Homecoming 2009, Feb. 6-7; Heat 2009 Music Festival, Feb. 7  
 Save the dates and plan a return trip to campus.

### Travel with Friends

You've seen the lists ... top 10, 20, 50 places to see during your lifetime. The UCR Alumni Association's travel program is one resource to help you check places off of your "life list." Explore ancient Greece, Sept. 29-Oct. 10, 2008, starting at \$2,695. Interested in seeing the Taj Mahal? Sign up for the Art and Culture of North India, Oct. 30-Nov. 12, 2008, starting at \$3,790. Or travel to the far north in search of the aurora borealis on the Northern Lights and Lava Fields of Iceland, Feb. 15-22, 2009, from \$3,035. Want to sail on a four-star tall ship through Tahiti and French Polynesia? Climb aboard the S.Y. Star Flyer, March 15-23, 2009, starting at \$2,795. Contact the UCR Alumni Association to request a detailed brochure.

### Whatever Happened To?

Looking for your college buddies? The UCR Alumni Association can help with your search. The 2008 UCR Alumni Directory provides up-to-date directory information, with alphabetical, regional and networking listings. The directory allows alumni to reconnect with classmates. To add or update your information, contact the UCR Alumni Association.

# 50s

'58 **James M. Greenfield** co-authored "Major Donors: Finding Big Gifts in Your Database and Online," published by Wiley in April 2006. The book examines nonprofit organizations with the best strategies for navigating fund raising on the Internet. Jim is retired after completing 40 years as a fund-raising professional at five hospitals and three universities.

'59 **Kay (Davidson) Weeks** worked for 30 years for the National Park Service in a historic preservation program – writing and editing information

in layman's language for people who repair, rehabilitate or restore their historic buildings; authoring key national standards and guidelines; designing print and Web media; and creating two books for younger audiences that were sold or otherwise distributed nationwide. After retiring from the National Park Service, she is working as a freelance writer and poet, and lives in Ellicott City, Md. Her new children's book, "Sticks and Stones, Skin and Bones," is about the sense of place, memory, community and architecture. Copies are available by contacting Kay at [kaydiweeks@verizon.net](mailto:kaydiweeks@verizon.net).

# 60s

'60 **Edward Blakely** (Ph.D.) delivered the Elliot Richardson Lecture at the Annual Conference of the American Society of Public Administration in Texas. The lecture series is named in honor of Elliot Richardson, whose exemplary career epitomizes the values of ethics and integrity that are essential for advancing excellence in public service. Ed is executive director of the Office of Recovery and Development Administration for the city of New Orleans.

'62 **Stephen Vincent** released "Walking Theory," a poetry title from Junction Press with Charles Faulhaber. Stephen is the co-editor of "Exploring the Bancroft Library: The Centennial Guide to its Extraordinary History, Spectacular Special Collections, Research Pleasures, its Amazing Future and How it All Works" from Signature Books. He also teaches creative writing at the University of San Francisco's Fromm Institute for Lifelong Learning. Stephen is a poet, writer, editor, blogger, walker and teacher. He lives in San Francisco.

'66 **Richard Corona** is the interim vice president of university relations at Central Washington University. He has been at CWU since 1985 when he worked as director of business services and

contracts. In 1990, Richard served as associate vice president for business and financial affairs. He was selected as vice president in 2002.

'68 **Charles Gay** ('79 Ph.D.) is vice president of Applied Materials' solar business group. Applied Materials Inc.



is the world's top supplier of tools for making microchips. Applied Materials' solar business produces equipment to make solar modules – panels of solar cells that can be used to power streetlights or water heaters ... **Jacqueline Russler** received her teaching certificate and taught in San Bernardino for 16 years. Jacqueline retired in 1984 and worked in Congress after teaching. She is 86 years old and retired.

'69 **David Ochs** retired as the Rim of the World High School athletics director. He served as the athletics director since 1979 and is believed to be the longest-tenured athletics director in San Bernardino County. He played baseball and football in high school and was captain of the UCR football team. He began his coaching and teaching career at Beaumont High School in 1970, where head baseball coach was one of his duties.

# 70s

'71 **Bruce M. Freeman** has joined Wrightwood Technologies Inc. as a member of the board

## Masi Inducted into Sport Hall of Fame

Former UC Riverside men's basketball coach and athletics director John Masi ('71) was officially inducted into the Riverside Sport Hall of Fame on May 5, at a banquet held at the Riverside Convention Center.



Masi moved with his family to Riverside in 1956 at the age of 8 and went on to become a basketball star at Riverside Ramona High, Riverside City College and UC Riverside. He graduated from UCR in 1971 with a degree in economics. Masi began his coaching career in 1972, overseeing the Highlanders freshmen squad before joining Notre Dame High School as its head basketball coach and athletics director.

He returned to UCR as an assistant coach in 1975 and was named head coach in 1979. In his first year at the Highlanders helm, Masi guided the team to a 23-5 record and regional championship. Over the next 17 seasons, UC Riverside received 10 NCAA Division II Tournament bids, finishing as high as second during the 1994-95 season.

From 1992 to 1999, Masi also served as the Highlanders director of athletics. Masi's career record in 26 years at UCR is 462-269, and he remains the winningest coach in Highlanders history.

of directors, as well as chief scientific officer of the Cherry Instruments division. Bruce brings to Wrightwood more than 30 years of experience in industrial chromatography, principally at Beckman Instruments, at Electronic Associates Inc., and at the Fort Dodge Animal Health division of Wyeth (formerly the agricultural research center of American Cyanamid). Cherry Instruments specializes in countercurrent chromatographs – sales, service, and method development. Countercurrent chromatography is an inherently preparative liquid-liquid chromatographic technique that offers several advantages over other forms of



liquid chromatography ... **Gary McCord** has had limited golf engagements since recovering from health problems last year. He tied for third at the Toshiba Classic in Newport Beach. He also played at the AT&T Champions Classic at the Valencia Country Club and the Ginn Championship at the Hammock Beach Resort in Palm Coast, Fla. Gary owns the Kostis McCord Learning Center in Scottsdale, Ariz., with fellow CBS commentator Peter Kostis.

'73 **Raymond Burriel** ('75 M.A., '77 Ph.D.) joined the faculty of Pomona College in Claremont, Calif., in 1977. He was the founding chair of the Intercollegiate Department of Chicano Studies at the Claremont Colleges (1981-93) and has twice been selected as a recipient of the Wig Distinguished Professor Award

## TAKE FIVE



## Susan J. De Witt

'83 B.S. Administrative Studies with a Women's Studies Minor; '84 B.S. Economics

For more than a decade, De Witt has worked as an assistant United States attorney in the United States Attorney's Office in Los Angeles. For the past eight years her work has focused primarily on organized-crime investigations and prosecutions, including a case involving the kidnappings and murders by a Russian organized-crime ring of four businessmen and one businesswoman from the Los Angeles area. She is currently assigned to the national security section, which handles national security and terrorism-related investigations. De Witt earned her Juris Doctorate in 1987 from Georgetown University Law School. The Daily Journal recently named her one of the top women litigators in California.

1. **What do you know now that you wish you had known while you were in college?**
  - Just how important learning and knowledge would be to me later in life. Good grades may help open doors, but knowledge is the key to understanding what is inside.
2. **Can you recommend a book?**
  - I read all the time for work so my pleasure reading usually consists of lighter, more entertaining books. Most recently I read the Women's Murder Club series of books, which I enjoyed because of the positive portrayal of women professionals as characters in the books and the importance of friendships and teamwork as a theme of the books.
3. **What would you like to achieve in your lifetime?**
  - I would like to be able to look back and say I have always fought to do what I think is right, in whatever forum that might be, and that I have been good to my family and friends.
4. **What is your best memory of UCR?**
  - The Barn!!! But more seriously, my best memory is of the great teachers I had the good fortune to take classes from and the wonderful friendships that I formed at UCR.
5. **How do you spend your free time?**
  - What free time? I spend as much of my free time as I can with family, friends, my dogs and relaxing and having fun. I love baseball, traveling to new places, and a good glass of wine.

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](http://www.alumni.ucr.edu).



## Sankung B. Sagnia

'84 M.S. Entomology

Since graduating from UCR, Sagnia has worked in his home country, the Gambia in West Africa. In October 2005, he joined the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, as chief technical adviser of an integrated rural development project that works to alleviate poverty among rural populations.

1. **What are some of the biggest challenges in your current job?**  
The target groups we are dealing with are mostly illiterate farmers, almost all of whom live on less than a dollar a day. In addition, they are highly vulnerable in the sense that the country is emerging from more than a decade of armed conflict, which has greatly affected basic social services, infrastructures and the overall social fabric. The biggest challenge therefore is to organize these populations into producer organizations, involve them in gainful activities in order to ensure their food security, reverse the trend of poverty and above all convince them of the necessity to move towards self-reliance.
2. **What is your best memory of UCR?**  
My best memory of Riverside is when my graduate acarology class (with professor James McMurtry) went to collect mites in apple orchards and in the woods in Riverside and San Bernardino counties. I can vividly remember those cool foggy mornings, the sounds of beating branches to dislodge mites from leaves and flowers. At the end of the day, we would eat our sandwiches and drink our soda, or stop by a restaurant somewhere along a meandering country road for hot apple pie topped with ice cream.
3. **Who is your hero?**  
As a matter of fact I have two heroes: my late mother and father. When I was a little boy growing in my village in the Gambia, it was very uncommon for parents in a rural setting to send their children to school. That was seen then as a way of deviating children from local traditional values. My parents and four others took their courage in their hands to register their children in primary school, in spite of the reticence from other villagers. In this sense, I consider them pioneers who had foresight. Because of the success of their move, the village school has educated hundreds of children. And if my parents had not sent me to school, I would not be featured in this UCR profile.
4. **What advice do you have for UCR students?**  
The advice I have for UCR students is to always strive for excellence. When I graduated from UCR more than 23 years ago, computer applications were in their infancy. Today, they dominate and facilitate all sectors of human activity, particularly education and research. The current generation of students should seize this opportunity to take science a step further than our generation was able to do and make this world a better place for humanity, no matter where we live on this planet.
5. **Anything else you would like to tell us about your life?**  
My family is an important part of my life. I have been married to Nyima Jammeh (who was with me at UCR by the way, at the Bannockburn Apartments) for 26 years now. We have four wonderful children: two boys, Musa, 18, and Lasana, 16, and two girls, Fatoumata, 25, and Mariam, 11. Fatoumata and Musa are going to college in West Virginia and studying business administration and computer information technology, respectively. Lasana is planning to start college somewhere in the U.S.A. (maybe at UCR!) next year to study economics. Mariam starts her six-year high school stint next fall.

for Excellence in Teaching at Pomona College. His areas of expertise include children who translate for their parents; multicultural education; Chicano psychology; cultural psychology; immigration and sociocultural change. ... **Frank DeCourten** ('76 M.S.) spoke on ancient and recent Sierra Nevada geology at Sierra College–Rocklin campus. Frank's presentation focused on the past 10 million years of geological history in the Sierra Nevada. A time when dramatic pulses of uplift, produced by intensive faulting along the eastern escarpment and accompanied by widespread volcanic activity, induced vigorous erosion that shaped the modern landscape. Prior to arriving at Sierra College in 1993 as professor of geology/earth science, Frank taught at the University of Utah and served as assistant director of the Utah Museum of Natural History. Frank has written four books, including the recently released "The Broken Land," and has produced three educational videos.

'78 **George M. Guess** (Ph.D.) is now scholar in residence in public administration and policy, and co-director of the Center for Democracy and Election Management at American University in Washington, D.C. In September, he returned from three years in Budapest where he was director of research for the Open Society Institute's Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative ... **Richard Lemire** is the senior public information specialist at Community Action Partnership



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(CAP) of Riverside County. CAP Riverside is the anti-poverty agency for Riverside County.

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'79 **Mark Gard** has served as the boys basketball coach at Jurupa Valley High School for the past 18 years. He began coaching in the early 1980s as an assistant to his father at Riverside Poly High School. He then coached a couple of years at Avalon and Long Beach Wilson high schools. Jurupa Valley won the Sunkist League championship this year and played in the CIF finals for the first time in the school's history. ... **Louis Vandenberg** was the recipient of the Veterans for Peace Friend of the Veteran Award 2007. He received official recognition by California State Senate Majority Leader Gloria Romero for "Tireless Advocacy of Progressive Policies and Peace for all Californians."

## 80s

'80 **Gloria Romero** ('83 Ph.D.) was honored as the Veterans for Peace Elected Official of the Year at an awards banquet in February. Gloria is the California Senate Majority Leader and serves the 24th Senate District ... **Terri Williams** has served as a government attorney for 23 years and is currently the assistant city attorney for the city of Henderson, Nev.



'81 **Robert Del Grande** (Ph.D.) opened the Grove, an upscale American dining restaurant anchoring Houston's downtown Discovery Green park. The restaurant aims to bridge both fine and casual dining. Robert began cooking as a graduate student, taking over the kitchen at the house he shared with other students. He is co-owner of several popular restaurants of the Schiller Del Grande Restaurant Group including Café Annie, with Southwestern cuisine; Cafe Express, a pioneering fast-casual restaurant with 17 locations nationwide; Taco Milagro, an expanding fast-casual Mexican eatery with three locations; La Mesa Mexican Bistro, a casual Mexican restaurant in the Woodlands; and the Lakehouse, a fast-casual hamburger stand at Discovery Green.

'82 **Jon Black** gave up a career in the health care field to become a teacher. He is completing student teaching in science at Tamalpais High School in Mill Valley ... **Edward Mooney** (M.A.) was given the flag that was flying on board the USS Portal Royal on Jan. 6, after Iranian gunboats threatened to damage the U.S. Navy ship. The flag was a gift from the ship's commander. Edward has communicated via e-mail with the crew of the USS Portal Royal for the past four years. He first encountered the missile cruiser while on vacation in Monterey at the



same time the ship was docked. He is a Quartz Hill High School history teacher and a columnist for the Antelope Valley Press.

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'83 **William Kurohara** is the medical director for the Don & Ruth Temple Cancer Center at the Community Hospital of Long Beach, where he is responsible for the daily operations of the center. He also serves as medical director for the Ruby Golleher Oncology Center at Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital in Whittier.

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'86 **Michael Ross** is a product manager on behalf of the Missile Defense Agency. He encourages engineering graduates who are interested in working in a fulfilling career to visit the MDA Web site at [www.mda.mil](http://www.mda.mil) and click on the employment banner ... **Bonnie (Leihy) Troup** was promoted to the position of chief software engineer on the TSAT Program, a military satellite program under the Space and Missile System Center, Los Angeles Air Force Base.

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'89 **Robert Neiuber** was named director of community development/deputy executive director of the Covina Redevelopment Agency (CRA) for the city of Covina in December. He previously served as director of human resources and risk management since 1990, serving in management roles in both community development/CRA and human resources. He is past president of the Covina Lions Breakfast Club, and a volunteer and past

chairman of the Covina Christmas Parade Committee. Robert and his wife, Robin, live in Rancho Cucamonga ...

**Monica Poling** is the online editor of TravelAge West Magazine, a biweekly, West Coast magazine that publishes original travel content for travel agents. She freelanced for the magazine for the three years prior, accepting assignments that have taken her to the distant corners of the Far East. She continues to run the award-winning Web site OnceWritten.com, which was listed for the fourth year in a row as one of the top 101 Web sites for writers by Writers Digest Magazine.

## 90s

'91 **Megan (McGuire) Ellena** welcomed the birth of her second child, Katherine Anne, in March 2007. Katherine joins her big brother, Matthew Russell. Megan works from home as a certified coding specialist for Hahnemann University Hospital, the second-largest hospital in Philadelphia ... **Daryl F. Mallet** married Barbara R. Biggs in December 2005. Their son, Christian, was born in January 2007 ... **Michael Palma** is a senior industry analyst for IDC's Electronics Manufacturing research initiative. He recently returned from his third trip (two were vacation, one was work) to Mexico in the past six months. His latest trip was a National Geographic photography

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workshop in Oaxaca, “an intense, creative and inspiring experience.” Michael’s Web site is [www.palmasplace.com](http://www.palmasplace.com) ...

**Vincent Reyes** has worked at an investment brokerage business for the past 16 years as an equities trader. He is currently in a private wealth-management firm located in Century City.

Vincent and his wife, Nina, have been married for nine years and have a 5-year-old daughter named Camille. The family lives in Westwood.

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’92 **Matthew Blumkin** has joined The Greenspan Co./Adjusters International as a general adjuster in the Encino office.

Matthew is assisting numerous firestorm clients throughout Southern California and Catalina Island with their insurance-related claims and rebuilding efforts. Previously, he was a trial attorney for 13 years. Matthew and his wife, Miho, have two children and live in the San Fernando Valley ...

**Steve Breen** (’94 teaching credential) was named the 2007 Berryman Cartoonist of the Year by the National Press Foundation. The foundation’s awards are considered among the most prestigious in journalism ... **Ken Chamberlain**

is the online editor for the National Journal magazine’s CongressDaily publication ...

**Tanith Fowler Corsi** received her master of arts degree in international communication from the American University in Washington, D.C., in 1995 and since then has been working in the field of international education. She is currently

assistant vice president for global education at the Catholic University of America and is in charge of internationalizing the campus and running the Center for Global Education, which oversees education abroad and international student and scholar services.

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’93 **Azhar Majeed** completed a one-year physician executive M.B.A. program through the University of Tennessee. He is medical director for Southern California Hospitalist Network’s Citrus Valley Region and was elected to the American College of Physicians ... **Ravish**

**Patwardhan** was honored as “Young Professional of the Year” by the Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce. He was among 40 young professionals under age 40 honored by the chamber for their business achievements, experience and innovation, vision, leadership and community service in northwest Louisiana. Honorees were named at the 40 under 40 Gala and Awards Banquet. He is founder of the Comprehensive NeuroSurgery Network. The practice offers common neurosurgical procedures including spine operations, brain tumors, aneurysms, peripheral nerve surgery and specialized techniques such as epilepsy surgery and deep-brain stimulation for Parkinson’s disease and tremor. Independent from his practice, Ravish is also the founder and director of the Interactive Neuroscience Center and the Re-Vitalize! Philanthropic Foundation for Medical Information. The

Interactive Neuroscience Center partners with community organizations, schools, colleges and universities, and companies to research, develop and promote knowledge of neuroscience and related fields. Re-Vitalize!, a nonprofit foundation, informs and educates patients, caretakers and others in the local and regional community about problems related to medical disorders. The organization shares information through support groups and other avenues, and also hosts inspirational and other professional speakers, among other events.

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’94 **Jim P. Boyce** (Ph.D.) and his wife, **Julie Mahan Boyce** (’95 M.S.), announce the birth of their first son, Andrew James Boyce. Andrew was born in Seattle, Wash., in December 2007. He is named after his grandfather, Capt. Andrew Summers Boyce, who served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and in Cairo, Egypt, with the American Embassy during the 1950s. Andrew’s father manages medicinal chemistry functions for Amgen Inc. in Seattle ... **Tania (Pollner) Runyan** is the author of “Delicious Air,” published by Finishing Line Press. The book was recognized as a 2007 Book of the Year by the Conference on Christianity and Literature. Tania is a writer and teacher in the Chicago area.

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’95 **M. Lina Talukder** married Duban Gonzalez in November 2007 in Ventura, Calif. She teaches seventh-grade science at Castaic Middle School and

received her master’s degree in cross-cultural communications in July 2007.

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’96 **Kim Holcomb** is a television news reporter with KING-TV, the NBC affiliate in Seattle, Wash. After graduating from Boston University with a master’s degree in broadcast journalism, she spent the past 10 years working as a television news reporter. She is married and spends much of her time chasing her 2-year-old son around the house ... **Ronald**

**Mike Perry** is owner of the award-winning coffee house Coffee Klatch, located in Rancho Cucamonga and San Dimas. He has received the TOPS Award five times. The Specialty Coffee Association of America presents the TOPS Award every year to 35 coffee houses throughout the world ...

**Stefanie Schaeffer** played in the Kiwanis Club of Simi Valley’s Celebrity Classic



Golf Tournament at Moorpark Country Club. Stefanie is vice president of marketing for Trump International Hotel & Tower in Las Vegas. She enjoys charity work and is involved with the Boys and Girls Club, the American Cancer Society and Habitat for Humanity ...

**Roger Seheult** is president of the Alumni Association of the Loma Linda University School of Medicine. He finished his training as a pulmonary critical-care physician at Loma Linda University and is now in Banning with Beaver Medical Group as a pulmonologist and

at San Geronio Memorial Hospital as an intensivist (critical-care physician). In addition, Roger is a lecturer for the UCR Biomedical Sciences Program and is also a faculty member of the School of Medicine at Loma Linda University. He met his wife, **Betty Stepien** ('99), in a UCR chemistry class. Roger has enjoyed his tenure as the youngest president of the Alumni Association.

'97 **Valerie (Brown) Ganzler** graduated from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, with a master's degree in curriculum and instruction, literacy studies.

'99 **Rina Gonzales** is serving her second year as president of the Inland Empire Latino Lawyers Association. She is also a co-chair of Inland Agency's Shop to Stop Breast Cancer Event and serves as a board member of Inland Counties Legal Services. Rina is a deputy city attorney for the city of Riverside. She works as general counsel to the library and museum departments, and assists with the development department, planning division and redevelopment issues ... **Cindy Le** is a clinical instructor and rotational attending psychiatrist for inpatient services at San Francisco General Hospital. Cindy was at Johns Hopkins University, where she was chief resident. During her training, Cindy had extensive experience with inpatient psychiatry, which is her area of focus.

## TAKE FIVE



## Maricela Rodriguez

'03 B.A. Political Science/Administrative Studies

Rodriguez is director of scheduling and community outreach for Maria Shriver. She leads Shriver's WE Connect Campaign, which focuses on connecting working families to programs and services that can make a difference in their lives. She also oversees all of Shriver's incoming requests and makes recommendations for her participation, manages her long-term calendar and coordinates her daily schedules. She is responsible for managing/coordinating Shriver's agenda for trade missions and helps draft briefings and staffs events throughout the year.

- 1. What's a typical work day like?**  
I don't really have a typical day. Each day is different and there is never a dull moment. During the last few months I have been working on Maria's WE Connect Campaign (weconnect.net). I remember one of my first assignments was staffing Maria at a Special Olympics Latin Concert in Anaheim and I met Enrique Iglesias – that was awesome! I work with great people and that is what I appreciate the most, including my chief of staff, Daniel Zingale, who provides an environment for each of us to grow professionally and creatively. And of course, Maria, who is one of the smartest and funniest people I have ever met. She challenges me every day to give my best.
- 2. How do you spend your time away from work?**  
I try to visit my family in Fresno and Woodlake. I also like to volunteer, mostly for things that involve motivating students to attend college. I usually try to convince my fiancé to join me since we both have really busy schedules. It's great when we can spend time together and give back to our community at the same time. Last year, I served as secretary for the Chicano Latino Youth Leadership Project and invited the governor to speak to the students. It was a surprise for everyone and the kids loved him. It was a great feeling as I stood back and observed their reaction as he walked in.
- 3. What is your best memory of UC Riverside?**  
UCR gave me a great experience all around. I loved my professors and classes, all of the different organizations. As a UCR intern, I actually helped review the UCR magazine when it was called Fiat Lux. It was one of my favorite jobs. I was also honored when the political science department presented me with the 2003 Student of the Year. Also, I did walk away with a best friend and future husband, Joe Flores. We met our freshman year at the A&I dorms. We both have great memories of UCR.
- 4. Where do you see yourself in 10 years?**  
I never really like this question. I have never planned that far in advance. I never imagined myself moving to Sacramento and working with Maria Shriver and it's not something I could have planned for. I just hope that whatever I'll be doing, that I'll be having fun and continuing to make a difference in my community and for my state.
- 5. What advice do you have for current UCR students?**  
Take advantage of what UCR has to offer. Get involved in different organizations and activities. Some of my favorite moments in college involved community service. I even went to Mexico for a school supply drive through Alpha Pi Sigma. Also, find an internship that excites you and opens the door to other opportunities. Each internship led me to another great experience and eventually led me to Sacramento for the Executive Fellowship Program. I never really knew what job or career I wanted, but I always looked for opportunities that I would enjoy and gain great experience from. Finally, take pictures, because the time really does go by too fast.

# 00s

'00 **Merideth Ritter** is a world history and world geography teacher at Pacific High School in San Bernardino, Calif. ...

**Joyce (Shen) Young** received the Kaiser Permanente-Baldwin Park 2008 Everyday Heroes Award for volunteering with the Chinese Parent Association for the Disabled.

'01 **Michael Munoz** is a journalist at the San Bernardino Sun newspaper. He is in his first year at the Graduate Center of Public Policy and Administration at Long Beach State University, where he is working on his master's degree in public administration. He plans to focus on human resources management.

'02 **Christian Pereira** graduated from Loyola Law School and was admitted to the California Bar. He practices law in Los Angeles, working for a firm that specializes in catastrophic injury and civil rights cases. The firm is also the advisory attorney to many of the Mexican Consulates in California ...

**Robert Presler** ('04 M.A.) is the conductor of the Park View Middle School Band. The band performed during the UCR Wind Ensemble program in March.

'03 **Autumn DeWoody** ('07 M.S.) is program director of the Inland Empire Waterkeeper, a well-known conservation group that has preserved thousands of acres of parkland across the region. It is an offshoot of

Orange County Coastkeeper, a grassroots conservation advocacy group for water quality. The group is affiliated with the national Waterkeeper Alliance ... **James McElvain** ('06 Ph.D.) was named captain of the Riverside County Sheriff's Department's Perris station in January. He also serves as police chief in Perris and Canyon Lake. James joined the Perris Police Department in 1989 following a three-year stint in corrections with the Orange County Sheriff's Department. He started out in patrol, steadily moving up in assignments, first with the Perris Police Department and eventually with the Riverside County Sheriff's Perris station. James has authored and co-authored a number of professional articles for law enforcement and psychiatric journals, focusing on two themes: use of force by police officers, and suicide. His 2006 dissertation, "Shots Fired: An Examination of Police Shootings and Citizen Behaviors," addressed officer-involved shootings. He is currently an adjunct professor for the Loma Linda University Department of Social Work and Social Ecology.

'04 **David Gutierrez** and **Andrea Caoile** ('04) were engaged in December 2007 ... **Shelley Beroza Roth** is taking a break from teaching political science at Arapahoe Community College and Red Rocks Community College to raise her two young children, Brooke and Hudson. She currently teaches a class through Colorado Free

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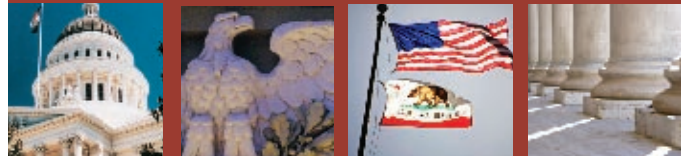


**Marisol Aviña** ('01)  
Proud UCRAA Life Member

As a first-generation college graduate, I feel very fortunate to have the education and opportunities that UCR afforded me. I am honored to be an advocate for children with special needs, foster youth, at-risk students and English-language learners through my work at the California state Capitol, helping to draft and shape policy that affects the 6.1 million students in our K-12 education system.

I'm proud to participate in the annual UC Day and in the UCRAA Scholarship application readings in Sacramento. Being part of the selection process allows me to have input in how our association fees help students in financial need.

Marisol Aviña is consultant to the California State Assembly Education Committee in Sacramento.



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

[www.alumni.ucr.edu/membership](http://www.alumni.ucr.edu/membership)

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University titled “How to Get the Government Job You Want.” ... **Christopher Sherman** is a budget analyst with the city of High Point in North Carolina. He completed a master’s degree in public administration from the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill in May 2007. Prior to that, he taught American Elections and Political Structure at the University of Bucharest (Romania) in the American Studies program in conjunction with the U.S. Embassy in Bucharest.

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'07 **Paul Jacques** has been involved in more than 125 theatrical productions in Riverside and San Bernardino counties. He has designed, performed and directed at theaters such as Performance Riverside, Riverside Community Players, Chino Community Theater and Redlands Footlighters. Paul has eight original works produced. In 2001, he formed the acting troupe Marlowe’s Shadowe. Within three years it was performing its mixture of Shakespearean comedy and original work at 10 different festivals and fairs throughout the West, including the Renaissance Pleasure Faire. A partnership with the Riverside Arts Council led to a summer tour of Paul’s 2007 San Jacinto Shakespeare Festival production of “The Taming of the Shrew” at a number of Riverside parks, as well as Banning and the Promenade Shops at Dos Lagos in Corona. This year’s collaboration seeks to expand the effort by incorporating a diverse array of music, dance

and theatrical entertainment. Additionally, Paul has established the Inland Empire Shakespeare Festival with UCR, which will debut in 2008 with “Macbeth.” This, along with San Jacinto’s “The Tempest,” will be featured elements of this summer’s tour ... **Brian Schall** is in the top quarter of his class at McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento. He is engaged to **Diana Linares** ('07). Diana will enter law school this fall ... **David Sides** is gaining popularity as the “Piano Man” on YouTube. He takes popular hip-hop and R&B songs and gives them a classical piano feel. He has released over 35 videos on YouTube with seven of them topping 1 million hits. His most popular video is a rendition of One Republic’s “Apologize,” which has received more than 2.2 million views since November. His videos feature him sitting at a piano and playing ... **Stephanie Strand** won \$5,000 through the American Students’ Fund 2007 Speak New Words contest. The contest asks students to create a video that would inspire the rising generation to greatness. Stephanie won first place for the 21-and-older age group with her motivational video/song “Go Somewhere.” There were more than 300 entries from 40 states ... **Angelique Weathersby** (UNEX) earned a certified associate in project management (CAPM) professional credential. She is working as a junior project manager and nurse analyst at San Antonio Community Hospital.

## WE REMEMBER

### FACULTY AND STAFF

**Ivan James Thomason**, retired UC Riverside professor of nematology, died Jan. 26.

He was preceded in death by wife, Harriet, and brother, Gene. He is survived by his children, David and his wife, Barbara; Eric and his wife, Bonnie; Alan and his wife, Mary; Metty; Will; and several grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Ivan and Harriet Thomason Scholarship Fund at UCR.

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**Peggy Fouke Wortz**, founder and 13-year board member of the UC Riverside Foundation, died Feb. 18. She was 89.

Mrs. Wortz is survived by a son, Philip Fouke; a daughter, Roberta Fouke DeWitt of Everett, Wash.; another son, Lee Fouke of Ve nice Beach; nine grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

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**McCoy Williams**, who served as director of housing services at UCR during the late '60s and early '70s, died in March. He was 72.

Mr. Williams is survived by his wife, Nora; their son McCoy Williams Jr. of Corona, Calif.; daughters Cay Williams, Shelley Smith and her husband, Michael, Kimberly Williams, all of Riverside; Maya Williams of Atlanta, Ga.; five grandchildren; and one great grandson.

### ALUMNI AND STUDENTS

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**Richard Charles Schoonover** ('60), died in Chapel Hill, N.C., on March 12 after losing a battle to cancer. He was 70.

Mr. Schoonover was among the early students at UCR. He was student body president in 1959-60 and was a leading member of the UCR golf team that also featured standouts Ed Cowan and Ron Preston, and was a key member of a cheerleading group at UCR. He graduated from UCR in 1960 with a bachelor’s degree in political science, then continued on as a graduate student at UC Berkeley. He was a foreign service officer with the United States Information Agency for 32 years.

He is survived by his wife, Brenda Brown Schoonover; his son, Peter Schoonover; daughters Elizabeth Wrightson and Stephanie Schoonover; and a grandson.

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'56 **Thomas A. Langford**, an ordained minister and a professor of English literature at Texas Tech. May 2008.

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'73 **Patricia Eggleston**, a lawyer practicing consumer law, April 2008.

# Edward J. Blakely

Ph.D. Class of '60

Hurricane recovery chief for New Orleans and namesake of the Edward J. Blakely Center for Sustainable Suburban Development

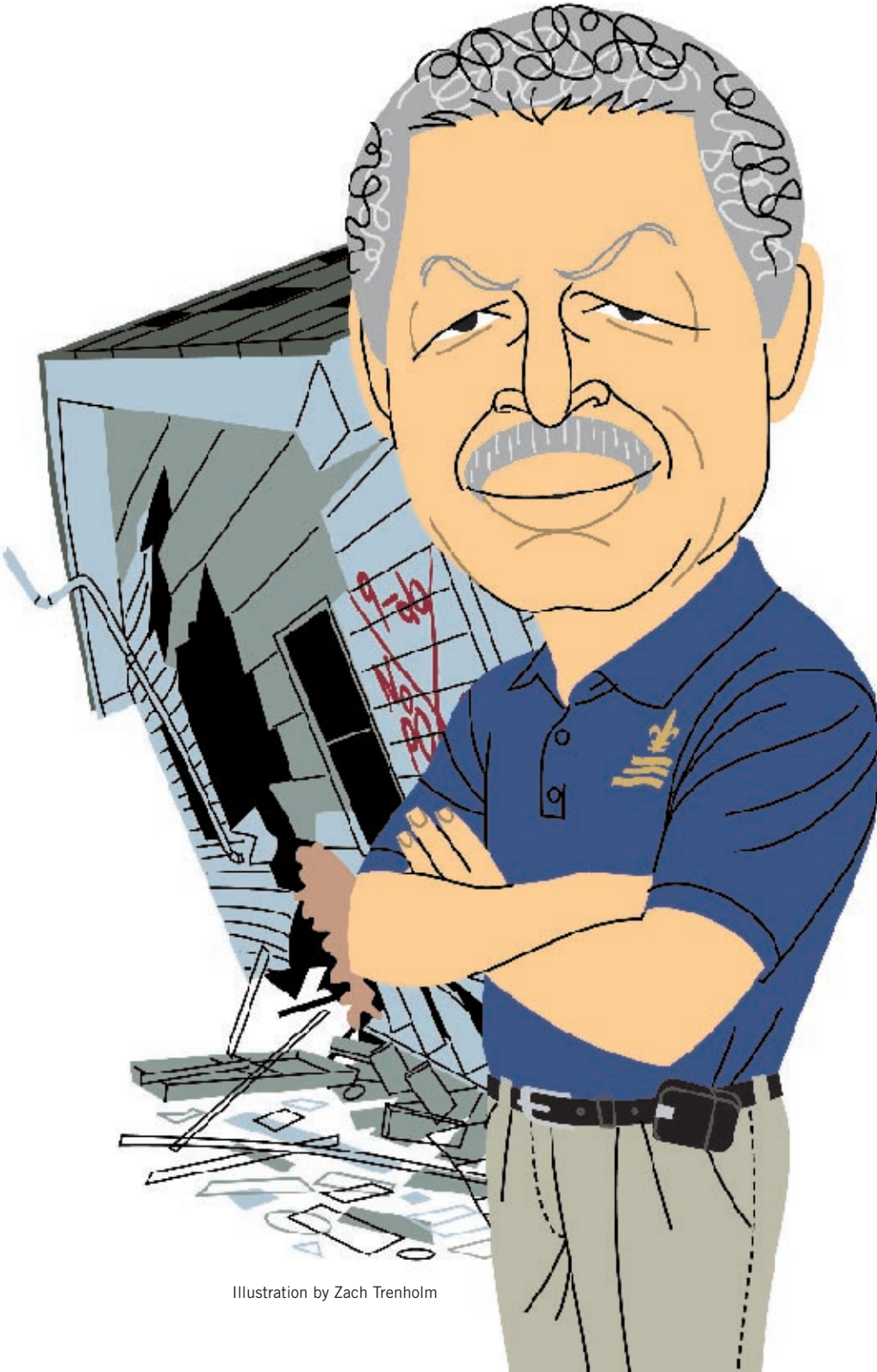


Illustration by Zach Trenholm

A UCR alumnus takes on a tough assignment – guiding hurricane-devastated New Orleans through its healing process.

By Litty Mathew

Plans are powerful. That's the most important lesson Edward J. Blakely, New Orleans recovery chief, has learned since being appointed to the post in January 2007.

"Plans give people hope. After all that devastation, there's still hope," says Blakely.

The biggest question Blakely had to answer when he took the reins was when there would be strategy in place for New Orleans' recovery.

"Tomorrow," he responded during his first press conference.

Blakely — who helped coordinate planning efforts after the 1989 Bay Area earthquake, the 1991 Oakland wildfire and at the Milano Graduate School, New School University in New York where he was dean during the Sept. 11 terrorist attack — wasn't being flip. He was addressing the city's expectations.

It took three months to come up with a plan that met public approval.

"There were a number of different plans on how to do the recovery. All very good," explains Blakely, who is also chairman of urban and regional planning at the University of Sydney, Australia, and the namesake for UCR's Center for Sustainable Suburban Development. Success is about weaving them into a "common framework," he noted.

What Blakely likes most about his job is the results.

"You'll see buildings coming up. You interact with people. You know what's happening in every part of the city," says Blakely. "The physical manifestation has drawn me to this lifelong career."

Projects have started slowly.

"The city is being built as fast as nature and resources allow it to," Blakely said. "This is where these people want to spend the rest of their lives. It's a great city."

But Blakely's ultimate success will be to hand a well-oiled recovery process over to a successor.

"My job is to develop other people and assist them in meeting their destiny. I'm 70, so this is important to me organizationally and personally."

At least that's his plan.



# CELEBRATING 50 YEARS UCR BASEBALL

*“Baseball is the only sport that mirrors life. The opportunity to experience ups and downs and still succeed. I would not trade my baseball years at UCR for anything.”*

Paul Barrington, '67



Don Edwards, Lyle Wilkerson, Jack Smitheran

*My years at UCR were the best years of my life.”*

Steve Madril '00

On May 24, the Riverside community came together to celebrate the 50th anniversary of UC Riverside baseball with a pregame picnic and on-field festivities during the team's home series against Cal Poly. A post-game reunion for Highlander players was held at the Alumni and Visitors Center, hosted by former coaches Don Edwards, Lyle Wilkerson and Jack Smitheran, and current Head Coach Doug Smith.

The Highlanders won National Championships in 1977 and 1982, and went to the NCAA finals in 2007. While honoring the past successes of players and teams was an integral part of the festivities, it was the stories of camaraderie, obstacles overcome and lessons learned both on and off the field while wearing the blue and gold that carried the day.

“Every new generation of student athletes that comes through our program feels a direct connection to the UCR

baseball players and coaches of past generations, and that's evident in the memories that former athletes, coaches, staff members and supporters of the program posted on our 50th anniversary Web site in the months leading up to this celebration,” said Head Coach Smith. The site is located at [www.bb50.ucr.edu](http://www.bb50.ucr.edu).

To those students, staff and alumni who have not yet attended a game, Coach Smith added, “It's never too late. The 2009 season will be here before you know it, and we'd love to show you what being a part of Highlander baseball is all about.”

*“I am proud to say that I am, and will always be, a UCR baseball player.”*

Tony Richards, '81



