Regents’ Special Committee Nominates Janet Napolitano for Next UC President

Board of Regents will act on recommendation on Thursday, July 18

U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano has been nominated for appointment as the 20th president of the University of California. The announcement was made on July 12.

Regent Sherry Lansing, chair of a 10-member special search committee, said Napolitano rose to the top from a large field of candidates and was recommended on a unanimous vote.

The full Board of Regents will act on the recommendation Thursday, July 18, during a special meeting following the board’s regular bimonthly meeting in San Francisco.

“Secretary Napolitano is a distinguished and dedicated public servant who has earned trust at the highest, most critical levels of our country’s government,” Lansing said in a statement. “She has proven herself to be a dynamic, hard-working and transformative leader.

“As governor of Arizona, she was an effective advocate for public education, and a champion for the life-changing opportunities that education provides. ... Those who know her best say that a passion for education is in her DNA.”

She added: “As Secretary of Homeland Security, she has been an ardent advocate for the federal Dream Act and the architect of a policy that protects from deportation young undocumented immigrants who are pursuing a college education.”

Board Chair Bruce Varner, who served as vice chair of the search committee, noted in a separate statement: “Throughout her noteworthy career, Secretary Napolitano has built a track record for taking on and tackling the toughest of challenges. She has a reputation for seeing things through, no matter how difficult the effort.

“She has the intellectual curiosity, leadership qualities, personal charm and discipline needed to navigate any future challenges that await this university.

“I anticipate learning much from Secretary Napolitano, given her experience leading large, complex organi-

Robert Powell, chair of UC’s systemwide Academic Senate and a faculty representative on the Board of Regents, praised the choice: “In my discussions with her, Secretary Napolitano clearly articulated the view that
The University of California must do all it can to ensure not only that it remains the greatest public university in the world in the 21st century, but also that it moves to new heights.

“She has deep respect for the faculty, and she will listen to what we say. She knows that, as the core of what makes UC great, the faculty must have an environment in which they can thrive as scholars and teachers.”

If the regents approve the appointment, Napolitano would become the first woman in the university’s 145-year history to serve as president. She would succeed Mark G. Yudof, who announced in January that he would step down at the end of August after serving for more than five years.

As the twice-elected governor of Arizona, serving from 2003 to 2009, Napolitano was a consistent champion of public education, protecting funding of the state’s universities even as she addressed a $1 billion deficit upon assuming office. By 2006, she had turned the deficit into a $300 million surplus without raising taxes.

Chosen by President Barack Obama to serve as the third Secretary of Homeland Security, Napolitano leads a complex array of efforts to safeguard the nation – counterterrorism, border security, immigration enforcement, cybersecurity and disaster preparedness, response and recovery. Homeland Security is the third largest federal department, with a budget of $60 billion, 240,000 employees and 22 agencies and directorates, including the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Customs and Border Protection, Citizenship and Immigration Services, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, U.S. Coast Guard and Secret Service.

“I am both honored and excited by the prospect of serving as president of the University of California,” said Napolitano.

“I recognize that I am a nontraditional candidate,” she added. “In my experience, whether preparing to govern a state or to lead an agency as critical and complex as Homeland Security, I have found the best way to start is simply to listen.

“If appointed, I intend to reach out and listen to chancellors, to faculty, to students, to the state’s political leaders, to regents, to the heads of the other public higher education systems and, of course, to President Yudof and his team, who have done so much to steer the University of California through some extremely rough waters.”

As UC president, she would lead a system of 10 campuses, five medical centers, three affiliated national laboratories and a statewide agriculture and natural resources program. The UC system has more than 234,000 students, about 208,000 faculty and staff, more than 1.6 million living alumni and an annual operating budget of more than $24 billion.

Napolitano, 55, was born in New York City and grew up in Pittsburgh, Pa., and Albuquerque, N.M., before coming to California for her college education. She was graduated from Santa Clara University with a bachelor’s degree in political science. She was selected as the university’s first female valedictorian, and also won a Truman Scholarship, a prestigious fellowship for college students who possess leadership potential and an interest in government or public service.

After earning her law degree from the University of Virginia, she went to Arizona in 1983 to serve as a clerk for Judge Mary M. Schroeder of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and later practiced law in Phoenix at the firm of Lewis and Roca, where she became a partner in 1989. She was the first female Attorney General of Arizona, from 1998 to 2003, and served as U.S. Attorney for the District of Arizona from 1993 to 1997.

Napolitano was named one of the top five governors in the country by Time magazine. As the first woman to chair the National Governors Association, she launched the “Innovation America” initiative to align K-12
and higher education curricula to better prepare students for a global economy and strengthen the nation’s competitiveness by improving its capacity to innovate.

At the Department of Homeland Security, she has championed cutting-edge research and development, investing more than $2.2 billion in state-of-the-art solutions at national labs and universities across the country to protect people and critical infrastructure.

Under her leadership, Homeland Security also has strengthened its outreach efforts to academic institutions through the establishment of the Office of Academic Engagement, and she created the Homeland Security Academic Advisory Council, involving leadership from more than 20 universities and colleges around the country.

She has repeatedly testified about the need for comprehensive immigration reform and, earlier this year, she served as the Administration’s sole witness in the Senate Judiciary Committee’s hearing on the Senate’s comprehensive immigration reform bill. She also testified before the Senate in support of the Dream Act and defended the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals process in a hearing before the House Judiciary Committee.

The Special Committee to Consider the Selection of a President, assisted by the national executive search firm Issacson, Miller, was involved in recruiting, screening and interviewing candidates. More than 300 possible candidates were considered.

In addition to Varner and Lansing, the immediate past Board of Regents chair, the committee members were Regents Richard Blum, Russell S. Gould, George Kieffer, Bonnie Reiss, and Fred Ruiz. Jonathan Stein (the student regent) and Ronald Rubenstein (the alumni regent) also served on the committee. Gov. Jerry Brown was an ex officio member. An Academic Advisory Committee was appointed to assist the regents’ Special Committee. Student, staff and alumni advisory committees joined the Academic Advisory Committee in making recommendations on selection criteria.

California Governor Signs Budget that Brings UCR School of Medicine Long-sought State Funding

State Legislature directs UC system to allocate $15 million annually to medical school from its budget

By Iqbal Pittalwala

A budget compromise worked out and signed on June 27 by Gov. Jerry Brown means that UCR’s School of Medicine will receive full and continuous funding of $15 million per year — long-sought assistance that enables the school to flourish and greatly facilitates its ongoing accreditation.

The $15 million for the UCR medical school was included in the 2013-14 state budget and budget-trailer bills adopted by the California State Legislature on June 14 and 15. The budget provides for an in-

School of Medicine Dean G. Richard Olds chose the setting of the Riverside chamber’s monthly “Good Morning Riverside” event, attended by more than 250, to present honorary physicians’ white coats to Sen. Richard Roth (D-Riverside) and Rep. Jose Medina (D-Riverside), each of whom introduced legislation to provide $15 million annually in state funding for the school. PHOTO BY CARRIE ROSEMA
crease in the UC base budget of $125.1 million for the new fiscal year, along with approval for UC to restructure its bond debt, generating an estimated $80 million annually for the next decade. Funding for the UCR medical school will now be part of UC’s base budget annually going forward.

The agreement triggered celebration on campus and in the surrounding community.

“The creation and development of the medical school has been the vision of many at UCR and in our community for many years,” said UCR Interim Chancellor Jane Close Conoley. “Today we reached a milestone for the health of our region and the future of UCR.”

She said the leadership of Senator Richard D. Roth (D-Riverside) and Assemblymember Jose Medina (D-Riverside) was critical to funding the UCR School of Medicine. Both campaigned on getting on-going funding for the medical school, and after election both immediately introduced legislation to that effect.

Roth called the $15 million of ongoing state money in this year’s state budget a victory for the medical school, the health of the people of Inland Southern California, as well as the regional economy. “This victory will benefit all of us today and our families for generations to come,” he said.

Medina said the Legislature took a major step forward to meet the area’s need for doctors and healthcare providers. “The UCR Medical School will also advance the economic competitiveness of the region, bringing much needed jobs within the health related fields,” he said.

“Without their leadership, without their efforts elevating this as a budget priority, it would not have been successful,” said Patrick Lenz, the UC’s vice president for budget, and one of the chief architects of the agreement.

The School of Medicine will enroll an inaugural class of 50 students this August, and is the first medical school to be developed in California in more than 40 years.

Establishment of the UCR School of Medicine was approved by the UC Board of Regents in July 2008. G. Richard Olds, the school’s founding dean and the vice chancellor for health affairs, was appointed in February 2010, and the school received preliminary accreditation from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education in October 2012. Two UCR buildings are completed — the new School of Medicine Research Building and the renovated School of Medicine Education Building — and faculty and staff have been preparing for several years for the official opening on Friday, Aug. 9.

“We would not have reached this point without Assemblymember Medina and Senator Roth’s tireless efforts to champion our new medical school and secure in the Legislature’s budget full and continuous funding,” Olds said. “We can now start addressing one of the most severe shortages of primary care physicians in the nation.”

The mission of the school is to expand and diversify the physician workforce in Inland Southern California and to develop research and health care delivery programs that improve the health of medically underserved populations.

According to the California HealthCare Foundation, the Inland Empire has 40 primary care physicians per 100,000 people, far fewer than the 60 to 80 considered sufficient. The demand for new doctors and healthcare providers will increase as California implements the Affordable Care Act and an estimated several hundred thousand of Inland Southern California residents become eligible for healthcare coverage.

The foundation of the UCR School of Medicine is the UCR/UCLA Thomas Haider Program in Biomedical
Sciences, which for more than 30 years has partnered with the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA to train physicians. Students enrolled in the current program complete their first two years of medical school at UCR before transferring to the UCLA medical school to complete their final two years and receive their M.D. degrees.

UCR will now offer all four years of medical education as an independent medical school and, through the newly named Thomas Haider Program at the UCR School of Medicine, will reserve up to 24 of the available medical school slots to students who attend UCR for at least six consecutive quarters and complete their bachelor’s degree at UCR.

The medical school also operates a Ph.D. program in biomedical sciences, a long-standing graduate degree program at UCR. The school will also develop a range of residency training programs, the post-M.D. education required for doctors to become board-certified in their specialties.

Dean Olds chose the setting of the Riverside chamber’s monthly “Good Morning Riverside” event, held on July 13 and attended by more than 250, to present honorary physicians’ white coats to Sen. Roth and Rep. Medina.

He also thanked the membership of the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce for its continuing support of the school. “When things didn’t go well, it would have been easy for the community to give up. ... With each roadblock, the community and the chamber doubled down [in backing the School of Medicine],” Olds said.

Roth described the years-long effort to open and fund the medical school as a relay race involving several former UCR chancellors, medical school leaders and Chancellor Conoley. “Jane Conoley carried the baton across the finish line,” he said. In describing Olds’ role, he said the dean was “the right guy at the right time in the right community for the right medical school.”

Medina called it a proud moment for the community. “We have shown the state of California what a community can do when it comes together for a cause,” he said.

UCR’s Wooldridge Named Interim Athletics Director

*Men’s basketball coach takes on athletics director role*

By James Grant

UCR men’s basketball coach Jim Wooldridge has been named interim athletics director. The announcement was made on July 10 by Interim Chancellor Jane Close Conoley.

Wooldridge, who has been at UCR for the past six years, is a longtime coach and university administrator with significant experience in NCAA Division I athletics. He replaces Brian Wickstrom, who recently resigned to accept the AD position at the University of Louisiana at Monroe. Conoley pledged to begin a national search for a permanent
athletics director as soon as possible.

“"I'm pleased to name Coach Jim Wooldridge as our interim athletics director," said Conoley. "Through his service to his scholar-athletes and to the UCR community, Jim has stressed the best aspects of learning, competition and achievement. He will be a significant resource for the university and the department as we move forward."

Wooldridge has nearly 400 career coaching wins, and has served as head coach at Kansas State, Louisiana Tech, Texas State, and Central Missouri. He also served as an assistant with the NBA's Chicago Bulls.

Wooldridge will step down from his role as head coach of men’s basketball, with current assistant Dennis Cutts to be made interim head coach.

Wooldridge said he welcomes this new professional challenge.

“"I'm so excited about the future of UCR Intercollegiate Athletics, and by Interim Chancellor Conoley's confidence in me," said Wooldridge. "I've been a proud member of UCR Athletics for the past six years and am very happy to take on a more global role with the campus."

Both Conoley and Wooldridge reiterated their support for the construction of the C-Center, a planned multiuse arena to be located at UCR. The project is now under review, with proposals from developers being evaluated. Announcement of a winning bid could come as early as September.

Conoley stressed the importance of athletics to campus life and the goals of the UCR strategic plan. "Our strategic plan calls for an enhanced commitment to our student-athletes, student body and fans. We look forward to winning teams in state-of-the-art facilities. We hold the same ambitions for every part of UCR. We are all on the path to preeminence."

UCR Athletics has gained momentum recently with strengthened fundraising and community relations activities, new upgrades to facilities, and aggressive new marketing.

The UCR Highlanders compete in 17 sports at the NCAA Division I level, the highest level of collegiate competition in the country. UCR is a member of the Big West Conference.

UCR has made a splash on the national scene with NCAA post-season appearances in baseball, women’s basketball, women’s soccer, men’s golf, men’s and women’s cross country and men’s and women’s track and field. To learn the latest news about UCR Intercollegiate Athletics, check out the website at www.gohighlanders.com.

A Short Documentary Made at UCR ARTSblock Takes Prize at the PBS Student Media Festival

Italia Garcia's story is told in a short documentary about the struggles of undocumented college students

By Pat Murkland

As an undocumented immigrant striving for a college education, Italia Garcia is the subject of an award-winning short documentary screened last month at a Hollywood celebration at the former Grauman’s Chinese Theatre, the site of many historic premieres.
PBS SoCal plans a show on the winning videos on Thursday, Sept. 5 at 7 p.m.

The short documentary film, “Italia Garcia — Dream Activist,” produced by teenagers last summer in a UCR ARTSblock video workshop, recently won a prize in the PBS 47th Annual California Student Media Festival’s Secondary After School/Extra-Curricular category.

The film was the result of a free summer “Off the Block” workshop that teaches teenagers ages 15-19 how to produce a short video documentary, including interviewing, filming, and editing. This summer’s 24 teen producers, chosen from among a large field of applicants, began their work Tuesday, July 9, instructor Scott Hernandez said.

UCR ARTSblock, a downtown complex that provides a cultural meeting ground for town and campus, is seeking grant money to help continue the annual workshops. Documentary topics are those vital to teens and the Inland area, Hernandez said; for example, last year’s videos included a short on small businesses trying to stay afloat.


Born in Mexico City, she came to the United States at age 10. When enrolled at Riverside Community College, she ran successfully for student body president, feeling it would motivate others. She said the California Dream Act, which since has become law, would allow her to apply for financial aid instead of working two or three jobs while attending college full time at UCR; the proposed federal act would allow her to work for her citizenship.

“Italia Garcia — Dream Activist” was the project of students Je’Don (Roc) Carter, Jordan Tick, Marianna Crespin, Cassandra Garcia. Instructors were Hernandez and Jason Chou. Mentors were: Jasper Bernbaum, Grace Cohen, Mikenzie Denholtz, Philipp Girke, Michael Papavero, Sarinah Simons, and Isabel Flores.

Marriage Proposal Adds Excitement to SoBA Ceremony

*Student speaker Steven Jew proposes to girlfriend Chelsea Stack*

By Ross French

MBA student Steven Jew was the student speaker at the School of Business Administration Commencement Ceremony on Friday, June 14, at UCR.

While you probably couldn’t tell from his speech, Jew seemed a bit nervous — which was understandable as he had big plans after the commencement ceremony.

Jew, who received his MBA in management, had planned to ask his girlfriend Chelsea Stack to marry him that night. Shortly after the ceremony, Jew gathered friends and family at the Highlander
Union Building for an intricately choreographed proposal. With camera’s flashing and phones recording, he pitched the question. She said yes.

To watch a video of the event, go to ucertoday.ucr.edu/15947.

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Got Brown Widow Spiders?

UCR entomologists seek the public’s help for a summer research project

By Iqbal Pittalwala

Entomologists at UCR are requesting the public to send in live brown widow spiders for a summer research project aimed at controlling the spread of the spiders.

“If you have live brown widow spiders around the outside of your house or apartment, in your garage or backyard shed, we are interested in receiving them by the end of July,” said Dong-Hwan Choe, an assistant professor of entomology, who is leading the research project. “Only spiders are needed, no egg sacs.”

Because brown widow spiders are hard to distinguish from juveniles of their close relative, the black widow spider, the public is advised to visit cisr.ucr.edu/identifying_brown_widow_spiders.html for help in identifying the spiders found before they are brought to UCR.

How to bring or ship the critters to campus:

Place the brown widow spider in an unbreakable container (such as a prescription pill container) with some wadded up paper towel for the spider to grab on to while it is being sent to UCR. Ideally, the paper towel should take up about half of the inside of the container. Only one spider per container; otherwise the spiders will eat each other. No air holes, water, or prey items need to be provided for the spider.

Bring the container to Room 378, Entomology Building. A labeled box will be available outside this room for leaving the containers. Or mail the container to Rick Vetter, Brown widow spider project, Department of Entomology, 900 University Avenue, Riverside, California 92521.

For further information, please call Kathleen Campbell at (951) 827-5729.

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UCR Staff Assembly Recognizes Outstanding Staff with Annual Awards

Interim Chancellor Jane Close Conoley receives special award for her positive impact on staff

By Frances Fernandes

Interim Chancellor Jane Close Conoley was in for a surprise on June 4, when she hosted the UCR Staff Assembly annual Outstanding Staff Awards at the chancellor’s residence.

In addition to the nine award winners and 24 nominees recognized, Conoley and Yunzeng Wang, interim dean of the School of Business Administration and a distinguished scholar in supply chain management, were presented with awards in thanks for their extraordinary impact on staff.

“(Chancellor Conoley) may be serving on an interim basis, but her impact will be enduring,” said Tim Willette, 2012-13 president of Staff Assembly. “(She is) a servant leader who enables and empowers all on this
“Her support and the counsel she has solicited are genuine manifestations of a leader who cares,” Willette added.

The staff members honored were nominated by colleagues and supervisors for the Staff Who Make A Difference, Tartan Soul, Commitment to Diversity and Volunteer of the Year awards.

“They create innovation on the job and serve as an example to us all with their above-and-beyond acts of kindness,” said Willette. “They are examples to all of us of the difference that a community-minded citizen can make in this community and beyond.”

The Staff Who Make A Difference awards are presented in four categories: administrative support, professional, service and technical.

- Sarah Allison, a library assistant in Special Collections & Archives, was chosen in the area of administrative support;
- Faye Dawson Brock, the director of student affairs for Biomedical Sciences, was chosen in the professional category;
- Raymond Bolles, the senior supervisor for Grounds, was chosen for the service award;
- Bart Kats, the desktop computer support technician for the Computer Support Group, was selected in the technical category.

The Tartan Soul Award went to Hector Linares, business operations manager for Campus Apartments in Housing Services Administration. The award recognizes staff who are committed to the four pillars of “Tartan Soul” — integrity, respect, accountability and excellence.

Karen Springer, an administrative analyst for Office of the Vice Chancellor of Business and Administrative Services, received the Commitment to Diversity Award, which was presented in conjunction with the Office of Diversity and Affirmative Action. Nominees were judged on several criteria including valuing diversity, promoting cultural competency and adapting to diversity.

The recipient of the People Helping People award was Patricia Steen, a compliance analyst in the Office of the Vice Chancellor of Research and Economic Development. The award recognizes staff who exemplify service to the surrounding community.

The recipient of Volunteer of the Year, which recognizes outstanding Staff Assembly volunteers, was Samantha Jobelius, an academic program and development analyst for the Graduate School of Education.
**Read the latest issue and find 10 paths to happiness — the UCR way**

By Lilledeshan Bose

How do you find happiness? What gives people joy? These are questions that mankind has asked since the beginning of time. At UCR, researchers such as Sonja Lyubomirsky are finding out that happiness can be controlled, whether you believe in destiny, divine intervention or just pure luck. After all, happiness isn’t just an emotion; with it, people often enjoy good health, good social relationships, and good salaries.

In the latest issue of UCR Magazine, we present 10 ways UCR research can help you attain bliss. As a treat, we’ve also created the Game of Happiness to play online! Go to magazine.ucr.edu to read the magazine and play the online game.

You’ll enjoy an excerpt of novelist and Professor of Creative Writing Susan Straight’s eighth novel, “Between Heaven and Here.” In this online-only feature, Straight names six fictional places in the novel that’s based on real locations around Riverside. Read it on ucrtoday.ucr.edu/15024.

A feature on our alumnus Wayne Scott talks about how he — a political science and religious studies major — became the owner of a theater in Redlands. Watch the interview on alumniblog.ucr.edu/wayne-scott.

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**GETTING PERSONAL: Joanna Szupinska-Myer**

*Curator of Exhibitions for the California Museum of Photography*

By Bethanie Le

With eyes like a shutter and a mind like a lens, Joanna Szupinska-Myers, curator of exhibitions, is a living camera who thinks in photographs.

“Photography is related to everything. It’s great in that you can use your camera to see something that our human eyes can’t see. To me, that is all really exciting,” she says.

Working at the UCR ARTSblock’s California Museum of Photography, Szupinska-Myers is in charge of organizing all the changing exhibitions. She focuses on what she calls the “three Cs” — the collections, contemporary art, and the collaborations between artists and UCR faculty.

“I keep it as three Cs: Making the collection accessible to scholars to do their research; collaborating with faculty and bringing in all the expertise to the museum; and third is to really look at photography in a contemporary art way and looking at what is happening in the world today,” she explains.

And she’s busy putting her three Cs into action for her upcoming projects.
“I just started a new series called ‘Flash.’ It’s like a camera flash but also like a quick flash of pictures. It’s just a small gallery on the third floor where we are going to have contemporary art. I think what contemporary artists are doing right now is really important and interesting,” she says.

“We’re [also] doing another professor-student curated show. Susan Laxton from the Art History Department is working with her graduate students to curate a show from our collection, using this portfolio of photographs from the ‘70s called ‘Women are Beautiful.’ They are reconsidering those photographs and relooking at them in a critical, feminist way, now that it is 40 years later.”

Although Szupinska-Myers only started working at UCR in January, she says the California Museum of Photography is already a perfect fit.

“I have always had an interest in photography and in contemporary art, and this museum is the perfect marriage of those two interests. And I love being at a university. A university art gallery is a very particular kind of institution within the museum world because you really get to draw on the expertise of all these departments. I feel like I’m back in school. I can learn from all these great, brilliant minds,” says Szupinska-Myers.

For Szupinska-Myers, being a curator of exhibitions isn’t just a job; it’s a lifestyle. “This is my dream job because this is what I do in my free time. It’s really about talking about ideas and seeing cool things. Why would I want to take a break from that?”

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**DID YOU KNOW?**

**Scavenger Hunt Rewards the Health-Conscious**

Search for healthy opportunities throughout UCR by participating in the “Search for Health Scavenger Hunt,” organized by UCR’s Wellness Program. Improve health and reduce sedentary time at work by walking to healthy UCR destinations to earn rewards.

Throughout the eight-week challenge, participants will walk to 10 healthy destinations around campus, such as the new community garden, the Barn and the 14 hydration stations. Take a picture of the destination and send it to the Wellness department. Logging visited destinations will earn participants rewards for completing the health search.

To register, visit [www.ucrlearning.ucr.edu](http://www.ucrlearning.ucr.edu).

For more information, contact Julie Chobdee, wellness program coordinator at julie.chobdee@ucr.edu or (951) 827-1488.

**UCR Pool Open For Summer**

Memberships for the UCR Swim Program are available. The pool is open from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday to Friday, and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday. Annual membership costs $190 for UCR faculty and staff, and is valid through June 13, 2014. It includes pool usage, locker and weekday towel service. The summer membership costs $60, and is valid through September 21, with pool usage, locker and weekday towel service. A 30-day pass, valid for 30 consecutive open dates and is for pool usage only (no locker and towel service) is $30. Single day passes are also available for $3, for pool usage only.

To purchase your membership, visit the Athletics & Dance Building equipment check out counter located
in the men’s and women’s locker rooms. Membership purchase hours are from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday-
Friday.

You may also contact Tom Rector in the UCR Athletics Equipment Room at (951) 827-5737.

The Top: Five Must-Follow UCR Twitter Accounts

Welcome to Inside UCR’s newest feature, The Top!

Each issue, we’re presenting a list of UCR staff and faculty favorites — from restaurants to Zen gardens to
events. This week, we’re highlighting our favorite UCR-related Twitter accounts. (A big shout out to the late,
great, @UCR_Belltower Twitter account, which tweeted a huge, “BONG BONG BONG BONG BONG BONG
BONG,” hour by hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.)

In our next issue, we’re featuring the best daytrips to take from Riverside this summer. If you’d like to share
yours, email lille.bose@ucr.edu.

1. @UCRiverside

The campus’s official Twitter account gives you UCR news, headlines and more from a source you know you
can trust. (And if you post awesome pictures of campus, you’ll be sure to get a retweet!)

2. @ScottyHighlandr

Yes, the official mascot of UCR has a Twitter account. Show your school spirit by having regular conversa-
tions with this lovable bear. Go Highlanders!

3. @kucr883fm

It tells you which program is on at the moment, and whether the DJ is taking requests. The best part of
radio station KUCR’s Twitter feed? All the ticket giveaways!

4. @ucrhub

The HUB’s official Twitter account reflects what the actual, offline HUB is — a gathering place for students,
staff and faculty. The lively feed tweets out information on the HUB’s eating venues, little known UCR facts and
pictures around campus.

5. @UCRAdmissions

Even if you’re not an incoming student, the admissions office’s official Twitter account is a great way to find
out what’s going on around campus. Bonus: Each tweet also gives you a new infusion of Highlander pride.

Vets and Military Family Members Group Represent UCR at Angels Stadium Flag
Ceremony on July 4

By Karen Springer
Members of the UCR faculty and staff Veterans, Military Members and Families Group (VMMFG) proudly represented their university and celebrated their country on July 4, when they participated in the Independence Day Flag Ceremony at Angel Stadium. Held right before the Los Angeles Angels played against the St. Louis Cardinals, group members gathered with almost 200 volunteers to assemble a giant flag that weighed approximately 1,400 pounds and measured 150 feet-by-300 feet.

After the honorary first pitch thrown by Naval Special Warfare Operator Ronnie Harrison and the presentation of the colors by the MCTSSA Honor Guard of Camp Pendleton, flag carriers unfurled the huge American flag to the singing of the “Star-Spangled Banner” and the cheers of the crowd. Within moments, the Condor Squadron performed a flyover of the stadium.

Many VMMFG members described the experience as emotionally moving. As one VMMFG member said, “Standing on the field with the ball players, caps held over their hearts, myself and those around me holding on dearly to a piece of the grand American flag and looking up into the applauding stadium crowd was an honor that I will forever remember.”

VMMFG actively works to create and maintain a supportive and welcoming environment for UCR employees who are current and former military members and military family members. The group also serves as an educational and diversity resource to the campus community.

VMMFG meets quarterly over lunch and participates in special events. The next meeting is set for August 9 from noon to 1:15 p.m. in Hinderaker Hall B-154. If you would like more information about the group, please visit VMMFG at diversity.ucr.edu or contact Karen Springer at karen.springer@ucr.edu.

VMMFG is a partner of the Chancellor’s Diversity Education Program: Making Excellence Inclusive and is sponsored by Human Resources and the Office of Faculty and Staff Affirmative Action.

Who Says?

UCR staff and faculty weigh in on the issues of the day via media outlets at home and abroad

“You have to be a tough nut to be a dissident, but those same qualities don’t always serve them well outside China.”

Perry Link, distinguished professor of comparative literature and foreign languages, on Chen Guangcheng, a blind legal advocate who challenged the Chinese government and escaped from China, and the difficulties he faces in adapting to American politics

THE NEW YORK TIMES

“(International students are taking) a shopping tour for their university studies. We want to give them the full experience. We feel that if (they) have a really solid experience here, they’re more likely to come back.”

Bronwyn Jenkins-Deas, director of International Education Programs, on outreach efforts to international students

USA TODAY

“I’m pleased to name Coach Jim Wooldridge as our Interim Athletics Director. Through his service to his
scholar-athletes and to the UCR community, Jim has stressed the best aspects of learning, competition, and achievement. He will be a significant resource for the university and the department as we move forward.”

_Jane Close Conoley, interim chancellor, on the appointment of Jim Wooldridge as interim athletics director_

**NBC SPORTS NETWORK**

“(Video games) increase aggressive cognition. They increase aggressive feelings, behaviors, and they decrease prosocial behaviors — like sharing or empathy.”

_Derek Burill, associate professor of media and cultural studies, on research that links violent video games and aggressive behavior_

**ABC NEWS**

“Drugs used as sleep aids such as zolpidem and benzodiazepines are understudied. There are many side effects that may be subtle and unexpected. ... I was surprised by the specificity of the results, that the emotional memory improvement was specifically for the negative and high-arousal memories, and the ramifications of these results for people with anxiety disorders and PTSD.”

_Sara Mednick, assistant professor of psychology, on the side effects of sleep aids_

**CONSULTANT LIVE**

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**Research and Scholarship**

_Undergraduate Microbiology Major Celebrates First Graduate_

The undergraduate microbiology major, which was launched in fall 2011, has its first graduate: Cristian Carrera, who received his bachelor of arts degree last June. Carrera, who grew up in Chino, is interested in pursuing a career in microbiology.

“I want to learn more about bacteria, viruses and other microscopic organisms,” he said. “I am also interested in immunology.”

The first person in his family to graduate from college, Carrera wasn’t expecting to make UCR history.

“I am proud to be the first graduate in the microbiology major,” he said. “I didn’t know I had this honor until only very recently.”

Carrera plans to become a professor in microbiology. He is interested, too, in teaching at a high school for a few years.

“I used to run cross-country and play soccer,” he said. “Teaching at a high school will give me a chance to coach.”

The steering committee for the microbiology major — James Borneman, Katherine Borkovich and Mary-
lynn Yates — presented Carrera with a plaque to commemorate the milestone the microbiology major has reached.

“I had the pleasure of having Cristian as one of my students in my new research-based course ‘Experimental Microbiology’ during the Spring 2013 quarter,” Borkovich said. “Cristian was an excellent student and will be a great representative for both UCR and the new microbiology major out in the larger community. I wish him well as he embarks on the next stage of his career.”

Currently, 42 students are microbiology majors.

Students to Study Smog-Eating Tile

A group of former engineering students received a $15,000 grant from the EPA to study roofing tiles in an effort to improve air quality.

Recent graduates of the Bourns College of Engineering received a $15,000 grant from the Environmental Protection Agency to develop a testing protocol for smog eating roof tiles.

The former students are William Lichtenberg, Duc Nguyen, Carlos Espinoza, Calvin Cao and Vincent Chen. They all graduated in June.

They were advised by David Cocker, a professor of chemical and environmental engineering, and Kawai Tam, a lecturer at the Bourns College of Engineering.

The research, which will be carried on by a new group of students, will focus on promoting air pollution control alternatives and strategies by using ceramic roof tiles coated with titanium dioxide.

The grant comes from the EPA’s P3 (People, Prosperity and the Planet) completion.

Books by UCR Researchers Tackle Global Environmental Issues

In 2000, Ariel Dinar, now the director of the Water Science and Policy Center at UCR was invited to teach a class at Johns Hopkins University on the management of international water. When he found, to his surprise, that no textbook on the subject was available, it inspired him to compile, with several co-authors, a textbook, “Bridges over Water” (World Scientific Publishing Company, 2007).

Now, given the increased interest in management of international water, a second edition of the book — “Bridges over Water” (World Scientific Publishing Company, 2013) — has been prepared.

“Bridges over Water” places the study of transboundary water conflicts, negotiation, and cooperation in the context of various disciplines, such as international relations, international law, international negotiations, and economics. It demonstrates their application, using various quantitative approaches. The book also considers case-studies of particular transboundary river basins, lakes, and aquifers.

Dinar’s co-authors on the book are Shlomi Dinar at Florida International University; Stephen McCaffrey at the University of the Pacific, Calif.; and Daene McKinney at the University of Texas at Austin.

Dinar and Amnon Rapoport, a distinguished professor of management in UCR’s A. Gary Anderson Graduate School of Management, are co-editors of a recently published book — “Analyzing Global Environmental Issues” (Routledge, 2013) — that resulted from a 2011 conference on game theory practice in Riverside. The book, which deliberately keeps mathematical equations to a minimum, attempts to illustrate the usefulness of game theory and experimental economics in policy-making at multiple levels and for various aspects related to global issues.
Awards and Honors

**Teresa Cofield Appointed Director of Two Student Pipeline Programs**

Teresa Cofield, academic coordinator in the School of Medicine, has been appointed director of the Medical Scholars Program (MSP) and director of the Pre-Medical Post-baccalaureate Program (PPP).

Cofield has been serving as the associate director of MSP since 2006, and associate director of PPP since it began in 2008. In making the announcement, Senior Associate Dean of Student Affairs Neal Schiller noted that Cofield has been providing principal leadership for the two programs over the last few years.

MSP is a comprehensive learning community designed to provide academic, personal and professional development support for disadvantaged students in the sciences with the goal of increasing their graduation rates and promoting their entrance into medical school or other health profession postgraduate programs.

PPP recruits 10 to 12 socioeconomically disadvantaged students per year who have strong interpersonal skills and a passion to help the underserved, and are seeking to enhance their science coursework and performance on the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT). This 12-month program includes intensive MCAT training and three academic quarters primarily of upper division science coursework, coupled with mentoring, academic support, professional development, and leadership training experience.

For almost 20 years, Cofield has worked at UCR with student success programs. Prior to working for the School of Medicine, she worked in the UCR Academic Resource Center for 12 years and was the founding coordinator of the California Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation, a National Science Foundation-funded program supporting underrepresented students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. She is a doctoral candidate in the Educational Leadership program at UCLA. An alumna of UCR, she earned her bachelor’s degree in applied mathematics with an emphasis in economics.

**Charloff, Smith Honored with Non-Senate Faculty Teaching Awards**

Senior music lecturer Ruth Charloff and senior statistics lecturer Jill Smith were named recipients of Non-Senate Faculty Teaching Awards. They were recognized at the June 26 meeting of the Citizens University Committee (CUC).

The award recognizes the efforts of non-Senate faculty members, which includes nontenured lecturers, adjunct professors and visiting professors. The selection criteria include the individual’s impact of teaching on campus, contributions to the department, overall contributions to the campus and outreach efforts to the community. It is presented as partnership between the CUC and the Office of Undergraduate Education at UCR.

**Recent Alumnus Receives International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry Award**

Qiao Zhang, a recent UCR alumnus and a former graduate student of Yadong Yin, an associate professor of chemistry, was selected by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) to receive one of the five 2013 IUPAC Prizes for Young Chemists.

The prizes are given for the most outstanding Ph.D. theses in the general area of the chemical sciences. In addition to a cash prize of $1,000, Qiao will be provided travel expenses to the 44th IUPAC World Chemistry Congress, August 8 to 15, in Istanbul, Turkey, where he will be invited to present a poster to describe his award-winning work.
While in Yin’s group, Qiao’s research was mainly focused on the design and fabrication of nanomaterials and their applications in catalysis. Currently, he is a postdoctoral researcher at UC Berkeley.

*Chemistry Graduate Student a Finalist for 2013 Reaxys Ph.D. Prize*

Santanu Sarkar, a graduate student in chemistry working in the lab of Robert Haddon, a distinguished professor of chemistry and chemical and environmental engineering, has been named as one of the 45 finalists for the highly prestigious international Reaxys Ph.D. Prize for 2013.

Sarkar has been invited to attend and present his work at the Reaxys Ph.D. Prize Symposium and Poster Session which will be held in September 2013 at the inaugural Reaxys Inspiring Chemistry Conference, Grindelwald, Switzerland.

The Reaxys Ph.D. Prize is an international chemistry prize for the new generation of bright young researchers to promote innovative research. The prize is open to Ph.D. candidates in chemistry worldwide. It attracted more than 580 applicants in 2013.

*Alumnus Accepted to the Japan Exchange and Teaching Program*

Antonio Plancarte, a recent UCR alumnus, was accepted to the Japan Exchange and Teaching Program. Plancarte had set acceptance into the highly competitive program as a goal early in his undergraduate career; he also participated in the UC Washington Academic Internship Program, the UC Center Sacramento program and the Education Abroad program at the University of Sussex in the United Kingdom.