UCOP Releases
UC Systemwide Climate Survey Results

Results provide a snapshot of individual campuses and UC system

By Ross French

The Office of the President has released the results of the first UC Systemwide Campus Climate Survey, which includes reports on the UC system as a whole, the 10 individual campuses and three external facilities. The reports were released on Wednesday, March 19, following a presentation to the UC Regents.

More than three years in the making, the report details the results of what is believed to be the largest, most comprehensive campus climate survey ever undertaken.

“This survey was unique because of its massive scale,” explained Yolanda Moses, associate vice chancellor for diversity, excellence and equity, professor of anthropology and chair of the Campus Climate and Community Committee, which oversaw the distribution of the survey at UCR. “It gives us a snapshot of what we are doing right and what we can improve on, both at a campus level and systemwide.”

The complete report of the survey’s findings, including breakdowns by campus, as well as a summary report and a list of frequently asked questions, are available for download from the UC Office of the President website (www.ucop.edu/student-affairs/programs-and-initiatives/diversity-and-campus-climate.html). UCR’s 313-page report can also be downloaded at diversity.ucr.edu/climatesurvey.

Overall, the news is good, as 79 percent of respondents said they were satisfied with the overall climate at UC, while 75 percent said they were comfortable with the climate for diversity in their work unit, academic area or clinical setting. Rankin & Associates Consulting, which conducted the survey, said in their report that “the findings for the University of California are consistent with those found in higher education institutions across the country.”

At UCR, 4,443 surveys were returned for an 18 percent response rate. Of that total, 73 percent of respondents
said they were comfortable or very comfortable at UCR, while 9 percent responded they were uncomfortable or very uncomfortable. When specifically addressing their workplace, 75 percent said they were comfortable or very comfortable, compared to 10 percent at the other end of the scale. When students were asked about the climate in their classes, 77 percent of graduate students and 75 percent of undergraduates answered they were comfortable or very comfortable.

Moses said that while the overall report was positive, there were still areas that the university needs to address.

“UC Riverside is a leader in diversity, but there is still work to be done – both here and at a system wide level – including issues regarding harassment and sexual violence and focusing on the needs of a variety of groups,” she said.

Among the opportunities for improvement listed in the report are reducing incidents of exclusionary conduct and improving overall campus, workplace and classroom climates for several groups, including people of color, gender-queer individuals and people with disabilities.

“UC Riverside has long been acknowledged as a nationwide leader in campus diversity. But that doesn’t mean we can sit and rest on these accolades,” Chancellor Kim A. Wilcox said. “For that reason, we welcome the results of the UC Systemwide Campus Climate Survey and look forward to identifying issues and implementing changes that will allow us to continue to be recognized for our commitment to excellence and inclusion.”

With the data now in hand, Moses will chair a committee that will analyze the results of the survey as well as input from the campus community to develop an action and implementation plan.

UCR has already implemented several diversity initiatives, including a plan to attract and hire diverse faculty members, with an emphasis on faculty in the STEM fields, and providing mentoring and leadership opportunities to attract and retain diverse faculty and staff.

The survey was commissioned in 2012 by then-UC President Mark G. Yudof in response to a series of incidents at several campuses brought attention to the need for the university to address campus climate challenges. The university contracted with Rankin & Associates Consulting to create the survey, which asked questions of students, staff and faculty at each of the 10 UC campuses as well as the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, the Division of Agricultural and Natural Resources, and the UC Office of the President.

The survey opened in the fall of 2012 and closed in early 2013. Data was compiled and analyzed in the summer and fall of 2013, and final reports delivered in March 2014. The overall response rate was 27 percent (104,208 surveys) with the rate varying between venues and constituent groups.

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**UC Riverside Engineering Benefactor Dies**

*Marlan Bourns, for whom the Bourns College of Engineering and Bourns Hall are named, died March 17*

By Sean Nealon

Marlan Bourns, for whom the University of California, Riverside Bourns College of Engineering and Bourns Hall are named, died Tuesday, March 18. He was 93 years old. The college and hall are also named after his late wife, Rosemary, who died in 2012.

“Marlan Bourns’ innovative and generous spirit will live on in the legacy he leaves at UC Riverside,” Chancellor Kim Wilcox said. “We will remember him with gratitude and strive to honor him through the accomplishments of the faculty and students at the college that bears his name.”
Reza Abbaschian, dean of the Bourns College of Engineering, expressed similar sentiments for Bourns, who co-founded Riverside-based Bourns Inc., a leading manufacturer and supplier of electronic components.

“We extend our deepest sympathies to the Bourns family for their tremendous loss,” Abbaschian said. “Marlan was an inspiration to all of us for his inventive and creative spirit, his drive to succeed and his gentle nature. He and his lovely wife Rosemary created more than a story of entrepreneurial success, but one of lasting friendships and a commitment to family – their family at home and at their business.”

The Bourns family encourages those who wish to honor Marlan’s life to do so by contributing to the Marlan Bourns Memorial Fund at UCR.

The Bourns family created the Bourns Foundation to support educational causes in the region. In 1994, a $6 million gift from the foundation led to the naming of the Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering in their honor, along with Bourns Hall, which is part of the engineering college.

The Bourns family has also been a longtime sponsor of the annual Bourns Engineering Day at UCR, which brings hundreds of students to campus for hands-on engineering activities. The family’s foundation also created the Bourns Foundation Engineering Scholarship Endowment Fund to provide financial assistance to students in the Bourns College of Engineering.

In addition, Marlan and Rosemary Bourns were recognized as UCR Laureates in 2000. Marlan was elected a fellow of the Bourns College of Engineering in 2012.

Bourns Inc. is now led by Marlan and Rosemary’s son, Gordon Bourns, who is CEO and chairman of the company and also serves as chairman of the Bourns College of Engineering Council of Advisors.

Marlan Bourns was born in 1920 and grew up on his family’s farm near Milford, Mich. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a B.S. degree in physics from the University of Michigan. He then worked at Cal Tech during World War II. At its conclusion, he married his sweetheart from Milford, Rosemary Miller. They had been married for 65 years when she passed away in September 2012.

After driving from Milford to Pasadena for their honeymoon, they co-founded the Bourns Laboratories in their single-car garage. Marlan developed innovative sensors for the aircraft industry, which he produced using a simple drill press and lathe, that measured the position of flight control surfaces, altitude and acceleration.

Marlan and Rosemary built the company, which moved to Riverside in 1950, around a simple philosophy: Provide top-quality products, responsive service and high value for customers. These ideals are still the benchmarks of Bourns Inc., which grew from a few engineers to more than 4,000 employees.

Bourns Inc., serves global customers in the industrial, consumer, telecommunications and automotive markets. Bourns products, including the then-revolutionary Trimpot® trimming potentiometer which Marlan invented, have been used in everything from the Apollo space program’s lunar landing controls and astronaut space suit pressure regulators to the electronic stability controls for today’s automobiles.
UC Riverside Campus Store to be Operated by Barnes & Noble College

*Contract with retailer will save the university money over the long term*

By Kris Lovekin

Barnes & Noble College has been named the operator of UCR’s campus store, university officials announced. The change takes effect on July 7.

The Campus Store, which was previously operated by the campus, will continue to reflect UCR’s brand, including school spirit wear, laptops, gifts and other merchandise. UCR was able to reassign the Campus Store staff and avoid any layoffs as part of the transition.

“We looked at several options and Barnes and Noble College best met our need for services to support our campus community,” said Jim Sandoval, vice chancellor for student affairs. He expressed his thanks to employees of the UCR Campus Store during the run-up to the decision for their patience and flexibility.

“We are very excited about this partnership opportunity with UCR,” said Max J. Roberts, CEO Barnes & Noble College. “We are looking forward to working with the university community to offer a dynamic campus store, focused on delivering a retail and digital learning experience that complements UCR’s students, faculty, staff, and alumni.”

Barnes & Noble College owns the largest digital library in the industry with over 3 million titles and operates a variety of college bookstores. Textbooks will come in a variety of formats — new, used, rental, and digital — and they will be available in store and online.

UCR faculty will have access to a streamlined textbook adoption platform online, at [www.facultyenlight.com](http://www.facultyenlight.com) that combines reviews with detailed information about pricing and formats.

Barnes & Noble College will establish a Facebook presence to reflect local events and promotions. In addition, the team will reach out to faculty and students to explain changes and new resources.

Last fall, UCR issued a request for proposals to transition the operations and management of the UCR Campus Store from university to private management by July 1.

Officials say the move is spurred by changing market conditions for textbooks and books in general, as well as growing Internet sales of branded merchandise and computers.

What’s for Dinner?

*Free public talk at UCR on April 2 to focus on molecular signatures of plants, animals and water in early human habitats*

By Iqbal Pittalwala

A geoscientist renowned for her research in organic geochemistry, isotopic biogeochemistry, paleoclimate, and astrobiology will give a science lecture on April 2 that will highlight the detective work needed to understand biomarker and isotope signals of plants and water in the past, and what they tell us about environmental resources such as water, food, and shelter available to our forebears.
The free, public talk by Katherine Haines Freeman, a professor of geosciences at Pennsylvania State University, is titled “What’s for dinner? Molecular signatures of plants, animals and water in early human habitats.” The hour-long lecture will begin at 5:30 p.m. in Conference Rooms D and E, UCR Extension Center (UNEX), 1200 University Ave., Riverside. The lecture is hosted by the university’s College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences and the new Environmental Dynamics and GeoEcology (EDGE) Institute.

About two million years ago, numerous human ancestors lived in the catchment of an ancient lake at Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania. Today, molecular signatures or biomarkers of ancient plants are well-preserved in the paleolake sediments and soils. Freeman’s studies of these molecules, and the stable isotope signatures they carry, reveal a diversity of the habitat both spatially and over time for the Olduvai landscape.

Her research employs the stable carbon and hydrogen isotope abundance in individual biomarkers, or fossil molecules from ancient organisms. She has used lipids from ancient algae to estimate past atmospheric carbon dioxide levels to understand climate forcing over Earth’s history. She has used molecules from modern and ancient microbes to study carbon cycling in oceans and marine sediments. She pioneered the use of biomarker deuterium signatures to reconstruct the elevation of ancient mountains. Most recently, Freeman has studied plant biomarkers to understand how changing patterns in ecosystems and water resources were linked to global climate change, to plant evolution, and to the rise of human ancestors.

Among her many awards, Freeman is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and a fellow of the American Geophysical Union, Geochemical Society, European Association of Geochemistry, American Academy of Microbiology, Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, Geological Society of America, and Canadian Institute for Advanced Research. She has received the Science Innovation Award from the European Association of Geochemistry, the James Lee Wilson Medal in Sedimentology from the Society for Sedimentary Geology, and the Pieter Schenck Award from the European Association of Organic Geochemists.

Freeman is the recipient of three teaching and mentoring awards from Penn State, was director of graduate programs in geosciences, and has supervised more than 30 postdocs and graduate students. She is a co-editor of Annual Reviews of Earth and Planetary Sciences.

For more questions about the talk, please call (951) 827-3182 or email jennifer.reising@ucr.edu.

**Upcoming talks**

On April 9, Sue Brantley of Pennsylvania State University will give a talk titled “How Fracking Impacts Our Water: The Pennsylvania Experience.” On April 23, Scott Wing of the Smithsonian Institution will give a talk titled “Global Warming 36 Million Years Ago: What It Means for Us.” Finally, on May 7, Scott Doney of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution will give a talk titled “Climate Change and the Ocean.”

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**Spring Plant Sale Returns April 5 and 6**

*More than 600 varieties of plants, including many hard-to-find ones, will be for sale at the UC Riverside Botanic Gardens*

By Sean Nealon

The 41st annual Friends of UC Riverside Botanic Gardens Spring Plant Sale will take place Saturday, April 5, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, April 6, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Nearly 10,000 plants and more than 600 varieties, including many rare and unusual ones, will be available.
There will be colorful, heat-loving trees and shrubs, flowering perennials, miniature roses, many rare cacti and other succulents, herbs, patio and houseplants, vegetables, wildflower seeds and more. A special selection of showy, water-efficient, heat-loving and California native plants selected for spring planting will also be available.

Each variety will have a detailed information sign that will provide a color photo along with information about the plant’s watering needs, flowering color, height and how well it tolerates varying levels of sun and shade.

A partial plant list with descriptions is available at gardens.ucr.edu/events/springsale.html.

University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) Riverside County master gardeners, garden staff and volunteers will be available to answer questions.

Master gardeners will also be selling more than 25 types of organically grown, heirloom tomatoes, hot, mild, and sweet peppers, squash, cucumbers, and other vegetables, herbs and beneficial flowers. Single pots will sell for $2.50 and six packs will sell for $4.

Also, several free educational programs are scheduled:

**Saturday, April 5, 11:30 a.m. “Growing Great Tomatoes!”** Presented by Kathy Swanson, a master gardener, who will demonstrate planting techniques, support systems, and water requirements for growing great tomatoes.

**Saturday, April 5, 1 p.m. “UC Verde Buffalo Grass — the ‘Greener’ Lawn; Less Water, Less Mowing.”** Presented by James Baird, a turfgrass extension specialist in the Department of Botany and Plant Sciences at UC Riverside.

**Sunday, April 6th, noon and 1:30 p.m. “Kids: Hands-On Project — It’s Tomato Planting Time!”** Learn to plant and take care of a tomato plant, make a garden marker and transplant your own tomato plant to take home. For children 5 years and up with a parent in attendance. Please pick up a ticket at the gate or from a docent at the classroom. The workshop is limited to the first 30 children.

The Botanic Gardens cover more than 40 acres and feature nearly 3,000 plant species from around the world. Enjoy beautiful vistas and numerous scenic trails, including gentle pathways graded for wheelchair access. A wide array of blooming plants can be seen year-round.

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**Makeover Returns UC Riverside’s Picnic Hill to Former Glory**

*eucalyptus trees saved from invasive beetle and new plants beautify the area*

*By Ross French*

Since the campus’ opening in 1954, and possibly even dating back to the days of the UC Citrus Experiment Station, Picnic Hill at UCR was a go-to destination for students, staff and faculty, and their families to spend some quiet time with friends, have a bite to eat, or just take in the scenery. The hidden gem of green space with picnic tables and a beautiful stone barbeque pit has a great view of the Box Spring Mountains and a lush canopy of shade-producing eucalyptus trees. Located just east of the School of Medicine Research Building, the park was considered by some to be one of the best-kept secrets on the campus.
“(Former UCR Athletics Director) Frank Lindeburgh would help organize family picnics on Picnic Hill, located behind the old Citrus Experiment Station,” recalled Ann Straubinger DeWolf (’67) in an article in the December 2000 issue of the UCR magazine Fiat Lux. “There would be a big barbecue, games, and lots of ruckus as we kids would scramble over the boulders. My family would also picnic there after church at least once a month.”

Assistant Vice Chancellor for Housing, Dining and Residential Services Andy Plumley, a 1982 graduate of UCR, said he had many memories of Picnic Hill and called it “a great destination for special barbeques for many hall communities. It’s a nice place to get away without going far.”

But Picnic Hill had suffered a decline in recent years, with several factors, including outdated irrigation and an infestation of eucalyptus long-horned beetle borers, combining to turn the once-lush space into a mess of “dirt and leaves, with unkempt and old tables,” according to Violet Vargas, a senior analyst with the School of Medicine who was eating lunch with colleague Jami Holland on a recent afternoon and who has been a regular lunchtime visitor to Picnic Hill since 1990.

“The trees had become overgrown and the shrubs and turf were stressed,” explained Raymond Bolles, senior landscape supervisor for UCR Physical Plant’s Grounds Department. “The hill suffered and became a victim of lack of attention and maintenance due to reduction in staff as labor resources were diverted to other high-traffic areas of the campus. Not many people frequented the hill. It did not feel like a comfortable space. It was old and tired, needed a kickstart or face-lift.”

In September 2013, members of the grounds crew began looking at the hill and working on ways to return the hill to its former beauty. The first challenge was to get rid of the insects that were threatening to kill the 50-plus-year-old eucalyptus trees. After confirming the species of insect that was attacking the tree with UCR Professor of Entomology Tim Paine, pest control crews began a chemical treatment of the trees. But that was only half of the problem. The irrigation and maintenance of the trees also had to be addressed.

“We examined the understory landscape and irrigation, maintenance tree trimming and labor practices. The entire hill landscape was evaluated and a plan was developed to create a healthy environment for the trees,” Bolles said, adding that three trees were too damaged to survive and had to be removed while others were trimmed back with dead and hanging branches removed.

The grounds crew also removed dozens of Chinese hackberry trees, which had flourished in recent years and were competing with the eucalyptus trees for water and nutrients. They then cleaned up leaf and branch debris before installing a new automatic irrigation system.

“The hackberry trees created an unsafe condition just through their sheer numbers. The lower, northern portion of the hill was almost impossible to walk and see through, and their canopy covers contained branches and debris from the eucalyptus trees,” Bolles said, adding that the surviving eucalyptus trees have responded well and are already showing new growth.

Crews replaced the hackberries with 30 assorted trees. The new trees are part of the Green Trees for the Golden State program, funded by a grant from CALFIRE, that will see a total of 400 trees planted across the campus.

Bolles said the final steps were done in January, as crews planted new shrubs and low-water succulents, including some plants moved from campus construction sites. A layer of mulch, made of the chipped tree material, was laid on the hill and rye grass was planted in the picnic areas.

“I love the makeover. It was a nice surprise to see the improvements,” said Holland, an academic affairs analyst in the School of Medicine Division of Clinical Sciences. “They did a great job implementing the natural setting
to include the large boulders, succulent plants and the nice green grass. “

With the spring-like weather that has graced the campus in early 2014, many members of the campus community have discovered, or rediscovered Picnic Hill.

“It seems to be attracting more and more people,” Holland said. “Maybe we can get a few more picnic tables?”

“The hill is still a work in progress, and there is much more to be done. But through time and effort we have transformed Picnic Hill back into a place where people can gather for lunch, or take refuge to study in a peaceful, manicured park-type setting,” Bolles said. “Everyone on the grounds team deserves credit for this.”

Picnic Hill may be reserved by on-campus organizations for $5 an hour through the Highlander Union Building Events Scheduling portal.

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**Athletics: Breaking Fundraising Records**

*More than $30,000 raised at “99 For Title IX”; more than $21,000 raised for the 7th Annual Coin Drive*

More than $30,000 was raised for female athletics scholarships on Feb. 26 in the most successful 99 For Title IX ever hosted at UCR. Two weeks later, UCR, along with eight other Big West Conference Student Athlete Advisory Committees (SAAC), raised more than $21,000 during the seventh annual Big West Coin Drive.

The 99 For Title IX event, held at Chancellor Kim Wilcox and Diane Del Buono’s home, had more than 150 athletics supporters in attendance. Women's basketball player Natasha Hadley and UCR alumna Brenda Martinez spoke about the impact athletics scholarships have had on their lives.

Martinez, who was the first U.S. woman to medal in the 800m at the World Championships (she took bronze in Moscow in August 2013), gave the keynote speech. She talked about the importance of Title IX in opening doors for student-athletes for whom those opportunities might otherwise not exist.

Early in March, it was revealed that the Big West Coin Drive — a group effort of the nine conference campuses — raised $21,564.

Each of the nine Big West SAACs donated to different charities. UC Riverside donated to UNICEF. Other charity recipients include CURE International (Cal Poly); Orangewood Children's Foundation (Cal State Fullerton); 100 Citizens Community Fitness Program (Cal State Northridge); Wounded Warrior (Long Beach State); Cal Aggie Camp (UC Davis); UCI Medical Center-Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (UC Irvine); and Best Day Foundation (UC Santa Barbara).

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**Mathematical Research from UC Riverside Selected as a Highlight by the National Science Foundation**

*Professor Michel Lapidus is accustomed to being misunderstood*

*By Kris Lovekin*

Professor and mathematician Michel Lapidus sometimes has trouble simplifying his work far enough so that it is understood by the average person. But that doesn’t mean his work isn’t important.

In fact, his work will be cited as a highlight of the research funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF)
Division of Mathematical and Physical Sciences when the funding agency submits its 2015 budget proposal to Congress and the Office of the President.

“It is an unusually high honor to be included in this document as NSF selects highlights based on the significance of the work,” said Professor of Chemistry Cynthia Larive, a divisional dean in the College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences. “You so seldom see mathematicians get the public kudos that they deserve, even researchers who are well-respected in their field like Professor Lapidus.” she said.

The research project selected as a highlight by the NSF titled “Can One Hear the Shape of a Fractal Drum?” was funded by a 2011 grant for $164,999. Lapidus offers an analogy to help explain the project.

“Imagine someone playing a drum, and a few yards from her, another person is trying to guess the shape of the drum just by listening to its music. This is a notoriously difficult and important problem in contemporary mathematics, with many applications to physics, chemistry, biology and engineering. Now, there is a twist to the story. Indeed, the drum is allowed to have an intricate, wrinkled shape, at all scales—either in its interior or on its boundary; in short, it is a fractal drum.”

Lapidus has established unexpected connections with the celebrated Riemann hypothesis, the most important open problem in mathematics. “In essence,” Lapidus said, “the Riemann hypothesis encodes key properties of the prime numbers, which are the building blocks (or the DNA) of arithmetic, and thereby, of all of mathematics.”

Understanding fractal structures, such as trees, blood vessels, rivers and clouds, is one way scientists study how and why they arise in nature and how they evolve. Part of Lapidus’ work provides some of the clues toward resolving this long-standing open problem.

The mathematical theories underlying the work are complicated. But for those immersed in that world, Lapidus is a highly sought-after mentor. He earned UCR’s graduate mentoring award in 2012. He also works with postdoctoral fellows and junior faculty members in various aspects of their work.

“Ultimately, it is simply a tribute to the beauty of mathematics, and to its surprising and mysterious power on reality, even when it is formulated in a seemingly abstruse language and according to rules and concepts which are unfortunately not understandable to most people,” Lapidus said.

This is the second time that Lapidus’ work has been selected as a highlight of research funded by the National Science Foundation; his work was first recognized in 1990.

Ancestry.com, UCR Partner to Digitize Historical Newspapers

1 million-plus pages of microfilm in UCR’s California Digital Newspaper Collection digitized so far

By Bettye Miller

The Center for Bibliographical Studies and Research has partnered with Ancestry.com, the world’s largest online family history resource, to digitize millions of pages of historical California newspapers, a partnership that will speed up processing of more than 100,000 reels of newspaper microfilm.

More than 1 million pages of the San Bernardino Sun and Santa Cruz Sentinel dating to the late 1880s have been scanned from the center’s California Newspaper Microfilm Archive (CNMA) and digitized since the agreement was signed in spring 2013.
Ancestry.com will host the data at Newspapers.com for three years, after which the Center for Bibliographical Studies and Research will also host it at the California Digital Newspaper Collection (CDNC), which is publicly accessible at cdnc.ucr.edu. Access to the data will be free during the three-year embargo period to researchers at UCR and at partnering institutions that help obtain permissions from participating newspapers.

“This project will double the size of the California Digital Newspaper Collection,” said Brian Geiger, director of the Center for Bibliographical Studies and Research. “We were never going to get to 40 million pages in the next decade, so this arrangement is very beneficial.”

Newspapers.com staff will begin digitizing the Oakland Tribune this spring.

By this summer the CDNC will contain nearly 1 million pages of significant historical California newspapers published from 1846 to 1922, including the first California newspaper, the Californian, and the first daily California newspaper, the Daily Alta California. It also contains issues of several current California newspapers that are part of a project to preserve and provide access to contemporary papers.

When the titles digitized by Ancestry.com are available in late 2016 and 2017 the collection will contain more than 2 million pages, and for the first time provide substantial coverage for the period from 1923 to the present.

Over the last 15 years UCR has assembled the largest existing archive of California newspapers on microfilm, some 100,000, 100-foot-long reels containing approximately 40 million pages of newspapers published between 1846 and the present. The acquisition of microfilm has been funded in part by the Haynes Foundation, the Ahmanson Foundation, UCR’s Tomás Rivera Library, the University of California Office of the President and the California State Library.

Founded in 1983, Ancestry.com LLC is the world’s largest online resource for family history with approximately 2.7 million subscribers across all family history sites. Newspapers.com, launched in 2012, currently hosts more than 62 million pages from 2,500 newspapers from the United States and around the world.

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**Positions in the Office of Government and Community Relations Filled**

*Assistant Vice Chancellor of Government and Community Relations Sue McKee has announced two new hires in her office.*

_by Lilledeshan Bose_

Last week, Assistant Vice Chancellor of Government and Community Relations Sue McKee announced two new hires in her office.

Kaitlin Chell became the new director of federal relations on March 24. She was formerly with Lewis-Burke Associates LLC, a government relations firm specializing in advocating for the public policy interests of institutions of higher education and other research and education organizations. Before that, she was the public affairs coordinator for the American Geophysical Union.

She earned her bachelor’s degree in international studies and Spanish at Randolph-Macon Woman’s College, and got her master’s degree in environmental science and policy from Johns Hopkins University. She also studied at Le Cordon Bleu.
Born and raised in San Diego, Chell says she is thrilled to be returning to California after so many years on the East Coast and abroad. “I am even more thrilled to be working at UCR,” she added.

Angel Rodriguez will begin working at UCR on April 1 as the associate director of regional relations. The UCR alumnus graduated in 2008 with a degree in public service and political science. Prior to joining UCR, he was with the Saban Community Clinic as its communications, marketing and research coordinator.

He also worked in the office of former Riverside Mayor Ron Loveridge, the California State Senate District 31 campaign, and the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce. Rodriguez says he’s excited to have the opportunity to return to his alma mater, and work collaboratively to strengthen and expand UCR’s engagement in the region.

McKee said, “Kaitlin and Angel bring a vast amount of expertise in government and local community relations, which will further enhance the mission of the university and raise the profile of the campus in Washington, D.C., and throughout Inland Southern California.”

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**Student Affairs Division Reorganized**

*Changes will more effectively support UCR’s Strategic Plan*

by Lilledeshan Bose

Jim Sandoval, vice chancellor of student affairs, announced a reorganization of the Division of Student Affairs.

LaRae Lundgren is now an associate vice chancellor and oversees Student Affairs Technology Services, Student Affairs Marketing and Communications, Enrollment Management, Student Affairs Research and Evaluation Unit, and the Career Center.

Susan Allan Ortega is now the assistant vice chancellor for health and wellness, a new position that will oversee the Counseling Center, the student affairs case manager, the Student Health Center, the Student Recreation Center, Student Special Services, and the WELL.

Ryan Alcantara will serve as the interim assistant vice chancellor/dean of students. Alcantara served as the Cal State University Fullerton (CSUF) associate dean of students from 2005 to 2007, the CSUF assistant vice president from 2008 to 2010, and the CSUF associate vice president from 2011 to 2013. He oversees a broad swath of student services and resources, including the student resource centers, the Highlander Union Building (HUB), Student Life, and the Campus Store.

Housing, Dining and Residential Services will continue to report to Assistant Vice Chancellor Andy Plumley, who will also assume responsibility for KUCR, which is located in Crest Family Housing, and partners with The Barn for events.

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**UC Riverside has a New Archivist at the Libraries**

*Bergis Jules is arriving June 1 from George Washington University*

by Kris Lovekin
Bergis K. Jules has been hired as the university and political papers archivist at the UCR Libraries. He begins his service on June 1.

“Bergis Jules is an active scholar, an excellent archivist, and he serves as a reviewer for the *Journal of Archival Practice,*” said University Librarian Steven Mandeville-Gamble. “It is my pleasure to welcome him to UC Riverside, where he will be responsible for the University Archives, the Tuskegee Airmen collections and the Libraries’ political papers collections including the papers of Congressman George Brown Papers and former Riverside Mayor Ron Loveridge.”

Mandeville-Gamble also expressed his thanks to Melissa Conway, director of the library’s Special Collections, who chaired the search committee for the position.

Jules brings more than six years of experience as an archivist, including nearly two years as university archivist at George Washington University. He also oversees the political papers of several members of Congress at that institution and was key to the negotiations to acquire them.

He has attracted more than $1.5 million in grants for archival projects that ensured the preservation of and access to collections documenting the history of under-represented communities, including most recently securing a $500,000 grant from the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) to process collections documenting the African-American experience in the greater Washington, D.C., area and to develop an academic curriculum for teaching from the university’s archives as well as the historic repositories of partner institutions in and around the District of Columbia, such as the District of Columbia Archives, Howard University’s Moorland-Springarn Reese Center, the Historical Society of Washington, D.C., the National Museum of African American History’s Archives Center, and the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library.

Jules has also directed two large-scale, grant-funded projects for the Black Metropolis Research Consortium at the University of Chicago, overseeing the processing of 150 archival collections in 40 repositories in the Chicago metropolitan area.

He earned his M.L.S. from Indiana University with a specialization in archives and record management. He also holds an M.A. from Indiana University in African-American and African diaspora history, and a B.A. from Earlham College in Richmond, Ind. in African-American and African Studies.

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**GETTING PERSONAL**

**Seana Nuñez-Grider**

*Job: Senior Staff Employment & Development Analyst*

_By Bethanie Le_
Seana Nunez-Grider, the senior staff employment and development analyst in Human Resources Department, says she ended up in human resources accidentally.

“My internship got me to UCR, and when my internship ended, I was offered a part-time position in training. After trying it out, I started training and fell in love with it. So I never really intended to be in human resources, it just stuck and every job I have had since then has been in human resources,” says Nuñez-Grider with a smile.

She spends most of her time designing and implementing training and instructional programs, contacting speakers and creating in-depth research on various topics.

Nuñez-Grider is also involved in various programs in her department, such as the Supervisor Development Program, the Management Skills Assessment Program and the Diversity Certificate Program.

And although Nuñez-Grider never intended to go into the field of human resources, her interest was sparked by the opportunities she received at UCR.

“That’s what I like the best about UCR. There’s really so many chances to do and try different things here. You never have to be bored or unhappy, you just have to take a risk in trying something new.”

A self-proclaimed foodie, Nuñez-Grider is often found with her husband, a chef, enjoying new cuisines and restaurants. Out-of-the-ordinary dishes that she’s tried include duck-fat fries, pork belly sandwiches and bone marrow.

“My husband and I love anything that deals with food, but I also love to cook,” says Nuñez-Grider. People assume that with a chef for a husband, she doesn’t have to cook. “Totally not true. ... My signature dish is my hand-ground hamburgers. I buy different cuts of meat and grind them together to make one-third pound burgers.”

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**Butt Bash**

Did you know that a team of sustainability interns scour the campus for cigarette butts? Since the implementation of the tobacco ban in January, there has been a drop in butt litter. During Tobacco-free Butt Bash 2 Clean-up, held the first week of March, only 544 cigarette butts were collected. Last quarter, the sustainability team collected 1,388 cigarette butts.

**Application to the UC to be Offered Earlier**

The UC system will open the application period for undergraduate admissions on Aug. 1 rather than Oct. 1 beginning this fall. The change aligns with other highly selective universities and will provide students with more time to complete their applications. While the application period will open on Aug. 1, the submission period will remain Nov. 1-30.
The change will make a difference, especially for faculty committees deciding on changes to majors and programs offered on each campus. That process will have to be completed by July 15. “This change in timeline was discussed with the Academic Senate last April and there was support to make this change to benefit prospective students,” said Aimée Dorr, provost and executive vice president for UC Office of the President.

Questions are available from the office of Judy K. Sakaki, vice president of student affairs at judy.sakaki@ucop.edu or (510) 987-0158.

**Cesar Chavez Run**

UCR Chicano Student Programs and other affiliated organizations will present the 13th Annual César E. Chávez 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, April 5, from 7:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Highlights include a 5k Run/Walk and a 1k Kids Run for children 12 and under. For event information please contact Chicano Student Programs at (951) 827-3821 or visit the event website at: [www.cesarchavez5k.com](http://www.cesarchavez5k.com).

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**Who Says?**

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

“I think the opposition to affirmative action was organized earlier and more effectively than anyone expected. … (Asian-American lawmakers) were very well-organized, they knew where the pressure points were, and they went after them.”

*Karthick Ramakrishnan, associate professor of political science, on how Asian-American lawmakers over-turned a push to reverse California’s 16-year-old ban on affirmative action in college admissions*

**SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE**

“People who find potential benefit in possible bad news will likely respond with less distress should the negative outcome actually occur. … Consequence mitigation serves not only to prepare for the future, but also to manage anxiety in the present.”

*Kate Sweeny, assistant professor of psychology, on the psychology of waiting and hope*

**FORBES**

“Social networks are intertwined in the daily lives of youth in an unprecedented manner. Social network-centered activism is an extension of that social-technological fabric. Also, such activism does not require a ‘leader’ to mobilize resistance. Issues of concern can emerge from a more democratic bottom-up logic as we saw with the Egyptian Spring revolts and the organizing around Trayvon Martin.”

*Vorris Nunley, associate professor of English, on the significance of social media to political activists*

**BLACK VOICE NEWS**

“This has the potential to save lives and crops. My feeling is that in the next year or two, there will be a lot of applications for this.”

*Eamonn Keogh, professor of computer science, on a sensor developed at UCR that can instantly identify insects that fly past it*

**DISCOVERY CHANNEL**
“The parents tend toward ‘probably God can hear you,’ not ‘yes, definitely,’ ... The kids are mostly saying, ‘No, God really can’t hear you if you’re not doing ... (prayer the way it’s most often taught).”

Rebekah Richert, associate professor of psychology, on differing views between parents and children about prayer

**PSYCHOLOGY TODAY**

“Farmers are scared over food and safety rules. And there’s government control over food prices. Farmers want government out of agriculture.”

Milt McGiffen, plant physiologist, on attitudes among farmers toward the government and the changing perceptions of the agriculture industry in America

**NBC ONLINE**

“Despite all the focus on urban water conservation, agriculture consumes some 80 percent of California water. California is basically a dry state, subject to periodic severe droughts. So ... why do we see so few elementary efforts to conserve water, such as drip irrigation or mulching fields to protect the soil? Why are irrigation canals not lined and covered to prevent water loss? Why? Because California farmers get their water free, or close to free.”

Mason Gaffney, professor of economics, on droughts in California

**THE HUFFINGTON POST**

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**Research and Scholarship**

**UC to participate in Thirty Meter Telescope project**

The University of California regents recently approved the university’s participation in the construction and operation of the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) on the Mauna Kea mountaintop, Hawaii. The telescope is expected to be in operation in 2022, with construction beginning this year.

UC Riverside’s Bahram Mobasher is the instrument scientist for one of the three first light instruments to be built for the TMT. Specifically, he is leading an international science team to identify the required scientific capabilities of this instrument, to be considered at the design and construction phase.

The instrument is an Infra-red Multi-object Spectrograph (IRMMS) and will be designed to perform spectroscopy of galaxies at infrared wavelengths, that is, finding out what fraction of the light of galaxies is emitted at this particular wavelength range.

“With this instrument, we could study detailed properties of the first generation of galaxies formed in the universe a few hundred million years after the Big Bang,” Mobasher said.

**Glenn Hicks forming consortium on NGS**

Glenn Hicks, an academic administrator and an associate research plant cell biologist in the UCR Institute for Integrative Genome Biology, is one of only 15 researchers along with UC Procurement leaders tasked with forming a consortium around next-generation DNA sequencing (NGS), a powerful method that has helped scientists gain insight into many biological processes. Campus Procurement and Contracts at UC San Francisco and the 15
Researchers have secured funding of $17,000 from the UC Office of the President to set up the two-day discussion and planning meeting.

“Part of the future for our UC campuses is to figure out ways to more effectively acquire, use and share our resources across the system,” Hicks said. “NGS, like the Illumina sequencers we have at UCR, are very fundamental to biology research in the 21st century but are expensive to acquire and maintain and are in short supply. This can lead to delays in getting research results; this translates into fewer publications and grants. The benefits of a consortium are wide-ranging and will encourage UC researchers to continue to invest their research within the UC system, rather than to third parties. In this manner funding can be leveraged to enhance the standing of our research and central facilities as world-leading technology centers within one of the finest public university systems in the world.”

Many UC campuses are experiencing high demand for NGS sequencing, with more projects and grants being funded to use NGS for novel discovery and research. The goal of the consortium is to figure out how to collaboratively approach the management of NGS equipment so that the UC system is better positioned to facilitate the needs of research at a lower cost to scientists while stimulating innovation and collaboration.

The consortium meeting is expected to take place this May.

Peter Graham named associate editor of APA journal

Peter Graham, professor of philosophy and CHASS associate dean, has been named an associate editor on the inaugural editorial board of the Journal of the American Philosophical Association. The journal, published by the American Philosophical Association (APA) and Cambridge University Press, will launch in 2015. It will publish in print and online.

Graham is one of eight associate editors named to the editorial board.

The APA, founded in 1900, is one of the largest philosophical societies in the world and the only American philosophical society not devoted to a particular school or philosophical approach.

Susan Zieger Lectures at Hammer Museum


“At the end of the 19th century, the rise of consumer culture, a growing feminist movement, and a strange new habit called ‘morphinomania’ changed the image of the ideal Victorian woman as a paragon of moral virtue, domestic order, and self-restraint,” she explained.

Zieger’s talk examined women’s struggles against discrimination and drug addiction at the end of the 19th century.

Awards and Honors

Loren Collingwood wins best dissertation award

Loren Collingwood, assistant professor of political science, has won the best dissertation award from the Western Political Science Association. The award is given for the best dissertation from the western United States.
Collingwood's dissertation, “The Pursuit of Victory and Incorporation: Elite Strategy, Group Pressure, and Cross-Racial Mobilization,” examines the relationship between white candidates and minority voters, as well as minority candidates and white voters, across various periods in American history and in different states. It serves as the basis of a book on which he is working that examines the politics of white candidates and Black voters in the South during the civil rights era.

Marissa Brookes nabs best article award in the Labor Studies Journal


Brookes recently returned from Oslo, where she presented a paper, “Power, Labor, and Globalization: How Context-Appropriate Strategies Help Transnational Labor Alliances Succeed,” at the International Workshop on Labour and Transnational Action in Times of Crisis, hosted at the University of Oslo as part of the Centre for Advanced Study. The workshop comprised an international group of leading scholars from political science, sociology, economics, business, and industrial relations who research topics related to labor, transnationalism, and globalization.