Limited resources and abundant global needs mean campuses must set priorities for research and build partnerships both at home and abroad, says UC Riverside Chancellor’s Symposium speaker Jeffrey Riedinger.

Michael Crow on the New Model of the American Research University

_In a symposium at UCR, the president of Arizona State University said more universities need to look at inclusion – not exclusion._

By Kris Lovekin

Disruption does not have a negative meaning to Michael Crow, president of Arizona State University, and the first of three speakers in UCR’s symposia series about the future of higher education.

In a May 9 talk before faculty, staff and students in the University Theatre, Crow called for the creation of “a new class of the American research university — I call it the super-public.”

He said university prestige and status should not be based on how many people they exclude, but on the needs of the society. He calls for “egalitarian access matched with excellence. Not exclusion, but inclusion.”

In his introduction of Crow, Chancellor Kim Wilcox said Crow is shaking things up at his large public campus of 72,000 students. “He has done it in a way that has an aspirational tone to it. He is very much interested in sustainability, very much interested in excellence and inclusion,” Wilcox said.

Crow said that Arizona State University has a similar spirit with UCR, especially when it comes to matching access with excellence.

“UC Riverside is an unbelievable role model of what the future of higher education needs to achieve,” Crow said, noting especially UCR’s ability to graduate students equally across ethnicities.
“It is humbling for the rest of us,” Crow said.

He said more universities must find ways to follow that example or the country will continue to see a widening gap between the rich and the poor, and states would face troubling social and economic consequences if they continue to admit only a small select group of students to the university. Crow, Arizona State University’s 16th president, pointed to some of the changes that his university has made in the last dozen years: increasing research funding to $420 million; embracing the disruption of tradition by folding some departments into interdisciplinary working groups; and growing a student body of 72,000 students.

He credited his faculty with rising to new ways of thinking, and he is proud of the academic achievement of his student body, comparing totals of Fulbright, Marshall and Truman fellowships to those of any other university in the world.

He said looking to replicate models of highly selective universities such as Harvard, Princeton or even UC Berkeley is not sustainable for the nation. He urged that public research universities like UC Riverside define success on their own terms, measure outcomes, and keep building.

“We are at an evolutionary moment,” he said. Some organizations will begin to find ways to scale this kind of public service education to a new model of excellence and accessibility that operates in real time, not academic time, he said. “You are already on this path and moving in this direction.”

After the talk, Wilcox moderated a discussion between Crow and two members of the UC Riverside faculty.

Cynthia Larive, a UCR professor of chemistry, noted that the chancellor’s plan to ramp up faculty hiring to 300 new tenure-track faculty members in five years would be the opportunity for campus innovation.

“This is a university where we do a good job of training our students,” she said. “Keeping that level of engagement has to continue, as well as the level of rigor, as the university grows.”

Karthick Ramakrishnan, an associate professor of political science, said UCR’s new School of Public Policy offers a perfect chance to be directly impactful to the area. Faculty expertise on global poverty issues can be applied to help analyze and improve the economic models of the Inland region. “I think of the Public Policy Institute [of California]as a lab,” he said. “Things that have been learned globally can be applied here.”

Wilcox pointed out that the time it takes a student to graduate from college is impacted by how much they have to work while they are going to school. He asked the faculty to think of new approaches that will help students graduate on time.

The talk created a buzz afterward at a reception on an outdoor patio. Doug Mitchell, the dean of the Graduate School of Education, said he was intrigued by many of the points made. But he cautioned the campus not to focus only on new hires in science and technology, but to value expertise in politics, in education, in psychology, and in many other fields.

“STEM has been so much the watchword,” he said. “But remember that a lack of political sophistication is just as dangerous as a lack of scientific achievement.”

He said he was enthusiastic about UCR’s ability to be a living laboratory for the region, in health, in education, in the economy, and in technology and STEM education.
Universities Must Collaborate, Not Protect Turf, to be Global Players

Limited resources and abundant global needs mean campuses must set priorities for research and build partnerships both at home and abroad, says UC Riverside Chancellor’s Symposium speaker Jeffrey Riedinger

By Jeanette Marantos

UC Riverside has set its sights on increasing its global connections. During a Chancellor’s Symposia event on Friday, May 16, Jeffrey Riedinger, vice provost of global affairs at the University of Washington, advised students, staff and faculty to “crowd in” across departments around large global issues.

Instead of the question, “What is your major?” Riedinger advised students to connect to larger issues, whether economic growth, climate change or feeding the world. In a packed room, Riedinger challenged faculty to bundle individual global projects into larger issues that are organized across department lines, and which are in concert with community resources.

To become a global university, Riedinger said, “UCR will challenge its deans, chairs and directors to align opportunities for their students to engage in study, research, internships and experiential learning abroad around the strategic research partnerships and community platforms of their colleges, departments and schools.”

If curriculum requirements are too rigid to permit students to study elsewhere, those requirements need to change, he said.

Global universities of the 21st century are also encouraging their faculty to “crowd in” around particular areas of research, Riedinger said, to build partnerships that span the campus as well as the community, country and globe.

“Our aim is to enhance well-being by creating a world with more resilient communities,” and “bend the trends” that are challenging our world, such as population growth and urbanization, increasing demands for food and energy, water scarcity, climate change, disease and education for a knowledge economy.

“To bend the trends, we need partners,” he said. “We have to build a network of networks, because we can’t do it alone. And as institutions we have to make strategic choices, because we can’t do it all.”

One key is building research partnerships by bringing together faculty and students from different departments who are researching similar problems, and finding ways they can share. Faculty should also look at ways to share partnerships with companies and universities here and abroad, and encourage opportunities not just for their students to study and research abroad but for foreign students to come to UCR to work on research projects here.

Riedinger said during his time at Michigan State University, where he and Wilcox worked together and became friends, he led a universitywide program to help faculty and staff set priorities for international research and study. Hundreds of people came together on the floor of the university basketball court to discover the areas where Michigan State had its deepest involvements and strongest financial support, he said, and to set research priorities for the university’s funding.

“The worst thing an administrator can do is tell faculty where to go and what they should do for their research,” Riedinger said. “But when you are investing scarce institutional resources for research, allocating resources in support of those partnerships is the most advantageous to the campus, community and world we
“Faculty will always be free to travel and conduct research wherever they deem appropriate, with exceptions for health and safety. However, UCR cannot be all things to everyone. UCR will need to invest its scarce financial and human resources in support of research, education and community engagement on priority themes, in key countries, with strategic partner organizations.”

Thanks to Wilcox’s goal of hiring 300 tenure-track faculty in the next five years, UCR will have a unique opportunity to identify key research themes for the institution and “crowd in” faculty around those priorities, he said.

After his talk, Riedinger joined a panel with Wilcox and faculty members Marcelle Chauvet, professor of economics, and David Herzberger, distinguished professor of Hispanic studies, who noted he is chairing the search for UCR’s newly created position of vice provost for international affairs.

“To me, UCR is already wonderfully international, but in an island sort of way, Herzberger said. “Look at our website. ...We have at least 10 separate pages that begin with the word ‘international,’ so I think a lot of our colleagues are doing terrific work in international types of activities but we don’t feel like an international campus because we haven’t managed to integrate all of these activities. We’re hopeful the new provost will take this on immediately and effectively.”

Chauvet asked Riedinger to explain the most productive university relationships, and how they began. He said there isn’t one simple formula, but they can begin in a variety of ways. For instance, he’s offered to pay for a dinner to get a faculty member from his university talking to a colleague from a university where they would like to build a relationship. He’s sent faculty members to international conferences so they can rub shoulders with potential partners from other countries. And students who study abroad can be very helpful in pointing out remarkable people who would be great partners, he said.

The trick is getting relationships to go from an individual level to institutional level, he said. “Understandably, these individuals (who have built relationships) have some trepidation when somebody in my role walks in saying, ‘I’m here to help. I’m going to crowd the rest of the university into a relationship you painstakingly built, and trust me, we won’t be culturally insensitive or do anything else that will ruin your life.’”

As for who the partners should be, he said, “research universities should partner with research universities, but having said that, there are things we do incredibly well and things we don’t do well at all, which is why we need the partnerships with government agencies and corporations and the like.”

Riedinger said about 50 percent of his time is spent fundraising, but it’s not always just asking for money. At lot of the time, he said, “I am asking remarkable foundations and corporations, government agencies and partnering universities, ‘If that’s what you’re passionate about and where you want to go, would you take a meeting with these remarkable faculty and remarkable students we have on our campus?’ I get to be a shameless salesman because I had almost nothing to do about (creating) these remarkable faculty and students.”

Wilcox broke in and said Riedinger was being modest. At Michigan, Wilcox said, “Jeff grew the funding for international programs from about $20 million to $150 million. So there’s a lot of money in international work, and a lot of that money was for graduate students across the whole university, and most of it came from foundations. So,” the chancellor said, “that’s just another way to encourage people to participate.”

Peter McPherson, president of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities, an influential agency in the higher education world, will speak at 4 p.m., May 30, in the Genomics Auditorium. His topic is “The
Public University of the 21st Century.” UCR faculty members leading the response are Jodie Holt, professor of botany in the College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, and Sharon Walker, associate professor of chemical and environmental engineering at the Bourns College of Engineering.

Funding From National Institutes of Health to Help Expand Data Storage Capacity on Campus

*Purchase of “Big Data cluster” will benefit wide spectrum of research areas and large number of NIH investigators*

By Iqbal Pittalwala

Scientists at UCR work on a variety of research topics critical to human health, such as genome biology, biomedical sciences, chemistry and computational biology. Next-generation sequencing and other high-throughput technologies routinely used in researching these topics generate vast amounts of data, increasing the need for high-performance computing.

The campus has now received funding of $600,000 from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to support data-intensive research — also often called Big Data science.

“Over the past five to eight years, data sizes have grown in many of our research areas by a factor of more than 1000, which has transformed data processing into one of the most expensive research infrastructure investments,” said Thomas Girke, an associate professor of bioinformatics in the Department of Botany and Plant Sciences and the grant’s principal investigator. “Particularly data-intensive research areas that will benefit from this grant are high-throughput biology, drug discovery, and various other human health-related disciplines.”

Specifically, the grant will make possible the purchase of a complex instrument: a Big Data cluster with high-performance CPU resources and data storage space equivalent to 5,000 modern laptops.

Big Data has been identified as a contributor to the growth of the U.S. economy over the next few decades. The NIH grant is expected to make UC Riverside more competitive in attracting new outstanding faculty and facilitating the research of many existing programs. The grant is expected to benefit more than 160 scientists from more than 15 departments and several colleges at UCR.

“Currently, due to the very high demand, the existing compute resources of our facility are operating at maximum capacity, impacting its ability to support data intensive biomedical research,” said Girke. “This data overflow often results in delays in processing new research data in a time-efficient manner, which, in turn, slows down the discovery process of many projects. With the new equipment grant from NIH the compute facility will be able to at least quadruple its current compute resources, which should greatly help resolve our shortage of Big Data compute resources to support many new research programs.”

UCR’s research compute infrastructure is provided by a central bioinformatics facility which is part of the Institute of Integrative Genome Biology (IIGB). Girke, a member of IIGB, is currently the director of the bioinformatics facility. The new instrument will be housed in a new server room of the Genomics Building where many IIGB researchers work.

IIGB’s bioinformatics facility was formed in 2003. In 2008 it became the largest high-performance research compute facility at UCR.
Campus Community Invited to a Town Hall Discussion on Recent Climate Survey Report

Associate Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Excellence and Equity Yolanda Moses will moderate at a town hall event about the results of the recent Climate Survey

By Kris Lovekin

UC Riverside has long been acknowledged as a nationwide leader in campus diversity.

When the results of the UC Systemwide Campus Climate Survey were released, Chancellor Kim Wilcox charged the UC Riverside Campus Climate work group, chaired by Associate Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Excellence and Equity Yolanda Moses, to analyze survey results so that UCR can continue to be recognized for its commitment to excellence and inclusion.

Moses is leading a committee process to make recommendations to the chancellor about how to make sure the campus is doing everything it can to provide a climate of respect. In line with this, she will moderate at a town hall event about the results of the recent Climate Survey from 2 to 4 p.m. Wednesday, May 28, in Room 1002 of the CHASS Interdisciplinary building. The entire campus community is invited.

Sue Rankin, the consultant designer of the climate survey, will be on hand at the town hall to go over the survey results and to put UCR’s results in a national context. “She will focus on what we can do to make this a stronger institution,” Moses said.

Rankin has conducted campus climate surveys at more than 70 colleges and universities across the nation. She is a senior research associate in the Center for the Study of Higher Education and associate professor of education in the College Student Affairs Program at Pennsylvania State University.

Rankin has presented and published widely on the impact of sexism, racism and heterosexism in the academy and in intercollegiate athletics. Her current research focuses on the assessment of institutional climate and providing program planners and policymakers with recommended strategies to improve the campus climate for underserved communities.

“We need to incorporate some of these suggestions into our campus policies and operations,” Moses said. “If you have a suggestion, I would love to hear them at the town hall.”

For more information, go to diversity.ucr.edu/climatesurvey.

Integrating Electric Vehicles, Solar Energy and Batteries

By Sean Nealon

Researchers will study integration of electric vehicles into a power grid system using solar energy and batteries for storage

Today, UCR will host a 10 a.m. ceremony open to the public to launch its Sustainable Integrated Grid Initiative. The purpose of the initiative is to research the integration of intermittent renewable energy, such as photovoltaic solar panels; energy storage, such as batteries; and all types of electric and hybrid electric vehicles. It is the largest renewable energy project of its kind in California.

“This project puts UC Riverside at the forefront of smart grid and electric vehicle research, providing a
unique platform for engineers and utilities to identify and solve potential problems at scale,” said Matthew Barth, lead investigator of the initiative and the director of UC Riverside’s Bourns College of Engineering Center for Environmental Research and Technology (CE-CERT).

Those attending the event, which will be held in the parking lot of CE-CERT, will be able to view an electric trolley, electric cars and an autonomous vehicle. They will also be able to tour labs and see demonstrations that focus on solar energy, batteries and energy-efficiency technologies. The event continues from 3 to 5 p.m. with demonstrations.

The first two years of operation are supported by a $2 million contract from the South Coast Air Quality Management District. Construction of the initial testbed platform is also supported by an additional $10 million in contributions from UC Riverside and private partners.

Private partners include Bourns Inc., Balqon Corp., SolarMax Technology and Winston Battery Ltd. Public partners include the city of Riverside, Riverside Transit Agency, Riverside Public Utilities, UC Riverside, the Bourns College of Engineering, the Southern California Research Initiative for Solar Energy and the Winston Chung Global Energy Center. The last two are located at CE-CERT.

The testbed, which is located at CE-CERT, includes:

- Four megawatts of solar photovoltaic panels. Three-and-a-half megawatts will be at UC Riverside’s main campus. The remaining half megawatt is at CE-CERT about two miles from campus.

- Two megawatt-hours of battery energy storage. The batteries will store energy for distribution during periods when there is insufficient solar power generation. One megawatt is at CE-CERT and the additional megawatt is located in Winston Chung Hall on UC Riverside’s main campus.

- Twenty-seven electric vehicle charging stations. Eight chargers, with level 2 capabilities, which are suitable for cars, are in parking lots on UC Riverside’s main campus. Four level 2 chargers and one level 3 charger, which is suitable for larger vehicles, are located at CE-CERT. In addition, 14 level 2 chargers are located throughout the city of Riverside.

- A UCR-owned and RTA-operated trolley bus that has been converted from diesel combustion to battery electric operation.

- Energy monitoring, management and control tools developed by UC Riverside engineering students to ensure energy grid stability, reliability and efficiency.

On average California derives two-thirds of its electricity from fossil fuels such as coal and natural gas, and the majority of vehicles in the state are powered by imported oil. Introducing renewable electricity generation and electric vehicle technologies such as plug-in hybrids are two key priorities in California’s strategy to move toward domestic energy diversity and to meet air quality and greenhouse gas goals.

To meet these priorities utility providers need to ensure that bringing a significant number of fast-charging electric vehicles onto the existing grid system will not impact the local electricity demand and reliability. A key component of the UC Riverside project is to demonstrate that electric vehicles can be seamlessly introduced into the existing grid system through “smart integration” of renewable energy, storage and advanced dispatch controls.

The first years of operation will be focused on several goals: providing a real-world smart-grid testbed platform for emerging technologies; providing electric vehicle charging demand without increased grid loads;
evaluating the efficiency of different energy storage systems for long- and short-term renewable generation load leveling and peak shaving use. Also, demonstrating efficiency and performance of various forms of electric and hybrid electric transportation operating in the Riverside community; demonstrating the functionality of smart grid protocols; evaluating power quality issues; and demonstrating battery electric bus transit.

A research consortium is being developed to build upon these and other research goals as new technologies and challenges develop. The consortium will include technology companies, utility companies, energy agencies, investors and venture capital firms.

In addition to the research aspect, the initiative helps fulfill the university’s mission to educate by providing hands-on research opportunities for hundreds of undergraduate and graduate students. Some of the promising student projects will be showcased at the event.

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**Raising the Barr**

*Theater professor’s show tackles stroke survival from personal experience*

By Bettye Miller


It’s an accomplishment his family, friends and physicians feared he might not achieve.

A year ago, the longtime professor and chair of the Department of Theatre at UC Riverside suffered a massive heart infection after surgery to replace a valve and repair an aortic aneurysm. As the infection ate away at his heart it also produced numerous emboli (objects that block blood flow), which caused devastating strokes in both sides of his brain that left him paralyzed, unable to speak or swallow, and confused.

“I was alive but I ceased to be the person I knew,” he said. “I became a patient and a stroke survivor.”

Last month Barr performed a one-man show he wrote about the experience, “A Piece of my Mind,” before a full house of theater department alumni, colleagues, family, friends, and physical therapists at UCR’s University Theatre. Many of them contributed to the new Eric Barr Acting Award scholarship for acting students. The one-hour show grew out of emails and Facebook postings that chronicled his fight to survive, his struggle with grueling and frustrating rehabilitation sessions, and his gratefulness for the support of family and friends.

“I told my therapists from the beginning that I would write a show about this,” he said in an interview. “As a theater guy I process something by writing about it and performing it.”

Barr, who taught acting and directing at UCR for more than 30 years, was a self-described “gym rat” with a black belt in Iaido and brown belt in Aikido when he underwent surgery in 2012 to repair an aortic aneurysm and leaky heart valve. He returned to teaching in spring 2013, but within weeks was near death at Stanford University Medical Center where specialists in cardiology, neurology and infectious diseases battled the infection that was destroying his heart and brain.

“I would become a stranger in a strange land,” Barr told the University Theatre audience in a performance that demonstrated his progress from wheelchair to walker to cane and walking unassisted. “I had trouble swal-
lowing, walking, speaking, toileting. The stroke took me back to my infantile state and to the impulse control of a 2-year-old. The infection affected my kidney, my spleen, my liver. ... I was dying.”

Although critically ill, the professor who taught a public-speaking class for pharmacy and premed students in summer classes found himself coaching medical students from a Stanford hospital bed.

“I couldn’t help myself,” he recalled. “One young guy was afraid to ask questions. I told him, ‘Your colleagues aren’t going to respect you if you don’t respect yourself. Act like you’re not afraid I’m going to die right now. Fake it ‘til you make it.’”

Stanford surgeons saved his life, he said; teams of nurses and physical therapists gave his life back to him. Patients in rehabilitation hospitals inspired him. Support from his family and friends filled him with hope and courage.

“Rehab is really frustrating, really hard work,” he said. “Every day you have to get up and show up. I met athletes with massive injuries. Their attitude was, ‘This is not rehab, this is going to work. This is my job.’ What amazed me was the determination of people to get better. Tenacity comes from within, and from your support system. I wouldn’t be alive without my wife. My brothers were there the whole time.”

Barr, whom current department chair Stu Krieger describes as “the heart and soul” of the theater department, has recovered his speech and can walk for short periods without a cane. But he has not yet recovered use of his left hand, his short-term memory remains challenged, and he cannot yet be alone.

He is working with theater professor Root Park on a documentary film about his recovery, however, and hopes to take “A Piece of my Mind” on the road to share with stroke survivors and others. He also has pitched a reality show about survivors of strokes and spinal cord and closed-head injuries to Hollywood producers.

Theater professor Robin Russin, who directed “A Piece of my Mind,” said Barr’s mobility and memory improved during two months of rehearsals in a production whose concept grew from a simple reading to a show with lights, audio-visual elements, and a few props. “He’s a very experienced and capable actor and director,” Russin said. “My job was helping him recover what he already knew. ... In a way, this is a drama about a man overcoming major obstacles to recover his identity. His adversary was his own body. It’s about regaining himself as a creative individual.”

The show is moving, funny, and candid about the physical and mental challenges Barr experienced. For example, nothing prepares a stroke survivor for “emotional and physical incontinence,” he said.

“There were times of uncontrollable weeping. No one prepared me for that,” he explained. “Physical incontinence was more obvious. It’s really embarrassing, and it was undermining to my dignity and sense of modesty. When I got home, the cover story of Stroke Connection Magazine was how to live with incontinence. That literally scared the piss out of me.”

Barr, whose survival doctors described as miraculous, said that a serious illness infects everyone in the home. “When I returned home after six months, everything fell on my wife,” he said. “I was afraid the stroke would end up killing Karen, not me.”

One of the hardest lessons Barr said he’s learned is to ask for help.

“Suddenly you’re in a situation where you can’t do things on your own. It gets really frustrating after a while. What do you mean I can’t pull up my own pants? I haven’t tied my shoes in a year. I use elastic laces to
slide my feet in and out. It bothers me a lot. You have to depend on people and learn to graciously accept assistance. That’s hard to do, surprisingly.”

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**UC Aims to Better Serve Community College Transfers**

*By Nicole Freeling, UC Newsroom*

On May 14, UC officials outlined a comprehensive strategy to make it easier for students to transfer to UC from the state’s community colleges.

President Janet Napolitano, speaking to the Board of Regents at a meeting in Sacramento, said streamlining the transfer process was a top priority for her administration.

“Transfer students are an important part of UC’s strength, as well as an engine of social mobility for our state,” she said. “Put simply, if we are serving transfers well, then we are serving the state well.”

Napolitano convened a transfer action team last fall to identify ways the transfer process could be strengthened to better serve California students.

That team, led by Provost Aimée Dorr and co-chaired by Judy Sakaki, UC vice president of student affairs, and George Johnson, chair of UC’s Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools, outlined for the board steps that UC immediately can take to simplify the transfer process and attract students from a wider array of community colleges in the state.

Among the steps are simplifying the information UC gives students about how to transfer, increasing outreach at community colleges around the state and offering more support to transfers once they arrive at a UC campus.

The task force also called for working closely with California’s other public systems of higher education — California Community Colleges and California State University — to urge state lawmakers to provide the resources necessary for increasing all three systems’ capacity to accommodate more students.

**Vital pathway to UC**

Almost one in three UC undergraduates — almost 15,000 students a year — begins his or her higher education at a community college. The transfer pathway is a crucial means by which students, particularly those from low-income households and those who will be the first in their family to attend college, gain access to a UC education, officials said.

“Transfer quite literally opens doors and changes lives,” said Sakaki.

One such student is Frankie Guzman, a student from a poor, crime-plagued community who served time in the juvenile justice system before determining to get his life back on track. He enrolled in Oxnard Community College and was admitted to UC Berkeley as a transfer. “This time I left my community not in handcuffs, but in search of a better life,” he said.

Guzman earned his degree and went on to earn his law degree at UCLA. He now works with youth in the juvenile justice system.
“I’m living proof of what partnerships like this can produce, in providing students with opportunities to succeed regardless of where they’ve come from,” he said.

**A call to streamline course requirements**

UC’s commitment to transfer students is unrivaled among selective research institutions nationally, said Provost Dorr. These students do well at UC, boasting graduation rates that are among the highest in the nation for transfer students.

But while transfer enables many bright and promising students to attain a UC education, many others are discouraged from applying by a process that is complex and hard to navigate, officials said.

The transfer action team report recommended that simpler, clear-cut academic pathways be created to give students information about which courses are eligible for transfer, and to make this information consistent across the system.

“Transfer is complicated, and at UC it is even more so because of the differing requirements among campuses for transfer into similar majors,” Johnson said.

Simplifying transfer requirements would not mean lowering UC’s academic standards, he said.

“We can’t streamline the curriculum at the expense of not having students prepared for academic coursework."

Regents called upon the university to accelerate faculty-led efforts already underway, such as those to align UC transfer requirements with the Associate Degree for Transfer. Issued by California Community Colleges, these degrees lay out which courses students need to take to make them eligible for transfer to a four-year program at California State University.

**Building ties with underrepresented community colleges**

Discussion also centered on efforts to increase the diversity of the transfer population and draw students from a wider array of community colleges.

The majority of transfers come to UC from a small subset of the state’s community colleges, which hinders geographic, ethnic and racial diversity among transfer applicants.

While UC admitted and enrolled at least one student from each of the state’s 112 community colleges as of fall 2012, half of all UC transfers come from fewer than 20 percent of the state’s community colleges.

The team called for establishing a “California Community College to UC Pipeline Initiative” to increase transfers from underrepresented schools by building partnerships with them and offering increased advising and academic resources.

It also called for increasing UC’s presence at all California community colleges. As part of that effort, Napolitano will visit community colleges across the state to inspire and educate students about the transfer path.

**Balancing demand for freshman admissions**

A major issue is how UC will balance the interests of transfer students with those of students who seek to enter the university as freshmen.
“We are not recommending displacing freshmen, nor are we recommending increasing transfer admissions without increased funding from the state,” Sakaki said. “Growing overall enrollment requires more state funding.”

Others, however, called for making more specific commitments to increasing transfer enrollment.

“At the end of the day, if we’re not taking more transfer students, I would argue, we’re collectively falling short,” said Erik Skinner, vice chancellor of California Community Colleges.

“Are we increasing the number of students or just the pool of applicants?” asked Regent Sherry Lansing. “This will require a lot of review.”

Regents asked the transfer action team to return for further discussion of these issues.

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UC Riverside Professor Aims to Amplify the Voice of Asian Americans

AAPI Voices follows a new media model of infographics and curated content

By Kris Lovekin

Associate Professor of Political Science Karthick Ramakrishnan, is part of a new venture in data journalism and digital storytelling produced by, and focused on, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs).

“The United States is set to become a majority-minority, or majority-people of color, nation by 2043,” Ramakrishnan said. “Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are central to this process, with the fastest rates of population growth nationwide and in many states. Despite the growing importance of AAPI communities, their policy visibility has been limited until recently due to the lack of public awareness and limited data.”

Ramakrishnan hopes to change that with AAPI Voices (www.aapivoices.com), which will draw content from his own AAPI Data site, as well as 18MR.org, a site headed by C. M. Samala. Themes will include health, culture, race, immigration, generational issues, and questions about when Asian America should be a coalition of different ethnicities, or a single panethnic “race.”

In curating the work, the team is drawing on the assistance and editorial guidance of Jeff Yang, a writer, journalist, businessman, and business/media consultant who writes the “Tao Jones” column for the Wall Street Journal. AAPI Voices will feature data journalism work during APA Heritage Month in May 2014 and May 2015, with plans to provide a more regular platform for AAPI writers and bloggers during the months in between.

On May 7 in Washington, D.C., Ramakrishnan talked about the effort at a discussion called “The Emerging Majority: Where Do Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders Fit In?” The event, organized by Ramakrishnan and his AAPIdata.com project, for the first time brought together several nonprofit organizations and government agencies that conduct research and produce reports on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. The aim of this event was to showcase these reports in a centralized manner, and to help policy audiences get a more comprehensive sense of the various research efforts underway on AAPIs.
DID YOU KNOW?

Use #UCRGrad14 on Social Networks

Are you graduating in June? Want to see your photos on the big screen at commencement? Simply tag your photos on Instagram or Twitter with #UCRgrad14, or share them on the UCR Facebook page by May 30. We’re looking for pictures of your favorite memories of your years at UCR. There might even be a cool prize or two for the best photos.

Clearing the Air Scavenger Hunt

There’s still time for all UCR students, faculty, and staff to join the UCR Clearing the Air Scavenger Hunt! The hunt started on May 1 and ends on Monday, June 30. Take part in the hunt by taking note of how many “UC IS TOBACCO-FREE” signs you can find!. For details, go to wellness.ucr.edu/Current_and_UpcomingEvents.html.

Awards and Honors

Grad Student Wins UC President’s Postdoctoral Fellowship

Alicia Cox, a Ph.D. candidate in English at the University of California, Riverside, has won a prestigious UC President’s Postdoctoral Fellowship for 2014-15.

More than 500 applicants competed for 19 fellowships in a program that encourages outstanding women and minority Ph.D. recipients to pursue academic careers at the University of California. Approximately three-fourths of UC President’s Postdoctoral Fellows receive tenure-track faculty appointments.

“This highly competitive, prestigious award is a huge honor,” said Deborah Willis, chair of the Department of English. “Hundreds of applicants apply from all over the country, and only scholarship of the very highest order is recognized by this award. We are very proud of Alicia and the great work she is doing.”

The fellowship will provide a salary, benefits and research funding during a residency at UC Davis that will enable Cox to complete a book manuscript based on her dissertation, “Autobiographical Indiscipline: Queering American Indian Life Narratives.”

It also will put Cox on the path toward fulfilling a decade-old dream of teaching and mentoring college students, a dream that began on a study-abroad program in Great Britain in summer 2003. “We were visiting museums and reading literature in the context in which it was produced,” recalled Cox, who was then an undergraduate with no specific career aspirations at the University of Kansas. “I was so inspired and awakened to the possibilities for myself.”

UCR Professor Receives Hellman Fellowship for His Book Project

Robb Hernandez, assistant professor of English, has been awarded a Hellman Fellowship for 2014-2015 for his book project on “Archival Body/Archival Space: AIDS, Queer Remains, and the Chicano Avant-Garde.”

“Archival Body/Archival Space” will be the first book-length study to reveal a queer genealogy of Chicano avant-gardism, an experimental language of Chicano cultural production in Southern California emerging in the late 1960s, Hernandez said.
“These artists, notorious for their garish performance personas, provocative visual spectacles, and ‘live art’ embodiments, are obscure in the story of Chicano art due to erasure wrought by a prescient heteronormative vision of the past and the AIDS crisis,” he said. The project requires challenging new forms of fieldwork and the reconstruction of alternative archival bodies and spaces “to show how queerness remains, though scattered in a mélange of dust and debris.”

The $27,634 Hellman Fellowship will support additional research travel to El Museo Del Barrio in New York City, Smithsonian Archives of American Art in Washington, D.C., and the Colección Tloque Nahuaque at the University of California, Santa Barbara’s Davidson Library. Hernandez also will conduct extensive interviews and house visits with surviving friends, family, and artist-colleagues in Palm Springs, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Riviera Nayarit, Mexico. The fellowship also will support professional photo documentation and digital preservation of rare documents, artworks, and domestic interior displays.

“This is a great — and well-deserved — honor for Robb,” said Deborah Willis, department chair. “Robb’s work is richly compelling and important, and he is inventing a completely new way of doing archival research.”

Weihsin Gui, assistant professor of English, won the fellowship in 2012.

The Hellman Fellows Fund contributed funds to establish the UC Riverside Hellman Fellows Program to provide support and encouragement for the research and creative activities of promising faculty at the assistant professor rank who exhibit potential for great distinction in their area of expertise, according to the program website.

Women’s Tennis Earns NCAA Public Recognition Award For Fifth Straight Year

The NCAA announced Wednesday afternoon that the UC Riverside Women’s Tennis Team received a Public Recognition Award for its Academic Progress Rate for the fifth straight season.

The scores required to be in the top 10 ranged from 980 to a perfect 1,000, depending on the sport, with the majority of top 10 teams earning a perfect APR. The most recent APRs are rates based on scores from the 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 academic years.

The 1,049 teams publicly recognized for high achievement represent 631 women’s teams and 418 men’s or mixed squads. In 2013, 976 teams were recognized.

The APR measures eligibility, graduation and retention each semester or quarter and provides a clear picture of the academic performance for each team in each sport. The APR is an annual scorecard of academic achievement calculated for all Division I sports teams nationally. Teams must meet a certain academic threshold to qualify for the postseason, and they also can face penalties for continued low academic performance.

APRs for all Division I teams will be released May 14.

UCR Graduate Students Win Divisional Linnaean Games

Graduate students in the UC Riverside Department of Entomology won the Linnaean Games on April 7 in Tucson, Ariz., during the annual meeting of the Pacific Branch of the Entomological Society of America (ESA). In the finals, the UCR team competed with the University of Hawaii in the first round; UC Davis in the second round; and Washington State University in the final round.

The team, comprised of Genevieve Tauxe, Amelia Lindsey, James Ricci and Adena Why, received $500 to help defray travel expenses to the national meeting of the ESA, which will take place in November in Portland, Ore.
The UCR team practiced once a week for a couple of hours for several months prior to competition. There are several subdisciplines within entomology from which questions arise: apiculture, biological control, ecology, economic entomology, medical and veterinary entomology, physiology and biochemistry, taxonomy and toxicology. Bonus questions can come from any area of entomology but draw heavily on the areas of history, people and current events. Indeed, anything remotely involving insects and arthropods (e.g., spiders, centipedes, millipedes, etc.) is fair game.

“This is a dedicated group of students who enjoy competition and enjoy their chosen science discipline,” said Darcy Reed, an administrative specialist in the Department of Entomology, who helped train the UCR team. “It gives the students an opportunity to be recognized by potential employers in a less serious and stressful venue. And, if no one knows the answer to a question, it allows students to improvise and show their character — often in a humorous light!”

**Grad Slam Winners Announced**

Eight graduate students from UCR went head-to-head to see who could best summarize their research in three minutes at the inaugural GradSlam held on May 12. A $5,000 fellowship goes to the winner.

Grad Slam also awards $2,000 to the 1st runner-up, $1,000 to the 2nd runner-up, $1,000 to the audience’s choice, and $100 each to four honorable mentions.

The Grad Slam 2014 Winners:

**Grad Slam Grand Prize:** Aviva Goldmann, entomology

**1st Runner-up:** Steven Herrera, materials science and engineering

**2nd Runner-up:** Oleg Martynov, physics

**Audience Choice:** Amber Qureshi Urrutia, economics

**Honorable Mention:** Krista Lukas, creative writing

**Honorable Mention:** Michael Prather, political science

**Honorable Mention:** Megan Stotts, philosophy

**Honorable Mention:** Glen Svenningsen, chemical and environmental engineering

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**Research and Scholarship**

**Conway Paper Published**

A paper co-authored by Melissa Conway, head of Special Collections & University Archives in the UCR Libraries, was published in the April issue of *Manuscripta: A Journal for Manuscript Research*.

Conway and paper co-author Lisa Fagin Davis, acting executive director of the Medieval Academy of America in Cambridge, Massachusetts, co-authored “The Directory of Institutions in the United States and Canada with Pre-1600 Manuscript Holdings,” a survey of the almost 500 institutions — many of them public libraries — holding 45,000 pre-1600 manuscripts.

Manuscripta is published biannually by the Knights of Columbus Vatican Film Library in the Pius XII Memorial Library at St. Louis University. Published since 1957, the journal features articles and reviews on medieval and Renaissance manuscript production, distribution, reception, and transmission.

UCR Professor Served as a Panelist at a Climate Change Forum

California is the nation’s largest agricultural producer, with an output of $44.7 billion last year. Because it plays such a critical role in the state’s economy, agriculture also is the “canary in the coal mine,” signaling an early warning of the likely impacts of climate change.

On May 19, a forum in Sacramento titled “Climate Change: Challenges to California’s Agriculture and Natural Resources” and coordinated by the University of California Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics, focused on the future impact of climate change on California’s agriculture and natural resources.

UC Riverside’s Ariel Dinar, the director of the Water Science and Policy Center and professor of environmental economics, was a panelist at the forum. The one-day forum brought together leading economists, analysts, scientists and policymakers from the University of California, state government, nonprofits and the private sector.

Gov. Jerry Brown addressed the forum.

The Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics supports research in agricultural and resource economics on the Berkeley, Davis and Riverside campuses of the University of California.

Italian for Spanish Speakers

By Bettye Miller

Two new “Italian for Spanish Speakers” courses (ITAL020A and ITAL020B) will be offered in the first and second 2014 summer sessions. Qualified students who take both courses qualified will complete the equivalent of three quarters of regular Italian (ITAL 1-2-3) and will be able to enroll directly in Italian 4 in the fall.

ITAL020A also will be offered in the fall quarter, and ITAL020B in winter.

In order to qualify, students need to test out of or have completed Spanish 004, or the equivalent. No previous knowledge of Italian is required.

The summer courses, which will enroll up to 25 students, will be taught differently than traditional language classes, said Nicoletta Tinozzi Mehrmand, lecturer in Italian and Italian language coordinator. Students will compare and contrast the languages in a way that will help them appreciate the similarities and underline the differences, she explained, adding that traditional language classes are not designed to do that.

For additional information please email Mehrmand at nicoletta.tinozzi@ucr.edu or Dawn Whelchel at dawn.whelchel@ucr.edu.
GETTING PERSONAL: Tasha Hudson

Job: Executive Coordinator & Project Manager

At the Office of the Chancellor for two years now, Tasha Hudson notes that UCR’s diversity is her favorite part about working for the university. Similar to UCR’s campus, Hudson’s day-to-day tasks are just as diverse.

“I have my hands on a lot that happens in (the Office of the Chancellor). No two days are the same,” said Hudson.

“My current role is mainly behind-the-scenes overseeing the varied aspects of the chancellor’s executive searches and special projects. I also manage the chancellor’s correspondence, coordinate VIP visits and provide executive support to the associate chancellor.”

Out of all those responsibilities, Hudson says that executive searches are the best part of her job.

“Through executive searches, I get to meet with some of the best talent from all over the country. I really enjoy hosting candidates and learning more about their institutions and why they are interested in coming to UCR. Our campus is wonderfully unique and many candidates appreciate that to the fullest extent.”

When Hudson is not busily moving around her office, she spends her time moving across the dance floor.

“In my younger years, I used to work as a professional singer and dancer in Europe. I loved every minute of it! Now at this stage in my life, I’m really passionate about Middle and Near East dance styles, which include Egyptian Raks Sharki, better known in the U.S. as belly dance, and of course folkloric dancing,” Hudson enthusiastically stated.

“In 2011, I entered a belly dance competition and placed! The experience was absolutely rewarding and I plan to enter another competition in the near future.” — Bethanie Le

UCR’s School of Business Administration Wins Top Prizes at International Strategy Competition

By Kris Lovekin

Three student teams from the School of Business Administration recently competed in the 50th Annual International Collegiate Business Strategy Competition (ICBSC) in Anaheim, bringing back two first-place awards for “Outstanding Performance” as well as three honorable mentions.

“This is the longest running, most comprehensive business simulation competition in the world,” said Sean Jasso, a lecturer in management who advised the M.B.A. undergraduate teams.

Each team of six students is essentially a company competing in a simulated global marketplace. The students assume the roles of the managers of the organization from operations, marketing, accounting, finance, sales, and production to general management.
“Their weekly decisions are supported by hours of analysis, collaboration and debate from the team members,” Jasso said. “Some of the learning outcomes of the competition are related to managing team dynamics under pressure, designing effective forecast models within a volatile economy, managing inventories and the costs of production, and managing human resources such as deciding the effective rate of pay and commission for sales teams, controlling costs and returning value to shareholders.

The overarching results of the teams’ weekly efforts are displayed in a snapshot of the all-important net income and quarterly stock price. Teams are required to produce a comprehensive business plan and annual report which is read by both competing teams and judges.

After nearly three months of competing remotely, the 33 U.S. and international teams came to Anaheim to compete in the final intensive phase on April 24-26. The intensive phase alone consisted of eight quarterly decisions and an executive closed-door presentation to a panel of judges who serve as the board of directors.

This year, the ICBSC judges consisted of industry professionals from diverse backgrounds, including Chris Cook, a director in the merger and acquisition integration practice at PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC); John Primus, a 20-year commercial banker with Bank of America; and Chris Hernandez, vice president of advance program technology division at Northrop Grumman Aerospace.

“After three months of numerous hours each week beyond their normal course loads as well as many holding jobs outside of school, the ICBSC concluded with UCR’s SoBA teams competing at the highest levels and winning the top prizes,” Jasso said. “I want to congratulate the teams. And I’m thankful for the support of Dean Yunzeng Wang, Associate Dean Rami Zwick and Assistant Dean Kazi Mamun.”

Jasso said UC Riverside teams will return to the competition in 2015.

Who Says?

“So why is has it been so difficult? For one thing, you can’t farm spiders like silkworms for large-scale silk production. It would be like trying to rear and farm tigers. Because spiders are predatory, they are not very easy.”

*Cheryl Hayashi, professor of biology, on producing spider silk*

**AL JAZEERA AMERICA**

“A goodwill ambassador trip is important not only for Riverside, but America as well, to maintain healthy relationships with people in other countries at the personal level.”

*Loren Collingwood, assistant professor of political science, on competing in the Sendai, Japan half-marathon with Jacqueline Lutz. Each year Riverside sends a male and female participant to Sendai, a sister city.*

**THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE**

“Plexus was unlike any other fossil that we know from the Precambrian.”

*Mary L. Droser, professor of geology, on Plexus ricei, a fossil of a new organism from the Ediacaran period of geologic time that was discovered by UCR scientists*

**E! SCIENCE NEWS**
“When the infestation is on the trunk, there is nothing that can be done and the tree will die.”

*Akif Eskalen, assistant plant pathologist, on bark canker disease that is threatening California’s coast live oaks*

**THE TELEGRAPH**

“The process can be slow and tedious. We have since transitioned the mass production of wasps to CDFA and they are working with financial support from USDA to mass rear and release the parasites.”

*Mark Hoddle, director of the Center for Invasive Species Research, on how the U.S. Department of Agriculture is expanding the use of the wasp in order to fight citrus greening in California*

**LOS ANGELES TIMES**

“In the view of the officials these are two different cases. She was having an affair, that’s one case. But she was raped, that’s another. ... They will focus on the woman, not the eight men and that’s the problem.”

*Muhamad Ali, assistant professor of religious studies, on how a 25-year-old Indonesian woman who was gang-raped by eight men for committing adultery may face public caning in violation of Shari’ah Law*

**VICE MAGAZINE**

“Besides giving us a glimpse of what will be required for a practical device if it is ever attempted, including details of the (radio frequency) pulse structure that would be needed, this paper introduces the fascinating physics that could be explored using a (Bose Einstein condensate).”

*Allen P. Mills, professor of physics and astronomy, on research on how to build gamma-ray lasers powered by an exotic hybrid of matter and antimatter*

**YAHOO! NEWS**

“Graphene is a wonderful material. ... Since it is both transparent and electrically conductive, it has tremendous potential as the transparent electrode in monitors, displays, solar cells and touch screens.”

*Jeanie Lau, professor of physics, on the business potential of graphene*

**FORTUNE**

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***The Top: Best Events of the Next Two Weeks***

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

Each issue, we’re presenting a list of UCR staff and faculty favorites— from walking spots to gardens to events. This week, we are featuring the top UCR event coming in the next two weeks. Looks like there’s plenty to do in Riverside!

If you have a favorite spot you’d like featured or an activity you’d like to share, email lille.bose@ucr.edu.

1. “An Evening with Shola Lynch”
Renowned documentarian Shola Lynch will come back to UCR for the first time since 2006 for “An Evening with Shola Lynch,” which features a presentation and discussion of her career, followed by a screening of her 2012 documentary “Free Angela and All Political Prisoners.” The presentation and screening will be held on May 21, 6 p.m., at the University Theatre. The event is free and open to the public.

2. Garden Make-Over

The week of fun events from Staff Assembly Community Week will end with a beautification project. On May 22 at noon, volunteers will make-over a garden area on the northeast side of Boyce Hall. Gloves, shovels and supplies will be provided. RSVP for the event and read more about Community Week at ucrtoday.ucr.edu/22254.

3. Music of the Renaissance and Chamber Music

UCR Collegium Musicum will reawaken the timeless beauty of Italian Music from the Renaissance and early Baroque eras on May 22. The concert will go on at 8 p.m. in the Arts Building Performance Lab (ARTS) Room 166. Also included on the program is classical music performed by UCR Chamber Music Ensembles.

4. Start Smart Workshop

Co-hosted by the UCR Women’s Resource Center and The Leadership Community for Women Club, the Start Smart workshop teaches women how to overcome the gender wage gap and how to negotiate the pay that they deserve. The free, two-day, four-hour workshop will be held on May 28 and 29, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. each day in Interdisciplinary South (INTS) Room 1113. It is open to everyone, with no sign-up required. For questions about the program, email tlc4wc@gmail.com.

5. UCR Chamber Singers: Justice Songs

The UCR Chamber Singers present justice songs of freedom, protest, inspiration and humor by Pete Seeger, Bob Dylan, Nina Simone, and Laura Nyro – in choral settings by Gene Glickman. The concert will be held on May 31 at 8 p.m. in the Arts Building Performance Labs (ARTS) Room 166. Tickets are $10 for the general public. There is another performance scheduled on June 1 at 3 p.m. at Calvary Presbyterian Church (4495 Magnolia Ave.). This concert will be free and open to the public.


To round off Chancellor Kim Wilcox’s symposia, Peter McPherson, president of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities, will speak at 4 p.m. May 30 at the Materials Science and Engineering Building (MS&E), Room 0116.

UCR faculty members leading the response are Jodie Holt, professor of botany in the College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, and Sharon Walker, associate professor of chemical and environmental engineering at the Bourns College of Engineering.

“The talks [two of which have happened] will build on the ideas put forth in the chancellor’s speech about the right way for UCR to grow and develop over the next five years,” said Dallas Rabenstein, UCR’s Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost.

7. Spike Lee to Speak at UC Riverside on May 29

The renowned writer, director and producer Spike Lee will speak at the UCR Student Recreation Center on Thursday, May 29. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the event begins at 7 p.m.

Lee is best known for his reinventing independent cinema and revolutionizing the role of black talent in
Offering original, politically inspired and thought-provoking keynotes, Lee challenges audiences’ cultural assumptions about race, class, and gender identity. Among the nearly 60 works in his filmography are well known titles including “Do the Right Thing,” “Mo’ Better Blues,” He Got Game, Malcolm X, and When the Levees Broke.

The ticketed event is limited to just 1,200 attendees. Students get in free, but others who want to attend can get ticket for $10 from the UCR Fine Arts Ticket Office (across from Olmstead Hall), with a limit of five tickets per person. Individuals must show a UCR ID employee or student ID to pick up the tickets. Tickets may also be purchased from Ticketmaster.com, but must be picked up in person from the ticket office by someone with a UCR ID.

Dr. G. Richard Olds Celebrates his Fatherp and MLK Jr. at Springfield College Commencement Ceremony

The Dean of the School of Medicine also received an honorary degree

Dr. G. Richard Olds gave the commencement address at Springfield College a week ago as part of the campus’s 50th anniversary celebration of Martin Luther King Jr.’s visit to Springfield in 1964. King gave the commencement speech that year.

Olds spent his childhood, from ages 7 to 15, at the Springfield College campus, as his father, Glenn, was president of Springfield.

“Dr. Cooper, members of the faculty, members of the graduating class of this great institution of learning, ladies and gentlemen; I need not pause to say how very delighted I am to be here this afternoon.” Olds began his address exactly the same way Martin Luther King, Jr. began his commencement address on June 14, 1964, except that he substituted President Mary-Beth Cooper’s name for his father’s. King’s commencement address has been described as one of Springfield’s’ finest moments.

“To the Class of 2014, I would point out that the future will often place many obstacles in your way,” said Olds in his speech. “The road will not always be easy. You will need to find the inner strength to overcome those obstacles and be guided by your own moral compass. Fight for what you believe in with your whole body, mind, and spirit. Let the spirit of Springfield College guide your future as it did for my father.”

He recalled stories told by his father of getting calls from the FBI telling him to cancel King’s speech. King was arrested two days before the event and Glenn Olds threatened to broadcast the speech from jail if he was not released. King was quickly released on $900 bail, Richard Olds said.