Exploring Methods to Become a More Efficient UCR

April 14 talk by Omar Reid of the city of Houston will focus on HR practices

By Lilledeshan Bose

Omar Reid of the city of Houston will present the third session of UCR’s Organizational Excellence Speaker Series at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 14 at the Highlander Union Building.

This is the third in a series of four presentations hosted by Maria Anguiano, vice chancellor of planning and budget, and Ron T. Coley, vice chancellor of business and administrative services. The goal is to bring to UCR a view into the different ways other organizations are improving their operations and procedures.

Peggy Huston, chief operating officer of UC Berkeley’s Campus Shared Services, a campus efficiency and staff realignment program, was the featured speaker at the second session held on Wednesday, March 25 for an audience of about 230 people.

As the previous head of UC Berkeley’s Operational Excellence Program Office (OEPO), Huston led Berkeley’s effort to improve and streamline its administrative services, processes, technologies, and metrics.

“If you wanted to talk about shared services, there was one place you had to look, there was one model – and that was UC Berkeley,” said Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Paul D’Anieri in his introduction. “That’s the place that everybody tells you has done it the most and done it the best.”

At Berkeley, Huston led the process to form exploratory design teams for seven campuswide improvement areas: energy, IT, finance, high performance culture, organizational simplification, procurement, and student services.
The OEPO coordinated the development and assessment of 50 project proposals for campus administrative improvements, which were vetted and approved by an executive committee consisting of the chancellor, provost, vice chancellor for administration and finance, and select members of faculty, staff, and students.

According to the OEPO website, the office advances UC Berkeley’s financial sustainability by offering expertise, services, and tools to support ideas that generate new revenue, reduce costs, or improve administrative operations. It is a vital part of Berkeley’s effort to establish a sustainable financial model for the future.

The website also notes that the program has achieved more than $63 million in cumulative savings to date and is making great progress toward a goal of achieving $75 million in annual savings. These improvements affected almost everyone on campus, and the OEPO oversaw the implementation of these changes.

Huston emphasized that organizational excellence isn’t just about saving money, but rather about making administrative operations more efficient to help the campus better deliver on the mission of teaching, research, and service.

To implement the program, UC Berkeley had a few things going for it: leadership will, a strategy and focus. “We clearly identified the case for change, and we focused the effort in the areas that had the greatest potential to develop a foundation upon which we could continue to build,” Huston said.

After her presentation, Huston led a Q&A and an exercise for the audience to identify various challenges at UCR and how they could be solved.

On May 26, in HUB 302, Anguiano and Coley will hold a campus conversation with people who have participated in the speaker series. The discussion will help process what we’ve learned and the path forward, and consider how UCR will tackle organizational excellence on campus. All UCR faculty, staff, and students are invited to the next two events:

- “Implementation & Standardization of HR Systems/Processes” by Omar Reid, city of Houston
  Tuesday, April 14, 1:30-4:30 p.m., HUB 302

- “Project Management Office at UC San Francisco” by Mara Fellouris
  Monday, May 11, 1:30-4:30 p.m., HUB 302

R.S.V.P. for the following events — all free — via: bit.ly/ucr-fulfill or (951) 827-6030.

For more information, or to become more actively involved in the organizational excellence process, please contact the Organizational Excellence Committee at organizationalexcellence@ucr.edu.

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**The Ohio State University’s Kalu Named Vice Provost for International Affairs at UC Riverside**

*Kalu is an expert in university globalization, international affairs and West African politics*

By Kris Lovekin

Kelechi A. Kalu, Ph.D., an expert in university globalization, international affairs and West African politics, has been named vice provost for international affairs at UCR.

Kalu will join UCR on June 1, leaving his post as associate provost for global strategies and international affairs at The Ohio State University. Kalu was also named professor of political science in the UCR College of
In the position of vice provost, Kalu will oversee UCR’s international programs and engagement. UCR currently hosts students from more than 60 nations, and its faculty research features dozens of international research activities touching all continents.

“Scholarship, education, and engagement are increasingly global as well as local enterprises, and UCR has a rich tradition connecting our students and our region to the entire globe,” said Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Paul D’Anieri. “Professor Kalu has the talent, experience, and enthusiasm to lead our expanding international initiatives. He rose to the top of a talented pool in a competitive national search.”

Said Kalu: “My professional passion is for connecting people, ideas, and spaces within the context of international affairs. UC Riverside has an excellent base for global engagement, and I look forward to building new opportunities for international collaborative research programs, expanding student exchange opportunities, and helping the campus become a vital center for global engagement in California and the nation.”

“One of our most important responsibilities as educators is to ensure that our students become individuals who can see beyond their immediate personal environments and adapt to new international contexts for social and work relations. It requires more than mere acquaintance with different cuisines and music [although these are important], but the development of a high level of cognitive skills which can enable them to solve problems ranging from local to global.”

In his new position, he will earn $210,000 per year.

D’Anieri thanked search chair, Professor David Herzberger, and his fellow committee members for their service. Members of the committee were:

- David Herzberger, professor, Hispanic studies and committee chair
- Ayana Best, undergraduate student
- Marcelle Chauvet, professor of economics
- Exequiel Ezcurra, director, UC-MEXUS and professor, botany and plant sciences
- Edgar Tellez Foster, graduate student
- Anthony Huang, professor, botany and plant sciences
- Bronwyn Jenkins-Deas, director, international education programs
- Mariam Lam, associate professor, comparative literature and foreign languages
- Stefano Lonardi, professor, computer science and engineering
- Christina Schwenkel, associate professor, anthropology
- Sheldon Tan, professor, electrical engineering
- Yinsheng Wang, professor, chemistry
- Gillian Wilson, professor, physics
Elaine Wong, assistant professor, School of Business Administration

About Kelechi Kalu

Kelechi Kalu has served The Ohio State University as associate provost for global strategies and international affairs since 2012. He is also a professor of African American and African Studies specializing in African and Third World politics, development and underdevelopment studies, globalization, ethnic politics and state reconstruction in Africa, as well as the political economy of foreign relations.

Kalu is author of “Economic Development and Nigerian Foreign Policy” (Edwin Mellen Press, 2000). He is editor of and contributor to “Agenda Setting and Public Policy in Africa” (Aldershot, 2004). Most recently he published “West Africa and the U.S. War on Terror” (Routledge, 2012), edited with George Kieh and based on a 2009 Mershon Center conference. His current book project is on political restructuring in post-conflict states in Africa, which is part of a larger project funded by The Ford Foundation.


Kalu is a Korea Foundation visiting scholar at Ewha Womans University, and has previously held positions at the University of Denver, the University of Dayton and the University of Northern Colorado. He has served as a consultant to the World Bank on Public Sector Governance. He was also director of the Center for African Studies at Ohio State from 2009-12.

Kalu earned a bachelor’s degree in political science and economics at the University of North Texas, a master’s degree in political science and international affairs from the University of Dayton, Dayton, Ohio and a doctorate in international studies from the Josef Korbel School of International Studies at the University of Denver.

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Town Hall Touches on UCR Budget, Faculty Expansion Update and Organizational Excellence Speaker Series

Upcoming changes to various processes around campus will help UCR achieve UCR 2020 Strategic Plan, says Wilcox

By Lilledeshan Bose

Chancellor Kim A. Wilcox held a Town Hall on Monday, March 30.

It included a discussion on the new budgeting system for the campus, an update on the faculty hiring process and the Organizational Excellence series at UCR.

Budget Implementation
“UCR is in a period of intense change and tremendous growth, driving transformation to achieve its UCR 2020 Strategic Plan,” said Vice Chancellor Maria Anguiano as she presented the UCR cabinet’s progress on the budget’s implementation.

To do this, UCR is assessing the implementation of a performance- and incentive-based budget model. “There is no one best budget model,” she said. “Our model has to be designed specifically to accomplish what UC Riverside wants to accomplish.”

She said a UCR budget needs to be flexible, transparent, strategic, risk-tolerant and logical. She said still ahead is collaboration between the Academic Senate, deans and financial administrators. The new budget design will be deployed through a phased approach, starting with testing in 2015-2016. It is set to go live in academic year 2016-17.

**Faculty Expansion**

Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Paul D’Anieri and Vice Chancellor for Business and Administration Ron Coley also gave updates on both the faculty expansion and the Organizational Excellence series.

D’Anieri says that UCR is on track to expand the number of faculty by 300 more in 2020. “The quality of our faculty is very, very high, but the numbers are quite low,” he said. Currently, the deans of the respective colleges are communicating their priorities, and the provost’s office is overseeing a faculty hiring process modeled on faculty proposals. On May 1, initial announcements will be made regarding the hiring process, D’Anieri said.

**The Path to Organizational Excellence**

“In order for the promise to actually be realized, we on the administrative side have to up our game a bit,” Coley said. This was the motivation behind the current Organizational Excellence Speaker Series, which Coley and Anguiano are hosting. At the end of the speaker series, participants will convene to discuss the best path to UCR’s own organizational excellence, via what was gleaned from processes at different institutions around the country. Speakers from the University of Washington and UC Berkeley spoke at the first two events; the city of Houston and UC San Francisco will talk about processes at their institutions on April 14 and May 11, respectively.

In closing, Wilcox said that the various initiatives for change are being set in motion to help the campus become a better place. “Academics are at the center, because that is what leads us,” Wilcox said in closing. “But our administrative operations are not robust enough and efficient enough. ... We want to be at a place where most of the campus says, ‘Yes, we have changed things here and for the better.’”

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**Stolen Computer at UCR Triggers Potential Breach of Personal Information of 8,000**

*UC Riverside issues a warning to graduate students about the potential for identity theft*

By Kris Lovekin

A computer stolen during a recent break-in at UC Riverside contained Social Security number information for almost 8,000 graduate student applicants, admitted graduate students, and other related individuals.

Although there is no current evidence that the information contained on the computer has been used for
identity theft, in accordance with California law, UC Riverside is now informing the individuals whose information could have been compromised.

“We sincerely regret that the theft of a computer led to the potential disclosure of personal information at UC Riverside,” said UCR Graduate Division Dean Joseph Childers. “We have taken steps to individually notify each person whose information could have been compromised. In addition, we have set up a toll-free call number to provide information to these persons.”

According to UCR policy, all sensitive data on individuals contained on campus computers must be protected, but the device in question had not been encrypted.

The incident began on the morning of Friday, March 13, when a window was discovered broken and a computer was missing from the University Office Building, which houses the UCR Graduate Division offices.

A police report was filed, and UCR Police are looking into the incident. Anyone with information about the theft is asked to contact UCRPD at 951-827-5222.

Those wishing to make an anonymous tip may use this link: http://police.ucr.edu/anon.html

Individuals who have been informed via United States mail that their data may have been compromised may also contact the UCR department of Risk Management (contact information below).

Individuals who have been contacted via US mail should note that the University will not contact them again to confirm any personal information; therefore, if asked, respondents should not give out any additional information.

UCR Risk Management Contact Information
Telephone: 866-827-4844
E-mail: risk@ucr.edu

A Top Chef at UCR
Residence hall chef wins silver medal at National Association of College and University Food Services Conference

By Mojgan Sherkat

It’s no secret, residential hall dining has gotten a bit more upscale at UCR. UCR Dining Services prides itself on high-quality, authentic, healthy cuisine options. And now it can add award-winning chef to the list of things to be proud of when it comes to dining on campus.

Charley Johnson is the chef at Aberdeen-Inverness Residential Restaurant, the residential hall better known as A&I. Chef Charley won third place and the American Culinary Federation (ACF) Silver Medal for his Tandoori-style buffalo flank steak roulade at the National Association of College and University Food Services Conference in Santa Cruz. It’s an annual competition where chefs are critiqued in a variety of categories including creativity, flavor, and presentation, but it was Johnson’s first time competing.

Up against 10 highly talented chefs from regional colleges and universities, Johnson’s decadent, melt-in-your-mouth piece of meat stood out for the judges. He said his secret is the use of classic techniques. “The way
I prepared the meat, the way I created the sauce, even the side potatoes, it was all based on a classical French cooking technique,” said Johnson.

The inspiration for his winning dish came from an Indian dish called palak paneer. The popular Northern Indian vegetarian curry is made of spinach and cheese, and was the theme for the filling of his roulade. Johnson said he came up with his own spice blends, hoping his originality would earn him a top spot in the conference – and it did.

“The judges really liked the way I worked. They said I was well organized, and I work cleanly – that’s the best compliment I could get,” he explained, noting that he takes pride in his orderly fashion.

Johnson said this was his first time competing in a conference of this intensity. He had five minutes to set up, one hour to cook, and 10 minutes to plate the dish. “I wanted to challenge myself,” he said, “it was learning experience, a way to develop myself as a chef.”

He also credits his team at UCR for his success, from input from his co-workers on how to improve the dish, to his manager, Executive Chef Lanette Dickerson, who he said coached him and pushed him to the next level.

While you wouldn’t find this intricate dish being served at A&I, Johnson said you’d find plenty of other delectable options, like herb roasted whole chicken, grilled tilapia, or even Korean tacos.

So does he plan on competing again next year? The simple answer: no. But, Johnson said, it is possible he’ll take another shot at it in the future.

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**Martin Baron of the Washington Post Describes the New Digital Neighborhood**

*The speaker at the Hays Press-Enterprise Lecture held on Tuesday, April 7, sees exciting future for American journalism*

By Kris Lovekin

Washington Post Executive Editor Marty Baron said journalists — like immigrants to a new country — must adapt quickly and optimistically to the digital world. They must leave behind the antiques of the family home, including paper, the importance of the “front page” and an intentional ignorance about the business side of the newspaper.

He spoke at UCR on Tuesday, April 7, as the 47th in a line of prominent journalists who have been invited to deliver the Hays Press-Enterprise Lecture, founded by the late Howard H “Tim” Hays, a longtime editor and publisher of The Press-Enterprise in Riverside.

Baron, with an audience that included some of his former colleagues from the Los Angeles Times, said there are items from the family home that must be carried into the new digital world, including eyewitness accounts, compelling storytelling, vigorous editing, impeccable integrity and the willingness to risk everything. Three “c”s that must not be abandoned, he said, are coherence, completeness and conscience.

“We cannot let investigative muscles atrophy in our profession,” he said. “Especially now, when the power of government is growing. When the power of the wealthiest has expanded beyond all imagined limits. When the dark arts of image manipulation have been perfected. Especially now when those who should be watched assume we in the press have lost strength and will to be watchdogs.
“If we as journalists abandon that mission — because we say we can’t afford it, because we claim it’s not cost-effective, or because risks seem too great — we will betray the foundational principle of a free press. It would be the most irresponsible thing we could do.”

The annual Hays/Press-Enterprise lecture honors the legacy of Howard H “Tim” Hays, Jr., the longtime owner and publisher of The Press-Enterprise newspaper. His son, Tom Hays, created an endowment fund to make sure the tradition of the lecture lived on in Riverside even after his father’s death in 2011.

**Tuskegee Airmen Exhibit Opens at UC Riverside’s Rivera Library**

*Aim High / Rise Above: The Legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen* is on display to the public

**By Sara Fitzgerald**

The Tomás Rivera Library has unveiled its newest exhibition, “Aim High / Rise Above: The Legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen,” honoring the lives and legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen of World War II.

Comprising the all-black 332nd Fighter Group and 477th Bombardment Group of the United States Army Air Forces, the Tuskegee Airmen were the first African-American military aviators in the U.S. Armed Forces.

The UCR Library has been collecting historical materials related to the Tuskegee Airmen since 2005, with a focus on building a renowned research collection that can support the work of our faculty and students. Materials from the UCR Library collection were used to design the exhibit, which focuses on three personal papers collections of Tuskegee Airmen from California — Arthur C. Harmon, Paul Lehman, and William R. Melton — and the path to equal opportunity they paved for future generations.

Among the objects in the exhibit are three award-winning seed portraits made wholly of natural materials, as well as a replica of the Congressional Gold Medal issued collectively to the Tuskegee Airmen by President George W. Bush in 2007.

“Our goal with the exhibit is to highlight how our collection of Tuskegee materials is significant for supporting research activity locally, regionally, and nationally,” said Bergis Jules, who is the university and political papers archivist and curator of African American collections. “We are proud to have been entrusted with these materials and excited to continue to grow the collection to document even more of this important history.”

“The task force established to oversee the development and installation of the exhibit has really raised the bar for exhibits produced by the UCR Library,” says University Librarian Steve Mandeville-Gamble. The new exhibit cases and specialty design are comparable to elite libraries and museums across the world. The goal, he said, is to share the library’s unique and special collections with students, faculty, staff, and the general public in a visually appealing and interactive way.

“Aim High / Rise Above: The Legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen” is now on display in the North Wing of Tomás Rivera Library, on the first floor. Please see library.ucr.edu for open hours.

**Lecture Series to Address the Science of Food and Health**

*Free public lectures at UC Riverside will cover cowpea research, sustainable food and nutrition’s impact on health; first talk to focus on feeding Botswana*

**By Iqbal Pittalwala**
What we eat is central to our health. In keeping with this idea, a lecture series on the science of food and health begins at UCR on Thursday, April 9.

The lectures – four in total – are presented by the College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences in partnership with the California Agriculture and Food Enterprise (CAFÉ) at UCR and the UC Global Food Initiative.

All the lectures are free and open to the public, with no charge for parking. They will take place from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in Rooms D and E, UC Riverside Extension Center, 1200 University Avenue, Riverside. Seating is open.

“From global hunger to the Food Network to obesity to Michael Pollan, never before has popular interest in food been so strong,” said Norm Ellstrand, a professor of genetics at UCR and the campus lead for creating the CAFÉ institute. “It’s time for UCR’s best to share with our community what we’ve already done regarding the science of the food-health interface.”

The April 9 lecture is titled “Feeding Botswana: From Field to Lab to Vaccine.” It will be given by UCR alumnus Larry K. Grill of the Keck Graduate Institute (KGI), Claremont.

“Safe and effective vaccines and therapeutics are being produced using plant-based systems, including a revolutionary Ebola therapeutic treatment currently being tested on humans in Africa,” said Grill, the dean of research and the director of the Vaccine Research Center, which has research laboratories at both KGI and Pitzer College. “There have been several technological advances with this methodology. The products have had positive results in clinical trials with some proceeding through the FDA approval process, and are being used to save lives. These plant-produced vaccines and therapeutics can reduce the cost so that they can be used in the poorer, less developed African countries.”

In his talk, Grill will provide updated information on KGI’s collaboration with partners in Botswana and Kenya to develop low cost vaccines for several devastating cattle diseases in Africa.

“Our collaborators in Africa have identified several devastating diseases for cattle and we have used the new technologies in the lab to make and test the vaccines,” he said. “We have found plant-produced vaccines to be safe and effective in multiple animal trials performed here in the United States. We are now making plans to test the vaccine candidates on cattle in the field in Botswana to see if we can safely protect the animals from disease and assist with the food problems that exist in Africa.”

Grill noted that since 2009 the students working at the Vaccine Development Center have been involved in collaborative research projects to develop low cost vaccines for economically important diseases in developing countries. The primary collaborators in Africa include researchers at the University of Botswana and the Botswana Vaccine Institute, which are located in Gaborone, Botswana.

Grill also teaches courses at the Claremont Colleges Keck Science Department and at KGI. Prior to joining the Claremont colleges, he was one of founders of Large Scale Biology Corporation (LSBC), which became a publicly-held company in 2000. The biotechnology company made therapeutic drugs, pharmaceuticals and vaccines using a unique plant viral gene expression system utilizing technology originating at UC Riverside. LSBC garnered an international reputation as an innovator in biomanufacturing in plants and produced multi-kilogram quantities of therapeutic proteins and vaccine candidates. They had successful human clinical trials, producing patient-specific vaccines as a therapeutic treatment for non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma cancer patients.

Grill received his Ph.D. in plant pathology at UC Riverside in 1979. He has published more than 25 peer-reviewed scientific papers and is an inventor on more than 30 issued U.S. and world patents.
The other three talks in “The Science of Food and Health” series are:

- “Food Security for Africa: The Cowpea Story From Lab to Plate” on April 23.
- “Seeds of Change: UCR’s Healthy and Sustainable Food Initiative” on May 7.

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**UC Recognizes National Sexual Assault Awareness Month with Activities Systemwide**

*UCR and other campuses will hold panel discussions, rallies and other events throughout April*

By UCOP

University of California campuses will hold panel discussions, rallies and other events throughout April to recognize Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The activities, part of UC’s ongoing efforts to address sexual violence on campuses, are aimed at educating students, faculty and staff about sexual violence and to highlight campus resources for prevention education and support.

Since last summer, UC has taken important steps to assess its existing policies and programs, identify areas for improvement and begin implementing a comprehensive, consistent approach to addressing sexual violence across its system.

“It’s critical that we have measures in place to effectively deal with sexual violence, and that we do everything we can to build a culture of trust, respect and safety on our campuses,” said UC President Janet Napolitano. “The steps we are taking are all part of our goal to ensure UC is a welcoming and safe place for everyone.”

Panel discussions and talks in April will center on topics such as bystander intervention, consent, and how sexual violence impacts women, men and the LGBT community. Campuses are also planning Take Back the Night marches, the Clothesline Project with T-shirts designed by survivors of sexual violence and their loved ones, and Denim Day when people wear jeans as a symbol of protest against misconceptions around sexual assault.

In addition, campuses are providing opportunities for students, faculty and staff to meet their trained campus professionals who provide support, guidance and resources around sexual violence.

In June 2014, Napolitano created a universitywide task force to evaluate UC’s policies and practices and offer recommendations about how the university can more effectively address sexual violence.

UC began implementing the task force’s recommendations in January, including creating a full-time, confidential advocate and support office on each campus and establishing a consistent and effective model for responding to sexual violence across the university system.

Additional recommendations will be implemented this July. These will include a comprehensive education and training program, setting unified investigation and adjudication standards and sanctions, and providing appropriate services to those responding to allegations.

A UCR celebration at the bell tower on April 1 launched the “It’s On Us” campaign to make the point that...
every person should make sure that sexual assault is stopped before it begins.

A t-shirt giveaway, a photo booth and music provided the background for an important message, and for the campus community to take the pledge: http://go.ucr.edu/itsonus/

• To RECOGNIZE that non-consensual sex is sexual assault.
• To IDENTIFY situations in which sexual assault may occur.
• To INTERVENE in situations where consent has not or cannot be given.
• To CREATE an environment in which sexual assault is unacceptable and survivors are supported.

Spectators at the UCR baseball game received “It’s On Us” t-shirts on Thursday, April 2. On Tuesday, April 7, peer mentors held a discussion session with students called “Sexual Consent: The Art of Communication.

Opportunities ahead in the month of April:

• 7 p.m., Wednesday, April 8 – Eve Ensler’s award winning play, “Vagina Monologues,” produced by students. A second show will be held on April 21.
• April 11 – 12 and 2 p.m. UCR Softball will give out “It’s On Us” T-shirts
• April 13 to 17 – The HUB display wall highlights events all week.
• April 16 – 5 p.m. – “Nobody Knew” is a speaker who will talk about surviving domestic violence and sexual abuse.
• April 22 – Wear denim to show support for the prevention of sexual violence
• April 30 – 6 p.m. “Take Back the Night Speakout Event” at the HUB will allow survivors to tell their story and make vision boards for a safer future.

**Poetry Then, Poetry Now: A Poet Laureate and His Legacy**

*Join UCR Gluck creative writing fellows in the month of April for free poetry readings and writing workshops*

*By Shane Shukis*

April is National Poetry Month.

Created by the American Academy of Poets, National Poetry Month is the largest literary celebration in the world, filled with activities and events that celebrate poetry’s vital place in American culture. Professor of Poetry Emeritus Juan Felipe Herrera could not possibly contain himself to just one month, however, nor even to a single year. Poetry was not just his passion; it was also his assignment.

As poet laureate of California from 2012 to 2014 – a two-year position to which Gov. Jerry Brown appointed him – his mission was to move the location of poetry and its power beyond traditional classrooms and librar-
ies and out across the state, to unconventional places and circumstances where poetry can have a tangible and immediate impact on life.

**An Unnecessary Tragedy, A Compelling Reason for Poetry**

In April 2013, Herrera launched the i-Promise Joanna project. Named for 10-year-old Joanna Ramos, who died of injuries suffered in a fight in 2012, i-Promise Joanna was an anti-bullying campaign based on a poem he wrote in response to the tragedy. It launched with nearly 100 fifth-graders from Moreno Valley’s Towngate Elementary School who attended UC Riverside’s Gluck Day of the Arts, and continued with UCR Gluck Fellows going to elementary schools, reading Herrera’s poem, and having the students respond with pledges to find peaceful solutions (http://ucrtoday.ucr.edu/14998).

**One poem, a Thousand Voices**

But he was not done. In October 2014, he culminated a two-year, literary, open-source campaign by debuting “The Most Incredible and Biggest and Most Amazing Poem on Unity in the World” as part of a Unity Fiesta at UCR that drew hundreds of participants and a Unity Choir from Bethune Elementary School (http://ucrtoday.ucr.edu/24745). Anyone, anywhere could submit a line. There was no editor; there were no boundaries. They could even submit via Facebook and Twitter. “I’m going to invite everyone to write a line, a word, a phrase, a stanza — a poem if you want — on unity. All views are welcome — all languages, all styles,” said Herrera of his approach. Over 170 pages long with hundreds of voices melding together, it embodied his tenure as poet laureate, acting as an instigator and architect to connect people with poetry in common cause for positive change.

**Poetry Then, Poetry Now**

Although Herrera is no longer poet laureate, his example lives on at UCR. For National Poetry Month, the Gluck Fellows Program of the Arts at UCR is teaming up with Riverside institutions to bring free poetry and writing events to the public. On April 2, Mosaic Art and Literary Journal will host an open-mic night at the Riverside Art Museum, where avid poets and writers can share their work in the midst of the creative community during Downtown Riverside’s First Thursday Art Walk. The event begins at 6 p.m.

Gluck Program creative writing fellows will also give four free poetry workshops in April, “How to Jump-start Your Creativity: Electrify Through Poetry and Other Charged Art Forms,” in conjunction with the Inlandia Institute and Cellar Door Books at Canyon Crest Town Center. All workshops will begin at 5:30 p.m.

- April 17: “Dream Machine,” with Angela Penaredondo
- April 20: “Music + Art + Words = Writing for Surprise,” with Krista Lukas

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**U.K. Health Policy Researcher to Speak April 9**

*Mike Saks will address the changing medical profession in Britain, the U.S.*

By Bettye Miller

Mike Saks, a health policy researcher in the U.K., will discuss “Between the State and the Market: The Changing Medical Profession in Britain and the United States” at UC Riverside on Thursday, April 9 at 12:30 p.m.

The event, part of the School of Public Policy Seminar Series, will be held in Humanities 1500. It is free and open to the public.
The School of Public Policy seminar will examine medicine as a profession as it has developed both historically and in modern times in Great Britain and the United States. Saks contends that there are fundamental differences in socio-political philosophy that have shaped medical professional development in both nations, particularly with regard to the relative role and importance of the state and the market in forging health policy.

“The various shifts in the position of the medical profession, including most recently trends in re stratification and deprofessionalization in the face of citizen lobbies, government policy and growing corporatization raise important questions about the future of professionalization in the Anglo-American context,” he says.

Saks is a research professor in health policy at University Campus Suffolk, England, and a visiting professor at the University of Lincoln in East Anglia, England, and the University of Toronto, Canada. He has served on National Health Service committees at all levels, from the changing health care workforce to research and development, and chaired the U.K. Human Tissue Bank and the Research Council for Complementary Medicine. He holds a doctorate in sociology from the London School of Economics.

The health policy scholar has published extensively on health, professions, regulation and research methods. Among his books are “Rethinking Professional Governance: International Directions in Health Care” (Policy Press, 2008), “Researching Health: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods” (Sage, 2013) and “The Professions, State and the Market: Medicine in Britain, the United States and Russia” (Routledge, forthcoming).

Internationally, he has engaged in large-scale funded research, from the changing attitudes of physicians with the Russian Academy of Sciences in Moscow to care in the community with the University of Toronto. In 2014 he advised the Canadian government federally and in the provinces/territories on scopes of health care practice as a recipient of the Best Brains Exchange Award from Health Canada and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. He is the current vice president of the International Sociological Association Research Committee on Professional Groups, with a membership drawn from some 30 countries, following a four-year term as president.

The seminar is co-sponsored by the UCR Department of Sociology, School of Public Policy, School of Medicine, One Health Center, and the Graduate School of Education.

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**Walk Riverside Results to be Presented April 9**

*Study suggests how to transform older neighborhoods into walkable communities*

**By Bettye Miller**

Results of a UC Riverside study to promote walkable neighborhoods in Riverside will be presented on Thursday, April 9, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the UCR College of Engineering-Center for Environmental Research and Technology (CE-CERT), 1084 Columbia Ave., Riverside.

The presentation, “Walk Riverside: Community-based Planning for Sustainable Lifestyles,” is free and open to the public. It is part of the Randall Lewis Seminar Series presented by the UCR Center for Sustainable Suburban Development (CSSD).

Juliann Emmons Allison, CSSD associate director, and Nancy Jimeno, a lecturer at CSU Fullerton, will present their findings from the Walk Riverside project that began in 2013. Walk Riverside is a CSSD research project aimed at making neighborhoods less reliant on cars for shopping and other activities.

The center received $227,000 of a $250,000, two-year grant the California Department of Transporta-
tion (Caltrans) awarded the Riverside County Transportation Commission in 2013. UC Riverside researchers worked with the transportation commission, the city of Riverside and the Riverside County Department of Public Health to produce walkability plans for the Arlington and Ramona neighborhoods.

Walkability plans follow the concept of new urbanism, a form of development that improves public health through planning and urban design by integrating shopping and housing in a pedestrian-friendly environment. Increasing walkability helps reduce automobile usage. These plans can include many facets of new urbanism, including usable public transit, wider sidewalks, reduced or slowed vehicular traffic, and local investment to integrate businesses into neighborhoods.

“Walkability is the centerpiece of affordable and equitable ground transportation,” the researchers wrote in the project’s executive summary. “Walkable communities provide well-maintained sidewalks, paths and other means of physical access to a sufficiently diverse set of places that people can fulfill their daily and weekly needs within a 15-minute walk from home. They facilitate social interaction and physical fitness, improve local economies and reduce crime, and support overall wellness and sustainability.”

Allison, whose research in the last decade has focused on urban planning issues, said the team’s recommendations will suggest ways “to move from a traditional suburban neighborhood to a sustainable one and will become the template for other communities.”

Allison is the principal investigator for the CSSD’s portion of the project. She is an associate professor of gender and sexuality studies and public policy. Her research and teaching interests emphasize political economy, environmental politics and policy, and community-based social change, especially as it relates to the gendered dimensions of environmental sustainability and conflict resolution.

Nancy Jimeno, who earned her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in political science at UCR, is a lecturer in American government and California politics at CSU Fullerton. Her research interest in the role of land use decision-making for improving the quality of life in communities derives from her experiences as a fifth-generation southern Californian who has experienced unsettling changes associated with the state’s rapid growth.

The Center for Sustainable Suburban Development explores the social, economic, political and environmental impacts that population growth and movement has on cities and local communities. The center facilitates interdisciplinary collaborations in the community through its staff and affiliated faculty via research, joint conferences, workshops and public forums held at UCR and in the community. It is affiliated with the UCR School of Public Policy.

**Graduate Students to Compete for Fellowship**

*Finalists from a field of 60 will vie to be the GradSlam fellowship winner*

By Mojgan Sherkat

Sometimes, all it takes is three minutes to change the course of your life. That’ll be the case for the 10 to 12 contestants going head-to-head at the 2015 GradSlam. The event is an opportunity for UCR graduate students to showcase and articulate the importance of their research in three minutes to a panel of judges and an audience. Whoever can do so in the most concise manner will be the winner of a $5,000 fellowship.

“GradSlam is a contest that challenges our graduate students to demonstrate to the community how impor-
tant their projects are,” said Maggie Gover, director for Graduate Student Academic and Professional Development. “It is an opportunity for them to practice explaining the work they do as graduate students to nonacademics.”

A total of 60 students from across all academic disciplines will participate in one of five preliminary rounds. Contestants will be judged on several categories including clarity and delivery, the significance and appeal of the presentation, and whether the student was able to provide context and connect with a nonspecialist audience member.

“In a nutshell we are looking for students who can make their research seem engaging, interesting and important to a panel of community members who work in various industries,” Gover said.

The preliminary rounds started on Tuesday, April 7, and will continue through April 14. Holly Okonkwo, a graduate student in anthropology whose project is titled “She Builds Robots: Emerging Technocrats Transforming Science & Tech,” said she’s excited about participating in this year’s GradSlam event, and interested to see the research being conducted by others.

“While preparing a three-minute presentation is more stressful than I presumed, the competition offers an invaluable opportunity to share my research with the larger UCR campus community,” Okonkwo explained.

In addition to the $5,000 fellowship for the first place prize, the first runner-up will receive a $2,000 fellowship; the second runner-up and the audience choices get $1,000 each. Up to eight honorable mentions will receive $100 each. The grand prize winner will also advanced to the University of California Office of the President Finals for a chance to win an additional $6,000 fellowship.

Sponsored by the UCR Graduate Division, the final round for GradSlam will be on Monday, April 20, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at HUB 302. The finalists will be announced on the evening of April 15.

Judges for the finals are:

• Riverside Mayor Rusty Bailey
• Dallas Holmes, Riverside Superior Court judge (retired)
• Jay Goth, executive director of InSoCal CONNECT, senior business consultant at Tritech SBDC, and curator for the Riverside Startup Digest
• Behrouz Moti, UCR grad, medical doctor, professor and businessman (retired)
• Nora Moti, director of education and nursing research at Kaiser (retired)

For more information on the event, times and location, visit: http://gsrc.ucr.edu/gradslam.

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**Changing the World One Cup of Coffee at a Time**

*UC Riverside Dining Services serves up sustainability*

By Mojgan Sherkat
When you buy a cup of UC Riverside’s Highlander Blend Coffee, you’re making a difference in a developing country. Known for its struggle with deep poverty, child hunger, and social issues, Guatemala is also one of the largest coffee producers in the world. Some of the coffee in that much-needed cup of joe on campus comes from Jumaytepeque, Guatemala, a rural community with very limited access to water during the dry season.

UCR Dining Services continually strives to improve on its sustainability efforts and meet the University of California Office of the President’s (UCOP) sustainability guidelines. In terms of coffee, that means choosing fair trade, rainforest alliance, shade grown or organic certified options. At the same time, the campus wants to inspire its population to purchase a more sustainable coffee option and make a difference in the communities growing those coffee beans.

So, after final negotiations on a coffee contract, UCR Dining Services and Java City decided they could do more. Dining Services agreed to allocate 15 cents per pound of coffee and Java City committed to matching funds toward a project of UCR’s choosing. It was decided that there was nothing more important than clean drinking water, and hearing about the issue around clean drinking water in Guatemala sealed the decision. Thanks to this collaboration, folks in Jumaytepeque now have better access to this precious resource. How? The money raised is going toward building water pumps and infrastructure. Farmers who’ve traveled long distances in the past to access water can now obtain clean water at home, eliminating the tiring and tedious trip for clean water.

“It was very compelling and touching,” said Cheryl Garner, executive director of Dining Services. “These farmers relied on one hose that was turned on for four hours a day, and had to carry water back to their homes, sometimes many miles. Now they can access and store clean water much easier.”

In addition to matching the 15 cents per pound, Java City convinced its importing and exporting partners to generate a total of 60 cents per pound to fund the project. They dug the first wells in August 2014. Between the commitments of UCR, Java City and its partners, more than $120,000 has been raised to help this community.

Leftover Food Doesn’t go to Waste

UCR is making a difference abroad, but the campus is also making a difference at home. The leftover food at the end of each day goes to Inland Harvest, a nonprofit organization committed to transporting surplus food to established charitable feeding programs in the Inland Empire. Gustavo Plascencia, General Manager of Sustainability for Dining Services, says they’ve been doing this since before his time, and if you’re wondering how long Plascencia has been with UCR Dining – it’s been 22 years. One example of how the food is used can be seen locally at St. George’s Episcopal Church near UCR, which has a college student feeding night every Thursday at 6 p.m. And guess who primarily goes to those dinners? UCR students! Talk about full circle.

“We always knew that we would indirectly impact our students and community,” says Plascencia. It’s not mandated by Dining Services that the food donated somehow make its way back to our campus community, it just happened to work out that way.

And finally, the UCR Chapter of Swipes for the Homeless has decided that a portion of the proceeds from their first campaign which occurred this quarter, will go toward Feeding America – a group dedicated to feeding the homeless in Riverside and San Bernardino counties. Proceeds will also go to UCR’s R’Garden, a space for students, faculty, and staff to grow fresh produce while learning about social, environmental, and economical sustainability. UCR Dining also buys produce from the R’Garden and uses it in meals served on campus, putting money directly back into our university.

DID YOU KNOW?

Check Out the UCR Cookbook
Need an idea for a nutritious appetizer or dessert? Let UCR’s Healthy Cookbook by the UCR Staff and Faculty Wellness Program come to the rescue! The cookbook is a compilation of recipes submitted by UCR’s own staff and faculty and it features easy-to-find-ingredients and nutrition facts.

**Deadline Extended to Nominate for Staff Assembly’s Outstanding Staff Awards**

Nominations are now due on April 10. The Outstanding Staff Awards are presented annually. Finalists are recognized at the Spring General Meeting on May 19 and winners are announced at the Annual Staff Recognition Awards Ceremony at the end of spring quarter at Chancellor Kim Wilcox’s home.

**UCR Student Recreation Center Free Fitness Day**

Check out UCR Student Recreation Center’s 110 boot camp and athletic conditioning classes for free on Thursday, April 9.

All levels are welcome. The 110 boot camp begins at 6:45 a.m. and the athletic conditioning class starts at 6:15 p.m.

Details and class schedule can be found at recreation.ucr.edu or contact jescelyn.villarreal@ucr.edu, (951) 827-4472 for more information.

**Swim & Stay Fit Program Now Ongoing**

Registration is now open for the Adult Lap Swim & Stay Fit program. The program consists of self-guided workouts and instructional classes. Participants will receive stroke improvement drills and instruction on the four swimming strokes: freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke, and butterfly.

The schedule for the Adult Lap Swim & Stay Fit program is:

- Mondays and Wednesdays, noon - 1 p.m., coached technique
- Mondays and Wednesdays, 1 p.m.-2 p.m., independent practice
- Tuesdays and Thursdays, noon -1:30 p.m., coached distance workout
- Fridays, noon-2 p.m., Independent Workout

Nonmembers must register at the Student Recreation Center (SRC) front counter. This program is free for UCR Students and SRC Members, $60 for nonmembers.

The Lap Swim & Stay Fit Waterproof Workouts is also available at the Student Recreation Center (SRC). This program allows you to swim your way into shape on your own time. No registration required.

For details contact frances.caron@ucr.edu, (951) 827-4917 or visit recreation.ucr.edu for more information about the SRC Aquatics program.

**Walk & Talk with Interim Dean Shaun Bowler**

Shaun Bowler, interim dean of the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (CHASS), will lead the next UCR Walk and Talk with Leadership series on Thursday, April 15. The walk will begin at 12:15 p.m. sharp at the Scotty the Bear statue outside of the HUB. Wear comfortable shoes and clothes and bring your own water.

Created by the Wellness Program, the Walk and Talk series was created to encourage the campus community to get healthy, get moving, and get to know the campus. Every month, there will be a 30-minute “walk and talk” opportunity with a member of the UCR Leadership team.
Who Says?

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

“Finding that lost pre-Columbian city in the Honduran jungle was the easy part. The hard part will be figuring out what to do next.”

Tom Lutz, professor of creative writing, on his group’s discovery of a previously unknown ceremonial site during a recent archaeological trip to Honduras, and the dilemma of protecting the site from looters while preserving the site’s integrity

LOS ANGELES TIMES

“We think that a primordial spider had one kind of silk, and then there were multiple events when the gene duplicated and evolved.”

Cheryl Hayashi, professor of biology, on her research on the applications of spider silk

NATURE

“It looks pretty clear that the water problem is going to keep getting worse, which will bring pressure for solutions. ... (My research team and I) know how long we can withhold water from a normal plant before it’s past the point of no return. This strategy can buy time.”

Sean Cutler, associate professor of cell biology and chemistry, on his work to help make plants more drought-resistant and the timeliness of his research as California endures its worst drought in history

FORBES

“Paleontology is a still a science in which amateurs can make a very real and vital contribution.”

Nigel Hughes, professor of geology, in an article about how he used social media site Reddit to help explain a series of bizarre, circular fossils found on an ancient seabed

KPCC

“(The glyphosate assessment) will be controversial (even among scientists). ... It’s conceivable that another group of experts might come to a different conclusion.”

David Eastmond, chair of cell biology and neuroscience, on a study by an international committee of cancer experts that found that glyphosate, a chemical found in widely used weedkillers, is probably carcinogenic to humans

PBS

“Happy people don’t sit around. They strive for something personally meaningful, whether it’s learning a new language, retraining their careers or raising good kids. Find a happy person and you will find a project.”
Sonja Lyubomirsky, professor of psychology, on her research on positive psychology and her estimate that about 40 percent of a person’s happiness is under their control

ABC

“With international trade, spiders are hitchhiking all over the place.”

Richard Vetter, retired staff research associate in entomology, on the appearance of the Asian ‘Fortune-Teller,’ the first time the species has ever been recorded in North America

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

“Though invasive squirrels may be a big problem to an individual homeowner, from a big-picture conversation perspective, there are much higher priorities, like the potential loss of 65,000 acres of San Diego County oak woodland threatened by the gold-spotted oak borer.”

Tom Scott, natural wildlife specialist, on recent city and state regulations that will allow people to kill fox squirrels on their property

ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

Research and Scholarship

UCR Professor Elected Vice President of Programs for Society of Classical Studies

Michele Renee Salzman, professor of ancient Mediterranean history, has been elected vice president of programs for the Society of Classical Studies. She will serve a four-year term that began in January 2015.

As vice president for programs Salzman is responsible for organizing the scholarly programs at the society’s annual meetings.

The Society of Classical Studies (SCS) was founded as the American Philological Association in 1869 and is the principal learned society in North America for the study of ancient Greek and Roman languages, literatures, and civilizations. The majority of its members are university and college Classics teachers; other members include scholars in other disciplines, primary and secondary school teachers, and interested lay people.

Awards and Honors

UCR Entomology Professor Selected for Distinguished Achievement Award

Alec Gerry, professor of entomology and cooperative extension specialist, has been selected for the Distinguished Achievement Award in Extension by the Pacific Branch of the Entomological Society of America (ESA). He will be the branch nominee for the national ESA award of the same name.

Gerry, the vice president-elect of the medical, urban, veterinary entomology section of the ESA for 2015, joined the UCR faculty in 2003 following four years of service as a public health biologist with the California Department of Public Health. He is also a recently retired military entomologist (rank: lieutenant colonel) with 25 years of combined active and reserve military service.
He conducts research on pest and vector arthropods associated with animal agriculture, and with insects of human health and urban importance (e.g., canyon flies, mosquitoes). These arthropods may cause substantial economic losses for producers due to impacts on animal growth and productivity, or due to morbidity/mortality caused by the pathogens they carry. Gerry is particularly interested in the integrated management of dip-teran pests of animals, including their associated disease agents (e.g. West Nile virus, bluetongue).

Timothy Lyons Selected for an Award by the Geological Association of America

Timothy Lyons, a distinguished professor of biogeochemistry in the Department of Earth Sciences, has been selected by the Geological Society of America (GSA) as one of its three awardees for the Geobiology & Geomicrobiology Division’s Contributions Award.

Lyons’s primary research themes are astrobiology, marine geochemistry, geobiology, biogeochemical cycles through time, and Earth history and paleoclimatology. He is a leader of the new NASA Astrobiology Institute ‘Alternative Earths’ team at UCR.

The Geobiology & Geomicrobiology Division brings together scientists working at the interface of biology and geology. The division will present Lyons with the award at the GSA’s annual luncheon scheduled for early November.

UCR Undergraduates Awarded Summer Research Fellowships

Four UCR undergraduates have been awarded highly competitive summer research fellowships by the Semiconductor Research Corporation. The fellowships will provide each recipient a stipend of $4,000 for 10 weeks to work this summer in science and technology fields related to the semiconductor computer industry. It also includes an invitation to TechCon, a national conference that brings together industry representatives, faculty, graduate students and undergraduate students to share cutting edge research related to the semiconductor industry.

This year’s recipients are Sahar Naghibi, Ingrid Liao, Dominic Martinez-Ta and William Coley. All four students work with Ludwig Bartels, a professor of chemistry.

“Last year, my students’ TechCon submission was selected, with 59 others, out of 400 submissions for presentation and ranked in the top 10 of those, placing UCR undergraduate researchers in the top 3 percent nationwide in areas pertinent to the semiconductor industry,” Bartels said.

Last year’s recipients were Gretel von Son Palacio, Sahar Naghibi, Thomas Empante and I-Hsi (Daniel) Lu.

UCR Ecologist Receives 2015 Prigogine Gold Medal

The Prigogine Gold Medal is awarded annually to a leading scientist in the field of ecological systems. This year, Bai-Lian (Larry) Li, professor of ecology, has been selected to receive it.

Li is the director of three research centers: the International Center for Ecology and Sustainability, the International Center for Arid Land Ecology and the U.S. Department of Agriculture — China Joint Research Center for AgroEcology and Sustainability.

His research interests include quantitative plant ecology, ecological complexity and modeling, theoretical and mathematical ecology, systems ecology, landscape ecology, computational biology, and ecological informatics.

The 2015 Prigogine Gold Medal award ceremony will take place on June 3, 2015, at the Politecnic University of València, Spain. Li is scheduled to give the Prigogine Lecture at the event. His lecture is titled “Towards
an energetically and thermodynamically-sounded approach to ecological complexity, modeling and sustainability.”