UC Riverside Welcomes New CARE Advocate

A website serves as a user-friendly, one-stop portal for quick access to campus resources and important information related to sexual violence

Naddia Palacios

By Konrad Nagy

Naddia Palacios has been recently appointed as UCR’s new campus advocacy, resources and education (CARE) advocate, which means she will be a key member of UC Riverside’s team to address and prevent sexual violence.

Palacios came to UCR from Occidental College, where she served as the Project S.A.F.E. (Sexual Assault Free Environment) program manager and survivor advocate. In that role, she oversaw all sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, and stalking intervention and prevention services for the college.

“I feel very honored to have been appointed the new CARE Advocate at one of the most diverse universities in the nation,” Palacios said. “Everyone is eager to collaborate as I begin the journey of creating a great CARE program for our students. I hope to use my expertise to establish protocols and systems that will continue to assure that survivors of sexual violence are treated with dignity and respect.”

In June 2014, UC President Janet Napolitano formed the President’s Task Force on Preventing and Responding to Sexual Violence and Sexual Assault. The task force has developed and helped implement system-wide recommendations to prevent and respond to sexual assault and sexual violence on UC campuses.

The recommendations include establishing a “CARE: Advocate Office for Sexual and Gender-Based Violence and Sexual Misconduct” at every campus with full-time trained staff, and making sure that Web resources are unified and consistent at each campus. UCR’s user-friendly, one-stop portal for quick access to campus resources and important information is at www.sexualviolence.ucr.edu

Last year, the university also significantly broadened and clarified its policy against sexual violence and harassment, including domestic violence, stalking and date rape. UC adopted an affirmative consent standard...
that defines consent as unambiguous, voluntary, informed and revocable.

In recent testimony before a key U.S. Senate committee, Napolitano said that the increased attention on the issue of preventing sexual violence is already making a difference, and will be ongoing within the UC system.

“The work of the task force is not finite and the members will continue to monitor progress, gather metrics, and review implementation,” Napolitano said. “They will focus on evaluating the new changes put into place and will work with researchers and other experts to assess the effectiveness of the changes made across the University of California. We want to make sure our efforts are making a positive difference—and indeed changing the culture across our campuses.”

Even before the task force began its work, all 10 UC campuses had systems and programs in place to educate, prevent and respond to sexual violence, but practices varied from one campus to another. The task force’s recommendations aimed to strengthen existing services and programs and ensure the university has a consistent approach to addressing sexual violence on campuses.

“The CARE Advocate position at UCR was created to serve those who have been impacted by sexual violence on campus,” said Paul D’Anieri, provost and executive vice chancellor. “Palacios’s experience and commitment to sexual violence prevention and survivor advocacy will serve our campus well. In coming months, Palacios will work to streamline all advocacy services for survivors of sexual violence at UCR, and will work with colleagues around the university to improve response and prevention programs,” D’Anieri said.

Palacios earned her bachelor’s degree in Latin American studies from San Diego State University, a master’s degree in postsecondary administration and student affairs from the University of Southern California, and is trained as a sexual assault and domestic violence counselor and advocate.

Prior to her service at Occidental, Palacios worked at the University of Southern California and Claremont Graduate University.

UCR School of Medicine Center Wins Prestigious Grant for Community Engagement Project on Latino Health

The Center for Healthy Communities is building partnerships and seeking input from residents in the Riverside neighborhoods of Arlanza, Casa Blanca and the Eastside

By Kathy Barton

The Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) has awarded a $250,000 grant to the UC Riverside School of Medicine’s Center for Healthy Communities for a community engagement project aimed ultimately at improving the health of Latino residents of the city of Riverside through partnered research.

PCORI is a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization created by Congress in 2010 as part of the Affordable Care Act. It funds projects that encourage patients and other stakeholders to become integral members of the research process and provides a platform to expand the role of all stakeholders in research.

Titled “Latino Health Riverside,” the project will be conducted in partnership with community stakeholders in the Riverside neighborhoods of Arlanza, Casa Blanca and the Eastside. The expertise of residents in these communities will be tapped to learn more about health-related problems of greatest concern and ideas for solutions.

“We know there is a tremendous need to better address health issues in the very large and growing Latino
community in Riverside. To do that, we need to better understand the perspectives of community members and involve them in creating solutions to health problems,” said Dr. Greer Sullivan, associate dean for population health in the UCR School of Medicine and director of the Center for Healthy Communities.

G. Richard Olds, vice chancellor of health affairs at UCR and dean of the medical school explains community partnered work this way: “When you go to people in their own communities and ask them, ‘What are your health problems?’ and ‘What should we be doing to improve the situation?’ you involve them as experts, rather than just making them subjects of research.”

A steering committee for the two-year project has already been created, chaired by Mary Figueroa, a UCR graduate, past president and current member of the Riverside Community College (RCC) District Board and life long member of Riverside’s Latino community, and Christina Reaves, deputy director of the Center for Healthy Communities.

“I am confident that this project will be successful because the outreach and involvement from the community is built in from the very beginning,” Figueroa said. “Over the next two years, we will hear from the community in a series of meetings in people’s homes and in larger community forums in each neighborhood. In this way, we will engage the entire community from the very onset to partner in creating an environment that contributes to improving the health of people living in these three neighborhoods and ultimately, throughout the entire Riverside region.”

As part of the project, training to build the capacity of community-based organizations, faculty and students to partner in research will focus on the principles of community-based participatory research (CBPR). CBPR is an approach to partnered research that is still somewhat novel in the academic arena. But it is viewed as an effective means of bringing about positive changes in health outcomes, especially for communities that experience health disparities.

“Near the end of the project, we will organize interest groups to talk about what we can do – as a community – to address health concerns in Arlanza, Casa Blanca and the Eastside through partnered research. We are also committed to sharing our findings with the community and in the community,” Reaves said.

The goal is to be as inclusive as possible, Olds said, not just for this project but to build partnerships and trust for projects in the future.

“If we’re really going to change something in the long run and really make a difference, we have to come up with a strategy that will work long into the future,” he said. “We think this is the right way to engage the community and the best way to have a lasting impact.”

Download and read this press release in Spanish (ucrtoday.ucr.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/latino_health_riverside_spanish.pdf)

Descargar y leer este comunicado de prensa en español. (ucrtoday.ucr.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/latino_health_riverside_spanish.pdf)

— Jeanette Marantos contributed to this story.

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**Novel Nominated for Top International Award**

*Laila Lalami’s “The Moor’s Account” longlisted for the Man Booker Prize, wins Arab American Book Award for Fiction*
“The Moor’s Account,” a novel by UC Riverside creative writing professor Laila Lalami, has been longlisted for the Man Booker Prize, the prestigious international award for literary fiction written in English and published in the United Kingdom.

It is the third honor this summer for Lalami (creativewriting.ucr.edu/people/lalami/index.html) and her work of historical fiction. “The Moor’s Account” (Pantheon, 2014) is a co-winner of the Arab American Book Award for Fiction, announced Aug. 7. Recipients of the award, which recognizes literature by and about Arab Americans, will be honored at the Arab American National Museum in Dearborn, Michigan, on Oct. 29. The novel also won an American Book Award from The Before Columbus Foundation on July 20.

“The Man Booker Prize is an enormously important international award, and this acknowledges Laila’s growing importance as a global writer,” said Andrew Winer, chair of the Department of Creative Writing.

Lalami’s novel was named to the Man Booker Prize (www.themanbookerprize.com) longlist of 13 novels announced today. The prize has been awarded since 1969 and previously was open only to authors from the United Kingdom and Commonwealth, Republic of Ireland, and Zimbabwe. This is the second year that the prize has been open to authors of any nationality, writing originally in English and published in the U.K. Previous winners include Salman Rushdie, Hilary Mantel, Iris Murdoch and Ian McEwan.

“The Moor’s Account” is one of 156 books considered for the prize. Lalami is one of five authors from the United States on the longlist and the first born in Morocco.

Michael Wood, who chaired the panel of five judges, called the submissions “extraordinary.”

“The longlist could have been twice as long, but we’re more than happy with our final choice,” he said in a written statement. “The range of different performances and forms of these novels is amazing. All of them do something exciting with the language they have chosen to use.”

The shortlist of six books will be announced on Sept. 15 at a press conference at the London offices of Man Group, which sponsors the prize. The Man Group is one of the world’s largest independent alternative investment managers. The winner will be announced Oct. 13 in London’s Guildhall, and the ceremony will be broadcast by the BBC.

Authors on the shortlist will receive a prize of £2,500 (approximately $3,900) and a specially bound edition of their book. The winner will receive an additional £50,000 (approximately $78,000).

“The Moor’s Account” is the imagined memoirs of the first black explorer of America — a Moroccan slave whose testimony was left out of the official record of the 1527 expedition of Spanish conquistador Pánfilo de Narváez. There were only four survivors.

The novel was named a finalist for the 2015 Pulitzer Prize in Fiction in April. It also is a finalist for the Zora Neale Hurston/Richard Wright Legacy Award, which honors excellence in fiction, poetry and nonfiction by writers of African descent. The winner will be announced during a ceremony Oct. 23 in Washington, D.C.

“The Moor’s Account” has been named a New York Times Notable Book and one of the Wall Street Journal’s Top 10 Books of the Year, one of NPR’s Great Reads of 2014, and is on the list of Kirkus Best Fiction Books of the Year.

Lalami, a professor of creative writing, joined the UCR faculty in 2007. She is the author of “Secret Son” and
UC Startups Invited to Compete for Up to $150,000 in Award Money

First ever primeUC competition offering a total of $300,000 for innovative health products

By UCOP

Startup companies from the University of California are invited to compete for a total of $300,000 in award money during the first primeUC competition, part of President Janet Napolitano’s Innovation and Entrepreneurship Initiative that was announced on Aug. 4.

In what is hoped will be the first of several such competitions designed to help the most promising UC-associated startups obtain seed funding, primeUC is collaborating with Johnson & Johnson Innovation, LLC to give one $150,000 award and three $50,000 awards to companies with early-stage innovations related to therapeutics, consumer health, medical devices and diagnostics.

Selected companies in the life sciences field — all with founders or other members from any of UC’s 10 campuses or three national labs — will compete in a semifinal pitching round after applying online. Twenty applicants will then be chosen to participate in the final round on Dec. 2 at UC San Francisco’s Mission Bay campus.

“The University of California, with its three national labs, is a huge but underappreciated engine for creating startups that act as a hub of innovation and new jobs,” said Regis Kelly, senior adviser to the UC president on innovation and entrepreneurship. “This competition will highlight the university’s phenomenal productivity and contributions to California’s economic growth and channel funding to creative entrepreneurs.”

“We’re priming entrepreneurs for success,” said Neena Kadaba, director of the primeUC program and director of industry alliances at UC’s QB3 Institute. “Seed funding is scarce for the tremendous number of startups coming out of the University of California. We created primeUC to introduce these young companies to the investment community. Even if finalists don’t win an award, they’ll get valuable exposure.”

Kadaba envisions primeUC as an annual platform to identify promising UC startups and expects that in future years the focus will include fields other than life sciences, with the final competition round alternating between southern and northern California.

To be eligible to enter this year’s primeUC, a startup must be developing a life science technology, have been founded by a UC faculty or staff member, or be managed or founded by a UC student, postdoctoral fellow or alumnus, and have raised less than $1 million in private funding.

Applications are due by Sept. 25.

Learn more about the primeUC program, review official rules and apply at www.primeuc.org.

Guardian Scholars Program Welcomes New Office, Director and Students

UC Riverside’s Guardian Scholars Program to hold open house on Aug. 17

By Mojgan Sherkat
There’s a lot to be thankful for – a new space, a new director, and a new family. Operated under the office of Foster Youth Support Services, UC Riverside’s Guardian Scholars Program will celebrate all the “new” with an open house on Monday, Aug. 17, at 4 p.m. The event will be held in the program’s new office in Bannockburn Village at 3637 Canyon Crest Drive, Unit K-101.

“Close to student housing, restaurants, and classrooms, the new space will offer a home for our program scholars, staff and volunteers to come together for family-style dinners and game nights, seminar-style teaching events, and day-to-day resource access and referrals,” said Tuppert Yates, the executive director of Guardian Scholars Program.

The program provides a network of resources to students who are transitioning from the foster care system to adulthood in order to support their pursuit of higher education. Established in 2008, the program is staffed by a small group of volunteers and a full-time, university-funded director.

Kenyon Whitman joined the team in early August as the new director of Foster Youth Support Services (FYSS) and Guardian Scholar programming. Yates said he brings a wealth of enthusiasm and expertise to the team, with advanced training in higher education and leadership (including a master’s degree from CSU Fresno and three years of doctoral training at University of San Diego), extensive experience coordinating foster youth services at CSU Fresno, and, most recently, spearheading the development of a foster youth support program at USD. Whitman will take a leave from his doctoral training at USD to move to Riverside and immerse himself in his new position as director of FYSS. He plans to complete his Ph.D. research while residing in Riverside.

“We are very excited that we will benefit from such a passionate, competent, and committed advocate for our youth and our program,” Yates said.

The program will also welcome 10 new students to the Guardian Scholars family this fall.

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**UC Riverside to Help Establish an Urban Water Sustainability Research Network**

*Darrel Jenerette will serve as senior personnel with the “Urban Water Innovation Network”*

By Iqbal Pittalwala

UCR is one of 14 academic institutions and key partners across the United States that are addressing the challenges threatening urban water systems in the United States and around the world. These institutions, led by Colorado State University, have just received $12 million from the National Science Foundation to establish the Urban Water Innovation Network (UWIN). UWIN will create technological, institutional, and management solutions to help communities increase the resilience of their water systems and enhance preparedness for responding to water crises.

“UWIN builds on long-standing programs at UC Riverside for research and training, and trusted leadership in all facets of water resources,” said Darrel Jenerette (plantbiology.ucr.edu/people/faculty/jenerette.html), an associate professor of botany and plant sciences (plantbiology.ucr.edu) at UCR, who serves as a senior personnel with UWIN. “These programs include urban water conservation, sustainable urban drainage systems and flood control, drought management, pollution control, water resources planning and management, ecological engineering, climate sciences, and urban biodiversity.”

This project builds on Jenerette’s expertise with urban biodiversity, vegetation based regional cooling, and water requirements for urban vegetation. His lab focuses on the coupling between biodiversity, energy fluxes,
and biogeochemical cycling embedded within ecological landscapes.

According to the 2014 Global Risks Perception Survey (reports.weforum.org/global-risks-2015/executive-summary) by the World Economic Forum, water crises are the top global risk to the viability of communities throughout the world. From the crippling droughts and water shortages in the West to the devastating floods in the East and South, water systems in the U.S. have been impacted by changes in climate, demographics, and other pressures. Our absolute reliance on water is why Americans express greater concern about threats to water than about any other environmental issue and why more than half of all Americans worry a great deal about it, according to latest Gallup poll of environmental concerns (www.gallup.com/poll/182105/concern-environmental-threats-eases.aspx).

Extreme events and global climate change can have profound impacts on water security, shattering the most vulnerable communities and instilling enormous costs on governments and economies. Effective response to these challenges requires transitioning to both technological and management solutions that protect water systems from pressures and enhance their resilience.

The vision of UWIN is to create an enduring research network for integrated water systems and to cultivate champions of innovation for water-sensitive urban design and resilient cities. The integrated research, outreach, education and participatory approach of UWIN will produce a toolbox of sustainable solutions by simultaneously minimizing pressures, enhancing resilience to extreme events, and maximizing co-benefits. These benefits will reverberate across other systems, such as urban ecosystems, economies and arrangements for environmental justice and social equity.

The network will establish six highly connected regional urban water sustainability hubs in densely populated regions across the nation to serve as innovation centers, helping communities transition to sustainable management of water resources. Strategic partnerships and engagement with other prominent U.S. and international networks will extend UWIN’s reach to more than 100 cities around the world. Key UWIN partners and collaborators include the Water Environment Research Foundation, the Urban Sustainability Directors Network, and the Network for Water in European Regions and Cities.

This innovative and adaptive research approach will ultimately produce an Urban Water Sustainability Blueprint, outlining effects and tradeoffs associated with sustainable solutions for cities of all sizes. The blueprint will be rigorously vetted by regional stakeholders across the U.S. and the global urban water community.

The UWIN consortium includes:

- Colorado State University
- Arizona State University
- Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies
- Florida International University
- Howard University
- Oregon State University
- Princeton University
- University of Arizona
Princeton Review Includes UC Riverside Among Top 380 Colleges in Annual Guide

Only 15 percent of America’s 2,500 four-year colleges are profiled in the book

By Mojgan Sherkat

The University of California, Riverside was included in the 2016 edition of the Princeton Review’s annual college guide, “The Best 380 Colleges.” The profiles were published online on Monday, Aug. 3 (www.princetonreview.com/schools/1023545/college/university-california--riverside ), and the book is available for purchase on Tuesday.

A PDF of the university’s two-page spread in the book can be seen here. (www.dropbox.com/s/g030qia-j01nkcwg/university_california_riverside.pdf?dl=0)

The survey includes detailed profiles of the colleges with rating scores for all schools in eight categories. The book also includes 62 ranking lists of top-20 schools in a variety of categories based on The Princeton Review’s surveys of 136,000 students attending the colleges, an average of 358 per campus.

Only 15 percent of the nation’s 2,500 four-year colleges are profiled in what the Princeton Review calls its “flagship college guide.”

“We base our choices primarily on data we obtain in our annual surveys of administrators at these schools and at hundreds of other colleges,” said Rob Franek, Princeton Review’s senior vice president. “We take into account input we get from our staff, our 27-member National College Counselor Advisory Board, our personal visits to schools, and the sizable amount of feedback we get from our surveys of students attending these schools. We also work to maintain a wide representation of colleges in the book by region, size, selectivity and character.”

UCR was praised widely by those students who participated in the survey. The introduction in the book reads: “Students at the University of California — Riverside are in love with many things — the ‘small class size’ and ‘beautiful campus’ come up often — but the educators here receive the lion’s share of the praise. Professors here are ‘very skilled in teaching’ and ‘have passion to teach and help their students.’”

The campus was also complimented for its diverse student body and commitment to “make the world a better place.” Students were described as “friendly, engaging, outgoing and eager to learn,” and graduates were described as “hav(ing) integrity, accountability, excellence and respect.”

UCR will receive about $350,000 of the $12 million award.

UC Riverside Psychology Professor Named One of the Coolest Women in Science

Sonja Lyubomirsky made Business Insider’s Top 15 Most Amazing Women in Science list

By Mojgan Sherkat

She’s making the world a happier place. Well, she’s trying her hardest to. Sonja Lyubomirsky (www.youtube.com/watch?v=1SVlXqb4hlg), a professor of psychology at UCR has devoted her research career to studying human happiness. And it’s earned her a spot in Business Insider’s list of “The 15 Most Amazing Women in Science Today.”

“I’m so honored and completely humbled to be in the company of such amazing women. I couldn’t have accomplished this research without the fantastic contributions of my graduate students and collaborators,” said Lyubomirsky upon hearing about the recognition.

The list of 15 women was pulled from Business Insider’s list of top 50 scientists, both male and female. “In the science and technology industries, women are often massively underrepresented. But that doesn’t mean they aren’t making some of the most important and inspiring contributions out there. We’ve highlighted 15 female scientists who are doing amazing things, pulled from our recent list of groundbreaking scientists who are changing the way we see the world,” the article stated.

Lyubomirsky’s research addresses three critical questions:

1. What makes people happy?
2. Is happiness a good thing?
3. How and why can people learn to lead happier and more flourishing lives?

In her book “The How of Happiness,” Lyubomirsky explained that people are in control of much of their own happiness. The other determinants of happiness are a mixture of genetics and their environment. To explore how individuals can be happier, Lyubomirsky has studied the well-being benefits of such positive activities as expressing gratitude, doing acts of kindness, and savoring the present moment. An intervention to increase happiness by “living this month like it’s your last month” was featured on the TODAY show earlier this month.

UC President Announces $15/hour Minimum Wage

The Fair Wage/Fair Work Plan requires that all University of California employees hired to work at least 20 hours a week be paid at least $15 per hour over the course of the next three years

By UCOP

University of California President Janet Napolitano announced on July 22 that the minimum wage for its workers — both direct and service contract employees — will be raised to $15 an hour over the next three years.
In addition, she directed that all contractors doing business with UC comply with government and university workplace laws and policies.

The Fair Wage/Fair Work Plan, unveiled at a Board of Regents meeting, requires that all University of California employees hired to work at least 20 hours a week be paid at least $15 per hour over the course of the next three years. The mandated minimum will increase to $13 an hour on Oct. 1, 2015, to $14 an hour on Oct. 1, 2016, and to $15 an hour on Oct. 1, 2017. The California state minimum wage currently stands at $9 an hour, and is set to increase to $10 an hour on Jan. 1, 2016.

“Through its education, research and public service missions, the University of California’s students, faculty and staff have made us into a world-renowned institution,” Napolitano said. “And our community does not exist in a vacuum. How we support our workers and their families impacts Californians who might never set foot on one of our campuses.

“This is the right thing to do — for our workers and their families, for our mission and values, and to enhance UC’s leadership role by becoming the first public university in the United States to voluntarily establish a minimum wage of $15.”

The University of California is the state’s third-largest employer — behind the federal and state governments — with some 195,000 employees at its 10 campuses, five medical centers, three national labs, the Office of the President, the Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and other locations.

As part of the plan, the university also will institute stronger oversight of its contracts and sub-contracts, requiring that companies that provide services for UC pay their employees a wage that meets or exceeds UC’s new minimum wage. This requirement will be implemented as new service contracts are established and existing contracts come up for renewal.

In addition to these new policies, UC will expand its monitoring and compliance efforts related to service contractors’ wages and working conditions. This will include a new phone hotline and central online system for contract workers to report complaints and issues directly to the Office of the President.

The university will require that all UC contractors undergo an annual compensation audit to ensure they are paying their employees at a level at or above UC’s minimum wage and complying with all local, state, federal and UC workplace laws and policies. These audits would be funded by the contractors and implemented as new contracts are established and existing contracts come up for renewal. The university also plans to institute spot audits of its contractors to ensure their compliance.

Most of the cost associated with the wage increases will be covered by non-core funds such as those from self-supporting auxiliary services such as bookstores and food services. These revenues are separate from the tuition and fees, state resources and other core funds that support UC’s core instructional programs.

Warehouse Jobs Pay Poorly, Lack Health Insurance

Two UCR studies of Inland Southern California workers find that warehouse jobs typically pay less than a living wage, are temporary, and lack health care benefits

By Bettye Miller
Warehouses provide jobs for thousands of workers in the Inland Empire. But a majority of blue-collar warehouse jobs typically pay less than a living wage, are often temporary, and do not provide health-care benefits, according to researchers at the University of California, Riverside.

Two policy research briefs (www.irle.ucla.edu/publications/reports.php) released this month found that a significant share of blue-collar warehouse jobs are filled through temporary staffing agencies, enabling warehouse companies to pay these workers less than those employed directly by the companies and avoid providing health insurance. These jobs typically pay less than the living wage, contributing to poverty rates in Riverside and San Bernardino counties and the city of Ontario that exceed poverty rates for California and the U.S. The studies were funded by the UC Institute for Research on Labor and Employment.

Researchers from UCR’s Labor Studies program and School of Public Policy’s Center for Sustainable Suburban Development (CSSD) interviewed more than 350 Inland Southern California warehouse workers in 2012 and 2013. The team made three key recommendations:

- Raise the minimum wage to a living wage, particularly in the city of Ontario, where a total of 338 warehouses were located in 2013, the year the surveys were completed.
- Incentivize the conversion of temporary positions to permanent jobs through community benefit agreements and union contracts with warehouse companies.
- Reduce the cost of deductibles for Affordable Care Act (ACA) health insurance plans.

The research team includes: Ellen Reese (sociology.ucr.edu/people/faculty/reese/index.html), professor of sociology and chair of the Labor Studies program; Juliann Allison (facultyprofiles.ucr.edu/gender_studies_dept/faculty/Juliann_Allison/index.html), associate professor of gender and sexuality studies and public policy, and associate director of CSSD; Joel Herrera, a UCR sociology major who will enroll in UCLA’s sociology graduate program in the fall; and Mila Huston, an independent researcher who earned her master’s degree in sociology at UCR.

“Warehouse workers in Ontario, like those in other Inland Southern California cities, would greatly benefit from the adoption and enforcement of living or minimum-wage policies to improve their wages, such as the local minimum-wage ordinance adopted by the city of Los Angeles in 2015,” the researchers wrote in “Why the City of Ontario Needs to Raise the Minimum Wage: Earnings Among Warehouse Workers in Inland Southern California” (www.irle.ucla.edu/publications/documents/ResearchBrief_36_000.pdf). The authors further suggest that increasing local funds in the Inland Empire to enforce wage policies, as Los Angeles city officials did this year, would help to better protect warehouse workers in Southern California from wage theft.

In “Health Care Needs and Access among Warehouse Workers in Southern California” (www.irle.ucla.edu/publications/documents/ResearchBrief_Reese35.pdf) the team said that interviews with warehouse workers suggested that “further reducing the cost of deductibles for ACA health insurance plans is critical for improving health care access among eligible warehouse workers and other low-wage workers. Moreover, the ACA’s perverse incentive structure has already prompted employers to use more part-time and temporary labor in order to avoid health insurance costs.”

Among the reports’ findings about Inland Southern California warehouse workers:

Most workers are Latino, male, young, and have a high school education or less. Many are immigrants.

Those who worked at least 20 hours per week earned a median annual income of $14,000, with incomes
highest among those hired directly by the company rather than a temporary staffing agency.

Between one-third and one-half had health insurance (compared to 85 percent of U.S. workers), and even fewer had coverage through their employer. Two-thirds said they had waited until an injury or illness was severe to seek treatment because of the cost or lack of health insurance.

Raising the wages for warehouse and other low-wage workers in high-poverty cities in the Inland Empire would benefit those workers and their families, and have positive ripple effects on the local economy, the researchers said.

“The overall higher wages could, in turn, help to stimulate consumer spending and increase the tax base in the region,” they said. “While businesses commonly oppose wage hikes, raising wages has been shown to help businesses to stabilize their employment and reduce employee turnover costs.”

The researchers also called for national labor law reforms to facilitate unionization among warehouse and other low-wage workers, which ultimately would help to improve warehouse workers’ access to health insurance and improve workplace safety. Increased state and federal funding to enforce occupational, health, and safety regulations could also help to prevent workplace accidents and injuries. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the warehouse industry is one of the most dangerous in the U.S. with a workplace injury fatality rate that is more than three times the average of all workers, the team noted.

Anthropologist Honored for Exemplary Service

Yolanda T. Moses guided development of national public education project on race and human variation

By Bettye Miller

UC Riverside anthropologist Yolanda T. Moses, who spearheaded a national public education project on race and human variation that toured U.S. museums for seven years, is the 2015 recipient of the Franz Boas Award for Exemplary Service to Anthropology. The award will be presented in November at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association (AAA) in Denver.

Moses (www.anthropology.ucr.edu/people/faculty/moses/) is a professor of anthropology and associate vice chancellor for diversity, excellence and equity.

The Franz Boas Award for Exemplary Service to Anthropology, formerly the Distinguished Service Award, was established in 1976 and is presented annually by the AAA to members whose careers “demonstrate extraordinary achievements that have well served the anthropological profession,” according to the AAA. “Service to the association is commonly recognized, as are outstanding applications of anthropological knowledge to improving the human condition. … (A)ll awardees have made many sacrifices, usually without personal reward, and sometimes against personal safety. They have all used anthropology for the benefit of others.”

Moses, who joined the UCR faculty in 2003, was AAA president from 1995 to 1997 when development of the “RACE: Are We So Different?” project began. She chaired the 27-member, interdisciplinary, national advisory committee and remains a co-curator and co-principal investigator of the overall project, which includes three traveling exhibits, a book, an award-winning website (www.understandingrace.org), and downloadable materials for teachers, parents and the general public. The exhibits stop traveling this year after a seven-year tour to 55 U.S. cities.

The smaller version of the exhibit will be housed permanently at the Museum of Man in Balboa Park in San
Diego. The RACE project was funded by the Ford Foundation and the National Science Foundation.

In a letter nominating Moses for the award, UCR anthropologists Wendy Ashmore and Christine Ward Gailey, and Carole Nagengast of the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, wrote, “Yolanda Moses infuses her work with combined insights from anthropology and activism, applying the former to better the human condition. When she identifies a problem or issue, her immediate reaction is to assess how best to address it.”

Her research and writing on race and human diversity “have been pivotal in reawakening consideration of what we thought we know about the concept and the consequences,” the scholars said, describing Moses as a “respected scholar and educator; a skilled leader and administrator; a strong voice for social justice; an advocate for social change and for development of public policies that reduce the effects of inequality and enhance diversity in institutions, including universities and corporations.”

The co-authors also noted Moses’ work on increasing success for women, especially women of color, in STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) fields, including her role as a principal investigator on a UC-wide NSF Advance grant “in which she has been instrumental in fomenting means and methods for women at all stages of STEM careers.”

“Professor Moses extends a distinguished line of anthropologists involved in high profile, anti-racist scholarship and advocacy,” Ward Gailey, Ashmore and Nagengast said. “Her deep concern with public dissemination of findings from this scholarship builds from the interventions of Franz Boas. Her approach is comparative and historical, melding insights from all areas of anthropology.”

Moses earned her bachelor's degree from California State University, San Bernardino, and her M.S. and Ph.D. in anthropology from UCR.

She previously served as board chair of the American Association of Colleges and Universities, and president of the American Association for Higher Education. She is involved with several national higher education projects with the National Council for Research on Women, Campus Women Lead and The Women of Color Research Collective. She also is a consultant to the American Council on Education’s Project, on linking international and diversity issues.

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**DID YOU KNOW?**

*UCR Extension Hosts Webinar Focusing on Fraud*

UCR Extension is hosting “A Vulnerable Population: Combating Fraud Among Seniors,” a four-hour webinar covering Internet fraud, mail fraud and identity theft on Saturday, Sept. 12. The webinar is associated with UCR Extension’s Professional Certificate in Fiduciary Management program. The public is welcome.

Tuition is $95 through Sept. 6 and $145 after that.


Click here to find out more about the Professional Certificate in Fiduciary Management (www.extension.ucr.edu/academics/certificates/professional_fiduciary.html).
Who Says?

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

“In the long run, when are we going to declare suppression a failure? What is it going to take?”

Richard Minnich, professor of earth sciences, on how California firefighters are extinguishing fires too quickly and how this suppression has led to an environment more conducive to destructive fires

SACRAMENTO BEE

“(Legionnaire’s disease) is a true bacterial pneumonia. That’s why it is severe, but at the same time it doesn’t make everyone ill, and it doesn’t kill everybody.”

Hassan Bencheqroun, assistant clinical professor, on the recent outbreak of Legionnaire’s disease in New York, which has killed two and sickened dozens more

HEALTH

“For a relatively large plant, Joshua trees have a fairly fragile root system. The big, established trees can survive multiple years of drought or heat, but it’s the little guys — the seedlings — who can’t handle this kind of temperature or amount of rainfall. This is the future we’re looking at.”

Cameron Barrows, research ecologist, about the threat that California’s historic drought poses to Joshua trees

OUTSIDE ONLINE

“If kids exercise regularly through the school years then they may be more likely to exercise as adults, which could have far-reaching positive effects on human health and well being.”

Theodore Garland, professor of biology, on his research that found that exercise at an early age can help people lose weight later in life and positively impact their willingness to exercise in adulthood

YAHOO! NEWS

“Fleas are usually attracted to movement, not color, so wearing dark clothing doesn’t fool them. It just makes them harder to see.”

Michael Rust, distinguished professor of entomology, on ways to control and eliminate fleas during flea season, which starts before summer and lasts through to winter

MENTAL FLOSS

“A lot of people, when they are dealing with ants and trails getting into their kitchens, they don’t realize they are social animals. They have a very strong ability to exchange information between individuals in the colony. They can recruit their nest mates in a matter of a few minutes. They can even warn their nest mates about potential danger.”
Dong-Hwan Choe, assistant professor of entomology, on Marvel’s newest film, “Ant-Man,” and how the film promotes a better awareness and appreciation for ants

**THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE**

“The overall conclusion of (the Stanford Prison Experiment) DRAWN was that basically anybody would turn into an abusive guard or anybody would turn into a meek and distraught prisoner if the situation was so arranged to make that happen. ... On the other hand, I think it also got exaggerated a little too strongly ... because there were individual differences among the behavior in both the guards and the prisoners.”

*David Funder, professor of psychology, about “The Stanford Prison Experiment,” a film based on the experiment run by psychologist Philip Zimbardo in 1971*

**KCRW**

“Chinese netizens are still speaking in a heavily monitored environment, and so their demands for greater freedom of information and expression often find voice through coded language and metaphors that allow them to avoid outright censorship.”

*Perry Link, distinguished professor of comparative literature and foreign language, from his and Xiao Qiang’s book, “Decoding the Chinese Internet: A Glossary of Political Slang,” which talks about how linguistic innovations in China have helped Chinese citizens discuss taboo subjects online despite government surveillance and censorship*

**NATIONAL POST**

Research and Scholarship

*Reshaping the Solar Spectrum to Turn Light to Electricity*

When it comes to installing solar cells, labor cost and the cost of the land to house them constitute the bulk of the expense. The solar cells – made often of silicon or cadmium telluride – rarely cost more than 20 percent of the total cost. Solar energy could be made cheaper if less land had to be purchased to accommodate solar panels, best achieved if each solar cell could be coaxed to generate more power.

A huge gain in this direction has now been made by a team of chemists at UCR that has found an ingenious way to use the infrared region of the sun’s spectrum to make solar cells more efficient. The researchers, including Christopher Bardeen, professor of chemistry, and Ming Lee Tang, assistant professor of chemistry, report in Nano Letters that by combining inorganic semiconductor nanocrystals with organic molecules, they have succeeded in “upconverting” photons in the visible and near-infrared regions of the solar spectrum.

The research was supported by grants from the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Army.

For more information, go to ucrtoday.ucr.edu/30606.

*Flowers Can Endanger Bees*

Despite their beauty, flowers can pose a grave danger to bees by providing a platform of parasites to visiting
bees, a team of researchers has determined.

The study, published online in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*, is the first to show that not only can bees disperse parasites around the environment but also that flowers are platforms for a host of pollinator parasites subsequently dispersed onto visiting bees.

“By showing that visits from parasite-carrying bees can turn flowers into parasite platforms, we can say that it is likely that heavily visited flowers may become more ‘dirty’ with bee parasites,” said Peter Graystock, a postdoctoral researcher in the UCR Department of Entomology and the research paper’s first author. “Planting more flowers would provide bees with more options, and parasite spread may thus be reduced.”

Read more at ucrtoday.ucr.edu/30758.

*Soybean Oil Causes More Obesity Than Coconut Oil and Fructose*

A diet high in soybean oil causes more obesity and diabetes than a diet high in fructose, a sugar commonly found in soda and processed foods, according to scientists at UCR.

The scientists fed male mice a series of four diets that contained 40 percent fat, similar to what Americans currently consume. In one diet, the researchers used coconut oil, which consists primarily of saturated fat. In the second diet, about half of the coconut oil was replaced with soybean oil, which contains primarily polyunsaturated fats and is a main ingredient in vegetable oil. The other two diets had added fructose.

Compared to mice on the high coconut oil diet, mice on the high soybean oil diet showed increased weight gain, larger fat deposits, a fatty liver with signs of injury, diabetes and insulin resistance, all of which are part of the Metabolic Syndrome. Fructose in the diet had less severe metabolic effects than soybean oil although it did cause more negative effects in the kidney and a marked increase in prolapsed rectums, a symptom of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), which like obesity is on the rise.

“This was a major surprise for us — that soybean oil is causing more obesity and diabetes than fructose — especially when you see headlines everyday about the potential role of sugar consumption in the current obesity epidemic,” said Poonamjot Deol, the assistant project scientist who directed the project in the lab of Frances M. Sladek, a professor of cell biology and neuroscience.

Read more at ucrtoday.ucr.edu/30416.

**Awards and Honors**

*Janet Lucas Named NACWAA Administrator of the Year*

UC Riverside Executive Associate Athletic Director and Senior Woman Administrator Janet Lucas, who was the Highlanders’ interim athletics director for much of the 2014-15 academic year, was named the 2015 Administrator of the Year for NCAA Division I by the National Association of Collegiate Women Athletics Administrators (NACWAA). Lucas will be honored Oct. 13 in Tampa, Florida, at the 2015 Administrator of the Year Luncheon presented by KP Sports, in conjunction with the 36th Annual NACWAA National Convention.

The Administrator of the Year Award is presented annually to NACWAA members for significant contributions made as athletics administrators.

Read more at ucrtoday.ucr.edu/29054.

*UC Riverside Professor Gives Commencement Speech in Germany*

Jeanette Kohl, chair of the Department of Art History, gave the commencement speech at UCR’s partner univer-
sity in Germany, Friedrich-Alexander-Universitaet (FAU) Erlangen-Nuremberg.

“It was a special honor to address graduating students, families and faculty in my commencement speech at FAU and to celebrate their success in FAU’s impressive baroque residence. I am a German teaching in California, so it felt quite natural to fill our partnership with life,” Kohl said.

Kohl was invited by FAU’s chair of the art history department, Professor Christina Strunck. The visit was part of an ongoing collaboration between the two universities. The partnership began in 2013, after a graduate student workshop with faculty and students from FAU in Riverside.

Read more at ucrtoday.ucr.edu/30508