

State budget update

The revised May budget restored \$98.5 million to UC, proving that students, faculty and staff can make a difference. But the fight isn't over.

By Donna Hemmila

The governor's May Revision to the state budget proposed restoring \$98.5 million to UC, leaving state support for the university at roughly the same level as 2007-2008 funding.

But UC still faces a big budget challenge for 2008-09. The university is still lacking state funding needed to cover costs that are increasing next year for student enrollment growth, faculty and staff salaries, benefits, utilities and other inflationary operating expenses.

To help offset the funding deficit, UC Regents reluctantly approved a 7.4 percent student fee increase at their May 15 meeting.

After funds for student financial aid are set aside - more than one-third of UC students will receive aid to cover the increase - the fee revenue is projected to generate about \$70 million for university operations. Part of that money will be used to fund an \$8 million expansion of student mental health services - a high priority for the campuses and for student leaders.

UC expects to save another \$68 million in administrative costs, including \$28 million through the restructuring of the Office of the President.

Even with those actions and the improvements in the May Revision, however, UC is up to \$240 million short of what it needs to cover cost increases for 2008-09. Campus budget cuts will be needed to address the shortfall.

"UC's advocacy efforts have paid off," said UC Regent Russell Gould during a briefing on the budget revision. "But there's still work to do."

That work will continue over the next several weeks as the governor and legislators debate the final budget. A coalition of faculty, staff and students from community colleges, UC and CSU has been organizing advocacy

efforts around the state to call attention to the magnitude of the blow state budget cuts will deliver to higher education.

Thousands have taken part in rallies, lobbying visits with legislators and letter writing campaigns. All have the same message: An investment in higher education is an investment in the future of California's quality of life, economic growth, health and environmental sustainability. Here is a snapshot of some recent advocacy efforts.

Study-in at the Capitol. On May 19, UC students staged a sit-in in Sacramento. Since many are in finals week, organizers encouraged students to bring their books and get some cramming in while protesting.

Students lobby for academic prep. On May 13, 200 students, parents and counselors involved in UC's academic preparation programs went to Sacramento for a Student Leadership Forum. High school and community college students who take part in the Early Academic Outreach Program, Mathematics Engineering Science Achievement program and the Puente Project attended. The students, who come from low-income, underserved communities, met with Legislators and their staffs to explain how important these programs are to helping students like them get into college.

SoCal education leaders visit Sacramento. On May 8, UC Irvine's Peter the Anteater used his cheering skills at Capitol Mascot Day, an event Orange County higher education leaders organized. Peter joined with Cal State Fullerton's Tuffy Titan and a lineup of community college mascots to deliver thousands of letters to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and state legislators. Written by students, faculty, staff, parents and business leaders, the letters asked lawmakers to support the state's investment in higher education as a proven way to strengthen California's economic competitiveness. The leaders of Orange County community colleges and CSU Fullerton joined UC Irvine Chancellor Michael Drake at a rally and press conference.

Corporate advocates carry the message. On April 30, UCLA-affiliated business leaders met with key legislators to reinforce the importance of UC to the state's economy. Speakers included Woolas Hsieh, founder and president of Solarmer Energy Inc., which is

developing solar cell technology invented at the California NanoSystems Institute, a collaboration of UCLA and UC Santa Barbara. [<http://www.cnsi.ucla.edu>]

Higher ed leaders unite. On April 28, UC President Robert Dynes, UC Provost Rory Hume, CSU Chancellor Charles Reed and CCC interim Chancellor Diane Woodruff made a rare joint visit to Sacramento to urge policy-makers to resist the deep budget cuts for higher education. They outlined the devastating consequences for California's economy, which depends on the state's educated and highly skilled work force to grow.

Students rally statewide. On April 21, more than 2,000 UC, CSU and community college students marched in Sacramento to protest state budget cuts and higher fees. Hundreds more attended campus rallies throughout the state.

What can you do? Send a message to your state lawmakers:

<http://www.ucforcalifornia.org/ucforcalifornia/issues/alert/?alertid=11312456&PROCESS=Take+Action>

Donna Hemmila is editor of Our University.

Ask it!

Chances are there's something you've always wondered about, meant to look up or wished someone would explain. Now is your chance to satisfy that curiosity. E-mail your questions to donna.hemmila@ucop.edu and we'll find the UC brainiac who can answer it. Science, health, culture, language - whatever your question, don't be shy. Just Ask it!

Q. With so many birds in the world, and in our urban environment, you would think we would see dead birds all over the place. But we don't. So, where do birds go to die?

A. First, wild animals attempt to hide their illnesses, otherwise they would be quickly signaled out by predators. A sick bird or mammal will attempt to hide or secret itself away, so oftentimes illness and death will occur in a place hidden from our view. But more importantly, a dead bird is quickly consumed by scavengers ranging from vertebrates to beetles to bacteria and fungi. Death is quickly recycled into life. Some large peri-urban birds are more easily spotted when they die. This is why we can use dead birds (crows, jays, and magpies) as an indicator of West Nile virus transmission.

Q. Last year I volunteered to be a part of the Cornell University's ivory-billed woodpecker volunteer research effort. Did the sweep of the West Nile virus across North America have an impact on the woodpecker populations?

A. As far as we know, the spread of WNV did not push any bird species to the point of extinction. Small, isolated populations are at greatest risk, and the loss of even a single ivory-billed woodpecker to WNV could be disastrous. Although WNV certainly killed many, many birds across North America, most species have the ability to buffer these losses by successful reproduction in future years. Woodpeckers as a group are much less prone to die from WNV than corvids such as crows and jays. Because of natural selection, susceptible birds within any given species will become less numerous, and the survivors of WNV will pass on their genes to future generations, decreasing the impact of WNV in future years.

Walter Boyce is a UC Davis professor of veterinary medicine and co-director of the UC Davis Wildlife Health Center.

Q. Those with ties to the agriculture industry are greatly concerned about declining bee populations. Indeed, all of us who eat should be concerned. Are we any closer to understanding the cause of, and the solution to the problem?

A. The number of managed honey bee colonies has been declining gradually from a high of over 5 million colonies, right after World War II, to our current reported number of about two and a half million. We have been at the current level for about five years. North American beekeepers expected average winter colony losses of 5 to 10 percent.

Beekeepers whose bees have been affected by colony collapse disorder lost anywhere from 30 percent to all of their colonies over the winter. Such large unexpected losses have been reported sporadically in U.S. bee industry publications since the late 1800's, more recently in 1963-65 and 1975. Our current problem began in the winter of 2004, was less severe in the winter of 2005, and increased in the winters of 2006 and '07.

The major U.S. research emphasis on this problem has examined potential pathogens (fungal, bacterial, and viral), potential chemical contamination (171 potential chemical residues were searched for in dead bees, live bees, brood, stored honey, stored pollen, and beeswax) and possible consequences of moving colonies so many times for purposes of pollinating commercial agricultural crops or producing honey. Surveys have been conducted to determine the times and places where

such losses occurred and possible correlations between losses and locations, or between losses and various beekeeping practices. Up to this point, the studies have not incriminated any single specific cause that is common to the losses. However, it has been determined that there are a very large number of potentially damaging causes impacting the bees, and perhaps they simply are unable to deal with the sum total.

Eric Mussen is a UC Cooperative Extension apiculturist in the Department of Entomology at UC Davis and is on the faculty of the Henry H. Laidlaw Jr. Honey Bee Research Facility.

Due to the volume of Ask it! submissions, not all questions can be answered online.

Systemwide News

UC proposes new START

The last time UC employees voluntarily reduced their hours, millions of dollars were saved. With the current budget crisis, UC is proposing the program again. Is this fresh START something you're ready to try?

By Donna Hemmila

UC Regents have given the go-ahead for the university to pursue a voluntary Staff and Academic Reduction in Time program to help cope with proposed state budget cuts.

The START program offers UC employees, whose departments have agreed to participate, the option of cutting back their work hours and corresponding pay by 10 to 50 percent.

On May 14, Regents approved amendments to the UC Retirement Plan, the first step to instituting a new START program, which would run from July 1, 2008, to June 30, 2010. The program is likely to be approved after a 30-day employee comment period, which ends on June 6.

UC offered a START program in 2003 that ran for three years. Between June 2003 when the program launched to July 2006, the voluntary time reductions resulted in a systemwide salary savings of \$41.9 million.

Sixty percent of the 3,032 employees who took advantage of the program reduced their time 20 percent or less.

Doris Wildeman, a supervisor in the general accounting office at UCOP, took advantage of the last START program by cutting her hours 20 percent for the full three years. She had two young daughters in elementary and middle school, and she arranged her workday to leave early enough to pick them up from school each day.

"I was able to take part in their school activities and volunteer," she said. "I was able to be active in my kids' day-to-day life. "

The cost of child care would have been greater than the 20 percent reduction in her paycheck, she said, but money wasn't the issue.

"I just enjoyed the time with my family," she said. "That's worth more to me than the money."

Wildeman said she would take part in the new START program but doesn't think her workload now will allow her to cut back hours.

START participants continue to accrue sick leave, vacation and retirement plan service credit at the same level they did prior to joining the program.

Participants must work at least 50 percent of their full-time hours each month. Employees have the option of joining the program for one month to a maximum of 24 months. Either the employee or the department head can terminate the agreement with 30 days notice. Employees must have approval of their supervisor to participate, and not all departments are likely to participate in the program. For represented employees, the option of participating will depend on the agreement of the applicable union.

More details on the program are available at the Human Resources and Benefits Web site:
http://atyourservice.ucop.edu/employees/policies_employ ee_labor_relations/proposed_policies/index.html

For more information or to comment on the START program, Office of the President employees should contact rosemary.monroe@ucop.edu by June 3. Campus faculty should contact their local academic personnel

office and staff should contact their local HR departments.

Donna Hemmila is editor of Our University.

UC leads the way forward

UC the Way Forward is the name of a public education campaign launched this spring to tell Californians about the many ways UC affects their lives. The campaign, underwritten by private funds, appears on news and political Web sites and will soon air on National Public Radio stations.

Check it out:

<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/ucthewayforward>

People

Composer revolutionizes opera

UC San Diego music professor and composer Anthony Davis taps the gritty and grandly tragic events of history as inspiration for his operas. His characters include Malcolm X, Patricia Hearst and Fidel Castro.

By Kate Callen

Anthony Davis Over the past decade, composer Anthony Davis has drawn inspiration from an eclectic mix of artistic collaborators. Some have been accomplished writers, directors and choreographers. And some have been students in his opera and jazz classes at UC San Diego.

Since he joined the UCSD music faculty in 1998, Davis has written one opera and began another, won a Guggenheim Fellowship, and toured the United States and Europe performing his compositions with his own ensemble. Through it all, he has remained grounded by working with young musicians - experimenting with improvisational styles, exploring new digital technologies - in classrooms and studios on the La Jolla campus.

"I love interacting with students," Davis said. "It's exciting to help them develop their talents and their ideas, and that brings a new energy to my own work."

One of the nation's most prolific composers, Davis is best known for operas inspired by iconic history. His first opera, "X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X," premiered at the New York City Opera in 1986. "X" played to sold-out houses and was praised by The New Yorker as "not just a stirring and well-fashioned opera

... but one whose music adds a new, individual voice to those previously heard in our opera houses."

His third opera, "Tania," based on the abduction of Patricia Hearst, premiered at the American Music Theater Festival in 1992; subsequent productions and recordings have starred his wife, noted soprano Cynthia Aaronson-Davis, in the title role.

His fourth opera, "Amistad," about the legendary slave ship uprising, premiered at the Lyric Opera of Chicago in 1997.

Davis' large body of orchestral work, including the music he composed for Tony Kushner's Pulitzer Prize-winning play "Angels in America: Millennium Approaches," fuses elements of European classical, American jazz, African and Indonesian music. Time Magazine has likened it to "Ellington's lush, massed sonorities propelled by Bartók's vigorous whiplash rhythms and overlaid with the seductive percussive haze of the Balinese gamelan orchestra."

His operas wrap that rich sound around compelling sagas driven by a central character Davis describes as "the trickster," like Elijah Muhammad in "X" and the reporter in "Tania."

"The trickster is the model for the artist," he said. "They translate the divine to the human. They imagine and create possibilities. And they are important in all the diasporas, African, Cuban, Native American. For African Americans, the trickster is symbolic of what we have had to do to survive, how we have turned the most adverse situations into powerful art."

Davis's fifth opera, "Wakonda's Dream," took root when he attended a Nebraskan pow-wow of the Ponca Indians and learned about a boy who communed with the spirit of legendary Ponca chief Standing Bear. With a libretto by Pulitzer-Prize-winning poet Yusef Komunyakaa, "Wakonda's Dream" revisits a landmark court decision in which Standing Bear sacrificed his tribal birthright to gain his rights as a citizen, a first for American Indians.

"It was a Pyrrhic victory," Davis said. "There is a moment in the trial where Standing Bear takes off his headdress and says, 'I'm a man, the same blood runs

through my veins as yours.' His rights are acknowledged, but only after he surrenders his culture."

Support from his 2006 Guggenheim Fellowship allowed Davis to finish "Wakonda's Dream" and to begin his sixth opera, "Revolution of Forms." With a libretto by noted Mexican journalist Alma Guillermoprieto, "Revolution of Forms" opens with Fidel Castro and Che Guevara on a golf course in Havana. It is the story of an art school the two revolutionaries founded but that was never completed.

"It wound up in ruins, with one of its architects sent to prison and the other forced into exile," Davis said. "It is a mirror of what happened to the hopes and aspirations of the Cuban revolution."

Davis composes at night, leaving his days free for teaching and collaborating. He works closely with graduate students in his opera music theatre workshop, which brings together young composers from the music department and young playwrights from theater and dance.

He enjoys the give-and-take of his undergraduate jazz courses because, he says, "there are no empty slates in arts classes. Strong artists have a point of view early, and they approach learning through a filter - they figure out how your teaching will fit into their cosmos."

Kate Callen is a staff writer in UCOP Strategic Communications.

Featured campus: San Diego

Kids scrub in

Sons and daughters of UC San Diego Medical Center's surgery staff donned scrubs and hairnets for a special Saturday in the OR as part of Take Your Kids to Work Day. <http://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/newsrel/health/04-08SonsAndDaughters.asp>

President Dynes' farewell video letter to the UC community

Hi. As I speak to you at the beginning of May, I realize that this is the 14th and last video letter that I will be sending out to you. So, it's time for a little memory, a little nostalgia and looking forward.

I remember when I first came on as president. In my first video, I vowed to you and vowed to the university that I would work very hard to sustain the excellence. And thanks to you and the efforts that you have all made, we have sustained the excellence of the university – even through some difficult times.

You'll remember when I came in, we were in free fall in our budget and we managed to stabilize the budget for five years before this current budget crisis and we're facing it again now. We were coming into three competitions for the national labs, and against all odds we won all three national labs and I have a lot of you to thank for really digging in and working hard to win those three competitions.

Most of all, I decided that we really had to set out a vision for the university. And we did, together. We set out a vision which is really one university, 10 campuses. I visited all the campuses, talked to you, listened to you and your ideas about what we could do to make the university – continue to make the university – the best university in the world under this vision of the power and promise of 10. And I thank you for all those efforts.

Finally, I thank you for your feedback to me. I thank you for your ideas, your comments. I thank you for writing at Dynes Desk. I read every one of those letters. Some of them were really thoughtful; some of them were complaining about things; some of them were whacky. I read every one and I got a lot of ideas and was stimulated by all of them.

As I leave this position and move back to UC San Diego to the faculty, my successor, Mark Yudof, has my wholehearted support. And I hope you give him support as well. He is coming in at a difficult time, as I did, and he needs our support to maintain this university.

I thank you for the support that you have given me and the support that you will give Mark. Together, I know we can continue to make this the finest university in the world.

More News

New UC Riverside chancellor named
Timothy P. White named UC Riverside chancellor
Email this article
Date: 2008-05-15
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Timothy P. White, president of the University of Idaho, today (May 15) was named chancellor of the University of California, Riverside, by the UC Board of Regents. The appointment, made on the recommendation of UC President Robert C. Dynes, will take effect on or before Sept. 1, 2008. Timothy P. White

An immigrant from Argentina who attended all three systems of California public higher education and received his Ph.D. from UC Berkeley, White has three decades of experience in public research universities. He has held faculty appointments at the University of Michigan, UC Berkeley and Oregon State University, where he served as provost and executive vice president, and as president on an interim basis, before joining the University of Idaho as president in August 2004.

White, 58, has led the renewal of the University of Idaho as president, placing a focus on strategic planning, diversity, improved communication, multidisciplinary research initiatives and the fostering of a student-centered culture. His academic background is in physiology, kinesiology and human biodynamics, and he is internationally recognized for his work in muscle plasticity, injury and aging.

"I am deeply honored, and humbled, by this appointment. I am eager to get started," White said. "UC Riverside is an institution of great accomplishment and even greater opportunity. Its people are focused on providing high-quality education to students and tackling the economic, social, environmental, educational and health needs of the broader community. This campus is rapidly ascending to the next level of distinction and public contribution through teaching, research and creative activity, and engagement through outreach. I am excited by the opportunity to help it make that ascent."

White succeeds former UC Riverside Chancellor France A. Córdova, who stepped down last summer to assume the presidency of Purdue University. Robert D. Grey, a University of California veteran who previously served as provost and executive vice chancellor at UC Davis, has been serving the Riverside campus as acting chancellor.

"Tim White is extremely well-suited to lead UC Riverside," Dynes said. "He has a unique grasp of the mission of land-grant universities and a passion for that mission. His multicultural roots and personal experience with higher education have given him a deep commitment to diversity and inclusiveness. And he has solid experience moving public universities forward by managing them effectively, building trust and cooperation, and forging successful ties and a sense of shared purpose with the external communities they serve. I am delighted to welcome him to UC."

In conducting the search for the new chancellor, Dynes was advised by a committee of Regents, faculty, staff, students, alumni and community representatives. The search process involved the evaluation of 106 prospects, from which 12 high-priority candidates were identified.

Born in Buenos Aires, White as a child moved with his family first to Canada and then to Northern California. He is a naturalized U.S. citizen. A first-generation college student, White began his higher education at Diablo Valley Community College in Northern California. He achieved his B.A. degree at California State University, Fresno; his M.S. degree at California State University, Hayward; and his Ph.D. at UC Berkeley.

Upon completion of his Ph.D., White served as a postdoctoral scholar and then faculty member at the University of Michigan, ultimately serving as chair of the Department of Kinesiology. From 1991 to 1996 he was at UC Berkeley, serving as professor and then chair of the Department of Human Biodynamics. He subsequently joined Oregon State University, where he served as dean of the College of Health and Human Sciences. In the early 2000s he served as provost and executive vice president there, and also as president on an interim basis.

The University of Idaho, in Moscow, Idaho, is the state's land-grant and flagship research institution and home to the state's only law school. It enrolls 13,000 undergraduate, graduate and professional students and participates in NCAA Division I athletics.

As president of the institution, White launched a strategic planning effort, streamlined the administrative structure, adopted a comprehensive

action plan for diversity and human rights at the university, launched a series of interdisciplinary programs in targeted fields important to the state of Idaho, and improved the institution's fundraising success. He also placed an emphasis on building trust with internal and external constituencies and on creating a student-centered university with a strong sense of community.

White's family includes his wife, Karen, and four children.

As chancellor of UC Riverside, White will receive an annual salary of \$325,000. Per university policy, he also will receive university-provided housing; an annual automobile allowance of \$8,916; a relocation allowance of \$25,000, or 7.7 percent of base salary; payment of packing and relocation costs for household effects, library and related equipment; and eligibility for a Mortgage Origination Program loan and payment of relocation costs if he continues in a tenured faculty position after stepping down as chancellor. As an exception to policy, he will receive reimbursement of up to two round-trip coach airline fares between Riverside and Moscow, Idaho, for both himself and his wife during the transition period.

White also will receive standard pension and health and welfare benefits and standard senior management benefits, including senior manager life insurance, executive business travel insurance, executive salary continuation for disability, accrual of sabbatical leave and an administrative fund. Credit for his prior UC service of approximately five years will be granted, per policy, and will count toward UC benefits such as vacation, pension and any other service-based benefits. It is estimated that with 10 years of service, this will produce a monthly retirement benefit of approximately \$5,074 under the standard Retirement Plan formula.

One of the most diverse research university campuses in the nation, UC Riverside has an enrollment of 17,000 students and offers bachelor's degree programs in 78 majors, 50 master's degree programs, 38 Ph.D. programs and 17 state teaching credentials. UC Riverside's park-like campus, located on nearly 1,200 acres near the Box Spring Mountains in Southern California, is a living laboratory for groundbreaking exploration of issues

critical to the region, the state and communities around the world. UC Riverside has an economic impact of nearly \$1 billion statewide, with more than 70 percent of this economic activity benefiting the Inland Empire.

UC Riverside contact:
Kris Lovekin (951) 827-2495
kris.lovekin@ucr.edu

For more information about Timothy P. White:
<http://chancellorsearch.ucr.edu>

For additional pictures:
<http://www.newsroom.ucr.edu/cgi-bin/display.cgi?id=1837>

UCLA Chancellor Gene Block inaugurated
Gene D. Block was officially inaugurated as UCLA's chancellor today in a festive ceremony at Royce Hall.

The celebration began with a procession by more than 300 dignitaries in caps and gowns – including Block, UCLA faculty members, staff leaders, delegates from more than 40 American universities and colleges, the University of California Regents, former California Gov. Gray Davis and other civic leaders, UC President Richard C. Dynes, and chancellors from UCLA's nine sister UC campuses.

The procession, which strode across campus from the UCLA Faculty Center, was greeted at the steps of Royce Hall by a trumpet fanfare written and performed especially for the occasion.

Richard C. Blum, chairman of the UC Regents, presided over the program.

"The investiture of a new chancellor is a landmark event in the life of a campus and in the life of the people of that university," Blum said. "The chancellor inspires, energizes and leads. Gene Block has epitomized this with extraordinary leadership and vision throughout his distinguished career."

Also offering welcome remarks were Los Angeles City Councilman Jack Weiss, USC President Steven B. Sample, UC Davis Chancellor Larry N. Vanderhoef, UCLA Academic Senate Chair Elizabeth Ligon Bjork, Staff Assembly President Sabrina Lux Wright, UCLA Foundation Chair

James T. McCarthy, and leaders of the alumni and graduate and undergraduate student associations.

UCLA alumnus and basketball great Kareem Abdul-Jabbar delivered the ceremony's keynote remarks.

"I have always believed the person running this place has to be as exceptional as the school itself," Abdul-Jabbar said. "There is always a renaissance going on at UCLA ... UCLA is in the forefront of achievement in the arts, in science, in scholarship and in sports. Naturally, it follows that the person guiding this campus must be a renaissance man, and that's exactly what we have in Chancellor Gene Block."

The pomp and circumstance befitting such a ceremony was punctuated with music and dance representing UCLA's diverse and talented student community – from a gospel choir rendering of the national anthem to a performance by the Mariachi Uclatan folklorica group.

UC President Dynes performed the final ceremony of installation, draping Chancellor Block, who wore a purple robe and gown, with the gold chancellor's medal.

"This is a monumental day for me. I do not take this responsibility lightly," Block said in his inaugural address. "We have before us a remarkable opportunity: to define for California and for the nation what it means to be a public research university in contemporary urban America."

Block said that his agenda as chancellor would focus on academic preeminence, campus diversity, financial security and societal engagement.

"I believe that UCLA can have its greatest impact by focusing our expertise from across the campus to comprehensively address, in a focused way, problems that plague Los Angeles," he said. "I have charged a group of campus and community leaders to recommend how we can marshal our campus-wide intellectual resources toward this kind of intense civic engagement."

Participants and guests departed Royce Hall accompanied by the exhilarating drumbeats of the UCLA Brazilian Music Ensemble and continued to celebrate during a reception in Royce Plaza.

Vivek Shetty, immediate past president of the Academic Senate and a professor at the UCLA School of Dentistry, said, "What we saw here today reminds us of what ... a university is - a community of scholars. The pageantry and pomp very nicely provide a sense of this community, and I could see the audience revel in it. It is inspiring. I'm delighted."

Neal Stulberg, lecturer and visiting director of orchestra studies in the department of music, lauded the students' performance of "wonderful music" and added: "My sense is that Chancellor Block is an ideal leader ... our leader for the future. It gives me a terribly optimistic feeling and makes me very proud to be a part of the university."

Among the many staff members attending the event was Dierdra Lake, billing supervisor for the Campus Technology Office, who said she made a special effort to attend the inauguration. "This is historical. I wanted to see it and be a part of it."

UC Santa Cruz Chancellor George Blumenthal to be installed June 6

We're very pleased to share the news that the inauguration of George Blumenthal as UC Santa Cruz's 10th Chancellor will take place on Friday, June 6, 2008. The ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. that day on the East Field.

The inauguration, which will be highlighted by the Chancellor Blumenthal's address, will include a traditional academic procession, musical performances, and other elements that will celebrate UCSC. The ceremony will close with a reception open to all attendees. A Steering Committee of faculty, staff, and students is overseeing coordinating the many details that will shape this special event.

It's been obvious to members of our Steering Committee that this Chancellor, with a UCSC affiliation that extends more than 35 years, takes special pride in the accomplishments of our current and former students. In fact, at Chancellor Blumenthal's request, his inauguration has been scheduled to complement the campus's annual Student Achievement Awards ceremony, which will be held on the East Field following the inaugural reception.

It is our hope--and the Chancellor's--that his inauguration will call attention to an event that each year showcases the very impressive work of our students.

A web site (<http://inauguration.ucsc.edu>) dedicated to this inauguration already includes information explaining how faculty planning to participate in the traditional academic procession can order regalia. Other information and details will be added to the site as they become known.

We sincerely hope that as many of you as possible will be able to attend Chancellor Blumenthal's inauguration. It will be a ceremony that celebrates UCSC's remarkable past and dynamic present, while giving our new Chancellor an opportunity to share his vision for UCSC's future. It will be a moment for all of us to reflect on and to take pride in this campus that we all share.

UC campuses win \$180 million for stem cell labs
Continuing to lead the way in developing key scientific advances in the area of stem cell research, eight University of California campuses today (May 7) were awarded \$137 million in major facilities grants from the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM). In addition, another UC campus was part of a regional consortium that was awarded \$43 million, bringing the total number of UC campuses receiving CIRM Major Facilities Grants Program awards to nine and bringing total funds awarded to UC-associated programs to \$180 million.

The 29-member Independent Citizens Oversight Committee, the governing board of CIRM, approved 12 major facilities grants for approximately \$271 million, to fund the establishment of facilities in support of stem cell research programs that encompass a broad spectrum of research. (www.cirm.ca.gov/press/pdf/2008/05-07-08.pdf)

In addition to CIRM grants awarded today, institutions receiving awards have committed an additional \$560 million from charitable donations and their internal reserves to building stem cell research facilities throughout California, bringing the total statewide investment in new research space to \$831 million.

The grants for UC campuses will go toward three important areas:

- Funding new stem cell research facilities that are free of federal funding, in order to facilitate the ability of researchers to conduct human embryonic stem cell research in compliance with federal funding restrictions.
- Developing stem cell research centers that encourage across-the-spectrum collaborations.
- Improving current research facilities, which will better accommodate the needs of stem cell researchers.

Specifically, funding will help establish three types of facilities:

- CIRM Institutes to carry out stem cell research in three areas: basic and discovery stem cell research, preclinical and clinical research, and preclinical development.
- CIRM Centers of Excellence that will conduct stem cell research in any two areas including discovery, clinical research and preclinical development.
- CIRM Special Programs that will conduct specialized stem cell research projects.

"UC is grateful for all the support CIRM has given to our scientists in this important field," University of California President Robert C. Dynes said. "The grants will allow UC to build the next generation of research infrastructure that will help continue our efforts to realize the enormous potential of stem cell technology."

For years UC researchers have led the way in developing key scientific advances in the area of stem cell research. Scientists at UC are studying stem cells to gain a better understanding of the biological process involved in human health and disease, with the goal of translating discoveries from this research into treatments for a variety of ailments such as Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer's and cancer.

Since the 2004 passage of California Proposition 71, all 10 UC campuses have received awards from CIRM.

CIRM major facilities grants for UC campuses:

- UC Berkeley will receive a \$20.2 million CIRM Centers of Excellence grant.

- UC Davis will receive \$20.1 million for a CIRM Institutes grant.
- UC Irvine will receive a \$27.2 million CIRM Institutes grant.
- UCLA will receive a \$19.9 million CIRM Institutes grant.
- UC Merced will receive a \$4.4 million CIRM Special Programs grant.
- UC San Francisco will receive a \$34.9 million CIRM Institutes grant.
- UC Santa Barbara will receive: \$3.2 million CIRM Special Programs grant.
- UC Santa Cruz will receive a \$7.2 million CIRM Special Programs grant
- UC San Diego is one of the four institutional members of the San Diego Consortium for Regenerative Medicine, which will receive a \$43 million CIRM Institutes grant.

Background:

Proposition 71

The California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM), formed as a result of the state's 2004 passage of Proposition 71 (the California Stem Cell Research and Cures Act). CIRM has moved ahead in providing significant funding for stem cell research, including at the University of California. Proposition 71 also gives priority to funding research that cannot be done with federal funds (such as human embryonic stem cell research on lines produced after the 2001 presidential funding restriction).

National Academy of Sciences and American Academy of Arts & Sciences honor 38 UC-affiliated researchers.

National Academy of Sciences elects 13 UC-affiliated researchers

Email this article

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Thirteen University of California-affiliated researchers have been elected today (April 29) to the National Academy of Sciences in recognition of their distinguished and continuing achievements in original research -- 12 as new members and one as a foreign associate. They are part of a class of 72 new members and 18 foreign associates.

Also, 24 UC faculty and one scientist at a UC-affiliated national laboratory were among 190 new U.S. members elected to the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, which honors the country's leaders in scholarship, business, the arts and public affairs.

The new American Academy of Arts & Sciences fellows are university researchers, scientists, artists and civic, corporate and philanthropic leaders.

"The election of 13 UC members to the National Academy of Sciences and 25 UC-affiliated members to the American Academy of Arts & Sciences showcases the strength of the University of California's faculty and the diversity of research areas to which our institution is contributing," said UC President Robert C. Dynes. "Election to the National Academy of Sciences and American Academy of Arts & Sciences is a tremendous honor for our faculty, and the university is proud of their work."

The National Academy of Sciences, a Washington, D.C.-based private organization of scientists and engineers, now has 2,041 active members -- of which more than 360 are affiliated with UC -- and 397 foreign associates -- nonvoting members of the academy with citizenship outside the United States.

Of the new National Academy of Sciences members, three each are affiliated with UC Berkeley, UCLA and UC Santa Barbara; two with UC San Diego; and one each from UC San Francisco and UC Santa Cruz.

The newly elected UC-affiliated National Academy of Sciences members are:

UC Berkeley

Michael R. Botchan, professor of biochemistry and molecular biology

Jasper Rine, professor of genetics, genomics and development

George Smoot, professor of physics; research scientist, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

UCLA

Michael Grunstein, professor of biological chemistry, David Geffen School of Medicine

Thomas M. Liggett, professor of mathematics

Terence C. Tao (foreign associate -- Australia) professor of mathematics

UC San Diego

Steve A. Kay, dean and Richard C. Atkinson Chair, Division of Biological Sciences

Martin F. Yanofsky, chair, Section of Cell and Developmental Biology; professor, Division of Biological Sciences

UC San Francisco

Kenneth A. Dill, professor of pharmaceutical chemistry, biochemistry and biophysics

UC Santa Barbara

Evelyn L. Hu, professor, electrical and computer engineering

William W. Murdoch, Charles A. Storke II Professor, department of ecology, evolution and marine biology

James Thomson, adjunct professor of molecular, cellular, and developmental biology, UC Santa Barbara; MacArthur Professor, departments of anatomy and of obstetrics and gynecology, Genome Center of Wisconsin, University of Wisconsin, Madison

UC Santa Cruz

Claire E. Max, professor of astronomy and astrophysics; director, Center for Adaptive Optics

Meanwhile, the new American Academy of Arts & Sciences class will be inducted at a ceremony Oct. 11 at the academy's headquarters in Cambridge, Mass. The 2008 class of fellows included 22 foreign honorary members.

The current membership of more than 4,000 American fellows and 600 foreign honorary members includes some 200 Nobel laureates and more than 60 Pulitzer Prize winners. More than 580 members are affiliated with UC.

Of the new American Academy of Arts & Sciences members, seven each are affiliated with UCLA and UC San Diego, five with UC Berkeley, four with UC San Francisco and one each with UC Santa Cruz and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, which UC helps manage.

The newly elected UC-affiliated American Academy of Arts & Sciences members are:

UC Berkeley

Ruzena Bajcsy, professor of electrical engineering and computer science

John Kuriyan, Chancellor's Professor of Molecular and Cell Biology, and professor of chemistry; investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute

James L. Powell, professor of economics

Jasper Rine, professor of genetics, genomics and development; director, Center for Computational Biology; professor, Howard Hughes Medical Institute

Yuri Slezkine, professor of Russian history

UCLA

Utpal Banerjee, department chair and professor of molecular, cell and developmental biology; professor of biological chemistry; professor, Howard Hughes Medical Institute

Alessandro Duranti, professor of anthropology

Thom Mayne, professor of architecture

Calvin Normore, professor of philosophy

Theodore M. Porter, professor of history, vice chair for undergraduate affairs

Charles Ray, professor of sculpture

Debora Leah Silverman, professor of history and art history

UC San Diego

Lawrence Goldstein, professor of cellular and molecular medicine, UC San Diego School of Medicine; investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute

Roger H. Gordon, professor of economics

Harvey Jules Karten, distinguished professor of neurosciences

Richard Kolodner, executive director, Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research; professor of cellular and molecular medicine, professor of medicine and Moores Cancer Center member

Thomas Evan Levy, professor of anthropology, professor of Judaic studies

Samuel I. Rapaport, emeritus professor of medicine

David T. Sandwell, professor of geophysics, Scripps Institution of Oceanography

UC San Francisco

Fred E. Cohen, professor of cellular and molecular pharmacology, pharmaceutical chemistry, medicine, and biochemistry

Allison Jane Doupe, professor of psychiatry and physiology

Stephen G. Lisberger, professor of physiology; investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute

Louis J. Ptacek, professor of neurology; director of the Division of Neurogenetics, UC San Francisco School of Medicine; investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute

UC Santa Cruz

Thorne Lay, professor of earth and planetary sciences

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

Berni Julian Alder, scientist, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory; professor emeritus, Department of Applied Science, UC Davis

National Academy of Sciences release:
<http://www8.nationalacademies.org/onpinews/newsitem.aspx?RecordID=04292008>

American Academy of Arts & Sciences release:
www.amacad.org/news/new2008.aspx

UC Center Sacramento gains permanent status

Date: 2008-04-29

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SACRAMENTO -- The bond between the University of California and the state of California will strengthen next week as UC's Sacramento Center undergoes a major change in status. On May 6, UC Provost Wyatt R. (Rory) Hume will join center Director Gary Dymski, state dignitaries, alumni and students to officially proclaim the center's transition from pilot to permanent program. The provost also will outline the center's increased responsibility for marshaling the university's research capability on behalf of state government.

"The pilot program has been a great success, and we are very excited about the Sacramento Center becoming permanent as it will only enhance learning opportunities for students and UC's contributions to the state," said Hume.

Provost Hume will officially launch the new permanent asset of the UC system during a public reception on Tuesday, May 6, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at the UC Center, 1130 K St., Suite LL 22.

Founded late in 2003 as a pilot academic program by the UC Office of the President, the UC Center Sacramento created a unique curriculum focused on California public policy, which is available to undergraduate, graduate and professional students from all 10 UC campuses. Since its inception, UCCS has introduced more than 420 students to the challenges of public policy research and analysis through seminars, research papers and internships. The center also is home to the university's distinctive internship program in public affairs journalism.

In addition to teaching, the center has brought UC faculty, policy-makers and other experts together for seminars, panels and consultations on subjects as diverse as California's future in international trade, the economics of global warming, wildfire containment and prevention, infrastructure finance, state revenues and the new economy, affordable housing, environmental justice, education finance and educational issues, the crisis in modern journalism, the emergence of modern China, and the state's aging work force -- to name but a few. The center's journalism program also has joined with the Committee of Concerned Journalists, New America Media and the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism to improve reporting on education, the environment and health care.

California is the most dynamic and diverse state in the nation and, as such, faces significant challenges in nearly every aspect of governmental activity. The University of California is a major resource for those who seek solutions to those challenges. Now, as highlighted by Provost Hume, the UC Center Sacramento will serve as a focal point where California policy-makers can tap the university's unmatched array of resources.

For more information:

<http://uccs.universityofcalifornia.edu>

Inside UCOP: Stories for and about Office of the President staff

OP HR to affiliate with UC San Francisco

As part of the overall Office of the President restructuring, the Human Resources Department at UCSF will take over services for OP employees. The transition will occur over the next nine to 12 months.

By Donna Hemmila

The Office of the President's Human Resources department is moving forward with plans to partner with the UC San Francisco HR department in a move expected to bring more services to Office to the President staff.

HR Director Rosemary Monroe and Associate Vice President of Human Resources and Benefits Judy Boyette have been exploring options for moving OP human

resource services to one of the campuses. With the restructuring of OP into a smaller, more efficient central administration unit, Monroe said it became apparent that the HR department would have a hard time maintaining service levels as a standalone department.

"We thought UCSF was a good environment for us," Monroe said. "We thought we could have a good business relationship with them."

No decisions have yet been made about the number of positions available for OP HR staff or where they will be located.

The OP HR department is part of the bigger systemwide Human Resources and Benefits Department based at the Office of the President in Oakland. Systemwide Human Resources and Benefits serves employees at all UC locations with functions that include labor relations, benefit administration and retirement services. The Office of the President HR department serves from 1,900 to 2,000 employees with 20.5 staff positions. The department functions much like a campus department administering job and staffing services, compensation classification programs, training and staff development, ergonomic evaluations, labor relations, workers' compensation and the employee assistance program.

Through the new arrangement, Monroe said, OP is hoping to improve employee access to training opportunities.

"We have quite an elaborate training program within our department and across the campus," said Mike Tyburski, director of UCSF's HR department. "We just launched a leadership development program. We've been increasing our professional development training."

The goal is to offer the same training opportunities to OP staff, he said, by sending trainers to Oakland so employees won't have to travel to classes.

Over the next several months, Tyburski said, the departments will be assessing the service levels now provided at OP and looking for the best ways to integrate them with UCSF and achieve efficiencies for both. The transition will take place over the next nine to 12 months.

"The next step is assessing where HR staff should be located, in Oakland or in San Francisco with staff who are doing the same work," said Tyburski.

Monroe expects some people will stay in Oakland, and others will go to San Francisco. She thinks the affiliation will be good for her staff, who will find more opportunities at the larger San Francisco department.

"There will be opportunities for people who really want to grow," Monroe said. "It's hard now because the staff - like everyone else - don't know where they're going to land."

Monroe is retiring in June, so an interim OP HR director will be hired. Recruitment for the position is open only to OP and UCSF HR staff.

Meanwhile, she said, HR staff will continue to serve the OP community during the restructuring. One way it is doing that is through the skills classes being offered to help people through the restructuring. Employees have been taking advantage of a trio of job searching skills classes that include resume writing, interviewing and job searching on the Internet, which is taught in a computer lab.

The department offered the three classes twice in April and three times in May for a total of 15 classes. More will be offered in June, said Linda McMullen, manager of OP employment and staffing services. Recruiters from UCSF, UC Berkeley, UC Davis and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory have held classes at OP to explain their available employment opportunities and how to apply for them. Representatives from UC Santa Cruz will visit the Franklin building on May 28 at noon.

"People whose jobs are being affected should come to the classes even if it's for a skills refresher," said McMullen. "Come just to get focused on the fact that you need to do this."

The HR department is continuing to add classes. Anyone who has an idea for a class can contact linda.mcmullen@ucop.edu.

Donna Hemmila is editor of Our University.

First OP survey gauges employee satisfaction

About 50 percent of OP employees answered the December survey. Most said they felt good about their work but highlighted the need for more involvement in decision-making, better communication and teamwork across units. Read the full survey results and recommendations for improvements.

<http://hrop.ucop.edu/employees/survey/emp2008.pdf>.

Best thing about my job?

John Garrett, receptionist for the UC president's immediate office, is the first person callers and visitors encounter when they contact the president's office in Oakland. He spends most of his day sitting behind a circular desk in the president's formal reception area. "I love that there is a variety of tasks and the opportunity to meet a lot of people who pass through," says Garrett. "I love the open space I have here. It's a nice area to work in. I answer the calls to the president's office, but also people call here because they don't know where else to call. That provides some interesting areas of conversation."

Did You Know?

If 2 percent more Californians had associate's degrees and another 1 percent more earned bachelor's degrees:

- California's economy would grow by \$20 billion.
- State and local tax revenues would increase by \$1.2 billion per year.
- 174,000 new jobs would be created.

Source: The Campaign for College Opportunity