

Chancellor's Update – September 2019

Greetings,

Welcome to the start of a new academic year! I have several updates to share, including this fall's [2019 welcome video](#) for students. In other news:

We're No. 1:

Our campus community has helped make UC Riverside the top university in the nation for social mobility in the 2020 U.S. News & World Report [Best Colleges rankings](#). Last year, UC Riverside was recognized as the fastest-rising university in the country, moving up 39 spots among national universities. Additionally, a recent Open Campus [article](#) aptly demonstrates our focused efforts to enroll and graduate students receiving Pell grant funding.

Other recent rankings have also recognized UCR this year including:

- [Money Magazine](#): No. 1 most transformative university; No. 9 public university
- [Business Insider](#): No. 2 in financial aid
- [Forbes "America's Best Value Colleges"](#): No. 12 public university
- [Washington Monthly](#): No. 16 public university; No. 27 overall
- [CNBC](#): Top 10 colleges that pay off the most in big cities

UC's Mexico Programs:

UCR has formalized the integration of three existing programs related to Mexico, bringing them together under a single umbrella in order to maximize resources and create intellectual synergy.

These programs include:

- **UC MEXUS**: the longstanding partnership with CONACYT (Mexico's National Council of Science and Technology) that provides support for binational research collaborations and education, including the administration of research grants and academic fellowships.
- **UC-Mexico Initiative** (founded by President Napolitano): addresses issues of concern to both California and Mexico, particularly those with public policy implications.
- **Casa de California**: a notable facility in Mexico City that hosts UC functions and serves as an important symbol of UC's commitment to Mexico.

The goal of the integration is development of a coordinated strategy for long-term relationships between UC and academia, government, and the private sector in Mexico. UCR is honored to have been selected as the host campus for the newly integrated UC

Mexico programs. California and Mexico share so much – socially, economically, culturally, and environmentally. Together we can make a difference and serve as a model for our two nations.

The campus will be responsible for providing academic and administrative leadership on behalf of the entire UC system. Dr. Stefano Bertozzi, former dean of the UC Berkeley School of Public Health, has been appointed interim director and a national search for a permanent director will commence shortly.

Gender Recognition Act Training & Updates:

Full implementation of the California Gender Recognition Act has taken place and students now have access to a nonbinary gender category on California birth certificates, drivers' licenses, identity cards, and gender-change court orders, promoting even greater community inclusivity and legal recognition.

Additionally, UCR employees now have the option to update aspects of their personal profile in the UCPATH system, with more inclusive options for self-identification. Once you log in, you will be guided through an update with several more gender options. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the UCR UCPATH Campus Support Center at UCPATHCSC@ucr.edu.

I recently completed the new online training on transgender, nonbinary, and intersex awareness, and it is now available to all via [UCR Learning](#). I encourage you all to do the same.

Save The Date:

The annual Chancellor's Dinner will be held October 19, 2019. For 33 years, the UCR Alumni Association has honored graduates or community members who personify the university's tradition of excellence and service. Through their personal and professional achievements, these individuals bring distinction to UCR and contribute to the betterment of society.

This year's honorees include:

- **UCR Medallion:** Jack and Laura Dangermond
- **Distinguished Alumnus Award:** Helen Newman '79
- **Alumni Service Award:** Jerry Swain '89
- **Outstanding Young Alumnus Award:** Sabrina Cervantes '09

Proceeds from the event benefit scholarship and fellowship initiatives at UCR. Learn more about the 2019 UCR Chancellor's Dinner [here](#).

For more [Summer happenings](#) you may have missed check out [Inside UCR](#) to become informed, and stay up to date. Have an excellent year Highlanders!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kim A. Wilcox', written in a cursive style.

Kim A. Wilcox
Chancellor