

Chancellor's Update - November 2018

November 26, 2018

Dear Colleagues,

It's been an energizing start to the fall at UC Riverside, and November is a time of year where we take stock of our values and priorities. We hold elections for governmental office, we gather with friends and family around food and various cultural traditions, and as the temperatures dip and the holiday shopping frenzy rises, we seek to show love through gifts. This time of year, brings many opportunities for giving, expressing gratitude and connecting with our community. Here are a few occasions of special note at UCR:

Giving Tuesday

Tomorrow, November 27, join UCR in celebrating the international day of giving, Giving Tuesday! For 24 hours, alumni, parents, and friends will come together to support their favorite college, sport, or cause on campus. Visit <https://dayofgiving.ucr.edu/> to see if there is a campaign that you'd like to support. Use **#GivingTueUCR** to help us spread the word on social media.

Giving Thanks To Our Alumni and Donors

We recently enjoined two events celebrating exceptional supporters of UCR. On Oct. 17, UCR recognized the longtime generosity of the remarkable Campbell family with a building renaming event. Read more [here](#). On Oct. 20, we honored four UCR alumni who personify the university's tradition of excellence and service. Take a look at the stories of the 2018 honorees:

- [Brenda Martinez '10 - 2018 Outstanding Young Alumnus Award](#)

- [Martin Pasqualetti, Ph.D. '77 - 2018 Distinguished Alumnus Award](#)
- [Giles Waines, Ph.D. '69 - 2018 Alumni Service Award](#)
- [Charles E. Young Ph.D. '55 - 2018 UCR Medallion Recipient](#)

Homecoming

Thank you to all students, parents, faculty and staff who joined the Homecoming festivities. From art to athletics, our annual Scotfest was fun for all. I thank all involved for helping to build a strong and vibrant campus community.

Town Hall

I'm happy to announce our first Town Hall Meeting of the academic year will be held on December 6 at 12pm in HUB 302. In the meantime, any questions or comments you would like me to be sure to address at the meeting, can be sent to townhall@ucr.edu.

Thanksgiving

UCR's very own Native American historian [Clifford Trafzer](#), a Distinguished Professor of History and Rupert Costo Chair in American Indian Affairs, graciously shares his insight as a reflection on the Thanksgiving holiday:

“For thousands of years before the Norse, Spanish, French, or English arrived in North America, the indigenous people of this land gave thanks through song and prayer for the bounty the Creator gave to the people. Thanksgiving existed before the fall of 1621, as Native Americans gave thanks for corn, squash, beans, venison, and fowl. California Indians gave thanks for acorns, mesquite, chia, cactus, yucca, and agave. The gathering at Plymouth Colony in 1621 brought sharing between Massasoit’s people and English colonists. That gathering offered possibilities for peace and friendship, but in the years immediately after the gathering at Plymouth Colony, the English stole Indian lands and attacked Native Americans, and killed Native spiritual leaders. Settlers pushed people out of Massachusetts, creating destructive developments difficult for contemporary Native Americans to celebrate. Yet, American Indians have never forgotten to sing and pray, giving thanks today as they have for thousands of years.”

An excellent note that a grateful heart and thanks giving must be cultivated and expressed all year long to create peace – between cultures, within families and amongst individuals.

Giving Thanks to You!

In closing, thank you for all that you do to make our community a great place to learn and work. As we move into a festive month ahead I wish you much joy, on campus and off.

Sincerely,

[Kim A. Wilcox](#)

Chancellor