

Chancellor's Update – July 2019

July 31, 2019

Greetings,

I hope your summer is off to a wonderful start. One of the great pleasures of my job is the opportunity to represent UCR in the state of California, across the country, and around the world. This past month, I've had the chance to do all three. Here's a summary:

Australia

I was invited by Premier Steven Marshall of South Australia to recognize the pioneering work of Geology Professor Mary Droser in the Australian Outback. As many of you may know, Dr. Droser discovered two new creatures from the dawn of animal life on earth, and it was enlightening to see her research process first-hand. The high point of the trip was signing a memorandum of understanding with the Department of Water and the Environment to continue Dr. Droser's groundbreaking research in Nilpena Station, a city-sized plot of land rich with fossils. Read more [here](#) or see photos [here](#).

Boston

On July 15, I attended the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) 2019 Summit for Leaders in Advancement in Boston. I spoke on a panel with moderator David Leonhardt, the New York Times writer who recently wrote a column about "The College Dropout Crisis" in which UCR was featured for our student success outcomes. Read more [here](#). This panel discussion included a lively discourse of how postsecondary institutions can improve access, mitigate inequality, and create a stronger economy. Watch a few brief videos from the event [here](#).

Oakland

Earlier this month, the UC Office of the President Staff Assembly welcomed me to their third "Chancellor Chat" of 2019. In the presentation, I relayed many of the recent highlights from our campus community, and the group was especially taken by the UCR-generated invention of wearable mosquito-repellant patches made from food-safe ingredients. Watch our discussion [here](#).

Thank you for all that you do to make UC Riverside so remarkable, and for allowing me to be an ambassador of our exceptional institution.

