August 8, 2019

Dear Campus Community:

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Rodolfo H. Torres as UCR’s next Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development, subject to approval by President Napolitano.

Dr. Torres is a University Distinguished Professor of Mathematics at the University of Kansas (KU), a member institution of the Association of American Universities (AAU). He served for more than six years in the Office of Research at KU, first as Associate Vice Chancellor and then in 2018 as Interim Vice Chancellor for Research and President of the Kansas University Center for Research Inc. Torres played a leadership role restructuring many aspects of the Office of Research at KU and supporting a diverse collection of successful research centers reporting to that office.

Prior to his roles in the Office of Research, Dr. Torres served as President of the Faculty Senate and received multiple teaching awards. He maintains a presence in national research administration organizations, and recently presented a Congressional Briefing for the American Mathematical Society, of which he is an inaugural fellow.

Dr. Torres received his Ph.D. in mathematics from Washington University in St. Louis in 1989. He held postdoctoral positions at the Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences of New York University and the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. In 1996 he moved to the University of Kansas, where he advanced through tenured ranks, becoming a full professor in 2003 and a University Distinguished Professor in 2016.

His research interests include Fourier analysis and applications in partial differential equations, signal analysis, and biology. He specializes in the study of singular integrals, function spaces, and decomposition techniques. Since 1993 his research has been supported by several grants from the National Science Foundation.

A native of Argentina, Dr. Torres will be joined at UCR by his wife and fellow mathematician, Dr. Estela Gavosto.
I would like to extend my gratitude to members of the search advisory committee:

Dean and Professor of Chemistry Kathryn Uhrich, CNAS, committee chair
Distinguished Professor Alexander Balandin, Electrical and Computer Engineering
Director Krassimir Bozhilov, Central Facility for Advanced Microscopy & Microanalysis
Vice Chancellor for Research Sandra Brown, UC San Diego
Distinguished Professor Katayoon Dehesh, Botany and Plant Sciences
Student Representative Melvin Martinez, Associated Students UCR
Associate Vice Chancellor Rosibel Ochoa, Technology Partnerships
Professor Maurizio Pellecchia, Biomedical Sciences
President Shawn Ragan, Graduate Student Association
Student Representative Roseanne Rosenthal, Diversity Council
President Cindy Roth, Riverside Chambers of Commerce
Professor Aaron Seitz, Psychology
Staff Assembly Representative Jennifer Talbot, Graduate School of Education
Associate Dean and Professor of History Kiril Tomoff, CHASS

I also want to acknowledge the exceptional stewardship provided this year by Senior Associate Vice Chancellor Gillian Wilson. Professor Wilson joined the Department of Physics & Astronomy in 2007 and served as chair of the RED Advisory Board. She also serves as chair of the systemwide UC Observatories Advisory Committee and was interim deputy director of UC Observatories until she stepped down to join RED. Dr. Wilson has done an admirable job serving as the senior administrative leader in RED during the transition and I’m grateful for her service, commitment, and contributions.

Sincerely,

Kim A. Wilcox
Chancellor