Chancellor's Welcome

Welcome to the University of California, Irvine. As a UC student, you have access to resources that extend across our campus, throughout our state, and beyond. This catalogue will serve as an invaluable guide to enhancing your UC Irvine experience.

UCI combines the strengths of a major research university with the highly personalized experience of a small college. Over four remarkable decades, we have become internationally recognized for efforts that are improving lives through research and discovery, fostering excellence in scholarship and teaching, and engaging and enriching the community. Times Higher Education magazine ranks UCI as the number one university in the nation—and fourth in the world—under 50 years of age.

Increasingly a first-choice campus for students, UCI attracted a record nearly 70,000 undergraduate applications for 2012 and admitted freshmen with highly competitive academic profiles.

Our recently launched programs in public policy, public health, and nursing science are critical to California’s health and prosperity. Our law school, the state’s first public law school to open in more than 40 years, graduated its first class in 2012. In July 2012 the Regents established the UC Irvine School of Education from the existing Department of Education in recognition of its national academic profile.

UCI is a center for quality education and is consistently ranked among the nation’s best universities. Achievements in the sciences, arts, humanities, medicine, and management have garnered top 50 national rankings for more than 40 academic programs. Three UCI researchers have won Nobel Prizes—two in chemistry and one in physics.

UCI reaches beyond the classroom and laboratory to help solve societal issues and support human development. We are a hub for stem cell research, a trailblazer in understanding global warming, and a leader in the fight against breast cancer. Our nationally ranked medical center in Orange serves as Orange County’s only Level I trauma center, and our state-of-the-art UC Irvine Douglas Hospital has been ranked among the country’s top 50 hospitals for more than 10 years, providing outstanding care for the region’s citizens.

A major intellectual and cultural center, UCI offers numerous public activities and events. The Claire Trevor School of the Arts and the School of Humanities produce engaging and entertaining cultural programs, while UCI’s Anteater athletes have won more than two dozen national championships.

UCI is benefiting the community and the world in countless ways through its scholarly, scientific, creative, and economic contributions. Orange County’s second largest employer, UCI generates an annual economic impact on the county of $4.3 billion. We have implemented a strategic plan that will ensure that the campus continues to inspire excellence as it fulfills its research, teaching, and public service missions in the decades ahead.

Our actions and interactions are governed by a set of core values: respect, intellectual curiosity, commitment, integrity, empathy, appreciation, and fun. These values allow people to transcend limitations and create something greater than themselves. I am proud that—at UCI—we live these values every day.

I encourage you to take advantage of all that UCI has to offer. I look forward to seeing you on campus and to being a part of this very important time in your life.

Sincerely,

Michael V. Drake, M.D.
Chancellor