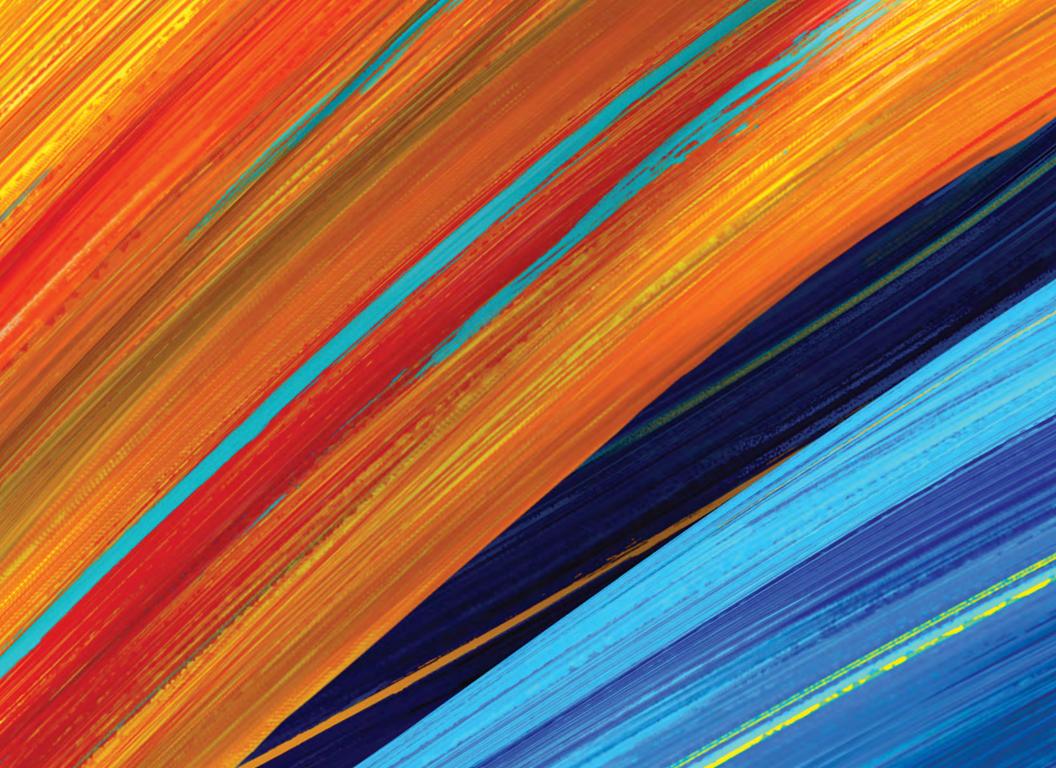
## Office of the Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning

#### THE CASE FOR SUPPORT









#### Empowering Education, Enduring Impact: Where the American Dream Comes Alive

The UCI Office of the Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning enriches the academic experiences of undergraduates so they can succeed and thrive. Through three primary divisions — the Division of Undergraduate Education, the Division of Teaching Excellence and Innovation and the Division of Summer Session — we empower students to realize their full potential. It is our mission to work with students to ensure that UCI's educational opportunities become an engine for upward social mobility, impact and positive innovation. Several of our dynamic programs specifically serve firstgeneration, low-income or underrepresented college students who make up more than half of our diverse undergraduate population. Overall, we promote academic and future success through student-focused campus and community partnerships that respect differences and are committed to inclusive excellence.

Our division is where all students are given the resources they need to succeed and realize a better future after they graduate. We are where **the American Dream comes alive**. Whether they intend to start a new business, break the cycle of poverty or launch a bold research project, our students learn how to take charge of their lives. The remarkable futures they imagine become reality.

UCI students are poised to shape a brilliant future for our nation and the world. If you feel as passionately as we do about helping talented undergraduates achieve their full potential, please consider investing in one of our high-impact priorities:

### Division Of Undergraduate Education (DUE)

#### **Honors College Initiative**

Any one of our UCI students could become the next person to change the world. Our newly evolved Campuswide Honors Collegium (CHC), built on the 30-year history of the Campuswide Honors Program, nurtures that potential.

Designed as a national model, this program is more than a bullet item on a résumé or an entree to graduate school. Honors students go beyond what is expected, challenging themselves to achieve ambitious goals. The Campuswide Honors Collegium challenges these outstanding students to actively apply their knowledge and helps them develop leadership and career readiness skills.

In addition to taking specialized general education courses that combine the sciences, social sciences, and humanities for a wellrounded perspective, Campuswide Honors Collegium students conduct advanced research with faculty, culminating in an honors thesis project. Perhaps even more important are the life skills embedded in the Honors curriculum — communication, critical thinking, working in teams, and managing complex projects. By building a unique curriculum that combines traditional academics with leadership and skills training, we prepare our students to succeed in their careers and in our community after graduating from UCI.

UCI BRILLIANT FUTURE 3

# futures they imagine become reality\_

More than 3,000 undergraduates have completed the Campuswide Honors Program, and these alumni are transforming all sectors of society. As our community and business leaders retire, there is a growing need for leadership in our communities. The Campuswide Honors Collegium is ready to fill this void, and with your help we can prepare talented students to become those new leaders. Already the most diverse honors population in the UC system, our students are the best of the best from all backgrounds and majors, and UCI has the ability to support their efforts towards continued excellence. We expect to:

- Recruit the best undergraduates in the nation to UCI
- Almost double the number of top students served from 800 to 1,500

- Build career readiness and leadership development programs
- Create dynamic partnerships with business and build professional networks
- Use innovative teaching methods to help students create solutions to real-world problems and prepare them to lead the way in the future

The Campuswide Honors Collegium is becoming a pillar of the UCI campus and a national model for Honors Colleges at major universities across the country. Your support will help to make the Campuswide Honors Collegium a permanent fixture at UCI through the creation of an endowment specifically focused on supporting honors students and the growth of the Collegium.

"We must recruit the best and brightest to UCI and offer them the kind of outstanding educational experiences that help talented students create, innovate, lead and serve."

- Michael Dennin, Ph.D.,

Vice Provost of Teaching and Learning and Dean of the Division of Undergraduate Education



## they learn how to SUCCEEd

#### **ANTrepreneur Center**

Entrepreneurship has brought us bifocals and airplanes, the printing press and the internet and has fundamentally changed society. At UCI, we believe our diverse and talented Anteater community is the perfect laboratory for positive change through entrepreneurship, which is why we launched the ANTrepreneur Center. All students interested in starting new ventures receive free mentoring, access to a variety of resources and seed grants, interactions with established entrepreneurs and connections to the greater Irvine entrepreneurial network.

We welcome students of all backgrounds, genders and majors and at all phases of their entrepreneurial journeys — curious beginners, innovators with promising ideas and current business owners. We provide a safe place to fail on the way to success. Through networking, developing business plans, designing a marketing plan and concept, and interacting with other students and professional entrepreneurs, they learn how to succeed outside UCI whether they join an established corporation, a startup or create a new venture.

# serving all academic majors

ANTrepreneur Center alumni learn they can believe in their dreams. For example, during a 10-week challenge, two UCI students started businesses that raised a combined \$22,000 — one manufacturing campaign-style buttons and another starting a lawn maintenance company. Both businesses are still running and have grown to support seven employees.

The ANTrepreneur Center has served over 3,500 students in the last three years, and there is incredible potential and value in expanding our efforts. To keep up with the rapid pace of innovation and the needs of the business community, we need to dramatically increase the number of students who actively employ the entrepreneurial mindset. We want to expand our programming to include higher level mentoring and support, increase our seed grant funding pool, attract more first-generation and

low-income students interested in entrepreneurship and build robust partnerships with the business community.

Gifts to the ANTrepreneur Center will secure the longevity of this popular training ground for all aspiring entrepreneurs.

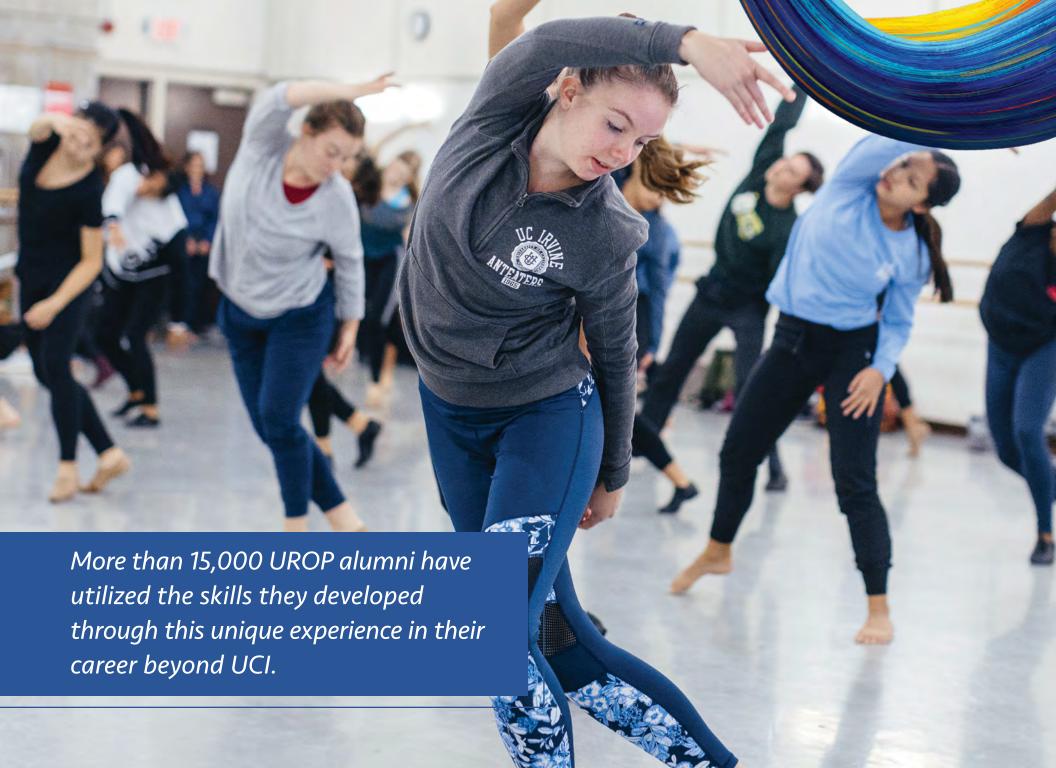
#### **Student Success Initiatives**

UCI has become the recognized leader in upward social mobility. We have made it our priority to ensure that low-income, first-generation and underrepresented students are included in the diverse mix of our undergraduate population. More than half of UCI students are the first in their family to attend college and 40 percent are from low-income backgrounds or families. It is in these communities that the American Dream seems furthest away.

The sole purpose of UCI's Student Success Initiatives (SSI) is to help students succeed in their studies and prepare them for success after graduation through academic counseling, tutoring, mentoring and internships. Help can be as simple as offering a free textbook, giving a scholarship for free tutoring or offering workshops on interviewing skills.

Those who benefit from SSI are as diverse as our campus — foster youth, student moms and dads, athletes, transfer students and veterans. They come from all academic majors. Their needs are all different, which is why we believe their success is enabled by the suite of services we offer.





# Transformational experiences

We currently serve over 3,000 students or about 10 percent of the undergraduate population, which is only a fraction of the need on campus. Your philanthropic support will expand our staff to serve more students, create an independent hub dedicated to the growing number of transfer students, provide scholarship funds for students most in need and strengthen career readiness programming.

Your support will ensure that all UCI undergraduates have a chance to achieve their goals and maintain UCI's status as the nation's leading driver of upward social mobility.

#### **Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP)**

Research allows students to fine-tune skills through project management, teamwork and accountability. At UCI, research extends outward into every nook and crevice, every lab and dance studio. Originating from the arts, humanities, social sciences and STEM fields, over 2,000 UCI undergraduates every year conduct original research and complete creative projects. Hundreds present their work at the annual Undergraduate Research Symposium. In the past 25 years, more than 15,000 UROP alumni have utilized the skills they developed through this unique experience in their career beyond UCI.

Ten years ago we had 800 students conducting research, today we have over 2,000. Our ability to offer this transformational experience is currently being challenged because of financial limitations. With **student demand outpacing program funding**, our capacity to reach specific student populations who are traditionally underrepresented has dropped by 20 percent. With your support, we aim to expand UROP and increase funding to match the undergraduate population growth. We want to develop a new corporate partnership structure so students can network within the business community while businesses can discover our great students and be thought partners for program innovation.

Your gift will help UCI meet the increased student interest in UROP by providing seed funds for the visionary research of tomorrow's leaders. With your support we can keep up with student interest and offer enough summer research funding so students don't have to choose between continuing their educational goals or taking a summer job to support themselves. Your gift will also build programs to better connect our students with the boardrooms and companies that will offer opportunities for success once they graduate.

### Division Of Teaching Excellence and Innovation

#### **UCI Teaching Institute**

We can plan vacations, pay bills and apply for a job on our phones, so why do we still teach college courses as if it's 1980? Current and future Anteaters are digital natives. The innovation that has turned their phones into supercomputers should and can be integrated into the learning experience to increase knowledge retention and build communication, teamwork and critical thinking skills. Classes that feature more interactive learning and knowledge application are critical to these goals.

The Division of Teaching Excellence and Innovation promotes a culture of teaching and learning based on the latest evidence-based instructional practices. Through our research, workshops and consultations with faculty, we provide the support necessary to ensure outstanding outcomes for students in all learning environments, both on the UCI campus and online.

We propose an institute that will transform the culture of teaching at UCI. We will start by reimagining 15 core courses that will touch 97 percent of freshmen by their second quarter. Currently in higher education, too many courses focus on teaching content over skills, with the assumption that students will learn skills as a byproduct. A gift to the teaching institute will help provide faculty with the training and support necessary to integrate critical thinking, teamwork and communication into the curriculum. Additionally, your support will provide faculty, staff, and departments with data necessary to evaluate results and ensure that reform efforts are evidence-based. This combination of mentoring and course redesign will benefit thousands of current and future students.

## **Impact of One Professor**Using Evidence Based Teaching Techniques



400 students/year Average career = 25 Years Influence = 10,000 students



**Teaches** 400 students **Mentors** 2 Junior faculty **Advises 4 Teaching Assistants Oversees** 6 Learning Assistants

1 Professor

Training and exposure to Evid<u>ence Based</u> Teaching Techniques



Teaching 400 - 800 students Advise 8 - 12 Teaching Assistants Oversee 10 - 14 Learning Assistants

Training on Evidence

Based Teaching

Techniques



- 1 out of 10 TA's become faculty
- Impact all students in a class
- Over career a TA can influence over 1,000 students

Teaching with Evidence Based Techniques



Teaching with

1 Faculty using Evidenced Based Teaching techniques can positively impact over 1,500 STUDENTS PER YEAR and tens of thousands over their career

## student

## success

"Campuswide Honors creates an environment in which you are pushed to challenge yourself and achieve things you were always capable of doing but never had the opportunity or courage to do before. Campuswide Honors is not just an academic program for high-achieving students, but an all-encompassing community and support system with connections all over campus. I never thought I would accomplish all that I have in my time at UCI, and I heavily credit being in Campuswide Honors with making it all possible."

— Iman Hanif – 2019 Campuswide Honors
Collegium graduate.

UCI student takes action: After learning of the plight of refugees, Campuswide Honors alumna Iman Siddiqi knew that she wanted to help. But at first, she didn't know how. She thought of becoming a lawyer but did not want to wait to make an impact.

Using \$6,000 in funding from "The Dalai Lama Endowed Scholarship" she had won, Iman held a fundraising banquet to start the Refugee Students Scholarship Program, which raised over \$90,000. The program gives scholarships to displaced refugees accepted to a UC campus and provides critical mentorship and guidance on UC admissions.

"Initially I felt lost in the college atmosphere. My family didn't know anything about college so I didn't have anyone to turn to for some college tips. Consequently, I struggled academically and with time management. I took a step back and started to analyze my disabilities as a first-generation student. I looked for resources that would help turn these weaknesses into strengths. The Learning and Academic Resource Center (LARC) and Student Success Initiatives became the resources I utilized the most to thrive academically." — Fernando, first-generation student.





"Support from the community is paramount to creating innovative teaching and learning systems that provide the foundation for the future of education and the ultimate success of our talented and diverse student population."

- Michael Dennin, Ph.D.,

Vice Provost of Teaching and Learning and Dean of the Division of Undergraduate Education

