



# **2020** *Endowed Fund* *Report*

**UCI** University of  
California, Irvine



*“Endowments provide essential support for undergraduate and graduate students and faculty who dream big and dare to do what others might only imagine. Especially now, alumni and friends like you who believe in innovation, the power of ambition and imagination, can transform the world for this generation and the next. Amazing things happen when we join together to create a more brilliant future.”*

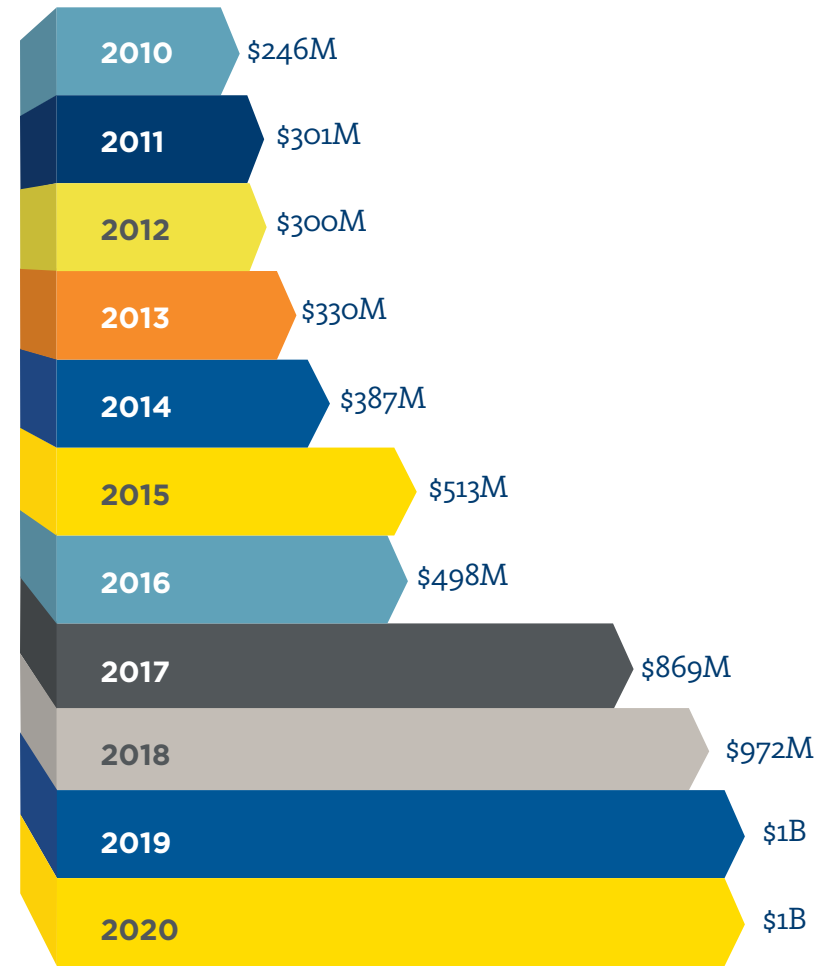
**Chancellor Howard Gillman**

# UCI Endowment Performance

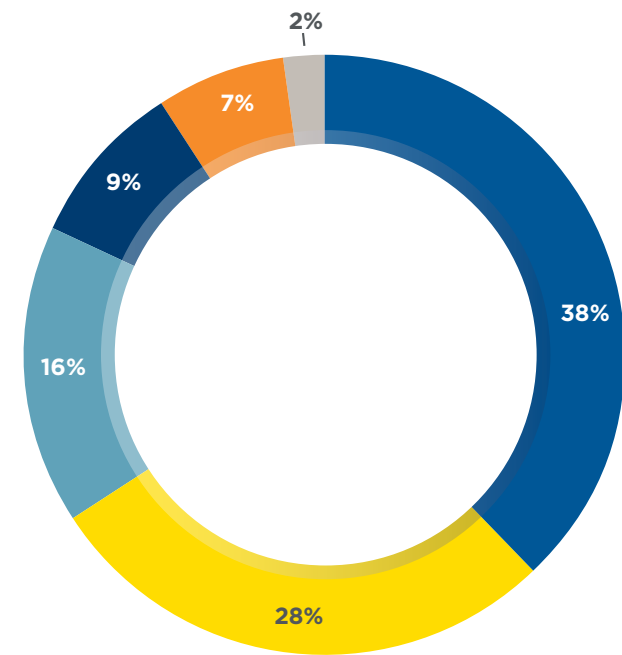
Total 2019-2020 UCI Endowment **\$1,036,416,817**

Highlights 2019-20

Endowment Market Value  
as of June 30, 2020

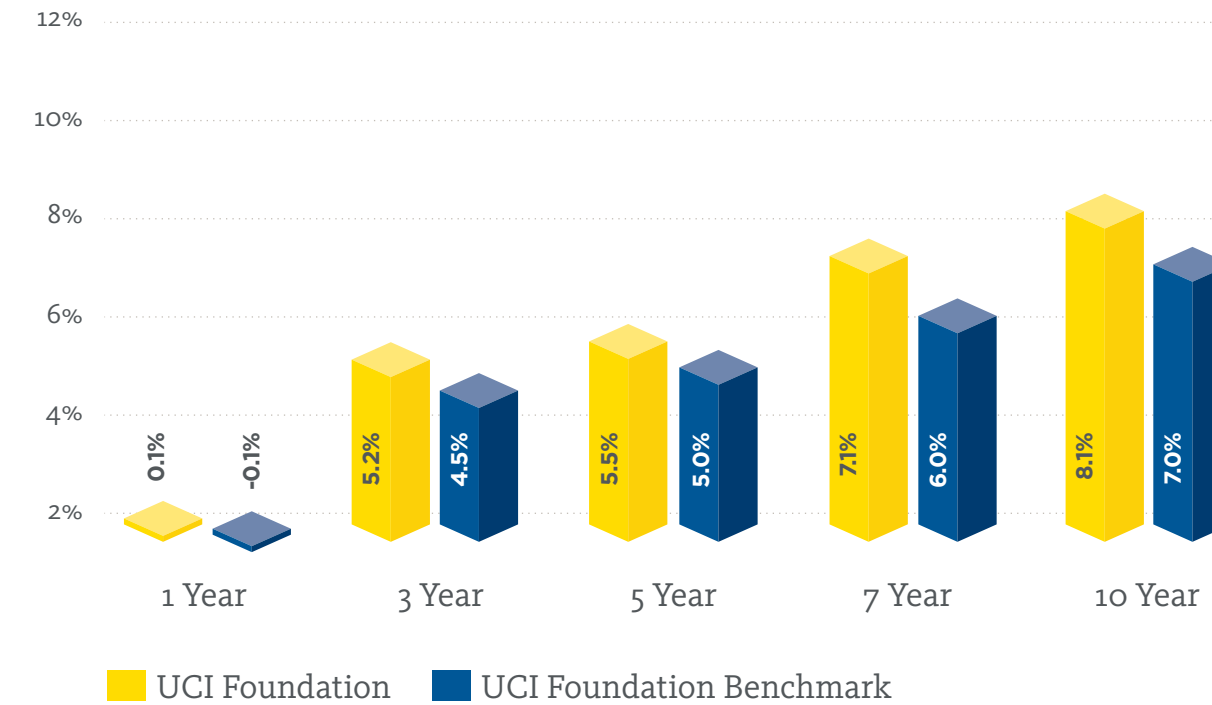


Where Endowments Are Making a Difference



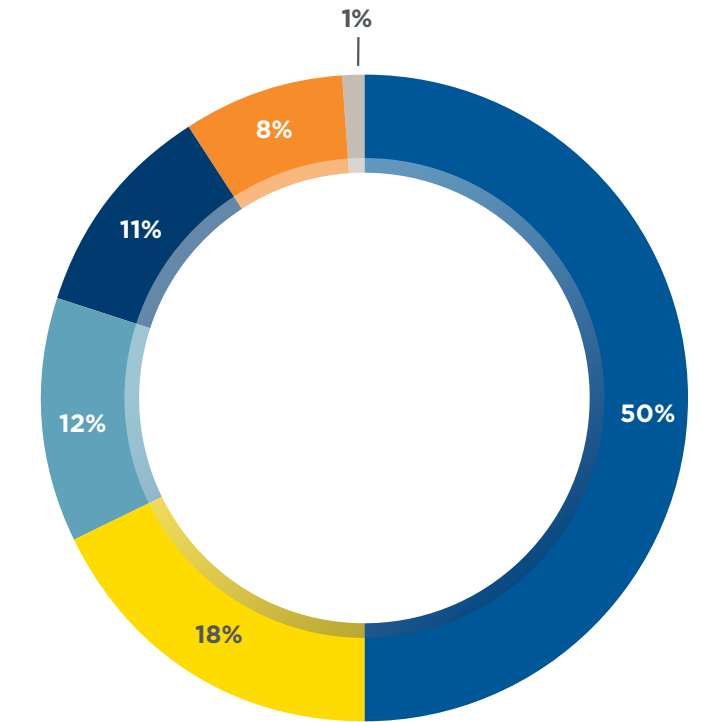
- Chairs/Professorships 38%
- Multi-purpose 9%
- Departmental Use 28%
- Research 7%
- Student Aid 16%
- Lectures/Libraries 2%

Annualized Endowment Performance



UCI Foundation UCI Foundation Benchmark

Endowment Portfolio Asset Allocation



- Global Equity
- Absolute Return
- Private Equity
- Fixed Income
- Real Assets
- Liquidity

The Investment Committee of the UCI Foundation Board of Trustees is responsible for the management and investment oversight of the UCI Foundation endowment. The committee is responsible for recommendations to the trustees on all investment policies and administrative guidelines, and the engagement of investment managers. The principal of the endowment is held in perpetuity, with only a portion of the income expended annually in support of various purposes designated by our donors. In 1993, the UCI Foundation adopted a total return spending policy, which allocates 4.5 percent of the endowment, based on a 36-month rolling average of its market value. For endowments where the current market value has fallen below the historic book value, spending is limited to earned income. This provides a steady income stream for university programs while guarding the endowment's purchasing power from inflation.

# Brilliant Future

## Campaign Progress

Commitments by Purpose



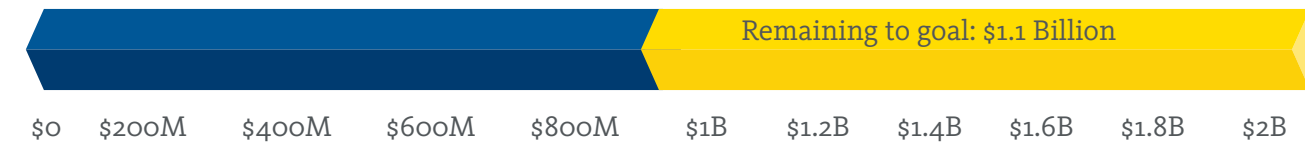
- Departmental Support: \$465.5 million
- Research: \$171.6 million
- Campus Improvement: \$139.3 million
- Student Support: \$74.1 million
- Endowed Chair: \$38.3 million
- Other: \$31.7 million

Commitments by Supporters

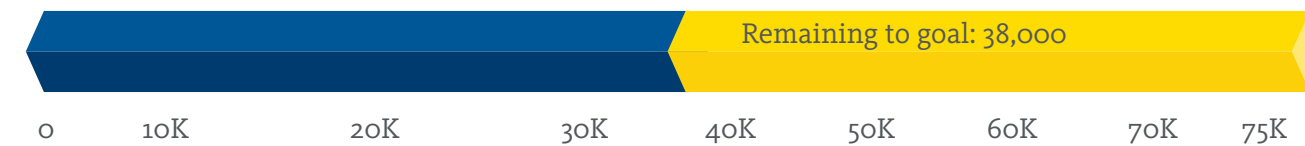


- Alumni: 61,259
- Friends: 31,403
- Foundations and Corporations: 10,942
- Faculty and Staff: 9,420
- Parents: 7,802
- Other Organizations: 4,106

\$920.5 Million Raised as of October 7, 2020



37,045 Engaged Alumni



**75%**  
of all donors are new to UCI

**333**  
Estate gifts and Planned gifts

**32** Endowed Chairs

**120+** Scholarships, Fellowships & Awards

**65,744** Donors

**Over 50%**  
gifts are under \$100

Let's continue to be brilliant together.

# Leading the way to the next essential breakthrough

## A record \$529 million in research funding received

From cutting-edge research and clinical trials focused on cancer care to creating a new center devoted to protecting personal data privacy, UCI scholars, scientists and physicians are blazing new paths to help change the world. And the positive social impact of UCI's extraordinary research enterprise is growing. In fiscal 2019-20, UCI researchers received the most funding in campus history: \$529 million in grants and contracts.

## A boost in biomedical research

UCI Health Sciences experienced the greatest jump in research funding. The School of Medicine alone garnered \$190 million, accounting for 36 percent of UCI's 2019-20 total and representing a second year of over 20 percent growth. The Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center – Orange County's only National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer center – brought in \$44 million for basic, translational and clinical research, a 75 percent increase from last year.

The Institute for Memory Impairments and Neurological Disorders received a five-year, \$14.4 million renewal grant from the National Institute on

Aging for its Alzheimer's Disease Research Center, the only one in Orange County and one of just 32 across the U.S. conducting leading research to improve the diagnosis, care and treatment of people with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

## New NSF-funded centers in engineering

Researchers in The Henry Samueli School of Engineering will be using large awards from the National Science Foundation to launch new centers that will put UCI in the forefront of materials science and data privacy research. With \$18 million in NSF funding, Xiaoping Pan, the Henry Samueli Endowed Chair in Engineering and a professor of materials science & engineering and physics & astronomy, is starting an Irvine Materials Research Institute. It will join 16 existing centers at leading research institutions in the U.S. and establish UCI as a major research hub for Southern California's academic and industry materials ecosystem.

And with \$10 million in NSF support, Athina Markopoulou – Chancellor's Fellow, professor and chair of electrical engineering & computer science – will lead the creation of a new research center dedicated to safeguarding personal data privacy in an increasingly networked world.



## Endowments serve as a springboard to increased funding

Endowed faculty are the top scholars in their fields – innovative researchers who push the frontiers of scholarship and engaged educators who enrich the academic environment. Your endowment support allows them to explore novel concepts and undertake high-risk, high-return ideas that can result in breakthroughs. It also provides resources necessary to establish the preliminary data required to pursue large grants and federal funding.

*“Despite the hurdles we face during the COVID-19 pandemic, the UCI community continues to make a **meaningful impact** on regional economic development and to improve society through globally prominent research.”*

*Chancellor Howard Gillman*

# Fighting cancer on all fronts

## Chao Family Endowed Director's Chair in Cancer Research and Treatment

As an academic leader, teacher and researcher, Richard A. Van Etten, M.D., Ph.D., touches countless lives – both near and far.

Van Etten is a fellowship-trained hematologist and oncologist who specializes in the treatment of leukemia and other blood disorders. As director of the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center, he leads a team of more than 200 physicians, scientists and other health science professionals.

“The endowment affords me the flexibility to carry out multiple responsibilities, which in addition to directing the cancer center includes patient care, participation in clinical trials research, teaching medical students, residents and fellows, and running my National Cancer Institute-funded basic/translational research laboratory,” said Van Etten.

This past year saw the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center expand and enhance its role as the only National Cancer Institute-designated cancer center based in Orange County.

With UCI Health, the cancer center launched a hematopoietic stem cell transplant program to treat certain blood cancers, completing seven transplants since late May. Prior to UCI

launching the bone marrow transplant program, patients had to leave Orange County in order to receive this life-saving therapy.

“I am always inspired by the resilience and optimism of our patients and their families, who have placed their trust in us. This was perhaps most evident with the launch of our bone marrow transplant program, where several patients who had been referred previously to Los Angeles centers for this procedure instead wanted to have their transplants at UCI, with the providers and staff that they had come to know,” said Van Etten.

Other highlights from the year included the recruitment of 25 new cancer faculty, expanding and diversifying clinical trials, and raising over \$650,000 to fund cancer research at UCI and CHOC Children's through their third annual Anti-Cancer Challenge event.

The coming year brings further expansion and advances in diagnostics, treatment and rehabilitation programs to provide the best possible care for the cancer center's patients and their families.

“We will leverage the stem cell transplant program together with a new cell manufacturing facility to increase our research and treatment in the field of adoptive cell therapy and immunotherapy,” said Van Etten. “Adoptive cell transfer

*“We are working to fulfill our mission to **alleviate the burden of cancer on the citizens of Orange County**, including providing access to the latest cancer drugs and devices through early phase clinical trials, keeping expert cancer care close to home so that OC residents do not have to leave the county, and serving as the de facto safety net hospital for Orange County.”*

**Richard A. Van Etten, M.D., Ph.D.**  
Director, Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center

immunotherapy is one of the most promising new treatments for people with hard-to-treat cancers.”

Through the center's Community Outreach & Engagement office, they are bringing state-of-the-art cancer prevention and screening to four Federally Qualified Health Centers in Orange County that predominantly serve minority populations, including the UCI Family Health Centers in Santa Ana and Anaheim.

Together, with the UC Cancer Consortium (a network of NCI-designated cancer centers at UCI, UCLA, UCSD, UC Davis and UCSF), they are launching a precision cancer collaboration with data sharing and a joint molecular tumor board.

And, they are actively participating in UCI Health's exciting plans to establish a medical facility and cancer center footprint on the UCI campus, to include an ambulatory cancer center and inpatient specialty hospital.





*“Music transformed and gave my life a better path, and I want to do the same thing for other people and transform their lives as well. That’s one of my rules: **Always give back.**”*

**Daniel Cadena**

## Making “first choice” possible

### Arts Creative Connections program and scholarship support help budding musician find his home

Daniel Cadena was 15 the first time he picked up a violin, and he couldn’t get it to make a sound. He was in love with music, and eager to learn to play. Unfortunately, as a new arrival from Guerrero, Mexico, he didn’t have room in his schedule to join the orchestra because his counselor wanted him to double up on English classes at Santa Ana High School (SAHS).

Undeterred, he taught himself the violin and keyboard, using instruments his older sister had abandoned after she briefly pursued a degree in music education. Within a few months, he was reading music and composing songs.

“At the beginning, I really liked composing because I couldn’t communicate with people through verbal language, so I felt like writing music was the best way to communicate,” says Cadena.

When the SAHS strings teacher eventually heard Cadena play the violin, he immediately put him in the advanced orchestra.

As part of a partnership with the Claire Trevor School of the Arts where UCI students and faculty mentor high school students, and perform a concert side-by-side with them, Stephen Tucker, conductor of the UCI Symphony Orchestra, visited the SAHS orchestra and was

impressed by Cadena’s chameleon-like musical ability. He played the violin, then suddenly he played the keyboard. When a harpist was needed, Cadena taught himself harp, too.

When Tucker heard that Cadena had financial concerns about affording UCI, Cadena was directed to the Office of Financial Aid to help him with a scholarship package.

“I really liked UCI because I feel like I’m home there,” said Cadena.

With funding from the Edna Helen Beach Scholarship and the Alice Lowell Memorial Scholarship, Cadena is now the only harpist at UCI. He also plays second chair violin in the orchestra and continues composing music. He is pursuing a double major in Spanish literature.

“It means the world to me that people donated money to help me achieve my goals in life,” expressed Cadena. “The opportunities that you have provided and opened for me are endless. Thank you so much for investing in my future.”

Cadena believes in giving back and visits SAHS each week to teach harp to a sophomore, through the Claire Trevor School of the Arts Creative Connections program, which sends UCI arts students to work with K-12 arts education programs across Orange County.



## Empowering the next generation of deep thinkers and innovators

### Stacey Nicholas Office of Access and Inclusion

“It has never been more important to empower women and students from disadvantaged backgrounds to become the engineers of the future,” said UCI Foundation trustee, Stacey Nicholas. “Equally important is a commitment to a diverse faculty that brings unique perspectives and can serve as role models for students.”

An engineer herself (with a master’s and bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering from UCLA), Nicholas founded the Irvine-based Opus Foundation, which promotes STEM education outreach and the arts. Active on various dean’s advisory and executive boards for UCI’s engineering and ICS schools and a UCI Foundation trustee since 2015, Nicholas has built a pipeline for talented, underrepresented students to learn basic engineering concepts.

In 2014, Nicholas gave \$9.5 million to The Henry Samueli School of Engineering; \$5 million of that supports the Academic Innovation & Research in Engineering endeavor, which conducts K-12 and community college outreach and promotes interest in STEM subjects through project-based learning.

The 2014 funding also endowed scholarships and fellowships and created the Stacey Nicholas Endowed Chair for Diversity in Engineering Education, held by UCI professor of materials science & engineering

and chemical & biomolecular engineering, Regina Ragan. The chair has allowed Ragan and Nicholas to create support and mentorships that are so critical to success in college and beyond.

“I am extremely grateful to Stacey Nicholas for her support and commitment to developing talent and providing equal opportunities for everyone to participate in the engineering discipline,” said Ragan. “She clearly is passionate about fostering a culture where everyone can contribute to address societal needs and work toward a fair landscape for all people.”

Nicholas’ most recent \$5 million gift will endow and rename a program serving both the Samueli School and the Donald Bren School of Information & Computer Sciences – the UCI Office of Access & Inclusion – that supports the recruitment, retention and graduation of students from historically excluded populations who are underrepresented in science, technology, engineering and math.

“Engineering can be a transformative path for these students, as well as for their families and communities,” said Nicholas. “They will bring new perspectives to the world’s most critical problems and truly represent our diverse nation. They will serve as role models for others and empower future generations. Now more than ever, our country and the world need these brilliant and talented engineers to better the lives of all of us going forward.”

*“It’s so important to **support underrepresented students** so they’ll have the same chance of success as their more fortunate peers.”*

**Stacey Nicholas**  
UCI Foundation Trustee



“By broadening UCI’s Persian studies program to include Zoroastrianism, we encourage young people to **enrich their multicultural awareness** – an essential component of working and living in a modern, multiethnic society.”

**Fariborz Maseeh, Ph.D.**



## Uncovering an ancient Persian philosophy

### Ferdowsi Presidential Chair in Zoroastrian Studies

Fariborz Maseeh, Ph.D., an Iranian American businessman and pioneer in the field of microelectromechanical systems, has a history of making philanthropic investments in education, the arts and health-related causes through his Massiah Foundation.

Maseeh, whose relationship with UCI spans almost two decades, has supported scholarships, fellowships, endowed professorships and awards. His investment in UCI has made the university one of the leading centers for Persian studies in the nation. In fact, UCI’s Samuel Jordan Center for Persian Studies and Culture will soon have five endowed chairs in Persian Studies – more than any Persian studies center in the country. Dr. Maseeh has funded four of these five chairs.

In 2005, the Massiah Foundation funded the creation of UCI’s Samuel Jordan Center for Persian Studies and Culture. The Jordan Center, the first independent, interdisciplinary center focused on Iran within the UC system, is both UCI’s dedicated hub for Persian studies and a global destination for Persian scholars. The center focuses on interdisciplinary research projects that bridge the arts, humanities, engineering, medicine and the sciences.

A recent \$1.5 million challenge commitment from the Massiah Foundation established the Ferdowsi Presidential Chair in Zoroastrian Studies – the first of its kind in the United States. The foundation’s gift elicited an additional \$500,000 from the UC Presidential Match for Endowed Chairs program.

Zoroastrianism is one of the world’s oldest continuously practiced religions. The chair is named in honor of Ferdowsi, the 10th-century Persian poet who is often credited with saving the Persian language by writing *Shahnameh* (Book of Kings), the national epic of Greater Iran.

“We are incredibly grateful to Dr. Maseeh for establishing this new chair to expand research into Zoroastrian studies,” said UCI history professor Touraj Daryaee, the Maseeh Chair in Persian Studies and Culture and director of the Jordan Center. “The chair will enhance the already rich global historical and cultural study that takes place in the center, further raising its distinction not just at UCI but throughout the world.”

UCI students can minor in Persian studies and take courses about ancient and modern Iran; graduate students can pursue a specialization in ancient Iran and the premodern Persianate world.

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