



Position Profile

Search for the Chancellor University of California, Riverside Riverside, California

[The University of California, Riverside \(UCR\)](#), one of ten campuses of the distinguished University of California (UC) system, invites nominations and applications for the position of Chancellor.

Established in 1954, UCR's roots trace back to the earliest days of high-impact innovation as a Citrus Experiment Station researching agricultural issues facing Southern California. Today, UCR is a premier research and educational institution and the national leader of the social mobility and student success movement. Located in the thriving Inland Southern California Region on a campus covering nearly 1,200 acres, UCR has more than 1,200 faculty members – including two Nobel Prize winners and 15 members of the National Academies of Science and Medicine – and over 26,000 students. The university is home to an exceptional and unique student body: 41% of students are unrepresented minorities, 49% of undergraduates are first-generation college students, and 48% of undergraduates receive Pell Grants. UCR has been designated as both a Hispanic-serving institution (HSI) and an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institution (AANAPISI) by the U.S. Department of Education. In 2023, UCR was invited to join the Association of American Universities (AAU), highlighting significant strides made for the university in terms of research and educational excellence, as well as being one of four members to hold both HSI and AANAPISI status. In 2024, UCR was named the No. 1 university in the nation for social mobility by [U.S. News & World Report](#).

Building on its mission to transform the lives of the people of California, the nation, and the world through the discovery, communication, translation, application, and preservation of knowledge – thereby enriching the state's economic, social, cultural, and environmental future, UCR continues to be recognized for its commitment to academic excellence and accessibility. UCR offers more than 150 majors and minors, 55 master's programs, 44 Ph.D. programs, and 13 credential programs across [three colleges and four professional schools](#). UCR's commitment to serving the region was furthered by the founding of the School of Medicine in 2008, which now admits more than half of medical students from the region, and the School of Public Policy in 2012, one of four public policy schools in the UC system. The university consistently ranks as one of the most innovative schools by [U.S. News & World Report](#) and among those making a significant public impact by [The Princeton Review](#), having generated \$200 million in research expenditures in fiscal year 2023 and contributing \$2.7 billion in nationwide annual economic activity.

This is a pivotal opportunity for the 10th Chancellor to lead UCR boldly into its next chapter. The next Chancellor will possess the vision and leadership skills to advance UCR's academic, research, and service missions, including the ambitious goals set forth in the [UCR 2030 Strategic Plan](#), while also being forward-

thinking in their approach toward inclusive excellence, innovation, and several key opportunities and challenges, outlined in greater detail on page 6-8 of the document:

- Propel UCR's rise as a national and global leader in excellence and accessibility;
- Accelerate UCR's research distinction and academic impact on the national and global stage;
- Foster a culture of philanthropy and diversify resources to fuel innovation and growth;
- Champion student success and deepen the university's commitment to inclusive excellence;
- Launch a world-class medical enterprise to serve regional needs;
- Strengthen partnerships in the Inland Empire and beyond to anchor regional economic development; and
- Lead with bold vision, transparency, and a collaborative approach.

This profile aims to provide prospective candidates with background information about UCR and the Chancellor's role. All confidential applications, inquiries, and nominations should be directed to the parties listed at the end of the profile.

About UC Riverside

Located on nearly 1,200 acres nestled against the Box Springs Mountain Range in Southern California and distinguished by more than 70 years of high-impact research, UC Riverside is a living laboratory for exploring issues critical to growing communities. Rooted in its history as a Citrus Experiment Station and guided by its land-grant tradition, UCR embodies the historic and contemporary promise of the Golden State by serving as an incubator of new knowledge and a catalyst for breakthroughs in many of today's most relevant fields. In 1948, the University of California Regents approved the establishment of the College of Letters and Science on the campus. UCR marks its founding in 1954 when the UC Board of Regents approved its status as a general campus incorporating the Agricultural Experiment Station (AES) and formalizing it as one of three land-grant campuses of the UC.

From its inception, UCR has been a dynamic institution. The scope of the academic program continues to grow and evolve, including the establishment of a school of medicine in 2008 – the first new public school of medicine in California in 40 years – and a school of public policy in 2015. UCR's colleges and schools include the [College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences \(CHASS\)](#); [College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences \(CNAS\)](#); [Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering \(BCOE\)](#); [School of Business \(SOB\)](#); [School of Medicine \(SOM\)](#); [School of Public Policy \(SPP\)](#); [School of Education \(SOE\)](#); and [University Extension \(UNEX\)](#).

UCR has become a national model for inclusion and excellence. With over 26,000 students and more than 1,200 faculty, UCR is pioneering research with economic, scientific, and social impact on the real-world challenges in California and beyond. The invitation to join the Association of American Universities (AAU) in 2023 reflects the university's upward trajectory and its position among the most pre-eminent research institutions in the country.

In addition, the university is ranked no. 1 in the nation for social mobility by U.S. News and has won accolades for the success of its low-income students, including a no. 1 retention ranking from the Chronicle of Higher Education. In 2008, UCR became the first UC campus designated as a Hispanic-Serving

Institution, and in 2018, UCR was designated an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution. In 2022, UCR was named an Innovation and Economic Prosperity Designee by the Association for Public and Land Grant Universities. Most recently, in 2024, UCR received the prestigious Carnegie Elective Classification for Community Engagement in recognition of its strong community-engaged research, as well as collaborations with local schools, non-profit organizations, businesses, and other institutions as a result of wide range of community-engaged activities that have fostered meaningful partnerships within the Inland Empire. This recognition highlights UCR's strong commitment to community engaged research and its extensive collaborations with local schools, nonprofits organizations, business, and other institutions, strengthening connections and driving positive change across the region.

UCR 2030: Central Campus Level Strategic Initiatives

[UCR 2030](#) outlines the campus' strategic goals for 2030 and provides the foundation for the faculty and staff in the schools, colleges, and other organizational units to achieve the goals laid out in the respective plans. The strategic plan guides UCR toward its future of growth while remaining deeply rooted in its values of research excellence, access, inclusion, and service to the region. At its core, UCR 2030 has three strategic goals, developed alongside internal and external stakeholders, which include:

- **Strategic Goal 1:** Build financial stability, resiliency, and sustainability by increasing net revenue and improving financial models.
- **Strategic Goal 2:** Invest in the success of the people who teach, do research, work, learn, and live at UCR by addressing faculty recruitment, retention, and professional growth; improving graduate student success and pipelines; improving undergraduate student success and experience; addressing staffing levels, staff flexibility, and professional growth; and enhancing campus space.
- **Strategic Goal 3:** Expand the visibility and scope of influence of UCR locally, nationally, and globally by strengthening AAU membership metrics; serving as an anchor institution for research and economic development in the Inland Empire; and achieving additional national recognition.

Research Impact

As the only R1 university in the Inland Empire region, UCR plays a critical role in advancing research excellence with a local, national, and international impact. In the fiscal year 2023, UCR had \$214,802 million in research expenditures, including \$120,524 million from federal sources and \$10,655 million from state sources. UCR is a leader in tackling complex global issues, and the university has made significant contributions to a variety of disciplines ranging from physical sciences, environmental sciences, biomedical research, plant biology, data science, engineering, and the arts, constantly ranking as one of the top institutions globally in entomology and plant and animal sciences. UCR is also home to the largest indoor atmospheric test chamber, a national leader in air pollution and alternative fuels research.

Through partnerships with local, national, and global entrepreneurs, corporate leaders, and fellow research enterprises, UCR generates positive economic growth in the region, state, and nation, contributing \$2.3 billion annual economic activity in the Inland Empire. As the university builds an ecosystem to make the Inland Empire a hub for sustainable innovation, the campus launched the

Opportunities to Advance Sustainability, Innovation, and Social Inclusion (OASIS), securing more than \$65 million in federal and state funding to develop an innovation and workforce development hub or OASIS Park.

To read more about UCR's achievements in research and economic development, please visit <https://research.ucr.edu/>.

Faculty and Staff

UCR faculty are a distinguished group of scholars, researchers, and educators committed to advancing knowledge across a variety of academic disciplines. The faculty consists of 888 ladder-rank, including two Nobel Prize winners, 11 Fullbright Scholars, and 30 members of the National Academies, of which there are five female National Academy of Sciences (NAS) members in the Botany and Plant Sciences Department, the largest number of female NAS members of any single academic department in the nation. Faculty within the University of California are represented in the Academic Senate, which supports shared governance as one of the most highly developed and influential faculty governments in any university.

Staff at UCR play a vital role in helping UCR fulfill its mission and implement the vision of the Chancellor and the administration. With a dedicated workforce of 3,244 career staff, these individuals are essential to UCR's success and long-term vitality. Their commitment and expertise enable the university to operate effectively, foster student success, and support academic excellence within UCR's unique and dynamic environment. Staff are further supported by the UCR Staff Assembly, the primary representative body for employees, which is dedicated to advocating for staff interests, fostering engagement, and promoting professional development through recognition, networking, and enrichment opportunities.

Students

As a founding member of the [University Innovation Alliance](#), UCR is committed to increase the number of college graduates in the United States. As part of the 2030 Capacity Plan, UCR has room to grow enrollment to 35,000 undergraduate and graduate students. Currently, 49% of undergraduates come from first-generation families in which neither parent has a four-year college degree. More than 48% of undergraduate students are Pell Grant recipients, more than the entire Ivy League combined. In fall 2024, UCR enrolled 22,599 undergraduates and 3,785 graduate students. Among students seeking undergraduate degrees, 37% were Chicano or Latino, 33% were Asian, 15% were White, 4.8% identified as multi-racial, 3.4% were Black, .1% were Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander, and .1% were American Indian/ Alaskan Native.

UCR students are dynamic, ambitious, and community-oriented as leaders both on and off the campus, as demonstrated by the [“Bold Hearts. Brilliant Minds.”](#) campaign, which details how the campus brings together first-generation students and world-class researchers to transform lives. The campus offers over 500 student organizations across cultural, arts, and service organizations. Associated Students of UCR, otherwise known as ASUCR, and the Graduate Student Association, or GSA, are the official representatives

of students at UCR, providing fundamental services and opportunities while advocating on behalf of a variety of constituencies. UCR also has a thriving Greek Life home to social, professional, service, and culturally-based fraternities and sororities. An NCAA Division I School and member of the Big West Conference, UCR is home to 17 men's and women's teams with over 300 student athletes.

Alumni

With more than 150,000 Highlanders worldwide, UCR alumni are an accomplished group that represent a vast array of backgrounds across academia, science, technology, entertainment, arts, business, law, public service, nonprofits, military, and medicine. Among their achievements are a Nobel Laureate, a two-time Pulitzer Prize winner, a United States Ambassador, a Poet Laureate, and an Oscar-nominated screenwriter, and even more impressive is their generosity and commitment to their communities. The UCR Alumni Association (UCRAA) serves as the primary organization representing alumni, promoting their relationship with the university, and offering opportunities for alumni engagement. Alumni have a strong sense of pride for UCR and often engage with the university by supporting career development opportunities, building community through alumni networks and chapters, advocating on behalf of UCR through The Highlander Impact Network, or showing off their Highlander pride worldwide.

Finances and Philanthropy

In recent years, UCR has made significant strides in increasing its fundraising efforts. In 2020, the university completed its first comprehensive campaign, Living the Promise: The Campaign for UC Riverside, which surpassed its \$300 million goal. In FY 2024, fundraising topped \$29.2 million. The endowment of UCR is currently \$1.29 billion.

The university budget in 2023-24 was \$1.3 billion, with 32.7% of revenue from state support, 26.8% from student fees, and 15.3% from grants and contracts.

As part of the UCR 2030, the university is laying the foundation for growing its philanthropic support, increasing extramural research funding, and advocating for resources from the state of California. Sustaining its financial health will better position UCR to continue being a leader in access and inclusivity while navigating challenges facing public universities across the country.

UCR Health

Established alongside the School of Medicine at the UCR, [UCR Health](#) is growing to meet the healthcare needs of the Inland Empire by providing innovative, culturally sensitive medical care to the community and increasing service capability and capacity for underserved urban and rural areas. Together, UCR Health and UCR School of Medicine at UC Riverside strive to address the shortfall of healthcare professionals in the Inland Southern California region. UCR Health offers medical offices throughout the region and trains physicians, specialists, and healthcare professionals to provide university-based healthcare excellence and innovation. UCR has also made significant investments in the expansion of the School of Medicine as the campus opened its doors to the new [School of Medicine Education Building II](#)

in September 2024, a \$100 million project that will provide space for medical students, faculty, and staff and a path for expansion of the medical school class.

Community Engagement

UCR serves as one of the largest employers in the city of Riverside and is an anchor institution for the region. UCR medical students train in hospitals across Inland Southern California, while UCR Health, an affiliate of our School of Medicine, expands access to health care across the region. Under one roof in downtown Riverside, UCR Arts brings together the California Museum of Photography, the largest photographic center in the western U.S., as well as the Barbara and Art Culver Center of the Arts, offering groundbreaking exhibitions, performances, film screenings, and programming. UCR Extension provides lifelong learning opportunities and professional certificate programs, while UCR Palm Desert, which opened in 2005, extends campus reach to the Coachella Valley with a Master of Fine Arts degree, continuing education courses, and a Future Physician Leaders program.

With a population of more than 300,000, the city of Riverside is the 12th largest city in California and the 6th largest city in Southern California; it is the seat of the second fastest growing county in the nation and leads the region in virtually every measure of economic power. The Inland Empire region of Riverside and San Bernardino counties is home to one of every nine California residents and is characterized by its vibrant communities, rapid growth, and economic potential.

About the Office of the Chancellor

The Chancellor serves as the chief executive officer of the University of California, Riverside, reporting directly to the President of the University of California. In this role, the Chancellor exercises broad, delegated authority and provides comprehensive leadership for all aspects of campus administration, academic and operational. In addition, the Chancellor plays a vital external role as the university's lead fundraiser and primary spokesperson in external forums, building and maintaining partnerships with a wide range of public and private partners. The Chancellor also serves as a colleague and partner to the other nine UC campus Chancellors, working together to advance the mission of the University of California.

The Chancellor leads a comprehensive senior leadership team that spans academic, administrative, and student services functions. The academic leadership includes the Provost & Executive Vice Chancellor, Vice Chancellor of Health Sciences & Dean, and Vice Chancellor of Research & Economic Development. Student experience is overseen through the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, Vice Chancellor of Health, Well-Being & Safety, and Director of Intercollegiate Athletics. Administrative operations are managed through the Vice Chancellor of Planning, Budget & Administration & Chief Financial Officer, Vice Chancellor of University Advancement, and Associate Vice Chancellor & Chief Human Resources Officer. Additional direct reports include the Vice Chancellor & Chief Diversity Officer, Chief Campus Counsel, Chief Compliance Officer, Assistant Vice Chancellor of Governmental & Community Relations, Associate Chancellor, and Director of Audit & Advisory Services.

Key Opportunities for the Chancellor

UCR stands at a pivotal movement in its history, poised to solidify its reputation as a transformational public research university with local, national, and global impact. With a strong foundation in academic excellence and inclusive excellence, the university is poised for bold leadership to guide its next era of growth and innovation. In an ever-evolving landscape, the Chancellor will ensure that UCR remains adaptable, accessible, and forward-thinking, inspiring and empowering the UCR community to address several key opportunities and challenges, detailed below.

Propel UCR's rise as a national and global leader in excellence and accessibility

As one of the nation's leading public research universities with an ambitious social mission, UC Riverside stands ready to redefine excellence in 21st-century higher education. An economic engine for the Inland Empire and the state of California, UCR can leverage its ambitious academic trajectory, commitment to inclusive excellence, and strategic location in one of the nation's largest and fastest-growing metropolitan areas to accelerate both regional development and global impact. The next Chancellor will envision the next chapter of UCR's story, amplifying its distinctive identity as a catalyst for innovation and inclusive excellence. The Chancellor must have a deep appreciation for UCR's history and culture and will unite internal and external stakeholders toward the mission of UCR, one that converges excellence and accessibility at the forefront, and collaboratively enhance and execute the priorities as outlined by [UCR 2030](#).

Accelerate UCR's research distinction and academic impact on the national and global stage

In partnership with academic leaders across campus, the next Chancellor will advance UCR's missions across research and scholarly endeavors, education activities, and outreach and service. UCR fosters a vibrant ecosystem of groundbreaking research across its schools and colleges, and the next Chancellor will continue to foster cross-disciplinary innovation and build an infrastructure capable of supporting UCR's growing research enterprise. Central to the continued advancement of the academic enterprise is the recruitment and retention of world-class faculty, students, and staff, as well as investment in educational and research facilities to support research and enrollment growth.

Foster a culture of philanthropy and diversify resources to fuel innovation and growth

Achieving UCR's goals will require careful stewardship and strategic investment of existing financial resources as well as proactive development of new revenue streams, navigating the current landscape while laying the groundwork for long-term success. As UCR moves into its next phase of excellence, the Chancellor will ensure UCR's financial future through enrollment growth, alternative revenue streams, and transformational philanthropic gifts. The next Chancellor must be a proactive and effective fundraiser on behalf of UCR, working closely with University Advancement and the UCR Foundation to leverage UCR's compelling mission and advance the university's culture of philanthropy. In addition, the Chancellor will

be a powerful and effective advocate for UCR at the system and state level, ensuring that the university receives the resources necessary to thrive.

Champion student success and deepen the university's commitment to inclusive excellence

UCR serves as a national model for combining world-class education with unparalleled student success, and its commitment to social mobility is one of its defining strengths. The Chancellor will continue to build on the university's remarkable success supporting first-generation, Pell-recipient students, and other populations while building infrastructure and services that empower student achievement at scale. The next Chancellor must think creatively about maintaining high graduation rates, enhancing student engagement, meeting basic needs, and providing robust career services, which will be critical in supporting an expanding student body. The next Chancellor must have an unwavering commitment to celebrating and investing in inclusive excellence and belonging and a sophisticated understanding of advancing those values within an academic environment so that every member of the UCR community – faculty, staff, and students - is positioned to thrive.

Launch a world-class medical enterprise to serve regional needs

The next Chancellor will transform healthcare delivery in the Inland Empire through the creation of UCR's first university-owned and operated medical center. The Chancellor will spearhead this landmark initiative by securing funding, managing complex regulatory requirements, building strategic partnerships with healthcare providers and government agencies, and aligning UCR School of Medicine's vision with regional needs. Given the critical public health disparities in the Inland Empire, this signature project will establish UCR as the cornerstone of health innovation and medical education in a historically underserved region.

Strengthen partnerships in the Inland Empire and beyond to anchor regional economic development

UCR's relationship with the Inland Empire is critical to the success of the region and the success of the university. The Chancellor will bring a deep curiosity and desire to engage authentically and enthusiastically with the region. In doing so, the Chancellor will leverage the university's strengths and partnerships with industry, technology companies, government, community organizations, and other partners, including tribal nations, to address challenges facing the region, including food insecurity, income inequality, housing affordability, and access to quality education and healthcare. Strong collaborative relationships with leaders in the region will be critical to ensuring the financial and political support necessary to advance UCR's strategic goals, including the expansion of the medical school and health enterprise. The trajectory of the Inland Empire will have a profound impact on the trajectory of UCR, and the Chancellor must seize the opportunity to advance that collective ambition.

Lead with bold vision, transparency, and a collaborative approach

The Chancellor will inspire the UCR community around a bold vision for institutional impact and excellence. Recognizing the strong sense of pride and collective engagement among members of the UCR

community, the Chancellor will build trust through transparent communication and genuine commitment to shared governance, a cornerstone of UCR's institutional fabric. The Chancellor will collaborate closely with the Academic Senate, Staff Assembly, bargaining units, and student organizations, ensuring all voices contribute to UCR's continued ascent as a model public research university.

Qualifications

The successful candidate identified to serve as the next Chancellor of UCR will possess many of the following qualifications and characteristics:

Required Qualifications

- A record of exceptional and effective leadership experience in a complex environment.
- A commitment to public service and the mission of a public research university, as well as extensive knowledge of public higher education, with a deep understanding of how to effectively address current state, national, and international issues impacting top-tier research universities.
- A deep commitment to UCR's mission to transform lives through academic excellence and accessibility.
- Demonstrated commitment to and experience promoting inclusive excellence across all facets of an organization.
- A sincere appreciation of the full breadth of research activity in an academic setting and the ability to support initiatives and infrastructure for transformative scholarship and research.
- A deep dedication to students, working on their behalf, with demonstrable commitment to student successful, wellness, and outcomes.
- A skilled fundraiser with a proven track record of attracting philanthropic support.
- Demonstrated success representing an organization and serving as a spokesperson with state governments, federal agencies, foundations, donors, alumni, business and community leaders, media, and other partners.
- Demonstrated financial acumen, including understanding the consequences of financial and budgetary decisions, and a record of success in creating financially sustainable budget models for large, complex institutions.
- Track record of collaborative and inclusive leadership and the ability to assemble, cultivate, and empower a cohesive senior team.
- A familiarity with and successful experience with crisis communications.
- The capacity to successfully navigate a complex campus environment within a large, ten-campus university system.
- A collaborative, transparent, and inclusive leadership style and deep commitment to shared governance.
- Exceptional communication skills.
- A strong moral compass and uncompromising integrity.

Preferred Qualifications

- A terminal degree and record of exceptional scholarly achievement is strongly preferred.
- Awareness of the role of health sciences and health care enterprise within a large comprehensive research university, and current key issues facing the changing health care environment.
- Strong ability to adeptly navigate political landscapes and effectively advocate for the university's interests with legislative bodies and policymakers.
- Experience applying creative solutions to myriad capital planning and facilities issues.
- Familiarity with a collective bargaining environment.
- A proven track record of building community partnerships.

Conditions of Employment

- Successful completion of a background check is required for this critical position. ([Please see Background check process at UCOP](#)).
- Financial disclosure requirements of the California Reform Act of 1974.
- Annual disclosure of outside professional activities.
 - Adhere to a Smoke Free Work Environment: The University of California, Office of the President, is smoke & tobacco-free as of January 1, 2014. ([Please see UC Smoke & Tobacco Free Policy](#)).
- University employees will be required to comply with all applicable University policies, as may be amended from time to time. Federal, state, or local public health directives may impose additional requirements.

Compensation

The University of California, UC Office of the President is required to provide a reasonable estimate of the compensation range for this role. This range takes into account the wide range of factors that are considered in making compensation decisions including but not limited to experience, skills, knowledge, abilities, education, licensure and certifications, and other business and organizational needs. Salary offers are determined based on final candidate qualifications and experience. The budgeted salary range that the University reasonably expects to pay for this position is \$800,000-\$850,000. UC offers excellent benefits, including medical, dental, vision and retirement plans as well as moving, relocation, and housing assistance.

Applications, Inquiries, and Nominations

Screening of complete applications will begin immediately and continue until the completion of the search process. Applications must be complete to be reviewed for consideration. A complete application includes: 1) CV, 2) [completion of the UC Applicant Self-Identification forms](#). Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit a cover letter addressing the key themes outlined in this profile, which will be required for candidates invited to interview with the committee. **For best consideration, please submit materials by March 15, 2025.**

Isaacson, Miller is assisting the University of California in this search. Applications should be submitted via the Isaacson, Miller website for the search: <https://www.imsearch.com/open-searches/university-california-riverside/chancellor>.

Nominations and inquiries can be directed to the Isaacson, Miller consultants supporting the search:

Cati Mitchell-Crossley, Partner

Phuong Ta, Managing Associate

Luciano Zuniga, Associate

UCRChancellor@imsearch.com

Land Acknowledgement

UC Riverside respectfully acknowledges and recognizes our responsibility to the original and current caretakers of this land, water, and air: the Cahuilla, Tongva, Luiseño, and Serrano peoples and all of their ancestors and descendants, past, present, and future. Today this meeting place is home to many Indigenous peoples from all over the world, including UCR faculty, students, and staff, and the University community is grateful to have the opportunity to live and work on these homelands.

The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age or protected veteran status. For the University of California's complete nondiscrimination and affirmative action policy, please visit this website: [University of California Policy on Discrimination, Harassment, and Affirmative Action in the Workplace](#).

Appendix I

About the University of California System

The University of California (UC) traces its roots to the mid-19th-century San Francisco Gold Rush, when two local educators started a preparatory school, Contra Costa Academy, in the nascent town of Oakland. The small school evolved to become the College of California, which was merged with the state's incipient Agricultural, Mining, and Mechanical Arts College in 1868 to establish the University of California. This small institution—envisioned to "contribute even more than California's gold to the glory and happiness of advancing generations"—was relocated to a new campus a few miles to the north of Oakland. After the federal Morrill Act established a national system of research stations to foster teaching and research related to agriculture, UC Berkeley became the first state-run Agricultural Experiment Station and the first land-grant college in California.

In the over 150 years since its founding, the University of California has evolved into the world's preeminent public university system, with an annual operating budget of more than \$51.4 billion. The UC today comprises ten campuses: Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles, Merced, Riverside, San Diego, San Francisco, Santa Cruz, and Santa Barbara, which collectively enroll more than 299,000 students. The UC also operates six academic health systems, as well as three affiliated national laboratories, including Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and Los Alamos National Laboratory. Together, the UC System's institutions employ more than 265,000 faculty and staff and are supported by more than 2 million living alumni working around the world. Over half million people annually benefit from UC continuing education courses, as well as from the services and discoveries of UC-affiliated research centers and educational programs operating throughout the state. Each year, UC generates more than \$82.1 billion in economic activity in California and contributes about \$55.8 billion to Gross State Product annually.

Two major features in the historical development of the University of California distinguish it from other major public research universities. The first is the University's unusual status as a constitutionally designated public trust—a designation shared by only five other major public universities. Governed by a 26-member Board, UC is designated as the State's primary academic research institution and provides undergraduate, graduate, and professional education. UC is given nearly exclusive jurisdiction in public higher education for doctoral degrees and for instruction in law, medicine, dentistry, and veterinary medicine, positioning it as the State's public research University. The second point of distinction is the University of California's tradition of shared governance: the concept that faculty should share in the responsibility for guiding the operation and management of the University while preserving the authority of the University's governing board, the Regents, to ultimately set policy. This tradition of shared governance is also deeply held by students and staff across the system.

For more information, visit: [The University of California](#) and [UC Mission](#).

Board of Regents

The University of California is governed by the 26-member Board of Regents, which exercises approval over University policies, financial affairs, tuition and fees with the authority to delegate powers as it determines to be in the best interest of the University.

The board appoints the University President and its principal officers. 18 Regents, appointed by the Governor, serve 12-year terms. The Board also appoints one student member appointed by the Regents for a one-year term, and seven ex officio members, including the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the Assembly, Superintendent of Public Instruction, President and Vice President of the Alumni Associations of UC, and the President of the University. In addition, two faculty members, the chair and vice chair of the systemwide Academic Senate sit on the board as non-voting members.

It is the responsibility of the board to set policy and the responsibility of the University administration to implement and carry out policy, which includes responsibility for the day-to-day operations of the University. The Regents recognize that faculty participation in the shared governance of the University of California through the agency of the Academic Senate ensures the quality of instruction, research, and public service at the University. The Academic Senate performs duties as the Board may direct and exercises powers as the Board may confer upon it.

For more information, visit: [Board of Regents](#).

President Michael V. Drake, M.D., and UC Office of the President

The Office of the President is the systemwide headquarters of the University of California, managing its fiscal, business, and legislative operations and supporting the academic and research missions across its campuses, labs and medical centers.

The President is the executive head of the University and has full authority and responsibility over the administration of all affairs and operations of the University, except those activities within the responsibility of the Principal Officers. The President supports the academic and research missions across 10 campuses, six academic health centers, three affiliated national laboratories, over 299,000 students, and 265,000 faculty and staff. The President sets the University's direction, goals, and strategy. The President implements the policies and objectives of the Board of Regents, and keeps the Board informed of all significant developments affecting the University.

In August 2020, Dr. Michael V. Drake assumed the role of the 21st president of the University of California. President Drake brings a wealth of executive leadership experience, having previously served as the president of The Ohio State University, the Chancellor of UC Irvine and the UC systemwide vice president for health affairs. Additionally, he spent over 25 years on the faculty at the UCSF School of Medicine. President Drake's extensive contributions to higher education include national leadership roles and numerous publications. Under his guidance, the UC system has navigated challenges such as the COVID-19 pandemic, implementing vital public health measures. President Drake has also championed initiatives promoting access, affordability, and academic excellence. Notably, he secured a multiyear Tuition Stability Plan and expanded financial aid offerings, emphasizing a commitment to a debt-free UC education. Additionally, he played a key role in achieving greater state funding stability, with a five-year funding compact with California Governor Gavin Newsom and substantial allocations for addressing global challenges like climate change. President Drake will step down from his role at the end of the 2024-25 academic year after five years of leading California's world-renowned public research university system.

For more information, visit the [University of California Office of the President](#), [Presidential Priorities Plan](#), and [Biography of President Drake](#).

Academic Senate

Shared governance among the Board of Regents, the President and his administration, and the Academic Senate is one of the distinctive features of the University of California. The system of shared governance gives University faculty, operating through the Academic Senate, a voice in the operation of the University. Faculty participation in governance of the University through the agency of the Academic Senate is a guiding force that unifies the ten campuses of the University into a single system under a uniform standard of excellence. The faculty, through the Academic Senate, advise the Board of Regents and the administration on the development of policies and procedures that will enhance the research and education enterprise while maintaining appropriate standards of conduct with necessary and reasonable oversight. The relationship between the Academic Senate and the administration, both systemwide and on the campuses is a partnership that brings faculty into decision-making processes at the formulation stage. The structure of the Academic Senate, and the identity of its principal standing committees, evolves from the authorities and responsibilities delegated to the Senate by the Board of Regents. The organizational structures of the divisional senates on each of the campuses generally parallel the organization of the systemwide Senate.

The UC Riverside Division of the UC Academic Senate is the voice of the faculty and represents tenured and tenure-track faculty in the shared governance of UCR. The University of California Academic Senate is one of the most highly developed and influential faculty governments in any university. It is the one organization through which the faculty, as a whole or on any of the campuses, can express its views on an issue. The Senate guides the university's educational course and is responsible for determining academic policy; setting conditions for admission and granting of degrees; authorizing and supervising curricula and courses; and advising on faculty appointments, promotions and budgets. The Senate works in concert with the university administration, which is responsible for the finances and organization of the institution. These roles overlap and are frequently interdependent.

For more information, visit: [Systemwide Academic Senate](#) and [UC Riverside Academic Senate](#).