



UC Report to Legislature Highlights Research on Diversity

In March, 2003, the Office of Research responded to Senate Bill 1771, authored by Senator Richard Alarcón, chair of the Senate Select Committee on College and University Admissions and Outreach. The bill requested that the University of California prepare a report containing an inventory of current resources and make recommendations relating to curriculum and research on diversity. By identifying those resources and efforts that currently exist within the university, the report will serve to stimulate open discussion of public policies regarding population and socio-

logical trends, and could become the springboard for the creation of a coordinated UC program or institute that draws upon the multidisciplinary, multicampus and cross-segmental expertise of faculty and administrators across UC. The report will help to meet the stated goal of the Alarcón bill of providing for the development of programs and activities that merge public services, the private sector and the colleges and universities of California in order to meet the state's increasing need for research on diversity.

For the purposes of the report, the University included research, curricular offerings and support services that cover not only racial and ethnic diversity, but also sex and gender, class and income, immigration and language, sexual orientation and disability. It featured a wide range of multicampus research units, campus organized research units and other research institutes and centers that conduct research on diversity and inclusiveness. The MRUs featured included the **California Policy Research Center (CPRC)**, the **UC Committee on Latino Research (UCCLR)**, the **UC All Campus Consortium for Research on Diversity (UC ACCORD)**, the **UC Institute for Mexico and the United States (UC MEXUS)**, the **UC Linguistic Minority Research Institute (UC LMRI)**, and the **UC Pacific Rim Research Program (PRRP)**.



Photos courtesy of UC ACCORD.
WWW.UCACCORD.ORG

Numerous diversity-related research projects are underway at each of these MRUs. Notable efforts include UC ACCORD's "Indicators" Project (described in the green column at

left); the CPRC-Latino Policy Institute's "California-Mexico Health Initiative"—a major bi-national education and research effort—as well as its soon-to-be published special volume titled, "Latinos and Public Policy in California: An Agenda for Opportunity," which will detail state demographic trends and treat areas of specific relevance to public policy. At UC MEXUS, the 2002-03 funding cycle supported Professor Vilma Ortiz's (Sociology, UC Los Angeles) work on "Socio-economic mobility among the Mexican-American people: A generation later," and Davis anthropology graduate student Julia A. Cottle's "Canning workers: Mexicanos' experiences of restructuring in California's agro-industrial sector,"



among others. UC LMRI has made available on its website a database of ongoing research on language-minority students, listing 19 major projects that relate to English language acquisition among foreign-born students.

The SB 1771 report concludes with a set of recommendations for building on universitywide capacity

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UC ACCORD Launches "Indicators Project"

On February 19, in Sacramento, the **UC All Campus Consortium for Research on Diversity (UC ACCORD)** released new statistical indicators that show substantial racial inequality in the state's public high schools—inequalities resulting from factors such as the rate of uncertified teachers in high schools. These indicators include the "College Opportunity Ratio" (COR)—a series of maps organized by legislative districts—that tracks each California high school's success at preparing college-hopeful 9th graders to become college-ready graduates. They show that only 11 of every 100 Latino, African American and Native American 12th graders meet the minimum requirements for college admission, in contrast to more than three times as many Caucasian and Asian students. "The patterns of inequality are stark," says Jeannie Oakes, UC ACCORD Director. Along with the COR maps, ACCORD has released data tables that allow legislators to compare their high schools' performance to those of other districts. "These indicators help us locate and understand the root causes of college inequality," explains project Co-Director David Silver. The COR maps and data tables can be viewed online at the UC ACCORD website at www.ucaccord.org.

Latinos in California II Conference Planned for Riverside

The **University of California Committee on Latino Research (UCCLR)** is completing plans for the *Latinos in California II Conference* to be held at the Mission Inn in Riverside, California on September 11-13, 2003. Following the model of a similar event in 1995, the conference will showcase completed scholarship on this topic sponsored by the MRU. Panel topics will include the Chicano movement, literary and cultural studies, lesbian/gay studies, K-12 and higher education, labor employment, mass media, popular culture, immigration, feminisms,

Chicano/Latino politics, Latino upward mobility, history, health and welfare. A range of special events is planned, including performances of creative work funded by UCCLR.

UCCLR is a faculty-governed committee formed in 1987 after State Senate Concurrent Resolution 43 directed UC to coordinate the state's resources toward a comprehensive understanding of the issues and opportunities facing the state's Hispanic population. UCCLR sponsors faculty research and advises the UC President on the use and distribution of funds dedicated to

promoting knowledge of Chicano and Latino issues. UCCLR research centers and programs are located at all the UC campuses. The upcoming conference will communicate the expertise of Chicano/Latino organized research programs at each UC campus, and will serve to commence dialogue on building both campus specific and university-wide infrastructure for further scholarship on California's Latinos. Information about the conference, including the program and registration material, is available by contacting UCCLR or the UCOP Office of Research.

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Profile: Laureen O'Connell, Program Officer



Photo by Michael Barnes

In January, Laureen O'Connell was named Program Officer for Multicampus Research Units and Programs at UCOP. Working with Coordinators Noto and Magowan, she will assist with administrative oversight of MRUs and five- and fifteen-year program reviews. Laureen formerly worked as Senior Analyst at UC's Industry-University Cooperative Research Program (IUCRP) where she recruited representatives to serve on sector program governance boards. Laureen earned a Bachelor of Arts in Italian from San Francisco State University and a Master of Arts in Italian Literature from Columbia University.

Upcoming Events *meetings and conferences*

UC Linguistic Minority Research Institute 16th Annual Conference. San Diego, May 9-10. For more information see below, or visit www.lmri.ucsb.edu.

White Mountain Research Station's 20th Annual Physiological Ecology Meeting. Owens Valley Laboratory, Bishop, CA, May 31 - June 1, 2003. Registration deadline is May 2, 2003. See <http://www.wmrs.edu/Physiology/Physio.htm>.

Victorian Soundings: Voice, Bodies, Noise. Annual "Dickens Universe" conference sponsored by the UC Dickens Project. Santa Cruz, July 31, 2003–August 2, 2003. See <http://humwww.ucsc.edu/dickens/universe/universe.html>. Dickens Universe brings together scholars, graduate students, high school teachers, and members of the general public for a week of study and Dickensian conviviality.

Latinos in California II Conference. UC Committee on Latino Research. Mission Inn, Riverside, September 11-13. See front page for more information.

READ ABOUT ALL THE UC MRUs IN THE
GUIDE TO UC MULTICAMPUS RESEARCH UNITS
AT: WWW.UCOP.EDU/RESEARCH/MRU.PDF

UC Multicampus Research News

NEW MULTICAMPUS RESEARCH CATEGORY ESTABLISHED, THE INTERCAMPUS RESEARCH PROGRAM (IRP) *First IRP to Study Global Climate Change*

The Office of Research has created a new category of multicampus research entity, UC Intercampus Research Programs (IRPs), in response to requests by intercampus faculty groups for formal recognition. IRPs are open to faculty and graduate student participation from all campuses. Although the Office of Research will not provide funding, the designation UC IRP will benefit these programs by making them highly competitive as multicampus groups—as opposed to single campus groups—in the solicitation of gifts, grants and contracts from extramural sources. Requirements for approval include rigorous review by UC faculty and non-UC experts in relevant disciplines.

We are happy to announce that the first IRP has been approved by Vice Provost Coleman. The **UC Institute for Research on Climate Change and its Societal Impacts (IRCCSI)** is headquartered at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) and will be directed for the first three years by Dr. Phil Duffy, Group Leader of the Climate and Carbon Cycle Modeling Group in the Atmospheric Science Division at LLNL. Because climate change potentially affects so many sectors of society, the study of the effects of climate change involves a range of academic disciplines spanning the physical, life and social sciences.

As an Intercampus Research Program, IRCCSI will be ideally positioned to conduct collaborative projects with faculty from across the system who will benefit from access to IRCCSI's high-end computing capabilities and archived climate model simulations.

For more information on IRPs, please contact Carol McClain at carol.mcclain@ucop.edu, or visit the Office of Research website. For more information on IRCCSI, please contact Dr. Duffy at (925) 422-3722 or email pduffy@llnl.gov.

UC LMRI RESEARCH CONFERENCE TO FOCUS ON ENGLISH LEARNERS

The 2003 **UC LMRI Annual Conference**, scheduled for May 9-10 in San Diego, will focus on the assessment of English learners in California. With the growth of state and federal accountability, including the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (the Bush administration's reform of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965), the need for accurate assessments of English learners is more important than ever. Yet despite repeated warnings from such organizations as the National Research Council, schools and government agencies often rely on inaccurate and invalid English-based tests to assess English learners' academic progress. The conference will feature two keynote speakers, David Berliner, Dean of Education at Arizona State University and Charlene Rivera, Executive Director, Center for Equity and Excellence in Education at George Washington University.

Diversity, continued

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for research on diversity and inclusiveness. These include the establishment of a competitive grants program to support diversity-related research and scholarship, funding for conferences, seminars, and colloquia and more coordinated dissemination of resources. The common goal for all of these strategies is to increase the vigor and visibility of diversity research at UC in service to the people of California.

One way to achieve this enhanced capacity would be through the establishment of a University of California Institute on Diversity. Such an institute, according to the Report, would take the form of an MRU, headed by a faculty director and governed by an executive committee comprised of distinguished faculty members from across the system. Although the current budget situation makes it unlikely that such an institute could be established in the immediate future, the UC Office of the President is dedicated to an ongoing process of working with the campuses to strengthen research and teaching on diversity.

UC's response to Senate Bill 1771 will soon be available online at the Office of Research website at www.ucop.edu/research/.