

2025

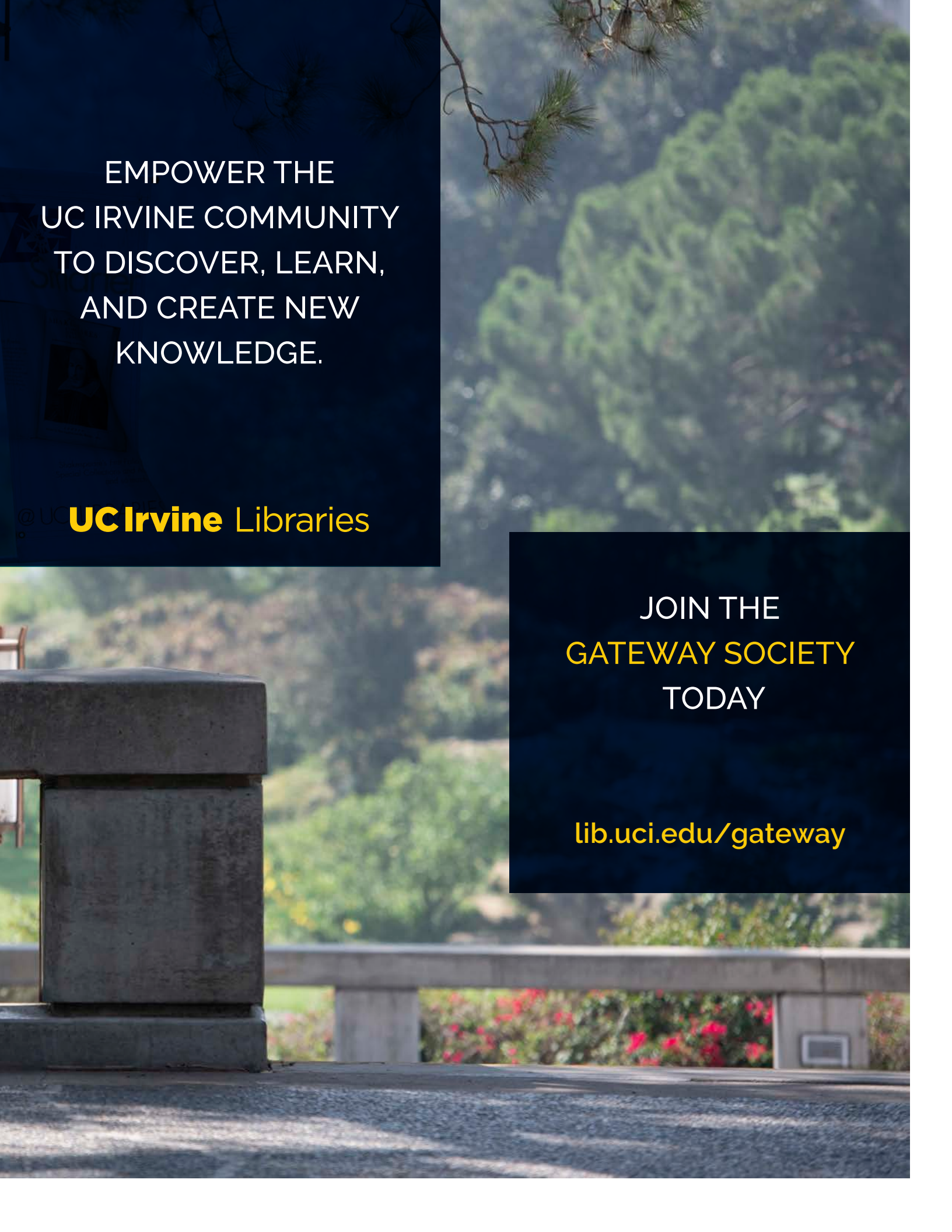
ANNUAL REPORT

UC Irvine
Libraries





UC Irvine student takes in the view of Aldrich Park from Gateway Plaza in front of Langson Library. Image credit: Steve Zylus.



EMPOWER THE
UC IRVINE COMMUNITY
TO DISCOVER, LEARN,
AND CREATE NEW
KNOWLEDGE.

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Letter from
the Endowed
University Librarian
Lorelei Tanji

SINCE UC IRVINE OPENED ITS DOORS 60 YEARS AGO, UC Irvine Libraries have helped build and maintain the foundation of the university's academic life. Since those early days — through cultural shifts, globalization, and a blistering rate of technological advances — the Libraries have remained steadfast in our commitment to serving UC Irvine's diverse campus and community. Today, as always, we continue to support the full spectrum of academic disciplines and research. In doing so, we foster inclusive and welcoming spaces and strive to meet the needs of all UC Irvine students, scholars, and healthcare service providers.

At its base, our mission is to provide the collections, services, and learning spaces that support UC Irvine's contributions to world-class research, impactful innovation, and workforce training. The updates and stories in this year's Annual Report highlight our efforts to deliver on key focus areas from the Libraries' Strategic Plan:

1

ENHANCING AND SUSTAINING CAPACITY

2

ELEVATING THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

3

MAKING REGIONAL AND GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

4

FORGING BEST PRACTICES

By leveraging our financial and employee resources, we provide access to robust collections and trusted research services. One way we're doing so is by enhancing the discoverability of our collections. Recent improvements to our cataloging and search platform in particular have made the Libraries' physical and digital collections easier to locate. By removing references to outdated and offensive terminology from catalog records, our Technical Services department has also made UC Library Search a more inclusive and welcoming digital space for all library users.

The recently added Student Displays program has also endeavored to foster welcoming spaces within our facilities. As a complement to our main exhibits program, these temporary installations feature student-created art and research throughout the academic year. The student displays provide platforms for showcasing the work and creativity of UC Irvine undergraduate and graduate students.

Culminating in fall 2025, UC Irvine's campus-wide Brilliant Future fundraising campaign raised more than \$2 billion in less than five years. In the Libraries' Brilliant Future Highlights article, you'll find a recap of a few key acquisitions, new endowments, and other developments during this incredibly successful campaign that bolstered the Libraries' ability to serve future generations.

We're also happy to share a spotlight on Kathy Houts Miller, a UC Irvine charter graduate and Libraries Advisory Council member. Kathy's message reminds us that the work of our dedicated librarians, staff, and student workers would not be possible without the continued generosity of our Gateway Society members and other community supporters. Thanks to all of our supporters, we will continue to provide UC Irvine students, faculty, and researchers with the information tools and resources essential for the digital age.

Endowed Funds

GIFTS TO UC IRVINE LIBRARIES help us build collections and support our role as a vital information resource for the campus and community. We are deeply grateful to the individuals who have established the following endowments.

Phyllis Friedman Agran and Larry Agran Endowed Fund • Orange County Regional History Collections

Verle and Elizabeth Annis Library Endowed Fund • Research Collections in Early California History

Carole Creek Bailey Library Endowed Fund • Research Collections in Social Sciences and History

Laura Davick Crystal Cove Historical Archive Collection Endowment • Special Collections and Archives Support

Southeast Asian Archive Anne Frank Visiting Researcher Fund • Southeast Asian Archive Collection

Ralph W. Gerard Library Endowed Fund • General Support

Forest J. and Dolores S. Grunigen Library Endowed Fund • Research Collections

Nors S. Josephson and Waltraut Abstein-Josephson Library Endowed Fund • Research Collections

Adolph Kroch Library Fund • General Support

Carl Kroch Library Endowed Fund • Library Exhibitions

Langson Library Fund • General Support

Langson Library Endowed Fund • General Support

Hector D. Laudati and Caroline A. Laudati Library Endowed Fund • General Support

Nellie Ansley Reeves Award Library Endowed Fund • Undergraduate Research Fellowship Award

Sylvia Reines Library Fund • Special Collections and Archives Support

Sylvia Holden Robb Library Endowed Fund • General Support

Sylvia Holden Robb Library Collections Endowed Fund • Research Collections

Helen Russell Library Endowment Fund • General Support

Nancy Lee Ruyter Library Fund • Dance Collections

Salinger Family Library Endowed Fund • Research Collections

John and Elizabeth Stahr Library Fund • Research Collections

UC Irvine Libraries Endowment Fund • A gift by Marsha R. Lloyd for General Support

Endowed University Librarian Fund • Support for the highest priorities within the Libraries

To learn more about ways to support UC Irvine Libraries' collections and programming, please contact our Development Office at give.lib.uci.edu.

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Front cover image:

Julius Shulman, 1966. Courtesy of the Getty Research Institute.

Back cover image:

Construction of Library-Administration building (later known as Main Library and then renamed Jack Langson Library, 2003), 1965.

Contributors

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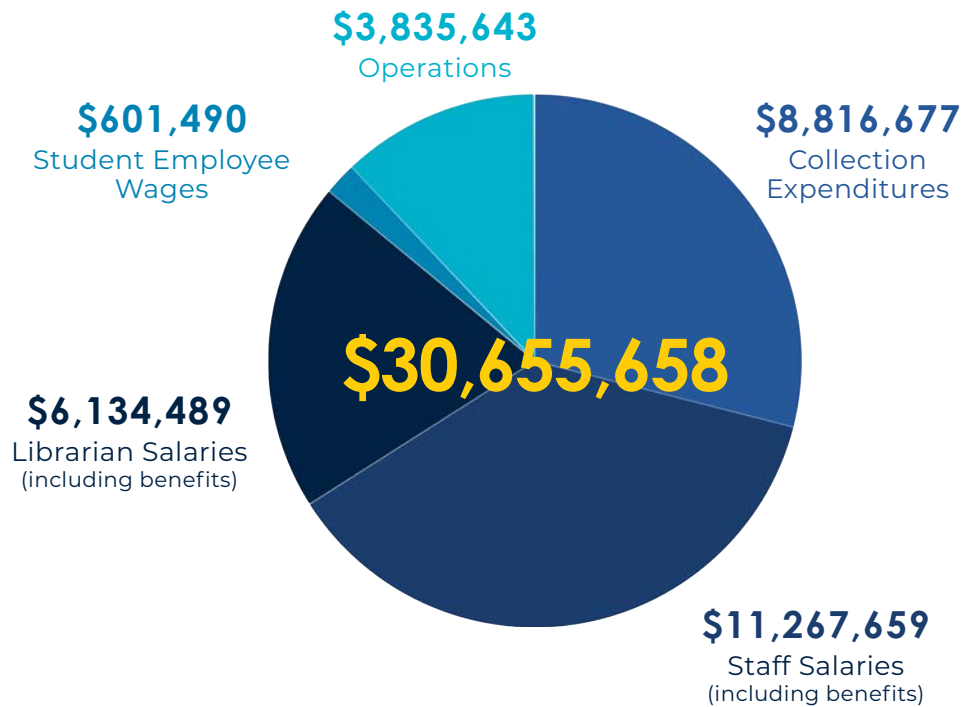
Facts & Figures

FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

ANNUAL EXPENDITURES

\$30.7

MILLION
budget



FACILITIES

350,000

square feet across
four locations

More than **2,800**
public seats

350 public computers



Up to **19 hours** during a
typical day

Up to **103 hours** during a
typical week

24 hours a day during
finals and in Grunigen Medical
Library research lounge

SITE TRAFFIC

2.5 million Libraries website visits

1.3 million Libraries building visits

890,000 Libraries online catalog visits

92,000 study room reservations

REFERENCE SERVICES



2,762

library questions answered
via chat and email

4,720

research consultations

INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

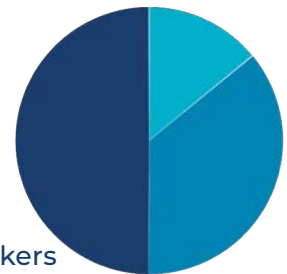
616 total presentations
and workshops

21,862 total students
served

EMPLOYEES

277
total employees

40 Librarians
99 Staff
138 Student workers



ELECTRONIC AND PRINT COLLECTIONS

2
MILLION
physical volumes

100,000
government documents

290,000 audio/visual materials, maps,
photographs, and other graphic
materials

410,000
journals
and serials

3.2
MILLION
electronic volumes

2.2
MILLION
microfiche/microfilms

AFFORDABLE TEXTBOOK PROGRAM

average student
cost savings per year

\$530,000

Year in Review

ANTEATER EXPERIENCE EXHIBIT OPENING

THE LIBRARIES KICKED OFF UC IRVINE'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY

in February 2025 with an exhibit opening for *Anteater Experience: 60th Anniversary of UC Irvine*. Tracing more than six decades of campus development, the exhibit illustrated key features and milestones that have helped shape the campus culture and environment. The exhibit opening program included a panel discussion with Jim Danziger, an emeritus faculty member who played a key role in the

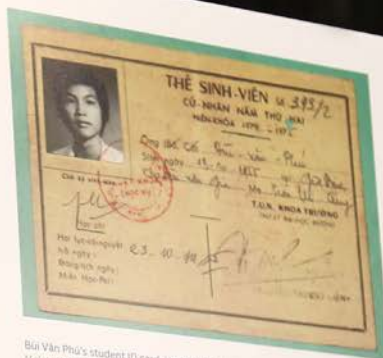
early development of the campus; Megan Lulow, executive director of UCI-NATURE; and Steve Zylius, UC Irvine's chief university photographer. After the panel discussion, attendees enjoyed a reception and had a chance to view a complementary student display featuring a collection of Petr the Anteater stickers (student-created renditions of UC Irvine's mascot). Throughout the exhibit run, the Libraries hosted an online trivia quiz and regularly shared UC Irvine trivia on social media.



“We arrived in Guam on a blazing hot afternoon.”

In 1975, Bùi Văn Phú was a law student at Saigon University. As a student activist committed to peace, democracy, and independence, Bùi was critical of the corruption of South Vietnamese leaders like General Nguyễn Cao Kỳ and President Nguyễn Văn Thiệu, yet he also did not agree with Hồ Chí Minh's communist vision for Vietnam. On April 29, 1975, Bùi headed to the harbor to flee Saigon by ship. In the chaos, he saw the Việt Nam Thương Tín (which would later be repurposed for the repatriates' trip from Guam back to Vietnam just six months later) pass by. His own ship, named Saigon II, had no engine and was towed to Singapore where the refugees onboard were transferred to another ship. He languished at sea for seventeen days before landing at Subic Bay in the Philippines on May 16. Five weeks later, Bùi left the Philippines for Guam aboard a C-130 that took off from Clark Air Force Base.

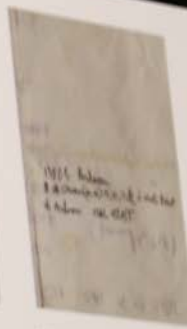
Bùi Văn Phú graduated from UC Berkeley in 1983. After graduating, he worked with the Peace Corps as a volunteer high school teacher in Togo, Africa and as an educational consultant for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Southeast Asia. He is now a...



Bùi Văn Phú's student ID card. He was enrolled as a law student at Saigon University when he left Vietnam as a refugee. All images courtesy of Bùi Văn Phú.



Photo of Bùi Văn Phú with his cousins, taken on Grande Island in Subic Bay, Philippines in May 1975. Bùi is on the far right.



REMEMBERING SAIGON EXHIBIT AND PROGRAMMING

THE REMEMBERING SAIGON:

JOURNEYS THROUGH AND FROM GUAM

exhibit was installed in the Orange County and Southeast Asian Archive (OC&SEAA) Center from January through May 2025.

A collaboration between UC Irvine Libraries and the UCLA Asian American Studies Department, the exhibit marked the 50th anniversary of the fall of Saigon and the end of the Vietnam War. It also commemorated the sacrifices of those who fought during the war on behalf of both the United States and South Vietnam as well as narratives from the hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese refugees who fled the war's aftermath.

During the exhibition period, the OC&SEAA hosted a series of related programs, including a primary materials pop-up workshop and a symposium on Operation New Life, a resettlement program on Guam for refugees evacuated before and after the fall of Saigon. At the workshop, participants engaged with original archival materials related to the exhibit such as photographs and newspaper articles. At the symposium, attendees heard talks by Nam Kim, a University of Wisconsin professor of anthropology researching Operation New Life, and Jana Lipman and Trần Hoài Bắc, translators of *Ship of Fate: Memoir of a Vietnamese Repatriate* by Trần Đình Trụ.

GRAPHIC MEDICINE SCIENCE CAFE

IN MAY 2025, the Libraries held a science-themed community lecture entitled “Graphic Medicine: Health Equity Through Comics and Visual Narratives” as part of our Science Cafe series. Graphic medicine combines the principles of narrative medicine with the visual arts to share medical knowledge and illness experiences. Commemorating the 10th anniversary of the *Graphic Medicine Manifesto* book, the event featured guest speaker Juliet McMullin, PhD, a UC Irvine professor of family medicine. Dr. McMullin explained how graphic medicine can help shift perspectives, build community, and expand our understanding of the human journey through medicine.

Following Dr. McMullin’s talk, guests were invited to a reception and to explore the Libraries’ *America Informed: Wide World of US Federal Government Documents* exhibit, which included examples of graphics and comics in government and healthcare communications.



STRESS RELIEF FOR UC IRVINE STUDENTS

DURING THE 2024-2025 ACADEMIC YEAR, the Libraries launched a new student engagement and outreach working group to organize and host stress relief programs for UC Irvine students. Held primarily during midterm and finals weeks, the programs included button making, origami, board games, collage and zine making, affirmation boards, and a video game tournament. Designed to build community and help students feel engaged, included, and welcome, these events were popular among students, with an average attendance of about 50 students each.



▲ Current and former Southeast Asian Archive curators Julia Huỳnh, Thuy Vo Dang, Anne Frank, and Christina Woo.
Image Credit: Kathy Tran.



▲ Collage-making activity at student engagement event.
Image credit: Kathy Tran.

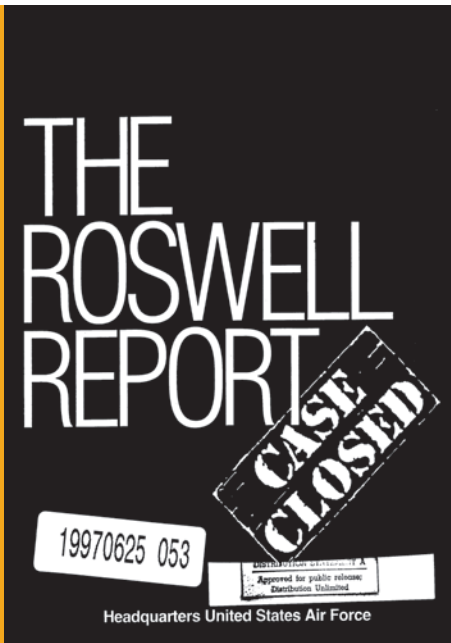
OC&SEAA CENTER'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY

THE 2025 YEAR ALSO MARKED A SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY YEAR for the Libraries' Orange County and Southeast Asian Archive (OC&SEAA) Center. On May 13, 2025, the center celebrated its 10th anniversary. The OC&SEAA Center provides a collaborative learning and event space, consultation and research support, and community-centered archives partnerships for UC Irvine, the Orange County region, and the diasporic communities of Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos.

Since its opening, a number of grants have supported the center's work, including a \$500,000 Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) "Transforming Knowledge, Transforming Libraries" grant and a \$800,000 Mellon Foundation "Community-Centered Archives Practice: Transforming Education, Archives, and Community History (C-CAP TEACH)" grant.

"Our hope for the future is to sustain the UC Irvine Libraries' commitment to community-centered archives practice, investing resources in values-driven work that empowers students and preserves community history," said University Archivist and Head of Special Collections and Archives Audra Eagle Yun.

AMERICA INFORMED EXHIBIT



FROM DECEMBER 2024 THROUGH JUNE 2025, the *America Informed: Wide World of US Federal Government Documents* exhibit was on display in the Science Library. Curated by Antoinette Avila and undergraduate student curators Kat Hansell ('24), Kane Hong ('25), Monica Gomez ('24), and Baly Martinez ('25), *America Informed* showcased selected materials from US government public records and pulled from the breadth of materials available through the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP). Using statistics, reports, and other government publications, a portion of the exhibit centered topics chosen by student curators: queer health and history, Vietnam War propaganda and misinformation, and the September 11th terrorist attacks. Histories of the FDLP and US Government Publishing Office were also included to detail the significance and importance of accessible public records.

BYSTANDER INTERVENTION TRAININGS

IN APRIL 2025, the Libraries hosted a series of online bystander intervention trainings to stop Antisemitic and Islamophobic harassment. Supported by an Addressing Bias and Building Community at UC Irvine (ABC at UCI) grant from the Office of Inclusive Excellence, the trainings were cosponsored by UC Irvine Libraries, School of Humanities, School of Social Ecology, and School of Social Sciences and open to all UC Irvine students, faculty, and staff.

Facilitated by the nonprofit Right To Be, the trainings taught five strategies for intervention (distract, delegate, document, delay, and direct) and how to prioritize your own safety while intervening. The goal was for participants to leave feeling more confident intervening the next time they witnessed Islamophobic or Antisemitic harassment online or in person.



Student Kudos!

Celebrating the Role and Career Training of the Libraries' Student Workers

As one of
the largest student
employers on campus,
the Libraries provide
professional development
and workforce training to
UC Irvine students.

By Christina
Acevedo

HOME TO MORE THAN 130 STUDENT WORKERS EACH YEAR, UC Irvine

Libraries are one of the largest student employers on campus, providing professional development and workforce training. In 2024 alone, our student employees worked a combined total of nearly 50,000

hours. Serving in the full spectrum
of departments — including Information

Technology, Access Services, Facilities, Special Collections and Archives, and Communications — these student workers help the Libraries maintain operations and deliver essential services.

To celebrate our student employees and their commitment and contributions to our work, this past year the Libraries established a Student Kudos Award. Awardees are student employees who have demonstrated exemplary service in support of our mission. The 2025 Student Kudos Award winner was *Minh Nguyen* ('26), an instructional design student assistant for the Education and Outreach department. Minh was selected for her technical expertise, creativity, attention to accessibility, and initiative, among other qualities. Her projects included updating the Libraries' instructional videos to comply with



“UC Irvine Libraries was my first job
and the start of my professional career.”

Minh Nguyen ('26)

accessibility requirements and assisting with outreach initiatives. “UC Irvine Libraries was my first job and the start of my professional career,” said Minh. “With the guidance and support of my supervisor, I was able to take on more creative projects and further build my creative portfolio. At the same time, the position helped me adopt better

communication and documentation skills.”

Like Minh, many other student assistants have benefited from their library roles. The following testimonials from a handful of former student workers highlight how their hands-on work experiences with the Libraries have shaped and informed their career paths.

Emily Tattori ('25),
Former Stacks and

Check Out Desk Student Assistant



“While I’ve always known that I’ve wanted to work in libraries, my years working at the Science Library confirmed my dedication to the field. The workplace culture at UC Irvine Libraries is phenomenal. Students are not only given comprehensive training and professional development but are consistently offered new opportunities to learn, improve, and communicate. This amazing workplace culture was due in no small part to my supervisor, Christopher Torrey, whose enthusiasm and insight consistently inspired me to continue on my library path.

“I plan to pursue a master of library and information science degree at the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa. I feel strongly that my work at the Science Library prepared me for a career in library sciences. Going into the library field, I have found myself more and more grateful for the opportunities that the Science Library provided me: I gained nearly four years of experience working with the Library of Congress shelving system; participated in materials shifting, scanning, and pulling projects; and got the chance to work with increasingly important library management

systems like Alma. What’s more, my time with the Libraries also allowed me to make meaningful and lasting connections with librarians, library staff, fellow student workers, and frequent patrons. Making those connections was the most fulfilling part of my time there, and I can’t overstate how grateful I am to have met and worked with such intelligent, talented, and caring people.”



Sabina Leal ('24),

Former Communications
and Events Student Assistant

“When I first started working at UC Irvine Libraries, I was planning to go to graduate school to become a therapist. That was the path I had in mind for a long time, but after spending more time on projects for the library and working with such an encouraging team, I started to realize how much I genuinely enjoyed

Kudos!

working in communications. I hadn't considered marketing as a career option before, but the work I was doing made me excited and curious to learn more. That shift in perspective changed my professional direction, and I'm so grateful for that. It opened my eyes to a new path that I now feel really passionate about.

“After graduating, I've been working as a marketing coordinator at ZO Skin Health. It's been an exciting role that allows me to tap into both the creative and strategic sides of marketing. Working at UC Irvine Libraries was critical in developing the

foundational skills I needed to be successful in this position. My time there, especially under the mentorship of my supervisor Kathy Tran, helped shape my approach to marketing in such a meaningful way. Kathy gave me creative and challenging projects that pushed me to grow and that I was later able to showcase in my portfolio when applying for jobs. The experience was very hands-on, and that made all the difference. I walked away with tangible skills and the confidence to take on a professional role right after graduation.”



Tess Mathes ('23),
Former Stacks
Student Assistant

“I worked at the Science Library, which has had a significant impact on my career interests and direction. Being surrounded by a vast collection of scientific literature every day deepened my love for science. I found myself constantly exposed to cutting-edge research and discoveries. That inspired me to pursue a career in medical sciences and public health where I could contribute to scientific advancements and improve human health.

“After graduating, I worked in a biomedical engineering laboratory as a research assistant, focusing on the formulation of novel biomaterials for cancer applications. In fall 2024, I began a dual master of science in medical sciences and public

health at Boston University, while preparing to apply to medical school. Working in organizing, shelving, and sorting materials at UC Irvine Libraries required precision and an attention to detail that has been important in multiple facets of both research and my graduate studies. The process of managing large amounts of information efficiently has also translated into my ability to complete multiple tasks and prioritize effectively in my current roles. Additionally, my experience in the library improved my ability to work independently as well as collaborate with a team, both of which are essential in the laboratory and academic environments. Overall, the skills I developed at the library laid a strong foundation for the demands I face today and continue to help me excel in my current and future endeavors.”

Brilliant Future Highlights

A SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGN SUPPORTS KEY LIBRARIES' SERVICES AND INITIATIVES.

By Cheryl Baltes

LAUNCHED IN 2019 WITH THE DUAL GOALS of raising more than \$2 billion and engaging more than 75,000 alumni, UC Irvine's Brilliant Future campaign was positioned on **FOUR KEY PILLARS**:

1

ADVANCING
THE AMERICAN DREAM

2

TRANSFORMING
HEALTHCARE AND WELLNESS

3

ACCELERATING
WORLD-CLASS RESEARCH

4

EXPLORING
THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE

Culminating on October 4, 2025, the overall campus campaign exceeded all its goals, engaging 93,000 alumni and raising more than \$2.4 billion from 122,000 donors.

Here within UC Irvine Libraries, we are incredibly grateful to our supporters who continually help us fulfill our mission as a major information hub for both the campus and our broader community. The following list highlights a few key Libraries' developments and contributions from the Brilliant Future campaign, although it does not reflect the full scope and impact of the Libraries' amazing supporters.

*Let's be brilliant
together.*

ENDOWED UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN

IN SUMMER 2024, the Libraries finalized a **\$3 million** gift to establish an endowment that supports the highest priorities of the university librarian. The gift, which will remain anonymous at the request of the donors, is designed to help the Libraries meet the evolving needs of students, faculty, and other library users in the digital age.

In recognition of this generous gift, the university librarian's position was renamed the "Endowed University Librarian." Providing discretionary rather than operational support, the endowment will enable the Libraries to continue to evolve and innovate in order to best serve the needs of 21st-century scholars.

The anonymous donors expressed the importance of supporting the Libraries' mission and goals: "UC Irvine Libraries offer a wealth of knowledge. We are enthusiastic about supporting the university librarian as a leader to innovate in thought and community interaction to foster this treasure."



▲ Dolores Grunigen

ANGELA J. RIOS MEMORIAL CONFERENCE ROOM

IN 2022, THE DR. FOREST J. GRUNIGEN MEDICAL LIBRARY (GML) reopened its doors to the UCI Medical Center community, following renovations to the library. During the remodeling, the library relocated its conference room to a larger space and equipped it with new smart technology that supports group collaboration. In recognition of a generous gift from Dolores Grunigen, the space was named the Angela J. Rios Memorial Conference Room in tribute to her late daughter, who devoted her life to public service.



▲ Laura Davick

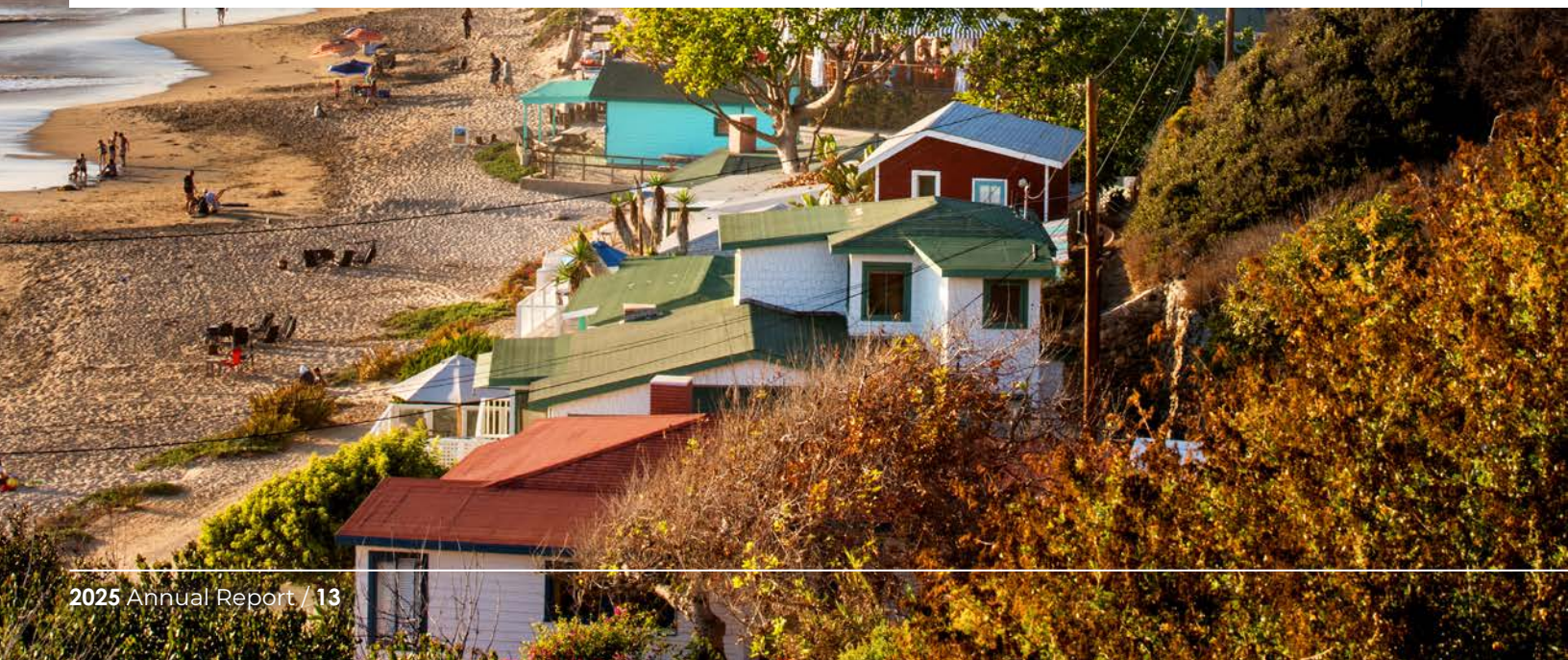
LAURA DAVICK CRYSTAL COVE HISTORICAL ARCHIVE COLLECTION AND ENDOWMENT

FOUNDER OF THE CRYSTAL COVE CONSERVANCY, Laura Davick, donated her archives to the Orange County Regional History Collection in the UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives department, and it was received by the Libraries in 2025. The Davick collection includes photographs, oral histories, and ephemera that document 100 years of Crystal Cove's history.

Crystal Cove State Park, situated on 3.2 miles of coastline between Corona Del Mar and Laguna Beach, has a long and important history of farming, recreation, and habitat conservation in Orange County. The area is home to popular beachfront cottages built in the 1920s and 1930s, which are now listed on the National Register of Historic Places and have been restored by the California State Parks and the Crystal Cove Conservancy.

In addition to her collection, Davick made a generous gift to establish the Laura Davick Crystal Cove Historical Archive Collection Endowment, which provides support for the processing, preservation, and access to her collection and other Orange County Regional History Collections at UC Irvine.

▼ Cover image of *Crystal Cove Cottages: Islands in Time on the California Coast*, by Karen E. Steen, Laura Davick, Meriam Braselle, and John Connell, 2005. Image credit: J. Christopher Launi.



LARRY AGRAN AND PHYLLIS FRIEDMAN AGRAN ENDOWMENT

IN SPRING 2019, UC Irvine Libraries received a gift from Phyllis Friedman Agran and Larry Agran to establish an endowment fund to support the processing, preservation, and access to our Orange County Regional History Collection, one of the Libraries' most heavily used collections by both campus and community users.

Larry Agran is the mayor of the City of Irvine and has served on the Irvine City Council for periods between 1978 and 2024, including seven prior nonconsecutive terms as mayor. He also served as legal counsel to the California State Senate Committee on Health and Welfare and taught legislation and public policy at the UCLA School of Law and the UC Irvine Paul Merage School of Business.

Phyllis Agran (MD and master of public health) is a practicing pediatrician, board-certified in both general pediatrics and pediatric gastroenterology, and a UC Irvine professor emerita. An alumna of the UC Irvine School of Medicine, she is an advocate for policies and programs to prevent pediatric injuries and promote better health and safety outcomes for children.

Dr. Agran and her husband were instrumental in establishing the first mandatory child passenger safety law in California.

In addition to the Agrans' generous endowment gift, the Libraries also received a gift of Larry Agran's personal and professional papers. The endowment gift helps to support the processing and preservation of Larry Agran's papers, along with other Orange County Regional History Collection archival materials.



*Larry Agran and
Phyllis Friedman Agran* ►



▲ Marsha Puz Lloyd

LIBRARY ENDOWMENT GIFT FROM MARSHA PUZ LLOYD

A GRADUATE OF THE CLAIRE TREVOR SCHOOL OF THE ARTS with a concentration in studio art, Marsha Puz Lloyd ('74) spent her 36-year career as a public librarian with the Kern County Library. The gratitude that she felt for her successful career inspired her to support UC Irvine Libraries in fall 2019 with an endowment gift to facilitate the Libraries' highest priorities.

As the branch supervisor of the Kern County Library's Ridgecrest Branch, Lloyd appreciated when donors made discretionary gifts to her library. As an endowed fund, Lloyd's gift provides the Libraries with an evergreen source of support for projects such as improving our study spaces, collection development, new technologies, and staff development.



ORANGE COUNTY HOLOCAUST ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

BETWEEN 1992 AND 1995, the Orange County chapter of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) recorded the oral histories of 145 Holocaust survivors, five liberators, and three rescuers living in Orange County. The project was led by Holocaust educator and survivor Jack Pariser, and the collection was donated to UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives in 1995.

Due to the fragility of the 30-year-old VHS videotapes and the

increasing obsolescence of VHS equipment, the Orange County Holocaust Oral History Project collection interviews were inaccessible for an extended period, keeping these important stories hidden. To preserve these stories for the future, UC Irvine Libraries raised funds to digitize this remarkable collection of oral histories unique to the Orange County region.

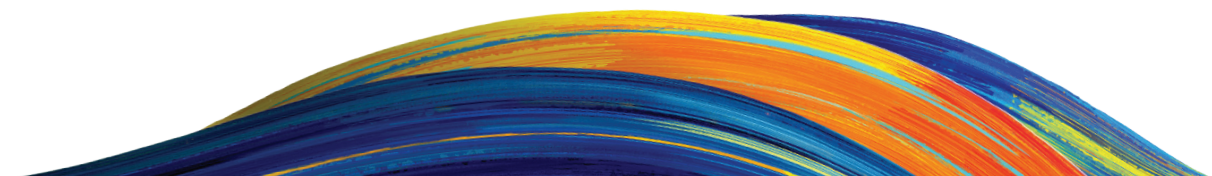
As part of this project, UC Irvine Libraries collaborated with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM), which had digitized its own set of ADL interviews. This collaboration ensured the complete set of interviews was digitized and made publicly available. Full transcripts and enhanced records were also created by UC Irvine Libraries and are now a permanent part of the Libraries' collection. Together, in partnership with the USHMM, the Libraries have been able to increase accessibility to the collection and amplify the impact of our supporters' contributions.

GATEWAY SOCIETY

FORMERLY NAMED THE PARTNERS OF THE LIBRARIES, UC Irvine Libraries' annual giving program was renamed the Gateway Society in 2019. Through annual membership gifts, the Gateway Society helps the Libraries provide a wide range of campus and community programming:

- NEW LIBRARY COLLECTIONS THAT PROMOTE READING AND LEARNING
- ENGAGING PUBLIC EVENTS AND PROGRAMS
- INNOVATIVE LIBRARY SERVICES AND INITIATIVES
- SPACES DEDICATED TO ACTIVE LEARNING, DISCOVERY, AND COLLABORATION
- TECHNOLOGIES AND EQUIPMENT THAT ENHANCE STUDENTS' LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

"The Gateway Society is an opportunity for the Libraries to recognize donors who generously support our highest priorities on an annual basis," explained Assistant Director of Development Allison Foust, who oversees the Libraries' annual giving programs.



LIBRARIES ADVISORY COUNCIL

IN FALL 2019, UC Irvine Libraries founded its Libraries Advisory Council, a group of dedicated volunteers who support the Libraries through their philanthropy, advocacy, and counsel. Council members, who serve three-year terms, work with the Libraries' leadership to provide high-quality library services and resources that support research, teaching, and patient care. Philanthropic support from Advisory Council members bolsters unrestricted funds, providing flexibility in areas with the most critical need.

"Having a flexible source of financial resources was invaluable during the COVID-19 crisis and related campus closures," explained Executive Director of Development Wendi Morner. "They were used to purchase essential electronic resources and database services, provide additional cleaning services, and meet other unforeseen needs."

COMMUNITY-CENTERED ARCHIVES PRACTICE

COMMUNITY-CENTERED ARCHIVES PRACTICE (CCAP), a long-term initiative within UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives (SCA), seeks to empower communities to tell and preserve their own histories, particularly those that have been misrepresented, absent, or maligned in traditional historical archives. The overall goal of SCA's community-centered approach is for communities and institutions to work together to ethically archive and document the histories of traditionally marginalized communities, both here in Orange County and beyond.

To support and expand their work, SCA was awarded a four-year \$800,000 grant from the Mellon Foundation in 2022. The grant project includes funding for scholarships to train UC Irvine students in archival practices and build partnerships between academic libraries and their local communities.

The grant period culminated in the Community-Centered Archives Practice (CCAP) National Summit hosted at UC Irvine in October 2025 as well as a Libraries' exhibit in Langson Library (on display October 2025 through February 2026).



UC IRVINE GIVING DAY, 2017–2024

INTRODUCED IN 2017 AS AN ANNUAL 24-HOUR FUNDRAISING

CAMPAIGN, UC Irvine's Giving Day campaigns have raised more than **\$17 million** campus-wide. Thanks to the incredible support of our community, the Libraries' Giving Day campaigns have raised funds to support a broad range of areas:

- PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION OF RARE ARCHIVAL MATERIALS
- SOLO STUDY PODS
- COLLABORATIVE STUDY SPACES AND FURNITURE
- AFFORDABLE COURSE MATERIALS
- BIKE AND TREADMILL ACTIVE STUDY DESKS
- LOANABLE TECHNOLOGY
- DIGITAL RESOURCES THAT FOSTER DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

Each year, the Libraries' giving focus concentrates on the most pressing needs of our community. In total, the Libraries have received approximately \$115,000 in Giving Day support from nearly 400 donations.

“Giving Day donations are so impactful,” said **Endowed University Librarian Lorelei Tanji**. **“From soundproof solo study pods for individual learners to technologies that facilitate group collaboration in study and research, they help us meet the diverse needs of our students and scholars.”**



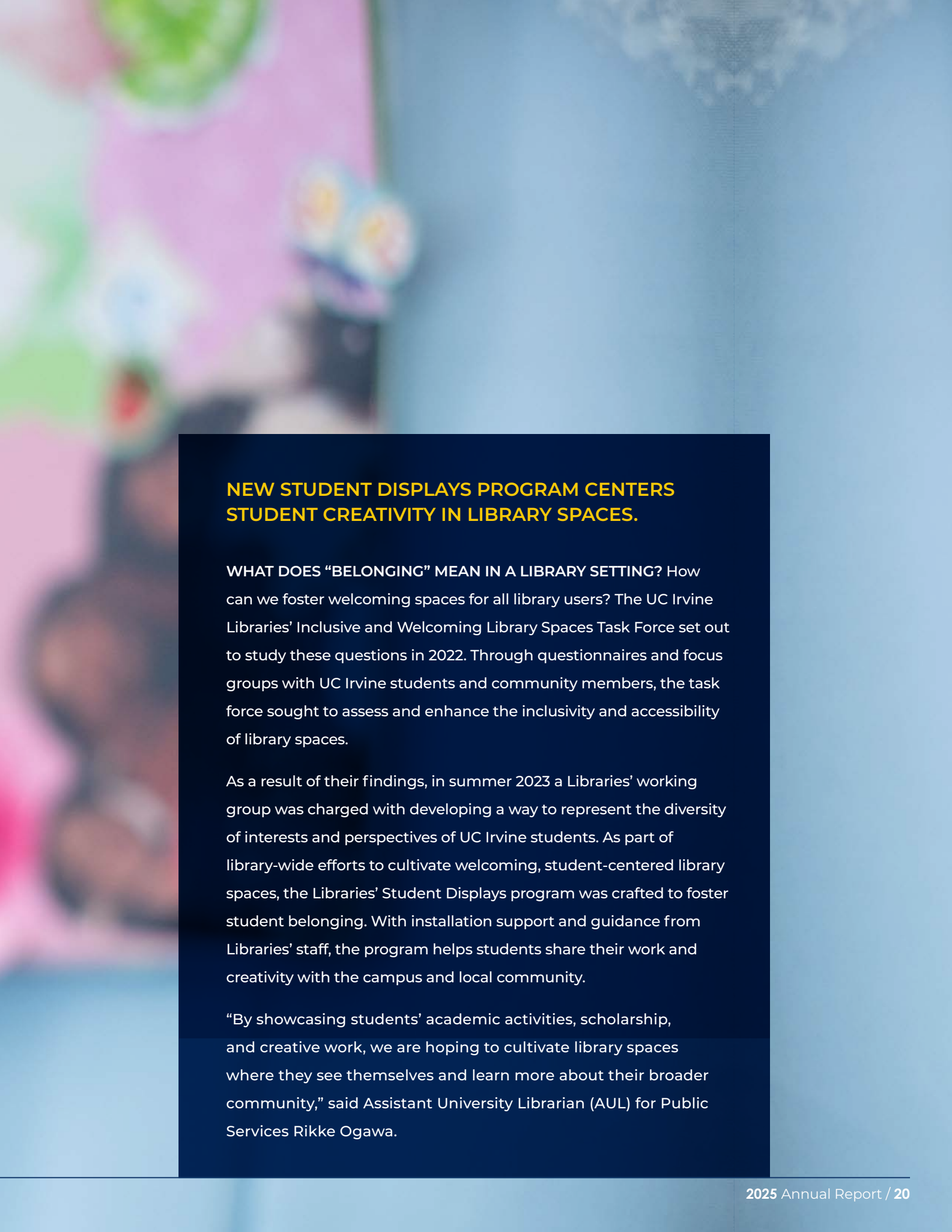
Fostering Belonging

STUDENT DISPLAYS
CULTIVATE
STUDENT-CENTERED
LIBRARY SPACES

By Cheryl Baltes

I am not a puzzle.
My pieces do not fit perfectly,
and I do not have to have all the
pieces feel complete.

UC Irvine student artwork featured in "Healing and (Re)Building Connection Through Art" display (2024).



NEW STUDENT DISPLAYS PROGRAM CENTERS STUDENT CREATIVITY IN LIBRARY SPACES.

WHAT DOES “BELONGING” MEAN IN A LIBRARY SETTING? How can we foster welcoming spaces for all library users? The UC Irvine Libraries’ Inclusive and Welcoming Library Spaces Task Force set out to study these questions in 2022. Through questionnaires and focus groups with UC Irvine students and community members, the task force sought to assess and enhance the inclusivity and accessibility of library spaces.

As a result of their findings, in summer 2023 a Libraries’ working group was charged with developing a way to represent the diversity of interests and perspectives of UC Irvine students. As part of library-wide efforts to cultivate welcoming, student-centered library spaces, the Libraries’ Student Displays program was crafted to foster student belonging. With installation support and guidance from Libraries’ staff, the program helps students share their work and creativity with the campus and local community.

“By showcasing students’ academic activities, scholarship, and creative work, we are hoping to cultivate library spaces where they see themselves and learn more about their broader community,” said Assistant University Librarian (AUL) for Public Services Rikke Ogawa.

Spring Launch

The Libraries' Student Displays program was launched in spring 2024. The initial pilot program sought to foster students' sense of belonging while studying the program's impact on library spaces and staff.

The first installation in Langson Library, "Healing and (Re)Building Connection Through Art," featured artwork inspired by a UC Irvine travel course to Mexico on undocumented immigrant experiences taught by Laura E. Enriquez, UC Irvine associate professor of Chicano/Latino studies.

Since then, temporary displays in the Langson and Science Libraries have showcased original student art, writing, research, and more in both physical and digital formats. By broadly defining

"student work," the program seeks to represent a diversity of perspectives, student groups, and disciplines.

Unlike the Libraries' main exhibit program, which features selected materials from our collections and archives, the Student Displays program is student- and community-led. The temporary displays exclusively feature UC Irvine student work and, under the guidance of the Libraries' staff, are curated and installed by students or faculty themselves.

Thanks to a generous gift from the Samueli Foundation, a set of movable display walls and hanging supplies were purchased to kick-start the program. Thus, with minimal to no additional costs, the students or faculty coordinating each display can share their creative works with colleagues and peers.

▼ UC Irvine student artwork featured in "Healing and (Re)Building Connection Through Art" display (2024).



Advocacy Meets Art

Since its initial launch, the program has hosted seven sets of student work. Curated by both undergraduate and graduate students, the displays have included everything from health sciences research to poetry and multimedia art. Contributors have included both individual students and student organizations.

Sage Cerda, an aspiring lawyer graduating from UC Irvine in fall 2025 with a BA in criminology, law and society, served as the lead student curator for a display celebrating Second Chance Month, a nationwide effort to raise awareness of the collateral consequences of the records that follow an arrest or conviction. The display in the Science Library featured art, poetry, and prose by UC Irvine's Underground Scholars Initiative, a student organization that creates pathways into higher education by supporting incarcerated, formerly incarcerated, and system-impacted individuals.

"I'm grateful for the platform the Libraries provided to uplift incarcerated

voices and share deeply personal stories that often go unheard," said Cerda.

"Their collaboration allowed me and my organizations to create a powerful space for healing, expression, and awareness."

In a Langson Library display titled "Creating Ocean Legacies: Wearable Art, from Concept to Creation," graduate student Ashley Morgan (master of fine arts in costume design) exhibited a 6-foot-tall dress with a 5-foot-long train mounted on a mannequin.

Morgan's student display detailed the process of creating "Ocean Legacies"

for the Laguna Art Museum's Art + Nature Festival, in collaboration with UC Irvine's Drama and Art Departments. She explained that the dress, which was also

exhibited at the Orange County Center for Contemporary Art, uses upcycled materials to illustrate how nature inspires how we create and consider art.

"This piece was conceived while grappling with the estate of my grandmother," explained Morgan. "It used pieces she left me to continue making art with her."



"I'm grateful for the platform the Libraries provided to uplift incarcerated voices and share deeply personal stories that often go unheard."



Ashley Morgan, "Creating Ocean Legacies" display (2025).



Sage Cerda, Second Chance display (2025).



Associate Professor Laura E. Enriquez (right center) with student exhibitors.



Humanities Core student art display (2024).



"Healing and (Re)Building Connection Through Art" display (2024).



Petr the Anteatr sticker display (2025).



Digital Humanities Undergraduate Student Fellowship display (2024).

Focus on the Future

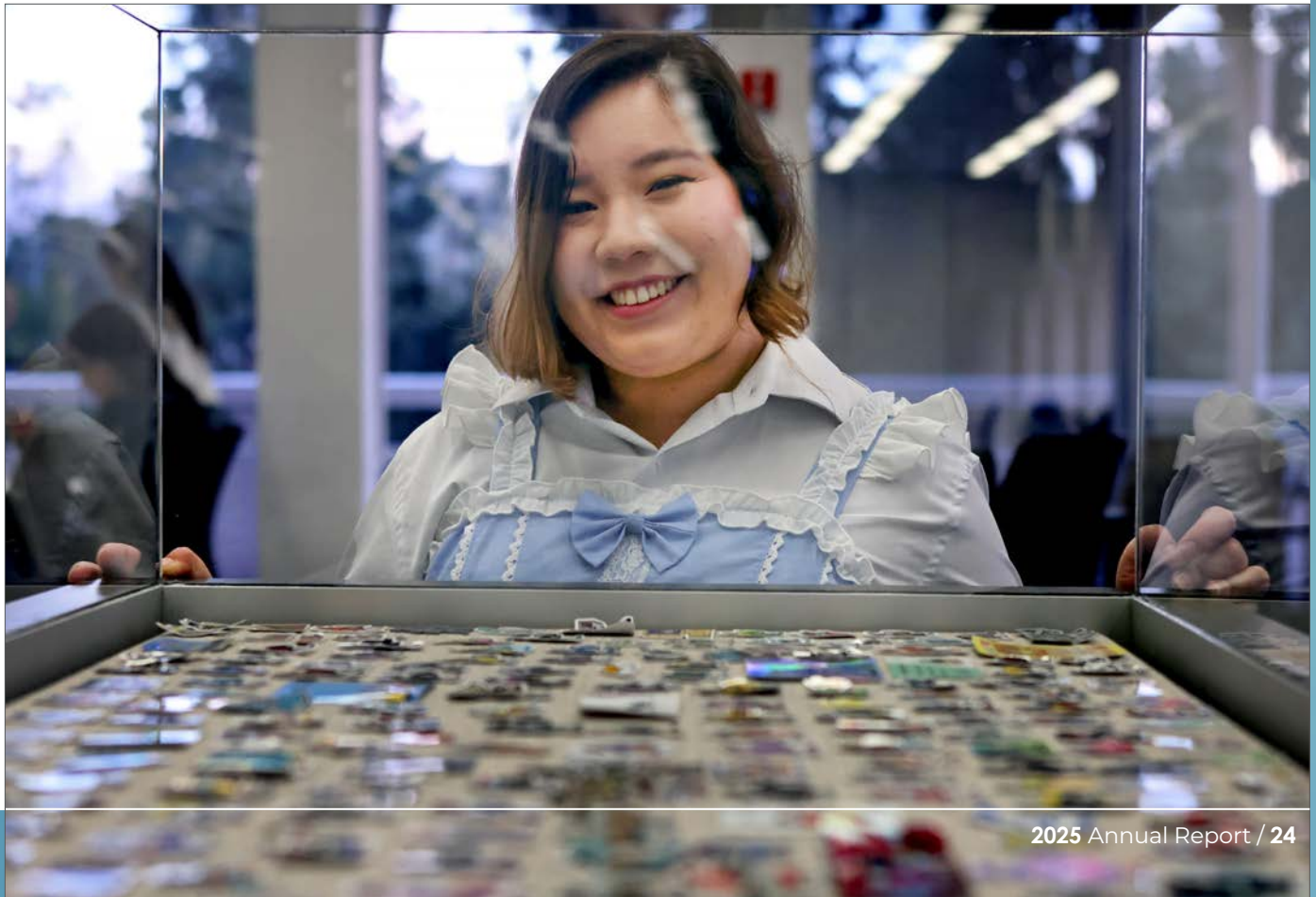
In a number of instances during the 2024-2025 academic year, the student displays have complemented the Libraries' main exhibit program and other initiatives. In winter 2025, a student display curated by Daniella Galvan featuring hundreds of student-created Petr the Anteater stickers helped kick off the campus' 60th anniversary celebration and the Libraries' *Anteater Experience: 60th Anniversary of UC Irvine* exhibit in Langson Library.

AUL Ogawa noted that the pilot program also opened up new opportunities to collaborate with campus partners, such as

the Digital Humanities Exchange and the Humanities Core program. For example, the fall 2024 Langson student display "Celebration of Student Art: Humanities Core 2017-2024" showcased selected student art from eight years of Humanities Core Arts Competitions. The works of art in the Langson display included a range of media inspired by the themes explored in the Humanities Core course.

"We are overjoyed by the campus response to our student displays," said Ogawa. "As the program continues, we look forward to deepening our connections with campus units, while at the same time getting to know individual students and enjoying their amazing work."

▼ Daniella Galvan, *Petr the Anteater sticker display* (2025).





The Power of Language

Inclusive Cataloging Amplifies Access to Library Resources

TECHNICAL SERVICES PROJECTS ARE UPDATING AND ENHANCING LIBRARY RECORDS TO MAKE RESOURCES MORE INCLUSIVE AND ACCESSIBLE. By Christina Acevedo

A LOT HAS CHANGED AT UC IRVINE LIBRARIES IN RECENT YEARS. Just as we've updated our physical spaces and furniture in accordance with library users' shifting needs, the Libraries' book labels and catalog records have also seen revisions. More specifically,

over a thousand book labels and library records have been modified to reflect more current and appropriate language. At the heart of these revisions is a desire to avoid excluding users on the basis of their identities and to facilitate library searches.

“Library users feel excluded when they encounter offensive language in our catalog or resources used to find and access library materials,” said Head of Technical Services Elizabeth Richey. “On the contrary, we want everything that our users see and experience to let them know that our libraries are for them.”

Hidden Language

Beginning in February 2024, the Libraries Technical Services department initiated a large-scale project to update book call numbers. Each book in our collection has a label with a mixture of numbers and letters based on its content known as a call number. Those letters and numbers denote descriptive terms that help classify and group works with like material. Thus, call numbers ultimately affect a book’s placement on the shelves within a library and near other works on similar topics.

The Libraries’ project was undertaken after the Library of Congress updated some of the cutter numbers, or parts of call numbers that further refine materials within its classification system, which is utilized by major public and academic libraries in the US. Specifically, the Library of

Congress modified two cutters used to classify works related to Asian and Black communities. Such works were previously labeled and shelved under the letters O and N for the outdated and racist terms “Oriental” and “Negro,” respectively. The Library of Congress changed these cutters to the letters A and B to reflect the terms Asian and Black.

“This project is based on our belief in making our spaces more inclusive,” said Physical Resources Cataloging and Metadata Librarian Tricia Lampron. “Removing harmful terminology from our shelves is an important way to do that.”

Although most library users are unaware of the meaning behind particular cutters, Lampron shared that high-level library users do understand the classification system, and the average user can deduce their meaning from the nature of their search.

“If you’re looking at Black history in America and you come across a specific cutter, you’re probably going to make the connection,” she explained.

Largely finished in late 2024, Technical Services’ cutter project resulted in the updating of approximately 1,800 books, each of which was physically removed, relabeled, and reshelved to

its new location. The Libraries' catalog was also altered to reflect the new call numbers. The effort affected materials in both the Science and Langson Libraries, including oversized, periodical, media, and reference items. The most impacted subject areas were languages, literature, and the history of the Americas, but materials in subjects such as fine arts, religion, and psychology were also updated.

According to Lampron, another benefit of the project has been to reclassify older library materials. Although new materials used the Library of Congress's current cutters, the Libraries' older materials remained outdated. Relabeling the older materials has helped ensure related books are shelved together, making them easier for users to locate and browse.

Modern Vocabularies

A related project within UC Irvine Libraries is an effort to expand and improve subject headings within the

Libraries' catalog. As with the call numbers, the Libraries utilize Library of Congress subject headings, which are visible in the library catalog and used to search for books on particular topics.

"The use of subject headings heavily impacts library users," said Richey. "They have to know what to type into the search box to find the materials they need, so those terms need to be relevant, modern, and accurate."

UC Irvine Libraries' subject heading project began because the Library of Congress's subject headings have not expanded to match more modern usage.

"The Library of Congress language was perceived to be inadequate," said Lampron, "and in some cases, the older terminology could be considered offensive."

For example, in the past, content relevant to LGBTQ+ communities was listed under the subject heading "sexual minorities." To improve search and discoverability, Technical Services drew additional language from Homosaurus,

Read letters in
alphabetical order
(Q, QA, QB, QC, etc.)

Read as a
whole number

QH 26 . E744

an internationally recognized thesaurus created by and for LGBTQ+ people and designed to supplement Library of Congress subject headings.

Most importantly, it is essential to make library resources easy to find. Outdated subject headings and terms can hinder the discovery of relevant research.

Adding subject headings, such as the more commonly used term “LGBTQ+ people” from Homosaurus, better reflects the content. Addressing the limitations of the language used by the Library of Congress helps supplement the catalog with terminology that users are more likely to use when searching for those types of materials.

Libraries’ Special Collections and Archives department. Efforts may even involve removing terms from the library catalog altogether, which would require coordination at the University of California system-wide level.

“We’re hoping to have a permanent group at the UC level that can address these issues and advocate for change,” said Lampron. “We envision a future workflow where inclusive cataloging is second nature, reducing the need to go back and address previous mistakes.”

Nevertheless, Lampron acknowledged that the Libraries’ efforts to update call numbers and catalog records will always be ongoing.

“Language evolves, and I don’t think there’s ever going to be a time where there’s not some work to do,” she concluded. “We will continue these projects as needed to make our physical and online spaces more accessible and inclusive.”

Future of Cataloging

Going forward, the Technical Services department intends to continue their work to improve catalog search results. Future projects may include adding subject headings in other content areas and updating call numbers and subject headings for materials in the

Read numbers as a **DECIMAL** and letters in alphabetical order
(e.g., *E44* comes before *E5*)

Some call numbers are followed by

- **Year of publication** (in chronological order)
- **Volume number**
- **Copy number** (if more than one copy)

THROUGH THE ORANGE LENS

MULTIMEDIA ARTIST LINDSAY BUCHMAN EXPLORES PLACE-MAKING AND IDENTITY USING UC IRVINE LIBRARIES' ORANGE COUNTY ARCHIVAL RECORDS.

By Cheryl Baltes

A NATIVE OF ORANGE COUNTY, Lindsay Buchman is an interdisciplinary artist with a special connection to the region that informs both her artwork and creative process. Her work explores image-making and writing through print and lens-based media, artists' books, and installation. Pivoting between text and image, her approach to digital media and printmaking incorporates various image-making methods, including collage and photography processes.

Although she's now based in Brooklyn, New York, Buchman has annually traveled to the UC Irvine campus over the last five years to explore the Orange County Regional History Collection within the UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives (SCA). While she utilizes online materials in her work, she said she prefers in-person research whenever possible.

"The experience of handling special collection materials reminds me of being in the studio and creating artwork," explained Buchman. "The tactility of paper, handwritten notations, maps, negatives, and photographs offers insightful observations that cannot be as easily accessed online."

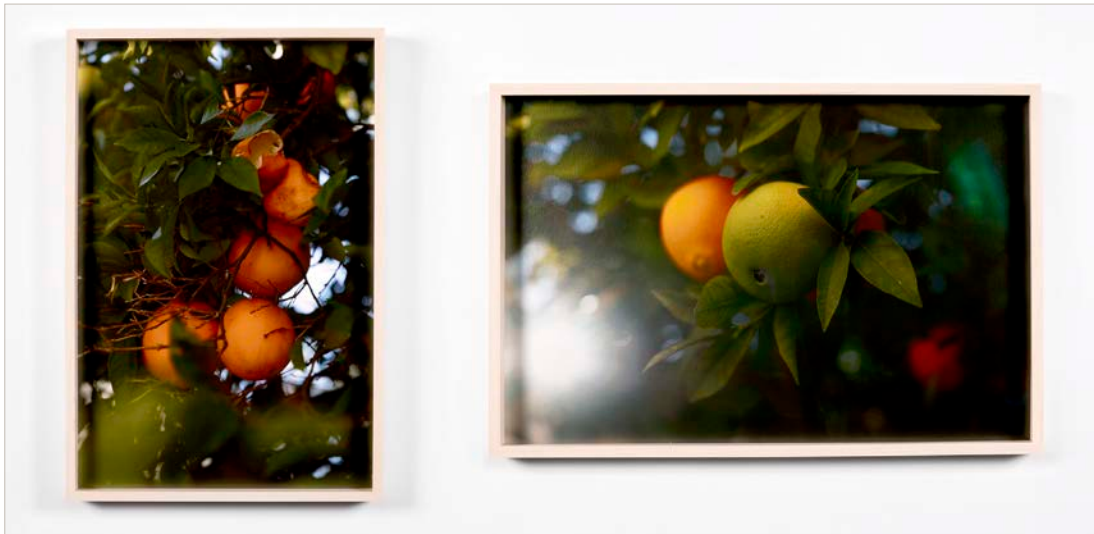
Throughout her time at SCA, Buchman's research has primarily focused on the Jim Sleeper Papers, which consist of the research records and archival materials gathered by local Orange County (OC) writer and historian James ("Jim") Doren Sleeper.

In addition to hands-on exploration of primary sources, Buchman said the SCA staff have been incredibly supportive and informative, helping to connect her to other scholars within the local OC research network.

"I have received personalized feedback and research suggestions from each staff member with the utmost care and intention surrounding ethical questions of archival practices and community archives," she said.



▲ *Background (Oso/Tijeras/Naranjas),*
Lindsay Buchman, 2025.



▲ *Wintering (-87), Lindsay Buchman, 2022.*

Buchman agreed to share more about her use of SCA's archives and how they are part of her creative works and expression.

What initially drew you to the materials within SCA, and how have you utilized them in your projects?

BUCHMAN: My long-term multimedia autoethnography project, "Everything I've Ever Loved," began with preliminary research at the Orange County Archives in Santa Ana, California. That eventually led me to UC Irvine's Orange County Regional History Collection, notably the Jim Sleeper Papers.

The central question in my autoethnography is how geography and place shape racism, power, and political ideologies. I have examined Sleeper's materials to build a visual vocabulary around what an archive can show us about place-making, questioning the role of authorship within how histories are formed. Sleeper's collection is known for being minimally processed and idiosyncratic. His materials have led me down several paths that have been unexpected, at times shocking or unsettling, but always revealing of the times he lived within. I have also worked with other collections at UC Irvine, but the Jim Sleeper Papers have been the most generative for conducting the primary research for my multimedia project, providing visual materials that are recontextualized within my artwork.



▲ *Above the sky (left) and Below the clouds (right), Lindsay Buchman, 2022.*

The Libraries' OC Regional History Collection seeks to document and preserve the history of our local land, culture, and communities. Did you find this valuable in your research, and was there anything that surprised or delighted you as you explored the materials?

BUCHMAN: The OC Regional History Collection has been an incredible resource over the last five years of my work. As a Californian born and raised in South Orange County, I have encountered a lot of ephemera grounded in my firsthand knowledge of the county and its land use. My father spent his career working for OC Parks, so I was delighted to read many documents related to the formerly named Orange County Harbors, Beaches, and Parks. Surprisingly, I discovered my dad's name in some of the materials.

The OC Regional History Collection also houses an in-depth taxonomy for how land use was delineated, stemming from subdivisions from Mexican land grants and ranchos. There are essential typographic and visual identity examples of how Manifest Destiny informed the development of Rancho Mission Viejo, which is a point of critique within my larger writing and work.

I am constantly looking for clues surrounding how the land was shaped and for whom or who was excluded; there is a clear articulation of South Orange County being tied to white flight, which impacted my youth growing up as a transracially adopted Chicana in South Orange County. The absence of people of color in South Orange County during the 1980s to early 2000s directly affected my life, which is part of the impetus for looking at the county's history. UC Irvine's collection has been invaluable in answering larger structural questions about how SoCal developed its identity.



▲ *A Real American*, Lindsay Buchman, 2025.

Can you share a bit about your creative process and your use of archival materials?

BUCHMAN: I create artwork from many of the materials within the OC Regional History Collection, integrating primary research materials with original compositions — for example, pairing a limited edition screen print alongside the original archival negative that was used within the larger work on the paper's composition or showing newspaper clippings that talk about the subject matter I am referencing by pairing a clipping next to a collage piece.

Artwork can, at times, be indecipherable. The images I make are often poetic and soft gestures at obfuscated landscapes from Orange County: a shimmering opalescent blue sky that could be anywhere in the world, a sunset-drenched withering artichoke thistle, or a decaying orange rotting in the sun. I use language to underscore where my imagery comes from, complicating how my photographs can be interpreted. However, pairing my artmaking with archival materials can provide a more in-depth experience for viewers.

MORE ABOUT THE ARTIST

Lindsay Buchman's recent exhibitions include the Penumbra Foundation (New York), Center for Photography at Woodstock (Kingston, New York), and San Francisco Center for the Book. Her work is included in collections at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the New York Public Library, and San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. She is a recipient of the Toby Devan Lewis Fellowship and the Flaherty Fellowship, and her work has appeared in *Hyperallergic*, *LENSCRATCH*, and *The Hopper Prize Journal*. Buchman holds a bachelor of fine arts (BFA) in printmaking from California State University, Long Beach and a master of fine arts (MFA) in interdisciplinary art from the University of Pennsylvania. A selection of her work from "Everything I've Ever Loved" is featured in the "Radical Geographies: Possibilities of the Imaged Landscape" exhibition, curated by Tamara Cedré, at the Wignall Museum of Contemporary Art in Rancho Cucamonga, California, on view for the fall of 2025.



▲ *Everything I've Ever Loved (#1)*, Lindsay Buchman, 2023.



▲ *Suspended (and yet)*, Lindsay Buchman, 2022.

ABOUT THE JIM SLEEPER PAPERS

The author of seven books and approximately 2,000 articles, James ("Jim") Doren Sleeper (1927–2012) was a writer and historian specializing in OC history, especially the Irvine Ranch, Rancho Mission Viejo, and O'Neill Ranch. The Jim Sleeper Papers include his research files dating back to 1859, local OC newspaper clippings, manuscripts and published versions of Sleeper's scholarly writings, annotated copies of books, maps, and other ephemera.



of UC Irvine



Julius Shulman, 1968. Courtesy of the Getty Research Institute.

A CONVERSATION WITH UC IRVINE CHARTER GRADUATE AND LIBRARIES ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER

KATHY HOUTS MILLER (BA '69)

By Cheryl Baltes

KATHY HOUTS MILLER (BA '69) HAS LOVED LIBRARIES since she was very young. Growing up as one of seven brothers and sisters, she was a huge fan of the Nancy Drew and the Bobbsey Twins series.

"When I was growing up — way before the internet, Google, social media, cell phones, and online books — throughout the school year and every summer my mom would take all seven of us to the local library," said Houts Miller. "We would each get to check out as many books as we could carry."



▲ Kathy Houts Miller

Throughout high school, she continued frequent trips to the library for schoolwork and pleasure. That love for libraries paired with her love of “all things UC Irvine” made Kathy a natural fit for the Libraries Advisory Council. As one of the council’s inaugural members, she believes the Libraries have a key role to play in research, historical preservation, and the educational journeys of UC Irvine students.

“Having been part of UC Irvine’s earliest traditions and history, I was excited to be asked to be part of developing plans for the Libraries going forward,” said Houts Miller. “When asked to join the council, I immediately said yes.”

FROM THE GROUND UP

RAISED IN NEARBY LAGUNA BEACH,

Houts Miller remembers attending the campus dedication ceremony in 1961. Sitting in an open field with her parents and siblings, she heard President Lyndon B. Johnson proclaim a bright future for the state of California and its newest UC campus. Not a single building had been built yet, but she recalls a sense of optimism and excitement.

“There was just nothing there. The architects had this vision of how it was going to look, but it was just wide open spaces from Laguna Beach to the campus,” she said. “It was Orange County in its early days.”



View of Gateway Commons and the Main Library, c. 1967. Photographer unknown.

A few short years later, she returned to UC Irvine as part of the campus' first class of undergraduate students in 1965. She immersed herself in dorm and campus life from day one, graduating in the first full undergraduate class in 1969 with a bachelor of arts in social sciences.

In those early days at UC Irvine, there was only one library (now the Langson Library). Houts Miller remembers it as a quiet place to study when it was too noisy in the dorms as well as a campus hub where commuter and resident students could gather.

In the mid-1980s, Houts Miller returned to obtain a paralegal certificate from the

UC Irvine Extension's paralegal certificate program. She then went on to teach in the paralegal certificate extension program for 33 years. She still serves on the paralegal certificate program board. After graduation, she became a life member of the UC Irvine Alumni Association. Her most recent campus involvement is serving on the steering committee for UC Irvine's Golden Anteater Society, which was established in 2024 to recognize and celebrate UC Irvine alumni who graduated more than 50 years ago.

"UC Irvine is in my blood," she proudly shared.



LIBRARY FOR ALL

MUCH HAS CHANGED SINCE those earliest days on campus. Celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2025, UC Irvine has grown from the 1,600 students in Houts Miller's charter class to more than 35,000 undergraduate and graduate students with cutting-edge medical facilities and world-renowned faculty.

Having witnessed firsthand UC Irvine's tremendous growth over the last six decades, Houts Miller sees UC Irvine Libraries continuing to play a key role in the future of the campus. The Libraries

have grown alongside the campus — from one library to three — but they remain an essential study refuge with research librarians and staff on hand to assist students and scholars.

"Today, the Libraries provide reading and research materials in one place — books, magazines, newspapers, periodicals, and archives as well as digital access and databases — housed in a central location," said Houts Miller. "During a recent tour of the Grunigen Medical Library, I even tried out one of its sleep pods."

Even more importantly, she said, trained and knowledgeable library employees



UC Irvine students walk under the trees in Gateway Plaza.
Image credit: Steve Zylus.

provide reference and research guidance in finding verifiable, credible, and relevant information.

In her career as a paralegal, Houts Miller has witnessed shifts in how her industry accesses resources.

“How I obtain the information I need has changed,” she said. “I now use online sources and databases to locate and authenticate factual information.”

As the world changes and technology continues to evolve, she believes that the Libraries and its supporters need to find ways to help support the Libraries' mission, making both physical and online

information more available and affordable. More than ever, students and the broader community need a quiet place to study, to locate credible and relevant information, and to view special, often one-of-a-kind historical collections and exhibitions.

“Libraries continue to be near and dear to my heart. I want students to access library materials, whether digitally or in the stacks,” said Houts Miller. “I see a great future for UC Irvine. We just need to build on what we have, adapt to changes, and keep going.”



NEW LIBRARIANS AND STAFF



**STARR
NGO**

Starr Ngo is the Data, Publishing, and Digital Scholarship assistant. In addition to creating learning modules and providing reference help, Starr offers education and research with regards to publishing, data, and digital scholarship. Before joining UC Irvine Libraries, Starr was an administrative assistant for the Center for Epigenetics and Metabolism in the UC Irvine School of Medicine, where she provided grant writing and event coordination support. She also spent time as a digital humanities volunteer for Crear Studio. A former UC Irvine Libraries reference student assistant, she has experience responding to user inquiries and navigating library resources. Starr has a bachelor's degree in language science from UC Irvine and is working toward a master's in library and information science from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.



**ALLISON
FOUST**

Allison Foust is the assistant director of development for UC Irvine Libraries. Overseeing annual giving and library giving programs like Honor With Books, Gateway Society, and Giving Day, she also serves as the Development liaison for the Libraries' exhibits committee. Previously, Allison was the assistant director of annual giving for the University of San Diego (USD) School of Law. In addition to managing the law school's fundraising campaigns, she was the point person for giving, direct mail and email solicitations, as well as stewardship efforts. Prior to USD, Allison was employed by the San Diego County Sheriff's Department as an emergency services dispatcher. She graduated with honors and obtained a bachelor's degree in organizational and corporate communications with a minor in creative writing from the University of Texas at El Paso.



ANGELISSA PANGANIBAN

Angelissa Panganiban is the research librarian for biological sciences for the UC Irvine Libraries and is based in the Reference department. In addition to handling collections for the School of Biological Sciences, Angelissa offers instruction, outreach, and research consultations for the school's students and faculty. Before joining UC Irvine, Angelissa served as a research assistant at the University of British Columbia and student librarian at the University of British Columbia's Woodward Library. There, she worked with scientific and medical databases, including Web of Science, PubMed, MEDLINE, and SciFinder. Angelissa has a master of library and information studies from the University of British Columbia and an honors bachelor of science in life sciences, majoring in human biology and psychology, from the University of Toronto.



NICHOLAS SPARKS

Nicholas Sparks is the stacks lead at Langson Library. Managing moving, shelving, and care of the library's stacks, he also supervises student workers and collects information about stacks use. Previously, Nick was a stacks student assistant for UC Irvine Libraries, a sales associate at Tillys, and a data entry clerk for Davenport Engineering. At UC Irvine Libraries, he became acquainted with the Libraries' shifting projects, trained new student workers, and helped maintain Langson Library's study spaces. As a sales associate, Nick developed his customer service background and assisted with store upkeep. He also refined his data skills as a data entry clerk, during which he added data to a computer software program. A UC Irvine alum, Nick has a bachelor's degree in public health policy.



JASMINE LARKIN

Jasmine Larkin is the collection management archivist. Helping guide procedures and policy with respect to the management, accessioning, and processing of archival items, she also supports the reparative and ethical description of collections. Jasmine has years of archival experience. Before joining UC Irvine Libraries, she served as accessioning archivist at UCLA. There, she was in charge of the library's accessioning program, which she created to ensure that acquisitions satisfied fundamental degrees of control. Jasmine's additional experience includes original cataloging and processing multiple archival items at Loyola Marymount University, Getty Research Institute, and New York University. Dedicated to ethical stewardship, she has a master of library and information science from UCLA and a bachelor's degree in art history from Loyola Marymount University.

CURRENT EXHIBITS

BIODIVERSITY ILLUMINATED: FROM IMAGES TO AI

On display through February 2026

Second Floor, Science Library

From microscopic images of cells to wildlife photos and satellite footage, imagery plays an essential role in documenting and analyzing our natural world. This exhibit showcases how scientists document biodiversity, using text, images, and artificial intelligence to identify species in the wild and analyze their characteristics and behaviors. This information is critical to understanding life on Earth and predicting the future effects of environmental change.

Curated by Wasila Dahdul



VOICES OF THE PEOPLE: CARING FOR COMMUNITY STORIES IN ARCHIVES

On display through February 2026

Muriel Ansley Reynolds Exhibit Gallery, Main Lobby, Langson Library

Voices of the People outlines UC Irvine Libraries' community-centered archives practice (CCAP), which aims to address historical underrepresentation and empower communities to document their own stories. Showcasing past and ongoing initiatives, the exhibit highlights the Libraries' partnerships with community organizations and the involvement of UC Irvine students in projects like oral histories and archival processing.

Curated by Audra Eagle Yun, Krystal Tribbett, and Julia Huynh



UPCOMING EXHIBIT

COMICS BEYOND THE MARGINS: STORIES OF EMPOWERMENT, IDENTITY, AND IMAGINATION

On display March 2026 through September 2026

Muriel Ansley Reynolds Exhibit Gallery, Main Lobby, Langson Library

Comics are a narrative medium with a long history as a platform for empowering underrepresented voices. This exhibit will feature comics and graphic novels from UC Irvine Libraries' general collections from the 1960s to the present, highlighting themes such as activism, imagined futures, unexpected superheroes, unconventional storytelling, and personal memoir.

Curated by Scott Stone and Madelynn Dickerson



The Life and Times of Martha Washington in the Twenty-First Century, by Frank Miller and Dave Gibbons, with Angus McKie and Robin Smith, 2017.

SELECTED ONLINE EXHIBIT

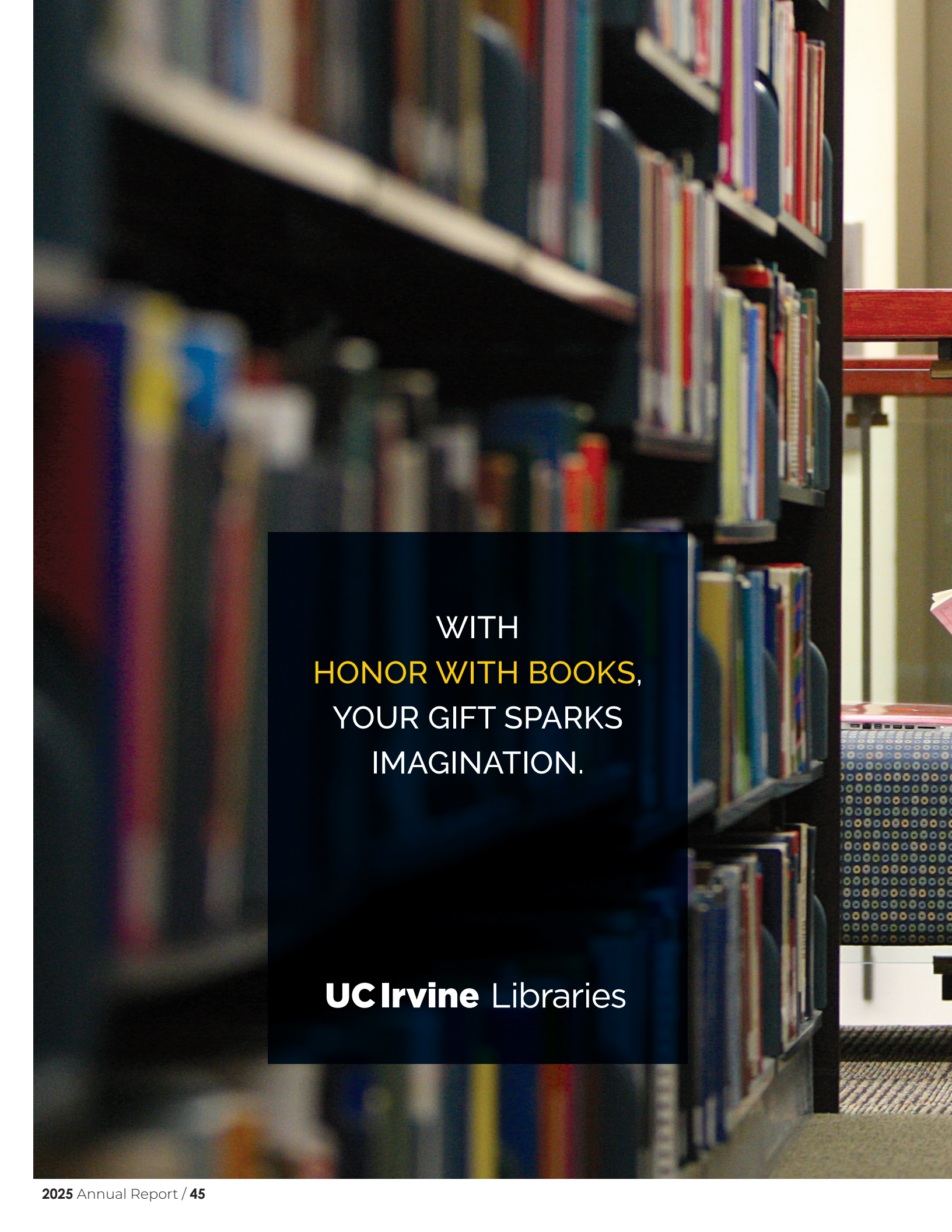
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AT UCI AND BEYOND

exhibits.lib.uci.edu/ai

Artificial Intelligence at UCI and Beyond explores the transformational branch of computer science that influences the ways we live and work. In addition to spotlighting ethical challenges, biases, and privacy concerns raised by the widespread use of AI systems, the exhibit shares selected examples of AI researchers and initiatives at UC Irvine.

Curated by Danielle Kane





WITH
HONOR WITH BOOKS,
YOUR GIFT SPARKS
IMAGINATION.

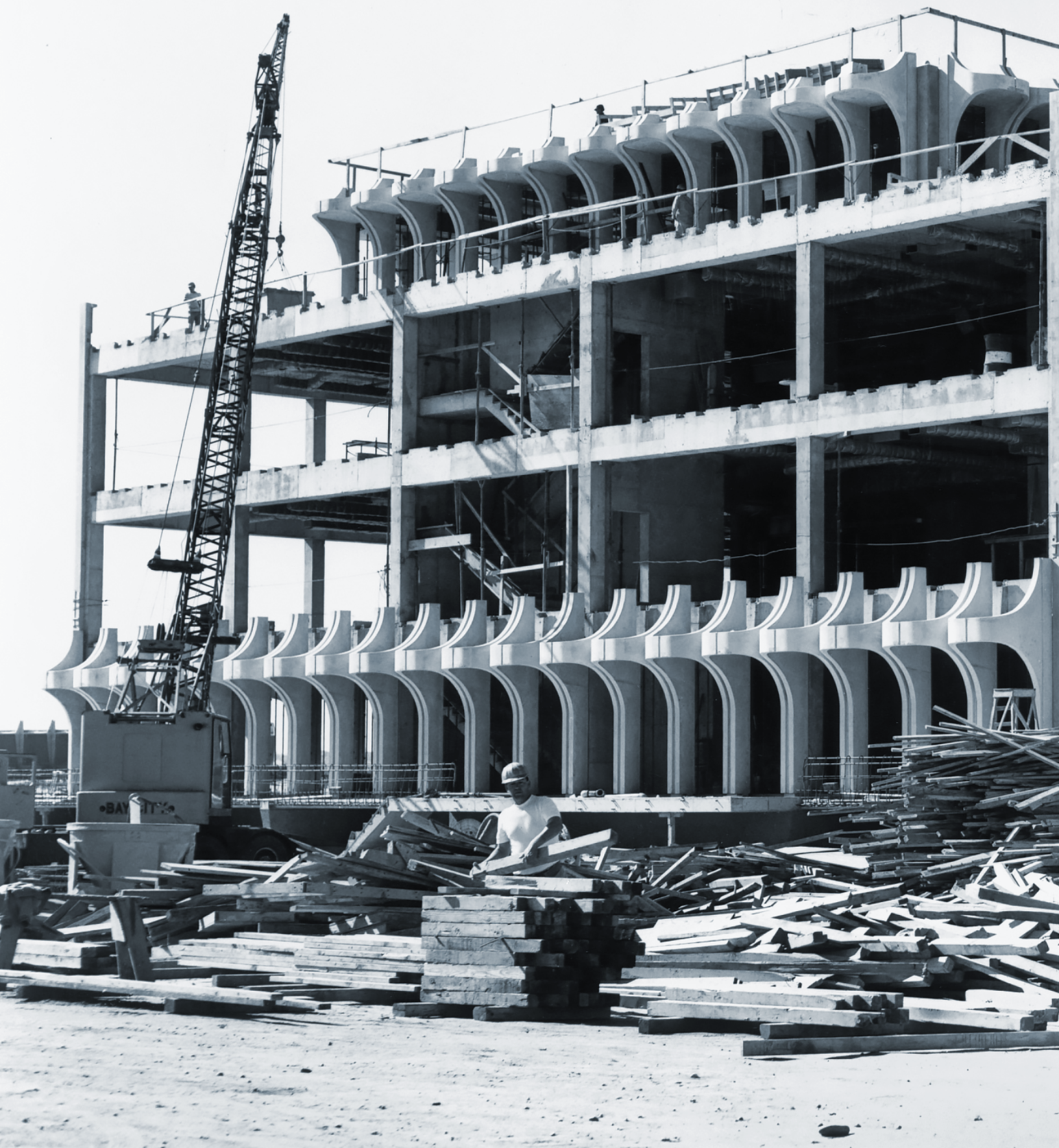
UC Irvine Libraries

A photograph of a young woman with long dark hair, wearing a black top and bright red pants, sitting on a blue patterned library bench. She is leaning forward, writing in a red notebook with a yellow pen. An open book lies on the bench to her left. In the background, tall bookshelves filled with books are visible. A dark blue semi-transparent rectangle is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing white text. The floor is covered with a grey and white patterned carpet, and a pair of black shoes is visible at the bottom of the frame.

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PEOPLE IN YOUR LIFE,
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*Student studying in Langson Library.
Photographer unknown.*



Construction of Library-Administration building
(later known as Main Library and then renamed Jack Langson Library, 2003), 1965.



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