

UC IRVINE LIBRARIES EXHIBIT

ANTEATER EXPERIENCE

60th Anniversary of UC Irvine



UC Irvine Libraries

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Commemorating the 60th anniversary of UC Irvine (1965–2025), *Anteater Experience* traces more than six decades of campus development since UCI's site selection in 1960. Highlighting student life, sustainability, and landscape, this exhibit illustrates key features and milestones that have helped shape the campus culture and environment.

Using original campus photographs and documents, *Anteater Experience* demonstrates how UCI's layout and design, including its iconic circular shape and lush Aldrich Park, formed under the guidance of architect William Pereira. Once sprawling ranch lands, the campus now is home to an urban forest of more than 30,000 trees and plants. Protected natural open spaces also serve as important sites for research, community outreach, and conservation efforts.

With more than 36,000 students, 19,000 employees, and 240,000 alumni, UCI and UCI Health today have a \$7 billion annual economic impact in Orange County and \$8 billion annual economic impact on the state of California. Known for its sustainability and conservation efforts, UCI has transformed over the last 60 years into an internationally recognized research institution.

UCI Libraries acknowledge our presence on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Acjachemen and Tongva peoples.

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60 YEARS OF GROWTH

“We were idealists who wanted to build a university even better than the ones we came from.”

– Founding Chair of Psychobiology James McGaugh

1. **1961 – FOUNDING LAND**

For \$1, the Irvine Company transferred 1,000 acres to the University of California for the future site of the UC Irvine campus. Architect William Pereira (left) was commissioned to develop the master plans for the new campus and the new City of Irvine. Daniel G. Aldrich (right) was appointed the founding chancellor.

Courtesy of Irvine Company

2. **1964 – CAMPUS DEDICATION**

United States President Lyndon B. Johnson dedicated the campus.

President Lyndon B. Johnson speaking at UCI site dedication, 1964. University Archives, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

3. **1965 – SIX SCHOOLS ESTABLISHED**

- **School of Biological Sciences**
(renamed Charlie Dunlop School of Biological Sciences in 2024)
- **School of Engineering** (renamed Henry Samueli School of Engineering in 2000)
- **School of Fine Arts** (renamed Claire Trevor School of the Arts in 2000)
- **Division of Humanities** (renamed School of Humanities in 1967)
- **School of Physical Sciences**
- **School of Social Sciences**

4. **1965 – CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION**

Campus architect William Pereira chose the Brutalist style for the original eight campus buildings, which consist of large concrete boxes in 3D cast-concrete panels.

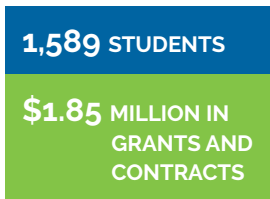
Construction of library building, 1965. University Archives, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

5. **1965 – FIRST DAY OF CLASS**

On the first day of classes, UC Irvine welcomed 1,589 students.

Students waiting in a hallway on the first day of classes, 1965. University Archives, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

6. **1965**



7. **1969 – FIRST NATIONAL ATHLETIC CHAMPIONSHIP**

UC Irvine’s men’s swim team defeated 81 other schools to win the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) College Division national championship.

From left to right: Assistant Coach Edward Newland, Coach Al Irwin, Tim Cooper, Mike Martin, Steve Farmer, Bob Drake, and Rich Eason, 1969. University Archives, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

8. **1970 – SCHOOL OF SOCIAL ECOLOGY**

Academic program in social ecology launched, laying the foundation for the 1992 establishment of the nation’s first and only School of Social Ecology.

9. **1970s**

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

NCAA

- Men's Water Polo: **1970**
- Baseball: **1973, 1974**
- Men's Cross Country: **1975, 1976**
- Men's Golf: **1975**
- Men's Outdoor Track and Field: **1976**
- Men's Swimming and Diving: **1970, 1971**
- Men's Tennis: **1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977**

Intercollegiate Yacht Racing Association

- Dinghy: **1972**
- Sloop: **1979**

10. **1975 – POSTAL CODE**

Campus assigned its own postal code as enrollment reaches 9,547 students.

11. **1975**

9,547 STUDENTS

8,453 ALUMNI

\$28 MILLION IN GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

12. **1976 – MEDICAL CENTER**

UCI purchased the Orange County Medical Center, located 12 miles from the Irvine campus, renaming it the UCI Medical Center.

UCI Medical Center dedication. Photographer unknown.

13. **1977 – FIRST FEMALE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR**

UCI became a member of NCAA Division I, and Linda Dempsay became the first female athletic director at a Division I institution.

Photographer unknown.

14. **1978 – MINORITY STUDENT REPRESENTATION**

UCI student enrollment diversified, with the highest minority student representation in the nation.

15. **1978 – IRVINE MEADOWS WEST**

Irvine Meadows West opened to address a student housing crisis, providing space for 80 vehicles in an RV park near the Social Science Farm. It remained open until 2003.

Photographer unknown.

16. **1980s**

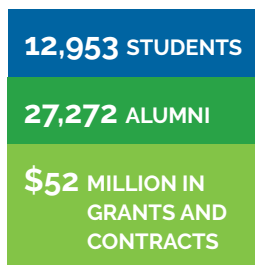
NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS	
NCAA	
	• Men's Water Polo: 1982, 1989
INTERCOLLEGIATE YACHT RACING ASSOCIATION	
	• Dinghy: 1988
	• Team Racing: 1988

17. **1983 – NATIONAL MEDAL OF SCIENCE IN PHYSICAL SCIENCES**

Frederick Reines, distinguished professor of physics and founding dean of the School of Physical Sciences, awarded the National Medal of Science by President Ronald Reagan for his discovery of the neutrino and contributions to fundamental physics.

Frederick Reines and mirror image of his guests. Photographer unknown.

18. **1985**



19. **1986 – SHAKESPEARE’S FIRST FOLIO**

Patrick Hanratty (PhD '77) donated a copy of the First Folio, the first compilation of Shakespeare’s plays published in 1623, to UC Irvine Libraries. Today, the First Folio is the most expensive piece of literature ever auctioned.

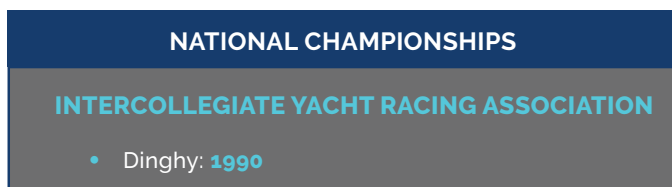
Patrick Hanratty with the First Folio, 1986. University Archives, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

20. **1987 – DONALD BREN EVENTS CENTER**

Donald Bren Events Center opened in January, becoming the home for UCI athletics, concerts, conventions, and commencement ceremonies.

Donald Bren Events Center groundbreaking ceremony. Photographer unknown.

21. **1990s**



22. **1991 – EARTH SYSTEM SCIENCE**

Department of Earth System Science (ESS) established, the first of its kind in the nation.

Earth System Science postdoc Melinda Nicewonger researches fire emissions using trace gases in polar ice cores. Image credit: Steve Zylius.

23. **1995**



24. **1995 – NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSICS**

UC Irvine Founding Dean of Physical Sciences Frederick Reines won the Nobel Prize for his discovery of the neutrino, which he called “the most tiny quantity of reality ever imagined by a human being.”

Frederick Reines, 1981. University Archives, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

25. **1995 – NOBEL PRIZE IN CHEMISTRY**

Professor of Chemistry F. Sherwood Rowland won the Nobel Prize for his work on how ozone forms and breaks down in the atmosphere. Along with UC Irvine graduate student Mario Molina, his 1973 discoveries led to the worldwide regulation of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and other ozone-depleting chemicals.

Image credit: Steve Zylius.

26. **1995 – ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES**

UC Irvine elected to the Association of American Universities, a prestigious invitation-only organization of the highest-level research institutions in North America.

27. **2000s**

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

NCAA

- Men's Volleyball: **2007, 2009**

Intercollegiate Yacht Racing Association

- Sloop: **2005**

28. **2003 – NATIONAL MEDAL OF SCIENCE IN BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

Distinguished Professor of Cognitive Sciences R. Duncan Luce received the National Medal of Science from President George W. Bush for his half-century of advances in economics, psychology, and sociology based on mathematical modeling of behavior.

Image credit: Photo Boutique.

29. **2004 – NOBEL PRIZE IN CHEMISTRY**

Irwin “Ernie” Rose, distinguished professor in the Department of Physiology and Biophysics, awarded the Nobel Prize for his discovery of ubiquitin-mediated protein degradation.

Photographer unknown.

30. **2005**

24,986 STUDENTS

85,000 ALUMNI

\$236 MILLION IN GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

31. **2004 – UC IRVINE SCHOOL OF LAW**

UC Irvine School of Law opened, the first public law school to open in California in 40 years. Its inaugural class of 2012 had a 90% pass rate for the California Bar Exam.

Image credit: Steve Zylius.

32. **2010s**



33. **2011 – FIRST LEED PLATINUM BUILDING**

Humanities Gateway completed, UC Irvine's first Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Platinum building. Today, the campus has 32 LEED Platinum and Gold buildings, which focus on human and environmental health.

Image credit: Steve Zylius.

34. **2012 – NEW SWAN SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL**

First New Swan Shakespeare Festival held in its outdoor Shakespearean theater.

Image credit: Steve Zylius.

35. **2014 – PRESIDENTIAL COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS**

President Barack Obama gave the commencement to more than 6,000 graduating students and 30,000 family members and friends at Angel Stadium.

Image credit: Steve Zylius.

36. **2014 – SUSTAINABILITY RANKINGS**

Sierra Magazine ranked UC Irvine no. 1 in the nation for sustainability and work on environmental issues. UC Irvine would go on to be ranked one of Sierra’s top 10 most sustainable colleges for eight years in a row.

Crew installing solar panels on Social Science Parking Structure. Image credit: Christopher Nugent.

37. **2015**



38. **2015 – BRILLIANT FUTURE CAMPAIGN**

UC Irvine launched Brilliant Future, the largest fundraising and alumni effort in Orange County’s history. The campaign reached its goals in January 2025, raising \$2 billion and engaging over 75,000 alumni, eight months ahead of schedule.

39. **2015 – ORANGE COUNTY & SOUTHEAST ASIAN ARCHIVE CENTER**

Orange County & Southeast Asian Archive Center (OC&SEAA) opened, becoming the home of the UC Irvine Libraries Southeast Asian Archive (SEAA) and Orange County Regional History Collection.

40. **2015 – NATIONAL HUMANITIES MEDAL**

Distinguished Professor of History and Chicano/Latino Studies Vicki Ruiz received the National Humanities Medal from President Barack Obama for her pioneering work sharing the stories and histories of twentieth-century Latinas.

Image credit: Steve Zylius.

41. **2016 – ESPORTS PROGRAM**

UC Irvine Esports Arena opened, and Esports program established, the first at a public university. Students in the program have won national championships and major tournaments while maintaining a graduation rate of 94%, a number unmatched in college esports.

Opening of the Esports Arena, with Marina Young-Meyers dressed as Crystal Maiden from the game Dota 2. Image credit: Steve Zylius.

42. **2016 – ASIAN AMERICAN AND NATIVE AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER–SERVING INSTITUTION**

UC Irvine named an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution (AANAPISI), meaning a minimum of one-tenth of its full-time undergraduate students identify as Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander.

Lunar New Year, 2020. Image credit: Steve Zylius.

43. **2017 – HISPANIC-SERVING INSTITUTION**

UCI named a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI), meaning a minimum of one-fourth of its full-time undergraduate students identify as Hispanic. UCI's Latinx Resource Center opened shortly after in 2021.

Ballet Folklórico dancers at Anteater Involvement Fair, 2016. Image credit: Steve Zylius.

44. **2020 – COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

Responding to the developing COVID-19 emergency, the main Irvine campus closed on March 19. Only a small number of residential students and essential staff and researchers remained on campus.

Image credit: Steve Zylius.

45. **2020 – BLACK LIVES MATTER PROTESTS**

Black Lives Matter demonstrators held a rally at the UCI Health Medical Center in Orange. Later in 2020, the UC Irvine Athletics' Anteater Voices for Change and UC Irvine's Black Thriving Initiative were developed.

Demonstrators kneel at Black Lives Matter rally, June 2020. School of Medicine LEAD-ABC Program Records, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

46. **2020 – ACADEMIC WORKERS STRIKE**

Academic workers held a six-week strike, the largest of its kind in US history. Striking workers, including graduate researchers, teaching assistants, and postdoctoral fellows, demanded higher salaries and more affordable housing.

Courtesy of New University. Image credit: Nina Liu.

47. **2023–2024**



48. **2024 – ZOTGPT CHAT**

ZotGPT Chat introduced, one of the first customized generative AI tools in the UC system. Developed for UCI affiliates, the tool allows users to explore AI in a secure environment.

49. **2024 – HEALTH ACQUISITIONS**

UCI Health acquired four hospitals and associated outpatient locations from Tenet Healthcare, adding nearly 860 inpatient beds.

UCI Health President and CEO Chad Lefteris speaking at ribbon-cutting ceremony at UCI Health — Fountain Valley, 2024. Image credit: Karen Tapia.

50. **2025 – UCI HEALTH — IRVINE MEDICAL CAMPUS FULLY OPEN**

Seven-story, 350,000-square-foot, acute care hospital and emergency department at the north end of the UC Irvine campus scheduled to be complete in 2025. The new 1.2-million-square-foot medical center campus, the nation’s first to be powered by an all-electric central utilities plant, is also the home of the Joe C. Wen & Family Center for Advanced Care and the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center and Ambulatory Care building.

Photographer unknown.

“UC Irvine is ahead of the curve... And I cannot wait to see what you do tomorrow.”

– President Barack Obama

STUDENT LIFE

51. **1965 – ANTEATER MASCOT**

In 1965, with a 56% majority of students' votes, the Anteater officially became UC Irvine's mascot, modeled after Johnny Hart's B.C. comic strip anteater character, and "Zot" the official "war-cry." UCI's administration desired a "respectable" mascot, but students were steadfast to elect a unique mascot that set Irvine apart.

Original anteater mascot illustration by Johnny Hart, c. 1965. UCI Collection on the Anteater Mascot and Other University Symbols, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

52. **1965 – ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE**

Founded in 1965, the undergraduate student government ASUCI provides student representation and puts on student programming like vendor fairs and the Summerlands and Aldrich Park After Dark concerts. Ron Ridgle, the only Black student enrolled when UCI opened, was elected ASUCI president in 1968 on a platform addressing student government finances.

Left to right: Daniel G. Aldrich, Robert C. Weaver, and Ron Ridgle at Charter Day celebration, 1969. University Archives, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

53. **1968 – NEW UNIVERSITY**

The UCI student newspaper, *New University*, was established in 1968. Originally a print newspaper, *New University* is now entirely online and shares everything from videos and comics to opinion pieces, sports, arts and entertainment, and campus news.

New University, vol. 07, no. 19, 1974. University Archives, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives

54. **1969 – KUCI FM**

UCI's student radio station KUCI FM was founded in 1969. Before its transition to a FM dial, it was broadcasted as an AM station from a UCI dorm in 1968.

Student DJ at KUCI College Radio Station, c. 1982–1986. University Archives, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

55. **1971 – WAYZGOOSE**

One of UCI's oldest traditions, the student-run Wayzgoose festival began in 1971. The festival adopted Renaissance Faire lore on the UCI grounds, and students dressed up in medieval gear and jousted.

Wayzgoose games, 1981. University Archives, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

56. **1973 – GREEK LIFE**

Greek Life at UCI started in 1973 with the formation of three sororities (Delta Gamma, Pi Beta Phi, and Gamma Phi Beta) and three fraternities (Beta Theta Pi, Sigma Chi, and Phi Delta Theta). Today, the Greek community has more than 1,400 students in 36 sororities and fraternities representing a wide range of ethnicities, cultures, and backgrounds.

Sigma Chi fraternity members on the Ring Mall, 2010. University Archives, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

57. **1974 – CROSS-CULTURAL CENTER**

The UCI Cross-Cultural Center (CCC), founded in October 1974, was the first multicultural center at a UC campus. Today, five student umbrella organizations continue to be recognized by the Cross-Cultural Center: Black Student Union (BSU), Alyansa ng mga Kababayan, American Indian Student Association (AISA), Asian Pacific Student Association (APSA), and Movimiento Estudiantil Chicanx de Aztlan (MEChA).

Cross-Cultural Center, c. 1974. University Archives, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

58. **1981 – UNIVERSITY CENTER**

The first UCI Student Center, opened in 1981 and originally named the University Center, housed a bookstore, restaurant, and a few common areas. With additions and expansions in 1982, 1990, and 2007, the center today hosts student events and conferences and houses ASUCI, the LGBT Resource Center, and the Veteran Services Center, among other student services.

Student Center, c. 1982. University Archives, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

58. **1990 – SHANTYTOWN**

In 1990, UCI students demanded changes to campus housing policies for domestic partnerships. On February 5, 150 demonstrators set up a “shantytown,” living inside cardboard boxes to draw attention to campus housing issues.

Shantytown protesters, 1990. University Archives, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

59. **1993 – ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES STRIKE**

Asian American students mounted a 35-day hunger strike in 1993, demanding the foundation of an Asian American studies program. Following the strike, an Asian American studies major was offered in 1997, and Asian American studies became a department in 2003.

Asian American studies protests, 1993. University Archives, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

60. **1995 – AFFIRMATIVE ACTION STRIKE**

On July 20, 1995, the UC Regents voted 15–10 to eliminate affirmative action. At UCI, protesters against the decision set up tents outside the administration building and organized hunger strikes. The students’ hunger strike eventually extended to the California State Capitol.

Los Angeles Times, Nov. 1, 1995.

61. **2000 – ANTEATER RECREATION CENTER**

The Anteater Recreation Center (ARC) was built in 2000 to enhance the campus community through recreational sports and fitness activities. Home to intramural sports, club sports, and classes, it is also the location of the annual Late Night at the ARC open house event.

Late Night at the ARC, 2015. Photographer unknown.

62. **2010 – Black Wednesday Protest**

During a Black Wednesday protest in 2010, UCI students lined up and linked arms, back-to-back near the entrance of the Student Center courtyard. The silent protest held by the Black Student Union (BSU) was part of UC-wide student efforts to raise awareness about police brutality, anti-Blackness, Black identity and visibility, and institutional support for Black students.

Image credit: Daniel Anderson.

63. **2010 – GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS**

In 2010, UCI students set their first Guinness World Record during Welcome Week for the largest game of dodgeball. Other records have included the world's largest pillow fight (2014), water gun fight (2013), and game of red light/green light (2022), to name a few.

Photographer unknown.

64. **2017 – BASIC NEEDS CENTER**

In 2017, the FRESH Basic Needs Hub, a product of student advocacy, opened on campus as one of the largest facilities of its kind on a US college campus. Renamed the UCI Basic Needs Center in 2023, the center supports students' financial stability by ensuring equitable access to basic needs, including food assistance, financial literacy, mental health services, and more.

Image credit: Steve Zylius.

65. **2018 – PETR THE ANTEATR**

The Petr the Anteatr sticker phenomenon was originally created by UCI student Qasim Shareh, who was initially anonymous and known as “Original Petr” on social media. Shareh created and released 13 designs through sticker “drops” between September 2018 and June 2019. Because he made Petr’s design open source, other students have continued to create new Community Petrs.

66. **2020 – STARSHIP ROBOTS**

Starship robots began delivering food and packages on campus in 2020. Initially launched to deliver to sequestered students during COVID-19 restrictions, the autonomous “Zot Bots” use satellite imagery, radar, ultrasonic sensors, and machine-learning technologies to detect obstacles.

Image credit: Steve Zylius.

67. **2024 – ENCAMPMENT FOR GAZA**

An encampment was created at UCI on April 29, 2024 on Ring Road near Croul Hall and Rowland Hall in support of Gaza during the ongoing Israel-Palestine conflict. On May 15, 2024, local law enforcement broke up the encampment and made a number of arrests.

Courtesy of New University. Image credit: Mohammad Samhouri.

UC IRVINE'S MASTER PLAN

DUE TO A PROJECTED GROWTH IN STATE POPULATION AND UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA ENROLLMENTS FOLLOWING WORLD WAR II, CALIFORNIA BEGAN EXPLORING SITES FOR A NEW UC CAMPUS IN THE LATE 1950s. From the 23 sites considered in the Los Angeles–Orange County area, portions of the Irvine Ranch were selected in 1960 for the new university because the site had, among other benefits, “desired nobility” and “great potential for development within a broad master plan framework.”

ON JANUARY 20, 1961, 1,000 ACRES LOCATED SEVERAL MILES NORTH OF NEWPORT BEACH were sold to the UC Regents for \$1 for the future site of UC Irvine. The 1963 land-use plan described the site as “gentle rolling land, with an inspiring outlook to the north and west over the Santa Ana Basin.”

68. **AERIAL VIEW OF FUTURE UCI CAMPUS SITE, NOV. 1959**

University Archives, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

69. **REGIONAL MAP OF FUTURE UCI CAMPUS SITE**

William L. Pereira and Associates Long Range Development Plan: University of California, Irvine, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives, Mar. 1963.

70. **FUTURE SITE OF UCI CAMPUS, NOV. 1964**

University Archives, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

UC IRVINE'S 1963 LONG RANGE DEVELOPMENT PLAN included areas for academic, housing, and commercial developments as well as landscaped and natural green spaces. The central campus's circular design – a central ring and six radial malls – was selected “as a response to the climate, soil conditions and site, and as a method of giving the campus a ‘heart’ and a strong sense of identity from its earliest years.” Several proposed park features never came to fruition, however, including a small lake and the Centrum, a 300-foot-tall freestanding bell tower.

71. **UC IRVINE CAMPUS WATERCOLOR, 1963**

University Archives, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

72. **CIRCULAR DESIGN OF CENTRAL CAMPUS**

William L. Pereira and Associates Long Range Development Plan: University of California, Irvine, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives, Mar. 1963.

ALDRICH PARK

ACCORDING TO UC IRVINE'S 1963 LAND-USE PLAN, THE IRVINE RANCH SITE DESIGNATED FOR THE CAMPUS CONSISTED OF ROLLING HILLS AND A "COMPLETE ABSENCE OF TREES." The former cattle ranch lands were covered in naturalized and native grasses with pockets of coastal sage scrub. To mirror the land's natural topography, the campus buildings were arranged around an urban forest located at the heart of the campus.

73. **WILLIAM L. PEREIRA AND ASSOCIATES PROJECT WORKBOOK, 1962**

The "Central Park Scheme" designed by architectural firm William L. Pereira and Associates was inspired by parks in European cities such as the Tivoli Gardens in Copenhagen.

University Archives, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

74. **CAMPUS PARK CONSTRUCTION, SEPT. 1965**

University Archives, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

75. **STUDENTS IN CAMPUS PARK, WITH THE COMMONS (NOW GATEWAY STUDY CENTER) AND LIBRARY-ADMINISTRATION BUILDING (NOW LANGSON LIBRARY) IN THE BACKGROUND, 1966**

University Archives, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

76. **AERIAL VIEW OF UC IRVINE AND CAMPUS PARK, 1968**

University Archives, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives.

77. **ALDRICH PARK**

The 16-acre Aldrich Park (named in 1984 after UCI's first chancellor, Daniel G. Aldrich) is today part of a campus-wide urban forest consisting of 30,000 trees.

Image credit: Steve Zylius.

SUSTAINABILITY AND CONSERVATION

Landscape Management

In 1996, the UCI Green and Gold Plan was adopted as part of the campus landscape management program. The plan outlines environmentally suitable, sustainable landscaping goals and objectives such as water conservation and replacing eucalyptus trees with native and drought-tolerant plants.

78. **EUCALYPTUS TREE REMOVAL IN ALDRICH PARK, 2021**

Image credit: Steve Zylius.

79. **ALOE GARDEN INSTALLATION IN ALDRICH PARK, 2021**

Image credit: Steve Zylius.

ENERGY-EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION AND CONSTRUCTION

Campus-wide efforts to minimize UCI's ecological footprint and conserve finite resources began in the 1960s. Efforts today include the student-run Anteater Express, which provides more than 2 million rides annually and was the nation's first campus shuttle service to transition to an all-electric fleet in 2018. UCI's built environment also includes 32 Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold and LEED Platinum certified buildings, which focus on human and environmental health.

80. **UCI HEALTH — IRVINE**

Scheduled to be completed in 2025, the medical campus will be the first in the nation to operate on an all-electric central utilities plant.

Image credit: Steve Zylius.

81. **HYDROGEN FUELING STATION**

Opened in 2007, the station was the first publicly accessible hydrogen refueling station in the nation.

Image credit: Paul Kennedy.

Protected Open Space

UC Irvine's earliest land-use plan set aside portions of the original 1,000 acres for permanent open spaces. Embedded within the urban Orange County landscape, two nature preserves are sites for ecology-focused, immersive education and research programs at UCI.

82. **SAN JOAQUIN MARSH RESERVE**

This 202-acre wetland habitat is home to dozens of animal and plant species. It is also a nesting site for 20 bird species and a critical stopping place for 100 migratory bird species.

Image credit: Daniel Anderson.

83. **CAMPUS OPEN SPACE NETWORK**

UCI Long Range Development Plan, 2007.

84. **UCI ECOLOGICAL PRESERVE**

After serving as Irvine Ranch grazing land for more than 100 years, the 60-acre preserve was established in 1989 to protect natural ecosystems. Conservation efforts focus on restoring native plants and associated wildlife.

Image credit: Steve Zylius.

COVID-19 AT UC IRVINE

LIFE AND LEARNING AT UCI WERE DEEPLY IMPACTED BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC. In response to the growing global crisis, UCI initiated a campus-wide shutdown on March 19, 2020. Except for a small number of residential students, essential researchers, and medical staff, the Irvine campus was cleared, and all events and athletics were canceled. At the same time, UCI Health operations ramped up to meet community needs. Near-normal Irvine campus operations would not resume until late September 2021.

85. **COVID-19 TESTING AND SCREENING WERE IMPLEMENTED IN SPRING 2020** for the remaining residential students and essential staff and researchers. Nearly 75,000 vaccine doses were administered by UCI Health at the Bren Events Center in 2021.

86. **PHYSICAL VACCINE SUPPLIES & BUTTONS.**

STUDENT EXPERIENCES

A COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE UC IRVINE LIBRARIES, SCHOOL OF SOCIAL ECOLOGY, AND BLUM CENTER COMPASSION IN ACTION PROGRAM, the Pandemic Histories Archive includes firsthand accounts of UCI student pandemic experiences through art, oral histories, and written reflections. Gathered between Fall 2020 and Winter 2022, the student submissions document their stressors during this time and reflections on anti-Black violence and anti-Asian hate crimes.

87. **PANDEMIC HISTORIES DIGITAL ART SERIES, BY BERENICE CORTEZ**

"MOM THE CAREGIVER"

"YES, I CAN?"

"COVID COST"

Berenice Cortez's art series explores the challenges her family experienced during the pandemic including navigating social distancing measures with an autistic sibling, parental caretaking, being a first-generation college student, and student debt.

Pandemic Histories Archive Collection, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives, Feb. 2022.

88. **"FALLING," FROM DIGITAL MINI ART BOOK BY HANNAH ILAGAN**

Hannah Ilagan tries to capture the common emotions, experiences, and thoughts people experienced throughout the pandemic. The artist's statement explains that when UCI "evacuated campus in March 2020, we – along with the rest of the world – found our plans derailed. And as distance learning continued, we have had time to reflect on ourselves, our goals, and our outlook on the world."

Pandemic Histories Archive Collection, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives, Spring 2021.

89. **CREATING DURING COVID: RECIPES AND REFLECTIONS..., BY RUBY NUÑEZ**

A digital zine created by Ruby Nuñez details significant milestones like turning 21 and voting for the first time in a presidential election, all while living under COVID-19 lockdown. These moments are captured while Nuñez shares recipes for her favorite dishes.

Pandemic Histories Archive Collection, UC Irvine Libraries Special Collections and Archives, Fall 2020