ACADEMIC MERIT
CONVOCATION
32 YEARS

May 21, 2018
7:00PM PROCESSIONAL (Audience stands for Processional)

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF PLATFORM PARTY
Dr. Richard Cardullo, Interim Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATION AWARDS

Chancellor’s Awards for Excellence in Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement
Christ Ordookhanian, Biochemistry
Folasade Ayodele, Theatre, Film, & Digital Production

These awards are given to graduating seniors who have distinguished themselves by conducting an outstanding research project or creative work.

Dean Loda Mae Davis Award
Ingris Aparcio-Rios, Sociology/Administrative Studies
Established in 1964 by the Prytanean Women’s Honor Society, this award is given in memory of UCR’s first Dean of Women. This award recognizes a graduating woman for her outstanding participation in extracurricular campus activities, leadership in campus organizations, and academic achievement.

Dean Thomas L. Broadbent Award
Jeremiah Gordon, History
Given in memory of UCR’s first Dean of Students and established in 1965 by the Associated Men Students, this award recognizes a graduating male student for his outstanding participation in extracurricular campus activities, leadership in campus organizations, and academic achievement.

Marguleas/Weiman Humanitarian of the Year Award
Audrey Lim, Neuroscience
Established in 1990 by Anthony Marguleas in honor of his grandparents, Joe and Belle Marguleas and Louis and Jessie Weiman, who dedicated their lives to the betterment of their community, this award recognizes a UCR undergraduate student who serves as a role model and inspiration to others.

Rosemary S.J. Schraer Awards
Samantha Byers, Biochemistry
Christ Ordookhanian, Biochemistry
Given in memory of Rosemary S.J. Schraer, UCR Chancellor, 1987-1992, this award recognizes the academic excellence of two outstanding graduating seniors in the College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences.

Marlan and Rosemary Bourns Awards
Karen Kong, Computer Science
Sandra Vadhin, Bioengineering
Given in honor of the continuing commitment of Marlan and Rosemary Bourns and Bourns, Inc., this award recognizes the academic excellence of two outstanding graduating seniors in the Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering.

Delta Sigma Pi Key Award
Cristina Liberal, Business Administration
The Delta Sigma Pi Key Award honors the graduating senior business student with the highest grade point average.

Tomás Rivera Awards
Maritza Salazar, Sociology
Kimberly Valladares, Political Science/Gender and Sexuality Studies
Given in memory of Tomás Rivera, UCR Chancellor 1979-1984, this award recognizes the academic excellence of two graduating seniors in the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences for outstanding academic and/or creative achievement and demonstrated commitment to community service.

UCR Alumni Association Commencement Award
Zachary Dunn, Chemical Engineering
Established in 1965 by the UCR Alumni Association this award includes a lifetime membership in the organization. It is given to a distinguished student leader who has devoted significant time and effort to community service projects and programs.
Public Policy Scholarship
The Public Policy Scholarship is awarded annually to undergraduate students majoring in Public Policy with a GPA of 3.5 or better, and who have taken PBPL 001. Additionally, preference is given to students who have completed an internship (PBPL 198i). For the 2017-2018 school year, a portion of the funds will go towards a student with an interest in international policy and/or the U.S. Foreign Service after graduation.

Western Municipal Water District
Charles D. Field Scholarship
This scholarship is awarded annually by the Dean of the School of Public Policy to continuing, transfer junior, or senior student from western Riverside County who maintained a 3.0 GPA or higher. It is the donor's preference that the students have an interest in pursuing public service.

PRESENTATION OF COLLEGE ACADEMIC AWARDS

Academic Excellence Awards
These awards recognize students, one from each undergraduate program, who are selected by their faculty for achieving excellence in their academics, and research or creative activity.

The Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering
Judah Almanzor
Christian Ardito
Oliveia Brandt
Zachary Dunn
Randy He
Hannah Keife
Wesley Poon
Ethan Valdez
Valerie Chacon
Adam Charron
Jorden Cohen
Chelsea Davenport
Mirella Deniz-Zaragoza
Abigail Farison
Samantha Fong
Elizabeth Gillette
Maurice Gonzales
Richard Guzman
Mina Hanin
Hannah Hochberg-Miller
Mortimer Howard
Joshua Hueth
Dustin Hutton
Chelsea Davenport
Abigail Farison
Samantha Fong
Mina Hanin
Hannah Hochberg-Miller
Mortimer Howard
Joshua Hueth
Dustin Hutton

College of Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences
Jacob Abrisz
Nika Altidor
Taylor Brown
Evelin Castro
Ryan Castro
Souradeep Bhattacharya

College of Natural & Agricultural Sciences
Carson Brown
Kevan Elkins
Renata Koontz
Sofia Martinez Alberga

College of Business
Samantha Cowles
Raunak Jain
Sungjoo Kim
Gerald Marquez
Valteri Salomaki
Navreet Thind

School of Public Policy
Samantha Fong

Outstanding Achievement Award
Selected by their respective college deans, this award recognizes students for their exemplary achievement in academics and research or creative activity, their breadth of involvement in the college, and for their commitment to service and citizenship.

The Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering
Souradeep Bhattacharya

College of Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences
Mina Hanin

College of Natural & Agricultural Sciences
Samantha Byers

School of Business
Karishma Gokhale
PRESENTATION OF PRESTIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS
These students are recognized for pursuing prestigious national and international award opportunities that require campus endorsement for consideration by the organization and mentorship from the Office of Undergraduate Education. Recipients of these awards represent candidates that excel in academics, scholarship, leadership, and service.

- **Barry Goldwater Scholarship**: Renata Koontz & Nicholas Pham
- **CORO**: Taylor Brown, Mina Hanin, Phong Hong, Allita Watkins
- **Donald A. Strauss Scholarship**: Andrew Eneim
- **Fulbright English Teaching Award, Germany**: Phong Hong
- **National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program**: Rosa McGuire, Shannon Sweitzer
- **National Physical Sciences Consortium Fellowship**: Shannon Sweitzer
- **Public Policy & International Affairs (PPIA) Summer Institute, UC Berkeley**: Muhammad “Omer” Sohail
- **Science, Mathematics, and Research for Transformation (SMART) Scholarship**: Shannon Sweitzer

AWARD DESCRIPTIONS:

**Barry Goldwater Scholarship**: Awarded to students who demonstrate outstanding research potential and intend to pursue research careers in mathematics, the natural sciences or engineering. Each scholarship covers eligible expenses for undergraduate tuition, fees, books, and room and board, up to a maximum of $7,500 annually.

**CORO**: Awarded to students with demonstrated leadership and commitment to public service. The fellowship trains students through placements in business, government, non-profit, labor and campaign sectors. Fellows learn from key influencers and thought leaders by working on projects that shape future agendas that meet the organization’s mission. Additionally, Fellows participate in group interviews with prominent city leaders and leadership seminars to learn how to critically examine and collaborate to address complex issues.

**Donald A. Strauss Scholarship**: Awarded to students who demonstrate a commitment to public service and education. Scholars are awarded $15,000 to start a public service project that is impactful and sustainable.

**Fulbright English Teaching Award**: Awarded to students who demonstrate a passion for mutual cultural understandings and teaching. The English Teaching Assistant (ETA) Programs place Fulbrighters in classrooms in over 140 countries abroad to provide assistance to the local English teachers. ETA’s help teach English language while serving as cultural ambassadors for the U.S. The age and academic level of the students varies by country, ranging from kindergarten to university level.

**National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program**: Awarded to students who demonstrate outstanding potential in academics and STEM research. Fellows benefit from a three-year annual stipend of $34,000 along with a $12,000 cost of education allowance for tuition and fees (paid to the institution), opportunities for international research and professional development, and the freedom to conduct their own research at any accredited U.S. institution of graduate education they choose.

**National Physical Sciences Consortium Fellowship**: Awarded to students who demonstrate outstanding potential in academics and STEM research. The NSPC is a partnership between government agencies and laboratories, industry, and higher education. NPSC’s goal is to increase the number of American citizens with graduate degrees in the physical sciences and related engineering fields, emphasizing recruitment of a diverse applicant pool. The fellowship provides an annual $20,000 expense allowance, bringing total funding to as much as $120,000, plus full tuition and required fees. Fellows may also participate in 1-2 paid summer internships.

**Public Policy & International Affairs (PPIA) Summer Institute**: An intensive seven-week summer program that focuses on preparing students for graduate programs in public and international affairs and careers as policy professionals, public administrators and other leadership roles in public service. Summer Institutes are hosted at Carnegie Mellon University, Princeton University, UC Berkeley, University of Michigan, and University of Minnesota.

**Science, Mathematics, and Research for Transformation (SMART) Scholarship**: Awarded to students who demonstrate outstanding potential in academics and STEM research. Winners of the Science, Mathematics and Research for Transformation (SMART) Scholarship receive full tuition and fees along with a stipend of $25,000 - $38,000, up to $1,200 for health insurance, up to $1,000 for books, a paid summer internship, and employment with the Department of Defense (DOD) upon graduation.
The Marlan and Rosemary Bourns College of Engineering

Peter Abdou
Sergey Alkorn
Judah Almanzor
Christian Arditto
Robert Arenas
Joshua Beto
Winson Bi
Amanda Cao
Marvin Cao
David Chen
Alexander Choi
Kennen Derenard
Zachary Dunn
Jose Flores
Jose Garcia-Torres
Alejandro Gonzalez
Brandon Gutzmann
Alex Haduong
Alon Halfon
Emanuel Halfon
Randy He
Karen Kong
Jasmine Kwong
Salud Lemus
Jack Maynard
Kevin Mills
Andrew Munoz
Ansh Nagpal
Steven Nguyen
Evan Oculam
Ryan Pan
Allen Partono
Nicholas Pham
Rebekah Pittman
Wesley Poon
Guthrie Price
Aaron Ramirez
Benjamin Rammelsberg
Joshua Recinos
Nicholas Roskopf
Gustavo Salazar
Elise Schaefer
Mabel Shehada
Raymond Smith
Damian Turner
Ethan Valdez
Zelai Wang
Chase Whitney
Brian Worth
Timothy Yadegar
Mary Ybanez
Noah Yim
Chad Younger
Jasmine Yu
Keith Zmudzinski

College of Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences

Emilie Abraham
Steven Amiri
Daniel Archuleta
Steven Arredondo
Jessica Bautista
Sarah Bazzy
Alexander Beecroft
Elyanne Bentley
Lili Berni
Karla Bonilla
Joelle Bova-Havers
Latasha Bridgemon
Alyssa Burbidge
Carolina Cabral
Evelin Castro
Valerie Chacon
Fangzhou Chen
Yu-Ting Cheng
Pollyanna Cheng
Lin Kherm Chia
Susan Chmiel Williams
Erik Cisneros
Jordan Cohen
Michael Collins
Kevin Connelly
Yema Conteh
Kayleigh Cousar
Christalana Danao
Sydney Deardorff
Thuy Do
Matthew Duffy
Alex Enriquez
Erin Eschbacher
Jennah Espino
Jiashu Fan
Abigail Farison
Jodi Felder
Sabrina Finke
Corinna Franco
Samantha French
Jessica Gallardo
Bailey Gandy
Zana Gant
Dalia Garcia
Richard Garcia
Elizabeth Gillette
Deja Goodwin
Levi Gonzalez
Jacqueline Grimaldo
Debora Handojo
Mina Hanin
Austin Hanks
Jinglin He
Haley Henson
Christian Hoffman
Dustin Hutton
Jason Huynh
Rebekah Keagy
Danielle Kennelly
Kyle Kester
Demi Kim
Julia Kim
Chrysalis Kim
Connor Kubota
Paige Kuster
Eli Labinger
Jiasi Lai
Wesley Leary
Grace Lee
Alice Lee
Riley Leight
Shayne Lindsey
Philip Liu
Brianna Lizzarraga
Gabriella Lopez
John Lowe
Sophia Lux-Archer
Karen Maestas
Ali Mahmood
Devin Main
Yushu Mao
Jan Maramot Rodil
Sarah Markiewicz
Stephanie Martinez
Andrew McCarrell
Guadalupe Mendoza
James Meza
Marisa Montoya
Laura Moran
Esmeralda Munoz
Crystal Ng
Alejandra Nuevo
Alan Olney
Karli Orona
Markalee Ortiz
Jannan Otto
Rewa Osman
Gloria Page
Rebecca Paplanus
Ian Peltz
Andrew Peppler
Benjamin Perez Gutierrez
Emily Pham
Sabrina Phung
Augustus Prouty
Laura Pontow
Rachel Quan
Isela Quijas
Sandhya Rayghan
Seth Rangone
Valeriy Ragoniza
Shyam Rajan
Nathan Ray
Joel Reyes
Mark Reynolds
Andres Riojas
Serena Rodholm
John Rodriguez

College of Natural & Agricultural Sciences

Omar Abbas
Christian Agatep
Shayan Ali
Jonathan Balisky
Teressa Benbarka
Vivek Bhatt
Steven Bishay
Journey Burbidge
Samantha Byers
Alvin Chan
Vanessa Byers
Anthony Cort
Miles Cutuli
Nathan Do
Leandra Doan
Sarah Estawani
Angela Gandara
Jason Garrido
Neima Ghandian  
Calvin Glisson  
Divine Grewal  
Arpita Gupta  
Tommy Ha  
Sumbul Haider  
Francesca Hall  
Michael Hanna  
Adam Haughey  
Madison Hernandez  
Bindi Hira  
Jason Hoang  
Brian Ibrahim  
Joseph Jacinto  
Sami Jelousi Zada  
Amrik Kang  
Alek Kettenburg  
Ryan Kim  
Hyemin Kim  
Duane Kim  
Christofer Lara  
Linh Le  
Maivy Le  
Abby Leung  
Erica Li  
Blake Lockard  
Matthew Luy  
Joshua Mahutga  
Wali Mansour  
Matthew McGinnis  
Trey McGonigle  
Rosa McGuire  
Karen Mina  
Victoria Morris  
Taylor Myhre  
Hannah Navarrete  
Isaac Ngo  
Brian Nguyen  
Leland Nguyen  
An-Phong Nguyen  
Taulima Nua  
Christian Olafsen  
James Pagett  
John Palacios  
Louis Penafiel  
Anser Qazi  
Michael Randall  
Matthew Roberts  
Michaela Sabbah  
Georgette Sabbah  
Patrick Samones  
Simran Sandhu  
Dennis Severs  
Katie Shavong  
Justin Singh  
Christina Stirwalt  
Karley Sullivan  
Joanna Sung  
Shannon Sweitzer  
Minhtri Ta  
Verena Tadros  
Matthew Tae  
Aliza Tan  
Tamera Taylor  
Amanda Tedesco  
Norbu Tenzing  
Adam Thomas  
Diana Torres  
Ngoc Tran  
Thai Tran  
Daniel Tsai  
Thomas Waddleton  
Tina Wang  
Andrew Whitaker  
Aaron Wong  
Mehruba Zaman  
Eduardo Zamora  

School of Business & Pre-Business CHASS students  
Cristina Liberal  
Hiranyajeet Singh  

School of Public Policy  
David Angel  
Samantha Fong

**Closing Remarks and Recessional**

*Audience remains seated during Recessional*

**Dean's Academic Distinction Award Pins**

![2015 Pin](Image) ![2016 Pin](Image) ![2017 Pin](Image) ![2018 Pin](Image) ![Senior Medallion](Image)

*The Seal of the University of California*

The University of California has used two different seals in its lifetime. The present seal, designed by Tiffany and Company in 1903 and put into use in 1910, incorporates symbolic icons and phrases that represent the portrait of the image of the University. The open book is symbolic of the accumulation and dissemination of knowledge; the letter "A" highlighted in the text of the book represents the beginning of wisdom. Above the book is a five-pointed star emanating rays of light, representing the discovery and sharing of knowledge. The English translation of the University motto, “Fiat Lux” or “Let There Be Light” is displayed upon a scroll, representing the coming of light and knowledge into the world.