Colloquium - \ka-ˈlō-kwē-əm\:
a meeting at which various speakers deliver addresses on a topic usually with a different topic each meeting

UC Merced Student Affairs Winter Colloquium 2018
Four Year Graduation Rates

Overall Four Year Graduation Rates are at a **Record High** of 44.6%

- Latinx: 43.4%
- White: 46.2%
- Asian: 47.7%
- Black: 49.4%
Graduation Rates are Not Only High – They’re Equitable!

We Continue to Graduate Students Above Expected Rates and with no Completion Gap

- Pell Students: 44.6%
- Non-Pell Students: 44.7%
- First Gen: 45.0%
- Non-First Gen: 43.9%
Six Year Graduation Rates
Public Four Year Institutions (NCES Data)

- Pell Grant Recipients
  - National Average: 38%
  - UC Merced: 61%
- First Gen
  - National Average: 44%
  - UC Merced: 62%
Anthony Tyler ran a school record 25:23 in the 8k and became the first Cross Country All-American in UC Merced history.
My Journey to UC Merced
Role Models

Livingston High School

CSU Stanislaus KCSS

University Ambassadors
Merced High School Gateway Scholars Class of 2017
Merced High School

52 seniors with 93% of the participating scholars being both first generation & low-income students

University of California:
- 34 Applied
- 30 Admitted
- 21 Enrolled
  - 17 at UC Merced!

California State University:
- 41 Applied
- 30 Admitted
- 18 Enrolled

California Community College:
- 11 Enrolled

96% (50 of 52) of Merced High Gateway Scholars participants went on to enroll in a higher education institution
Florencia Sabao-Schneider
UC Berkeley
Major: Molecular and Cell Biology

“I am so happy at UC Berkeley and have completely fallen in love with the Bay Area!”

Cory Luh
UC Merced
Major: Computer Science & Engineering

“I’ve learned what I don’t know and where I need to improve. My first semester has been a lot about learning where to start in being great at UCM.”

Mark Soza
UC Merced
Major: Management & Business Economics

“With the help of my mentors, I’ve learned to change my study habits and focus more on understanding the information rather than memorizing it.”

Elizabeth Rios-Perez
San Jose State
Major: Jazz

“College has changed my whole perspective about opportunities that are possible for me. As the oldest in my family I want to set a good example for my siblings. It’s not easy, but so worth it.”
An update on our Campus Expansion
How Will Urbanization Change the San Joaquin Valley?

Forecasters predict that the San Joaquin Valley’s population will grow from its current level of 3.5 million residents to 7.0 million over the next 40 years. What forms might that growth take? In “Urban Development Futures in the San Joaquin Valley,” Michael B. Teitz, Charles Dietzel, and William Fisher use a sophisticated computer model to sketch the scale, tempo, and location of that growth under several public policy scenarios. Their results, which include a series of color maps to illustrate the spread of urbanization, will help policymakers and the public to assess the implications of that growth and to consider a range of policy responses.

Envisioning the Valley’s Future

The authors consider four broad scenarios for urban growth in the San Joaquin Valley.

The Accommodating Urban Development scenario assumes that the underlying urbanization pattern of the last 60 years will continue for the next four decades. Under this scenario, urban areas grow faster than the population, and prime farmland diminishes considerably. By 2040, urban areas show major growth in the three northern counties, around Fresno, and around Bakersfield. U.S. 99 has almost continuous urban development, and there is considerable growth along Interstate 5.

The Prime Farmland Conservation scenario permits urbanization to continue following the historical pattern but prohibits urbanization of 5.2 million acres of prime farmland. It projects substantial urbanization and farmland loss, with urban densities held constant. Because of the location of prime farmland, development shifts to land in other categories. The regulation of development at this scale is unlikely, but the scenario reflects the widely felt concern for farmland preservation and illustrates likely results.

The High-Speed Rail scenario reflects the results of a proposed high-speed rail system that would connect the Bay Area and Sacramento to Los Angeles via the San Joaquin Valley. Under this scenario, urbanization would intensify within a 20-mile radius of the stations identified for the proposed rail network and decrease the probability of urbanization outside that radius.

The Automobile-Oriented Managed Growth scenario assumes that parts of Highway 99, a north-south highway on the eastern side of the Valley, would be built, that several east-west routes would be improved, and that the probability of new development would be greater along these transportation corridors and Interstate 5. Thus, it projects a future in which highway transportation improvements help shape urban growth. Like the High-Speed Rail scenario, it conveys high levels of urbanization and farmland loss (although in somewhat different places) and falling urban population densities.

Exploring the Policy Implications

The authors note that all four scenarios are speculative and that more is likely to provide a precise representation of the Valley’s future development. However, they illustrate the different forms that growth might take, highlight the choices that the Valley will likely have to make to ensure a prosperous and livable future, and provide useful comparisons and conclusions.

One conclusion is that urban growth will be significant in the San Joaquin Valley. Three of the four scenarios forecast the urbanization of at least one million acres by 2040—in essence, a tripling of the urban land area. Because most of that growth would occur along highways, the perception of urbanization may be even greater than its reality.

Second, the forecasts point to declining urban density in the San Joaquin Valley. This is not surprising given the nature of the Valley—a large plain of mostly private land with relatively low land prices. The urbanized parts projected by these scenarios consist of automobile-oriented, low-rise...
UC Merced
Development Plan Honored for Sustainability

The UC Merced Long-Range Development Plan (LRDP) was named the Outstanding Planning Document of 2009 by the Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP), a statewide organization focusing on environmental science, regulation and policy.

The LRDP is a guide for future land use patterns and the development of facilities, residence halls, roads, bicycle paths, open space and infrastructure on the UC Merced campus. The plan features a high-density, pedestrian-friendly layout covering 815 acres and serving 25,000 students at its final build-out in 30 years.

*From day one, UC Merced has been committed to becoming a leader in sustainability both in its curriculum and in its own physical development and...
UC Merced Downtown Campus Center
Ribbon Cutting: January 23rd

- Located at 18th and N Street across from City Hall in Downtown Merced
- Construction began in 2016
- 300 staff
This aerial view shows the scale of construction activity since work began in October 2016.
13 buildings are under construction
Construction and design is progressing rapidly on multiple tracks. Up to 400 construction workers are on site each day. Simultaneous construction of multiple buildings and infrastructure is underway.
The buildings have been wrapped in plastic so that construction can continue when it rains.
The first three buildings are scheduled to open this summer. Design work is also progressing for second and final deliveries.

Central Dining Facility
600-seats, 37,000 GSF
LEED Gold

55% of construction is complete

Housing 1A/3B
Four floors, 100,000 GSF
LEED Gold

53% of construction is complete

Housing 1B
6 floors, 164,000 GSF
LEED Gold

65% of construction is complete

Note: As of December 2017
Recreation field and pool construction began in December.
Fall 2020

60% increase in parking

Bellevue Parking Lot Fall 2020
Campus Expansion
Dining and Housing

Additional dining facility and 712 new beds in Fall 2018

Additional 1000 beds in Fall 2020
Dining Pavilion opens in 7 months

600 seats
Overlooks Little Lake
Dining Pavilion Main Room
Housing will add 712 beds in Fall 2018
New Housing will feature study lounges on every floor
Two additional housing buildings will open in Fall 2020
Chapter 1 - Discovery
Chapter 2 – Destiny

Atlanta 1996
Chapter 3 – Calling
REALIZING AND OWNING YOUR WORTH: A PATH TO ACHIEVING YOUR OWN IDEALS

"Every day I recognize what a precious privilege and gift it is to be alive, to breathe, to think, to enjoy, to love, and to empower. Recognize that there is something inside you that is greater than any obstacle, greater than even you may know or can comprehend. You have the power to ensure how your story ends. This is your life, your story, your book. Never let anyone else write your pages nor apologize for the edits you make."

Jonathan R. Grady, Ph.D.

1. KNOW THYSELF: DEFINE YOUR ETHOS AND BRAND.
2. FIND YOUR WHY.
3. IDENTIFY YOUR IDEAL FUNCTION(S) IN THIS WORLD.
4. DISCOVER THE MULTIPLE SKILL SETS NEEDED FOR YOUR IDEAL(S).
5. IDENTIFY YOUR AREAS OF STRENGTH.
6. IDENTIFY YOUR AREAS OF GROWTH.
7. ESTABLISH, SUSTAIN, AND GROW YOUR NETWORK.
8. CHALLENGE YOURSELF AND BE OPEN TO CHANGE.
9. KNOW WHEN TO LET GO, REINVENT YOURSELF, AND START ANEW.

LOVE YOURSELF. GIVE YOURSELF SOME GRACE.
The Office of the Associate Vice Chancellor and Dean of Students at the University of California, Merced is a unit under the Division of Student Affairs that holistically promotes student development and advocates for student success through intentional programs and initiatives, collaborative partnerships, and policy/procedural development that enhance campus climate and facilitates the successful navigation of campus life. Utilizing a social justice orientation rooted in community cultural wealth, criticalness, collaboration, accountability, and care, the Office of the Associate Vice Chancellor and Dean of Students is a central space for students, parents, staff, and faculty to receive assistance with navigating the complexity of student life. The Office of the Associate Vice Chancellor and Dean of Students supports the University’s mission and values while placing students first in all endeavors.

JONATHAN R. GRADY, PH.D.
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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, MERCED

YOUR ADVOCATE.
YOUR CONNECTOR.

"Working in education I have learned over the years to never let inhospitable and toxic circumstances destroy one’s soul, but to use education as a way to empower, transform, radically heal, and cultivate seeds of hope. I hope you all recognize that there is something inside you that is greater than any obstacle, greater than even you may know or comprehend. You all have the power to ensure how your story ends. Please understand that this is your life, your story, your book. Never let anyone else write your pages nor apologize for the edits you make."
My Journey to UC Merced
New General Education Program

• Effective for new (non-transfer) students in fall 2018
• General Education Implementation Team
• All the traditional elements of a campus wide GE program:
  • Freshman experience
  • Writing, math, language
  • Upper Division courses required
• Intellectual Experience Badges
• More information at ue.ucmerced.edu/ge
Intellectual Experience Badges

- a. Scientific Method
- b. Literary and Textual Analysis
- c. Media and Visual Analysis
- d. Quantitative and Numerical Analysis
- e. Societies and Cultures of the Past
- f. Diversity and Identity
- g. Global Awareness
- h. Sustainability
- i. Practical and Applied Knowledge
- j. Ethics
- k. Leadership, Community, and Engaging the World
GE Co-Curricular Intellectual Experience Badge Information Sessions

- Wednesday, January 17 from 3:00-4:00 in SSB 250
- Friday, January 26 from 2:00-3:00 in SSB 250
- Deadline to submit
How Did I Get Here?

- 1992 - Graduated high school
- 1993 - Dropped out of college
- 1997 - Began community college
- 2005 - Graduated from community college
- 2006 - Began working at UC Merced
- 2006 - Transferred to UC Merced as an undergraduate student
- 2009 - Graduated from UC Merced (BA, Cognitive Science)
- 2009 - Began Ph.d. program at UC Merced
- 2015 - Received Ph.d. in Cognitive & Information Sciences
- 2015 - Began teaching middle school & high school
- 2016 - Became a lecturer in Cognitive Science
- 2016 - Became the DARTS (Degree Attainment for Returning & Transfer Students) Program Coordinator!
I Had Help Along The Way

- Family
- Friends
- Colleagues
My Experience as a Transfer Student Transformed Me

- I learned how to make friends quickly & how to adjust to new cultures
- I had life experiences that matched many of my colleagues (Marriage & Family)
- I was became proficient at navigating bureaucratic systems - I attended five schools before UC Merced
Transfer Facts

• Nearly 1 in 3 UC students start at a community college

• Recent UCOP Presidential initiatives call for a streamlined flow of California Community College students to UC campuses

• To support this initiative UC campuses are required to admit 1 transfer student for every 2 native students
  • (UC Merced is currently exempt as our ratio is nearly 10:1 native to transfer students but we will not continue to be exempt)
Transfer Students Often Face Roadblocks that our Native Students Do Not

- Confusing transfer policies and agreements
- Vague knowledge on how courses are applied to degree
- Inconsistent access to information & appeals
- Lack of knowledge about comparable courses
- Undermatching (students from low-income or disadvantaged backgrounds who are academically talented but don’t apply)
- Extended time to degree
Transfer Students Benefit UC Merced!

• Add to the upper classmen population (think leadership!)
• Diversifies the student experience
• Bring a built-in peer mentoring component to our student population
• Creates a strong academic core
Successful students at UC Merced develop a passion and capacity for lifelong learning and for creating and sharing knowledge, consistent with our distinctive context as a public research university. We celebrate our location in California’s San Joaquin Valley, which provides unique opportunities to shape our communities and enable students to become engaged citizens.

We believe every student possesses a unique and valuable perspective that enriches and transforms our community.

At UC Merced, student success results from a collaboration and shared responsibility among students, faculty, staff, and administration. Because student success is at the heart of our planning and decision-making, we use robust and meaningful evidence to inform decisions about programs, policies and practices. Providing support, guidance and resources that equip students to pursue their educational journey creates the foundation for student success. Students achieve success by actively engaging in opportunities for growth in and out of the classroom. These experiences ensure that students have the tools to complete their academic, career and personal goals.
STUDENT SUCCESS

COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS

EQUITY & ACCESS

INTEGRATIVE & INNOVATIVE EXPERIENCES
“All organizations start with WHY, but only the great ones keep their WHY clear year after year.”

Simon Sinek
TO USE MY TALENTS IN A WAY THAT POSITIVELY IMPACTS HIGHER EDUCATION, SO AS TO INCREASE DEEPER LEARNING AND EDUCATIONAL GOAL ACCOMPLISHMENT
Thank you for all you do to support the success of our students!