2017 Highlights

Top Stories

CHANCELLOR MAY ARRIVES Gary S. May officially began his post as UC Davis’ seventh chancellor on Aug. 1. Along with conducting a listening tour and participating in numerous community events and media interviews, he shared his vision at an inspiring “Future Forward” event on Sept. 25 and initiated a strategic planning process called “To Boldly Go” on Oct. 10.

RECORD FUNDRAISING The university raised more than $250 million during the 2016-17 fiscal year, the largest donation total in a single fiscal year in our history.

ARCTIC CLOCK RUNNING FAST Researchers in the Department of Wildlife, Fish and Conservation Biology found that nature’s clock is speeding up in the Arctic, as some plants emerge and flower earlier and animals struggle to keep up.

BREAKOUT BASKETBALL After winning regular season championships, the men’s basketball team played in the NCAA tournament, and the women’s team advanced to the third round of the NIT, captivating the UC Davis community and millions of other college basketball fans.

KELP FOREST CANARY Researchers at the UC Davis Bodega Marine Lab found that bryozoans, coral-like animals that form colonies on kelp, are dissolving in ocean conditions created by climate change.

TEACHING CALIFORNIA The California Historical Society is working with our California History-Social Science Project to develop the state-funded Teaching California curriculum.

BEST OF THE BEST 2017 rankings for UC Davis included five top-five rankings: First in the world in veterinary science (QS World University Rankings), first in the world in agricultural economics and policy (Center for World University Rankings), first in the nation among top 100 producers of minority graduate degrees in biological and biomedical sciences (Diverse Issues in Higher Education), third among top U.S. colleges doing the most for low-income students (The New York Times College Access Index) and fourth most international public university in the nation (Times Higher Education).

DNA DISCOVERIES Professor Steve Kowalczykowski’s lab in the College of Biological Sciences was the first to watch individual steps in the replication of a single DNA molecule, yielding surprising findings with implications for biology and medicine.

DACA SUPPORT UC Davis students, faculty and administrators provided commentary in about 600 national and international media stories, and two op-eds, concerning President Trump’s decision to phase out the Obama administration’s Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.

COFFEE GENOME The first public genome sequence for Coffea arabica was released by researchers in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, providing crucial information for developing high-quality, disease-resistant coffee varieties that can adapt to climate change.

OLDEST KNOWN HUMANS Anthropologist Teresa Steele was part of a team that discovered human fossils in Morocco that push back the known origin of modern humans by 100,000 years.

EXCITING OPENINGS
The International Center celebrated its grand opening on April 21 with a standing-room-only crowd. The Center for Chicano and Latinx Academic Student Success opened on Sept. 27. Betty Irene Moore Hall, an innovative educational building at the School of Nursing, opened on October 13.

GROUNDBREAKING TREATMENT English bulldog puppies with spina bifida were the first patients to benefit from a new treatment developed by a team of our veterinary and human medicine experts, using a combination of stem cells and surgery.

COFFEE GENOME

EXCITING OPENINGS

BREAKOUT BASKETBALL

KELP FOREST CANARY
Go-getters, change makers, problem solvers

Founded in 1905, UC Davis is the most academically comprehensive university on the West Coast. We’re known for working across disciplines to solve the world’s most pressing problems and for our commitment to artistic and cultural expression.

What drives us

We empower a dynamic educational experience. We discover and innovate. We foster a diverse and inclusive community. We advance the condition of health. We nourish and feed the world. We protect and sustain the environment. We enrich life. We rank among the world’s best.

Distinctions in Brief

In 2015-16, 57 percent of our California resident undergraduates received enough aid to fully cover their base tuition and fees, and 47 percent of students awarded baccalaureate degrees did not take on student debt.

UC Davis graduates more California alumni than any other UC campus. One in every 204 Californians is a UC Davis alum. Recent alumni earn a median annual salary of $56,400, and experienced alumni earn $94,600.

UC Davis contributes more than $8.1 billion each year to the California economy (Economic & Planning Systems Inc. 2015)

Our students, faculty and staff volunteer more than 600,000 hours of community service per year.

UC Davis is highly ranked among the most diverse large national research universities by US News & World Report. Our community benefits from hundreds of programs and clubs that support diversity and inclusion.

In fall 2016, more than 44 percent of entering undergraduates at UC Davis were first-generation college students.

UC Davis Study Abroad students gain an international perspective in more than 40 countries each year.

The School of Law has the only “majority-minority” faculty of any leading American law school and offers community legal support in immigration, prison law, civil rights litigation and family protection.

The School of Education has prepared 7,700 teachers for California classrooms, and the Graduate School of Management has prepared 4,000 business leaders.

The College of Letters and Science is home to 14 members of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and 17 Guggenheim Fellows.

UC Davis Extension serves 58,000 students in all 50 states and 100 countries in more than 3,000 courses a year.

UC Davis Health serves a 33-county area and includes the region’s only Level I adult and pediatric trauma centers, National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer center, comprehensive full-service children’s hospital, transplant services, heart and vascular centers, institute for neurodevelopmental disorders, and a world-renowned telemedicine network.

By the Numbers: Research funding: $783 million in 2016–17 • Private support: $250 million in 2016–17 • Colleges/Schools: 4 colleges (Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, Biological Sciences, Engineering, Letters and Science); 6 professional schools (Education, Law, Management, Medicine, Nursing, Veterinary Medicine) • Student enrollment: 37,395 (fall 2016) • Faculty/academics: 4,200 • Staff: 15,300 • Student employees: 3,600 • Living alumni: 250,000 • Undergraduate majors: 104 • Graduate programs: 99 • Intercollegiate sports: 23 (14 women’s, 9 men’s) • Campus area: 5,300 acres

The Rankings

1st in the world for sustainability (GreenMetric World University Ranking)
1st in the world in veterinary science (QS World University Rankings)
1st in the world in agricultural economics and policy (Center for World University Rankings)
1st in the world in plant and animal programs (U.S. News & World Report)
1st in the nation and 2nd in the world in agriculture (QS World University Rankings; U.S. News & World Report)
1st among best value colleges for women in STEM (Forbes)
1st among top 100 producers of minority graduate degrees in biological and biomedical sciences (Diverse Issues in Higher Education)
3rd among top U.S. colleges doing the most for low-income students (New York Times College Access Index)
4th in the world in ecology and the environment (U.S. News & World Report)
4th most international public institution in the U.S. (Times Higher Education)
6th best public university in the nation (Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education)
7th among public universities and 27th among public and private universities (The Best Colleges’ Top 50 Colleges and Universities in America)
12th among public universities nationwide (U.S. News & World Report)
14th in research funding among U.S. ranked public universities (National Science Foundation)
One of 15 public four-year colleges with high graduation rates leading to high incomes (College Scorecard, U.S. Department of Education)
UC Davis Medical Center and UC Davis Children’s Hospital consistently rank among the nation’s top 50 hospitals (U.S. News & World Report)