

# WITH U • FOR U

## DFA Employee Newsletter



A message from  
Chief Financial Officer and  
Vice Chancellor Ronald S. Cortez

Dear DFA employees,

Thank you for attending the town hall meeting earlier this month. At the town hall, I discussed our goal of encouraging a culture of continuous learning and announced [a new learning webpage](#) for DFA employees (<http://www.fa.uci.edu/learning>). Each of you should have received a postcard through intercampus mail with additional information and a [survey link](#) to share your feedback. If you have not already, please visit the website to explore available resources. The survey deadline has been extended to Wednesday, November 27.

As a reminder, please take a moment to recognize and nominate your coworkers under [DFA's Employee Recognition Program](#)—anyone can nominate employees in the following categories: CARE, IDEA, SAFE, and TEAM.

A few changes in my leadership team occurred over the past couple of months, and I want to make sure you all are aware of them:

**Grace Crvarich** started on October 28, 2019 as assistant vice chancellor of Process Improvement, a new position created to assist in our efforts to support UCI's strategic plan with a special focus on financial frameworks. Grace has over 20 years of experience in higher education and comes to us from Kaiser Permanente School of Medicine (KPSOM) where she served as their senior director of Finance. Prior to Kaiser, she worked at UC Berkeley for eight years beginning as the director of Finance Planning & Budget and Contract Administration and leaving as their assistant vice chancellor & chief operating officer of Real Estate where she managed multiple strategic initiatives with the goal of improving business efficiency, cost-savings, staff right-sizing, and process simplification. Grace earned a bachelor's in business administration from CSU East Bay and a master's in business administration (MBA) from University of San Francisco.

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### Featured Events

**Now until November 27:**

[Be Visible Bike Light Giveaway](#)

**November 26-27 &**

**December 1-2:**

[Thanksgiving Holiday Shuttle](#)

**December 12-13 &**

**January 5-6:**

[Winter Holiday Shuttle](#)

**Now until December 18:**

[Public Safety Toy Drive](#)

**Now until December 20:**

Grace will have a key role in expanding our e-commerce purchasing system, JAGGAER, to a unified instance, which supports [UCOP's Supply Chain 500 \(SC500\) initiative](#). In order to support this effort, **Snehal Bhatt**, chief procurement officer, will report to Grace and **Hung Pham**, director of Trademarks and Strategic Contracts, will report to Snehal Bhatt. These changes leverage synergies in generating revenue and monetizing campus assets as well as managing revenue-generating service contracts and sponsorship agreements, all of which support the SC500 initiative.

Design and Construction Services is managing over \$1 billion in construction projects and will shortly embark on construction of a \$1 billion Medical Center for UCI. In order to maximize our collaboration as we move forward in these efforts, **Brian Pratt**, campus architect and assistant vice chancellor of Design and Construction Services will report to Rick Coulon, associate vice chancellor of Campus Operations. Brian will continue to serve as a DFA cabinet member.

In addition, **David Ott's** working title has changed to assistant vice chancellor of DFA Support Services, reflecting his increased portfolio. David's group is now working with and developing budgets for Enrollment Management and Athletics.

I appreciate the outstanding work and commitment of DFA. As the campus continues to rise in stature, embarking on an unprecedented building program and an aggressive \$2 billion Capital Campaign, and reaching all-time highs in research expenditures, we need to ensure we are organized to support the success of these efforts. I am confident DFA is advancing UCI's brilliant future and assisting the campus in achieving bold ideas.

As always, feel free to share your comments and suggestions by sending an email to [WithUForU@uci.edu](mailto:WithUForU@uci.edu).

With appreciation,

**Ronald S. Cortez, JD, MA**

Chief Financial Officer

Vice Chancellor, Division of Finance and Administration

### [DFA Balanced Scorecard Strategy](#)

*The Division of Finance and Administration (DFA) serves all UCI students, faculty, staff, and visitors. We are **With U • For U**—working alongside you, in support of you—as planning partners, problem solvers, and solution providers who maintain a safe and attractive physical environment and offer professional services and support.*

[Clash of the Cans](#)

**December 24 - January 1:**  
[Campus Closed](#)



**MISSION**  
Advance UCI's  
Brilliant Future

**VISION**  
World-Class  
Campus Partners

**VALUES**  
Health & Safety  
Integrity  
Teamwork  
Change & Innovation



**UCI UCPath**

UCPath is a new payroll system coming to UCI.

Find out what's new & how it affects you.

[ucpath.uci.edu](http://ucpath.uci.edu)

Modern, UC Systemwide, 24/7 Access.  
Coming January 2020

UCIMedical Center

The graphic features a yellow banner with the UCI UCPath logo, a blue box with descriptive text, and a yellow banner with the website URL. To the right is an illustration of a yellow airplane flying over a modern building labeled 'UCIMedical Center'. A white banner above the airplane states 'Modern, UC Systemwide, 24/7 Access. Coming January 2020'.

## UCPath - Your Pay. A New Way.

Starting in January 2020, UCI employees will get their pay a new way and go to a new online portal instead of AYSO to view pay statements, benefits, vacation, sick leave, Direct Deposit, and more.

UCPath is the University of California's new, systemwide payroll, benefits, human resources and academic personnel system. It will replace the 35-year old Payroll/Personnel System (PPS) at UCI in January 2020. Employees will go to UCPath Online via [ucpath.uci.edu](http://ucpath.uci.edu) for 24/7 access to pay and benefits information, with convenient self-service features for employees and managers.

For more information, visit [ucpath.uci.edu](http://ucpath.uci.edu), access UCPath [Roadshow information](#), or download the [With U • For U mobile app](#) to learn more.

*Article provided by UCPath*



## Biosafety Stewardship Event Recap

UCI Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) and EH&S Biosafety hosted multiple Biosafety and IBC Stewardship events in October to promote safety in biological research. The IBC, created under a mandate from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), ensures and facilitates safe research involving biological agents and materials. This 4-day educational event was held at the Biomedical Research Center, Health Sciences, Engineering Plaza, and at the School of Biological Sciences. Nearly 200 undergraduates, graduate students, research/general staff, and principal investigators participated in this function. Thank you to the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Industrial Hygiene, Fire Safety, Safety & Injury Prevention teams, and EH&S Coordinators for supporting this successful event.

*Article provided by Environmental Health & Safety*



### UCI Healthy Holiday Challenge

Don't wait for the New Year to start your healthy resolutions. Jumpstart your well-being this holiday season with the UCI Healthy Holiday Challenge! Set your own personal goals and practice habits that support a healthy lifestyle throughout the holiday season with your colleagues. Click [here](#) for more information.



### UCnetwork

Tips for maximizing UCI's generous benefits — including those you may not be aware of! Resources to support your professional development and career goals. Stories and profiles of UC's remarkable staff. Ways to stay healthy, on and off the job. Click [here](#) for more information.



## DFA Support Services: Business Services

DFA encompasses a diverse group of functions from Accounting & Fiscal Services to Design & Construction to Public Safety and more. In order to assist over 800 employees, the Business Services unit of DFA Support Services was established and serves as a centralized resource for the division.

The Business Services group, comprised of Business Operations and Integrated Business Systems, supports DFA in a variety of areas, most notably position management (staffing), payroll, recharge analysis, and security/systems access (SAMS/KSAMS). Business Services provides subject matter expertise on a wide array of items and also works very closely with DFA Support Services: Budget and Finance on various forecasting and reporting projects.

*Article provided by Business Services*



*Facilities Management's Custodial and Grounds employees enjoying a pizza party.*

## Sharing Best Practices: Transitioning to Day Cleaning

The Partnership for Performance (P4P) is a systemwide initiative to share custodial industry news, best practices among campuses, and promote networking opportunities. UCI's Custodial Services group presented earlier this month to share UCI's successful journey of transitioning custodial staff from night shifts to day shifts, with September 2019 marking the one year anniversary. UCI Custodial Services team shared how they made this transition and the beneficial outcomes which included 6% energy savings as well as positivity impacting employee engagement.

This change produced an improved work-life balance for custodial staff, and provided more opportunities to engage in campus events such as divisional town halls and staff appreciation events, as well as more personalized, and face-to-face interactions with faculty, students, and other staff members.

*Article provided by Facilities Management*



LEFT: Bike volunteer checks student's bike tire. RIGHT: Student boothing at the event.

## uciRIDEtoberfest Recap

UCI Transportation began the academic year by celebrating biking and sustainability at uciRIDEtoberfest. On October 15 and 16, the campus community participated in interactive bike demonstrations led by League Cycling Instructors, learned about local transit options, purchased bikes at the ReCycle Bike Fair, and so much more! Thank you for coming out and participating in our annual bike festival, uciRIDEtoberfest was a great success thanks to all of our department partnerships, BikeUCI Ambassadors volunteers, and community vendors. Click [here](#) to watch the video highlights; we look forward to seeing you at WhimCycle in April 2020!

*Article provided by Transportation & Distribution Services*



### The Year of the App

Download the **With U • For U** mobile app for easy to access services and resources on the go.

Share Your Mobile App Ideas  
[Submit Here!](#)

More information:  
[With U • For U Mobile App](#)



### UCI Named Platinum-Level Bicycle Friendly University

The League of American Bicyclists has honored UCI with a Platinum-level Bicycle Friendly University award in recognition of the university's achievements in promoting and enabling safe, accessible bicycling on campus. Visit [bike.uci.edu](http://bike.uci.edu) for more info.



Every day is an opportunity for colleagues and managers/supervisors to recognize the great work of our people in the following categories:

- **CARE** (Customer Appreciation Repeatedly Expressed)
- **IDEA** (Innovate Discover Encourage Achieve)
- **SAFE** (Safety Award For Excellence)
- **TEAM** (Together Everyone Achieves More)

Submit your online nomination in [English](#) or [Spanish](#).

## EMPLOYEE PROFILES



**Jeff Fransway**  
**Campus Roofer, Facilities Management**

I've worked at UCI for 5 years and have been in my current position for 3.5 years. I am the campus roofer, and I am responsible for containing roof leaks on campus, repairing the source of the leak, and keeping roofs and drains clean.

**How has UCI/department helped you in your career development?** They actually sent me to FM classes and I enjoyed the learning experience.

**What are 3 words to describe your department?** Helpful, courteous, and reliable.

**What piece of advice would you give to a new employee?** Do your assigned work orders and keep your customers happy.

**Favorite travel spot?** Texas, because my two daughters and grandkids live there.

**People would be surprised if they knew:** I was a certified auto mechanic.

**What is the weirdest thing you've ever eaten?** Once I left a soda on the roof and a bee went through the end of the straw, so I would say a bee.



**Andrea Knaub**

## Communications Lead, UCI UCPATH

I've worked at UCI and have been in my current position for 4 months. I lead digital, print, and collaborative communication efforts to inform UCI employees about UCPATH, the new UC systemwide payroll and HR system starting at UCI in January 2020.

**What aspect of your job do you enjoy the most?** Working with such talented, kind, collaborative and dedicated people who work hard every day to ensure a smooth transition to UCPATH for everyone.

**What are 3 words to describe your department?** High-speed train.

**What do you like most about UCI/department?** About UCI: The overall mission of research, education and public service that informs everything we do. About the UCI UCPATH department: the collaborative people, the meaningful work, and the chocolate in the conference rooms.

**Favorite travel spot?** Anywhere with water: an ocean, lake or river.

**Before your time at UCI, what was your most interesting or oddest job?** I worked as an extra in film and TV, including CSI, Gilmore Girls, and several pilots that didn't see the light of day.

**If you were stuck on an island, what three things would you bring?** Assuming I had food and water, I would bring books, a pen & paper, and my dog.



**Daniel Isenberg**  
**Executive Director, Real Estate Services**

I've worked at UCI and have been in my current position for 1 year and 3 months. I am responsible for the Real Estate Services department ("RES") that manages the acquisition and disposition of real estate for the campus and UCI Health enterprise including administrative offices, warehouses, laboratories, and medical clinics.

The RES mission incorporates the DFA mission of advancing UCI's brilliant future by delivering exceptional customer service in everything we do. Our vision is to be a world-class partner and provide subject matter expertise on real estate strategy and transaction management for the UCI Campus and UCI Medical Center.

**What aspect of your job do you enjoy the most?** Working with a diverse group of internal customers and helping them fulfill their space needs to help deliver the university mission.

**What are 3 words to describe your department?** Dynamic resource allocation.

**After a long day at work, what do you look forward to the most?** Dinner with my family and relaxing at home after walking Jax, our 5-year-old Golden Retriever.

**People would be surprised if they knew:** That I'm a huge hockey fan.

**Motto or Personal Mantra:** Dare to be true. Enjoy the journey.

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