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A Message from Dean L. Song Richardson

Law is at the center of all the pressing questions of our time, whether it involves artificial intelligence, healthcare, the environment, and everything else that impacts society. At the University of California, Irvine School of Law, we are driven to improve our local, national, and global communities by grappling with important issues as scholars, as practitioners, and as teachers who are preparing the next generation of leaders. We are committed to our values and will eclipse the unprecedented success of our first decade in our second.

Launched with a groundbreaking approach to law that was practical, experiential, public service oriented and global in perspective, UCI Law revolutionized legal education when it opened its doors in 2009. Our new school drew a nationally-ranked founding faculty and welcomed extraordinary students. Our vision was of a law school that would impact the world through its dedication to training passionate, talented and socially conscious students; generating expert knowledge on topics of importance to society; and providing free legal services to our communities. Our success is undeniable. We are already ranked No. 23 among U.S. law schools (No. 7 among public universities). Our programs are also highly ranked, including tax: No. 8 (the No. 1 graduate tax program on the West Coast and No. 5 nationwide), legal clinics: No. 7 (No. 3 among public universities), legal writing: No. 14, and intellectual property: No. 19. All in just 10 years.

Our revolutionary approach has produced diverse alumni, many who are the first in their families to practice law. In fact, we are known for training the “next generation of first generation lawyers.” Our graduates are among the most sought after legal professionals in the nation. Our success is proven: we are No. 8 in the nation in placing our students in prestigious federal court clerkships (No. 2 in California), No. 4 in practical training of students, No. 3 in community service, and listed as one of the best law schools for diversity. All in just 10 years.

Now, UCI Law is poised to tackle some of the most significant challenges facing the legal profession and society today. Our award-winning, interdisciplinary, and diverse faculty are up to the challenge. Ranked No. 12 in the nation for the impact of our scholarship, we will grapple with important issues, including the profound moral, ethical and legal questions raised by emerging technologies, family violence, the environment, health policy, tax, implicit bias, criminal justice, immigration, international human rights, and myriad other issues. We also continue to innovate our groundbreaking curriculum to ensure that our students are equipped with the skills to thrive in the profession, inform policy, and be leaders in our rapidly changing world.

Our unprecedented success will continue. Because we are unconstrained by decades – or centuries – of dated practices, we will capitalize on our freedom to break new ground. We are thoughtful risk-takers. We are willing to innovate and forge our own path.

Law is at the center of every critical issue facing our society today. UCI Law is making a difference. Please visit us at UCI Law and see what makes us an exciting, special and preeminent law school. Let’s go change the world together.

Warmly,

L. Song Richardson
Dean and Chancellor’s Professor of Law
Boldly Redefining Legal Education

Given a blank slate, our accomplished, nationally-ranked faculty designed a cutting-edge approach to legal education not found at other law schools. Law students everywhere must learn subject areas like constitutional law, contracts, civil/criminal procedure and torts. But at UCI Law, the differences are how the coursework is taught and what courses our students take. As artificial intelligence and other emerging technologies rapidly change the world and the modern practice of law, UCI Law continues to innovate our curriculum to address these critical issues.

- Average first-year section size (2017-18): 37
- Percentage of graduates who identify as students of color: 45%
- Percentage of students who will participate in UCI Law’s clinical program prior to graduation: 100%
Emerging Technologies and Artificial Intelligence

Society-changing technological developments are fundamentally challenging law, policy and ethics. UCI Law is rising to these challenges with a new vision of legal education that prepares tech-ready lawyers, promotes technology for good, and creates the practical legal and policy solutions that our world needs today. In addition to a wide array of specialized upper-division courses, the issues raised by new technologies are woven into all of our first-year courses preparing our students for the modern practice of law, in all legal practice areas.

Focus on Methods of Analysis

Unlike at other law schools, our first-year curriculum is structured according to the different methods of legal analysis, teaching students analytical skills that will be useful in a variety of doctrinal classes. In the Statutory Analysis class, for example, students examine statutes using criminal law to learn skills that translate well to other statute-based practice areas like tax law, labor law or intellectual property law.

Real World Client Advocacy

In addition to developing traditional research, writing and oral advocacy skills, all first-year students are required to conduct intake interviews at a local legal aid or public defender office. Thus, our students, under supervision, interact with real clients beginning in their first year of law school. First-year students are also encouraged to participate in UCI Law’s Pro Bono Program — one of the most robust among U.S. law schools — developing practical legal skills with real clients while providing much-needed assistance to underserved members of the community.

Distinctive Courses

We have designed a curriculum for the 21st century. For example, first-year students take both International Legal Analysis, a critical course in a world of increasing globalization, and Legal Profession, which introduces students to many aspects of the profession they are joining.

Practical Training Integrated into Traditional Study

Also different from other law schools, beginning in the first year the UCI Law curriculum integrates traditional doctrinal coursework with practical training, teaching current legal theory with skills-based practice exercises.

These differences are at the heart of UCI Law’s first-year experience. Here, students learn not just the subject matter of areas of law, but how to apply legal concepts and think like a practicing lawyer. This unique, hands-on approach prepares our students for legal practice at the highest levels of the profession.
Experiential Learning in the First Year

How do you prepare law students to apply what they learn in school to all of the challenges that will come after graduation? Start with real world experience.

In every year of law school, we want our students to have the opportunity to interact with real clients facing real challenges. Under close supervision, UCI Law students interact with clients right from the start, through an interviewing component of the Lawyering Skills course. The spring semester class schedule is structured so that all first-year students have time to interview real clients at a legal services office or through one of the school’s pro bono projects. Through this experience, students interact with real clients from the beginning of law school. When students are not conducting interviews, they often use the free block for pro bono work.

The first-year curriculum also includes Legal Profession, a course that gives students tools to resolve the legal and ethical issues that lawyers confront in a variety of practice settings. Students learn about the profession they are joining: its ethics, economics and sociology.
**Law Clinics**

What can you learn in a clinic that you can’t learn in a classroom? How to turn theory into practice.

At UCI Law, we consider the clinical experience essential to making our students practice-ready. Every one of our students completes at least one semester of clinical education. Students may choose from several core clinics in which they act as the primary legal representative for their clients.

In addition to a guaranteed placement in one of the core clinics, UCI Law offers elective clinics and advanced sections of the core clinics for second- and third-year students. For students whose career ambitions will be better served by completing the core clinic requirement in an alternative field placement, UCI Law provides opportunities to work under the supervision of an attorney with an outside nonprofit or governmental organization, such as a district attorney’s office or the IRS. Students in these alternative field placements, like students in our faculty-supervised core clinics, act as the primary legal representative of the organization or its clients.

**Core Clinics**

- **Appellate Litigation**
  Students gain experience in legal research, writing and oral advocacy through representing a client in an appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

- **Civil Rights**
  Students litigate cases involving a range of substantive issues under federal and California civil rights law.

- **Community & Economic Development**
  Students represent clients in transactional and litigation projects that concern affordable housing, non-profit and small business development, and policy initiatives designed to improve client communities.

- **Consumer Law Clinic**
  Students provide input to legislative and regulatory agencies on behalf of consumers, develop white papers, and investigate potential consumer protection claims for violations of California’s Unfair Competition Law and other unfair and deceptive business practices.

- **Criminal Justice**
  Students represent low-income individuals charged with misdemeanors in state criminal court. Additionally, students collaborate with community organizations to work toward broader reform of the criminal justice system.

- **Domestic Violence**
  Students assist domestic violence survivors in achieving self-sufficiency and freedom from assault.

- **Environmental Law**
  Students represent clients in litigation and non-litigation matters spanning a wide range of environmental and natural resources law issues.
Immigrant Rights
Students provide direct representation to individual and group clients on matters ranging from deportation defense and post-conviction advocacy to workers’ rights and affirmative civil rights litigation.

Intellectual Property, Arts, and Technology
Students advise and represent clients on a variety of matters dealing with copyright, patent, privacy and media law, among other areas.

International Justice
Students work with activists, lawyers, diplomats, scholars and NGOs at home and around the world to develop and implement strategies of accountability for human rights abuses.

Elective Clinics

Appellate Litigation Clinic for Veterans
Students represent U.S. military veterans, or next of kin, in appeals to the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, which has the exclusive jurisdiction to review decisions regarding veterans’ benefits claims.

Department of Fair Employment and Housing Civil Rights
Students handle matters for the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH), the nation’s largest state civil rights agency.

International Human Rights
Students advocate for the use of international human rights norms as a basis for relief within the U.S. legal system or to address human rights violations committed abroad by U.S. actors.

Reproductive Justice
Students draft legislation and work with legislators, policy makers and advocacy groups to promote and protect reproductive liberties, advance equality, and enact laws and regulations.

Startup and Small Business
Students work on a range of legal issues related to startups and small businesses, including business formation and ongoing operations.
Externships

UCI Law’s strong emphasis on experiential learning includes a robust externship program, which provides academic credit for students doing legal work in field placements locally, across the country, as well as internationally. In the field, externs learn how practicing lawyers and judges handle facts and law and integrate theory and skill in real time, facing the sometimes-tough choices and conditions that exist in legal careers. The program increases students’ understanding of the fundamental values of the legal profession, including a commitment to promoting access to justice and the ethical practice of law.

Our program encourages students to create their own placements with judges, nonprofits, and government agencies, building on and applying the knowledge they have gained in their substantive coursework. With part-time opportunities offered in every semester, including summer, and full-time opportunities available in the academic year, the externship program at UCI Law can support every student’s learning and career goals.

UCDC Law Program

Unique to the University of California, this collaborative, full-semester externship program in Washington, D.C., combines a weekly seminar-style course with a full-time field placement. Law students have an unparalleled opportunity to learn how federal statutes, regulations and policies are made, changed and understood in the nation’s capital. During four months of immersion in the theory and practice of Washington lawyering, students have contact with all three branches of the federal government, independent regulatory agencies and advocacy nonprofits.
OUTSTANDING FACULTY

Swethaa Ballakrishnen
Assistant Professor of Law

Mehrsa Baradaran
Professor of Law

Joshua D. Blank
Professor of Law

Dan L. Burk
Chancellor’s Professor of Law

Alejandro Camacho
Professor of Law; Political Science; Director, Center for Land, Environment and Natural Resources

Linda Cohen
Professor of Economics; Law

Rachel Croskery-Roberts
Professor of Lawyering Skills

Joseph F. C. DiMento
Distinguished Professor of Law; Planning, Policy and Design; Criminology, Law & Society; Business; Transportation Science

Victor Fleischer
Professor of Law

Bryant Garth
Professor of Law Emeritus

Jonathan Glater
Professor of Law

Michele Goodwin
Chancellor’s Professor of Law; Criminology, Law & Society; Program in Public Health; Gender & Sexuality Studies; Director, Center for Biotechnology and Global Health Policy
Elizabeth Loftus  
Distinguished Professor of Psychology and Social Behavior; Cognitive Sciences; Criminology, Law & Society; Law; Fellow, Center for the Neurobiology of Learning and Memory

Omri Marian  
Professor of Law; Academic Director, Graduate Tax Program

Carrie Menkel-Meadow  
Distinguished Professor of Law; Political Science

Alison Mikkor  
Assistant Professor of Lawyering Skills

David Min  
Assistant Professor of Law

Rachel Moran  
Distinguished Professor of Law

Alexandra Natapoff  
Chancellor's Professor of Law; Co-Director, Center in Law, Society and Culture

Katherine Porter  
Professor of Law, On leave serving as Congressmember in the U.S. House of Representatives

R. Anthony Reese  
Chancellor's Professor of Law

L. Song Richardson  
Dean and Chancellor's Professor of Law; Criminology, Law & Society

Michael Robinson-Dorn  
Clinical Professor of Law; Director, Environmental Law Clinic

Trilby Robinson-Dorn  
Professor of Lawyering Skills; Associate Dean for Lawyering Skills
Henry Weinstein
Professor of Lawyering Skills

Christopher A. Whytock
Vice Dean; Professor of Law; Political Science; Co-Director, Center in Law, Society and Culture

Jessica Wimer
Research Professor of Law; Associate Dean for the Law Library
In addition to our J.D. program, UCI Law offers two Master of Laws (LL.M.) degree programs.

**Master of Laws LL.M.**

The LL.M. degree program at the University of California, Irvine School of Law, started in 2017 and offers a one-year, full-time, 24-credit course of study in advanced legal topics, designed for lawyers trained outside of the United States. We have grown our enrollment from 11 students in the first year to 49 matriculating in fall 2019.

**Graduate Tax Program LL.M.**

Our inaugural Graduate Tax Program launched fall 2019 with nine students in our inaugural class. U.S. News & World Report ranks UCI Law’s tax law program No. 8 in the country. The TaxProf Blog ranked UCI Law’s Graduate Tax Program No. 1 on the West Coast and No. 5 nationwide.

The degree program instills students with the doctrinal depth and practical skills needed to practice tax law at the highest levels, in the United States or abroad.
Innovative and Comprehensive

Crafted by UCI Law’s world-class faculty, our curriculum carefully balances rigorous academics, practical knowledge and learning by doing.

FIRST-YEAR COURSES

First-year students learn how to apply legal concepts and think like a practicing lawyer in the following courses:

- Common Law Analysis: Contracts
- Common Law Analysis: Torts
- Constitutional Analysis
- International Legal Analysis
- Lawyering Skills I
- Lawyering Skills II
- Legal Profession
- Legal Research Practicum
- Procedural Analysis
- Statutory Analysis: Criminal Law
Second- and third-year students may choose from a diverse group of courses, seminars, clinics and field placements.*

**Business Law**
- Accounting for Lawyers
- Antitrust
- Banking Law
- Banking Regulation
- Bankruptcy & Consumer Law: Advanced Topics
- Bankruptcy Law
- Business Associations
- Business Litigation Advocacy
- Business Principles for Lawyers
- CEO Fellowship Program
- Complex Commercial Litigation
- Constitutional Law in Commercial Litigation
- Consumer Law
- Corporate Finance
- Corporate Governance
- Deals
- Financial Crisis
- Franchise Law
- Law Firm as Outside General Counsel
- Law of Sales
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Products Liability
- Securities Regulation
- Secured Transactions

**Clinics and Externships**
- Alternative Field Placement
- Appellate Litigation Clinic
- Appellate Litigation Clinic for Veterans
  - Advanced Appellate Litigation Clinic for Veterans
- Civil Rights Litigation Clinic
  - Advanced Civil Rights Litigation Clinic
- Community & Economic Development Clinic
  - Advanced Community & Economic Development Clinic
- Consumer Law Clinic
  - Advanced Consumer Law Clinic
- Criminal Justice Clinic
  - Advanced Criminal Justice Clinic
- Cyber Victims Defense Clinic
- Domestic Violence Clinic
  - Advanced Domestic Violence Clinic
- Environmental Law Clinic
  - Advanced Environmental Law Clinic
- Externships: Full-Time/Part-Time
- Fair Employment & Housing Clinic
  - Advanced Fair Employment & Housing Clinic
- Immigrant Rights Clinic
  - Advanced Immigrant Rights Clinic
- Intellectual Property, Arts & Technology Clinic
  - Advanced Intellectual Property, Arts & Technology Clinic
- International Human Rights Clinic
  - Advanced International Human Rights Clinic
- International Justice Clinic
  - Advanced International Justice Clinic
- Reproductive Justice Clinic
- Startup and Small Business Clinic
  - Advanced Startup and Small Business Clinic
- UCDC Law Externship Program

**Criminal Law**
- Adjudicative Criminal Procedure
- Advanced Criminal Procedure
- Advanced Topics in Criminal Justice
- Comparative Organized Crime
- Criminal Procedure
- Disparate LGBTIQ Criminalization & Incarceration
- Federal Criminal Law
- Federal Criminal Law: Manafort
- Federal Sentencing
- Juvenile Justice Practicum
- Memory & the Law
- Noncitizens in the Criminal Justice System
- Post-Conviction Justice
- Prosecutorial Integrity & Ethics

*Not all courses are offered every term.*
**Employment Law**
- Employment Discrimination
- Employment Law
- The Inclusion Rider and Other Strategies for Advancing Equity in the Workplace
- Workplace Law

**Environmental Law**
- Environmental Law
- Environmental Law: Natural Resources
- Environmental Law Practicum
- Land Use and Development Control Law
- Natural Resources Law

**Family Law**
- Community Property
- Family Law
- Legal & Social Responses to Domestic Violence

**General Courses**
- Administrative Law
- Animal Law: Litigation
- Biotechnology and the Law
- Constitutional Law: First Amendment
- Cannabis Law
- Criminology, Law & Society Graduate Student Workshop
- Evidence
- Federal Courts
- Introduction to CA Federal and Local Rules Filings
- Lawyers, Leadership & the Global Landscape
- Leadership & Management for Lawyers
- Legal Analysis of Evidence
- Legal Profession: Advanced Topics
- Products Liability
- Property
- Regulatory Design
- Remedies
- Statistics for Lawyers
- Wills & Trusts

**Intellectual Property / Entertainment Law**
- Advanced Patent Law
- Antitrust & Intellectual Property Rights
- Art Law
- Colloquium: AI & the Law
- Copyright Law
- Copyright Practicum
- Cross-Border Trade in IP
- Digital Copyright
- Entertainment Law
- Entertainment & Sports Law
- Intellectual Property Law
- Intellectual Property Practicum Using Case Studies
- Law & Business of Patent Licensing
- Patent Law
- Patent Law Litigation
- Privacy and Security in the Modern Age
- Technology, Law and the Public Interest: An Exploration through Film
- Television Dealmaking
- The AI Frontier: Disrupting Legal Services
- Trademark Law

**International and Comparative Law**
- Chinese Legal System
- Comparative Legal Traditions in a Globalized World
- Human Rights in the Digital Age
- International Business Transactions
- International Dispute Resolution
- International Economic Law
- International Environmental Law
- International Human Rights Law
- International Trade and Investment Law
- Legal Globalization

*Not all courses are offered every term.*
**Perspective Courses**
- Asian Americans & the Law
- Critical Identity Theory
- Feminist Jurisprudence
- Identity, Power, & Professional Responsibility
- Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Law
- Jurisprudence: The Canon of American Legal Thought
- Law and Behavior: Compliance and Enforcement
- Law and Popular Culture: How Films Shape our Image of the Law
- Law and Science of Sentencing and Punishment
- Law & Social Movements
- Law & Technology
- Law and Social Movements
- Professional Responsibility, Globalization, and the Legal Profession in the United States
- Racial Violence & the Law
- Sexual Orientation and the Law
- Science, Public Policy & Law
- Women & the Law

**Public Law**
- Community Scholars Program
- Constitutional Rights at the U.S. Border
- Creative Lawyering
- Education Law & Policy
- Election Law
- Federal Indian Law
- Food Law Survey
- Immigration Law & Policy
- Law & the Welfare State
- Legislation and Statutory Interpretation
- Litigation & the Current Administration
- National Security and Civil Liberties Seminar
- Public Interest Litigation
- So You Want to Change the Law? Mastering the Legislative and Congressional Process and Politics
- Supreme Court & Public Policy
- Supreme Court Practice and Strategic Litigation
- The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

**Skills Courses**
- Acting Like a Lawyer
- Advanced Legal Research
- Advanced Legal Writing: Business Drafting
- Advanced Litigation Writing
- Advanced Trial Skills and Advocacy
- Advanced Writing for Law Journals
- Applied Legal Writing
- CA Bar Writing: Ethical & Professional Responsibility
- California Motion Drafting & Procedure
- Criminal Trial Advocacy: Prosecution and Defense Perspectives
- Depositions
- Electronic Discovery
- Happiness and Peak Performance for Law Students
- International Dispute Resolution
- Jessup Moot Court
- Legal Analysis of Evidence
- Legal Analysis and Writing for Practice I & II
- Legal Spanish
- Litigation Theory: Fact & Narrative Development, Discovery, & Legal Framework
- Mediation Workshop & Seminar
- Negotiation
- Negotiation and Mediation
- Pretrial Advocacy
- Problem Solving, Decision Making & Professional Judgment
- The Art of Taking & Defending Depositions
- Trial Advocacy
- Trial Advocacy Workshop
- UCI Law Review
- UCI Law Review Executive Board
- Written Legal Analysis

*Not all courses are offered every term.*
Tax Law
Careers in Tax Workshop
Corporate Tax
Current Issues in Tax Law and Policy
Estate and Gift Tax
Federal Income Tax
In-House Tax Practice
International Tax

Partnership Taxation
Tax & Data Analytics Practicum
Tax Policy Colloquium
Tax Practice & Procedure
Taxation of Financial Instruments
The Law of Tax Exempt Organizations
U.S. International Taxation
We want our students to succeed, grow and enjoy their experience in law school. Whether in school or in the workplace, good lawyers know how to work together to get the best results. United in this belief, we strive to cultivate an environment in which students see one another as colleagues instead of competitors, and in which the faculty and the legal community can work closely with students to help them reach their fullest potential.

The following stories offer just a glimpse of how professors, administrators, staff, alumni and friends of UCI Law go out of their way to ensure every student has the resources they need to thrive — and to build a collegial, supportive community.

Rose Lyn

“UCI Law is unlike any other law school. The school has a family-like structure that you will not find anywhere else. At UCI Law, support comes from classmates, administrators, faculty, and the surrounding community. Everyone encourages innovative, cutting-edge ideas. If you have an idea, people will jump to the opportunity to help and support you. We laugh together, we celebrate each other’s achievements together, and we lift each other up frequently. Collegiality is truly weaved into the fabric of the school and I could not ask for more from a law school. Being a law student can be hard, but having a warm, loving community that cares for you makes it better!”
Shirley Diaz

“At UCI Law, I graduated prepared to practice because I learned not only by going to classes, but also by doing. By my third year, I had already worked a full year in a client-facing role, learning under attorney supervision. First, I spent my 2L spring semester in the UCI Criminal Justice Clinic representing clients in misdemeanor cases in Orange County, then I spent my 2L summer working at a firm. Lastly, I spent my 3L fall semester working full-time at the Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington, D.C. The combination of course work and practical training available at UCI Law is unparalleled.”

Chris Williams

“UCI was exactly what I needed when I came to law school, although I didn’t know it at the time. The best thing about UCI Law for me has been gaining people who I now consider to be family and lifelong friends. I couldn’t have imagined the opportunity and experiences I would have when I applied. So many times you hear horror stories about law school but when I reflect on my time, it was truly some of the best years of my life to date. Seeing incredible teachers and having great mentors ultimately solidified and pushed me towards wanting to pursue my Ph.D. I think I came to law school unsure of what I wanted to be but I left wanting to be just like the faculty who helped me through.”
Viridiana Chabolla

“UCI Law has given me a supportive, challenging, and stimulating environment to learn in. As a first-generation law student, I am grateful to be surrounded by such great faculty dedicated to training great lawyers. I also love that students here, regardless of their chosen career paths, are dedicated to greater access to the law through pro bono work, civic engagement, and community involvement.”

Fernando Nunez

“The best thing about UCI Law is that every semester provided me with a unique and diverse experience. One semester I was in Africa with the International Justice Clinic working on freedom of expression issues. The next semester I was shadowing the CEO of a local corporation as part of a pilot program. And other semesters I was traveling to Mexico and Mississippi to do pro bono work. This was all on top of the already rich educational experience available on campus! After having experienced so much at UCI, I left knowing exactly what I wanted to do with my career.”
Christopher Valentino

“During the admissions process, UCI Law instantly stood out for its accessible (and brilliant) faculty and commitment to experiential learning. UCI Law did not disappoint. After working in the Community and Economic Development Clinic for two years, I’ve discovered my passion for land use and real estate development which directly led to my post-graduate employment at Newmeyer & Dillion. Ultimately, UCI Law has exceeded my wildest expectations.”

Vanessa Gomez

“The road to law school was an extremely long one for me, but I am so glad that it led me to UCI Law. This school provided an incredible community that made attending law school as a first-generation student much easier. It also helped open doors for a future that I could never have imagined. I am so grateful to the administration and faculty for providing the resources that made these last three years so memorable. If I could do it all over again, I would choose UCI Law every time.”
Commitment to Public Service

Since we opened our doors to students in 2009, 90 percent of all UCI Law students have provided more than 90,000 hours of pro bono legal services for the poor and underserved — locally and beyond. Pro bono work is provided by UCI Law students in addition to their academic work.

Our students recognize that many people are unable to access the legal services they so desperately need. Our programs provide students the opportunity and training to better meet that need, and to use their legal education to improve society.
Pro Bono Program

UCI Law’s Pro Bono Program is a reflection of the school’s deep commitment to public service and experiential learning. The school encourages each student to participate by providing legal services to underserved communities and causes while supervised by an attorney or member of the Law School faculty.

The UCI Law Pro Bono Policy states an expectation that both students and faculty will regularly engage in public service work throughout their careers and encourages them to set yearly public service goals similar to those expected of practicing attorneys. By engaging in real-world projects, students have the opportunity to practice and expand legal skills learned in the classroom.

Collaborations with more than 20 law firms and dozens of legal services organizations over the past ten years have helped UCI Law to significantly increase services to low-income clients, while also helping to alleviate the caseloads of local legal services providers. Additionally, UCI Law serves vulnerable communities around the country, including a longtime partnership with the Mississippi Center for Justice. Since 2011, UCI Law has sent groups of law students on alternative break trips to assist clients in Biloxi, Jackson, and the Mississippi Delta with a range of issues including Hurricane Katrina and BP Oil Spill recovery, education policy, civil rights, debtor’s prison litigation, and criminal and consumer rights.

UCI Law students have directly parlayed their roles as pro bono project leaders into post-graduate paid positions. Meanwhile, UCI Law alumni in private practice have been extremely active pro bono volunteers, and many have joined the ranks of attorneys who supervise UCI Law student pro bono work.

UCI Law offers a myriad of pro bono projects designed to help the underserved, including:

- Domestic violence victims who need temporary restraining order declarations
- Homeless individuals seeking humane treatment, and safe and secure housing
- Job seekers who need a fresh start with an expungement
- Elderly and disabled residents seeking assistance with their Supplemental Security Income applications
- Veterans appealing denials of benefits for service-related injuries
- Inmates in local jails seeking humane treatment
- Immigrants and migrants, including children, seeking protection from persecution in their home country
- Those seeking to protect women’s reproductive rights
- Transgender individuals seeking help with name and gender marker changes as well as legal assistance with discrimination claims
- Communities seeking clean water and fighting against pollution
Financial Support for Public Service

UCI Law offers Public Service Scholarships to students interested in pursuing careers as public interest attorneys. Funded by private donations, these three-year awards are offered to incoming law students who have demonstrated exceptional dedication to public service and agree to dedicate their legal careers to working on behalf of underserved communities and causes. Public Service Scholars also benefit from specialized programming and mentoring.

UCI Law students may also qualify for the following public interest funding opportunities:

- The Public Interest Law Fund provides stipends for students doing summer work with public interest organizations and government agencies after their first and second years of law school.
- UCI Law has provided every qualifying student working in public interest with summer funding since 2010.
- Bridge to Practice funding supports select graduates pursuing careers in public defense or criminal prosecution by providing financial support while they volunteer in qualifying unpaid post-bar programs.
- Post-Graduate Public Service Fellowships support select recent graduates pursuing year-long volunteer placements at nonprofit organizations or government agencies.
- The Loan Repayment Assistance Program is one of the most robust in the country, helping law graduates who pursue public service careers repay their student loans for up to 10 years, including undergraduate loans.

Community Programs

Two UCI Law programs encourage students from underserved communities to pursue a career in law and ultimately give back to their communities as practicing attorneys.

Saturday Academy of Law (SAL)

Through SAL, a six-week program conducted Saturday mornings at UCI Law, ninth-graders from economically challenged communities have the unique opportunity to improve their reading, writing and critical thinking skills while learning more about law and the legal profession. More than 700 Santa Ana Unified School District students have completed the program since it launched in 2009; we recently added students from Garden Grove and Anaheim high schools. SAL classes are taught by credentialed teachers and supported by undergraduate teaching assistants, and UCI Law students teach a portion of the curriculum. The first SAL graduates started college in fall 2012. Since then a majority of SAL alumni have enrolled in four-year colleges and universities across the nation, including UC Irvine.

Pre-Law Outreach Program (POP)

POP runs in the summer and provides six Saturday lessons for undergraduate students from disadvantaged backgrounds who wish to attend law school. POP participants come from all over the United States; most are the first in their families to attend college. They receive information from UCI Law faculty and staff, judges, law students and practicing attorneys on how to prepare a competitive law school application and on how to succeed in law school once enrolled. Since 2010, POP has helped more than 300 college students better understand the law school admissions process, and has provided each with mentorship and guidance. A number of POP graduates are currently enrolled at UCI Law, and several are attending other law schools around the country.
My favorite pro bono moment was... helping students learn about freedom.

My favorite pro bono moment was... when my elder abuse client said I made a difficult situation easier.

My favorite pro bono moment was... rebalancing the scales of criminal justice.

My favorite pro bono moment was... working on a 5th Circuit appeal on behalf of a disabled student in Mississippi.

My favorite pro bono moment was... helping refugees get resettled.

My favorite pro bono moment was... building a trusting relationship with my U visa client.

My favorite pro bono moment was... when my veteran client got a job after his record was expunged! second chances!

My favorite pro bono moment was... training immigration officers on trans and queer sensitivity.

My favorite pro bono moment was... helping domestic violence survivors tell their stories.

My favorite pro bono moment was... finding creative arguments to preserve a woman's health.

My favorite pro bono moment was... helping a woman get from a temporary violence shelter to where she could obtain a protective order.
Collaborative Campus

UCI Law combines the best features of a small, collegial and supportive community with a large and renowned research institution. Our small class sizes enable students to have more individual time with faculty. Moreover, many faculty members from across campus hold joint appointments in the Law School, incorporating breakthrough multidisciplinary scholarship into the UCI Law curriculum.

Top University Rankings

- UCI is No. 1 in *Money* magazine’s Best Colleges rankings


- *Times Higher Education* ranked UCI No. 2 nationally and No. 9 internationally in its Golden Age University Rankings.

- *Forbes* named UCI the No. 3 Best Value College in 2018.
Thought Leaders

The Centers and Institutes at UCI Law focus in depth on some of the most important and difficult legal issues confronting the world. They are all interdisciplinary, bringing together UCI Law faculty and students with professors from across campus and throughout the globe.

We’re not just part of the conversation, we’re leading it.

- Center for Biotechnology and Global Health Policy (CBGHP)
- Center for Empirical Research on the Legal Profession (CERLP)
- Center on Globalization, Law, and Society (GLAS)
- Center for Land, Environment, and Natural Resources (CLEANR)
- Center on Law, Equality and Race (CLEAR)
- Civil Justice Research Initiative (CJRI)
- Competition, Antitrust Law, and Innovation Forum (CALIF)
- Initiative to End Family Violence (IEFV)
- Korea Law Center (KLC)
- Long US-China Institute
- Student Loan Law Initiative (SLLI)
- UCI Center for Legal Philosophy (CLP)
- UCI Center for the Study of Cannabis (CSC)
- UCI Center in Law, Society and Culture (CLSC)
- UCI Cybersecurity Policy & Research Institute (CPRI)
Framework for Success

The Career Development Office (CDO) at UCI Law supports our students in three critical areas:

**Job Search:** The legal profession comprises many areas of practice, each requiring distinct knowledge, skills and abilities. Throughout the academic year, we conduct panel discussions, brown bag lunches and workshops covering a broad range of topics, including job search basics, self-assessment, and information on accessing opportunities. Each student works individually with an attorney advisor to craft their strategic career path.

**Career Education and Professional Development:** The CDO educates students regarding legal employment opportunities with public interest organizations, government entities, law firms, corporate legal departments and other practice settings. The CDO also works closely with students to develop the professional skills necessary to enter the job market as competitive, practice-ready applicants.

**Recruiting and Networking Opportunities:** The CDO organizes on- and off-campus interview opportunities, panels and receptions with legal employers.

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- Percentage of graduates in full-time jobs that require bar passage, prefer a J.D. or pursuing an advanced degree within 10 months of graduation (class of 2018): **92%**
- **No. 2** in California for recent graduates in federal judicial clerkships and No. 8 in the nation
- **No. 27** in the nation for percentage of recent graduates in the largest 100 law firms
Launch Your Legal Career

UCI Law students have secured summer and post-graduate employment all over the world, including placements at law firms of all sizes, public interest and government agencies, and major corporations in such sectors as technology, entertainment and finance. Across the United States — including Alaska, California, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, Michigan, New Mexico, New York, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Washington, D.C. — federal and state judges have hired our students for post-graduate clerkships. In fact, UCI Law’s federal judicial clerkship placement rate is among the very best in the nation.

The following are just a few examples of the many employers who have worked with our students:

**LAW FIRMS**

- Cooley LLP
- Greenberg Traurig, LLP
- Hogan Lovells US LLP
- Irell & Manella LLP
- K&L Gates LLP
- Kirkland & Ellis LLP
- Latham & Watkins LLP
- Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP
- Morrison & Foerster LLP
- Munger Tolles & Olsen LLP
- Norton Rose Fullbright LLP
- O’Melveny & Myers LLP
- Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP
- Reed Smith LLP
- Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP
- White & Case LLP

**PUBLIC INTEREST AND NONPROFITS**

- American Civil Liberties Union
- American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations
- Anti-Defamation League
- California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.
- Federal Public Defender’s Office
- Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law
- Legal Aid Society – Employment Law Center
- Legal Aid Society of Orange County
- Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund
- National Lawyers’ Guild
- Public Advocates Inc.
- Public Counsel Law Center
- Public Law Center
- Wage Justice Center

**GOVERNMENT**

- California Attorney General’s Office
- California Department of Fair Employment and Housing
- District Attorney’s Offices
- Internal Revenue Service
- National Labor Relations Board
- Office of the County Counsel
- Securities and Exchange Commission
- State Water Resources Control Board
- Supreme Court of Argentina
- U.S. Attorney’s Office
- U.S. Department of Education
- U.S. Department of Justice
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Judge Advocate General Corps
- U.S. Mint
Become Part of the UCI Network

Our alumni are as diverse, vibrant and entrepreneurial as our school. But they all have some things in common, including a pioneering spirit and a passion to make the world a better place. Alumni connect with the Law School as mentors, participate in our community events, and continue to help shape the future of UCI Law. Their exceptional post-graduation professional opportunities include federal judicial clerkships, large law firm employment and public interest legal positions locally and nationally. Meet some of our outstanding alumni:

Kelly Lucinda Galligan ’15
Corporate Associate
Rutan & Tucker, LLP
Costa Mesa, California

“When I first began applying for and selecting a law school, many top schools appeared indistinguishable — quality faculty, competitive admissions standards, great job placement. It wasn’t until I visited UCI Law that I understood its true value: community. The UCI Law community is vibrant and central to the school’s mission. During my visit I observed students having coffee with faculty in the courtyard, collaborating in study rooms, and even coordinating their next intramural sports team. Seeing students enjoying the law school experience and making quality friendships made UCI Law an easy choice. Additionally, I was able to start building my network while in law school, which helped me secure my dream post-graduate position.”
Tyler A. Stutin '15  
Lieutenant  
U.S. Coast Guard Judge Advocate General  
Alameda, California

"UCI Law gave me a solid foundation in the law and allowed me to continue my service in the Coast Guard in a new role as a judge advocate. The UCI Law community also challenged me to consider the intersection of law and human dignity in varied and unique ways. Through classes, clinical work, mentoring and a judicial externship, my eyes were opened to the fact that the law is more than a job. This outlook helps me each day in my current role as a military defense attorney. A criminal charge is a serious and frightening life event. UCI Law gave me the tools to represent my clients, but also the ability to recognize their humanity. These are people enduring unimaginable stress, the complicated machinery of the judicial process, and the fear of the unknown."

Zeenat Hassan '13  
Staff Attorney  
AIDS Legal Referral Panel  
San Francisco, California

"The clinical courses I took at UCI have been invaluable. I was deeply interested in the cases I worked on, and I appreciated being able to supplement the hands-on training with coursework on theory and strategy. In practice, there is seldom time or opportunity to reflect deeply on the work we do. But having a solid clinical background allows me to analyze my work more deeply and ensure that I keep pushing myself further and further to be a better advocate for the public."
Denisha McKenzie ’12
Associate Attorney
Carothers DiSante & Freudenberger LLP
Irvine, California

“My UCI Law experience helped me to understand that no matter where your legal career takes you, it is important to use your unique skills to help people and communities in need. I am a labor and employment attorney, and I love what I do. By staying involved with nonprofit organizations, I have found ways to incorporate pro bono work in my legal practice — such as providing pro bono legal support to special needs children and other vulnerable populations. I also serve on the board of directors of the Family Support Network, a nonprofit that assists children with disabilities and their families to navigate the social services they need to improve their lives.”

Edgar Iván Aguilasocho ’12
Partner
Martinez Aguilasocho & Lynch, APLC
Bakersfield, California

“My firm devotes itself entirely to serving the needs of farmworkers, and as partner my role includes serving as labor and employment litigator, general counsel for a set of nonprofits and general administrator. Essentially my work requires me to be jack-of-all-trades, master of all. I need to be a litigation expert; the Immigrant Rights Clinic at UCI Law taught me that. I need to be a public policy expert; the academic courses at UCI Law taught me that. I need to be an expert in building new institutions; all things UCI Law taught me that. In fact, UCI Law faculty and students introduced me to all of the key people that led to the work I'm doing right now. Thanks to UCI Law, I am exactly the type of lawyer that I went to law school to become.”
David C. Bethea ’15
Associate
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
New York, New York

“One of the benefits of attending UCI Law is that everyone who decides to join the community is dedicated to making it excellent. This is what I immediately thought when I attended Admitted Students Weekend. Our faculty is extremely knowledgeable and includes many professors who are known as leading experts in their respective fields. And not only are they intelligent — they’re also approachable and dedicated to the success of their students. I left Admitted Students Weekend thinking: I don’t know yet what I want to do with my legal career, but when I figure it out, this school will be my best advocate and supporter.”

Cinthia Flores ’14
Legal and Policy Counsel
Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights
Los Angeles, California

“In my current role as project manager, I’m leading an effort to address the Central American unaccompanied minors humanitarian crisis. I also serve as co-chair of Latinas Lead California’s Young Professionals Network, and I was recently appointed by the Governor to the Health Professions Education Foundation board. As a future agent of social change, I believe UCI Law was the best law school for me to gain legal training with an emphasis on social justice. UCI Law represents the nexus of advocacy and learning by doing, and it provided me with the training necessary to be the best advocate I can be for low-wage workers and undocumented people.”
Christina Zabat-Fran ’12
Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary
St. John
Irvine, California

“With mentorship from UCI Law’s incredible faculty, I pursued a career path that allows me to support creative work and apply my passion for building strategic partnerships to the practice of law, leading intellectual property and business transactions in an international arena. Now, as corporate counsel for a global luxury apparel brand, I’m ‘in-house’ with my client every day, guiding the company on everything and anything they need, and I absolutely love it!”
Welcome to Our **Neighborhood**

UCI Law is located in the heart of Orange County, California — one hour from Los Angeles, one hour from San Diego, one hour from the snow and 10 minutes from the breathtaking beaches of Orange County that stretch along the 28-mile coastline.

Money Magazine ranked UCI the No. 1 college for beach lovers for good reason, citing the “...surfing at Huntington Beach, the boardwalk and pier at Newport Beach, peace and quiet at Corona del Mar, and the glamour of Laguna Beach.”
“Must see” places in the OC include:

- Angel Stadium of Anaheim
- Balboa Island
- Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve
- Bowers Museum
- Corona del Mar State Beach
- Crystal Cove
- Dana Point Harbor
- Disneyland
- Fullerton Arboretum
- Hiking and bike trails galore
- Honda Center: home to the Anaheim Ducks
- Huntington Beach Pier
- Knott’s Berry Farm
- Newport Beach Back Bay
- Orange County Great Park
- Pageant of the Masters in Laguna Beach
- Segerstrom Center for the Arts
- South Coast Repertory
Join Our Community

We invite you to visit us and experience the community that is #SoUCILaw. Schedule a visit to our campus, where you can receive a tour and sit in on a first-year class during the school year. We look forward to meeting you soon!

General Information

- **Application Fee:** FREE; fee waiver not necessary.
- **Application Opens:** September 1
- **Application Closes:** March 1
  You may submit your JD application prior to the receipt of your standardized test score; however, we will be unable to forward your application to our Admissions Committee until your score and LSAC CAS Report are received.
- **How to Apply:**
  Complete and submit your application using our secure online LSAC Electronic Application.

Application Requirements

- Receive a bachelor’s degree prior to the beginning of the Law School academic year from an accredited institution of higher education. (The accredited institution must be listed on the U.S. Department of Education’s database.)

- UCI Law requires a standardized test as part of the JD application and admission process. Applicants seeking admission for Fall 2020 may take either the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) or the Graduate Records Exam (GRE). For Fall 2020 admission, the last LSAT score accepted is from the April 2020 administration, and the GRE must be taken no later than May 1, 2020. Applicants must still submit their admission application by the March 1, 2020 deadline through LSAC. Please see the ‘Apply’ page on the UCI Law website for more information about the LSAT and GRE.

- Register with the Law School Admission Council’s Credential Assembly Service (CAS). *Applicants that will only submit a GRE score in lieu of an LSAT score are still required to subscribe to and utilize the CAS for the submission of transcripts and letters of recommendation.

- The following must be submitted by the published application deadline date:
  - Completed LSAC Electronic Application form
  - Official transcripts
    - All transcripts from post-secondary institutions should be submitted directly to LSAC.
Two letters of recommendation required (no more than three will be accepted)
- Must be on file with LSAC and be assigned to UC Irvine School of Law.
- Letters of recommendation from academic references are preferred; however, letters from professional references are acceptable.
- Personal Statement (500 word limit)
  - Please ensure the correct statement is submitted, as updates or revisions are not accepted.
- “Why UCI Law?” statement (500 word limit)
  - Please ensure the correct statement is submitted, as updates or revisions are not accepted.
- Current resume or CV
- Optional statements (diversity, LSAT and/or GPA addendum, etc.)
  - You may write about multiple topics, but the total word limit for all topics must not exceed 750.

Notifications
- Our office will notify all applicants by email when the application has been received and when the LSAC CAS report has been received.
- The Admissions Coordinator will email applicants for any missing components. Otherwise, the application will be marked complete and forwarded to our Committee for review.
- Please update our office of any changes to your email and/or mailing address.
- If you are registered for a future standardized test administration when you submit your application, your application will be held only if you are a first-time test taker.

Decisions
- Decisions will be available via LSAC’s Applicant Status Online system approximately eight to ten weeks after your application is deemed complete.
- The majority of applicants will receive notification by the end of April.

Foreign-Educated Applicants
- No English proficiency test requirements.
- Transcripts must be submitted through LSAC’s Credential Assembly Service.
Weather Forecast:
Sunny and Mediterranean climate year round!

UCI Law

San Francisco
Los Angeles
Orange County
San Diego