

UC IRVINE

UC IRVINE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES BY THE NUMBERS

37,000

Alumni from the School of Social Sciences (approximate)

4,523

Undergrad students last fall

370

Graduate students last fall

139

Faculty members

18.7

Percent of total student enrollment at UC Irvine in spring 2013

16

Research centers

15

Fields of study - anthropology, business economics, Chicano/Latino studies, demographic and social analysis, economics, international studies, mathematical behavioral sciences, philosophy, political science, psychology (cognitive science), public policy, quantitative economics, social policy and public service, social science, sociology

11

Bachelor's degree programs

10

Master's degree programs

8

Doctorate programs

7

Academic departments - anthropology, Chicano/Latino studies, cognitive sciences, economics, logic and philosophy of science, political science, sociology

33

Percent of bachelor's degrees awarded at UCI each year

Source: UC Irvine communications



JOSHUA SUDDOCK, ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

Bill Maurer was recently appointed dean of UC Irvine's School of Social Sciences, the largest academic unit on campus.

ALL ROADS LEAD FROM SOCIAL SCIENCES

The new dean of UC Irvine's largest school hopes to put it in the spotlight and promote more research by its students.

When students consider studying social sciences, career aspirations like social worker and sociologist often come to mind. But Bill Maurer, newly appointed dean for UC Irvine's School of Social Sciences, is an expert on money.

Maurer's expertise in money didn't stem from a desire to be wealthy. Instead, it was born out of a longing to understand people and the societies they create, he said.

As an anthropology grad student at Stanford University, he wrote his dissertation on tax haven economies in the British Virgin Islands. His research was the tipping point into a lifelong career spent studying the evolution of currency, economies and social constructs associated with wealth and finance.

Maurer believes the social sciences can provide endless possibilities for students with just about any interest, making it a popular choice at UC Irvine.

"Social Sciences is a huge shop," he said. "We have more undergrads than anyone else (at UC Irvine) and we really serve the campus and the community by training so many students in analytical skills, quantitative skills and writing skills."

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ANNA ILIFF REGISTER WRITER

TIMING TREATMENT

The severity of hair loss from radiation treatment is linked to the time of day treatment is administered, according to a study by UC Irvine, USC and Salk Institute. The findings, tested on mice, could play a significant role in radiation treatment protocols and may have implications for other side effects of cancer treatments, such as ulcers and a suppressed immune system. **PAGE 2**



First recipient of LGBT scholarship named

In law school, Jordan Aiken plans to focus on inclusion.

By ANNA ILIFF ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

First-year UC Irvine law student Jordan Aiken is the first recipient of the M. Katherine Baird Darmer Equality Scholarship.

The \$5,000 scholarship recognizes a law student affiliated with Orange County who shares the same vision as Darmer, a well-known advocate for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender equal rights. The former Chapman University professor died in 2012.

Aiken, who received her bache-

lor's degree from UC Berkeley, hopes to focus on issues of gay and lesbian inclusion and gender identity in the legal spectrum.

"I think people are making amazing strides in that field, but there is a lot more to do," Aiken said.

She was honored with the award in July at the annual anniversary party of the Orange County Lavender Bar Association.

"I'm just really grateful to have a community that is supporting me," Aiken said. "I feel really lucky to be a queer activist who is

emerging more professionally in the last few years and gets to reap the benefits of so many people's hard work and extreme dedication. ... We've come a long way."

Aiken was chosen by the association, the Orange County Equality Coalition and private donors based on her demonstrated commitment to advocate for LGBT equality.

Francine Lipman, a friend and former colleague of Darmer and a member of the Orange County

SEE EQUALITY • PAGE 3



MICHAEL LOPEZ, THE REGISTER UC Irvine's Jordan Aiken, recipient of the M. Katherine Baird Darmer Equality Scholarship.



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PHOTOS: JOSHUA SUDDOCK, ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

Bill Maurer has taught anthropology, law and criminology, and his research has delved into economics.

DEAN

FROM PAGE 1

The School of Social Sciences is the largest academic unit on campus, with more than 4,800 students and 37,000 alumni. Although UC Irvine often puts traditional science, technology, engineering and mathematics in the spotlight, Maurer said the School of Social Sciences serves as an all-encompassing umbrella for students interested in groundbreaking research and a variety of career paths.

"You're getting skills that are going to be practical and transferrable on the outside," said Maurer. "You're getting a good base that would serve you in any field. A lot of our students go into social services, education, law, government and on to grad school. There are a lot of different paths."

The U.S. Census Bureau reports that 57 percent of Americans who have a bachelor's degree in the social sciences were employed full time in 2011. That's a tad higher than the rate of full-time employment for bachelor's degree holders overall, which is 56.5 percent.

Social science degrees may not hold a clear-cut path to a particular career field, but students become versatile, well-rounded employees - and leaders, Maurer said.

Notable U.S. leaders with bachelor's degrees in social sciences include Martin Luther King Jr. (sociology), Ronald Reagan (economics and sociology) and Barack Obama (political science).

U.S. Census data also show that the earning potential of those with social science degrees varies widely based on their specific area of study and work, with financial managers earning an average of about \$3.5 million in their lifetime and social workers earning about \$1.7 million.

UC Irvine's School of Social Sciences was one of the original academic units at UC Irvine, designed to be an interdisciplinary school with free-flowing research projects that would link pro-



Maurer has a collection of rare and historical coins that includes a plastic representation of a Bitcoin, left, the world's newest form of currency, and an Athenian Tetradrachm that dates to 454-404 B.C.

grams together.

When the School of Social Sciences opened, departments were loosely structured. University officials like Daniel Aldrich, the university's first chancellor, wanted a social sciences school unlike any other in the country - one that allowed room for innovation and collaboration.

"The idea was that new interdisciplinary paradigms would emerge," said Maurer. "And they did to an extent. We still have that legacy of interdisciplinarity that connects us to all of the other schools on campus."

Today the School of Social Sciences has research ties to several others at the university, including computer science, business, humanities, and neurobiology and behavior.

Since accepting his first tenure-track teaching position at UC Irvine in 1996, Maurer has worked to further this legacy by serving as the director of collaborative research centers, including the Institute for Money, Technology and Financial Inclusion and the Intel Science and Technology Center for Social Computing.

The Institute for Money, Technology and Financial Inclusion is supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to research monetary practices in developing nations. A major project the institute has focused on is the use of mobile banking technology in impoverished countries.

The institute sends grad students and researchers all over the world to collect data on money and technology

UCI School of Social Sciences

- Founded in 1965 with a commitment to interdisciplinary research, education and service.
- UC Irvine's largest academic unit on campus with more than 4,800 students
- Ranked in the top 100 social sciences programs for the past three academic years by Times Higher Education World University Rankings
- Motto: "Invest, Innovate, Impact. School of Social Sciences: where I make a difference"

in hopes of developing a global community of scholars.

To date, the institute has received more than \$6 million in funding from corporate, government and private organizations.

The Intel Science and Technology Center for Social Computing is funded by a \$12.5 million grant from the Intel Corp. to research payment infrastructures and transactional record keeping in "big data." The center works in collaboration with several other universities, including New York University, Cornell University, Georgia Institute of Technology and Indiana University, to research how the phenomena of social computing has impacted the way people understand themselves and how it transforms a community.

Maurer has held a variety

of positions in his 17 years at UC Irvine and has received more than a dozen awards for his research and teaching. In 2007, he received UC Irvine's Professor of the Year Award for Social Sciences, and in 2011 he received the Lauds and Laurels Faculty Achievement Award from the UC Irvine Alumni Association.

In addition to teaching anthropology, law and criminology, he served as chair of the anthropology department for four years before being promoted to associate dean of research and graduate studies for Social Sciences in 2011.

Maurer's background in money came in handy as associate dean. During his administration he helped students secure more than \$2 million in research funding, more than the graduate program had ever seen since it was founded.

"Bill Maurer is an unusual talent, both as a scholar and as an administrator," said Barbara Doshier, outgoing dean of the School of Social Sciences. "I am thrilled that he will be bringing all these talents to the school."

"We haven't shouted from the rooftops," Maurer said. "We've just been doing our thing, but the program has just been getting more and more notice."

Maurer said he encourages grad students to apply for grants as often as possible and reminds them that rejection is sometimes more beneficial than receiving the award.

"I always tell grad students that the best experience you're ever going to have is being rejected by the National Science Foundation, because you're going to get pages of unvarnished, honest commentary on your work."

As the new dean, Maurer hopes to expand the presence of the School of Social Sciences at UC Irvine and further develop its reputation in the academic realm.

"I definitely want to make sure that we get the visibility and the recognition that we deserve," he said. "We're like the hidden gem here and I'd like it to not be that way."

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BRAVO!

PROFESSOR RECEIVES INTEL AWARD

UC Irvine assistant professor of informatics **Melissa Mazmanian** recently received an award of \$40,000



Mazmanian

as part of the 2013 Intel Early Career Faculty Honor Program. The award will support Mazmanian's academic research on the experience of communication technologies used in practice with organizational and personal contexts. Mazmanian has conducted ethnographic and qualitative research projects on individual experiences in regard to wireless communication.

STUDENT EARNS ALDRICH SCHOLARSHIP

Ivette Aragon, a political science and criminology major at UC Irvine, is the recipient of the 2013 Dan and Jean Aldrich Scholarship. The \$2,500 award recognizes

an outstanding junior and is based on merit, academic excellence, leadership, contribution to the campus and community service.

In 2011, Aragon received the Nicholas Aeberhard Memorial Award.

ART HISTORY STUDENT CURATES ARTWORK

Eli Heller, a senior UC Irvine student majoring in art history and literary journalism, was one of four students chosen for a summer internship at the Norton Museum of Art in West Palm Beach Fla. As an intern, Heller has helped curate art for an exhibit



Heller

titled "Little Boxes: Vernacular Architecture from the Collection." The exhibit is an eclectic collection of works that explores the way people, environments and necessities shape living spaces.

The exhibit runs through Oct. 17.

UCI ALUMNI NEWS



ROBERT ZALESKI PHOTOGRAPHY

UC Irvine alumna **Katie Ellis**, Opus Community Foundation executive director.

UC Irvine alumna makes community service her business

Many graduates of UC Irvine's MBA program establish themselves in the corporate world, but Katie Ellis (class of 2010) applied her business

skills in the nonprofit sector. She serves as Opus Community Foundation's executive director.

Since 2011, the foundation has given more than \$1 million to community nonprofit organizations in California and Washington.

The 31-year-old Newport Beach resident has always had a passion for community service. After finishing her bachelor's degree at UCLA, Ellis traveled the world and committed to community service work in Peru, where she worked with impoverished children and education programs.

"It gave me a new perspective on life. My volunteer experience taught me that we take for granted what we have available here," Ellis said. "There is so much more we can do for people. People generally have a desire to do well in life, and it's important to support and help them. It's a matter of asking yourself, 'What else can I do?'"

Ellis has started several programs since Opus Community Foundation's inception, including a holiday giving campaign, employee donation matching and Great Works, an organized volunteer program for Opus Bank employees.

"You get to see what other people are interested in and where they're putting their

own resources," Ellis said.

A popular event, Ellis said, is Junior Achievement, a day when employees volunteer to teach students about financial education.

Ellis said she has dedicated herself to community involvement and enjoys reaching out to underprivileged communities.

"My job is to learn the needs of various communities that we're in and then apply our funding as best as possible. We want to impact these organizations so they can better serve the people they work with. It's an amazing thing."

She is a member of the Orange County Funders Roundtable, the OC STEM Initiative and the Orange County Community Relations Council.

Some of the organizations in Orange County that have received grants from the Opus Community Foundation include The Wooden Floor, YMCA of Orange County, Orangewood Children's Foundation, Share Our Selves and Working Wardrobes.

Ellis was recently named one of OC Metro's "40 Under 40" for her leadership in the community. She credits her success to her family's support.

"As a young child, I learned to trust my gut and make my own decisions," Ellis said. "My dad always had me sit down with him, and if I had a plan, he would let me execute it because he knew I had thought it through, even if he didn't agree with it. My family has always supported me. I couldn't have asked for better mentors."

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EQUALITY

FROM PAGE 1

Equality Coalition, said Aiken is a "mover and shaker" in the LGBT community.

"She just rolls up her sleeves and gets things done," Lipman said. "That's what we need in Orange County. She's a doer and a problem solver. ... She does very much what Katherine was doing."

While working at a New Orleans women's homeless shelter, Aiken came across transgender women who were denied access to both men's and women's shelters in the area.

"That was something that really frustrated me because it was sort of blatantly highlighting the in-



MICHAEL LOPEZ, ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

Leslie Aiken, Mitch Aiken, Jordan Aiken, Harland Sipes and Judson Aiken pose in July at the Orange County Lavender Bar Association's third anniversary party.

equality that I was seeing and what could happen if you didn't have resources," Aiken said.

She spent years in New Orleans as an advocate for

nonconforming gender equality and took a job at the Louisiana Civil Justice Center, which sparked her interest in studying law.

As a law student at UC Ir-

vine, Aiken hopes to work with the School of Medicine to develop a program to help underserved transgender people obtain medical resources.