



## SUSTAINING MEMBER

# UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, RIVERSIDE

As a proud member of the world's most prestigious public university system, the University of California, Riverside (UCR), both embodies and empowers the California Dream. Right here in Inland Southern California, on our nearly 1,200-acre campus, tomorrow's leaders come together today, finding new ways of thinking, doing, and achieving to make a difference in an increasingly multicultural and interconnected global society.

At UCR, belonging, motivation, and sustainable progress for students, the region, and the world is real — and really important for our 26,000 students and 1,100 faculty — among them two Nobel Prize winners and 15 members of the National Academies of Science and Medicine. We're among the top 1.3% of universities worldwide, according to the Center for World University Rankings, and continue to be named the nation's leader among public universities for social mobility by U.S. News.

After years of consistently meeting or surpassing various standards and metrics employed by the American Association of Universities (AAU) to select its members, UCR has earned its long-awaited invitation to join the prestigious AAU. The association includes 71 universities comprising the top research universities in North America.

"We have demonstrated time and time again that we can be excellent in research, scholarly work, and creative activities, and at the same time be diverse, inclusive and promote social mobility, while engaging with our community and contributing to the health and economic development of our region.," said Rodolfo Torres, Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development.

We take pride in UCR's reputation for facilitating transformative change for a predominantly first-generation student body. Equally, we commend our students for leveraging their education to uplift the economic well-being of their families and communities. Notably, we hold distinctions as a Minority Serving Institution (MSI), encompassing designations as a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) and an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution (AANAPISI).

Our research and innovation enterprise are key drivers for the economy of California's fastest-growing region, Inland Southern California. UCR is now preparing for ambitious new levels of innovation and economic prosperity. The OASIS initiative (Opportunities to Advance Sustainability, Innovation, and Social Inclusion) includes both programmatic and physical infrastructure plans, including the construction of a cleantech park, serving as a place for research, startup innovation, and industry collaboration. OASIS has received more than \$62 million in county, state, and federal funding, and strong support from local and regional partners.

UCR is working closely with our partners to develop, attract, and commercialize innovation in the Inland Southern California region, throughout our state, and beyond. Our ExCITE incubator in downtown, created in partnership with the City and County of Riverside, currently holds 30 regional companies and we have graduated 4 startups. Our LEED Platinum certified Multidisciplinary Research Building houses our Life Sciences Incubator that hosts 10 companies in the life sciences, agricultural, biotechnology, and medical fields. And, through EPIC SBDC (the Entrepreneurial Proof of Concept and Innovation Center and Small Business Development Center) we provide individualized support to early-stage tech entrepreneurs and companies to grow their businesses. To date, the



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center has supported 326 small businesses and startups, provided over 11,000 hours of expert mentorship, trained over 600 entrepreneurs, raised more than \$70 million in capital, and created over 500 jobs.

According to an economic study sponsored by UC Office of the President, UCR delivers an estimated economic impact of \$2B and more than 20,000 jobs in the Inland Southern California region alone. The university generates about \$200M per year in research expenditures with \$5M–\$7M in industry contracts per year. Since 2016, UCR has received over 500 invention disclosures, filed over 650 provisional and non-provisional patent applications, and granted over 175 issued patents by the USPTO. These technology commercialization activities led to the creation of 13 startups with licensed UCR IP and receipt of over \$55 million in royalty income. A substantial portion of the royalty comes from UCR's seedless mandarin variety named 'Tango' which is grown and sold in the U.S and around the world.

The Luna UCR™, a new avocado cultivar developed by UCR agricultural scientists after more than fifty years of effort, is set to enter the global market. This avocado cultivar, also known as 'BL516', boasts excellent flavor, a distinctive black rind when ripe, and impressive postharvest quality, offering advantages to both consumers and growers. The cultivar is protected by a pending US plant patent.

In April 2023, UCR launched the Inland Empire (IE) Chapter of NAI as a mechanism to bring the community together to recognize and honor local inventors, researchers, and innovators in Inland Southern California that help promote and foster the spirit of innovation within our region, to facilitate local collaboration and networking, and mentor students and future inventors.