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A billion ways to **Shape the Future**

CAMPUS LAUNCHES COMPREHENSIVE CAMPAIGN TO RAISE \$1 BILLION BY 2015





Top hand surgeon joins UC Irvine

One of the nation's most acclaimed hand surgeons has joined UC Irvine to start the Center for Hand and Upper Extremity Surgery.

Dr. Neil Jones comes to UCI from the renowned UCLA Hand Center

where he was director for 15 years. He serves as an orthopedic surgery professor with a second affiliation with Children's Hospital of Orange County.

The center will provide comprehensive diagnosis, surgical treatment and

rehabilitation for patients with fractures and nerve and tendon injuries involving the hand, wrist, elbow and shoulder, as well as chronic problems such as carpal tunnel syndrome and arthritis.

Jones' research has focused on limb transplantation and nerve transplantation, areas that may lead to improved techniques for reconstruction of severe upper-extremity injuries. He has been recognized in the "Best Doctors in America" since 1992 and is president of the American Society for Reconstructive Microsurgery.

Institute explores "m-banking"

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation awarded UC Irvine a \$1.7 million grant to create a research institute focused on the growing use of mobile technology in providing banking and financial services to people in developing countries.

The Institute for Money, Technology and Financial Inclusion is the first to explore how the world's poorest people spend, store and save money. The institute will study how these habits are affected by the emerging mobile banking

industry, known as "m-banking," which could make financial services and the security they provide available to millions of poor people for the first time.

It also funds research in developing countries, hosts conferences and provides scholarships to those who conduct such research.

UCI anthropologist Bill Maurer is the institute's founding director. The Institute for Money, Technology and Financial Inclusion is housed in UCI's School of Social Sciences where Maurer chairs the anthropology department.

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UC Irvine's first employee, L.E. Cox, passes away at 94

Lavonne Edwin Cox, better known as L.E. Cox, was the first vice chancellor of business and finance. His job: To oversee the \$30 million

campus construction. Cox died in August from complications of a fall.

"He was very proud of being the first employee at UC Irvine," said his son,

Allan Cox.

Cox, who had helped build 24 air bases for the Army Corps of Engineers, arrived at the future site of UCI in

1961 driving a station wagon stuffed with office supplies. He set up his desk in a second-floor bedroom of the Irvine Ranch house, which was located across Irvine Boulevard from The Irvine Company's agricultural headquarters. The family home became an eclectic mix of its cowboy past and its high-tech future.

"The bunkhouse lunches were almost an institution," said Raymond Watson, vice

president of The Irvine Company at the time, who worked downstairs from Cox. "Everyone wanted to be there. Nixon came by, and Ford... There were lots of ranch hands, but only 10 of us working on the planning side."

Cox continued to oversee building, landscaping and other facilities projects until his retirement in 1978. He is survived by his wife, Edna; sons Allan and Stephen; and four grandchildren.

Student housing to combine amenities, green features

Construction has begun on a \$221 million student housing project that combines desirable amenities with many green features and will allow UC Irvine to lead the University of California system in the percentage of student population housed on campus.

In addition, the project will enable UCI to move closer to its 50 percent on-campus housing goal.

The community will optimize energy and water efficiencies and is situated on campus to promote the use of public transportation, bicycles and walking. Additionally, it will reduce light pollution, waste water and construction waste, and utilize regional materials.

At move-in, students can expect fluorescent lighting, low-flow plumbing fixtures, tankless water heaters, and drought-tolerant landscaping irrigated with reclaimed water. The project will be a part of UCI's green building education program that includes

sustainable curriculum and building tours.

Ovarian cancer drug trial reveals promising new treatment

Women with recurrent ovarian cancer can be helped by an experimental therapy using a drug already touted for its ability to fight other cancers, a finding that provides hope for improved treatment of this deadly disease.

Dr. Bradley Monk, a UC Irvine gynecologic oncologist who led the worldwide phase III clinical trial, said trabectedin is the most recent addition to a short list of active drug therapies for recurrent ovarian cancer. "These are exciting results because positive trials in recurrent ovarian cancer are rare and have almost always led to federally approved treatments," said Monk, an associate professor who studies and treats ovarian cancers at the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center at UC Irvine. "This treatment undoubtedly will be evaluated carefully by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and, if approved, will give women with ovarian cancer another much needed

option."

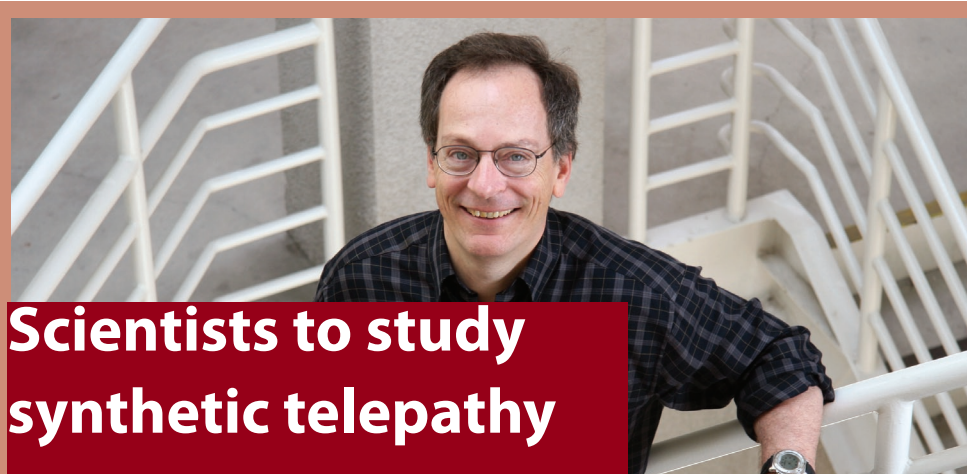
Phase III studies are multicenter trials on large patient groups designed to be the definitive assessment of a drug's effectiveness. Such a study is often the last step before a drug is reviewed by a regulatory agency like the FDA for approval

as a safe, effective treatment.

When ovarian cancer is detected early – when it is confined to the ovaries – more than 90 percent of women will live at least five years, according to the American Cancer Society. Only about 20 percent of cases are

detected that early. If the cancer is detected after it has spread, only about 30 percent of women survive five years. Each year, approximately 20,000 American women are diagnosed with ovarian cancer and about 15,000 die of the disease.

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Scientists to study synthetic telepathy

A team of UC Irvine scientists has been awarded a \$4 million grant from the U.S. Army Research Office to study the neuroscientific and signal-processing foundations of synthetic telepathy.

The research could lead to a communication system that would benefit soldiers on the battlefield as well as paralysis and stroke patients, according to lead researcher Michael D'Zmura, chair of the UCI Department of Cognitive Sciences.

The brain-computer interface would use a noninvasive brain imaging technology like electroencephalography to let people communicate thoughts to each other.

For example, a soldier would "think" a message to be transmitted and a computer-based speech recognition system would decode the EEG signals. The decoded thoughts, in essence translated brain waves, are transmitted using a system that points in the direction of the intended target.

D'Zmura will collaborate with UCI professors Ramesh Srinivasan, Gregory Hickok and Kourosh Saberi as well as researchers from Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Maryland.

The grant comes from the U.S. Department of Defense's Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative program, which supports research from both science and engineering disciplines. Its goal is to develop applications for military and commercial uses.

Election 2008

By Heather Wuebker, School of Social Sciences

It's an election year and the entire country is abuzz with talk of who will become the nation's 44th President. As we get ready to elect a new leader to the Oval Office, numerous questions arise surrounding the political process and its potential outcomes. For some help in deciphering answers to the 2008 election puzzle, such as voter participation and the impact of race on the election why not turn to the UC Irvine political science department which is ranked among the top 35 programs in the nation?

To learn more about UCI's political science department, visit www.polisci.uci.edu.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 64 percent of U.S. citizens of legal age and status voted in the 2004 Presidential election. This may not appear to be a large turnout rate but it is significant when considering that many factors may reduce the motivation and opportunity for individuals to vote.

One factor, associate professor Carole Uhlaner explains, is obligation. "Often when people join together," she says, "they have been moved by a sense of obligation triggered by a candidate or leader they feel will represent their individual interests."

In the U.S., she says, this obligation often involves identifying with a candidate based on like ethnicity.

WHAT FACTORS DETERMINE HOW DIFFERENT RACES AND ETHNIC GROUPS VOTE?

Looking at the electoral behavior of African Americans, Professor Katherine Tate says, "In the past, race has been a divisive factor both between and within political parties. Now, you see 40-60 percent of Blacks supporting policies that staunch liberals would be hard-pressed to support."

She cites a move toward increased support of welfare, immigration, mandatory sentencing reforms and more.

"Blacks have become much more politically incorporated, not only as voters, but as key leaders in political organizations and as candidates themselves," says Tate. "Blacks have never been closer to the Democratic Party than they are today," she adds; a factor which will have an impact at the polls.

Also showing up in record numbers to vote in primaries across the country are Latinos, the fastest growing ethnic group in America. "Historically, however, Latinos have a low voter turnout record on election day when compared with other ethnic groups," Louis DeSipio, Chicano/Latino studies department chair, explains pointing to surveys conducted by the U.S. Cen-

Anteaters in public service

In each issue of *Your UCI*, we will highlight alumni in their workplace.

The following alumni are just a few of the Anteaters who have made public service their career.

— Compiled by Blake Stone '05



Janet Nguyen '00, is a member of the Orange County Board of Supervisors. Upon her election, she became the first woman to represent the First District, the first

Asian-American and the first Vietnamese-American to serve on the Board of Supervisors, and the youngest Supervisor elected in Orange County.

She is only the fifth woman to serve on the Board of Supervisors, and was named one of *OC Metro*

Magazine's 2006 "25 Hottest" People in Orange County.

She was awarded the We Give Thanks 2004 Women of Vision Award, recognizing outstanding women who have provided exceptional services to the community.

sus Bureau. When they do vote, DeSipio says that Latinos generally gravitate toward the Democratic side due to the party's focus on education, healthcare and other social services.

DeSipio argues that lackluster attendance of Latinos on Election Day may not be directly linked to ethnicity, but rather to those factors responsible for bringing others to the polls.

"Generally speaking, the typical individuals who go to the polls are older, more educated citizens with higher incomes," says DeSipio. "Latinos as a whole have a greater concentration of younger, less educated citizens who earn below-average incomes."

WHAT STRATEGIES WILL BRING VOTERS TO THE POLLS?

DeSipio's point is well-founded; previously, candidates have failed to mobilize growing key constituent groups and have instead focused a majority of their efforts on the average voter. Voter turnout results from the primary season, however, may indicate change in the trend as record numbers of minority and non-traditional voters are "turning out the vote."

In other UCI studies within Latino and minority communities, findings suggest that come Election Day in California, face-to-face canvassing of low-income and minority communities directly contributes to dramatic increases in voter participation within these populations. The study shows that ignoring low-propensity voters can be a risky oversight – or opportunity – for any politician seeking votes from marginal communities.

Professor Russell Dalton says youth participation also is changing. "The efforts of Presidential candidates – particularly in the Democratic Party – to mobilize young people are transforming the political landscape," says Dalton. "As a population that lives in the digital age, technology-driven tactics to reach young voters via Web sites, 'viral' e-mails, YouTube and Facebook

have certainly hit their mark."

HOW MUCH INFLUENCE DOES THE PRESIDENT HAVE AT HOME AND ABROAD?

On November 4, the American public will choose a new President to lead the country, and after spending the past eight years under the same leadership, this changing of the guard will be felt around the world. Matthew Beckmann, assistant professor, studies the Presidency and leadership styles different Presidents bring to the Oval Office.

"During his/her tenure, the President is the dominant force in American politics, the one person citizens consistently look to for policy leadership," says Beckmann. "A President's greatest impact on the country is helping decide which of the nation's problems will receive the lion's share of pundits' and politicians' attention." What matters, he adds, is not only which policies Presidents support or propose, but also which policies they will fight to achieve.

WHAT ROLE DOES THE PRESIDENT PLAY IN PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS?

One of the top issues our next President will face the fight to end global terrorism. The underlying premise behind this fight is that all people have basic human rights deserving of protection. Professor Alison Brysk says, "Human rights involve a number of factors including diplomacy, foreign aid disbursement and refugee policy."

"Examining the global citizenship of other countries will better enable the United States to reshape policies to positively impact human rights," she adds – the act of which would directly relate to the U.S.' combat against global terrorism, an issue very much at the forefront of the 2008 political debate.



As a senior at UC Irvine, **Jose Solorio '92** got his first taste of politics when he was elected student body president. Today, the California

State Assemblyman focuses on improving schools, preventing gang violence, creating jobs and maintaining a strong infrastructure.

Solorio serves as Chair of the Assembly Committee on Public Safety and as a member the education, transportation and appropriation committees.



Lindsay Hopkins '07, serves as director of the Democratic Party of Orange County's Santa Ana headquarters.

Hopkins honed her cam-

paign skills while getting her bachelor's in political science. She got her first exposure to politics her junior year through the political science department's Public Affairs Internship Program.

She hopes to someday become a chief of staff for a key political office. First, though, she plans

to take the GRE in 2009, "when it's not an election year," and go to graduate school.

"I'll probably float between politics and nonprofits," she says. "I want to work for something I believe in, and be sure I'm trying to make the world a better place."