In making my rounds as the new chancellor, I have heard many alumni and others describe UC Davis as kind of a sleeping giant — a powerful institution that has yet to show the full extent of its power.

This report shows that the giant is waking up.

Whether it’s our record fundraising, our men’s and women’s basketball teams making campus history, our unmatched achievements in agricultural, animal and veterinary sciences, or our overall ranking as one of the top public research universities in the nation, UC Davis is unmistakably on the rise.

Increasingly, our university makes headlines on the frontlines of today’s humanitarian crises — in health care, public health, global hunger, water scarcity, immigration, climate change, poverty and environmental degradation.

Increasingly, UC Davis propels social mobility across California and the nation, graduating large numbers of students from underrepresented ethnic groups and from families with no previous college degrees.

People are stunned when they learn about UC Davis’ growing accomplishments — our groundbreaking research in so many fields, our contributions to prosperity in the Sacramento region, our empowerment of students to do good in the world. They move from merely thinking well of UC Davis to wanting to actively contribute to our successes.

In these pages, you will see a giant rising to the challenge of making our world a better place.

Gary S. May
Chancellor
A New Chancellor, a New Era for UC Davis

“My goal is to make us one of the handful of universities that’s on the tip of the tongue when you talk about the nation’s great public research universities — and we are not far from that now.”

—Gary S. May, upon his investiture as seventh chancellor of UC Davis, October 27, 2017
LOW DEBT

47 percent of undergraduates completing degrees in 2015–16 accrued no debt while at UC Davis. Those who graduated with debt averaged $19,276 — much lower than the national average of $30,156.

PELL GRANTS

44 percent of California resident undergraduates received Pell Grants in 2015–16. Each year UC Davis has more recipients than in the entire Ivy League.

FINANCIAL AID

In 2016–17, 71 percent of undergraduates received financial aid, averaging $21,389 per award.

COVERED TUITION AND FEES

57 percent of California resident undergraduates received enough gift aid to have systemwide tuition and fees completely covered in 2015–16.

Students (FALL 2017)

GRADE POINT AVERAGE
3.99 (Enrolled freshmen)

HEAD COUNT
30,212 Undergraduate
4,580 Graduate
1,226 Professional
1,362 Health science
991 Medical interns and residents

DEMOGRAPHICS
38,371 Total student population

UC Davis by the Numbers

STAFF (FALL 2016)

FULL TIME STAFF
9,058 staff
8,214 clinical staff

STUDENT EMPLOYEES
9,690

Faculty
4,736 faculty and other academic positions

Alumni (FALL 2016)

250,000+ living alumni with degrees

Degrees (Awarded 2016–17)

7,856 bachelor’s
1,950 graduate and professional
9,806 total degrees awarded
We Move Forward, Together

We are a community united in times of celebration and challenge. We break down barriers to advancement, advocate on behalf of the underserved and inspire the next generation. We strive for empathy, equity and inclusivity to achieve meaningful change.

We are a community in which all are valued and supported for the good of all.

UC Davis admits 41,299 applicants for fall 2017, with gains among low-income and first-generation students and underrepresented minorities.

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UC Davis strives toward gender parity in medicine, with women comprising 45 percent of surgical residents and fellows, and with recruitment of female trainees in male-dominated fields of neurological, orthopaedic and trauma surgery.

A pioneer in the use of telemedicine for underserved communities, UC Davis saves patients an average of 878 driving miles, $156 in travel costs and 4 hours of time per consultation.

Our Keller Pathway Fellowship gives women, cross-disciplinary researchers and other underrepresented university-based entrepreneurs a foundation for developing their business ideas.

Students at the UC Davis Immigration Law Clinic are ensuring the rights of immigrants—regardless of legal status—through education, preparation of deportation defense cases and representation.

The renovated Memorial Union, now home to the Veterans Services Office, includes a new display honoring the 135 Aggies who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Some 400 faculty are sharing stories of inspiration and persistence at the First-Generation Faculty project website, a resource for 44 percent of undergraduates who are first-generation students.

We are a community in which all are valued and supported for the good of all.
Alexander Forrest, assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering, led a deployment of underwater robots in Antarctica and the Arctic to help predict how and when polar ice shelves collapse.

Innovation for Good

At UC Davis, we innovate not only through research, but also by nurturing ambition and smart partnerships. We put tools and know-how in the hands of entrepreneurs so beneficial technologies can move out of the lab and into the world faster — with a lighter footprint, a lower cost and less reliance on resources like water and energy.

This “innovation acceleration” — from underwater robots that give us a new perspective on climate change to the development of a therapeutic enzyme — is addressing the challenges that hit us at home and around the world.

Zhou Yu, assistant professor of computer science, was named to Forbes’ “30 Under 30: Science” list for her work developing algorithms that enable software to adapt to users, such as a social chatbot for Amazon’s Echo platform.

Combining expertise in engineering and animal science, researchers are testing new cooling technologies for dairy cows that reduce energy and water use.

A stem cell therapy for chronic oral inflammatory disease in cats developed at the UC Davis Veterinary Institute for Regenerative Cures was licensed by VetCell Therapeutics with plans to commercialize treatment.

UC Davis scientists are the first to watch individual steps in the replication of a single DNA molecule — opening new ways of thinking about this life-determining process.

Justin Siegel, co-founder of UC Davis spin-off PvP Biologics and assistant professor of chemistry, biochemistry and molecular medicine, co-created a therapeutic enzyme using synthetic DNA to treat celiac disease.

Electrical and computer engineers developed a novel, high-frequency electronic chip potentially capable of transmitting tens of gigabits of data per second, bringing us closer to next-generation technology.
A Champion of Curiosity

A vibrant and exciting community of thinkers, artists and writers, UC Davis champions curiosity-driven research, criticism and knowledge making. For example, the inaugural season of the Ground and Field Theatre Festival in the College of Letters and Science brought together directors, playwrights, scholars and theater artists for a month to produce plays and musicals that explore the urgent need for sustainability in our world.

Our Mellon Public Scholars Program each year pairs graduate students with community organizations to put their humanities training and research to work for the public good.

The Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem Museum of Art serves as a hub of creativity for thinkers, makers and innovators, with spaces dedicated to both exhibits and student education.
A UC Davis education is a promise of opportunity that benefits our students and society alike. Just ask 2017 graduate Srujan Kopparapu, a student in the University Honors Program who dove into experiential learning opportunities here: internships in a microbiology lab and at the UC Davis Medical Center’s ER, a student biomedical engineering competition, and presentations at the Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities Conference, among others.

Now Kopparapu is taking the next steps toward a career in a neural-related field such as neurosurgery or neurology. At UC Davis, we’re fulfilling our promise so future leaders like Kopparapu can fulfill their dreams.
Advancing Agriculture

As the top university in the country and second in the world in agriculture, UC Davis continues to address global challenges of food security, sustainability and safety in remarkable ways. Whether it’s finding answers that mutually benefit the environment and food producers in California, the invention of a low-cost tool that African farmers can use to fight food loss or making significant connections between nutrition and human health, we continue to apply our expertise and leadership to the most pressing challenges in food.

Juan Medrano and other UC Davis researchers released the first public genome sequence for Coffea arabica, which will help develop high-quality, disease-resistant coffee varieties adaptable to climate change.

UC Davis is helping fight food loss in Africa with the low-cost DryCard invention, a moisture-sensing tool farmers can use to reduce mold and toxins in dried food storage.

A study co-produced by UC Davis shows that California Central Valley rice fields, managed as floodplains during winter, can create surrogate wetland habitat for native fish.

The USDA has awarded a $4.5 million grant to the UC Davis Public Strawberry Breeding Program and its partners to improve disease-resistance and sustainable production.

“Good” fats are not created equal, says food chemist Ameer Taha, who is exploring connections between excess linoleic acid and ailments such as chronic inflammation and headaches.

Animal cognition expert Kristina Horback’s research on pig personalities is helping the pork industry adapt to new market and legislative demands for group housing.

Health researchers at UC Davis have discovered how dietary fiber helps intestinal health, identifying a potential therapeutic target for rebalancing beneficial and harmful gut microbiota.

The College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

- 10,000+ Pounds of Student Farm produce donated to the ASUCD Pantry and Fruit and Veggie Up! program
- 148 Active patents in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
- 2.3K Acres devoted to agricultural research and teaching
Members of the UC Davis Hospital Child Life team make a splash with a patient during the Duck Dash, an event benefiting the UC Davis Children’s Hospital. The hospital ranks among the nation’s best in five pediatric specialties (U.S. News & World Report).

A UC Davis-led team won a $1.2 million grant to explore the use of personalized mobile health data to improve chronic disease management and care.

UC Davis’ Sacramento campus became the home of the new UC Davis Violence Prevention Research Center, led by Garen Wintemute, emergency medicine professor and authority on the epidemiology of firearm violence.

UC Davis physicians gave lifesaving kidney transplants to more than 400 people in 2016, making it the highest-volume program of its kind in the nation.

Fetal surgeon Shinjiro Hirose (center), shown with Fetal Care and Treatment Center colleagues Diana Farmer and David Schrimmer, completed UC Davis Children’s Hospital’s first open fetal surgery for spina bifida 10 weeks before birth, a procedure offered at only a dozen medical centers nationwide.

Researchers discovered a possible route for regenerating insulin-producing beta cells, brightening prospects for better treatment or cures for Type I diabetes.

Betty Irene Moore Hall, home to the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing, opened on the UC Davis Sacramento campus, supporting interprofessional health sciences education with collaborative learning spaces and state-of-the-art simulation suites.

You need to be bold to transform health care. That’s why UC Davis Health is making bold strides in research, technology, patient care, partnerships and education — and bringing together the most progressive, curious minds in medicine and nursing. Being bold is getting us closer to solving critical public health problems like diabetes. It’s saving lives in utero. And it’s improving chronic disease care with personalized health information accessible by smartphone. Being bold is how we’re creating a healthier world.

Bold Health Care
What Connects Us All

The answers to global health lie at the nexus of humans, animals and the environment. We have experts in all of these fields. Our doctors, veterinarians, engineers and scientists are working together in novel ways to untangle this web of interdependent life. Our connections between species — viruses to spina bifida — are leading to innovations that help conserve, protect and advance the health of all.

Researchers have detected a herpes virus with immunological properties similar to the Epstein-Barr virus in humans, findings that could aid early intervention and healthcare. A new behavioral approach to studying viruses could lead to new vaccines and treatment strategies for infectious diseases.

School of Veterinary Medicine researchers found that de-energized human cells and core reproductive harm in lab animals. A collaborative study by the One Health Institute gives us an edge in preventing pandemics, finding that bats are the major animal host for coronaviruses, which cause SARS and MERS.

Virginia and Spanky, bulldog puppies with spina bifida, were the first to be successfully treated with stem cell therapy and surgery, thanks to a UC Davis veterinary and medical school team.

Data and partnerships with UC Davis and USAID to prevent pandemics.

Centers and institutes at UC Davis dedicated to solving critical issues with a One Health approach.

Unique viruses in animals and humans detected by the UC Davis-led PREDICT pandemic-prevention project.

Countries with partnerships with UC Davis and USAID to prevent pandemics.

10

1K

30

Viruses rely on host cells to reproduce, but they also show social behavior, interacting with other viruses by competing, cooperating and even cheating to succeed. A new behavioral approach to studying viruses could lead to new vaccines and treatment strategies for infectious diseases.

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To Conserve and Protect

Climate change is the environmental challenge of our lifetime. A global leader in climate science, UC Davis is taking this challenge head on. We’re connecting research and education to policy and action in air quality, energy conservation, water management and food sustainability. We’re studying how climate change is affecting species on land and at sea, and finding ways to help humans and animals adapt to the changes to come. We’re also digging up solutions in unexpected places, from hillsides to the soil right under our feet.

UC Davis alumna Alexis Robertson and her husband, Gillies, regularly rotate sheep grazing on their Capay Valley ranch to optimize grass growth, which captures greenhouse gas carbon dioxide, and stores it in the soil.

Climate change is a major factor in lake health, says the latest Tahoe State of the Lake Report. It found an increase in dying trees and algae growth and a decline in lake clarity.

UC Davis hosted a UN Sustainable Development Goals conference to explore how universities could work together to help African nations access clean energy, water and sustain food production.

Marine reserves may help commercial fishermen catch more of the profitable fish, while also helping to sustain the West Coast groundfish fishery, says a UC Davis-led study.

Researchers are developing a genetic test to help ranchers breed cattle that prefer hillside grazing. This change could improve the sustainability of California’s 38 million acres of rangeland.

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Sporting Scholars

When the Aggie men joined the NCAA’s Big Dance for the first time in school history, journalists and sports fans nationwide became enchanted not only with UC Davis’ Cinderella story, but also with our players’ backstories — their talents, their sacrifices, their brains and their hearts. These are points of commonality shared by student-athletes across all 23 of our NCAA teams. Their aptitude for excellence and perseverance extends beyond the court, field or pool to the classroom and the community — which is why we’ve been enchanted all along.
Thanks to the commitment of our supporters, UC Davis once again had a record-breaking philanthropic year. The university raised $250 million, the largest donation total raised in a single fiscal year in the university’s 109-year history, bringing significant support for student scholarships, capital projects, scientific research and more. This success builds upon the momentum of the previous fiscal year’s $226 million record-breaking total.
THE UC DAVIS FOUNDATION is governed by the volunteer Board of Executive Trustees, who are distinguished leaders in their fields. The board marshals philanthropic support and stewards private gifts to the university, furthering UC Davis’ mission and global impact. The board works with academic leaders and advancement staff to achieve the foundation’s goals.

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Financials at a Glance

2016–17 Revenues and Expenditures

UC Davis revenues come from many sources. About 81 percent are designated for or restricted to specific purposes, such as research support, auxiliary services such as housing, and the UC Davis Medical Center. Most of the funding for teaching comes from unrestricted state funds and student tuition.

2016–17 Revenues*

$4.9 billion

2016–17 Expenditures*

$4.9 billion

Extramural Research Funding
FY 2011–17 (millions)

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Philanthropy</th>
<th>Public service</th>
<th>Operation and maintenance</th>
<th>State designated and restricted</th>
<th>Indirect cost recovery</th>
<th>Tuition</th>
<th>Sales and service, auxiliary</th>
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* Scholarship allowance is reported as an expenditure in student services and financial aid. For financial reporting purposes, scholarship allowance is reported as a reduction to student tuition and fee revenue.