

## UCIRA Retirees Association-April 2022

*Submitted by Bernadette Strobel-Lopez UCI CUCRA Representative*

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### **Activities & Programs:**

- The UCIRA continues to work closely with our UCI Center for Emeriti & Retirees (CER) on all programming and activities. To further enhance communication our board president regularly attends UCIEA meetings which have proved beneficial for both groups.
- In Fall 2021 we created a new section in our monthly newsletter entitled “CUCRA – Advocating For You” in which we highlight the important work of CUCRA.
- Online Zoom and Webinar sessions and monthly in-person walks, hikes and bike have continued. We have included information sessions by the Southern California Council on Aging.
- Our free February online cooking class with our Campus Recreation Chef included recipes on how to make “Simple Suppers”.
- Our volunteers supported the Second Harvest Food Bank by sorting and packing a variety of fruits and vegetables. As well, UCI Retiree volunteers assisted the UCI HR Engagement and Wellness Team in assembling “Working Well” kits.
- For the 3<sup>rd</sup> year, we awarded UCIRA Legacy Scholarships for one new and one transfer student and recognized recipients in our December newsletter. We continue our annual support for the UCI Staff Assembly Scholarships supporting staff in their continuing education.
- Sent an electronic survey to all Out of State Retirees for whom we have an email address to gauge their needs, their experience with UC Health Plans and Via Benefits.

**Membership:** Our dues paying membership has increased to 670. Retirees and Emeriti interest in complimentary parking, as a perk with membership, has significantly increased.

### **New programs and partnerships:**

- The UCI Graduate Division invited all UCI Emeriti and Retirees to view UCI’s Top Graduates pitch their impressive research online.
- A tour of Irvine Historic Ranch that was once one of the world’s greatest producers of Valencia oranges and a leader in dry farming and livestock.
- An invitation to tune in to “Audio Theatre” which included performances with plays written by UCI students and alums.

- April will include a tour of the Modjeska House & Garden, the century-old home of world-renowned actress Madame Helena Modjeska.
- We have invited all to attend the April Zoom “Conversation with Jagdeep Singh Bachher Chief Investment Officer and Vice President of Investments.