

Dear Campus Community,

As announced last May, a transformative \$30 million gift from the [Samueli Foundation](#), coupled with \$50 million in state funds and \$40 million in UCI funds, paved the path for a new Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering Building that will be located near the Physical Sciences Lecture Hall, off Bison Avenue and East Peltason Drive.

Slated to be the largest interdisciplinary building west of the Rocky Mountains, the new building will bring together faculty, students, and staff from UCI's Henry Samueli School of Engineering, School of Physical Sciences, and Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Sciences, enabling them to undertake transdisciplinary research projects along two major themes: biomedicine for human health and energy use and the environment. The overarching vision is to create spaces that foster the convergent integration of knowledge bases, tools, techniques, and most importantly, modes of thinking from faculty, students, and staff across these disciplines. Housing faculty and students from three schools in the same building is a major next step as we build on UCI's rich tradition of interdisciplinary research.

The contract award phase is wrapping up, and construction is expected to begin this summer. The Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering Building's innovative design maximizes over 113,000 assignable square feet (asf) of flexible work areas and will provide interaction spaces to foster collaboration across disciplines. The following provides a breakdown of anticipated building use:

- Over 54,000 asf of wet laboratory and laboratory support space, exceeding the original program requirement by over 9,000 asf
- Potential for 42,000 asf of future laboratory space
- Over 16,000 asf of informal interaction, conference, and collaboration space

The featured design rendering offers a preview of things to come.



This building will comply with UC Sustainability Policy and campus sustainability goals, as well as target LEED Building Design and Construction – New Construction Platinum Certification.

We look forward to providing additional communications as this project evolves.

Ronald S. Cortez, JD, MA

Chief Financial Officer
Vice Chancellor, Division of Finance and Administration

Pramod Khargonekar, Ph.D.

Vice Chancellor for Research
Distinguished Professor of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science