

# WITH U • FOR U

## DFA Employee Newsletter



A message from  
Chief Financial Officer and  
Vice Chancellor Ronald S. Cortez

Dear DFA colleagues,

Thank you for attending January's town hall. This quarterly meeting fosters camaraderie, keeps everyone informed of division updates, and allows departments to showcase programs and educate their colleagues. In the spirit of continuous improvement, please take a few minutes to complete a [short survey](#) evaluating the event.

Our division provides services and support to over 50,000 students, faculty, and staff with the mission of advancing UCI's brilliant future and the vision of becoming world-class campus partners. Our values of health & safety, integrity, teamwork, and change & innovation are designed to help guide our decisions. An [interactive learning experience](#) was created to help DFA staff learn more about our mission, vision, and values. Complete the learning activity by February 28 to enter in a raffle for a chance to win one of five prizes.

A few changes in leadership occurred over the past couple of months, and I want to make sure you all are aware of them:

After an extensive search, I am pleased to announce that **Lori Husein** accepted the position of controller and assistant vice chancellor of Accounting & Fiscal Services effective Monday, January 6, 2020. Lori has served as special assistant to the CFO and vice chancellor since July of 2019. Lori has over 30 years of financial experience and is a mission-oriented leader who has built first-class client service teams of staff and professionals through diverse hiring practices, on-going mentoring, and professional development. She is a certified public accountant and holds a B.A. in economics and accounting from Claremont McKenna College.

I extend my sincerest appreciation to **Brian Fahnestock**, who has served as interim assistant vice chancellor of Accounting & Fiscal Services since July of 2019. Brian will return to his role as special assistant to the CFO and vice chancellor, continuing to lead special projects for Accounting and Fiscal Services.

**Allen Shiroma** has been appointed as assistant vice chancellor of

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### DFA Events

**Feb. 1 - March 31:**

[Tenth Annual Book Drive](#)

**Feb. 4 | 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.:**

[Procurement Services Open Forum](#)

**March 26 | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.:**

[Procurement Services Supplier Showcase](#)

 [UCI Today](#)

Facilities Management effective Wednesday, January 1, 2020. Allen has served as the interim assistant vice chancellor of Facilities Management since August of 2018 and has nearly 40 years of experience in his field. He has been at UCI for almost 12 years and has played a significant role in managing \$95 million of campus deferred maintenance and infrastructure improvement projects as well as implementing steps to improve renovation processes and accelerate the completion of critical campus projects. He holds a B.S. in industrial engineering and received his MBA from UCI.

Additionally, I am pleased to announce **Venee Raduziner** has joined DFA Support Services on Thursday, January 23 as our new Senior HR Business Partner. She will help optimize HR solutions to drive performance results and communications, assist with continuous improvement people strategies, and enhance our employee development initiatives. She has over 25 years of HR experience and most recently served as an HR business partner in Southern California Edison. Venee holds a B.A. from Chapman University and an HR certificate from the University of Phoenix

Thank you for all of your hard work. As always, feel free to share your comments and suggestions by sending an email to [WithUForU@uci.edu](mailto:WithUForU@uci.edu).

With appreciation,

**Ronald S. Cortez, JD, MA**

Chief Financial Officer

Vice Chancellor, Division of Finance and Administration

### [DFA Balanced Scorecard Strategy](#)

*The Division of Finance and Administration (DFA) serves all UCI students, faculty, staff, and visitors. We are With U • For U—working alongside you, in support of you—as planning partners, problem solvers, and solution providers who maintain a safe and attractive physical environment and offer professional services and support.*

**MISSION**  
Advance UCI's  
Brilliant Future

**VISION**  
World-Class  
Campus Partners

**VALUES**  
Health & Safety  
Integrity  
Teamwork  
Change & Innovation

# LEARNING & GROWTH



## Learning & Growth 2020

Learning and Growth is at the foundational of the [DFA Balanced Scorecard](#) and it begins with an investment in our people. An engaged workforce that is well-trained and motivated, who also creates and maintains a healthy and safe work environment helps advance UCI's brilliant future, and puts DFA on the path to becoming world-class campus partners. Please explore available resources on DFA's [learning and growth webpage](#).

The two trainings below support our efforts to streamline processes and leverage technology for continuous process improvement. Click on the links below for more information.

- [Lean Six Sigma White Belt](#)
- [DocuSign](#)

*Article provided by Division of Finance and Administration*



## DFA Support Services: Budget & Finance

DFA encompasses a diverse group of functions from Accounting & Fiscal Services to Design & Construction to Public Safety and more. In order to assist over 800 employees, the Budget and Finance unit of DFA Support Services was established and serves as a centralized resource for the division.

The Budget and Finance unit supports DFA by providing the framework for development of the annual budget and

standardizing financial monthly reporting and forecasting which assists all units with monitoring progress toward their annual financial goals. Budget and Finance also provides supplemental detail financial reports for various DFA units to facilitate additional analysis of various operations. Recently the Budget and Finance unit has been requested to assist units outside of DFA with developing their monthly financial reporting.

*Article provided by Budget & Finance*



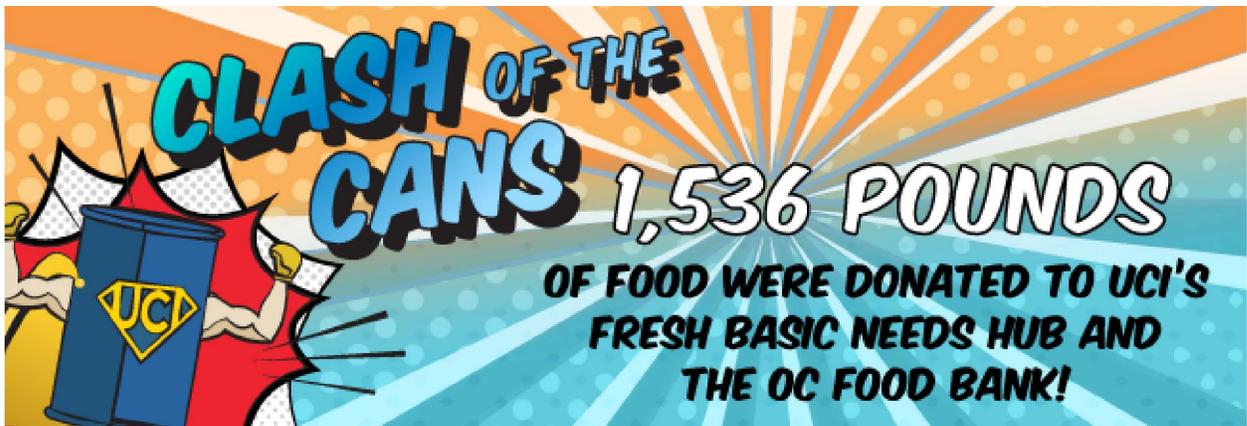
### Fit Squad

Winter classes include Yoga, Stretch & Tone, and Zumba. Take a class at the UCI Campus, Medical Center, or Santa Ana Clinic. \$5 charge is due at registration for each 10-week series selected. Classes are not prorated. Join anytime. For more information and full Fit Squad schedule, [visit the UCI Campus Recreation Fit Squad webpage](#).



### Employee Experience Center (EEC)

The [Employee Experience Center \(EEC\)](#) offers UCI employees across the enterprise a centralized point to access the most commonly used applications, employee self-service, hundreds of knowledge based articles, and a dedicated team to answer all HR, payroll, and benefits related inquiries and issues.



### Clash of the Cans Wrap-Up

Through an effort that involved over a dozen departments and organizations, UCI donated 1,536 pounds of food to the UCI FRESH Basic Needs Hub and OC Food Bank. UCI Transportation and Distribution Services will continue its community outreach efforts with the [annual book drive](#), which launches on Monday, February 3.



LEFT: UCI PD with children from the medical center. RIGHT: UCI PD giving toys to children at the Beckman Laser Center.

## Toy Drive Wrap-Up

Keeping with tradition, donated toys were gifted to children at the UCI Medical Center, specially delivered by our Police Officers, CSOs, professional staff, and UCI athletes. The team made their way around to children's bedsides to surprise them with a toy and a special greeting from Dexter, the therapy dog. Hospital staff expressed tremendous gratitude because they see the struggles that parents endure—gifting toys is a small gesture to show parents how much they appreciate being trusted to care for their children. Given the many donations received, a majority of the toys were left behind with the hospital staff so they could continue to gift toys to hospital patients throughout the month of December. The remainder of the toys were donated to Crime Survivors, Beckman Laser Institute, and ABC7 Spark of Love Toy Drive.

*Articles provided by Transportation & Distribution Services and Public Safety*



LEFT: Chief Griffin and Lieutenant Hallinan award CPA graduate her certificate. RIGHT: The second graduating CPA class.

## Community Police Academy

The Community Police Academy (CPA), held twice a year during the fall and spring quarters, is designed to educate our community in the operations of the UCI Police Department (UCI PD), while also giving UCI PD an opportunity to obtain valuable feedback from the community. The purpose of the CPA is to increase understanding between UCI PD and community members through education and interaction.

Community participants become familiar with various facets of UCI PD and gain insight into law enforcement's role in the criminal justice system and the daily work of UCI PD employees. With increased understanding, UCI's community and PD can work together and achieve solutions for the campus, medical center, and neighborhood concerns relating to crime, fear of crime, and current issues.

Instructors are officers and personnel from UCI PD who are experts in their fields. The classroom atmosphere is positive and highly interactive. Participants are encouraged to ask questions and discuss topics of interest with instructors. There is no fee associated with the CPA. [Learn more on the UCI Public Safety website.](#)

*Article provided by Public Safety*



### UClub Social Hour

Join UCI colleagues and the UCI community at the UClub. The [Division of Finance and Administration](#) will host the first servings of light appetizers. Discounted beverages and additional appetizers are available for purchase. View 2020 dates [here](#).



### Tips for the App

Did you know you could access UCI UCPATH resources through the **With U • For U** mobile app?

Click on the "UCI UCPATH" tile on the home screen to learn more.

Download the app today!  
[With U • For U Mobile App](#)



Every day is an opportunity for colleagues and managers/supervisors to recognize the great work of our people in the following categories:

- **CARE** (Customer Appreciation Repeatedly Expressed)
- **IDEA** (Innovate Discover Encourage Achieve)
- **SAFE** (Safety Award For Excellence)
- **TEAM** (Together Everyone Achieves More)

Submit your online nomination in [English](#) or [Spanish](#).

## EMPLOYEE PROFILES



**Elvia Ramirez**  
**Custodial Supervisor, Facilities Management**

I've worked at UCI for over 9 years and have been in my current position for over 1 year. As a custodial supervisor, I am responsible for 20 employees at work.

**What aspect of your job do you enjoy the most?** Waking up early and enjoying the site of the sun raising every morning.

**What are 3 words to describe your department?** Organized, respectful, and supportive.

**What do you like most about UCI/department?** That everyone is polite, the respect from the employees, and the help the employees offer.

**What piece of advice would you give to a new employee?** Give it you all, be respectful to the university because UCI is a good place to work and pursue your career.

**Favorite travel spot?** The beach.

**If you were stuck on an island what three things would you bring?** Clothes, a radio, and food.

**What is the weirdest thing you've ever eaten?** Maguey Worms and Mountain Crickets.

**Motto or Personal Mantra:** Go shopping.



**Jerome Gonzaga**  
**Associate Project Manager, Design & Construction Services**

I have worked and have been in my current position at UCI for 5 years. I work closely with the project managers on UCI construction projects to help expedite and keep track of project documents. I coordinate with other departments at UCI to collaborate on multiple aspects of a construction project.

**What has surprised you most about working in your department or UCI?** I was most surprised by the fact that the Design & Construction Services department is so small compared to the amount of work that the department gets done. This is a testament to how much hard work and effort everyone in the D&CS department does in order to keep things moving. Over the past 5 years, I've seen how much the department makes an effort to work together with each other and with many others throughout campus to help expedite construction projects.

**What are some upcoming trends or challenges that you see in your field?** With many more projects

expected to come in the near future, it will be exciting to see how our department grows and adapts to the many changes and challenges along the way.

**Favorite travel spot?** Canadian National Parks.

**Before your time at UCI, what was your most interesting or oddest job?** The most interesting job I had before UCI was to write computer scripts to automate the data tracking for projects I was working on. The programs and scripts that I wrote helped to increase my team's efficiency so that they can work on other things faster!



**Erika Hennon**  
**Creative Services Supervisor, Transportation & Distribution Services**

I've worked at UCI for 10 years and have been in my current position for 3 years. I support UCI Transportations & Distribution Services by maintaining digital and web communications, develop pedestrian and bicyclist safety campaigns for the campus and work with different areas of T&DS to create signage, marketing collateral, and more to ensure our department meets the UCI brand guidelines standards.

**How has UCI/department helped you in your career development?** Without Transportation & Distribution Services, I would have never discovered my passion for sustainability, biking, and outreach. When I began working at T&DS as a student employee to even now as a Creative Services Supervisor, I have been given many opportunities to foster me as a growing marketing and communications professional, thanks to the training and development programs being offered.

**What do you like most about UCI/department?** I like working with all of my coworkers. Everyone is friendly, works hard, and supports each other. I believe what makes UCI Transportation so great is the people, and they make me proud to work for our department.

**What piece of advice would you give to a new employee?** Be involved with the university! Whether it's to volunteer with student activities, attend sporting events, or join a group, there is something for everyone. As an Anteater alumna myself, one of my favorite things to do is attend volleyball games!

**Favorite travel spot?** Any beach along the California coast!

**People would be surprised if they knew:** My secret talent is that I can pogo stick with no hands.

**UCI** Division of Finance and Administration |  **With U • For U**

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