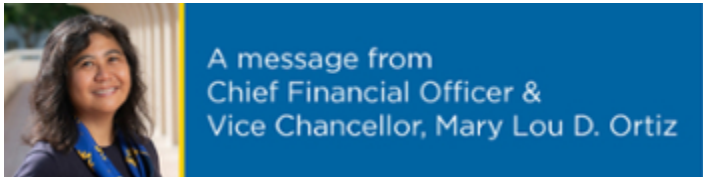


SPECIAL EDITION

WITH U • FOR U

DFA Employee Newsletter

Special Edition Notice: This revised edition of the newsletter includes an important update recognizing Barry Oh's selection for the prestigious NACUBO Fellows Program.



***Managers/Supervisors:** Please share this email with DFA campus temporary and contract employees. For those who do not have regular access to emails/laptops/PCs, please print and share this email accordingly.

Dear DFA employees,

As we continue to navigate a period of significant change, I want to ensure that we remain connected, informed, and supported. Last week, we shared difficult [news](#) regarding staffing reductions within DFA, and I know this has raised concerns and uncertainty across our community. Please know that these decisions were not made lightly and reflect the ongoing need to align our resources with our financial realities.

Given these circumstances, we have made the decision to [cancel the DFA Social](#) originally planned for June 4. Instead, we will host a virtual [town hall on June 4 from 10–11 a.m.](#), creating an opportunity for open dialogue. We will provide further details, answer your questions, and discuss how we are adjusting our service levels. Please [submit any questions](#) you would like addressed by Friday, May 30, 2025.

Our decisions reflect broader financial challenges, influenced in part by evolving federal policies and budget considerations. I encourage you to stay informed through the [UC Federal Updates](#) and [Federal Updates for the UC Irvine Community](#) websites.

I also want to remind you that support is available. UCI's [Life Resources Program](#) is a free, voluntary, confidential employee assistance program that is available 24/7 in multiple formats.

We are committed to maintaining open communication and will continue to keep you updated as we navigate this transition. Thank you for your understanding and professionalism.

Sincerely,

Mary Lou D. Ortiz
Chief Financial Officer
Vice Chancellor, Finance & Administration



DFA's Vision, Mission, and Values

We are **With U • For U**. We are proud to support the UC Irvine community. Our vision, mission, and values set our direction, guide our decisions, and foster a shared culture. [Learn more.](#)

In This Issue

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Special Edition
[Barry Oh Selected for Prestigious NACUBO Fellows Program](#)



Featured Events

Wed., June 4 | 10-11 a.m.
[DFA Town Hall](#)

Tues., June 17 | 9-10:30 a.m.
[UCI Service Awards](#)
at the [Bren Events Center](#)





DFA-HR Reminders

Review Your Vacation Balances

As we approach summer months, please be sure to review your vacation balances and request time off early.

- Log into [UCPath online](#) and from your Dashboard, navigate to Employee Actions → Accruals and Leave Balances

UCI Services Awards | June 17, 2025

Central Human Resources is hosting the annual UCI [Service Awards](#) on June 17, 2025, at the Bren Events Center. RSVPs are not required but is requested for [honorees](#) and [guests](#) to help with planning, including food ordering.

Article provided by DFA-HR



Continuous Improvement Focus:
TDS: Automated Carpool Matching Service

DFA's CPI [project library](#) features process improvement projects from all DFA departments, including proposed, in progress, and completed.

Transportation & Distribution Services recently completed a [CPI project](#) that established an easily accessible no-cost carpool matching service for UCI affiliates, integrating OCTA's platform into UCI's transportation options. The image below provides details on the problem and goal statement, the implemented solution, and the results. For more information or to discuss this project, please contact [Erika Hennon](#).

TDS: Automated Carpool Matching Service

	Problem:	In order for carpooling to continue to grow as a sustainable commute option for UCI, providing an easily accessible, flexible and free of charge matching service is key. Such option didn't previously exist.
	Goal:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish a no-cost carpool matching service for UCI affiliates.• Promote sustainable commuting by encouraging carpooling.
	Solution:	The solution was implemented in December 2024 and involved integrating OCTA's platform into UCI's transportation options, featured on the TDS website.
	Result:	The project made no-cost carpool resources easily accessible. Ongoing monitoring tracks adoption rates and program impact.

Project Contact: Erika Hennon, Transportation & Distribution Services

Our goal is to showcase completed projects from various departments which might benefit or inspire others. Please reach out to WithUForU@uci.edu to help us showcase your project.

TAKE CPI ACTION

Incorporate CPI in your daily activities. Identify a bottleneck, own it, and improve it!
View and download the [DFA CPI flyer](#).



Submit Ideas/Projects

Submit information about a [process improvement project or idea in your department](#).



Browse Existing Projects

Explore [DFA's CPI dashboard](#) for current, proposed or recently completed process improvement projects in our division.



Explore DFA's CPI Toolkit

Explore the [DFA's CPI toolkit](#). Contact us at WithUForU@uci.edu with any questions and suggestions for additional tools.

Article provided by DFA Program Development & Execution



[ZotGPT](#)

[ZotGPT Chat](#) is a free AI tool for students, faculty, and staff, offering features like multiple models, chat history, file uploads, and a large context window. Built with Microsoft Azure AI, Amazon AWS, and open web technologies, it operates securely within UCI's infrastructure.



[UCI Life Resources Program](#)

The [UCI Life Resources Program](#) (LRP) is a free, confidential support service available 24/7 to all UCI and UCI Health employees, retirees, and their dependents. LRP provides emotional counseling, legal and financial consultations, and work-life solutions. Access is available via phone, online, or mobile app, with no enrollment required.



UC Irvine Celebrates 15 Years as Tree Campus USA

UC Irvine is proud to celebrate 15 consecutive years as a Tree Campus USA, recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation! Our vibrant campus forest (home to approximately 30,000 trees representing 317 different species) is stewarded through the dedicated work of DFA staff and the efforts of student volunteers. Recently, in a collaborative effort across several DFA units, a section of Aldrich Park was replanted with 45 new tree species, replacing the eucalyptus species removed a couple of years ago.

Article provided by UC Irvine Campus Planning & Sustainability



UCI Police Department Celebrates 2025 Award Honorees

On January 24, 2025, the UCI Police Department held its biennial awards ceremony, honoring exemplary service and dedication across the department. The event highlighted the critical role that public safety plays in our campus community, made possible by the unwavering leadership of our command staff, whose guidance and vision empower our staff to deliver exceptional service.

- **Life Saving Awards:** PSR Jose Gallardo, Officer Chris Patton, PSR Ryan Sweeney, Officer Temo Gomex, Corporal Patricia Cortez, and Officer Orng Liev
- **Medal of Merit:** Officer Jorge Parra
- **Community Partnership Awards:** Robert Cervantes, UCI Facilities Superintendent and Craig Takata, Owner of UTC Chick-fil-A
- **CSA of the Year:** CSA Alexandra Magana Cabrera
- **PSA of the Year:** PSA Moayad Qidan
- **PSR of the Year:** PSR Daniel Aguilar
- **Professional Staff of the Year:** Monique Contreras, Court Liaison/Evidence Analyst
- **Supervisor of the Year:** Sergeant Chris Bolano
- **Police Officer of the Year:** Corporal Patricia Cortez

Article provided by UC Irvine Police Department



Sustainability Corner: Celebrate National Bike Month in May

UCI Transportation invites all staff to celebrate National Bike Month by experiencing the many benefits of cycling. Riding a bike supports physical health, reduces stress, and promotes environmental sustainability. Whether commuting to work or for leisure, cycling boosts your well-being while enjoying the outdoors. Discover campus biking resources and explore this month's programs by visiting our [bike website](#).



Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion: Digital Accessibility Basics Training

Digital accessibility ensures that all individuals can access, navigate, and interact with digital content, tools, and technologies. This means designing websites, documents, videos, and software to be usable by everyone, regardless of physical, sensory, or cognitive abilities. Explore [UCI's Accessibility Basics](#) — a short, online training (UCInetID required) that introduces fundamental concepts and five essential accessibility skills.

DFA EMPLOYEE PROFILES



Barry Oh
Campus Controller and Assistant Vice Chancellor, Accounting & Fiscal Services

Barry Oh Selected for Prestigious NACUBO Fellows Program

Barry Oh, campus controller and assistant vice chancellor for Accounting & Fiscal Services, has been selected for the [2025–26 NACUBO Fellows Program](#), a national leadership development [program](#) offered by the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO).

The year-long program is designed to prepare senior higher education professionals for future roles as chief business officers through mentoring, learning opportunities, and cohort-based collaboration with peers from across the country.

At UC Irvine, Barry leads an organization of more than 90 financial professionals responsible for central financial functions, including financial reporting, compliance, and process improvement. He brings a diverse background to his role, with experience in the private sector and K–12 education, as well as time spent in Big Four accounting firms.

"Barry is a thoughtful and strategic leader whose collaborative approach has positively influenced our campus community. We're excited to see him recognized at the national level and know he will bring meaningful insights to his peers and to UC Irvine."

– Mary Lou D. Ortiz, CFO and vice chancellor, Finance & Administration

Barry holds an MBA from the USC Marshall School of Business and a B.A. in economics from UCLA. He joined UC Irvine after serving in leadership roles at The Boeing Company, Curtiss-Wright, and Hacienda La Puente Unified School District.



Michael McLean
Construction Project Manager, Hardscape and Pest Control, Facilities Management

I have been at UC Irvine and in my current position for four months. I manage the Facilities Management portfolio assigned projects.

What aspect of your job do you enjoy the most? Supporting and helping our UCI customers achieve their project objectives.

What are some upcoming trends or challenges that you see in your field? The incorporation of Artificial Intelligence (AI) into Facilities Management operations.

Before your time at UCI, what was your most interesting or oddest job? Consulting and renovating the Disney Anaheim (back of house) infrastructure complex to accommodate the new Star Wars theme attraction.

If you were stuck on an island, what three things would you bring? Small axe, water filter, and waterproof source of ignition.

DFA NEW HIRES

DFA new hires hired between March 21 - April 30, 2025.

Accounting & Fiscal Services:

- Keith Lee

Police Department:

- Adel Saadeh
- Crystal Fabela Trujillo
- Daniel Regalado
- Eric Bustamante
- Gabriel Baxter
- Matt Kreida
- Raul A Salera
- Ruby Flores
- Ryan Anthony Ramos
- Sama Lengor
- Tim Thralls
- Thomas Thayer

Facilities Management:

- Chris George Curren

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

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