



[The proposed CA budget has good news for UC](#)

Last week, Governor Newsom released his revised state budget proposal for 2022-23. It continues to call for a multiyear funding compact with UC that would increase state support by 5% this coming year, with additional 5% increases in each of the next five years. This proposal would allow us to maintain quality while increasing enrollment and expanding access and affordability for California families. [Read President Drake's statement](#) and [an overview of the proposal](#).



[A win for California's Native American students](#)

President Drake has launched the [UC Native American Opportunity Plan](#), which aims to make college more affordable and accessible for California's Native American students. Starting this fall, grants and scholarships will fully cover tuition and service fees for students from federally recognized Native American, American Indian and Alaska Native tribes. [Learn more about how the plan will work](#). You can also [access resources for Native American staff, faculty and students](#).



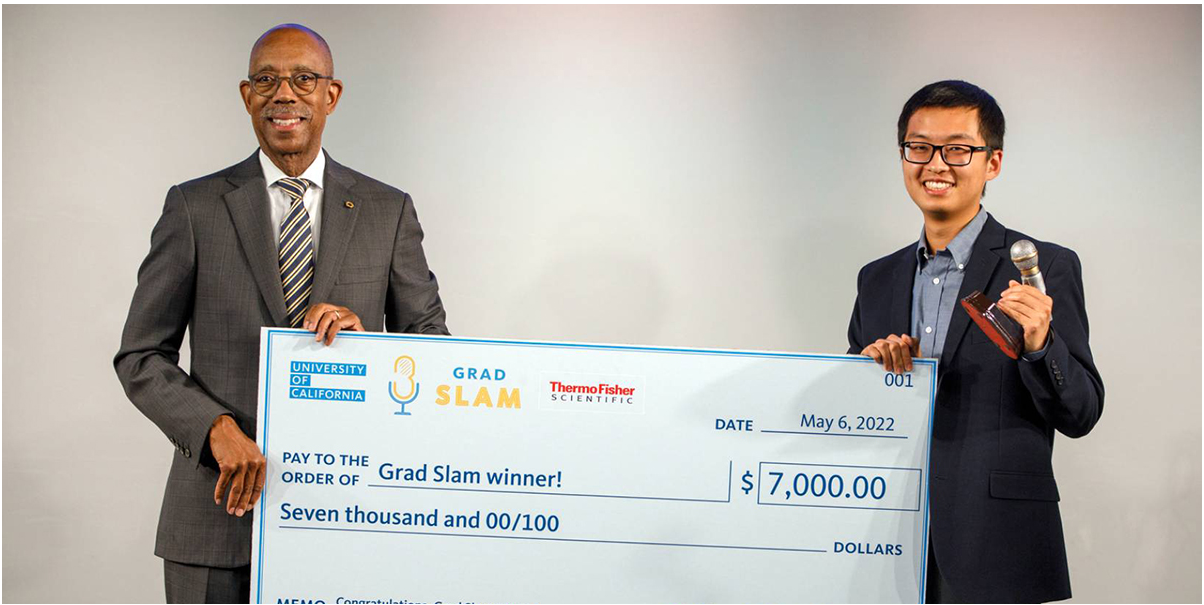
[You've got vacation time: Enjoy it!](#)

Many of us postponed travel plans due to the pandemic. Because of this, President Drake [extended the vacation accrual maximum](#) for policy-covered staff through June 30, 2022. If you're over your maximum on July 1, you won't accrue more vacation until your balance drops below the max amount. [Get the full details at UCnet](#). And, [learn why taking time off is important for well-being](#).



[Growing a faculty to reflect California](#)

In the barrios where Edwin Solares grew up, he tutored gang members — even sparking their interest in poetry. Since then, he's earned a doctorate from UC Irvine with [support from the UC President's Pre-Professoriate Fellowship Program](#), an initiative that helps students from underrepresented backgrounds gain opportunities and resources to pursue academic careers. [Learn how the fellows are reaching their goals and giving back](#).



Research you can remember (and explain)

At this year's [Grad Slam](#), students amazed and delighted President Drake and viewers by presenting their research — pithy and jargon-free — in just three minutes. Justin Lee of UC Berkeley took home the grand prize for his research on stopping COVID-19 with just a breath. Other highlights included a new way to dry food, the health benefits of CBD and protein mutations that can influence health. [Read the recap](#) or [watch the full event](#).



Take the UCnetwork reader survey

Two years ago, we launched this monthly systemwide UCnetwork e-newsletter to keep staff informed and connected on all topics related to being a part of UC — from benefits to university news to local and systemwide accomplishments. We're hoping to learn what's working for you and how we can do better. [Please share your feedback in this 5-minute survey.](#)

STAFF SNAPSHOT



Gerry Medina, mentor and Lakers fan

A Highlander alum and Riverside native, Gerry is passionate about helping students succeed while building deep connections within their greater community

[Meet Gerry](#)

FROM PRESIDENT DRAKE

Make your voice heard

The University of California has a proud history of working together to make the world a better place. Voting is a privilege – one that allows us to choose our leaders and shape the policies that affect our communities.

UC students turned out in force in 2020. More than 75% of those who were eligible to vote that year did so, up from less than half who participated in 2016. Let's build on that momentum in 2022. Our staff and faculty can help by encouraging student participation in the democratic

process and voting themselves.

You may have already marked your calendars for June 7 – California’s Primary Election Day. If not, I encourage you to [make a plan today to vote](#) next month. The deadline to register to vote in California for the primary election is May 23. After that, you can use [Same Day Voter Registration](#) to vote conditionally at your county elections office, polling place or vote center. Even if you aren’t eligible to vote, you can encourage your friends, family members, and others in your community to cast their ballots.

Be sure to visit the [UC Votes website](#) to learn more about how you can make a difference. You can also visit the [California Secretary of State’s website](#) – or reach out to your [county elections office](#) – for factual, nonpartisan, up-to-date information about this election and the voting process.

Thank you for doing your part and making your voices heard.

Fiat Lux,

Michael V. Drake, M.D.

President, University of California



Dr. Michael V. Drake

UC President

"Even though we're still pretty-new nurses, we can be future leaders and have an impact on those system issues [like poverty and transportation access] because we understand them."

IRENE CISNEROS-FONG, RN

[On pursuing her degree and career at UC Davis Medical Center](#)

MORE UC NEWS

[Feedback requested: Guidelines on Community Safety Vehicles, Uniforms and Equipment](#)

[Former astronaut and UC Regent José Hernandez tells youth to “dream big”](#)

[UCLA shares books, movies, podcasts and bands to enjoy in honor of AANHPI Heritage Month](#)

[May 19: Global Accessibility Awareness Day webinar](#)

[6 UC professors earn 2022 Carnegie fellowships](#)

[The California startups taking on climate change](#)



[Climate change is a global emergency](#)

Tell lawmakers to protect Californians from climate change.

[ADD YOUR NAME](#)

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