



UCI Stories

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Goals/Objectives of UCI Stories:

The UC Irvine Libraries has developed and implemented a 50th Anniversary Historical Documentation Project to collect, preserve, and make available historical records and memories focusing on UC Irvine's pioneering intellectual contributions, key turning points, and unique legacy. One aspect of the Project is the collection of oral histories from campus leaders, innovators, alumni, and other difference makers representing the diversity of UCI in the broadest sense.

For the purposes of this project you have been paired with another UCI affiliate with whom you will engage in a recorded video conversation. The goal of the conversation is learn about how founders attempted to institutionalize a vision for UCI, and how this vision was reshaped and reformed over the past 50 years. Your first-hand perspective on UCI will offer valuable information about the University's past and its brilliant future.

The objectives of UCI Stories will be primarily met through a few broad questions regarding your life and career at UCI, your role in the growth and development of colleges, departments and programs, and as a facilitator of the relationship between UCI, Irvine, and Orange County communities.

Our goal is to facilitate a natural dialogue between interview participants. Below are sets of prompts to guide the conversation. You may choose to address some or all of the suggested prompts. **We encourage ad-hoc comments and questions between participants.**

Helpful hint: You know your UCI story, but others may not. Try to be as specific as possible when referring to people, departments, programs, dates (decades are fine), etc. Try to define acronyms whenever possible.

Begin by introducing yourself

- Your name
- Your current affiliation with UCI

For this oral history, we would like you to consider discussing:

1. **Your personal UCI story.**
2. **The growth, development, and/or evolution of UCI Libraries.**
3. **Looking back and looking forward, what do you see the bright past and brilliant future of UCI and UCI Libraries?**

Suggested topics of discussion under each general topic are listed below.

1. Your personal UCI story.

Your background

- How and why did you decide to pursue a library career?
 - For example, did anyone in particular influence you?
 - Did you have an interest in a library career in high school or college?
- Where and when did you receive your library training?
- What was the focus of your library coursework?

Your path to UCI

- How, and in what year did you become aware of UCI?
- Did anyone in particular influence your decision to pursue a career here?
- Why did you ultimately decide to pursue a career at UCI?

Working at UCI Libraries

- What were your first impressions of UCI when you arrived?
- Describe your job during your early years. Where did you fit into UCI Libraries? What did you perceive your role to be?
- Did you play a leadership or service role (on committees, as Chair, etc.?) What were your goals in these roles, and were you able to achieve them?
- What colleagues, administrators, etc. did you come to know in your early years at UCI? Describe when you first met each other.
- How, if at all, did your role change over the years?

2. The growth, development, and/or evolution of UCI Libraries.

- What was the state of UCI Libraries in your early years generally and in your department specifically?
- How did your department work? What were its major emphases?
- Which head libraries have you worked with during your time at UCI? What impact have these individuals had on UCI Libraries?

- What were the major changes that occurred in your department during your time at UCI? What were the purposes for these changes, and what were their effects? Did you play any role in these changes? Did you oppose these changes, why?
- What do you think were the major successes and challenges in your department during your time here? What caused these?
- From your perspective, what was the vision for UCI Libraries' role on campus? How did that change, develop, or evolve over your time at UCI?
- Were, or are there factors outside of UCI that have had an influence on UCI Libraries' role on campus?
 - For example, reflect on the acquisition of particular collections, interacting with particular individuals, developing specialized programs, your involvement in campus activities outside of UCI Libraries.

3. Looking back and looking forward, what do you see in the bright past and brilliant future of UCI and UCI Libraries?

UCI Libraries

- In your opinion, what were the important milestones that took place in the Libraries during your time at UCI? How did these milestones change or better your department or the Libraries as a whole?
- What do you see in the future for UCI Libraries?
- Do you feel that you played a major role in UCI Libraries' history during your time here? How would you characterize your contribution? In other words, what are you most proud to date?
- To date, what is your fondest memory(ies) of your time at UCI Libraries?
- How, if at all, did your experience at UCI affect your life?

UCI in general

- What do you think are the most important changes at UCI during your time here?
- During your time at UCI, who would you say were some of the key individuals responsible for UCI's vision, its intellectual life, its development, etc.?
- Please characterize the effects these individuals had on UCI and its community?
- What do you see in UCI's brilliant future?