Student Success @UCR

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UCR continues to close gaps in graduation rates among diverse and economically disadvantaged students

UCR six-year graduation rates compared to national averages (Cohorts graduating in 2013 to 2015)

Source: ir.ucr.edu
Increasing graduation rates while maintaining access and diversity

UCR 4 & 6 Year Graduation Rates and 4 Year Comparison to UIA Schools (All Colleges, First Time Freshman)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cohort Year</th>
<th>UCRA 4-Year Grad Rate</th>
<th>UCRA 6-Year Grad Rate</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>66.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>66.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>69.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>72.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>41.6%</td>
<td>40.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>44.2%</td>
<td>47.2%</td>
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<td></td>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td>55.0%</td>
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University Innovation Alliance

- Ohio State: 58.5%
- UT Austin: 57.8%
- Iowa State: 43.6%
- Kansas: 41.0%
- Oregon State: 32.9%
- Georgia State: 23.3%

(UIA) University Innovation Alliance
Closing the STEM achievement gap

Percentage of URM Students enrolled in CNAS vs Percentage of CNAS Degrees granted to URM Students

2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014

URM Enrolled

URM Degrees Granted

(URM) Underrepresented Minorities
(CNAS) College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences
Increasing Freshmen and Transfer Retention Rates

UCR First-Year Freshman and Transfer Retention Rates (All Colleges)

Retention Rates

87.6% 88.2% 88.9% 91.7% 92.6% 92.6%

Cohort Year

2010 2011 2012 2013 2014

Target: 95%

Freshman Retention Rate  Transfer Retention Rate
2015 and 2016 Class Composition: By Ethnicity

The 2016 freshmen class is the largest in UCR history

Increases in 2016 enrollment shown in blue

- African American/Black freshmen increased by 74% over 2015
- Asian
- Hispanic/Latino
- Multi-Racial
- White

Note: 2016 data are preliminary
2015 and 2016 Class Composition: By College Preparedness

Profiles of the Freshmen Class 2015 and 2016

- **First Generation Students**: 53% (2015) vs. 62% (2016)
- **Students Placed in Preparatory Math**: 18% (2015) vs. 27% (2016)
- **Students Placed in Preparatory English**: 39% (2015) vs. 46% (2016)

*Note: 2016 data are preliminary*
First generation college students need special encouragement

- Students may question whether they belong at UCR
- First generation students likely come from families of modest means
  - They likely went to poor schools, and may have some deficits in knowledge or skills
  - With support, they can overcome these deficits and succeed at UCR
  Recommend students make use of the Academic Resource Center (ARC) [http://arc.ucr.edu](http://arc.ucr.edu)
    - Supplemental instruction (SI)
    - Tutoring
    - Support for writing (the Writing Center)
- Students may be pressured by families who want them to come home on weekends to help with siblings or work in the family business
- Their career choice may be chosen by their parents, and they may have a limited view of the majors they can pursue
- They may not be socialized to ask for help, and may be intimidated about approaching you with questions
  - Make yourself accessible: smile and chat with students before class
  - A help session before exams may be less threatening than expecting all students to come to your office hours
Your important role as a faculty mentor

“if graduates had a professor who cared about them as a person, made them excited about learning, and encouraged them to pursue their dreams, their odds of being engaged at work more than doubled, as did their odds of thriving in their well-being.”

There are several ways you can mentor students:
1. Be a research mentor
2. Teach a class that incorporates service learning
3. Serve as faculty advisor for a student club
4. Mentor students teaching an R’Course
Teaching excellence is also important for you!

- Your teaching evaluations will be an important component of your merit and tenure reviews
  - UCR relies heavily on student evaluations of teaching. Read your evaluations and discuss them with a mentor
  - Arrive to class early and well-organized
  - For large classes or soft spoken individuals, the microphone is your friend
  - Students give more positive evaluations if they believe that you are fair and sincerely want them to be successful
- Peer evaluations of your teaching are useful and can be included in your file. Ask your chair to have someone from your department observe your teaching and summarize their comments in a letter
- The Academy of Distinguished Teachers are available to provide assistance and mentorship [http://academyteachers.ucr.edu/](http://academyteachers.ucr.edu/)
- Attend seminars and workshops on topics related to teaching excellence
Instructional Design & Faculty Support

Content

Course

Lesson

By Fred Underhill School – Own work
http://mathworkshopfredcunderhill.blogspot.com/2014/03/lego.html

By Jillian Riley – Own work
http://amomwithalessonplan.com/minifigures-storytelling/

By Morty – Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0,
https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=21306458
UCR Academic Support Units

Units

• VPUE Programs & Initiatives
• Computing & Communications
  o Instructional Design
  o Multimedia, Research & Computing Support Services
• Library Services
• Others

Services

• Match appropriate tools to your teaching & learning goals
• Identify best practices to produce student engagement & persistence
• Investigate & facilitate current or emerging technologies
• Provide hybrid & online course re/design consults & workshops

http://engage@ucr.edu  http://cnc.ucr.edu/mt.html
UCR Undergraduate Education Office

**Summer Sessions**
University students can get ahead, catch up, or study abroad. High school students can also get university credit.
summer.ucr.edu

**Academic Internships**
Any major can benefit from an internship - in Riverside, in Sacramento, or in Washington, DC.
ssp.ucr.edu

**Undergraduate Research**
Students can search for research opportunities, present at a symposium, or publish their work.
ssp.ucr.edu

**Prestigious Scholarships**
Undergraduates apply for (and receive) many prestigious scholarships and awards.
ssp.ucr.edu/scholarships

**Evaluation & Assessment**
Measuring progress and improving teaching and learning.
ueeval.ucr.edu

**R'Courses**
Students create and lead original courses for 1 unit of S/NC credit.
rcourses.ucr.edu

**Academy of Distinguished Teachers**
Resources for faculty to improve teaching and learning.
academyteachers.ucr.edu

**Honors**
Students with a 3.8 in high school and/or a 3.5 university GPA can apply each spring.
honors.ucr.edu

**Global Issues Forum**
Students and faculty across disciplines discuss important international issues.
ucrgif.wix.com/globalissuesforum

**Academic Resource Center**
Full battery of tutoring and mentoring resources for students, including a Writing Center with individual tutoring appointments and workshops.
arc.ucr.edu

**Service-Learning**
Service-learning opportunities are being piloted in courses across the university. Interested students can email servicelearning@ucr.edu

**University Writing Program**
Students complete their university writing requirements.
wup.ucr.edu