Faculty Leadership Key to Internationalizing UC Davis

By William B. Lacy, Vice Provost, University Outreach & International Programs

As the world becomes ever-more complex and interconnected, it is essential for colleges and universities to play a pioneering role in effective globalization. Effective globalization means enriching our higher education and culture; building intercultural communication, understanding and relationships among nations; and successive generations of world leaders. Many colleges and universities are working toward this goal through international research and collaboration, as well as through the preparation of graduates who are proficient in foreign languages and have high levels of cultural sensitivity and awareness.

Faculty contributions are essential for achieving the goals of international research and education. However, as a Carnegie Foundation study of academics around the world revealed, U.S. faculty are far less committed to internationalism than their counterparts in other countries.

Numerous opportunities for faculty exist if they know how to find them. Several institutional units can help to promote active faculty participation. For example, the Faculty Senate can play an important role, particularly at institutions with strong faculty governance. Senate international, curriculum, promotion and research committees can help set the tone, establish policies and provide incentives for strong faculty engagement in international activities.

Faculty development programs at the university, college or department level that address pedagogy and international content are also vital. Equally as vital is the identification of funding opportunities for such programs. Organizations like the Fulbright Program, Humboldt Foundation, National Science Foundation and USAID offer ongoing funding awards for international research and education. Individual travel awards and seed grants are also available at many universities.

While resources to encourage faculty participation in international conferences, collaborative research and education abroad are often needed, such investments will pay early and significant dividends. Generally, faculty who have firsthand international experiences are more supportive and enthusiastic about internationalization of the campus and will integrate that knowledge into their own teaching and research.

In the case of collaborations between institutions in different countries, faculty should form the foundation for most institutional agreements, particularly if those collaborations and agreements are to move beyond being “dust collectors.” Finally, at the departmental and college level, faculty need to be encouraged and rewarded for their participation in international activities, through appropriate promotion and tenure reviews and merit evaluations; department, college and campus awards; and other forms of recognition.

While the aftermath of recent events has encouraged many U.S. colleges and universities to refocus on international and global scholarship, the future is unclear. What is certain, however, is that faculty will be a key factor in meeting the growing need to prepare our students and scholars for life in a global educational community and society. UC Davis faculty, in particular, are playing increasingly critical roles: mentoring international scholars, teaching abroad, planning and participating in international conferences, and building new international collaborations. This issue of the newsletter provides examples of some of these essential faculty activities.
UC Davis Co-sponsors Conference in China and Strengthens Ties with Southeast Asian Universities

By Kristin Mick

This fall, more than 30 UC Davis faculty, senior staff and graduate students traveled to Wuxi, China, to participate in an international conference organized jointly by UC Davis and Southern Yangtze University. At the 5th International Conference on Food Science and Technology, held October 22-24, U.S. and Chinese experts shared current research in such areas as the role of food science in nutrition, food biotechnology, food processing and food safety. The conference marked a special opportunity for 15 UC Davis graduate students who, due to National Science Foundation funding assistance obtained by Dr. Sharon Shoemaker, were able to attend this prestigious international event.

Offered every two to three years at alternating universities, the conference was first held in 1991, under the leadership of Dr. John Whitaker of UC Davis and Dr. Ding of Southern Yangtze University. Associate Vice Provost for University Outreach and Nutrition Professor Barbara Schneeman served as a keynote speaker for this year’s conference. “Southern Yangtze University is poised for significant growth and development, and I anticipate our collaboration with the university will continue to grow and develop as its programs mature and broaden,” Schneeman said.

After the conference, Schneeman, along with Vice Provost William Lacy and International Alumni and Visitors Program Director Robert Kerr reconnected with UC Davis alumni and friends living in China at a reception held in their honor. The UC Davis delegates also made official visits to Zhejiang University and Fudan University in China before traveling to Thailand, Singapore and Malaysia as part of an ongoing effort to strengthen UC Davis’ relationships with international universities.

While in Thailand, the delegates visited Assumption University, Mahidol University, Chulalongkorn University and Kasetsart University. Next they visited the National University of Singapore and University Putra Malaysia, where 23 faculty including the Vice Chancellor are UC Davis alumni. UC Davis has ongoing collaborations at each of these universities in such areas as study abroad programs and faculty/post-graduate research. Lacy, Schneeman and Kerr also made time in their busy schedules to meet alumni and friends of UC Davis in Bangkok and Malaysia at alumni events held there.

“One of our goals when we travel to another country is to identify a core group of alumni and friends to call upon as leaders when we need a voice for UCD,” Kerr said. “I believe our Southeast Asia trip accomplished that goal.”

For more information about international institution collaboration and the Southeast Asian tour, please visit http://uoip@ucdavis.edu.

UC Davis and German University Developing New Technologies to Better Understand Human Health

By Kristin Mick

A revolution is taking place — not on battlefields, but in scientific laboratories — and it’s bringing nations together rather than tearing them apart.

Until recently, scientists were only able to look at one or two genes at a time. Today, using emerging sciences like genomics, scientists at UC Davis and other leading life sciences universities and institutes around the world are developing technologies that allow us to examine thousands of genes simultaneously — resulting in the most complete DNA mapping to date. Similar technologies are also being developed to study human, animal, plant and microbial metabolism — providing a clearer picture of how living organisms truly function.

What began as a trip by Chancellor Vanderhoef to the Technical University of Munich (TUM) to renew an Agreement of Cooperation last fall transpired into an exciting new partnership. Both UC Davis and TUM have food science and technology departments in the midst of researching emerging sciences like functional genomics and metabolomics. In an effort to share information and establish research collaborations, a joint conference was held at UC Davis in September, bringing together scientists from both universities.

The two-day conference resulted in the identification of several common research interests as well as specific areas for future collaborations. “In particular, both UC Davis and TUM have active research programs working on the problems of obesity and diabetes,” said conference coordinator and Professor Bruce German of UC Davis’ Food Science and Technology Department. “Also, both campuses are very interested in the secondary compounds of plant metabolism, including flavonoids of red wine. Thirdly, both campuses are interested in studying the various consequences of exposure to toxins from the environment.” The conference also sparked interest in future opportunities for student and scholar exchanges between the two universities.

UC Davis’ collaborations with the Technical University of Munich hold great potential for the future of scientific discovery, and both campuses look forward to a strong, ongoing partnership.

For additional information about the conference, please contact Bruce German at bgerman@ucdavis.edu. Information concerning international institution partnership is available at http://internationalprograms.ucdavis.edu/agreements.cfm.
Humphrey Fellows at UC Davis: 2003-2004

By Dennis Dutschke

UC Davis anticipates hosting approximately 1,200 international scholars during the 2003-2004 academic year. Among them will be the distinguished group of Hubert H. Humphrey Fellows, nine scholars from all over the world. UC Davis is currently the only campus in the UC system administering the Humphrey Program. The fellows will engage in academic and professional activities related to their expertise and interests throughout the year at UC Davis. The Humphrey class of 2003-2004:

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Home country</th>
<th>Field of interest</th>
<th>UC Davis mentor</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Afiavi Agboh-Noameshie</td>
<td>Togo</td>
<td>Agricultural research</td>
<td>Assistant Researcher Leland Glenna</td>
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<td>Ms. Suzan Mohammed Al-Ajjawi</td>
<td>Bahrain</td>
<td>Sustainable development</td>
<td>Assistant Professor Cary Texler</td>
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<td>Mr. Yaw Amoyaw-Osei</td>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Environmental impact assessment</td>
<td>Professor Paul Sabatier</td>
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<td>Mr. Edmundo Ricardo Contreras</td>
<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>Agribusiness</td>
<td>Professor Emeritus Alex McCalla</td>
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<td>Mr. Tuncer Dincergok</td>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>Renewable energy/hydropower issues</td>
<td>Professor Jay Lund</td>
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<td>Ms. Helda Ishaq</td>
<td>Syria</td>
<td>Water management</td>
<td>Professor Wesley Wallender</td>
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<td>Mr. Yao Nguessan</td>
<td>Ivory Coast</td>
<td>Environmental studies/GIS</td>
<td>Professor Richard Plant</td>
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<td>Mr. Luis Roberto Proença</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Environmental protection law</td>
<td>UC Davis Extension Unit Chair Beth Greenwood</td>
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<td>Mr. Falilou Seye</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Energy policy management</td>
<td>Professor Paul Sabatier</td>
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For information about the Humphrey Fellowship Program, contact Paul Marcotte, Humphrey Program Assistant Coordinator, at plmarcotte@ucdavis.edu, or visit the Web site at http://internationalprograms.ucdavis.edu/Humphrey.

About UOIP

University Outreach & International Programs’ (UOIP) goal is to provide campus leadership and coordination for UC Davis faculty, students and staff in two major academic program areas:

- continuing, distance and lifelong learning
- international research and educational activities and programs

Campus programs that are part of this office include the Education Abroad Center, Hubert H. Humphrey Program, Services for International Students and Scholars, UC Davis Short-Term Programs Abroad, Summer Sessions Abroad, UC Davis Connect and UC Davis Extension.

For more information about UOIP’s activities, visit the Web site at http://uoip.ucdavis.edu.
Panama Rainforest Becomes Classroom for UC Davis Faculty

By Paul Marcotte

It can be a challenge getting students excited about global issues important to agriculture and the environment while sitting in a large lecture hall. Textbooks only present a two-dimensional view of the world and, thus, make it difficult for students to critically apply what they have learned. The International Programs Office of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences is working to change exactly that.

After Dr. Patrick Brown received a USDA Higher Education Challenge grant, Associate Director Paul Marcotte, geography graduate student Fabrice De Clerck and International Agriculture Development (IAD) graduate student Kraig Kraft used the grant funding to teach a two-month course in Panama’s diverse biomes. The trio joined 14 students from UC Davis, Cornell, Iowa State University and the University of Panama this past July and August for an exploration of the controversies between agricultural development and conservation, and a search for creative solutions.

“Tropical Ecology and Sustainable Agricultural Development in Panama” was an interdisciplinary course that fostered critical thinking and problem solving while providing students with the necessary tools to do both. Armed with pens, clipboards and measuring tapes, the class made a long transect from the remote villages of the Darien rainforest to the coffee plantations in the western highlands of the Chiriqui province.

Each week the course presented students with a new region to explore, along with a new topic, all within the framework of conservation and development. In the Darien rainforest students learned about indigenous agriculture and ecotourism, led by Ph.D. candidate Fabrice De Clerck, and ANCON Expeditions. Machetes in hand and an Embera farmer at their side, the students spent a day in the field gaining a firsthand understanding of slash and burn agriculture. Marcotte presented different methodologies for conducting sociological surveys that might answer the students’ lingering questions about sustainability and cultural preservation of the Darien rainforest. Back to the field, machetes replaced by clipboards, the students struggled with their Spanish to interview farmers on agricultural techniques, crop diversity and elementary education — striving to create a mental map that could link the communities’ natural resources, human resources and agriculture. Another part of the two-month course took students to the highlands of Boquete to investigate questions about sustainability and biodiversity on coffee plantations.

While in Panama, the students honed their critical thinking and analysis skills from ecological, agronomic, sociological and economic perspectives. And equally as important, they created memories that will last a lifetime. According to one student’s evaluation: “I have never had such a good learning experience before. There is no question — a field-based experience is far superior...thank you all for everything — this trip has been the best experience I’ve ever had.”

For additional information, visit the Web site at http://caes.ucdavis.edu/IntProg/Panama.htm. To view digital photos of this course in progress, visit http://uoip.ucdavis.edu/newsletters/newsletters.cfm.

Farwell, Treasured Colleagues

UC Davis and University Outreach & International Programs recently experienced the death of two valued colleagues involved with international program facilitation and development:

Kath-Ann Gerhardt, former director of Services for International Students and Scholars (SISS), lost her two-year battle with cancer on September 28, 2003. Kath-Ann worked for UC Davis nearly 20 years, first joining the campus and SISS in 1983. Throughout her tenure, she held multiple SISS roles, including associate director and later as director. Kath-Ann was a recognized scholar services expert by UC Davis and her professional association, NAFSA: Association of International Educators, in which she held numerous national-level positions. Her sustained leadership to the profession was acknowledged by NAFSA, in May 2003, with the bestowal of its esteemed Life Membership Award. As importantly, she was a trusted resource to literally thousands of international scholars and students, who, by her expertise, care and considerable campus citizenship, made vital contributions to the campus. She will be greatly missed by colleagues and friends the world over.

Raba Gunasekara, Campus Opportunities Development Officer in the Vice Provost-University Outreach & International Programs Office, died suddenly of a heart attack on August 3, 2003, while visiting family and former schoolmates in Sri Lanka. In January 2001, Raba began developing a program to identify and assist UC Davis faculty in successfully competing for funding and development opportunities in outreach and international programs. Raba was a regular contributor and a driving force behind this newsletter. Raba was also an active member of the (UC Davis) Campus Community Book Project. The 2003 selection is, “Gandhi’s Way: A Handbook of Conflict Resolution,” by Mark Juergensmeyer. Raba’s humor, hard work and positive outlook will be greatly missed.
Young Named New Director for SISS

By Kristin Mick

University Outreach & International Programs proudly introduces the new director of Services for International Students and Scholars (SISS), Dr. Wesley Young. Young comes to UC Davis from the Dominican University of California in San Rafel, where he worked as director of the Office of International Student Services and associate professor of International Studies.

In his new position, which began in August, Young oversees a department which represents the interests of approximately 3,000 international students, faculty and researchers and their accompanying family members who come to UC Davis each year. This is a sharp contrast to his years at a university where the entire student body totals only 1,500. “At small schools it is not unusual for a person to have responsibilities in several areas — I taught undergraduate and graduate courses on international political economy and Asian politics, advised study abroad students and international students, and managed graduate programs designed for Taiwanese mid-career professionals,” Young said. “The position with SISS will allow me to be more focused in an area where I feel I can make a positive contribution.”

Now more than 20 years after his days as a student at UC Davis, Young enjoys the opportunity to be back at his alma mater. “When I’m walking through campus and happen to be in a place where I spent a lot of time, I feel like I’ve never left,” he said. Young graduated from UC Davis with a degree in political science, then earned master’s and Ph.D. degrees from UC Berkeley in the same subject.

With his diverse professional experience and career-long devotion to international education, Dr. Wesley Young is a distinguished and welcome addition to SISS and UC Davis. For more information about Services for International Students and Scholars, call (530) 752-0864 or visit the Web site at http://siss.ucdavis.edu.

UC Davis International Enrollments Decline Under New Challenges

By Gina Anderson, University Outreach & International Programs

The Chronicle of Higher Education (September 19, 2003) recently reported a drop in student visa applications and number issued. According to the article: “From October 1, 2002, to August 1, 2003, the State Department received 270,405 applications for student visas and issued nearly 175,000. That is roughly 57,000 fewer applications received and 65,000 fewer visas issued compared with the same period two years earlier.”

Despite these challenges, UC Davis continues to maintain its large community of international students, scholars and faculty through its academic opportunities and professional services. Preliminary data indicate UC Davis has welcomed 1,431 international students from 80 countries this fall – a decline from last year’s total of 1,583.
He arrived at the border shortly before nightfall, carrying cameras and a month’s worth of luggage and supplies on his back. UC Davis animal scientist Wolfgang Pittroff arrived in Afghanistan last fall as part of the much needed aid the world pledged when the U.S. and allies invaded two years ago to rout the Taliban.

Under the aegis of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and with $600,000 in funding from the Italian government, Pittroff led a livestock census designed to help rebuild Afghanistan’s largely agrarian society. Livestock are a chief source of food and wealth there. Pittroff said the typical family would have a few cows and several sheep and goats, but many have none today, forced by a four-year drought to sell their animals.

Since the project began last fall, Pittroff and FAO workers fanning out through the country discovered more than 1,000 Afghan villages that weren’t even on the map. “You cannot distribute food to people if you don’t know where they live,” Pittroff said. “Probably one-third of the population is still at risk of hunger there.”

Aggrey Majok, a veterinary epidemiologist who spent more than five years in Afghanistan, working for the FAO, said the state of agriculture was near collapse but has improved since the fall of the Taliban. “There is relative peace, and farmers are able to cultivate their lands with improved seeds provided by FAO and international NGOs (non-governmental organizations),” said Majok, who is an alumnus of UC Davis and helped Pittroff plan the census project.

To conduct the census, Pittroff and FAO colleagues worked with mullahs, Muslim clerics, who called village meetings in local mosques to ask the census questions and translate answers. Pittroff had thought that the people, having lived for more than 20 years in a state of war — first under occupation by the former Soviet Union, and later in civil strife — would be mistrustful. He experienced just the opposite.

“You cannot go into any village or community without being forced to stay for dinner,” he said. “They will share what they have for food, even if they don’t have very much. Also, they say, ‘You are safe here.’ ”

Pittroff gladly will tell of his experiences in Afghanistan and of the needs there. “I hope that the important message to not abandon this wonderful country again gets out,” he said.

*To read the article in its entirety, go to the UOIP Web site at http://uoip.ucdavis.edu/newsletters/newsletters.cfm.*
International Alum Earns Prestigious Mrak Award

By Kristin Mick

This fall, the Cal Aggie Alumni Association presented the Emil M. Mrak International Award to one of Korea’s chief political figureheads. Jay Kun Yoo’s long list of titles include national assemblyman of the Republic of Korea, senior foreign policy advisor to President Roh Moo Hyun, chairman of the U.S.-Korea Interparliamentary Exchange Council — and graduate of the UC Davis School of Law.

Before receiving his capstone degree at UC Davis in 1977, Yoo’s educational endeavors earned him bachelor’s and master’s degrees in political science from Yonsei University in Korea, a Master of Science degree in sociology from Brigham Young University and a Ph.D. in sociology from University of Washington. “My three years at UC Davis became the basis of my political career,” Yoo explained. “I learned the philosophy of law and the legislative process [in addition to] the substantive laws and proceedings. My legal education at Davis has helped me a great deal.”

In 2000, Jay Kun Yoo was elected to his second term of office in the Korean National Assembly. Prior to his highly-decorated political career, Yoo’s professional background included such diverse positions as first lieutenant in the Korean Air Force, Los Angeles attorney, law professor and president at Kyongwon University in Korea, corporate CEO and television talk show host.

The Emil M. Mrak International Award is presented to an alumnus or alumna with a distinguished record in either career or service outside the United States. In Jay Kun Yoo’s case, the award recognizes achievements in both career and public service. For example, Yoo was awarded South Korea’s highest service medal, particularly for organizing an international sports event for disabled athletes. In addition, as a national assemblyman and senior foreign policy adviser, Yoo works to assist disadvantaged and young people. He campaigns for unity within his own country as well as throughout the world. In his role as chairman of the U.S.-Korea Interparliamentary Exchange Council, Yoo has greatly contributed to improving understanding between the legislatures of both nations.

When asked how he measures success, Yoo replied: “As long as you are satisfied with what you are doing, you are a person of success. I consider myself a man of success because I’m so grateful and happy for what I’m doing in my life.”

UC Davis Extension’s International Law Programs Help Students Think Globally

By Susan Silva

Each summer the UC Davis law school becomes a miniature United Nations. This past year, 106 law professionals and students from around the world came to Davis to spend a month learning about U.S. and international law with the hopes of applying their knowledge and new perspectives to help their countries succeed in the global arena.

Coordinated by the UC Davis King Hall School of Law and UC Davis Extension, this year’s classes were filled with a wide range of international students. The roster included 21 Fulbright scholars, chosen for their ability to exchange ideas and develop solutions to shared concerns. For the first time in its 14-year history, Fulbright fellowships were awarded to legal professionals from developing countries of Africa to attend these programs.

For many, the reputation of the American educational system is what attracts them. For instance, Saud Alarifi of Saudi Arabia believes American universities are the best in the world. “Here you learn to think. And it’s not just from the professors. I’m learning from my classmates as well.”

Maiful Khan, a visiting professor from Bangladesh, who is pursuing a master’s degree in International Commercial Law, is focused on the connection between human rights and international law. “Poverty, inequality and environmental degradation are closely linked,” Khan said. “The interests of third-world countries must be represented in the international arena if we are to protect human rights. This kind of dialogue is critical because Americans must also learn why it is that they are not liked in many parts of the world.”

After attending last summer’s international law program, Sabine Wrede returned to Germany with a greater understanding of environmental and corporate liability law. She and several classmates are spending three consecutive summers earning UC Davis master’s degrees through an intensive, 36-unit program that includes coursework in financing international transactions, dispute resolution, structuring joint ventures and tax law. “It’s a great program,” Wrede stated, “because you don’t have to quit your job to go to school for nine months.”

For more information contact Beth Greenwood, International Law Programs, at (530) 757-8694 or email bgreenwo@unexmai l.ucdavis.edu.
Selected Opportunities

**Alexander von Humboldt Foundation:** The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation grants research fellowships and research awards to highly-qualified scholars and scientists of all nationalities not resident in Germany, enabling them to undertake periods of research in Germany. These fellowships include:

- Humboldt Research Fellowships for highly-qualified scholars not resident in Germany, aged up to 40 and holding a doctorate, enabling them to undertake periods of research in Germany (500 fellowships per year).
- German Chancellor Scholarships for prospective leaders from the U.S. aged up to 35 in the academic, economic, political or social fields for stays in Germany (10 scholarships awarded each year).
- Two-Year Post-Doctoral Fellowships for U.S. Scientists and Scholars
- Summer Research Fellowships for U.S. Scientists and Scholars
- Linked Post-Doctoral Awards (NRC/AVH)
- TransCoop Programme: Support is awarded for transatlantic research cooperation among German, American and/or Canadian scholars in the humanities, social sciences, economics and law.


**National Science Foundation (NSF):**

- **Pan-American Advanced Studies Institutes Program (PASI)** Application deadlines: January 15 of each year.

**East Asia Summer Institutes (EASI):** Provides U.S. graduate students in science and engineering firsthand research experience in China, Japan, Korea or Taiwan, as well as an introduction to the science and scientific policy infrastructure of these countries. The primary goals of EASI are to introduce students to East Asia science and engineering in the context of a research laboratory, and to initiate personal relationships that will better enable them to collaborate with foreign counterparts in the future. The institutes last approximately eight weeks from June to August and are administered in the U.S. by the NSF, with cosponsorship by the National Institute of Health (NIH).

  Application deadline: December 1, 2003. For more information about EASI contact: EASI Program Manager, Office of International Science and Engineering, NSF; telephone: (703) 292-8704, email: eapinfo@nsf.gov.

  For general information visit the NSF Web site at http://www.nsf.gov.

**Pacific Rim Research Program:** The Pacific Rim Research Program is a multicampus program established to encourage Pacific Rim research on the ten campuses of the University of California. It sponsors a competitive grants program that provides funds for UC faculty and graduate students who conduct research on Pacific Rim topics in a variety of disciplines. The program offers four types of research grants:

- Research projects: Average of $20,000 (up to a maximum of $60,000) to UC faculty and graduate students.
- Workshop and planning grants: Up to $15,000 to UC faculty and graduate students for conferences, workshops and collaborative publications.
- Faculty development grants: Supports UC faculty in developing new directions in Pacific Rim research through short-term residence in the region. The award, which is up to $10,000, also provides for scholars from another Pacific Rim country to visit a UC host campus.
- Mini-grants: Up to $3,000 can be provided on a quarterly basis, if funds are available and the request meets PRRP guidelines.

These applications are reviewed first by campus committees, then by the PRRP Executive Committee.

Campus deadlines vary from December to early January.

For deadlines and application guidelines, please see the Call for Proposals and Guidelines, at http://www.ucop.edu/research/pacificrim, or from the UC Davis campus liaison, Matt Nguyen, at (530) 754-7667.