

Strategic Plan 2022-2027

INNOVATE. INSPIRE. IMPACT.

*10+ Years of Empowering the Next Generation
of Scholars, Educators and Leaders*



Strategic Priorities

The UCI School of Education's strategic efforts for 2022-27 focuses on engaging in research that is impactful, advances the field, and facilitates partnership and innovation across the P-20+ education continuum with a focus on both systemic and out-of-school learning contexts.

We have identified 10 strategic priorities and initiatives to focus on for the next five years to leverage our collective strengths and fulfill our vision of serving as a catalyst for innovation, inspiration and transformation. These strategic priorities are consistent with all four pillars of UCI's Strategic Plan and align with our collective efforts to contribute to the Brilliant Future of the university and the School of Education.

Orange County Educational Advancement Network (OCEAN)

The UCI School of Education's OCEAN represents our commitment to conducting relevant, innovative research in partnership with Orange County and Southern California. OCEAN has established more than 50 research-practice partnerships with local schools, districts and community organizations, and has secured over \$15 million in grants. OCEAN has an impressive track record for developing impactful research-practice partnerships.

Center for Educational Partnerships (CFEP)

For more than 25 years, CFEP has engaged with schools and the community to establish lasting and impactful partnerships; and supported schools and districts as well as first-generation and low-income students to attain higher education. CFEP epitomizes authentic community engagement and its work in Southern California expands educational initiatives to increase student pathways to and through higher education.

Digital Learning, Access and Leading in a Data Science Revolution

The UCI School of Education is a leader in digital learning, literacy access and is poised to further lead in this data science revolution. Our faculty are engaged in key P-20+ projects that inform the development of systems for data science use and innovative practice, pedagogy and ultimately expand access and equity in an increasingly technology-driven society.

Teacher Education and Transformation

The UCI School of Education is committed to serving as an academic and professional home to future and current teachers, and providing professional learning opportunities to engage them throughout their lifespan as K-12 system teachers and leaders. Our multi-faceted approach to cultivating teachers through our CalTeach, Master of Arts in Teaching and bilingual certificate programs is leaving a lasting imprint on the county and the Southern California region.

A Leader in STEM Equity

The UCI School of Education is working to ensure that all children and students have equitable access to opportunities in STEM. The School is building this area by advancing environmental science education through the Stacey Nicholas Endowed Chair in Environmental Education, and through the collaborative Environmental and Climate Change Literacy Projects initiative.

Early Learning

Our School is committed to serving the whole child by developing holistic strategies and frameworks for connecting families early to educational resources, culturally responsive information and learning opportunities. Our faculty continue to establish synergistic research projects that inform practice and policy to maximize early learning opportunities.





Advancing the Study of Bilingualism and Multilingualism

The UCI School of Education is committed to the study of bilingualism and multilingualism as well as to cultivating the next generation of bilingual, bicultural teachers through our bilingual certificate program. Through our teacher programs and research, we are advancing the science and knowledge on bilingualism and multilingualism.

Human Development and Motivation

Several School of Education centers and faculty are guided by holistic and culturally integrated frameworks that reflect the dynamic, multiple influences and bidirectional relations between persons and environment impacting lifelong learning and wellbeing. Our scholars are also collaborating with researchers globally to conduct research and develop intervention programs.

Out-of-School Learning

Several faculty research projects are happening in partnership with key programs such as TRIO Scholars, Upward Bound, GEAR UP, the Center for After School and Summer Excellence (CASE) and the UCI Writing Project. This is a core value of the School and is also present through CFEP, OCEAN and our research centers where our scholars are co-designing programmatic approaches to learning and engagement.

Higher Education & Beyond

We are expanding our faculty to inform student-centered approaches at UCI and the broader field of higher education. Through student-centered research, culturally responsive pedagogy and innovative approaches, we strive to enrich, graduate and inspire first-generation, civic-minded and diverse scholars who are committed to transforming education systems and society.

MISSION

The UCI School of Education (SOE) improves access to high-quality educational opportunities for all individuals in our university, community and beyond. We are dedicated to producing responsive and innovative cutting-edge research, program design, policy, and a next generation of educators that will contribute to a transformational shift in education. We are committed to ensuring that all students are empowered and prepared to lead successful and productive lives and careers in a democratic society.

OUR CORE VALUES

We acknowledge that education is lifelong, a pathway toward generational progress, social and economic mobility and has the potential for greater racial equity and social justice. These core values guide our efforts to engage in the following:

Inspire Innovation and collaboration in knowledge discovery

Elevate the student experience through pedagogy, research and mentorship

Center community and authentic engagement

Prioritize organizational efficiency

Support professional development opportunities for staff

Foster excellence through diversity, equity and inclusion

Provide policy solutions and recommendations to advance equity across multiple systems and policy making entities

Advocate for social and racial justice in education



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