The annual Social Ecology Student Association mixer was held on February 21 at Arroyo Vista. The faculty student mixer is a great opportunity for faculty and students to interact in a more relaxed setting outside the classroom. “The professors at UCI are very open to communicate and get to know students on a more personal level,” said SESA president Kelly Colford. “The students who take the opportunity to get to know these knowledgeable individuals are really being proactive in their educational experience. I am proud that such a large university still has the closeness and intimacy that we have with our professors.”

The School of Social Ecology has experienced dramatic growth during the past decade. One symbol of that growth is our commencement ceremonies, which have evolved from one ceremony (shared with another school), to our own ceremony and now, to two ceremonies this spring, both of which filled the Bren Events Center (capacity ~ 5,000) with graduates, their families and friends, Social Ecology faculty, and UCI administrators. The two ceremonies included more than 800 graduates receiving Bachelor’s, Master’s, and Ph.D. degrees in the academic programs that are based in our School.

Our two student speakers (Brian Alexander Yu, majoring in Psychology and Social Behavior, and Jennifer Kwon, majoring in Criminology, Law and Society) represented their classmates extremely well by delivering thoughtful and sincere reflections and challenging their fellow graduates to use their education in productive ways. Their talks were followed by an inspiring commencement address, delivered by Dr. David Altman (Ph.D., Social Ecology, 1984). Dr. Altman, who also received Social Ecology’s 2007 Alumnus of the Year Award, is Executive Vice President for Research and Innovation at the Center for Creative Leadership, a non-profit research and educational institution based in Greensboro, North Carolina, with campuses in North America, Europe, and Asia. He also continues to direct the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s Substance Abuse Policy Research Program. Dr. Altman recounted his visit to Ethiopia, where he encountered severe poverty and hunger; his own experience in a survival course so he could actually experience severe hunger; his discussions with world leaders while he was a Kellogg Fellow; his discovery of how relatively small donations and investments (microfinance) can grow dramatically to address world hunger; and his bike ride across America, during which he talked with more than 10,000 people and which has ultimately raised over $2 million to combat hunger.

Commencement 2007 was a terrific and inspiring experience for all concerned. We wish all of our graduates the very best as they move on to further their studies or to accept employment. We know that they, like David Altman, will use their Social Ecology education to make a positive difference in the world!
On May 15 the Center for Law, Society and Culture presented a panel discussion on the theme, “What is a Law School in the 21st Century?” The panel featured Rick Abel from UCLA, Michael Clark from UCI, Stanley Fish from Florida International University, Bryant Garth from Southwestern Law School and Nomi Stolzenberg from USC. The panel examined UC Irvine’s unique opportunity to create, from the ground up, a top-ranked law school for the 21st century.

This event was co-sponsored by the School of Social Ecology; School of Social Sciences; School of Humanities; Department of Criminology, Law and Society; Department of English; and the Office of the Vice Provost for Academic Planning.

In January 2007 Center for Law, Society and Culture director Susan Coutin and Criminology, Law and Society professor and Editor of Law & Society Review, Carroll Seron, hosted a workshop on the topic of race, law, and inequality. The invited speakers were the Associate Editors of the Review, Jeannine Bell from Indiana University, Laura Gomez from University of New Mexico, Ruth Peterson from Ohio State University, and Jonathan Simon from University of California, Berkeley; Kitty Calavita and David Goldberg of UCI served as commentators at this workshop. Malcolm Feeley from University of California Berkeley, President of the Law and Society Association, volunteered to come to the workshop and actively participated. Students and faculty from across the campus were also in attendance. After a day of brainstorming, a series of cross cutting themes emerged. To explore these themes in greater depth, a conference will be held at UCI in spring 2008 and a special symposium of the Review will follow in 2009. The conference will be co-sponsored by Law & Society Review and the Center for Law, Society and Culture at UCI. When available, further details will be posted at http://seweb.ucl.edu/research/workinggroup.

Kristen Day was awarded a 2007-08 fellowship by the American Council on Education. The fellowship is part of a premier national program that helps develop future leaders in American higher education. She will spend a year at an ACE-affiliated school, where she will be mentored by experienced administrators. Day has also been named the 2007-08 recipient of the Distinguished Mid-Career Faculty Award for Service. Conferred by the UCI Senate, this award is among the most prestigious that UC faculty can receive from their colleagues. “It is such an honor to be recognized by my colleagues in this way,” she said. “My service at UCI is very much tied to the work of the Community Outreach Partnership Center, which is based in Social Ecology. This award is recognition of COPC’s efforts to bridge the university and the community, to address pressing local issues. I share this award with COPC director Victor Becerra, and with all our COPC partners on campus and in the community.”

Martha Feldman and Helen Ingram were recently ranked in the top 400 political science professors in their field, based on the number of citations their research received during their careers. The study was published by the American Political Science Association.

Scott Bollens will succeed Helen Ingram as our Warmington Chair and received the Best Paper Award from the Urban Affairs Association at its national conference. Bollens was honored for his 2006 “Urban Governance at the Nationalist Divide: Coping with Group Based Claims,” one of more than 300 presentations during the conference.

Sanjoy Mazumdar received an award from the American Planning Association, Orange County Section.

Human Rights Watch contacted Elizabeth Cauffman regarding a new bill to abolish Life Without the Possibility of Parole (LWOP) in California. She was asked to provide congressional testimony on the developmental differences between adolescents and adults.

Joan Petersilia received the 2007 Joan McCord Award from the Academy of Experimental Criminology. The award recognizes scholars who have made significant contributions to the advancement of experimental research in criminology, and whose work represents the high standards and commitment to the field that was evidenced by McCord. Petersilia was the keynote speaker at two conferences in Northern California during the past month: The Women in Criminal Justice Conference and the San Francisco Criminal Justice Coordinating Council’s annual meeting. In both instances, Petersilia gave an overview of the crisis situation in California’s prison and parole systems.

Henry Pontell has been selected as a Fulbright scholar for 2008. During the 2008-09 winter and spring quarters, he will be a visiting professor at the University of Macau where he will continue his latest research and writing on economic crime in Southeast Asia.

Martha Feldman and Helen Ingram were recently ranked in the top 400 political science professors in their field, based on the number of citations their research received during their careers. The study was published by the American Political Science Association.
Is There A Scholarship In Your Attic?

Gifts of real estate are a wonderful way to support the School of Social Ecology and create a lasting legacy. Following are just a few ways individuals and families can use real estate for charitable purposes while fulfilling a need for themselves and, in some instances, their heirs.

A Gift That Pays You Income

One option is to contribute real estate (such as raw land, an apartment building, or a vacation home) into a special type of trust, known as a charitable remainder trust. In exchange for this you will receive an income tax deduction and income for life. This gift option is an excellent way to convert highly appreciated non-income producing property into an income stream to supplement your retirement income.

A Gift That Can Support Students Today

One way to provide immediate support to the School of Social Ecology is to contribute a gift of real estate outright. Upon receiving the property, the property will be sold and the net proceeds can be used to provide support for students, faculty or research. Hence, the question: Is there a Scholarship In Your Attic?

A Gift That Takes Effect After Your Lifetime

A very popular gift option that provides an income tax deduction today along with the ability for you to donate your home to the School of Social Ecology after your lifetime is known as a Retained Life Estate. With this option, you enter into a contract that provides you with the opportunity to live in your principal residence for as long as you wish, but then promises to transfer your home to UCI through your estate.

To receive more information on the various gift-planning options available, please contact Deborah Sarkas at (949) 824-1874 or the UC Irvine Office of Legacy Planning (949) 824-8384 or visit www.giftlegacy.uci.edu.

2007 Spring Social Ecology Student Spotlights

SEAN FLEMING is a Sociology and Psychology and Social Behavior student who spends time helping the community. He volunteers at The Friendship Shelter, a homeless shelter in Laguna Beach, where he hosts a group journaling/discussion section. His work entails creating and guiding discussion topics for shelter members. Typically these topics focus on issues that many of the shelter’s members face each day, such as rehabilitation, drug and alcohol addiction, and depression. At the shelter, Fleming says, they reach out to people and become their friend. They develop friendships and social bonds that assist in a full rehabilitation and further assimilation back into society. “It’s an interesting feeling to have a 50 year old man walk up to you, shake your hand, and say, ‘thank you so much for what you do,’” Fleming said. In addition, he facilitates donations of furniture/appliances etc. He runs his own moving/contracting company and many times people will donate money and/or furniture/appliances when he tells them that he will deliver those goods to the homeless shelter. Fleming believes it’s important to give back to the community and a duty to help people in need since for most of his life, people have been there for him, even if it wasn’t needed. Fleming hopes his volunteering will help him in his career. Ideally, he would like to remain in academics and perhaps even focus on the study of homelessness, its causes and effects.

KRISTEN MEYER is a Psychology and Social Behavior student who conducts research on mentally ill juvenile offenders. She also serves as a mentor to girls in the Orange County juvenile detention center. Meyer and her supervisor at the detention hall lead pregnancy prevention classes. They also discuss relationships, sexual and emotional health, and educational planning, values, and goals. Many of these girls do not have a supportive female adult figure in their lives and she aims to be a positive role model and inspires them to turn their life around and look towards the future. When asked why she mentors she simply stated, “Everybody needs somebody.” This fall she will be a doctoral student at UCI in Social Ecology’s Psychopathology program. Her future goal is to be a university professor and continue research and work with at-risk and delinquent youth.

YURI REYES is a Criminology, Law and Society student who has been researching mentally ill juvenile offenders and conducts weekly face-to-face interviews with youths in the California Youth Authority. She also engages in service on campus and in the community. She is a resident at the Cesar Chavez house and has been a facilitator in events that outreach to the minority community. She is the co-founder of the Transfer Student Organization, which aims to provide guidance for transfer students. She also interns at the Public Defender’s Office in Santa Ana, where she is an investigative assistant and conducts face-to-face interviews with defendants. She graduated this spring and hopes to attend law school to pursue work in corporate law and eventually provide pro bono work in the field of immigration.
Criminology, Law and Society graduate student PHIL GOODMAN received the Law & Society Association’s 2007 Graduate Student Paper Award for his paper “It’s Just Black, White or Hispanic: An Ethnographic Examination of Racializing Moves in California’s Segregated Prison Reception Centers.”

The Planning, Policy, and Design’s urban planning graduate program ranked 16th overall among more than 90 programs in the U.S. and Canada and fifth in the Western U.S. by Planetizen, a national urban planning and development network. For urban planning subspecialties, the program ranked second for public health and ninth for transportation planning.

Master’s in Urban Policy students JOANNA CHANG and MICHELLE KOU, received an award from the American Planning Association, Orange County Section.

Congratulations to all our Social Ecology students who received awards and fellowships:

Arnold Binder Award – Ms. Lynn Pazzani
Gil Geis Undergraduate Research Award – Ms. Jenni Dillman
Michelle Smith Pontell Memorial Fellowship - Ms. Lyndsay Boggs
Mohan Narasimhan Memorial Scholarship – Ms. Jada Bittle
The Architecture Foundation of Orange County Prize for Excellence in Urban and Regional Planning – Mr. Nobuhiko Daito
Jarvis Peterson Award – Ms. Mina Brown
PPD Advisory Board Scholars – Ms. Sonja Hillman & Ms. Adriana Urbina
Watson Scholars – Ms. Christine Diecker & Ms. Jessica Sisco
The Honorable William M. Monroe Prize for Excellence in Field Study – Ms. Kim Chau T. Pham
Martha Newkirk Fellowship Endowment – Ms. Alyssa Lillian Young & Ms. Heather Brianne Maloney
Don Owen Water Science and Policy Fellowship Endowment – Ms. Kelly Pollack & Ms. Anne Wessells

ALUMNI NEWS

ERIN FOLEY (’06) recently accepted a position with Charles Abbott Associates. The company provides environmental services to municipalities throughout LA and Orange County, assisting them in meeting federal regulations. Her position is Environmental Associate/Analyst working with the city of Laguna Nigel. She also recently became engaged to UCI alumnus Carleton Cannon (’06 History).

ERUALDO R. GONZALEZ (’04) has accepted a tenure-track, assistant professor position in the Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies at California State University, Fullerton. He will teach courses in neighborhood planning, community health, and program evaluation.

ANNA (PATE) KENNEY (’04) recently married Captain Sean Kenney of the United States Army. He is a C-12 pilot serving our country in the war against terrorism for the second time.

WENDY BEATTIE (’04) and BLAKE ROBERTS (’04) earned an Award of Merit from the American Planning Association, Orange County Section.

STEVE SCHEINBLUM (’88) pursued an aviation career beginning with Scenic Airlines, flying Grand Canyon tours and then flying for American Eagle. He has recently completed Captain Upgrade Training for Federal Express on the Airbus A-300 and has been a pilot with Fed Ex since 1996.

The Community Outreach Partnership Center had its last “Changing Faces of Orange County” Lecture Series on May 9 at the University Club. The guest speaker was Professor Paul Ong, from the Department of Urban Planning, UCLA School of Public Affairs. Professor Ong spoke about racial segregation, the development of poor neighborhoods, and spatial and transportation mismatch. The event was well attended by faculty, students, and community members.
The Alumni Association’s 37th Annual Lauds and Laurels Awards Ceremony was held May 10, 2007. This event recognizes and celebrates the accomplishments of students, faculty, and staff. The recipients of this award demonstrate heartfelt dedication and commitment to UC Irvine.

School of Social Ecology Dean C. Ronald Huff emceed the event, with more than 300 people in attendance at the Hyatt Regency Irvine.

Two members of our Social Ecology community were recognized. The Outstanding Student Athlete award went to Criminology, Law and Society student Jayson Jablonsky, a member of UCI’s national championship volleyball team. A senior hitter who stands 6 feet 5 inches tall, he was named the 2006 American Volleyball Coaches Association National Player of the Year and named to the NCAA All Tournament Team. He is a UCI/Big West Scholar Athlete who graduated in June and plans to go on to play pro volleyball.

This year’s Distinguished Alumnus for the School of Social Ecology was David Altman, who also received the Lauds and Laurels Outstanding Graduate Award in 1984. He graduated with a Master’s in Social Ecology in 1982 and a doctorate in Social Ecology in 1984 and is a national leader of research on the prevention of smoking and substance abuse among teens. He has advanced the world’s understanding of socially important topics like smoking cessation, tobacco-related policy and food security. Altman was a faculty member at Wake Forest University in Public Health Sciences within the Bowman Gray School of Medicine. Currently he is the Executive Vice President for Research and Innovation at the Center for Creative Leadership, a non-profit research and educational institution.

The Extraordinarius award is the most prestigious recognition, which honors those extraordinary individuals who have prominently contributed to the advancement of the UCI campus and supports the missions of the university: teaching, research, and public service. This year’s award went to Social Sciences Distinguished Professor R. Duncan Luce. For more than 50 years, he has been widely considered a pioneer in mathematical behavioral sciences and has pursued a scientific understanding of human behavior. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the National Academy of Sciences and the American Philosophical Society.

Other awards presented that evening include Outstanding Undergraduate Student, Outstanding Graduate Student, Outstanding Community Service, Faculty Achievement and Staff Achievement. In addition, each school also recognized a distinguished alumnus. Over the years, more than 600 individuals have been recognized with Lauds and Laurels Awards for their accomplishments and contributions to the campus and community.

We applaud the 2007 Lauds and Laurels recipients. Congratulations!
UPCOMING EVENTS

October 6
UCI MEDAL CEREMONY

Save the Date!
The 2007 UCI Medal Awards Ceremony, “A Celebration of Stars,” will be on Saturday, October 6, 2007 at the UCI Bren Events Center. This is UCI’s most prestigious event, which recognizes individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the University’s mission of teaching, research, and public service. If you would like more information please call the UCI Medal office at (949) 824-9801.

October 10
CUSA HUMAN SECURITY AWARD CEREMONY

The Center for Unconventional Security Affairs will have its 2007 Human Security Summit on October 10 at the Irvine Barclay Theatre. This year’s recipient is David Bornstein. Bornstein is the author of How To Change the World: Social Entrepreneurs and The Power of New Ideas, as well as The Price of a Dream: The Story of the Grameen Bank. If you would like more information on this event, please call (949) 824-8804 or email cusa@uci.edu.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL ECOLOGY

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CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2007!
Social Ecology had two commencement ceremonies

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MAKING A DIFFERENCE
Social Ecology students helping their community

4
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Social Ecology students receive awards and fellowships

5
LAUDS AND LAURELS
UCI Alumni Association recognizes outstanding members of the UCI community

Stay in Touch!

Have exciting news you would like to share with Social Ecology alumni and friends? Did you recently change your address? If so, please let us know! Contact Kristine Ramos, Office of External Relations, at ramosk@uci.edu.

The School of Social Ecology Mentor Program engages alumni and students to explore career interests, insights and experiences in the professional world. The program is designed to help students by pairing them with alumni who have experience in applying their Social Ecology degree in any of its associated fields such as criminology, psychology or planning. This is a great way for alumni to get involved with the School. As a mentor you can share your experiences and ideas, assist students with their interviews, cover letters, resumes and networking skills, and advise students on their academic and career goals. You can make a difference in a student’s life! We need mentors to start in fall 2007. If you’re interested in or have any questions, please contact Kristine Ramos at (949) 824-1278 or ramosk@uci.edu.