

Criminology, Law & Society

Environmental Health, Science, & Policy

Planning, Policy, & Design

Psychology & Social Behavior

SOCIAL
ECOLOGY

today

UCI School of Social
Ecology student wins
Merage American
Dream Fellowship

Vilma Palma

Vilma Palma, a 2006 Criminology, Law, and Society graduate was awarded a \$20,000 Merage American Dream Fellowship. Being first in her family to attend college, this young scholar has gone a long way. She arrived from El Salvador, not speaking any English. She stayed after school

to learn English. She

finished high school fourth in her class. Vilma attended UCI, working hard on her studies as well as getting involved in the community. She tutored students in calculus through the campus' Learning and Academic Resource Center (LARC). She was part of the Student Achievement Guide by Experience (SAGE) Scholars Program, which offers work experience, mentoring, community service opportunities, and financial support to economically disadvantaged kids. She also mentored through the School of Social Ecology and served as a residential assistant for COSMOS, a summer math and science program for California high school students. She is currently attending law school at UCLA.

The Merage American Dream Fellowship was established in 2004 and is dedicated to promoting expanded education and career opportunities for immigrants. Students are chosen for their strong desire and real capacity to achieve leadership roles in business, science, education, public service, culture, and the arts.

Honors & Awards
2006

Students voted Professor Paul Jesilow "Outstanding Professor of 2006." Students find him special because he puts his students first. In an interview with Today @ UCI, Bryan Burton, a second-year student majoring in Environmental Analysis and Design, said, "he opens his office to students, and many attend his special after-hours meetings and talks because they know he truly cares about their education and future." Jesilow deviates from the academic norm to "diminish the social distance between students and professors."



Paul Jesilow voted
"Outstanding Professor
of 2006"

Professor Raul Lejano was chosen as the recipient of this year's Daniel Stokols Award for Interdisciplinary Research. Lejano has conducted research in the areas of environmental risk and governance pertaining to health hazards in air, soil, and water. He has utilized decision theory, mapping, social justice, economic and institutional analyses in his research on environmental risks and management.

Distinguished Professor Elizabeth Loftus was elected to the American Philosophical Society. Her research and publications have changed the way her academic colleagues, courts and the public view the impression of human memory. She was among 49 new members, including U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, writer Joan Didion and UC Berkeley Chancellor Robert J. Birgenau.

Professor Valerie Jenness received the 2006 Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Fostering Undergraduate Research, in recognition of her meritorious contributions and support of undergraduate research. Mei Ling Malone ('06) received the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research for her honors research project on social attitudes toward police. The Awards Ceremony was held on May 13, 2006.

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Announcements

Alumni News

Karrie Casada ('04) was recently offered a position as the Forensic Specialist of the Orange County Sheriff's Department in the Cal-ID Bureau. The Cal-ID Bureau is responsible for maintaining the Automated Fingerprint Identification System, a computer database used to identify criminals and the deceased for the coroner's office.

Center News

The Chancellor's Club presented a lecture featuring the Center for Psychology and Law, "Balancing the Scales of Justice with Psychological Science," on October 5, 2006. The presenters were professors Simon Cole, Elizabeth Loftus, and William Thompson. The lecture was held at the Mesa Court Community Center. Guests commented that the presentations were engaging and stimulating.

Faculty News

Professor Roxane Cohen Silver was invited by the Science and Technology Directorate of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to join a small workgroup of international researchers focusing on quantifying the psychosocial impacts of extreme events, such as terrorist attacks. Her graduate student, Thomas Wicke, was also invited to attend the workshop's first meeting in Washington, D.C., to present his dissertation research.

Newkirk Center: 2nd Annual Allen Lecture October 19, 2006

"The Diabetes Epidemic: When Human Evolution Collides with a Rapidly Changing World"

Dr. Ping H. Wang, Professor of Medicine and Biological Chemistry, UCI Joslin Diabetes Center Director, and Director of the UCI Center for Diabetes Research and Treatment spoke on diabetes at the intersection of human evolution and a rapidly changing world. This event was held at The Beckman



Dr. Ping Wang

Center of the National Academies of Science and Engineering. This lecture series is funded through a generous gift from Dick and Mary Allen.

Upcoming Events

The Newkirk Center will also have a series of lectures concerning climate change and environment. The first lecture will be given by former Chancellor Ralph J. Cicerone, an atmospheric scientist and current president of the National Academy of Sciences. He will speak about the science behind global climate change and his perspectives on communicating science to policy makers at the national level. Two other lectures will be held in November and next spring. Dates and times will be announced.

The Newkirk Center is partnering with the School of Social Ecology and the Center for Psychology and Law to establish the Forensic Science Education for Lawyers – 2007 series. This series is designed to introduce legal professionals to new research in the social sciences relevant to issues that arise in criminal trials and the law of evidence. It will highlight the cutting edge research of several UCI faculty members on issues linking social science and the law.

For more information on any of these events, please go to: <http://www.newkirkcenter.uci.edu/index.uci>

Continued from page 1

Psychology and Social Behavior graduate student Nathalie Carrick received the 2006 Fred Rogers Memorial Scholarship, which was presented to her at the Daytime Emmy Awards. The scholarship is intended to support and encourage aspiring graduate students to pursue a career in children's media that furthers the values and principles of Fred Rogers' work.

Jennifer Skeem is the recipient of the UCI Distinguished Assistant Professor Award for Research. The award is conferred by the Academic Senate on those who have made significant contributions to scholarship through distinguished research. Receiving this award, Jennifer still felt stunned, and said, "I'm deeply honored to receive this award." It is among the most prestigious awards a University of California faculty member can receive from their colleagues.

The Human and Social Dynamics Competition of the National Science Foundation awarded \$727,000 to fund a three year project entitled, "Societal Implications of Individual Differences in Response to Turbulence: The Case of Terrorism." The Principal Investigator is Professor Roxane Cohen Silver. Social Ecology professor Richard Matthew and George Shambaugh from Georgetown University are co-principal investigators. Together with Psychology and Social Behavior graduate students Michael Poulin and Scott Blum and Social Ecology graduate student Bryan McDonald, they will examine the impact that the aging of the United States' population will have on support for government, especially on issues related to terrorism and national security.

Dr. Margaret Lynn Schneider received a grant for \$292,992 from Public Health Services-National Institutes of Health, Child Health and Human Development. Schneider's new grant is an extension of her prior work investigating the factors that influence adolescents to engage in different levels of physical activity participation as they mature. In this most recent grant, she will be following high school students for one full year in order to determine whether their likelihood of remaining or becoming physically active is related to specific physiologic and/or psychosocial factors measured at baseline. "We know so little about how to keep teens active in a physical and social environment that makes it increasingly difficult for them to do so. My research will shed some light on the physiological, social, cognitive, and affective factors that influence teens' exercise behavior," said Schneider. This work is directly relevant to the epidemic of inactivity that characterizes today's youth and that contributes to the current rise in obesity and type -2 diabetes.

Professor Peter Ditto received a \$209,927 National Institute of Mental Health-funded training grant to provide support for 3 predoctoral (graduate) students and 2 postdoctoral fellows. Ditto is the Director and Professor Roxane Cohen Silver is the co-director. The grant is entitled "Social and Environmental Contexts of Adaptation."

Professor William Thompson won a \$125,000 grant from the National Science Foundation's Law and Social Science Program. With this grant, Thompson will study jurors' ability to understand forensic evidence and related mathematical and statistical data. "Television programs like the CSI series suggest that forensic scientists can solve crimes with unerring accuracy. In reality, their evidence is often less than definitive. To evaluate evidence appropriately can be a challenge for jurors," said Thompson. His research will help identify potential misunderstandings on the part of jurors and look for ways to present forensic evidence more clearly in courtrooms.

Media Coverage

When you pick up the Orange County Register or TIME Magazine, or turn on "48 Hours," don't be surprised if a School of Social Ecology faculty member is mentioned or featured. Our faculty receives a large amount of media attention for their ideas and research on current and pressing societal issues. Our faculty has experience on a variety of issues. They will continue to be cited in the local, national, and worldwide media.

Jan Green, Director of Computing, Passes Away



Social Ecology's Director of Computing, Jan Green, lost her courageous battle with cancer on September 26 at the age of 41. Jan was born in Warwick, Rhode Island and was an alumna of the University of Rhode Island (B.S. in Computer Sciences with a minor in Psychology). After working twelve years at Brown

University as a programmer consultant and systems programmer, she moved to California in 2000 and worked in private industry as a quality assurance engineer and web developer. Wanting to return to an academic setting, Jan applied to UCI and was hired as a programmer analyst in the School of Social Ecology in April 2002. In May 2004 she was promoted and became the School's first director of computing. Jan loved photography and, most especially, her three Shar-Peis, Jazz and Rico, and Java before his passing. Jan will be fondly remembered and enormously missed. In celebration of Jan's life and her contributions to our School, the computing lab was rededicated as the "Janice R. Green Instructional Computing Lab."

Partners in Giving

The Department of Planning, Policy, and Design received a generous gift of \$75,000 from long-time supporter Raymond Watson for student fellowships. By designating his gift for student fellowships,



Ray Watson

he is helping to meet a key need and creating opportunities to train the future generation of planners.

Ray was recently honored as a 2006 UCI Medal Awards recipient held at the Bren Events Center on October 21, 2006. Ray served as chief planner for The Irvine Company during the 1960s and 1970s. He is a former trustee of the University of California, Irvine Foundation, a key adviser to the Paul Merage School of Business and a former member of its Dean's Advisory Board. He is also a past president of the Chancellor's Club and was chair of the Daniel G. Aldrich Society. Ray served 30 years on Walt Disney Company's board of directors, and he was honored in 2005 with the naming of the pedestrian bridge that connects UC Irvine to University Center.

The School of Social Ecology is grateful for Ray's friendship and his continuing support, which enables us to attract the best and brightest graduate students to UCI.

A Legacy of Giving

There are many ways to make a difference in the lives that will follow. Will the values you have today live on for the benefit of future generations? One way to share your values is to plan your charitable legacy. **Have you considered establishing your legacy at the University of California, Irvine for the benefit of the School of Social Ecology?**

Through charitable legacy planning, you can...

- Honor the Life of A Loved One
- Pay For a Loved One's Education or Health Care Costs
- Share Your Personal Values
- Increase Your Monthly Income
- Decrease Your Income & Estate Taxes
- Inspire & Empower Future Generations
- Provide Future Support to the School of Social Ecology

To learn more about establishing your legacy at the School of Social Ecology, please contact Deborah Sarkas (dsarkas@uci.edu), Director of Development at (949) 824-1874, or Michael Crvarich (michael.crvarich@uci.edu), Executive Director, Legacy Planning, at (949) 824-8384. All inquiries will be treated confidentially.

Additional information is also available through the Office of Legacy Planning website, www.giftlegacy.uci.edu.

SUNDAY SALON

June 11, 2006



Hazem and Salma Chehabi

Hazem and Salma (Bio Sci '99) Chehabi hosted a Sunday Salon featuring the Center for Unconventional Security Affairs (CUSA). The program was held at their Newport Coast home on June 11, 2006. Fifty guests attended and enjoyed Middle Eastern cuisine, some of which Salma prepared herself. Hazem and Salma's interest and support of our School is greatly appreciated.

2006 HUMAN SECURITY SUMMIT

October 11, 2006

The Center for Unconventional Security Affairs held its 2006 Human Security Summit, "Human Rights in a Complex World," on October 11 at the Irvine Barclay Theatre. Lieutenant-General Roméo Dallaire was the recipient of the 2006 Human Security Award. Lt. Gen. Dallaire is recognized as an advocate of peace.



JANNETTA TALK

October 19-20, 2006

Jesse Jannetta, Research Specialist from the Center of Evidence Based Corrections gave a talk at the Association for Criminal Justice Research in California meeting on October 19-20. The title was "Use of GPS Information in the Supervision of High-Risk Sex Offender Parolees."

CRITICAL LEGALITIES SYMPOSIUM

October 19, 2006

The Center in Law, Society and Culture held a Critical Legalities Symposium, "The Look of Law." The panel conference was held on October 19, 2006. "The Look of Law" confronted the subjects of surveillance; the police; the prison; the military; the border; the public sphere; the relationship between nations, corporations, and the media; and the constant state of war. There was also an exhibition of contemporary art, which addressed the direct and residual effects of the power of the states as they intersect the psyche and manifest in the force of law. The exhibit was from September 28 to October 20, 2006.

ALUMNI LUNCHEONS WITH THE DEAN

September, 2006



Dean C. Ronald Huff kicked off a series of alumni luncheons at the University Club on September 20, 2006. Alumni had an opportunity to meet Ron, reconnect with their former classmates, and learn about the current and upcoming events at the School of Social Ecology as well as the University. Additional luncheons are planned, and we hope you will accept our invitation when it arrives.

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 21

Overheated Rats, Race, and the Double Gland: Sex Hormones and Acquired Hereditary Induction, 1910-1930

The Center for Psychology and Law presents a seminar with Professor Cheryl Logan, Departments of Psychology and History, University of North Carolina, Greenboro. "Overheated Rats, Race, and the Double Gland: Sex Hormones and Acquired Hereditary Induction, 1910-1930," co-sponsored by the Department of History, the Department of Logic & Philosophy of Science, and the Science Studies Working Group. This event will be on November 21, 2006 4-5:30p.m. in 2112 Social Science Plaza A.

February 3

Homecoming 2007

Come to UCI for food, entertainment and FUN! Homecoming 2007 will take place on February 3, 2007 at the Bren Events Center. This is your chance to connect or reconnect with alumni, faculty, and current UCI students. Please join us for a free barbeque, a carnival with games and musical and dance performances. You will also have the opportunity to stay and watch the men's basketball game (UCI vs. Cal State Fullerton). For more information visit <http://www.alumni.uci.edu>

February 28

Toward a Model of Racial Equity in America

The Community Outreach Partnership Center presents "Toward a Model of Racial Equity in America," with Mr. Manuel Pastor from UC, Santa Cruz, on Thursday, February 28, 2007 reception is from 6-7 p.m., lecture 7-8:30 p.m.

Keep In Touch

ALUMNI UPDATES

Changing your home or business address? Did you graduate this spring or are you planning to graduate this fall with another degree? Do you have exciting news you would like to share with alumni and friends of the School of Social Ecology? We would love to hear from you! Please send all information to Kristine Ramos, Office of External Relations, at ramosk@uci.edu.

SOCIAL ECOLOGY

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for the School of Social Ecology



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