



**UCI BioSci**



# **WELCOME!**

# **NEW STUDENTS**

2018/2019 Academic Year

## "You have chosen to help shape the future."

Hello!

Welcome to UCI BioSci and congratulations! You are among the very select group of students who were accepted and enrolled here from over 110,000 who applied to the University this academic year. Furthermore, you are pursuing what we believe is the most important, exciting and meaningful scientific focus: the study of life. You have chosen to help shape the future of humanity and our planet.

Our School's foundational theme is **MIND | BODY | WORLD**. You will see these three words frequently on campus and in our digital communications. Everything in our world begins with life. And life is interconnected. For most of us, a healthy mind requires a healthy body, which in turn requires a healthy world. With global temperatures rising and devastating diseases menacing the brain as well as our physical being, audacious biology has never been more urgent. As you begin your studies, you are on your way toward becoming an innovator who can help make a powerful difference in health, climate change, energy production, agriculture and much more.

In entering UCI BioSci, you join the sole biology school in Orange County at the R1, or highest research activity level. We are the premier life sciences institution here that is creating new knowledge. As an undergraduate, you bring intellect and energy that help power our mission in shaping the world for the better. Embrace the challenge and enjoy the wonderful satisfaction of achievement.

Please take advantage of everything the School and the University offer to further your success. I look forward to getting to know you in coming months.

Sincerely,

*Frank M. LaFerla*

Frank M. LaFerla, Ph.D.  
Dean, UCI School of Biological Sciences



## “Explore all the possibilities.”



Greetings!

It's a great pleasure to welcome you to UCI BioSci. As you settle in here, you will find we are a community of people passionate about biology's leading role in solving life's most compelling issues, from climate change to human health. Your education here will not only launch you on the path of your dreams – it will also prepare you to help shape a better world for all who inhabit it.

I encourage you to take advantage of all of the resources UCI BioSci offers to help in your success, such as academic counseling, peer tutoring, mentorships, networking and much more. Our goal is for you to explore the spectrum of possibilities open to you and to achieve your full potential.

Please also take time to play as well as work.

Check out the array of activities across campus. Friendships, exercise and fun are essential to a healthy life; they refresh and recharge you for your studies. Remember too that the **BioSci Student Affairs Office** is here to answer your questions and provide assistance.

Best wishes as you begin your first year here and see you around BioSci!

Yours truly,

*Raju Metherate*

Raju Metherate, Ph.D.  
Associate Dean of Undergraduate Education  
UCI School of Biological Sciences

## Academically Speaking, This Team's Got Your Back!

When it comes to planning and progressing in your education here, there's a special team poised to help. **They are the academic counselors at the BioSci Student Affairs Office**, who look forward to working with you to chart your educational path, to connect you with services and assist in making the most of your undergraduate experience.

One of their primary missions is helping plan your coursework, both in the short and long term. You can receive guidance on degree requirements, schedules, university policies, research project opportunities and more. The counselors seek to ensure you explore all the possibilities during your years here and beyond.

If you are considering entering a health profession, the Student Affairs Office can provide specialized advising in those areas, from medical and dental to pharmacy, veterinary and more. Each counselor is trained as a Health Science Advisor and



understands the specific procedures, requirements and timelines for applying to professional schools. While graduation may seem far off, it's best to visit now to begin planning.

The counselors also meet with you periodically to review your progress, so you can be confident

you are on track in your chosen major. You can get together with a counselor once a quarter, once a year, or on another schedule that works best for you.

The BioSci Student Affairs team can assist in numerous other areas, such as referring you to campus support services, obtaining the Dean's signature on necessary forms and answering a variety of questions.

Short advising sessions are available on a walk-in basis. For longer meetings, an appointment is needed. The Student Affairs Office is located in Biological Sciences III, Room 1011. Phone is **949-824-5318**. Make sure to stop by soon!

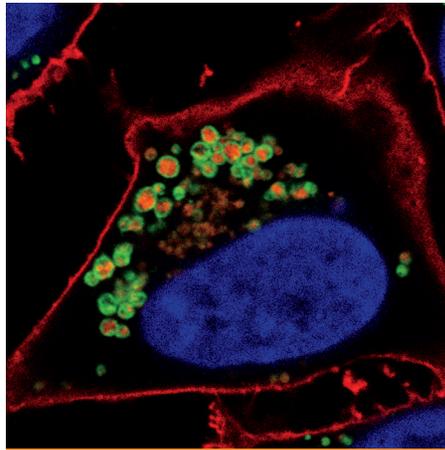
# Major Opportunities to Shape Your Education & the Future

As a UCI BioSci undergraduate, you study the science of life and the interconnection between mind, body and world health. As you learn more about the extraordinary ways biologists can shape the future, you may become intrigued by a particular area and decide to choose it as a major.

**Students begin by majoring in Biological Sciences, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology or Biology/Education. After meeting course and GPA requirements, it's possible to apply for these additional majors:**



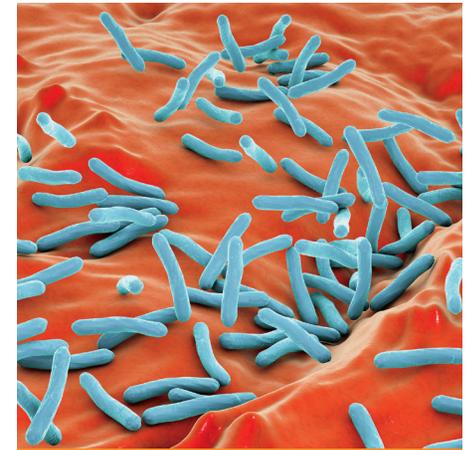
Biochemistry & Molecular Biology



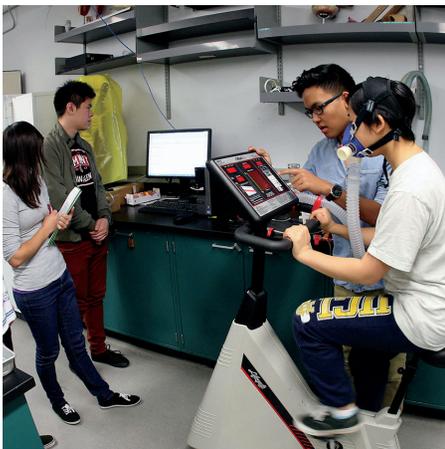
Developmental & Cell Biology



Human Biology



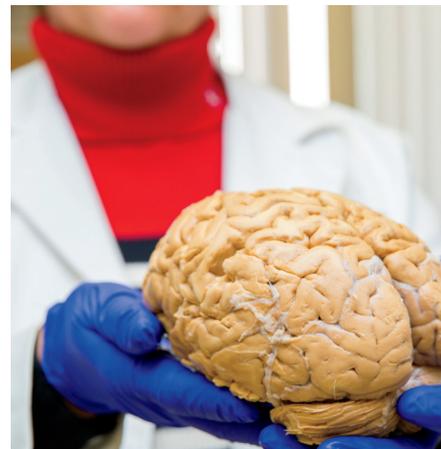
Microbiology & Immunology



Exercise Sciences



Genetics



Neurobiology

For more information on majors and the application process, please contact the BioSci Student Affairs Office.





## Leaders Wanted: Apply to BioSci Student Council

Seeking to sharpen your leadership skills and help shape student life here? Apply to join the Biological Sciences Student Council, or BSC.

BSC works with faculty and staff on academic and student affairs programs, organizes events, links undergraduates with volunteer opportunities and promotes BioSci to the greater campus and community. The goal is to ensure the School is constantly evolving to meet students' needs.

Members of the BSC meet once a week. They also spend several hours weekly planning, organizing and taking part in its events. The application period opens a week prior to the fall and winter academic quarters. You will find more information about the BSC, membership details and even a suggestion box on its website:

<http://bioscisc.wixsite.com/official>



## An Academic Hand from Students Who've Been There

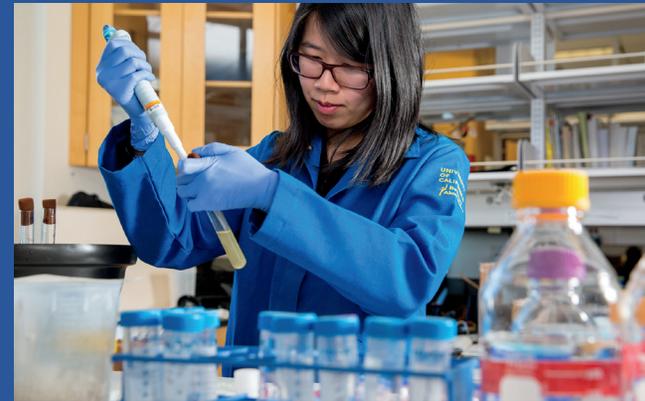
As you hit the books in coming weeks, there's a special resource to help if you have a lot of questions or would like more explanation of a concept. UCI BioSci Peer Tutoring is designed to assist you in exactly this situation and it's free!

The weekly sessions are led by upperclass students who have excelled in the subjects you are studying. They cover key points of individual classes, provide worksheets so you can practice that week's material and hold review sessions before exams. It's an atmosphere of camaraderie and encouragement. The program's tutors say they love seeing students learn and succeed.

One undergraduate who has attended Peer Tutoring said, "it really helped me understand concepts I didn't grasp at first. Because of it, I felt I did better on my midterm scores and quiz scores." Another participant commented, "My tutor created a comfortable environment. I got more exposure and extra help on the material."

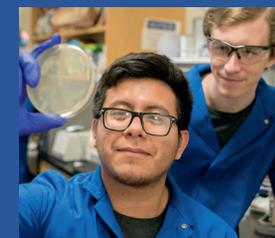
There's no need to sign up in advance. You can go to just one session or all of them; prior attendance is not necessary. For more information, contact the BioSci Student Affairs Office.





*"You have to stay in school. You have to go to college. You have to get your degree. Because that's the one thing people can't take away from you is your education. And it is worth the investment."*  
– Michelle Obama

*"Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time."*  
– Thomas A. Edison



## Connect with a UCI BioSci Mentor



The start of the new school year comes with great opportunities for you to grow as an undergraduate. All BioSci undergraduates are invited to participate in the 2018 – 2019 BioSci Mentor Program.

This is your opportunity to be matched with an accomplished mentor working in the fields of medicine, law, biotechnology, research and many more life science related fields. A mentor can provide academic and career guidance, networking opportunities and insights into the working world. Letters of recommendation are incredibly important as you continue your career and mentors can provide them for you. Students have told us that meeting our alumni and friends through this program has made a positive difference in their lives.



### Benefits of having a mentor:

- Gain advice and counsel from a life science professional.
- Explore specific jobs, future career paths and industries.
- Build relationships and professional networks.
- Participate in activities related to common interests.
- And more!



Registration is opening soon! For program details, go to: [www.bio.uci.edu/mentor-program](http://www.bio.uci.edu/mentor-program) or email [biosci-mentor@uci.edu](mailto:biosci-mentor@uci.edu).

## Grab a Donut and Start Building Your Professional Network

What do eating a donut, spending time with alumni and getting an insider's insights into hot biology topics have in common? They are all ways you can jump-start your future plans now by networking. Please check out the many opportunities to get to know School faculty and leadership, UCI BioSci grads and acclaimed biologists from around the world.

Here are just a few we suggest:

- **Donuts with the Dean:** Meet up with BioSci Dean Frank LaFerla and life sciences professionals at this casual quarterly get-together. Enjoy lively conversation sweetened by your choice of powdered, glazed and more. Yum!
- **Mentor Program:** Register to be matched with an alumnus or alumna, or another community professional, who works in the life sciences and shares your field of focus. You'll benefit from expert advice and encouragement as you work toward your goals.
- **Lectures:** Attend the Dean's Distinguished Lecture Series and the Allergan Foundation Lecture Series. BioSci faculty and other acclaimed scientists will fill you in on the newest developments on pressing biological and medical topics. Ask questions and mingle afterwards; you'll come away with greater insights and new professional links.
- **Starbucks:** Keep in mind BioSci's Starbucks is a favorite networking venue. The café, located in Mitosis Plaza across from BioSci 3, seems to have a special way of energizing conversation and connections, and we don't think it's just the caffeine!

Details on these opportunities and more are available through the BioSci Student Affairs Office.





“I think the biggest innovations of the 21st century will be at the intersection of biology and technology. A new era is beginning.” – Steve Jobs

## Minority Science Programs

The UCI School of Biological Sciences established the Outreach, Research Training and Minority Science Programs (MSP) in 2000 to increase the number and academic excellence of underrepresented (UR) groups being trained as the next generation of biomedical research scientists. With help from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), MSP supports programs that foster research training and the development of a strong and diverse biomedical research workforce.

MSP uses a “pipeline” approach which identifies promising undergraduate students early in their academic careers (freshman and sophomore students) in order to foster an interest in research to ultimately entering Ph.D. programs in the biomedical sciences.



In the last ten years, through its undergraduate research training programs, MSP has supported over 300 undergraduate UR students. Ninety-nine percent of them have graduated with a Bachelor degree from UCI. A large majority of the students who completed the program have gone on to pursue a Ph.D. MSP students have been co-authors of more than 600 peer reviewed publications in top journals including *Science*, *Nature*, *Nature Neuroscience*, *Stroke*, among others. MSP students have given more than 650 scientific presentations at national meetings and they received more than 350 awards.

For more information, visit [port.bio.uci.edu](http://port.bio.uci.edu)



## 10 Tips as You Start at BioSci

10. Read through this entire welcome booklet.

9. Look for all the Peter the Anteater statues and benches across campus.

8. Stop in at Biological Sciences III, Room 1011 and find out about the services available to you from the BioSci Student Affairs Office.

7. Walk, run or bike the Mountains to the Sea Trail.

6. Plan to attend at least half of the Dean's Distinguished and Allergan Lecture Series talks.

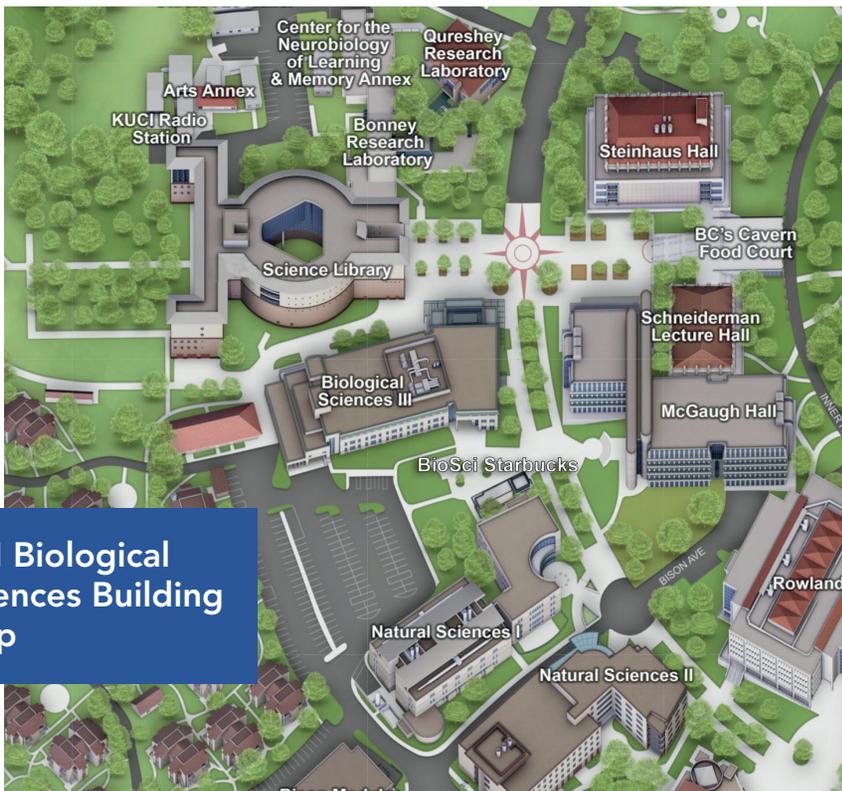
5. If you need some help with your studies, take advantage of the free Peer Tutoring program.

4. Introduce yourself to BioSci Dean Frank LaFerla and savor a pastry at “Donuts with the Dean.”

3. If you're thinking about entering one of the health professions after graduation, make an appointment to meet soon with a Health Science Advisor in the BioSci Student Affairs Office.

2. Take a nap in Aldrich Park.

1. Study hard, but don't be all work and no play. Make friends, explore new activities, exercise, eat right and get enough sleep. A well-balanced life will make you even more successful!



# Connect with BioSci!

-  UCI School of Biological Sciences
-  @UCIBioSci
-  @UCIBioSci
-  Search: UCI School of Biological Sciences

Share your story with #UCIBioSci

## Sample Program – Biological Sciences

### FRESHMAN

Fall	Winter	Spring
BIO SCI 93	BIO SCI 94	MATH 2A or 5A
CHEM 1A	CHEM 1B	CHEM 1C- 1LC
Lower-Division Writing <sup>1</sup>	Lower-Division Writing <sup>1</sup>	Lower-Division Writing <sup>1</sup>
BIO SCI 2A	General Education	

<sup>1</sup>Students have the option of taking HUMAN 1AS, HUMAN 1BS, HUMAN 1CS or WRITING 39A, WRITING 39B, WRITING 39C in order to fulfill the lower-division writing requirement.

### SOPHOMORE

Fall	Winter	Spring
BIO SCI 97	BIO SCI 98	BIO SCI 99
CHEM 51A	CHEM 51B- 51LB	CHEM 51C- 51LC
CHEM 1LD	General Education	STATS 7, 8, MATH 2D, or MATH 3A
MATH 2B or 5B		
BIO SCI 194S		



**UCI BioSci**