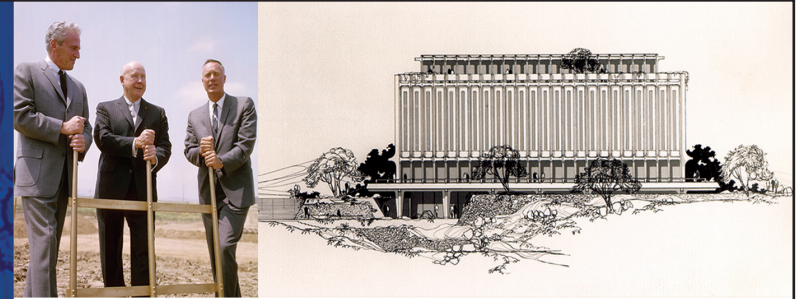


UCIrvine  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE



UNDER

CONSTRUCTION

INDEFINITELY



Forty Years of Designing UCI



 **UNDER**

 **ONSTRUCTION**

 **NDEFINITELY**

## Forty Years of Designing UCI

An exhibit  
in the UC Irvine Langson Library's  
Muriel Ansley Reynolds Exhibit Gallery

November 2005 - April 2006

Curated by  
Rachel Sandoval  
UCI Historical Records Project Archivist  
with the assistance of  
Anne Mar & Spencer C. Olin

# Foreword

The UCI Libraries presented *Designing UCI: Celebrating Forty Years of Innovation*, a symposium in celebration of the campus's Fortieth Anniversary, on November 3, 2005 in conjunction with the opening of our exhibit *Under Construction Indefinitely: Forty Years of Designing UCI*. This publication, the exhibit, and the symposium are the impressive products of two years of exciting work on the Libraries' UCI Historical Records Project.

The Project was launched early in 2004 with funding from the Libraries and Executive Vice Chancellor Michael Gottfredson to ensure that UCI's history is preserved and promoted. We recognized the importance of observing our fortieth anniversary, and that the fiftieth anniversary will be here before we know it. UCI has come of age, and it is of vital importance that we document and understand our remarkable beginnings and unprecedented development over the past four decades.

The University Archives was actively saving UCI's history throughout those decades, and its collections are rich in important documents such as the records of our first four Chancellors, papers of notable founding faculty, nearly 20,000 photographs, numerous campus publications, all student newspapers, hundreds of videotapes, and much more. Nevertheless, there is much yet to be saved, and the Historical Records Project has been very effective in bringing the University Archives and its mission to the attention of faculty and administrators who are in a position to help us complete the historical record.




Spencer C. Olin, UCI founding faculty member and Professor Emeritus of History, was appointed two years ago by the Chancellor as Edward A. Dickson Emeritus Professor to work with the University Archivist on the Project. Since then, Professor Olin has worked tirelessly on behalf of UCI to elevate our historical awareness and understanding, and his accomplishments are noteworthy. He has promoted our collecting efforts to Deans, Vice

Chancellors, and distinguished faculty whose papers must be preserved; produced three important oral histories; co-curated our architectural exhibit; contributed two major essays to this publication; and led the planning of the symposium. I am grateful to Spence for contributing his scholarly expertise, wise counsel, and valuable time to make the Historical Records Project a great success.

We also greatly appreciate the enthusiasm of the Chancellor's Club for the Symposium and their financial support of this publication.

On behalf of the Partners of the UCI Libraries and the entire staff, please enjoy *Designing UCI*, and mark your calendar to join us again in 2015 as we celebrate UCI's Golden Anniversary.

Gerald J. Munoff  
University Librarian

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## Forty Years of Designing UCI

*Under Construction Indefinitely: Forty Years of Designing UCI*, is presented as part of UC Irvine's Fortieth Anniversary celebration in 2005-2006. Architecture and the built environment play a dynamic role in shaping a place such as UCI and the lives of those who are members of its community. This exhibit showcases the evolution of UCI's built environment, beginning with architect and master planner William Pereira's initial concept for the campus, up through the period of intensive expansion that we are experiencing in 2005 (with no end in sight!).

In the late 1950s the University of California determined that three new campuses were needed to accommodate the surge of students expected statewide due to the post-World War II population boom. After considering twenty-one possible sites for a campus in the Los Angeles/Orange County metropolitan area, in 1959 the Regents selected a site on the Irvine Ranch in Orange County. Single ownership of the proposed site by The Irvine Company was a major factor in the selection, particularly given the opportunity to build a university campus in concert with development of a new city. In 1960 the Company donated 1,000 acres of land to be used for the new UCI campus.

The acronym “UCI” has been given an alternative meaning ever since, as it is often said that the campus has been “under construction indefinitely.” Of the more than 100 buildings on campus, many epitomize three schools of 20th-century architecture—Brutalism, Postmodernism, and Contextualism—each of which is associated with both a particular UCI architect and a span of time:

Brutalism	William L. Pereira	1962-ca. 1977
Postmodernism	David Neuman	1984-1989
Contextualism	Rebekah Gladson	ca. 1990-present

Throughout the exhibit, these three architectural styles are revealed in the principal buildings that are home to UCI’s emphatically interdisciplinary academic programs.

William Pereira, UC Irvine’s first architect, chose the Brutalist style for the original eight buildings on the UCI campus. Brutalism derives its name from the French term *béton brut*, which literally means “raw concrete”; its premise was to stretch the technical limits of “brute” materials. Pereira’s buildings consist of large concrete boxes in three-dimensional cast-concrete panels which float in a sea of open space and rise starkly from the landscape. He took advantage of mid-20th-century technical advances in the use of reinforced and pre-cast concrete, thus creating a consistent appearance across all of the early structures on campus. Throughout the 1970s Brutalist-inspired buildings were erected at UCI by other architects as well.

From 1984 to 1989, David Neuman commissioned a variety of renowned architects to bring the diversity of their individual styles to UCI’s architectural landscape. Architects of this Postmodern era include Frank Gehry, James Stirling, Robert Venturi, Charles Moore, and Robert Stern. Postmodernists reject the Enlightenment notion of ultimate truth. They also abandon unity, instead reveling in specific fragments in which they believe that value and meaning can be found. Plurality, multiplicity, and complexity in architectural expression are all essential characteristics of Postmodern architecture.

During her ongoing tenure as Campus Architect, Rebekah Gladson has worked to unify campus design in the Contextualist manner, harmonizing new and existing buildings with their surrounding environs, rather than situating them apart as individual expressions.

*Designing UCI* was curated by UCI Historical Records Project Archivist Rachel Sandoval, Assistant University Archivist Anne Mar, and Spencer C. Olin, Emeritus Professor of History and Edward A. Dickson Emeritus Professor. Most items exhibited are from Special Collections and Archives in the UCI Libraries. The Claire Trevor School of the Arts and the Department of Design and Construction each supplied one photograph, for which we are grateful.

For more information on UCI’s early years, a complete listing of all UCI buildings and their architects, and many other topics, please visit our UCI history website ([www.lib.uci.edu/ucihistory/](http://www.lib.uci.edu/ucihistory/)).

# Starting From the Ground Up

On June 20, 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson dedicated the UCI campus, declaring that “California is not just talking about education—you are doing something about it.” As documented in the NBC-TV film *The Birth of a Campus*, buildings under construction and open fields served as a backdrop. Students would not arrive on campus until September 1965.

When William Pereira was chosen to design the new campus in 1962, he proposed a vision for the University of California and The Irvine Company: a university town. After studying such towns worldwide, Pereira realized that Irvine offered a perfect opportunity to create what he called a symbiotic “town and gown” on undeveloped ranchland. He believed this union would create an atmosphere of intellectual, economic, and community collaboration. The University and The Irvine Company retained Pereira as master architect for both projects, ensuring opportunities for synergy. UCI opened in 1965, and the City of Irvine was incorporated in 1971.

An early drawing of UCI’s Central Park (item 7, shown on p. 3) depicts lakes, an amphitheatre, and a bell tower, none of which ultimately was constructed. Nevertheless, the relationship between UCI’s physical and academic plans is evident. From the park at the center of campus, spokes radiate out to academic units clustered in concentric rings based on relationships among the disciplines. UCI’s founding Chancellor Daniel Aldrich, architect Pereira, and Clark Kerr, President of the University of California, shared a vision of interdisciplinary research and other activity. UCI’s first important academic planning report, *The Long Range Development Plan* (1963, item 12, shown on p. 8), outlines both pedagogical principles and the physical placement of academic units.

1. **Chancellor Daniel Aldrich, Architect William Pereira, and Irvine Company President Charles S. Thomas review a model of UCI’s central campus.** Photograph, 1964.
2. **Deed to the 510-acre inclusion area sold to the University of California by The Irvine Company, February 17, 1964.** Reproduction.
3. **President Lyndon B. Johnson speaking at the UCI site dedication.** Photograph, June 20, 1964.
4. **“Souvenir UCI dedication issue.”** *The Newporter*, vol. 6, no. 264 (week ending June 26, 1964).
5. **The first map of UCI.** Mimeograph of drawing, ca. 1965.
6. **Aerial view of campus looking southeast, with Campus Hall (now Crawford Hall) gymnasium in foreground.** Photograph, October 1964.
7. Associated Landscape Architects.  
**UCI’s Central Park (now Aldrich Park).** Color rendering, 1963.
8. William L. Pereira & Associates, Planning and Architecture.  
**“The Centrum.”** Poster, ca. 1968.
9. **Map of UCI.** Published in: “A look at UCI.” Brochure, 1968.
10. **Urbanus Square, the office of William L. Pereira’s architectural firm.** Photograph by Anton Ercegovich, 1963.
11. **Architects at work in Pereira’s office, with landscape model of UCI in foreground.** Photograph, ca. 1964.
12. **Long Range Development Plan, University of California, Irvine.** Prepared by William L. Pereira & Associates, June 1963.
13. **Preliminary announcement, University of California, Irvine, Academic program, 1965-1966.** Brochure, 1965.

# The UCI Libraries

The library stands at the intellectual center of every university, providing services that are essential to teaching and research. The Main (now Langson) Library was one of the first buildings constructed at UCI, which is indicative of its indispensable role in the life of the University.

The two library buildings on UCI's main campus epitomize the architectural eras in which they were created.

Langson Library (1965), one of the eight original Pereira buildings, is in the Brutalist style, which stretched the use of reinforced concrete to create structures sustained by thin concrete columns.

The Science Library (1994), designed by James Stirling, Michael Wilford, & Associates, was the last Postmodern building erected on campus. Stirling's objective was to push the building to the boundaries of its site. Bordering the Schools of Biological Sciences and Medicine, the Science Library's impressive size and shape compel it to be a bold stand-alone structure characteristic of the Postmodern era.

14. **Students studying in the Main (now Langson) Library.** Photograph, ca. 1965.
15. William L. Pereira, architect.  
**Main Library.** Photograph by Ansel Adams, 1966.
16. William L. Pereira, architect.  
**Main Library and Gateway Commons (now Gateway Study Center).** Rendering, ca. 1964.
17. James Stirling, architect.  
**Science Library.** Reproduction of rendering, ca. 1991.
18. James Stirling, architect.  
**Footprint of the Science Library.** Reproduction of floor plan, ca. 1991.
19. **Students walking in Central Park.** Published in: *Library Handbook, University of California, Irvine, California, 1968-1969.* Brochure, 1968.
20. **"Core drilled from 1st building at UCI, Library, 1964."** Cement core sample.
21. **"Six architects win award for library building excellence."** American Library Association press release, May 1995.



# University Extension & Alumni House

Architect Charles Moore's Postmodern University Extension and Alumni House complex (1984-1987) provided the first permanent home for both the Alumni Association and the campus's "continuing education" programs.

Moore imitated three chapels in Rome's Celian Hills for his design. The arch of the classroom building is a symbolic gateway between the community-oriented programs that it houses and the academically-based central campus. Moore contended that styling one building after another does not rob it of authenticity. Instead, the new buildings look both back at history and around at the neighboring environment, thereby creating new connections, both with the past and among the current inhabitants.

22. Charles Moore, architect.  
**University Extension and Alumni House complex.**  
Photograph by Rachel Sandoval, 2005.
23. Charles Moore, architect.  
**Footprint of University Extension and Alumni House complex.**  
Reproduction of floor plan, 1986.

# Student Center

When UCI first opened its doors, a student center had yet to be built. Gateway Commons (1965, now Gateway Study Center) served as a central meeting area for students. It included a modest snack bar and tables for socializing, eating, and studying. Funding for a full-fledged student center proved difficult to obtain, however. In 1970, 1972, 1973 and 1974, referenda seeking student support for an increase in fees for the purpose of building a student center repeatedly failed.

On the fifth try, in 1975, students finally passed a referendum, and on January 24, 1979, the groundbreaking ceremony was held. The University Center, as it was first named, had its grand opening on January 12, 1981. Later renamed the Student Center, the complex was remodeled in 1990 during UCI's Postmodern era. As of 2005 it is being greatly expanded in the Contextualist mode. The work is scheduled for completion in 2007.

24. Rossetti Architects, expansion architect.  
**The new Student Center expansion.**  
Digital reproduction of rendering, 2004.
25. Bull, Field, Volkman & Stockwell, architect.  
**The University Center (now the Student Center).**  
Photograph, ca. 1984.

# School of Humanities

The School of Humanities was initially housed in the Humanities/Social Sciences building (1965, now Murray Krieger Hall), a Brutalist structure designed by William Pereira.

UCI's Contextualist era is represented by the Humanities Instructional Building (1997) and the Fine Arts Quadrangle (1997), both designed by A.C. Martin and Associates. These buildings emphasize the value of connectivity and the interrelationships between individual buildings and the rest of the campus.

It is perhaps ironic that the School's buildings do not represent the Postmodern era, given that its academic programs and some of its most distinguished faculty are renowned for their contributions to Critical Theory and other areas of Postmodern critique. These include theorists Jacques Derrida, Jean-François Lyotard, J. Hillis Miller, Etienne Balibar, and Wolfgang Iser, as well as the School of Criticism and Theory, founded by Murray Krieger in 1975, and the Critical Theory Institute.

26. *The Humanities, University of California, Irvine.*  
Brochure, 1967.
27. William L. Pereira, architect.  
**Social Sciences (now Humanities Hall) and Humanities Unit I (now Murray Krieger Hall).**  
Photograph, ca. 1965.
28. William L. Pereira, architect.  
**Social Sciences and Humanities Unit I.**  
Rendering, ca. 1964.
29. Albert C. Martin & Associates, architect.  
**Humanities Instructional Building.**  
Photograph by Rachel Sandoval, 2005.
30. "A New Habitat for the Humanities," by Rich Kim.  
Published in: *New University*, vol. 31 no. 2 (September 29, 1997), p. 3.



Claire Trevor  
School of the Arts

The Claire Trevor School of the Arts has been recognized for the excellence of its performance-oriented curriculum since its founding in 1965 as the School of Fine Arts. William Pereira's last major contribution to the campus was the Arts Complex (1971), in which many of the buildings still exhibit the traits of Brutalism.

During the Postmodern era, the need for performance spaces continued to influence building design for the School of the Arts. Studio Four (1990) was designed by leading architectural scholar and architect Robert Stern. In contrast, the simple, vernacular Yurt Dance Studio (1984) was constructed under the direction of the internationally renowned Polish playwright Jerzy Grotowski as a performance venue while he was a visiting professor on campus (1983-1986).

The new Arts Plaza, which was dedicated on October 25th, was designed by Maya Lin, acclaimed for her design of the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. Lin's design perfectly embodies the integrated sense of place for which Contextualism strives.

31. **"Rapid expansion planned for Fine Arts."**  
*UCI Fine Arts Expressions*, Winter 1992.
32. **Architect Robert Stern on the balcony of Studio Four.**  
Photograph, ca. 1990. Courtesy of  
Claire Trevor School of the Arts.
33. **The Yurt dance studio, designed by Jerzy Grotowski.**  
Photograph by Rachel Sandoval, 2005.
34. **"My Dinners with Jerzy,"** by Robert S. Currier.  
Published in: *Callboard*, March 1999.
35. Maya Lin, architect.  
**Maya Lin Arts Plaza.**  
Fundraising brochure, 2004.
36. William L. Pereira, architect.  
**University of California, Irvine: Fine Arts Unit I – Art Complex and Amphitheatre from Central Plaza.**  
Rendering, December 1965.

# Henry Samueli School of Engineering

# Donald Bren School of Information & Computer Science

The School of Engineering was one of UCI's original two professional schools that opened in 1965 (the other is the Merage School of Business). It was named for UCI graduate Henry Samueli in 2000.

The School of Information and Computer Sciences began as an interdisciplinary program, later becoming the first school of its kind in the University of California system (2002). It was named for Irvine Company chairman and major UCI benefactor Donald Bren in 2004.

The Engineering Tower (1970) and the original Computer Science building (1971) are hallmarks of the Brutalist era. As documented in campus photographs, UCI was chosen as a location for the futuristic film *The Conquest of the Planet of the Apes* in 1972 because the architectural style and barren landscape fulfilled the director's image of a post-nuclear future (see item 37).

Postmodernism is exemplified in the individualistic visions of world-renowned architect Frank Gehry in his ICS/Engineering Research Facility (1986) and Rockwell Engineering Center buildings (1990). Controversy arose on campus earlier this year when it was announced that the former has been scheduled for demolition in order to free space for construction of much larger Engineering facilities.

37. **Cast and crew of *Conquest of the Planet of the Apes* take a break from filming at UCI in 1972.**  
Cover of: *Cabinet: A Quarterly of Art and Culture*, no. 13 (2004).
38. **Panoramic view of Engineering Gateway and ICS buildings.**  
Photograph, ca. 1996.
39. William L. Pereira, architect.  
**Engineering Gateway.** Rendering, December 1965.
40. **Information & Computer Science and Engineering Research Facility.**  
Photograph published in: *Postmodernism and Beyond: Architecture as the Critical Art of Contemporary Culture*, UC Irvine, October 26-28, 1989.
41. **Graduate Study, School of Engineering, University of California, Irvine.**  
Brochure, 1968.

The School of Social Sciences, founded in 1965, is the largest academic unit on campus. It is home to 25% of UCI's students.

The School's buildings were constructed in two phases, twenty-five years apart, each phase representing a different architectural style. Social Science Hall, Social Science Tower and Social Science Lab were designed in the early 1970s by A.C. Martin and Associates in the Brutalist style. The second phase (1996) saw the construction of Social Science Plazas A and B and the Social Science Lecture Hall in the Contextualist style.

42. Anderson DeBartolo Pan Inc., architect.  
**Social Science Lecture Hall.**  
Photograph by Rachel Sandoval, 2005.
43. *Handbook for Undergraduate Studies in the School of Social Sciences, University of California, Irvine.*  
Brochure, 1977.
44. Anderson DeBartolo Pan Inc., architect.  
**Social Science Plaza.**  
Photograph, ca. 1996.

The School of Social Ecology embodies the philosophy of UCI's original academic plan: innovation through interdisciplinary collaboration. Originally established in 1970 as the first-of-its-kind academic program in the nation, Social Ecology became a full-fledged School in 1993. Its academic programs incorporate a variety of disciplines ranging across the legal, environmental, behavioral, and health sciences.

The nature of the School's academic programs and activities present interesting challenges for architects. For example, Social Ecology buildings house "laboratories" where mock courts are conducted, "wet" laboratories where air pollution is studied, and full-scale interiors that simulate offices, classrooms, and apartments in order to study the effects of environmental conditions on human behavior.

45. *The Program in Social Ecology, University of California, Irvine, 1981-82.* Brochure. 1981.
46. Anderson DeBartolo Pan Inc., architect.  
**Social Ecology II.** Photograph, ca. 1996.

 School of Medicine

UCI's School of Medicine has its origins in the Pacific School of Osteopathy and Infirmary, which was established in Anaheim in 1896. The school later merged with the Los Angeles College of Osteopathy to form the College of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons in 1914. In 1962 the College once again changed its name, becoming the California College of Medicine to reflect its new status as a medical school rather than an osteopathic college. At the behest of the California state legislature, and accompanied by considerable controversy, the College became part of UC Irvine in 1967. The arrival of the College of Medicine on the UCI campus in 1968 added another key professional school to the academic programs.

As part of the transition, the Orange County Medical Center (OCMC, now the UCI Medical Center) in the city of Orange was used by UCI as a teaching hospital. OCMC was subsequently purchased by the University of California in 1976. UCI hoped eventually to build a hospital on the main campus in Irvine, but efforts to achieve this in the mid-1980s were ultimately unsuccessful.

47. Perkins & Will Architects. **Medical Sciences under construction.** Photograph by Jean E. Carlin, 1977.
48. Kajima, architect. **Plumwood House (Hitachi building).** Photograph, ca. 1990.
49. **Health City, Irvine: Facts about a proposed hospital on the UCI campus.** Brochure and flyer, 1982.

 Paul Merage  
School of Business

The Paul Merage School of Business is one of two professional schools (the other was Engineering) that opened when UCI was founded in 1965. It was originally named the Graduate School of Administration (1965-1981), then the Graduate School of Management (1982-2005). It was renamed for businessman Paul Merage in spring 2005.

The School's administrative and academic offices were housed in the Social Sciences Tower for 16 years. In 1987, at long last, the firm of Venturi, Rauch and Scott Brown was hired to design the buildings that now house the School. The twin buildings are key examples of Postmodern architecture, creatively assembled from stylistic fragments that borrow from architectural traditions originating in locales as varied as California and New England. The firm's principal, Robert Venturi, has described their style as "decorated shed."

50. **Executive MBA Program, Graduate School of Management.** Brochure, 1989.
51. Venturi, Rauch and Scott Brown, architect. **Graduate School of Management (now the Paul Merage School of Business), view from under the bridge.** Photograph, ca. 1991.

# School of Physical Sciences & School of Biological Sciences

The Schools of Physical Sciences and Biological Sciences opened in 1965, and in the ensuing forty years, both have earned renown for their superlative faculty and academic programs. Physical Sciences achieved particular acclaim in October 1995 when physicist Frederick Reines and chemist F. Sherwood Rowland were awarded Nobel Prizes. Biological Sciences counted five members of the National Academy of Sciences among its founding faculty and has added numerous others since.

The building complexes of the two schools clearly reflect UCI's three distinct architectural eras. The first Biological Sciences building, Schneiderman Hall (1965, originally the Science Lecture Hall), was designed by William Pereira. Rowland Hall (1969, originally Physical Sciences) was designed by Kenneth S. Wing. Both are in the Brutalist style.

Reines Hall (1989, originally Physical Sciences II), designed by MBT Associates, and McGaugh Hall (1991, originally Biological Sciences II), designed by Arthur Erickson Architects, are characteristic of Postmodern architecture.

Natural Sciences Unit I (2002), designed by Hellmuth, Obata + Kassabaum, Inc., and Natural Sciences Unit II (scheduled for completion in 2005), designed by Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Partnership, are examples of Contextualist architecture. Their placement between the two schools, coupled with the fact that the occupants of Natural Sciences I and II will be from both Physical and Biological Sciences, personifies the integration that is so central to Contextualism.

52. *Arthur Erickson Architects: University of California, Irvine, Biological Sciences Unit 2.* Preliminary site analysis, 1986.
53. Arthur Erickson, architect. **Biological Sciences Unit II (now McGaugh Hall).** Photograph, 1993.
54. **Panoramic view of Physical Sciences Units I (now Rowland Hall) and II (now Reines Hall).** Photograph, ca. 1993.
55. Hellmuth, Obata + Kassabaum, Inc., architect. **Natural Sciences I.** Photograph, 2004. Courtesy of UCI Design and Construction.
56. William Pereira, architect. **Science Lecture Hall (now Schneiderman Lecture Hall).** Photograph, ca. 1966.

The primary objective of the UC Irvine Libraries Exhibits Program is to support the research and instructional missions of UCI by interpreting and publicizing the richness, diversity, and unique strengths of the resources of the UC Irvine Libraries.

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