News about the 2020 Initiative

March 3, 2013

Dear UC Davis Community Members:

Thanks to the dedication and hard work of everyone associated with UC Davis, we continue to achieve excellence in our teaching, research and public service missions, despite dramatic cuts in state funding over the past five years.

I am writing now to tell you about the new strategy chosen to build on our accomplishments and continue achieving the aspirations put forward in the university's Vision of Excellence.

After months of study and consultation with a broad cross-section of campus stakeholders, we believe the University's 2020 Initiative is the best way to take UC Davis to a new level of excellence.

Our plan is to add about 5,000 international, national and California undergraduate students at a measured pace between now and 2020. This will reinforce our financial future and strengthen UC Davis, making it more diverse and international so we can better serve our students today and far into the future.

To support this growth in student numbers, we anticipate adding about 300 faculty, making additional investments in graduate education and building innovative new classrooms. Revenue generated by this initiative will also support staff and services necessary to ensure that all of our students have the opportunity to be successful.

UC Davis today is a powerful economic engine, generating $7 billion a year of economic activity for our region and nearly 70,000 jobs. The university will be making even greater impact by 2020, and we are committed to working in partnership with our community to maximize the benefits of planned growth.
The implementation plan for the first phase of the initiative will be available in early May and the provost will report annually on our growth to the community and to an Advisory Board that will monitor progress in achieving our goals. This will ensure that the initiative is both responsive to future circumstances and remains on target in achieving its goal of furthering the overall excellence of UC Davis.

Our state and world are changing. The 2020 Initiative is the university's best way to continue prospering in this dynamic environment while remaining true to our principles and mission as a land–grant university dedicated to advancing the public good.

Sincerely,
Linda P.B. Katehi
Chancellor, UC Davis