The Top 20

Over the past 36 hours we have imagined so many amazing futures. Here are the top 20 conversations that attracted the most ideas. We like to think of each cluster as being its own creature with a unique structure. Taken as a whole, they paint a picture of a thriving campus that is even more tightly connected to the natural environment, scientific and commercial innovation, work opportunities, and most of all, to its students, staff, faculty, alumni, and broader community.

Enjoy: You may be surprised at some of them!

**Living Medicines** – a future where cutting-edge stem cell research becomes part of the core story of UC Davis, connecting students to life-changing science.

The card that kicked off this massive chain reads: at #UCDavis in 2026 we will be routinely delivering living medicines to treat disorders that currently have few options. #RegenMedFutures

![Image](http://www.envisionucdavis.org/card_plays/2271)

**Life Skills** – a future where education includes a wider range of courses, skills, and knowledge, creating super-prepared graduates.

The card that kicked it off: Students leave university having learned basic life skills like cooking, cleaning, finance, taxes, healthcare, home maintenance #lifeskills
Food from Our Own Organic Farms – a future where UCD is healthier and more self-sustaining, providing opportunities for students to be acquire knowledge across the entire food production cycle.

The card that kicked it off: The campus and hospital would only serve the food grown on the university’s organic, cooperative farms.

Free Bicycles – a future where the university and the city work together to amplify our bike-friendly culture, making it easy for anyone to hop on a bike, anytime.

The card that kicked it all off: UC Davis provides free bicycles for everyone to use (just like at Google). Bikes are always available on demand (like Zipcar), for free.

What You Really Need to Know – A future where alumni are an integral part of developing an impactful experience for any UCD student’s future, making the long-term success of students tied to the long-term success of the university.

The kick off card: Alumni are welcomed back to teach lectures on what you really need to know in a particular field.
Less Human Interaction – A future where digital technologies limit face-to-face professor/student interactions, challenging UCD to reinvent the learning experience so that students don’t miss out on crucial social learning opportunities.

The card that made it all happen: Due to the lack of resources to accommodate all students, half of the classes will be online, leading to even less interaction among people.

Partnership for Internship – A future where education and a job opportunity go hand in hand for any UCD student, thanks to a robust loop of start-ups developed through UCD research and partnerships with other large companies creating a complete cycle of learning and employment.

The card that brought it to life: More partnerships with companies to actively place students in quality internships and jobs.
**Mental Health Days** – a future where more activities take place outside, from pop-up lectures to time off to enjoy especially beautiful days, increasing everyone’s mental wellbeing.

Our base card: Sanctioned mental health days when the weather is especially gorgeous, like the east coast gets snow days.

![Mental Health Days Image](http://www.envisionucdavis.org/card_plays/17876)

**Non-ag + ag Partnerships** – a future where agricultural sciences are integrated into every student and faculty’s UCD experience, enabling the kind of environmentally aware citizens we need to face growing land, resource, and climate challenges.

The original card: More opportunities for non-ag majors to get involved with aspects of ag on our campus. It’s a huge part of what UCD does and very few know.

![Non-ag + ag Partnerships Image](http://www.envisionucdavis.org/card_plays/15175)

**Failed Research** – a future where all parts of all of our experiments are mined for meaning, leading to new publication practices and spurring on better science.

The original card: Failed research becomes publishable. Failure in science is often just as important as success.

![Failed Research Image](http://www.envisionucdavis.org/card_plays/15175)
**Healthcare in Daily Life** - a future where UCD becomes a hotspot of preventative and holistic health practices, transforming both campus life, and quite possibly, national medical practices.

In #UCDavisFutures, healthcare is imbedded in daily life, not an institutionalized service.

[Video](http://www.envisionucdavis.org/card_plays/19462)

**Building People Up** - a future where there is widespread recognition and appreciation of the different kinds of productive contributions made at all levels, creating a more holistic and self-aware community of students, staff, and faculty.

Our starter card: There is a focus on productivity without awareness of the people who create it. We are using people up. We need to build them up instead.

[Video](http://www.envisionucdavis.org/card_plays/17068)

**World Solving Collaboration** - A future where different disciplines learn to speak the same languages and work together on the same challenges, enabling a true spirit of collaboration across the university.

The kick off card: Students from all majors to collaborate with each other to help solve some of the world’s issues.

[Image](http://iftf-blog.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Envision_UC_Davis11.png)
**Closer to Sacramento** – a future where multi-disciplinary groups of students and faculty engage closely with state policies, contributing directly to legislation, connecting students to professional careers with a policy impact.

The base card: We better leverage our close proximity to Sacramento by engaging more students in government and impacting state policy!

![Diagram](http://www.envisionucdavis.org/card_plays/20209)

**Life Advisors** – a future where staff, students, alumni, families, and local townspeople connect around mentoring, providing rich conversations about life choices and supporting student resilience.

The original card: I hope every student can have not only a undergraduate advisor, but a “life” advisor too. Especially on how to handle stress and depression.

![Diagram](http://www.envisionucdavis.org/card_plays/9093)

**Streaming, Accessible Content** – a future where the amazing conversations happening on campus are shared with the rest of the world, drawing attention to our talent and engaging more people in the things we care about.

The starter card: All special guest speakers at the University can be live streamed and replayed for students who have work during the time #teameducation

![Diagram](http://www.envisionucdavis.org/card_plays/20038)
Funding Cuts – A future in which UCD research is increasingly public and crowdfunded, possibly requiring an entirely new staffing and skill structure, so that high-risk and cutting edge work can still be funded.

Money for research is cut and we are unable to fund high risk high reward projects, thus preventing significant break throughs #TeamResearch

[Link](http://www-envisionucdavis-org-card-plays/19226)

UC Interconnectedness – a future where the UC system becomes a model for next-generation collaboration, building a vastly expanded set of resources for students.

The starter card: UC’s would be more interconnected and you would be able to access classes in any UC through webcam or other technology.

[Link](http://www-envisionucdavis-org-card-plays/22109)

Affordable Technology – a future where everyone has access to the tools they need to do their work, regardless of whether they can afford a laptop, tablet, or other device.

The kick off card: Offer inexpensive laptop rentals/library check outs for those that can't afford laptops.

[Link](http://www-envisionucdavis-org-card-plays/22617)

Make a Difference – a future where meaningful, community-based “volunteer work” becomes integrated with core curriculum across the university, connecting students to opportunities for practical learning and bigger impacts.

Make a Difference: Students can sign up to work on a project that makes a difference in the world – clean water, high infant mortality rates, etc.