Late in 2018, Chancellor Gary S. May shared his 10-year vision for our university, “To Boldly Go.” The plan emerged from a nine-month community process involving campus leadership, faculty, students and staff. Working together with this diverse team, Chancellor May established an inspiring set of guideposts and goals that builds on the strengths of UC Davis, while simultaneously preparing our campus for future challenges so UC Davis can continue to prosper as a top-ranked university.

We believe the Arboretum and Public Garden is poised to be a major engine to help deliver the Chancellor’s Strategic Plan, together with our partners in the Provost’s Office and FOA (Finance, Operations, and Administration). We have been working to align our student leadership program, Learning by Leading™, to help build a climate-adapted sustainable campus as part of our UC Davis Living Landscape Adaptation Plan (LLAP). Through the LLAP, the Learning by Leading™ program is transforming the physical landscape of the campus through innovative experiential learning and leadership projects.

Strategic Plan Goal 1 asks that the campus mobilize to “...provide an educational experience that prepares all of our students to address the needs and challenges of a diverse and changing world.” At the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden, our Learning by Leading™ student teams are focused on three of the most critical societal issues: how we will adapt to climate change, protect biodiversity, and safeguard the health and well-being of people in a time of unprecedented change.

Some of our 130 Learning by Leading™ students that gathered in October for a day of training, planting and team-building.

Learning by Leading™ student Ellen Sanders-Raigosa (left) accompanies Arboretum and Public Garden staff on a collecting trip in Texas to find potential drought-tolerant trees for the UC Davis campus.

Strategic Plan Goal 2 challenges the campus to work “... across and between the disciplines, in support of a healthy planet and the physical and societal well-being of its inhabitants.” Across UC Davis, scientists and campus leadership are mobilizing to help the wider world prepare for and adapt to climate change. Our LLAP lays out
To Boldly Go: Aligning our Work with the Chancellor’s Strategic Plan for UC Davis

From Page 1

a plan for the campus to do just that. With the Learning by Leading™ program, we add an unexpected innovation: “building people into the system” to promote leadership and ownership of the processes of supporting a healthy planet and people.

Strategic Plan Goal 3 challenges all of us to “...[e]mbrace diversity, practice inclusive excellence and strive for equity.” The Learning by Leading™ program, with real-world projects and leadership training, provides both a guided pathway and staff mentors for non-traditional undergraduate students, including for those that are historically underrepresented. Students are not only heard, but they’re encouraged and supported as they build their ideas here.

Strategic Plan Goal 4 asks UC Davis to commit to our mission as a land-grant university through impactful partnerships that “...increase the visibility and reputation of the university.” Already, the Learning by Leading™ framework has been adopted by multiple university-affiliated botanical gardens across North America. Our team is training and leading this new cohort of staff and faculty at places as diverse as Humber College in Toronto, Canada, the University of Georgia, Cornell University and Smithsonian Gardens, among others, to train the next generation of environmental leaders. We are currently exploring exciting opportunities to expand this network globally.

Strategic Plan Goal 5 asks the campus to “... support the development of an innovative and entrepreneurial culture.” Here, again, the Learning by Leading™ program is the centerpiece of an emerging and innovative workplace culture functioning as a “learning organization” that empowers and engages both staff and students to tackle problems, large and small, through a structured process. As a team, we are committed to “co-creative” leadership—where we work collaboratively with campus and community partners to find new ways to deliver impact through win-win solutions that address real-world problems at and beyond UC Davis.

We are excited to help expand the power and potential of UC Davis as it embraces experiential and project-based learning, where student leaders have new opportunities to develop and test ideas throughout the entire campus, and where new kinds of learning can happen outside of classroom walls. We are proud of how we are helping UC Davis reach the bold goals of the UC Davis Strategic Plan through the energy, insights and can-do power of our Learning by Leading™ program.

LEARNING BY LEADING™
Alumni Profile: Kendal Hicks

Kendal Hicks joined the Learning by Leading™ program in 2017 and served as the co-coordinator of the new Waterway Stewardship Internship. Along with her mentor, Nina Suzuki, and fellow co-coordinator Tiffani To, Kendal developed the internship from scratch, creating curriculum, hiring interns and naming the internship! Kendal led her team with incredible success for a year, managing projects including new plantings along the renovated Arboretum Waterway as well as the floating island of wetland plants. Kendal shared that in her year with the program, she was “encouraged to go beyond my comfort zone, and I achieved more than I thought was possible.”

Since graduating in June 2018, Kendal has been working as an Environmental Planner at ICF in Sacramento. She connected with their staff at an Arboretum and Public Garden event and was eager to join their team. Reflecting on her time in the program, Kendal shared, “I knew that I possessed leadership skills, but I could not predict the growth that I would experience as a leader with the internship. I realized that I could be a leader and that leading does not always come from big ideas, but also from small, everyday actions.”

Kendal’s contributions have not only made a lasting impact on her interns, our visitors, the Arboretum and Public Garden and UC Davis. She is taking the leadership and planning skills she gained in the Learning by Leading™ program to her career, in which she is making a lasting impact on the broader community.

Consider making a Friends Annual Appeal gift today!

By giving to the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden Annual Appeal, you support dramatic improvements to our collections, gardens and the waterway through our Learning by Leading™ program, which is developing the environmental leaders of tomorrow. And 10 percent of your gift goes to the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden Endowment, which supports environmental leadership and education programs into the future. Thank you to everyone who has already given.

Give online at: give.ucdavis.edu/AARB/AA00001
A New Era of Nature Rx
by Stacey Parker, GATEways Horticulturist

If you Google things to do in Davis, it’s not surprising to find that time and again the Arboretum and Public Garden is at the very top of the list. One of my very favorite things about my job is that the Arboretum is free and open to the public every single day of the year, and as such, we get to share the beauty of this unique place with so many. Visitors from both near and far have no limit as to how many times a day, month or year they can come and enjoy the unfolding of the seasons, the wildlife, taking a walk, taking a nap or having a picnic in a beautiful outdoor setting.

The Chancellor’s plan, To Boldly Go, calls on us “…to address the needs and challenges of a diverse and changing world,... in support of a healthy planet and the physical and societal well-being of its inhabitants.” Fortunately, the Arboretum and Public Garden recognizes the critical role we play in the health of our community. In study after study, researchers have shown that people spend more time indoors looking at screens than they do outside enjoying nature and that our health (mental, emotional and physical) is suffering as a result.

In a time of unprecedented change, we are more aware than ever of the deep and abiding value the Arboretum and Public Garden provides, not only in supporting the University’s mission of research, teaching and public engagement, but also in serving as a significant resource for health and well-being. With the well-being of our community in mind, we have been broadening and expanding the reach of Nature Rx, a theme of programming that aims to connect the campus and local communities to the healing power of nature. We were thrilled that our work with Nature Rx was featured in Nature Rx: Improving College-Student Mental Health, a book by Don Rakow and Gregory Eells.

Fortunately, we are not alone in this work. First of all, we are so grateful for the seed funding provided by the Excelerate Foundation to expand our Nature Rx programming. Then, two years ago, we joined forces with others at UC Davis working to foster a renewed culture of health and well-being. Healthy UC Davis (HUCD) is a network of campus partners formed out of a UC-wide initiative with the aim of making UC Davis the healthiest place to work, learn and live. Finding innovative and impactful partnerships to contribute to this mission has been inspiring and uplifting as we work towards such a lofty and worthy goal.

One such inspiring partnership is with our friends at the Robert Mondavi Institute for Wine and Food Science (RMI). They, too, are committed to fostering the connection between good food and good health, the primary aim of our partnership at the Good Life Garden. But there is a fundamental gap keeping people from enjoying it fully. There is no place for the many people that frequent it to gather and learn, no place to share food, and no place to sit quietly to read, study or daydream in a shaded spot. Fortunately, our partners at RMI designated the proceeds of their fabulous fall fundraising event, Taste, to fund the addition of much needed communal tables and benches to create a new outdoor meeting space, a key strategic priority for HUCD seeking to leverage the outdoors as a healthy resource for the campus. Their generosity was contagious and inspired our other academic partners for the Good Life Garden, the Departments of Viticulture & Enology and Food Science & Technology, to match their gift. The Arboretum and Public Garden is able to fund additional tables thanks to donations to our GATEway to the Edible Campus campaign.

We’re honored to get to work alongside so many that make this place better each and every day. In particular, we love supporting and inspiring people to rediscover their relationship with the natural world and the sense of well-being that comes from doing so. We look forward to sharing many more exciting accomplishments of our work with Healthy UC Davis in the months and years to come.
Detours Lead to Exciting Upgrades

The Mary Wattis Brown Garden of California Native Plants on the south side of Lake Spafford will be temporarily closed this winter for a major path upgrade. Although we understand how disruptive construction and the inevitable detours can be, we’re excited about what we’re going to have afterwards, a brand-new brick paver pathway to replace the cracked and failing asphalt path that exists now. This upgrade is part of a multi-phase project to create an accessible paver path in the Arboretum that connects from downtown Davis to the Mondavi Center. The improvements will also include the creation of a new staircase and accessible ramp to replace the steep ramps by Environmental Horticulture. If all goes as planned, the garden will open again in the late spring or early summer.

Large Animal Blood Donor Pasture Update

We have new neighbors! Construction is complete on our newest GATEways installation in partnership with the School of Veterinary Medicine, the pastures for the animals that are part of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital program. We invite you to walk the new trail along Garrod Drive on the north side of Shields Oak Grove and visit the horses, cows, goats and llamas that are enjoying their new home in the Arboretum. Our staff are excited to partner with the School of Veterinary Medicine on additional visitor signage, landscape improvements and pasture plantings in the seasons to come.

Taylor’s Pollinator-Friendly Picks

By Taylor Lewis, Nursery Manager

Hello from the Arboretum Teaching Nursery. We’re out here at the turn of the year to bring you another edition of “Tried and True and something New.” Since we’re focusing on climate-adapted and pollinator plants, we decided to pick a few perennial favorites that are sure to brighten up your garden as the weather warms.


3. **Salvia** (sage)...I can already hear some of you groaning at yet another *Salvia* post, but any plant that has handled the weirding climate in CA as well as *Salvia* has, deserves recognition. Tried and true: *Salvia x jamensis* ‘Hot Lips’ with a twist, and check out new *Salvia greggii* ‘Amethyst Lips’. If, like us, you’ve fallen in love with tried and true *Salvia* ‘Amistad’, you’ll have to check out the new *Salvia* ‘Amante’. If you’re a fan of the blues and already have a *Salvia* ‘Mes Azur’, you’ll be enamored with *Salvia microphylla* ‘So Cool Pale Blue’. If you’ve grown *Salvia* ‘Playa Rosa’ or ‘Stormy Pink’, I bet that *Salvia greggii* ‘Joy’ finds a place in your heart.
plant sales

Public Sales
Saturday, March 14
Members Only
9–11 am
Open to the Public
11 am–1 pm
Saturday, April 4; Sunday, April 26;
Saturday, May 9
9 am–1 pm

Arboretum Teaching Nursery
arboretum.ucdavis.edu/plant-sales

DIY Pollinator Paradise: shop our one-acre nursery for an incredible selection of Arboretum All-Stars, California natives and thousands of other attractive, low-water plants perfect for creating a landscape alive with environmentally important pollinators.

Members always save 10% on every purchase!
Not a member?
Join online, at the door or call ahead!

guided tours

Wednesday Walks with Warren
January 8, February 12
12–1 pm, Arboretum Gazebo
March 11
12–1 pm, Arboretum Headquarters

Join Warren Roberts, the Superintendent Emeritus of the Arboretum and famous storyteller and punster, for an always-engaging noontime exploration of winter in the UC Davis Arboretum’s gardens and collections. These events are free.

Volunteer with the Arboretum and Public Garden!
In 2020, we are seeking new volunteers to join our gardening, land stewardship and plant sale support volunteer teams. Learn more or apply today at arboretum.ucdavis.edu/volunteer
Applications are due by Jan 17, 2020.

Delights from Down Under
Saturday, February 8
10 am, Arboretum GATEway Garden
(meet at shovel arch sculpture)
Plants from “down under” show off their flowers during the rainy season. Tour the Australian and New Zealand collections and have a blooming good time learning about plants from far-away lands.

Amazing Acacias
Saturday, February 29
2 pm, Putah Creek Lodge

Don’t miss the spectacular late-winter display of yellow blossoms in the Eric E. Conn Acacia Grove!
Join us for a guided tour featuring over 50 different acacias from around the world.

all-ages programs

Birds in Davis #1: Inside Scoop
Saturday, January 25
10:30 am, Environmental Horticulture 146
Do you wonder what those birds outside your window are? Wish you knew more about them? At this indoor presentation, long-time docent and birding enthusiast Lois Richter explains our feathered neighbors through her slide show and talk “Winter Birds in Davis.”

Birds in Davis #2: Out and About
Sunday, January 26
10:30 am, meet in Visitor Lot 5
Join long-time docent and birding enthusiast Lois Richter for a leisurely walk around the Arboretum. Lois will tell you about each bird we see — covering most of the same information as the slideshow the previous day, but with real-life bird interactions.

Biodiversity Museum Day
Saturday, February 15
9 am–1 pm, Peter Shields Oak Grove
Go behind the scenes to explore and engage with scientists and students as you learn about the diversity of life right here on campus. Twelve different university museums participate in this popular, all-ages open house event. For more information, visit biodiversitymuseumday.ucdavis.edu

Native Californian Elderberry Flute-making Workshop
Sunday, February 23
1–3 pm, Environmental Horticulture 146

Learn how to make and play an elderberry flute with East Bay Regional Parks docent Antonio Flores who will talk about the craft and culture of Native Californian flute making as well as the endangered elderberry beetle. All materials will be supplied. Please bring a sharpened pocket knife if you have one. Adults will need to supervise their young children. All ages welcome. Sponsored by the Arboretum Ambassadors.

music & wellness

Folk Music Jam Sessions
Fridays, January 10 & 24; February 7 & 21; March 6 & 20
noon–1 pm, Wyatt Deck
Folk musicians are invited to bring their acoustic instruments and play together informally over the lunch hour. All skill levels are welcome, and listeners are invited.
How does it stay such a pretty place? You have walked in the Arboretum and shown it off to your out-of-town guests, but you may not know that those paths you walk and those plants you enjoy are taken care of by talented teams of trained community volunteers. The Chancellor’s “To Boldly Go” strategic plan calls out the importance of community partnerships, and we want to celebrate the partnership we’ve had with our community volunteers for almost 50 years! We now have over 250 volunteers side-by-side working with staff to care for the gardens and collections, grow regionally appropriate plants for the sales, maintain our scientific plant records and more!

Our volunteers also work to be good stewards of your support as a Friend of the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden. New plants, gardening tools and materials for educational signage are all expensive, but the use of our funding is utilized by our dedicated volunteers. Please continue your support and urge others to support this important community garden.

In addition, we invite you to join our volunteer team and learn about plants and gardening in the Central Valley. The deadline to apply for the 2020 Volunteer Training Class is January 17, 2020. See the Arboretum and Public Garden website for details and the application form.
We strive to acknowledge your gifts accurately. Please notify us of any corrections.

**Your legacy is our future.**

Consider adding the Arboretum and Public Garden to your estate plan or creating a new named endowment. Contact Garth Lindley at (530) 752-8637 or lindley@ucdavis.edu for information.

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**STUDENT**

Athina Alaghii
Yolanda Aguilar Gonzalez
Emily Aguilar
Ammalessa Amacra
Fernanda Arauco
Christopher Argyras
Albecca Arzoumanian
Kathleen Asa
Cory Quon
Fatima Prada
Shona Paterson
Kenya Oto
Kelly Nishimura
Caitlin Mueller
Autumn Mannsfeld
Alma Magana-Leon
Noreen Malbin
Benjamin Macy
Alma Magana-Leon
Audrey Manfield
Taylor Massengale
Lesley Mendolsohn
Nanah Misra
Santina Montez
Catlin Mueller
Kitty Nishimura
Nataly Ojeda-Vasquez
Kathy Oto
Hunter Ottman
Mary Pryor
Sara Peterson
Charles Polc
Fatima Prada
Veronica Pugh
Caral Quan
Marjorie Rhodes
Charlese Rehrman
Zoe Rehman
Maria Romero
Miranda Romero
Brina Roque
Natalie Rueckstuhl
Samurah Sanchez
Marie Schilhuisen
Elin Schoenhals
Tatiana Settanni
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Andra Shahnaw
Kyle Shanks
TianShanley
Riley Sholes
Brightly Speirs
Daniel Steege
Stevens Staisland
Debbie Suica
Paul Terry
Lauren Timmons
Amy Timms
Nathalie Tremion
Selina Tung
Karyn Tsung
Kimberly Valencia
Paola Vergas
Janine Varonza
Robert Vergara
Virginia Viscidi
Sara Wenskus
Alicia Worthy
Joyce Wu
Brenna Xing
Yitong Zhang
Eric Zhang
Jonny Zhang
Sandra Yoon
From the Director

Dear Friends,

This winter, we’ve been reflecting on how we’re aligning our planning and work with Chancellor May’s Strategic Plan for UC Davis, “To Boldly Go.” See the cover article to find out about some of what we’ve done so far, including continuing to grow our Learning by Leading™ student leadership program and building on our Living Landscape Adaptation Plan to address the changing climate of the future and the needs of UC Davis going forward. We are proud that our work is helping advance UC Davis’s Strategic Plan.

Over the years, we have been growing our Nature Rx and wellness programming, which dovetails nicely with the Strategic Plan. We are excited to share some of our progress with you (see page 3). We see immense value in serving the community as a resource for health and well-being and look forward to continuing to expand our Nature Rx offerings in partnership with students and campus partners. In addition, we have a long history of strong community partnerships, also called out in the Strategic Plan. See page 6 to learn about our stellar community volunteer program and all the fabulous work our volunteers do in the gardens and collections. If you would like to join our efforts to maintain and enhance the Arboretum, consider applying to be a volunteer. Applications are open until January 17th.

This year, the Annual Appeal of the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden will continue to support our Learning by Leading™ program (see page 2). We hope you will consider making a gift, and we thank everyone who has already done so. Many thanks as well to our members and donors for the support they give us to care for our collections and promote student leadership (see pages 6-7). Are you curious where our students end up after they graduate from UC Davis? Read a profile of one of our recent Learning by Leading™ alumni on page 2. Our graduates are making positive changes in environmental education, restoration, planning, sustainable horticulture and more. We are incredibly proud of their accomplishments.

We invite you to join us for a winter tour or educational program (see page 5) and to visit our new animal neighbors in the west end of the Arboretum (see page 4). Don’t forget to take a look at our Nursery Manager’s top plant picks for winter (see page 4) and get your gardens ready for our spring plant sales! We hope you enjoy your time in the Arboretum this season.

Kathleen

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University of California [AM39]
One Shields Avenue
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(530) 752-4880
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For a complete list of staff, visit arboretum.ucdavis.edu/staff

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