

## Welcome

Dear UC Santa Cruz Student,

Welcome to a new academic year! I am pleased that you are part of our UCSC community, and I hope that 2009-10 will be filled with learning, growth, and new discoveries for you.

Although I have served as the Chancellor since 2006, I've been a professor of Astronomy and Astrophysics at UCSC for 37 years — and I know that you have made an excellent choice by pursuing your undergraduate education here.

Despite the challenges posed by California's financial crisis, we continue to build and expand our world-recognized programs. This fall we will offer a new undergraduate B.S. degree in physics education, a new economics/mathematics combined B.A. degree, and a new minor in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education. In addition, we have new concentrations in bioeducation for the biology B.A., science education for the Earth sciences B.S., and integrated critical practice for the film and digital media B.A.

Work is progressing on our expanded and updated McHenry Library, designed to be a truly 21st-century library, featuring wireless networking throughout the building and in the lawn area outside, a film and music center, a visual resource center, and a "cyber study" room and café. The McHenry Addition has opened already, and the McHenry Renovation, the second phase of the project, is now under way. Our new Digital Arts Research Center, scheduled for completion this fall, will house the expanding digital arts program, providing more space for studios and music and theater classes.

UCSC's faculty and staff continue to be dedicated to your success and growth. Our faculty are renowned for their commitment to teaching, and undergraduates regularly have the opportunity to work closely with them in furthering knowledge through research. I encourage you to take advantage of the abundant opportunities UC Santa Cruz has to offer.

On behalf of the entire UCSC community, I extend my best wishes for a successful and enjoyable year.

Sincerely,



George R. Blumenthal  
Chancellor  
Professor, Astronomy and Astrophysics

