Message from the Vice Provost

In addition to our events this quarter, we are thrilled to announce the historic gift from UCLA alums Helen and Morgan Chu to the Institute and our centers! See below for more details. Their vision and incredible generosity will benefit students, staff, faculty, and our community partners for many years to come!

Best wishes,
David K. Yoo
Vice Provost & Professor

Alumni Helen and Morgan Chu pledge $10 million to benefit UCLA Institute of American Cultures

Helen and Morgan Chu, whose student activism in the late 1960s helped launch UCLA’s ethnic studies centers, have pledged $10 million to the UCLA Institute of American Cultures, the largest gift ever made to the institute. Helen Chu said, “We are proud to make a gift that will help the faculty, students and staff associated with the UCLA Institute of American Cultures to advance social justice causes in the decades to come.”

Donors Helen and Morgan Chu’s connection to ethnic studies at UCLA dates back to their days as undergraduate activists in the 1960s. Pictured: Morgan Chu at the center of a group of students marching up Bruin Walk.

Tazbah Rose Chavez, UCLA American Indian Studies alumna, receives inaugural Graton Fellowship from Sundance Institute

Tazbah Rose Chavez, a performance poet turned director and television writer from the Bishop Paiute Reservation, said, “This fellowship is vital because California is home to both the film industry and to the largest number of Tribal Nations in the country, and California Native perspectives are sorely missing from the cinematic landscape. The support from the Graton Fellowship comes at a fortuitous time, as I’m developing my first feature film.”

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Sa I Gu: Korean & Asian American Journalists Writing Truth to Power – Lessons from the 1992 Los Angeles Civil Unrest
The book tells the riveting stories of Los Angeles’ 1992 Civil Unrest 30 years later through the lenses of 21 writers, journalists, photographers, artists, filmmakers, editors, and scholars. These writers revisit the saga of Sa-I-Gu in light of a nation still torn apart by the racial divides and economic injustices, and offer profound insights for all Americans today. Order the book now!

Yuri Kochiyama Digital Exhibit and Collection
Yuri Kochiyama is one of the most iconic figures in Asian American community, civil rights and social movement history. This digital exhibition and collection contains a pictorial essay, images and a set of lesson plans for high school students. We invite researchers, educators, counselors, students, and lifelong learners to learn about the wrongful mass incarceration and one woman’s journey for social justice through her rare and revealing documents and ephemera left for posterity.

Thriving Youth Survey Launches in Coachella Valley and Central Coast
Research and programming on California’s young population remain a priority at the CSRC. In October, CSRC launched the Thriving Youth Survey at the College of the Desert in the Coachella Valley, as well as in Santa Maria and Lompoc in the Central Coast region. The CSRC continues to build relationships with community college partners, civic groups, and other stakeholders that are committed to young people’s well-being and success.

Edited and translated by Colin Gunckel and Laura Isabel Serna, “There Are No Hispanic Stars!” brings together the first English translations of Gabriel Navarro’s three novellas and thirty-four articles that represent his extensive body of film and cultural criticism.