Och Aye – Two More Scottish Names to Learn

UCR continues tradition of looking to the map of Scotland to choose names for campus housing.

By Kris Lovelink
UC Riverside has added two new areas of Scotland to the family.

The new campus apartments near an arroyo at the northeast corner of campus will be called Glen Mor. The four-story complex includes 505 student beds arranged in one-, two- and four-bedroom apartments around a courtyard. It includes three recreational playing fields and a market grill that will serve both Glen Mor and Pentland Hills residents.

“Glen Mor bisects the Scottish Highlands, so it seemed an appropriate name for an area bisected by an arroyo,” said Andy Plumley, director of housing services for UC Riverside.

Housing services recently purchased an existing 220-unit apartment complex formerly known as Highlander Ridge for $31.4 million. Plumley said that complex will be named Falkirk, for the location of a famous battle in 1298 when King Edward I defeated William Wallace.

It will be used for general student housing initially. Over time, it could be used in a variety of ways, including family housing, Greek housing, graduate housing or any other special group housing, Plumley said.

The tradition of naming housing buildings in Scotland began with the first residence hall, Aberdeen-Inverness, which opened in 1959. It is named for two Scottish port cities.

Lothian Residence Hall opened in 1963 and was named for the Lothian Borders in the south of Scotland. Bannockburn, which was originally an off-campus housing facility before the university purchased it, is named after a famous battle site.

Residents from past years have selected the names of all recent housing buildings, which include Stonehaven apartments and the Pentland Hills residence hall.

UCR continues tradition of looking to the map of Scotland to choose names for campus housing.

Glen Mor, located near Pentland Hills, is UCR’s newest housing complex.


Professor Scott Brooks: He’s Got What It Takes to Convince Students that They’ve Got What It Takes

By Bette Miller
Earning a Ph.D. was a distant dream for Scott Brooks, assistant professor of sociology.

However, Scott Brooks, assistant professor of sociology, encouraged them to dream big.

Both students – the mothers of school-age children – are among 15 undergraduates selected nationally to participate in UCLA’s “LA at Play” ethnographic field research project this summer. The project, which focuses on leisure behavior in public settings, is funded by the National Science Foundation. It is the third consecutive year that most people hope to be requires an advanced degree. Moreover, the opportunity for people to help other people, Brooks said. “The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said that he wanted to be remembered as a servant to others. I want to be remembered similarly.”

Professors differ from role models, said Brooks.

“People are here to help other people,” Brooks said. “He’s constantly saying, ‘Don’t limit yourself.’ He’s taught me to trust my own judgment.”

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— Alcincia Boston, UCR undergraduate and mother of two school-age children.

UCR Suggests Harlow as Acting Vice Chancellor for Advancement

By Kris Lovelink
UCR’s Academic Chancellor Robert Grey has asked Susan A. Harlow, associate vice chancellor for development, to accept the job as acting vice chancellor for advancement, replacing William Boldt.

The appointment requires a vote of the UC Board of Regents. That vote is expected in September. If approved, the appointment will be effective Sept. 10. She would oversee the units of development, alumni and constituent relations, event management and protocol, government and community relations, and strategic communications.

Before coming to UC Riverside in May 2005 to lead the fundraising effort, Harlow was the associate vice president at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, where she was part of a leadership team that designed and successfully completed a $500 million capital campaign; managed a portfolio of 125 major gift donors and prospects; and boosted special events programming from a $200,000 annual income department to a $3 million annual income program.

“Susan’s work has to a great extent kept UC Riverside on an upward trend in fund raising,” Grey said. “The campus is fortunate that she is willing to step up to take on the leadership of the advancement team during this critical time in UCR’s history.”

During the past three years UCR’s private fund raising has increased from $11.6 million in 2003-04 to $40.1 million in 2005-06. Additionally, 16 new endowed professorships were created, more than doubling the number of endowed chairs on the campus.

The Council for Advancement in Support of Education (CASE) recently recognized UC Riverside with a national award for fund raising efforts, the 2007 CASE WealthEngine Award for Educational Fundraising: Overall Improvement, which recognizes UCR’s exceptional fund raising improvement over the past three years.

“I look forward to working with Acting Chancellor Grey in this capacity,” Harlow said. “It’s an exciting time at UCR and I’m honored to be a part of such a strong and dynamic advancement team.”

Harlow has more than 19 years of experience in organizational development, marketing, capital campaigns, major gift fund raising, endowment fund raising, donor cultivation, annual giving, sub-branding, corporate relations, cause marketing, e-philanthropy, special events, prospect research, alumni relations and other development operations.

She has previously worked for the ProMedica Health Care System of Ohio as executive director of the Toledo Hospital Foundation, the Toledo College’s Hospital Foundation and Flower Hospital Foundation. She has also worked as senior development officer at the Christian Theological Seminary, and before that, served as director of development for the American Diabetes Association’s Indiana Affiliate. She earned her master’s degree in journalism from Indiana University, Bloomington. She received her bachelor’s degree in journalism from Butler University, Indianapolis, Ind.
UCR Staff Assembly Announces 2007-08 Board

UCR's Staff Assembly, a campus group that promotes the interests and well-being of career staff employees and frequently provides a voice on important issues that affect the workplace and the lives of staff, recently held its annual elections. The new officers are: President, Adrienne Sims; Vice President for Conflict Resolution and Chancellor's Special Assistant for Excellence and Diversity, Vice President/President-Elect, Joseph Allerton; Treasurer, Terrie Boudeaux; Early Academic Development Programs, Corresponding Secretary, Jacqueline Atkins, Alpha Center; Standing Committee Chair, Dory Lombard; Comparative Literature and Foreign Languages, Means Chair, Vicki Smola, Chemistry Department; Social Chair, Carolyn Mosker, Housing Services; Past President, Jeanette Braden; Treasurer, Brian Murphy, Chancellor's Office and Provost Offices.

UCR's Staff Assembly is a branch of the Council of University California Staff Associations (CUSCA), which formed in 1974 to improve communications between UC administration and staff and among the staff of the individual campuses. CUSCA presents the staff's perspectives and recommendations on management initiatives. CUSCA has also made presentations to the Regents on budget issues, student fee policies, capital programs and domestic partner benefits.

Getting Personal

Name: Giles Waines
Department: Botany and Plant Sciences
Job: Professor of genetics, director of the UCR Botanic Gardens and the UCR Herbarium
Length of employment at UCR: I have worked at UCR since 1974.
Focus of work: I conduct research on wheat roots, which control the amount of water and nutrients absorbed by the plant. I also study genetic male sterility systems in common crops in the hope that with an efficient insect pollinator, a commercial F1 hybrid system might be perfected. Common beans show considerable yield benefits from heterosis, but at present there is no commercial system of producing the hybrid seed, other than by hand pollination, which is not cost-effective. Other areas of research are the adaptation of lilac species and hybrids to Southern California conditions; adaptation of salvia species and cultivars to Southern California wild species of delphiniums and to extend the range of flower colors in domesticated garden delphiniums. I am also in charge of both the UCR Botanic Gardens and the UCR Herbarium, where, as director, I lead the development of these facilities for teaching, research and extension of knowledge of plants, communities and conservation.

Who Says?

"They've got very different cases to make, but for the most part they're making them very effectively. The ultimate effect of the PR is that they almost cancel each other out."

Charles Whitney, professor of media and sociology, commenting on how the public relations efforts from both the grocery stores and the unions are so effective that consumers may not take sides in the event of a strike.

PRESS ENTERPRISE

"You will see me in the business community. I'm not going to hide on campus."

David Stewart, new dean of AGEM, on how he will involve business leaders in his first year's strategic plans that will set the school's direction for the next five years.

THE BUSINESS PRESS

"Essentially, the decision has to be handled with kid gloves."

Amando Navarro, an ethnic studies professor, expressing his belief that black and Latino activists need to be extremely sensitive and careful about how they handle concerns that may arise following a vaguely verdict in a case involving an African American former sheriff's deputy and a Latino off-duty airman.

SAN BERNARDINO SUN

"A recuse bite usually heals by itself, but you miss Lyme disease and you can have a severe debilitating condition."

Rick Vetter, UCR entomologist and brown recluse spider expert, on how physicians need to be careful about misdiagnosing a bite by the spider because they could be ignoring a more serious illness.

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

"I think 2008 might be a year most Republicans would want to sit out."

Shaun Bowler, a professor of political science, on how some experts are predicting a Democratic win in the presidential race, no matter who wins the Republicans' choice.

THE OBSERVER, LONDON

"This spring in Alabama we trapped our first flying fire ant in these traps. This is significant because right now there aren't any monitoring traps for them."

Michael Rust, professor of entomology, on a three-year California research project he runs with UCR entomology specialist Las Greenberg. The research tied the fire ants to flight mills and measured their flight duration and speed.

CENTRAL VALLEY BUSINESS TIMES

"I think it has to do with the extent to which people identify with the celebrity and the extent to which the celebrity is seen as sympathetic."

Donna Hoffman, professor of marketing, commenting on whether or not Paris Hilton's antics will cause harm to the Hilton Hotels Corp.

SARASOTA HERALD-TRIBUNE

"Like most writers, I find the Web is a wonderful distraction. Who doesn't need that last minute research before writing? And of course it is necessary to download and watch the latest Paris Hilton sex tape to keep in touch with pop culture and this zeitgeist. Plus, there are the endless news outlets willing to tell a different story of the war, and then there is Napster and the iTunes store. Thank God for the blessing of the Internet."

Chris Ahani, associate professor of creative writing, speaking about his current work and the writing process.

NEW YORK TIMES

"The most interesting tendency since (the ruling) has been just how public, rather than these legal efforts, have become. How many women know them, and how men deliberately learn them in order to feel a sense of disempowerment and belonging."

Toby Miller, professor of English, sociology and women's studies, speaking about how "gayspeak" is on the increase, especially since the courts allowed female journalists to enter the dressing areas of pro sports teams.

THE OTTAWA CITIZEN

"It's too soon for the Democrats to crow victory. With Florida, it's so close. Even small changes can matter."

Benjamin Bishin, an assistant professor of political science, commenting on how there are only slightly more Democrats than Republican Hispanic voters in Florida.

WASHINGTON POST, ASSOCIATED PRESS

Did You Know?

Bugs can be fun. If you don't believe it, visit UCR's Entomology Research Museum Web site. The site, created by UCR Senior Entomology Scientist Doug Vanega, includes links to a bug spotlight and photo gallery, a bug FAQ page, and more technical pages, as one might expect. It also provides information about the Friends of the Entomology Museum, a non-profit public organization with more than 150 members, including museum staff, entomology alumni, interested amateurs, biological consultants, philanthropists and others. Find out more at entomology.ucr.edu

Who Says?

You can. To become a media source, announcing upcoming published research or an award, contact the Office of Strategic Communications at (909) 824-2100 or newsinfo@ucr.edu.
Morton Named Honors Professor of the Year

Thomas Morton, a professor of organic chemistry and neuro-science, has been chosen as the 2006-07 University Honors Program Professor of the Year. The award recognizes outstanding faculty who participate in the Honors Program through their teaching, and who work to foster a culture of open-mindedness and learning.

Morton was chosen in part for his ongoing course “Organic Chemistry Discussion,” as well as his work with Honors students to publish a scholarly paper in the UCR Honors Journal, Academus.

A student nomination cited Morton very approvingly. “Dr. Morton is one of the main reasons why I put so much more effort into organic chemistry. His devotion to teaching allows me to foster my own passion for science. I find him to be a great mentor because I realize my understanding is still an internal Western discussion; his work with Honors students has contributed significantly as a direct result of Dr. Morton’s guidance.”

Fish Might Transmit New Disease

Laboratory testing has shown that flies exposed to a food source infected with Exotic Newcastle Disease (END) can pick up the virus and carry it for several days, perhaps later passing it on to chickens that eat contaminated food. In an assistant veterinary entomologist Alyc Gerry, who researches the role that flies may play in moving the virus from one bird to the next.

The discovery has potential to improve the quality and stability of electronic display screens, and to enable the mass manufacture of products such as liquid-crystal displays and erasable and rewritable electronic paper and ink that can change color electrochemically.

A research team found that by changing the strength of the magnetic field, they were able to change the color of the iron oxide solution — similar to adjusting the color of a television screen image.

Study results appeared online July 3 in Angewandte Chemie International Edition and will be published in the print version of the journal as an important paper.

Yadong Yin was involved in the research by UCR’s Jianping Ge, a postdoc- toral researcher, and Yongxing Hu, a first-year graduate student in the Department of Chemistry.

Grant Focuses on Military and Civilian Uprisings

David Pion-Berlin, professor of political science, has been awarded a Ford Foundation grant to study recent military and civilian uprisings in South America.


Miller Travels as Keynote Speaker

Toby Miller, chair of the department of Media and Cultural Studies, was a keynote speaker at the Australian and New Zealand Communications Association conference in Melbourne in early July. His lecture, “Move Away from the Croissant: Remaking Media Research in Latin America” will appear in Latin American Politics and Society Review.

Fish Genes an Evolutionary Tale

David Reznick, a professor of biology, is a graduate student in the Department of Biology, and colleagues from other campus units, wishes to understand the pattern of evolution of a gene that is known to play a key role in placental reproduction in mammals.

The placenta, a complex organ of maternal and fetal tissues, nourishes the developing fetus in the uterus. Species with placentation have specialized organs that sustain the nourishment and respiration of embryos throughout their development. Questions such as these have been not been asked or answered.

A widely known specialist on Latin American politics, Pion-Berlin also received an invitation from the United Nations to address a symposium in Seoul, South Korea, in November.

The research, published online in the July 9-13 edition of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, was supported by grants from the National Science Foundation.

McDaniel speaks in Bangkok

Justin McDaniel, assistant professor of political science, will speak in Bangkok at the Asian Film Festival. He also co-authored an article about the 1989 Tiananmen Square protests with an associate professor at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, which will be published in Asian Survey.

McDaniel also will present a lecture at Oxford University in July about Buddhist monastic education.

Grant Supports Research

Randolph Head, associate professor of history, has been awarded an American Philosophical Society grant to support a research sabbatical in 2007-08.

Head’s project, “Archives, Inventories, and Political Knowledge as Mirrors of Governance: Diplomacy and Intelligence in Europe,” will examine how early modern states and rulers organized their archives.

Head also has organized a conference at Oxford University which will take place at UCLA’s Clark Library in January 2009. Scholars from Europe and the Americas will be invited.

The American Philosophical Society was founded by Benjamin Franklin in 1743. It is a scholarly society that promotes the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences, provides financial support for scholarly research, professional meetings, publications, library resources and community outreach.

Study in Higher Education Points to Success

By Kris Lovekin

UC Riverside graduates 64 percent of its students in six years, and it doesn’t matter whether they are rich or poor.

That fact is remarkable when compared to some other universities, where low-income students lag 20 percentage points behind their wealthier classmates. It is so remarkable that on June 6 USA Today published an opinion piece by Dr. Jack Ullman, president of UC Riverside’ssuccess in student achievement. The following text is that op-ed piece that points out UC Riverside’s success with students who qualify for federal Pell Grants.

The report finds that Riverside must succeed by limiting the number of minority students admitted — is wrong. Riverside is very diverse, especially with Latino students, and 45 percent of its students receive federal Pell grants for poor students, wrote opinion editor Richard Whitmire in USA Today. “The real answer emerges from a study recently released by the Pell Institute for the Study of Opportunity in Higher Education: Riverside treats students differently. Incoming freshmen get yearlong orientation sessions that reach out to low-income students instead of trying to get them away from them. Riverside professors work with minority students, instead of professors. A special campus center is devoted to encouraging minority students to take on math and science majors. In short, the university pays a whole lot of attention to solving the problem.”

The report found that Riverside’s success in the ears of Ann Weltarella, UCR’s executive vice chancellor. “But to be successful at helping students graduate requires a commitment to supporting the students, enabling the students, encouraging the students, helping the students, supporting the students.”

That understanding of student needs is frequently absent, says O’Brien, who, with co-author Jennifer Engle, led the national study to show that universities don’t understand their low-income, finan- cial, cultural and social barriers students face, they invest in retention without sufficient impact.

Many institutions don’t even know how their low-income students are faring because they only calcu- late overall retention rates.”

“Demography is not Destiny: Increasing the Graduation Rates of Low-Income College Students at Large Public Universities,” reveals that student retention programs designed for low-income students can improve college graduation rates without narrowing access.

“The solution for higher student retention rates is not to raise admission standards,” says report co-author and Pell Institute Director Colleen O’Brien. “But to be successful at helping students graduate requires a college to recognize that diversity has different needs.”

Researchers predicted each institution’s graduation rates based on a number of factors, including the academic quality of the institution, the financial background of the students, the degree of racial diversity, the number of students performing better than expected in terms of graduation rates, despite serving academically and demographically diverse student populations, while others were performing below expectations.

InsidelCR is produced by the Office of Strategic Communications. 
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Photographers: Designers: Kim Lane, Brad Rowe, Shari Schneider

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InsideUCR is published twice monthly on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. Current and past issues are also available online at www.insideUCR.ucr.edu.
UCR Hosts UC MFA Graduates Art Exhibit

By Bettye Miller

An exhibit of art from the University of California's Master of Fine Arts programs opens July 28 in the UC Riverside ARTSblock in downtown Riverside and continues through Sept. 2.

"Compass 2007: New Art from the University of California's MFA Programs" is a survey exhibition of work by 13 MFA students who graduated in 2007 from the eight UC campuses with art departments. Riverside, Irvine, Los Angeles, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Berkeley, Davis and Santa Cruz.

The series will begin in the fall and will include: Rajamohan Gandhi, biographer and grandson of Mohandas Gandhi; a senior monk from Deer Park Monastery in Escondido; a showing of the documentary "A Force More Powerful" and a discussion with the film's producer, Jack Dowd; and presentations and exhibitions about the Nonviolence Peace Force, an international nonviolent peacekeeper organization, and efforts to establish a Cabinet-level U.S. Department of Peace and Nonviolence.

Assisting in the development of the series are Farah Godjee, assistant professor of political science; Bronwyn Lisebaw, assistant professor of political science; Deborah Wong, graduate student; Charles Townsend (religious studies); Mayia Ramirez (political science); Carey Baughman (history) and David Wilthoths (philosophy); and community activists Linda Dunn and Madelyn MacKay.

Pondering Truth Force vs. Brute Force

The campus spends a year exploring Gandhi and nonviolence

By Betty Miller

Mohandas Gandhi’s legacy of nonviolence has been defined as the concurrent defeat of social justice movements in the last half-century. In an age of terrorism, does his belief that brute force is weaker than truth force still hold true?

That is a question UC Riverside faculty, students, area activists and community residents will ponder during a yearlong exploration of Gandhi's writings and historical connections to political discourses, and of the university's relationship to nonviolent resistance through the development of programs such as the series helping to bring this project in ongoing political movements.

"Engaging Truth Force: A Study on Gandhiian Ideals of Nonviolence in the Academy and in Society" is a series of panel discussions and events featuring Dr. O'Connor, professor of religious studies, and David Briggs, assistant professor of history.

The exhibit will be presented at both the UCR/California Museum of Photography and Sweeney Art Gallery, two of three venues that form ARTSblock. The third venue, the Center for the Arts, is scheduled to open in 2009.

Most of the works in "Compass 2007" are sculptural installations or single-channel video productions. Paintings and photographs also are featured.

"Compass 2007" is the first exhibition in recent history to survey all of the UC's art departments, said Stephen Cullenberg, dean of the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences. "Appropriately, it follows close on the heels of UC Riverside's first class of graduates from its new MFA program," he said. The "artists who represent the creme-de-la-creme coming out of the nation's premier state university system."

The exhibit is sponsored by a grant from the University of California Institute for Research in the Arts and is supported by the UCR College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences.

Floyd Landis, Embroiled 2006 Tour de France Winner, to Speak, Sign Book at UCR

Floyd Landis, the 2006 Tour de France winner who is currently defending his title following allegations that he used performance-enhancing drugs, will speak at UCR at 2 p.m. July 19 in the UCR Student Recreation Center. His book, "Winner, to Speak, Sign Book at UCR" will be available at the signing for $24.95. Information: Susan Bauchness, (951) 827-3736.

Landis has appealed the positive doping-test finding by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency. An arbitration panel is expected to deliver a decision this month.

Landis' ordeal began after winning the world's most-well-known bicycle race, when he was accused of using performance-enhancing drugs. Following the allegations, Landis was released by his team, threatened with removal of his tour title, and received a two-year ban from cycling.

Landis has appealed the positive doping-test finding by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency. An arbitration panel is expected to deliver a decision this month.

"Students first submit a project proposal to get accepted as fellows," Cooksey said. "As good preparation for a career in science, each fellow works 40 hours a week on a research project, gives presentations, and submits a final report.

Gary Scott, a professor of chemistry and the associate dean for student affairs, runs a separate research program - the CNAS Freshman Scholar Summer Internship - to encourage research at the freshman level. Freshmen who are selected as interns receive $2,000 for eight weeks to do research in the college.

Undergraduate student Jacob good presents his research to CNAS interim Dean Don Cooksey and others on July 11. Undergraduate research at UCR is off to a solid start this summer due to the effort of CNAS faculty who are directing research-based scholarship programs.

Good is one of 18 undergraduates who were awarded CNAS Dean's Fellowships this year, each fellow receiving $3,000 for 10 weeks starting June 27.

"Students first submit a project proposal to get accepted as fellows," Cooksey said. "As good preparation for a career in science, each fellow works 40 hours a week on a research project, gives presentations, and submits a final report."