

April Stem Cell Spotlight Newsletter

April 2026

Important Updates! UCIBuy+ System Launch

- UCI has transitioning to a new procurement system called UCIBuy+, which has launched on April 13, 2026.
- PO's and Service Requests are now accepted through the normal purchasing steps through Request Tracker (RT). Any questions on the new migration, please contact Alex Corona amcorona@hs.uci.edu.

Upcoming Events

Community Lecture Series

Tuesdays from 7 - 8 pm in Thorp Conference Center

- May 5, 2026 | Devon Lawson, PhD & Tim McMullen, PhD
- "Stem Cell Immunotherapies for Breast Cancer Metastasis"

June 2 2026 | Alex Minella, MD & Nick Pannunzio, PhD

- "Changing Paradigms in the Treatment of Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia in Adults"



[Click Here to RSVP for 2026 Community Lectures](#)



Stem Cell Seminar Series

Fridays from 11-12 PM in Thorp Conference Center

May 1st | Christopher Pin, PhD

- "Defining Epigenetic Mediators in Pancreatic Cancer Initiation & Progression"
- Location change: [Sue Gross Auditorium](#), 854 Health Sciences Road

June 12th | Jianhua Yu, PhD

- "iPSC-derived Immune Cells for Immunotherapy"



Skin Distinguished Speaker Series

Fridays from 11-12 PM in Thorp Conference Center & on Zoom

May 22nd | Marjana Tomic-Canic, PhD

- "When skin fails to heal: Molecular control of human skin repair."

[Click here for the Skin Distinguished Speaker Series Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 963 6269 7873



UCI Skin Metabolism Symposium

Thursday, May 7th in Thorp Conference Center

- Hybrid Event | In-person spots are limited

[Click here to learn more about the UCI Skin Metabolism Symposium](#)

[RSVP Click here to RSVP for the UCI Skin Metabolism Symposium](#)

Funding



CIRM FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES:
Please [click here](#) for the latest on the CIRM website.

TO INITIATE A PROPOSAL SUBMISSION THROUGH SCRC: [Click here](#) to complete the intake form to initiate a proposal submission through SCRC.

[Click here](#) to see the FAQs attached about F&A funding, and visit the following for additional information updates:

- [Judge largely blocks Trump's executive orders ending federal support for DEI programs](#)
- [Impact of Federal Executive Orders and Directives on Federal Grants and Contracts](#)
- [UC Federal Updates Page](#)

Please reach out to Randy if you have any specific questions or concerns.

HR Updates/Resources

Mental Health First Aid Certification

[Click to read more about Mental Health First Aid Certification](#)

Kaiser Webinar Series

- Activate Your Healthy Mind-Healthy Body
- No cost webinar series

[Click to read more about Kaiser Webinar Series](#)

Life Resources Program (LRP) ComPsych Guidance Resources

- (844) 824-3273
- Faculty & Staff Support Services
- Negar Shekarabi, Psy.D.
 - Program Director, Occupational Health
 - nshekar@hs.uci.edu

[Click to read more Life Resources Program \(LRP\) ComPsych Guidance Resources](#)

REACH Program (Referral, Education, Assessment and Counseling for Healers)

[Click to read more about REACH Program](#)

UCI Culinary Health Program

[Click to read more about UCI Culinary Health Program](#)

UCI Susan Samueli Integrative Health Institute

Throughout the year, we offer a variety of mindfulness classes, including Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction (MBSR), Mindful Self-Compassion (MSC), Mindfulness-Based Relapse Prevention (MBRP) and Mindful Parenting workshops

[Click to read more about UCI Susan Samueli Integrative Health Institute](#)

Travel Reimbursements

[Click here to review the UC travel policy highlights](#), and please review these before booking. Feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

REIMBURSEMENT FORMS:
[Click here to download all forms on the SCRC Purchasing Webpage](#)



We would like to send a reminder regarding UCI travel policies to keep in mind if you plan on seeking reimbursement for your travels (ie. conferences and events).

Please refer to the policies below:

- Airfare must be coach or economy class only
- Lodging maximum is \$333/night before taxes and fees – the maximum applies **per room**, not per person. Even if you share a room with another traveler, the room must cost no more than \$333/night.
- The maximum for **meals & incidental expenses** is \$92/day. The only instance in which you may pay for another person's meals is if you are hosting a business meeting over a meal. In this case, you must provide an **attendee list and agenda**, and the **meal maximums listed here** apply.
- In general, you may not pay for another person's expenses, however you may share a room, shuttles, taxis, etc. with another traveler. One person can pay for the room, taxi, etc., and request reimbursement.
- If you are including personal days on the trip (extending travel dates more than 24 hrs before or after the conference dates), you must provide a **pre-trip airfare comparison quote** that shows how much the flight would have cost without personal days. Reimbursement will be based on the lesser amount. Any expenses incurred during **personal travel** are not reimbursable.
- Keep all itemized receipts to submit with your reimbursement. Receipts must include **proof of payment** (ex. Paid with Visa XXXX); Please see the **reference guide for supporting documentation** for more info.
- **No exceptions for receipts that are not itemized – bank account screenshots are acceptable as further backup to confirm amount totals such as tip (in such instances where tip amount is not included on the receipts)**
- Any mileage requests must include a screenshot of the route taken (gmaps, apple maps etc.) **Mileage rate: \$0.725**
- Reimbursement requests must be submitted within 45 days after the end of the trip.

SCRC Building Information

[Click here to view a full list of the SCRC Core Staff](#)

[Click here to view a full list of the shared equipment and other resources that SCRC offers](#)

- Shared equipment is reserved via iLab. [Click here to register for iLab.](#)
- Questions? Please email Allia Fawaz (fawaza@uci.edu)

Conference rooms

- Conference rooms 2005, 2034, 3001, and 3034 may be booked through iLab. [Click here to register for iLab.](#)
 - They can also be reserved at the tablet kiosks outside each conference room. Directions for reserving at the kiosks are posted next to them.
- The Thorp conference center on the 4th floor (4000) and the 4th floor boardroom (4002) are reserved through Kristina Yan (kzyan@hs.uci.edu).

Building Access:

- If you require a keycard to be activated, please email the 5 or 6-digit number on your keycard and your PI's approval to Allia Fawaz (fawaza@uci.edu)
- If your lab does not have a spare keycard to activate, please send your lab's KFS account and project code with your PI's approval to purchase one.
- Lost or stolen keys/keycards should be reported to both the PI/lab manager and Allia Fawaz (fawaza@uci.edu) immediately.
- **Reminder:** You should NOT grant access to the building (e.g., by holding a door to the building open) to anyone without a keycard unless they are known to you. Also, doors to the building should NOT be propped open to allow access.

Share Your Voice – SCRC Comments & Suggestions Box

Our virtual Comments & Suggestions Box is here to capture your ideas!

[Click here to submit any comments or suggestions anonymously](#)

Want to be featured in a Newsletter?

Have a recent event, achievement, or pet to be featured in a future newsletter? [Please click here to complete the request form with your information.](#)

UC Irvine Stem Cell Research Center
<https://stemcell.uci.edu/>