

# Dean of the School of Education Vision Seminar

**Dr. Louie Rodriguez**

Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022

# MY VISION FOR THE UCR **SCHOOL** OF EDUCATION

Louie F. Rodriguez

Interim Dean and Professor

Bank of America Chair in Education  
Leadership, Policy, & Practice

UC Riverside



**RIVERSIDE**  
School of Education

## (RE)INTRODUCING THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION



It's an exciting time at the University of California, Riverside School of Education: As we resumed in-person learning, and welcomed new students to campus for the fall quarter, we also celebrated our school's name change from the Graduate School of Education to the School of Education. The change better reflects the scope of our research, impact, and academic programs, including our burgeoning undergraduate program that now accounts for 60% of our student enrollment.

At SOE, our mission is to advance equitable educational systems and practices, driven by our core values of equity, evidence, excellence, community, critical thinking, and compassion. As I begin my third year as the interim dean of the

School of Education, I look forward to the innovative new initiatives and partnerships on the horizon that will take our school to even greater levels of success and excellence.

I invite you to get to know more about SOE, and if you're interested in giving to our student success fund, partnering on an endeavor, or joining our academic programs. I encourage you to get in touch.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Louie F. Rodriguez'.

Louie F. Rodriguez  
Interim Dean and Professor



# OVERVIEW

- My story
- Challenges and opportunities for UCR
- Challenges and opportunities in the SOE
- My vision for the SOE
  - My core principles as a leader
  - 4 core priorities for the SOE

# THE EDUCATIONAL JOURNEY OF ONE INLAND EMPIRE STUDENT: LOUIE F. RODRIGUEZ



# OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES AT UCR...

## Challenges



Continuing to  
advocate regionally  
and statewide



Retaining local talent



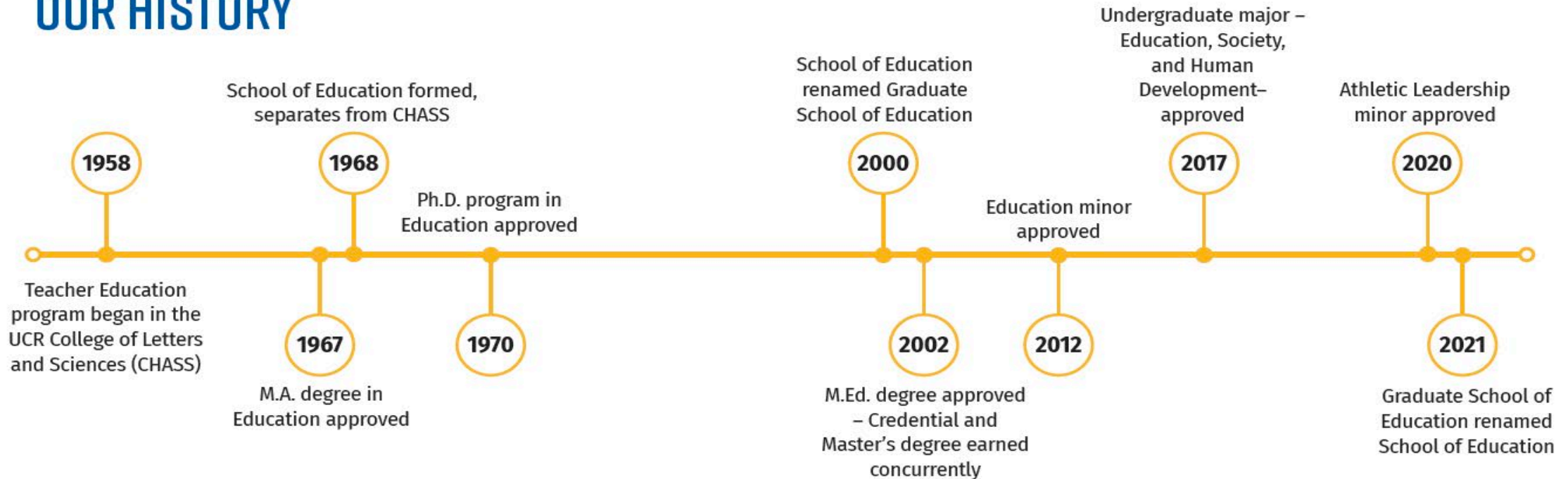
Telling our story  
broadly

## Opportunities

- Capitalize on the strengths of our students
  - Workforce implications
  - Every student connected
- Telling the UCR story of student success
- Grow our student populations
- Diversify our faculty

# UCR SOE HISTORY

## OUR HISTORY



(951) 827-4633  
[education.ucr.edu](http://education.ucr.edu)

   /ucrsoe

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# OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES IN THE SOE ...



## SOE launches the FIERCE Scholars Program

September 23, 2021

UC Riverside School of Education today announced the launch of the Fueling the Inland Empire Region with Community Educators, or FIERCE Scholars Program. The new program is designed to prepare current SOE undergraduate students to be community-ready and equity centered after graduation when they can return to contribute to the workforce needs of the IE Inland Empire (IE) area of Southern California.

"The goal of the program is to address the needs of the IE community, which is over 50% people of color, with a significant Latina/o/x, Black, Asian/Asian American, and Indigenous population," said Interim Dean Louie Rodriguez. "Our hope is that by the time they complete our program, our FIERCE Scholars will be ready to enter the community and serve. The focus of the program will be on developing students who wish to become teachers, school psychologists, or higher education professionals."

The competitive program is open to UCR SOE students who are in their junior year, with priority given to applicants who attended an Inland Empire high school with a student population that is at least 50% low-socioeconomic status (SES)

- Ongoing need for more staff

## School of Education launches Black Community Education Promise Program

The program supports incoming School of Education freshman or transfer students who are dedicated to serving the Black community via education upon graduation from UCR

AUTHOR:  
**HOLLY OBER**

May 6, 2022

The UC Riverside School of Education has established the [Black Community Education Promise \(BCEP\) Scholars Program](#). The program supports incoming School of Education freshman or transfer students who are dedicated to serving the Black community via education upon graduation from UCR.

The goal is to provide BCEP Scholars with financial and mentoring support from their first year, or transfer year, all the way through their master's program in education at UCR. BCEP Scholars will be committed to serving communities across the Inland Empire and/or California.

Research shows that Black students in education systems are disproportionately affected by various counterproductive policies and practices. By launching the BCEP Scholars Program, the School of Education will develop educators committed to addressing the many challenges that exist in our communities.

Requirements:

- Must be an incoming first-year or transfer student majoring in education;
- Desire to serve the Black community via education and support the development and success of Black students;
- Aspire to become teachers, leaders, ethnic studies teachers, school psychologists, higher education professionals, education policy advocates, special education professionals, researchers, and more

- Recognizing the holistic student for student success
- Continue to build partnerships across campus

## Opportunities

- Build pathways & pipelines across all of our programs
  - FIERCE; BCEP; Ethnic Studies Pathway; Fontana BUILT; Local Solutions
- Grow our enrollment, faculty, and staff

## GSOE now offers pathway for future ethnic studies teachers

Program is the school's first structured curriculum for ethnic studies

AUTHOR:  
**IMRAN GHORI**

February 1, 2021

UC Riverside's Graduate School of Education is offering a new ethnic studies pathway as part of its teacher education program.

The pathway is in its first year with the first group of students completing the process at the end of the spring quarter. The school launched the program to offer a structured curriculum for students seeking to teach ethnic studies courses.

Although the school already had ethnic studies courses available, they weren't part of a structured curriculum, said Rita Kohli, an associate professor in the Education, Society, and Culture program, who developed the pathway.

"We had some of these classes for several years before we started this emphasis, but I think the growth of ethnic studies in the K-12 context and the interest and growth of that in the Inland Empire has also allowed this to flourish and come to fruition," Kohli said.

## THE EDUCATION JARDEAN

### From the Inland Empire to Harvard and Back: One Educator's Perpetual Educational Journey

As part of the next SOE's Education JarDean series, Interim Dean Rodriguez invites all SOE students, and UCR students, to a presentation and discussion about his Educational Journey. Educational Journeys is a pedagogical activity that he created as part of his community work and has used it to engage students, families, educators, and communities in dialogue about the power of education in our communities. Particular emphasis will be placed on the power that the Inland Empire has played in his journey to cultivate a sense of purpose and determination in education.

*Interim Dean and Professor Louie Rodriguez was born and raised in the Inland Empire. The Education JarDean is a SOE-based student engagement space created by Interim Dean Rodriguez to cultivate ideas in education.*

In-person: Sproul 1215  
Wed, April 27  
1:30p.m. - 2:30p.m.

# 7 CORE PRINCIPLES AS A L



## Humanizing engagement:

-Kindness as a gesture of humanity, respect, and recognition

Examples: maximum flexibility; staff office hours; Education JarDEAN; storytelling;

## Equity and Excellence:

-Historical and present-day context  
• Consider marginalized  
• Excellence as a reflection of institutional culture

Examples: flexible student policy; mission creation; centering DEI



## Intentionality:

-Just outcomes and transformation won't happen by accident  
-Work collaboratively to create the conditions for change

Examples: resource allocation; core principles; program development by FIERCE and BCEP



## Co-creating the vision:

-The purpose of education is to transform individuals, communities, society;

-We must co-create that vision;

-Data-driven, consultative, and decisive

Examples: SP and Mission/core values

## Mission



The University of California, Riverside's School of Education, or SOE, is a nationally recognized school in a public research university that leverages its broad range of expertise to develop impactful partnerships, collaborations, and evidence-based resources fundamental for teaching, learning, and student success. Located in a region rich in racial and linguistic diversity, yet challenged by economic and social inequities, SOE serves a diverse student population, much of which is comprised of students of color, low-income students, and first-generation college students. SOE's mission is to advance equitable educational systems and practices which are driven by core values of equity, evidence, excellence, community, critical thinking, and compassion. Additionally, we prioritize recognizing, honoring, and working with the people of the region to create transformative opportunities and advance our respective fields in education. The faculty and staff of SOE enact this mission by valuing, understanding, and partnering with our UC, UCR, and Inland



# SOE MISSION & CORE VALUES

MY VISION: THE UCR SCHOOL OF EDUCATION WILL BE A NATIONALLY-RECOGNIZED HIGHER EDUCATION LEADER THAT ENGAGES IN CONSEQUENTIAL, EQUITY-DRIVEN, AND TRANSFORMATIVE RESEARCH AND OPPORTUNITY-BUILDING TO MAKE AN INTERGENERATIONAL IMPACT.

**SOE Bold 2030:** -resource generation effort; -double federal funding to \$10m; -foundation & state/local efforts to \$5m;-triple our private support to \$3m a year; -incentivize grant activity

**SOE Voices:** - opportunities to become a national voice on education issues; -written, video, social media, media

**SOE National/Community Initiative:**

-multi-faceted community-building initiative

-a thriving intellectual community (speaker series, gatherings, joint faculty & staff retreats; recognition of SOE staff and faculty)

**SOE Impact Project:** applied, interdisciplinary, community-based research center to impact policy and practice across the region and nationally

# BUILDING INTO THE FUTURE...

Hired 30% of SOE faculty

10 -year accreditation for School Psychology Program

Ethnic Studies Pathway/Emphasis

Built up Assessment Efforts

FIERCE Scholars

Hired Writing Center Coordinator

UC's 1<sup>st</sup> Athletic Leadership Minor

0 to 600 students in UG Major

Black Community Education Promise (BCEP Scholars Program)

Led SOE through budget cut challenges

Hired Institutional Research Analyst

1<sup>st</sup> endowed scholarship for SOE UG's

SchoolsFirst Grant

Doubled Dean's Circle Membership

1<sup>st</sup> Endowed Scholarship for Latina Leadership

Fiscally healthy

BUILT Program with FUSD

Educational JarDEAN

SOE In the Community Webinar Series

Office Hours with the Dean

Led through a global pandemic

SOE name change

200 Emergency Scholarships

Hired 2 UC Postdocs

PD for SOE Graduate Students

Hired Community Engaged Learning Coordinator

# THANK YOU!

- Q & A



SOE honors two alumnae for Teacher Appreciation Week

May 04, 2022



## CABE Riverside Jezik-Venegas Future Bilingual Educator Scholarship

