



UC President Jack Peltason visited the campus in January as part of an all-day celebration of UC's 125th anniversary. Also part of the program were a higher education forum and dinner. Shown above with President Peltason are, from left, state Sen. Marian Bergeson; L. Dennis Smith, acting chancellor; Meredith Khachigian, chair of the UC Board of Regents; Gary Hunt, vice president of the Irvine Co.; and Terrel Bell, former U.S. secretary of education.

UCI Journal v.12, no.3 Spring 1993  
University of California, Irvine

## Soil firm supports new course for biotech

**A** researcher is conducting a study that will suit golfers to a tee. Social Ecology doctoral student Stephen Lyon is using bioremediation techniques to remove the "black plug layer" that causes soil clogging on golf courses nationwide. Faculty adviser for the project is Betty Olson, professor and chair of environmental analysis and design.

Lyon's study, "Evaluation of the Microbial Community in Golf Course Soils," is supported by a gift from Rancho Bernardo-based Eco Soil Systems.

Most golf greens are built with a thick layer of course sand mixed with peat moss. Over the years, bacteria moves into the voids between the sand and produces slime that eventually fills up the space between the grains of sand, Lyon explained. "The slime layer creates an environment that favors bacteria that produce hydrogen sulfide—a noxious gas that kills the 'good' bacteria in the soil. The end result, the 'black plug layer,' prevents grass roots from growing, water from percolating and oxygen from getting down into the soil, thereby penalizing the deep-rooted grasses such as Bent and rewarding shallow-rooted grasses such as Poa Annua."

Lyon's mission is to identify microbial mixtures that create the black plug layer and those that will break up the slime layer and restore order to the ecosystem.

The study is scheduled for completion in 1994 and has implications for at least 5,000 golf courses nationwide.

## Gifts build library's East Asian Collection

**A**n old Chinese proverb says that the mid-point of a 100-mile journey is the 90th mile. Bill Wong understands that proverb well.

As UCI's East Asian Collection librarian, Wong's goal is building the collection to 100,000 volumes from its current total of about 50,000. And the hard work's just beginning.

"We've got a small budget, but we've managed to develop a pretty strong collection in just a few years," said Wong, who assumed his position two years ago when the collection numbered about 10,000 volumes. "And while it's a difficult time financially to seek donations, we've been very lucky."

Recent additions to the East Asian Collection are rare and varied.

Last summer, with donations from Friends of the UCI Library, the library purchased Chung Kuo Tang Tai Tso Chia Ch'ien Ming Ts'ung Shu, an autographed collection of writings by 100 of China's best known modern authors. The collection includes masterpieces by older writers such as Ba Jin, Ding Ling, Bing Xin, Xiao Jun and Ai Qing, and is considered representative of the essence of Chinese literature in the modern era.

With partial funding from the Orange County Chinese Cultural Club, Wong recently purchased a 7,950-volume series, Pai Pu Tu'ung Shu Chi Cheng, which is regarded as the most important belles-lettres collectanea published in Taiwan.

"With our focus on literature and humanities, which is distinctive from other UC campuses, this series greatly strengthens our core collection of Chinese literary works," Wong said.

Another interesting addition is Ssu Pu Ts'ung K'an—A Collection

of Four Libraries. The libraries—classics, history, philosophy and belles lettres—represent a four-classification system adopted in the third century which continues to dominate Chinese bibliographic work today.

One of many collections of historical works gathered and published together in the 1920s, this 2,100-volume group of works was donated by Henry S. Ni, a retired businessman in Fountain Valley who developed a loyalty to the university when his son graduated from UCI in the 1980s. The series was among many rare books from private collections that were confiscated by the Chinese government during the Cultural Revolution; it was returned to Ni in the late 1970s and shipped from Shanghai to California in the 1980s.

Other recent additions to the East Asian Collection include the Noma Collection—donated by Mrs. Sawako Noma, president of Kodansha Ltd. in Japan—containing some 10,000 volumes of Japanese literature that will become the cornerstone of Japanese studies at UCI; a 150-volume collection of Chinese art works representing the most famous calligraphers and painters in Chinese history; two important art books and a calligraphy on a scroll from the Liu Hai-Su Cultural Foundation in Los Angeles; and an autographed book on Taiwan by Teng-hui Lee, president of the Republic of China; a rare autographed memoir by Yibo Bo, who was recently identified by the Los Angeles Times as one of the "Eight Elders" or power brokers in Chinese politics.

"Our mission is to continue generating gifts of this type to support faculty growth and UCI's programs in East Asian Languages and Literatures," said Wong.

"The journey is just beginning."

growth. There are 17,000 students. The fact that only a few hundred student season tickets have been sold concerns me. ...We want to make it exciting for the spectators to come and see UCI athletics. We want to put a product out there on which everyone will be sold. Like any major institution, the alumni and the community as a whole play a significant role in supporting the athletic program, not only with dollars but by their presence at events. They have to feel that they are proud of the program we sponsor and when that happens, the support will come in many ways.

**Q** What's the situation with athletic scholarships?

**A.** We need to almost double our commitment to scholarships in order to meet the NCAA requirement and sponsor the programs to the extent we feel is required. We'd like to augment our scholarships by about \$200,000, and that's a goal we're setting. A full-ride scholarship is about \$9,000 here, but in many cases a coach will have a scholarship allocation and not necessarily choose to give it in a full-ride fashion. The coaches have flexibility to give scholarships to cover fees or as stipends.

**Q** With the specter of an even tighter state budget on the horizon, what will next year look like? Are any programs in jeopardy?

**A.** As I indicated earlier, our administration has made a

