To the campus community:

UCI manages an urban forest of approximately 30,000 trees, which provide significant value to the campus community. As part of UCI's sustainable landscape program, the campus adopted the UCI Green and Gold Plan in 1996. The plan outlines goals and objectives for UCI's urban forest including increased species and age diversity to improve the long-term health of our forest. The plan encourages ongoing replacement of Eucalyptus trees, the dominant species planted during the first two decades of campus development, with native California trees and other shade trees that provide ecological and environmental value.

As a part of UCI's ongoing urban forest management, the campus conducts assessments of Eucalyptus and other species to identify trees that may be in declining health or otherwise pose a hazard. Recent assessments have identified certain Eucalyptus trees that require removal. In 2021, the campus removed the highest-risk eucalyptus trees. This year, additional removals along Academy Way, Crawford Athletics Complex, Campus Drive, and within Aldrich Park are necessary for the safety of the campus community. Additional trees have been identified for removal between March and September of this year. Furthermore, the remaining Eucalyptus trees will be professionally pruned.

All tree removals and pruning will occur under the guidance of qualified biologists to ensure nesting birds are not disturbed during these activities. Consistent with the goals of the Green and Gold Plan, the campus will implement a restoration program that emphasizes planting long-lived native plants and other shade trees, selected in consultation with campus biologists. Our continuing goal is to increase the diversity and long-term health of our urban forest, while providing increased habitat value to pollinators and other native species.

Information on the UCI Sustainable Landscape Program and updates regarding tree removals and reforestation are available at: https://cpep.uci.edu/physical/landscape-plan.php

Sincerely,

Richard Demerjian
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Real Property Development

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