

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA MERCED

Diversity Statement

Local indigenous people, including the Yokuts and Miwuk who understand the earth as a place for everyone, first inhabited the land where UC Merced is located. When we address diversity on this campus, we do so boldly, daring to look forward and backward, imagining diversity's demand for the 21st century and the importance of diversity in addressing past wrongs, reaffirming humanity, and ensuring a reconciliatory path of redress for the future. The most prominent path on our campus is called Scholars Lane. By day, you can see, hear and witness the embodiment of our diversity through campus community members making their way across campus framed by the slopes and peaks of the Sierra Nevada.

At UC Merced we steadfastly uphold the concepts expressed in the University of California Diversity Statement including, “the variety of personal experiences, values, and worldviews that arise from differences of culture and circumstance. Such differences include race, ethnicity, gender, age, religion, language, abilities or disabilities, neurodiversity, sexual orientation, gender identity, socioeconomic status, geographic region, and more.”

We affirm that a diverse campus furthers our mission to create, interpret, and disseminate knowledge and values. The manifold diversity of our community encourages each of us to reflect on intellectual and cultural orthodoxies, and thus stimulates the creativity at the heart of our academic mission as a research university. We take pride in serving a large population of first-generation college students, including the broad representation of background on our campus as a Hispanic (HSI), Minority (MSI) and Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander (AANAPISI) serving institution. As a common goal, we will work together to ensure all members of our academic community reflect the multiplicity of identities in our region.

Our commitment to diversity will foster our ability to thrive in a complex world.

PRINCIPLES *of* COMMUNITY



The University of California, Merced, is a public, land-grant institution created to serve the communities of the San Joaquin Valley, the State of California, the nation and the world through excellence in education, research and public service.

These principles reflect our ongoing efforts to increase access and inclusion and to create a community that nurtures lifelong learning and growth for all of its members. We encourage every member of the UC Merced community to join us in our collective pursuit of these principles:

We recognize and celebrate the identities, values and beliefs of our community.

We affirm the inherent dignity and value of every person while cultivating a campus climate rooted in mutual respect and compassion.

We uphold the right to freedom of expression and encourage a culture of dialogue, understanding and civility in all interactions. We seek to create a campus where a rich tapestry of ideas is shared, collaboration is embraced, and innovation is promoted.

We pursue excellence in teaching and learning through contributions from all community members fostering a culture of open exchange.

We promote opportunities for active participation and leadership in our communities.

We champion civic engagement, environmental stewardship, research and teaching that connect theory and practice to learning and doing.

We take pride in building, sustaining and sharing a culture that is founded on these principles of unity and respect.

The UC Merced Principles of Community were developed by the Chancellor's Advisory Council for Campus Climate, Culture and Inclusion in collaboration with the campus community. These principles were issued on March 25, 2014.