The UC Davis Arboretum
Gardens, Programs, Current Development and the Future
The Living Museum: Arboretum Collections

- Nearly 100 acres for testing and trial of new plants
- Focus on Mediterranean-type climate adapted plants
What is the UC Davis Arboretum?

- Staff expertise in
  - Horticulture
  - Education
  - GIS/database
  - Editing/publications

- Educational programs
  - Nursery production
  - Plant propagation
  - Sustainable Gardening
  - Docent/Naturalist
  - Environmental leadership
Collections along both sides of the Arboretum Waterway
California Native Plant Collection: nearly half of the Arboretum is California native plants.
California Native Trees

- Pines
- Oaks
- Incense cedar
- Ironwood
- Boxelder
- Redwood
Redwood Collection

T. Elliot Weier Redwood Grove
Australian Collection: 39 species of Eucalyptus
Mediterranean Plant Collection:
Aleppo pine, cork oak, Canary Is. Pine
Oak Collection: Heritage oaks and Peter J. Shields Oak Grove
Shields Oak Grove

- First plantings in 1964 with species from around the world
- The largest oak collection in the west and second largest in the U.S.
- Repeatedly identified as Arboretum’s best scientific collection, recently recognized as a key member of national oak collection consortium
- Endowed by Professor Emeritus John Tucker in 2000 ($250,000)
Under Development

- Continue augmentation of collection highlighting western U.S. and Mexican species
- Develop area with trails, under-plantings, and exhibits similar to Redwood Grove
Arboretum Home Demonstration Gardens

- Arboretum Terrace
- Ruth Risdon Storer Garden
- Carolee Shields White Flower Garden
Arboretum Terrace Garden
Mediterranean style with mixed plants from California and other regions
Storer Garden
“Valley-wise” principles and drought tolerant plants
White Flower Garden: popular for weddings
UC Davis Arboretum Programs

• Learning: education through programs
• Discovery: cooperation with researchers
• Engagement: communication of environmental gardening principles
Visitor-centered Education: Interpretive signs, labels and handouts
Comprehensive Interpretive signs
Educational Programs

- Internships: involve students in educational outreach
- Volunteer Training
  - Nursery
  - Garden
  - Education/outreach
  - Curatorial/record keeping
Many UC Davis classes use the Arboretum
Arboretum staff and volunteers: tours for UC students and public and internships
Research: support researchers using collections and facilities
Research projects in the Arboretum

- Entomology
- Plant Pathology
- Water quality (Engineering and Geology)
- Herpetology (turtles)
- Avian research (herons, egrets, ducks)
- Evolution and Ecology
The Arboretum depends heavily on volunteers
Volunteer training: specialty in gardening, nursery and educational outreach
Volunteer Gardeners

- Planting
- Pruning
- Mulching
- Weeding
- Tool maintenance
- Landscape construction
Volunteer Training--nursery

- Nursery operations, plant culture and plant sales
- Plant propagation
- Learn plant ID and names
Informal plant introduction and marketing
Volunteer Training—docent education

• Lead interactive tours for adults
  – Sustainable gardens
  – Habitat gardens
  – Heat and Drought tolerant plants
  – Best Valley garden plants
Naturalists: Provide environmental education curriculum for school classes
Naturalists: Informal science education grades 2-4

- Use California science standards for appropriate grade levels
Student Internships

- Landscape maintenance and construction
- Plant propagation
- Nursery operations and plant sales
- Environmental Leadership
- Sustainable Gardening
- Planting design
Visit our website
http://arboretum.ucdavis.edu
UC Davis Arboretum

- Founded in 1937
- 96 acres on UC Davis campus
- Limited support/ slow development
- Dependent on community for survival
- Increased campus support 1998
Long-Range Planning at the Arboretum

In 1998 we used a highly structured process that helped us:

• Build on our strengths
• Focused staff efforts
• Transformed our thinking about our future
UC Davis Arboretum

Developing a Shared Vision

Drucker process
Over 4000 people from stakeholder groups
- Faculty
- Students
- Staff
- Campus leaders
- Community leaders
- Members, Volunteers & Donors
- Regional public

Common priorities
- Improve the visitor experience
- Enhance Arboretum as a learning resource
- Strengthen academic and scientific connections
- Translate the work of UC Davis to the public
The Arboretum is...

- A beautiful part of the campus; a campus emblem
- A place to learn about plants and gardens
- A resource for teaching and research
- A place for relaxation and recreation
- A wildlife corridor
A place that always welcomes visitors and provides a bridge between the visitor and the campus
The 10 year plant 2002-2012
The GATE ways Project: Gardens, Art and the Environment
UCD leaders are making this area an inviting front door to campus

- Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts
- Mondavi Institute for Wine and Food Science
- Graduate School of Management
- Conference Center and Hotel
- Museum of Art
Development along the south edge of campus places the Arboretum along these visitor-oriented areas.
The Arboretum and the campus can become an even richer learning environment and environmental resource

- Inviting the visitors down our garden paths
- Offering a view into the world of research and learning.
After 4 years of planning and visitor research the Arboretum and its partners developed a new plan

**GATEways**

The Arboretum as a center for connecting people with the university community

A model for a contemporary land grant university
What is the GATEways program?

- Creation of *physical* and *programmatic entrance points* to campus through the Arboretum that provide visitor orientation and way-finding (signs and labels)

- Provide a window into the work of the University
What are the goals of GATEways?

• Connect the campus, the Arboretum and the community
• Explain University research and teaching to the public
• Provide an experience of interactive, informal learning
• Involve UCD students as educators that teach visitors about campus research
Three main GATEways will connect the Arboretum to its audiences

• East: Davis Community GATEway
• Center: Campus GATEway
• West: Regional “Arboretum” GATEway

• These GATEways lead to campus neighborhoods, which are centers for academic disciplines
Each campus neighborhood will have a designated theme which highlights and incorporates nearby academic programs.

Some programming has already started with students using the Arboretum....
Robin Hill’s Landscape Art Class
Located near the Campus GATEway,
exciting creations in the Arts Neighborhood
Art/Science Fusion Program, Entomology 1:
Students learn about insects through art

Class projects appear in the Arts Neighborhood and in the Oak Grove
Oak Discovery Trail
The East GATEway will be a City connection:
Gardens and programs for families and children

- The East GATEway to the Arboretum is surrounded by Aggie Village, Solano Park family housing and the UCD Center for Child and Family Studies.

- The Arboretum wants to add elements devoted to children and families
This quarter LDA 191 students are working on ideas and designs

Arboretum Visitor Plaza & Interpretive Center
University Gateway: Native American Recognition Garden near the Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts.

- A reflective area in the Arboretum to honor the Patwin people who lived on the land where the University sits.
Native American Contemplative Garden
Arboretum Discovery GATEway

- Nature's Gallery Court
- Oak Discovery Trail
- Arboretum Teaching Nursery
- Sustainable Gardens
- GATEways Discovery Center
The Discovery Center

• Near I-80 exit
• Brings visitors into campus
• Will be like a nature center at a State Park
• Will provide Environmental Education and showcase University research
• Provide information about the UC Davis Arboretum
• Demonstration gardens
In partnership with the California Center for Urban Horticulture

- A dynamic meeting place of horticultural knowledge and need
- Supporting scientific research and the exchange of science-based information on a range of people-plant interactions
Partnering with students

• Work with School of Education to give students the opportunity to volunteer as docents or develop exhibits for children about University research
# Summary: The GATEways Program

## Welcoming the Visitor
Physical entry areas placed to invite and orient visitors
- Provide “wayfinding” signs
- Provide visitor comfort features

## Educational Opportunities for the Visitor
Programming to provide a window into workings of University research
- Interactive learning experiences for visitors
- Self-paced learning
- Informal Science Education: interpretive displays and docent-led tours
We invite you to join us for the future: GATEways Project
Our Mission: To connect people with the beauty and value of plants
OUR MISSION

Enhancing urban living through horticulture
Who are we?

VISION

The CCUH is a dynamic meeting place of horticultural knowledge, supporting scientific research and the exchange of science-based information on a broad range of people-plant interactions.
Where do we fit in?

RELATIONSHIPS

General Public

Homeowners
Public schools
Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum
Gardening clubs
Gardening media

Academia
UC, UCCE
USDA ARS, CSREES
Other campuses

Industry

Professionals
Trade organizations
Regulatory agencies
What can the CCUH do for you?

OPPORTUNITIES

1. Internships
2. Part-time employment
3. Professional connections within Horticulture industry
4. Assistance with resources – finding research info, jobs, etc. within Horticulture industry
5. Career mapping / possibilities
Keep an eye on…

AWARDS/JOB RESOURCES

   American Public Gardens Association

*It can’t hurt to look… always know what’s out there!*