Principles Of Community

The University of California, Merced is committed to serving the people of the San Joaquin Valley, California, the nation and the world through excellence in education, research and public service. We strive to provide educational opportunities for all.

Our founding principles of community guide both the individual and collective behaviors of students, faculty and staff. The university expects that all of its members will emulate these fundamental principles as individuals and as a community.

We celebrate the spirit of academic excellence and strive to promote our University and its strengths through our daily interactions with students, staff, faculty and the community at large.

We maintain a working and learning environment based on integrity, fairness, cooperation, professionalism and respect.

We are a community comprised of individuals with multiple cultures, lifestyles and beliefs. We celebrate this diversity for the breadth of ideas and perspectives it brings.

We value the creativity of our students, staff and faculty, and acknowledge both their individual and collaborative achievements.

We encourage health and wellness and strive to develop a sense of environmental responsibility and stewardship among all the members of our community.

We are committed to achieving tolerance in our community. All persons – faculty, staff and students – regardless of background or lifestyle should participate and work together in a collegial atmosphere that we strive to make free of any and all acts of discrimination or harassment.

We respect, support and value the civil and respectful expression of individual beliefs and opinions.

APPROVED: JANUARY 2003

Note: These are the Founding Principles of Community of the University of California, Merced. In the years ahead, they will undoubtedly be reviewed and modified by future UC Merced faculty, students and staff.

For those who wish to review Academic and Staff Personnel Policies regarding nondiscrimination, please refer to www.atyourservice.ucop.edu. For further information, please contact Human Resources at ucmercedjobs@ucmerced.edu.

UC MERCED'S ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP: ENVIRONMENTAL PREFERABLE PURCHASING PROGRAM (EPP)

EPP considerations are incorporated into the qualitative analysis of competitive bids and contract awards. Campus furnishings, equipment, supplies and services are procured with a cradle-to-cradle focus on environmentally preferable characteristics from raw material acquisition in manufacturing through the entire life cycle. Some examples of campus EPP results include: wood furniture from renewable forests, campus office seating up to 99% recyclable with 44% recycled content, Energy Star office equipment, computers, water coolers; laundry equipment among the highest rated in energy and water efficiency; copy paper with a minimum of 30% recycled content, library stacks and dorm room bed frames are recycled steel; and locally grown food and food containers composed of sugar cane. UC Merced received the "Best Practices Award" for "Buy Recycled – Sustainable Operations" at the 2006 UC/CSU Sustainability Conference hosted by UC Santa Barbara.

UC Merced has already brought so many new opportunities to not only the students here, but also to the City of Merced and the Central Valley. I came to UC Merced because I knew that it would open up many new opportunities for me. I believe that this campus will only continue to bring more opportunity to many.

—Jaqueline Minas, student, Resident Assistant