080414VisitorsBrochureRev.qk 4/14/08 2:23 PM Page 1

UC MERCED **VISITORS GUIDE 2008-2009**

LEADERSHIP

Individual
ATTENTION

Academic
EXCELLENCE

INNOVATION

UCMERCED
www.ucmerced.edu

CHANCELLOR'S MESSAGE

Welcome to UC Merced! I am delighted that you are considering the University of California as your partner in growth. You will enjoy the best of both worlds at UC Merced: the rock solid foundation of a world-class higher education system and the maverick spirit of pioneers.

Growth is a common theme at UC Merced, the first new UC campus in 40 years. We focus on growing and sustaining our physical environment as much as we grow and nurture our learning community. We invest as much energy, planning and resources into expanding the boundaries of knowledge through research as we put into encouraging kinship among the faculty, staff and students who co-create our campus traditions and identity.

Your personal, academic and career growth will be stimulated by the unique combination of broad, interdisciplinary education and close, supportive attention for which UC Merced is known. You will find it easy to fit in, given the culture of helpfulness on campus. And, when your path directs you to places beyond our campus, you may find it bittersweet to leave.

Nobel Prize-winning author Pearl S. Buck once observed, "Growth itself contains the germ of happiness." If that is so, and my experience confirms it, you will make many joyful discoveries here as you grow toward your success.

Steve Kang

STEVE KANG, Ph.D.
Chancellor

080407VisitorsBrochureFINAL.qk 4/15/08 10:59 AM Page 3

A CAMPUS ON THE CUTTING EDGE

Exploring UC Merced

UC Merced opened Sept. 5, 2005, as the 10th campus of the renowned University of California system and the first American research university to be built in the 21st century.

UC Merced brings the University of California's historic commitment to excellence in teaching, research and public service to the state's great Central Valley. The faculty and staff of the newest UC campus also work together to diligently pursue the continued fulfillment of the mission set before them: to serve the community and state as a student-centered research university.

Come See Us!

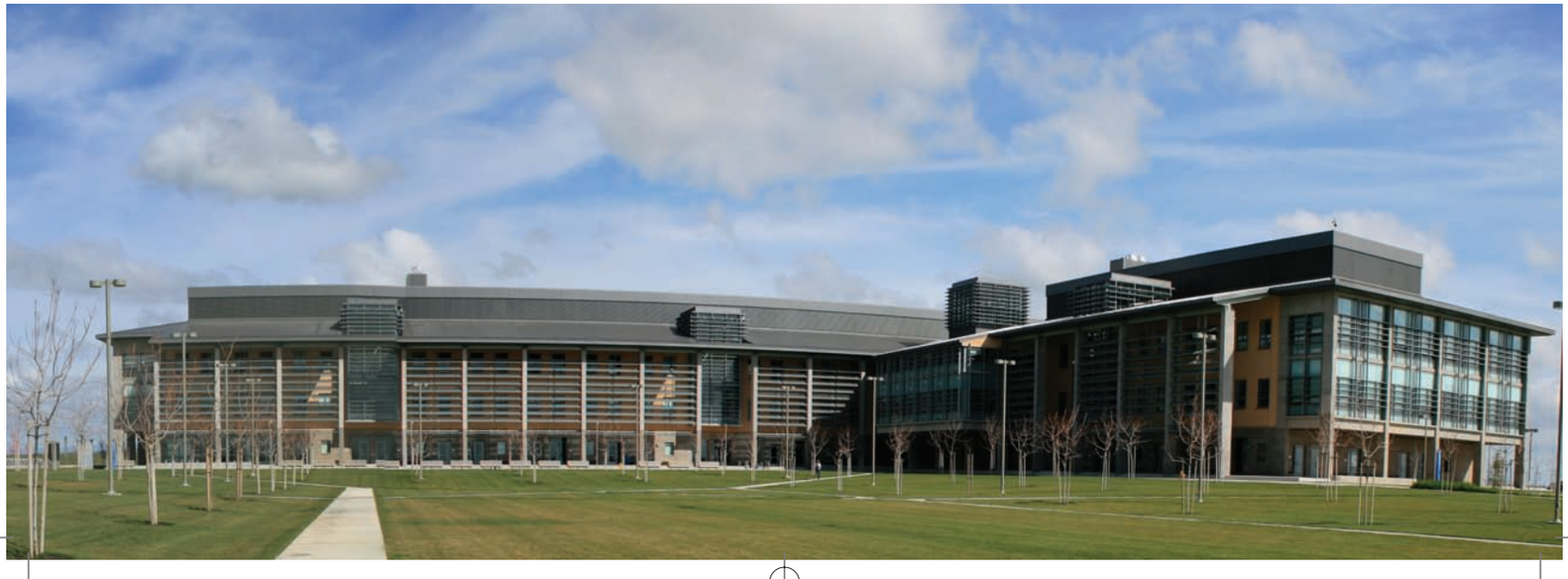
Campus visits can be scheduled online, by phone or by e-mail. Call us at (209) 228-6316, e-mail us at tours@ucmerced.edu or visit our Web site at tours.ucmerced.edu to reserve space using our online calendar.

Driving Directions

For directions to campus from Highway 99 and airports in the area, visit our Web site: www.ucmerced.edu.

Estimated Travel Times:

- Fresno 1 hour
- Modesto 45 minutes
- Sacramento 2 hours
- San Francisco 2.5 hours
- Yosemite 1.5 hours
- Los Angeles 4 hours



QUICK FACTS

Did You Know?

- As the newest campus in the UC system, UC Merced is the only American research university opened in the 21st century.
- With about 2,000 students and almost 100 faculty members, we offer the best of both worlds: An affordable research-based education with a private-college atmosphere.
- Small classes (with about 15 students for every professor) mean personalized attention and easy access to our professors, who are acclaimed scholars and teachers in their fields.
- As a green campus, we care about the environment and maximize natural resources for generations to come. Four campus buildings have already achieved environmental certification.
- We offer students brand-new facilities and the latest technology – like our digital library that offers access to the largest research/academic library in the world.
- Our pioneering students are making history – year by year – as they lay the foundation for the university's future by creating policy and making decisions that will have a lasting impact.

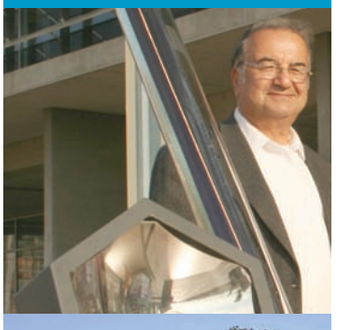
Things to Do at UC Merced

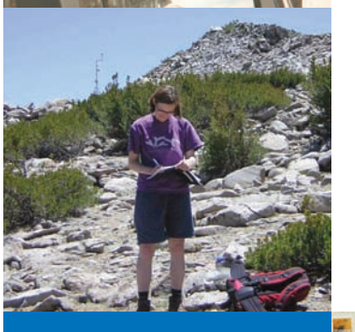
When students are not in class or studying, they have a wealth of activities at their fingertips.

UC Merced Bobcats can:

- Join one of our 80 clubs – from vocal groups to martial arts clubs and everything in between – or fill an unmet need by creating a new organization.
- Take advantage of the exercise equipment and fitness classes offered at the Joseph Edward Gallo Recreation and Wellness Center.
- Join one of our sports teams, such as baseball, lacrosse, volleyball, soccer, softball, badminton, archery, ultimate Frisbee, aquatics and more.
- Run for student government and shape the university's future.
- Take advantage of cultural events and conferences.
- Reach out to the community through the "Kat Kares Volunteer Center."
- Take one of the day trips we offer, including ventures into the Bay Area or outdoor adventures like skiing and whitewater rafting.

ACADEMICS





UC Merced: Where Academic Excellence Meets Practical Experience

As the first research university opened in the 21st century, UC Merced strives to foster an environment that allows students to gain hands-on experience while achieving academic excellence. Our students benefit from interdisciplinary learning opportunities among three academic schools: Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts, Engineering and Natural Sciences. These schools facilitate an interactive classroom and research environment in a variety of courses, such as computer science, biology, mathematics, management and psychology – just to name a few. For a full listing of majors, visit the Academics link at www.ucmerced.edu.

Looking Ahead to the Future

As the newest university in the University of California system, we have a bright future ahead of us. Each academic year brings new majors and other educational opportunities for our students. We are developing a management school that could open as early as fall 2009. We are also planning a medical school that will serve our community and provide its students with a unique educational experience. To read about the UC Merced Medical School Initiative, visit med.ucmerced.edu.

Our Faculy Shine from Field to Classroom

Our world-class professors don't just sit back and teach the theories of others, they actively conduct research to develop and prove theories of their own.

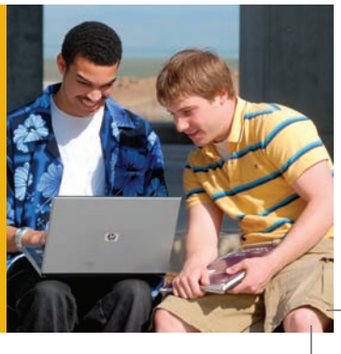
Notable examples include:

Professor Christopher Viney
(Ph.D., Cambridge University)
Studies materials science and engineering. Recently, he went to Africa with a National Geographic TV crew to study the antiseptic, water-repellent sunscreen made by hippopotamuses' skin.

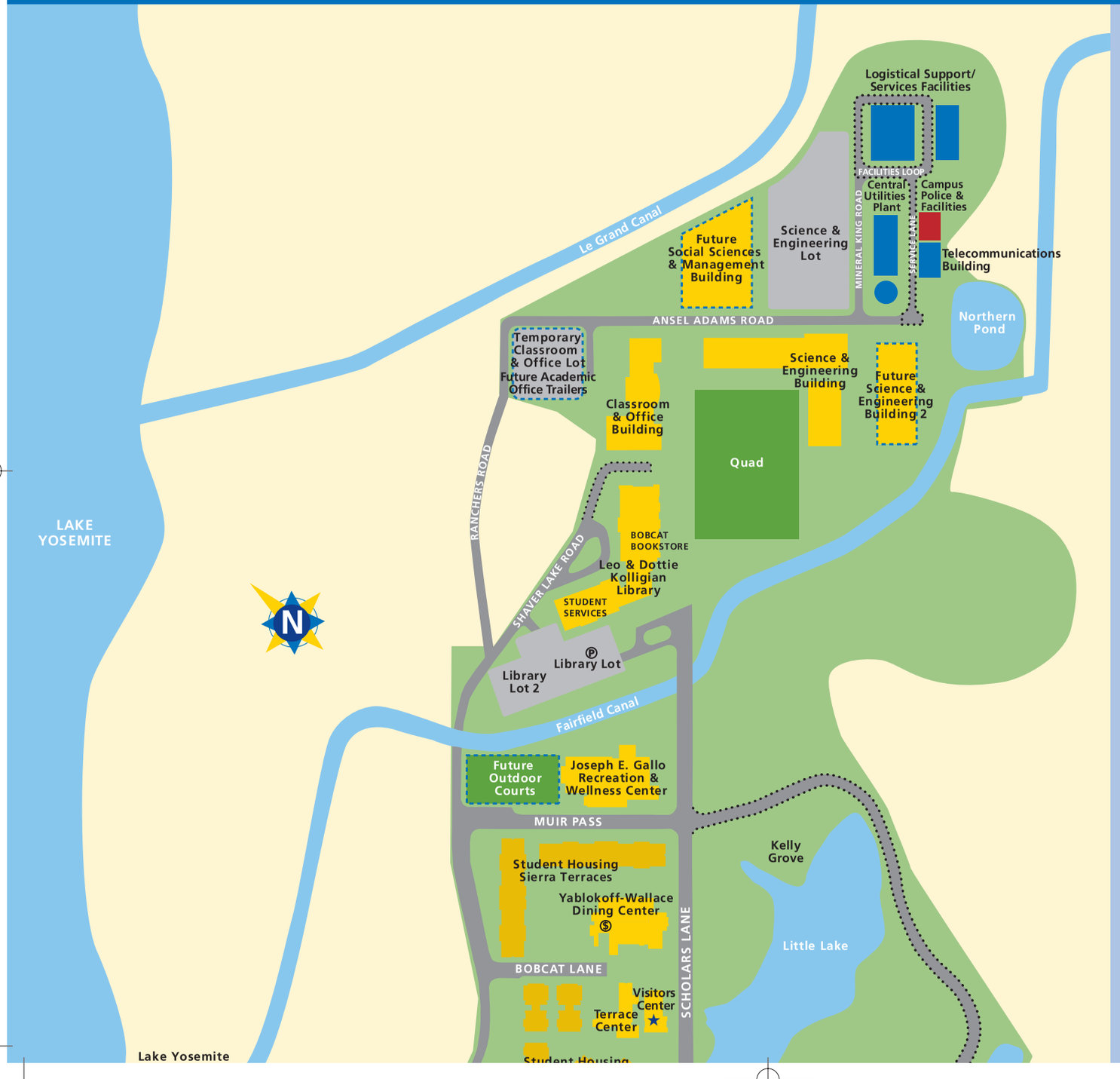
Professor Lara Kueppers
(Ph.D., UC Berkeley)
Examines the ecological effects of climate change and how ecosystems and land surface influence climate.

Professor Stephen Nicholson
(Ph.D., UC Davis)
A political scientist, studies voters and voting patterns, learning the reasons why people choose the candidates and initiatives they do and looking at ways to improve the electoral system.

Professor Roland Winston
(Ph.D., University of Chicago)
Works here, on the only UC campus with a designated solar-energy research program. His work in nonimaging optics led the city of Chicago to invest $5 million in placing solar-energy collectors on public buildings.



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, MERCED



- **Leo and Dottie Kolligian Library ***

The Leo and Dottie Kolligian Library, the first UC Merced academic building to break ground in 2003, is the cornerstone of the campus. Aside from its collection of tomes and access to a vast digital library and interlibrary loan system, students can take a loaner laptop and hook up to the wireless Internet in one of the spacious reading rooms or in the downstairs Lantern, home of the Lantern Cafe. The library is also home to a number of important student services, including the Students First Center, the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, and the Admissions Office.

- **Classroom and Office Building ***

The Classroom and Office Building (COB) houses the Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts faculty. Students will spend time in the COB when they have art classes, small seminars, or larger lectures in the Lakireddy Auditorium.

- **Science and Engineering Building ****

The Science and Engineering Building boasts state-of-the-art research labs and classrooms and houses faculty from the schools of Natural Sciences and Engineering.

- **Joseph Edward Gallo Recreation and Wellness Center ****

Since its opening in the fall of 2006, the recreation center has been a great resource for UC Merced faculty, staff and students. They work out on the state-of-the-art new fitness equipment, take exercise classes and play basket-

080414VisitorsBrochureRev.qk 4/15/08 4:48 PM Page 2

LEGEND

- ★ Visitors Center
- Campus Buildings
- Future Construction
- Student Housing
- Service and Support
- Parking
- Future Parking
- Service Roads
- Ⓟ Parking Permit Dispenser
- Ⓥ Visitors Center Parking
- Ⓢ ATM

APRIL 2008

state-of-the-art new fitness equipment, take exercise classes and play basketball and volleyball. They can also take advantage of medical services provided at the H. Rajender Reddy Health Center on the second floor. The Wilderness Center inside offers information on the Yosemite Leadership Program.

- **Yablokoff-Wallace Dining Center ***

An expansion of the "DC" is in progress, providing even more space for our UC Merced Bobcats to enjoy a variety of contemporary restaurant-style choices, such as pizza, sandwiches, short-order grill specials, ethnic foods, salads, and much more.

- **Valley Terraces ***

Our on-campus housing accommodates continuing and transfer students, as well as nontraditional freshmen. Each apartment-style suite, shared by four or six students, includes a living room, bathroom, and two or three double bedrooms. Movie nights, dances and special events take place in the California Room. The Visitors Center is also here, providing easy access to information about the university and surrounding area.

- **Sierra Terraces ****

Home to the majority of our freshmen living on campus, this brand-new, two-story residence hall offers community living, with two students to a bedroom.

* *LEED certified by the US Green Building Council as an environmentally responsible and healthy place to live and work.*

** *Scheduled to be LEED certified in 2008.*

080414VisitorsBrochureRev.qk 4/15/08 4:49 PM Page 3

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Prospective Students and Parents,

As mayor, I would like to welcome you to the beautiful city of Merced. Merced is a dynamic community characterized by its young, diverse and friendly residents. Students can take advantage of Merced's extensive bike trail system, its meandering streams, beautiful Lake Yosemite and abundant parks and athletic fields. Students can also enjoy a vibrant, revitalized downtown area full of cafés, restaurants, shops and cultural centers including Playhouse Merced and the Merced Multicultural Arts Center.

Merced enjoys the benefit of being home to the University of California's 10th Campus. As the nation's first research university to be built in the 21st century, the university provides students an opportunity to be pioneers at the newest campus of the venerable University of California.

And who can forget, Merced is the Gateway to Yosemite. Whether summer, fall, winter or spring, Yosemite is a picture-perfect destination for couples, families, or personal time. Merced is centrally located and is less than two hours by car from Yosemite National Park to the east and to the west is Montery Bay, the Pacific Ocean, and miles of beaches.

Merced is known for its small-town character all the while building upon its urban amenities. We would love to have you become a member of our community.

Best wishes,

ELLIE WOOTEN
Mayor, City of Merced

THE MERCED EXPERIENCE

Scratching the Surface of the Central Valley

This is a sampling of events, businesses and attractions in the Central Valley, not an endorsement of any one item. UC Merced provides these listings as a public service based on the information presented to the university by a variety of sources. For a wider selection of annual events, businesses and attractions, visit any of the Chamber of Commerce (www.merced-chamber.com), city (www.cityofmerced.org), county (www.co.merced.ca.us/CountyWeb) or Visitor's Bureau (www.visitmerced.travel) Web sites.

Introduction to the Merced Community

Now that we have talked a little about UC Merced, here are a few important facts about the community we call home.

Nestled in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley, Merced was incorporated more than 100 years ago. The Merced Courthouse and the Merced Theater stand as proud symbols of Merced's rich history.

UC Merced Student Survey

Favorite local breakfast spot
- Denny's
- Dining Commons

Favorite local dinner spot
- Applebee's
- Sam's Café
- Strings

Favorite place to get a haircut
- SuperCuts
- Regis

Favorite burgers
- In-N-Out Burger
- Jack in the Box
- Carl's Jr.

Favorite sandwiches
- Subway
- Quizno's
- Togos
- Port of Subs

Favorite day trip
- Yosemite
- San Francisco
- Lake Yosemite

Favorite local lunch spot
- J & R Tacos
- Panda Express
- Applebee's

Favorite place to shop
- Target
- Merced Mall
- Barnes & Noble

Favorite local attractions
- Movies
- Lake Yosemite

Favorite pizza
- Round Table
- Me-n-Ed's Pizzeria
- Pizza Hut

Merced: A Dynamic City in Growth Mode

Merced has a population of about 75,000. The community has grown faster than the state average since 1980, and the rapid population expansion has stimulated significant retail growth.

Merced offers a variety of restaurants, retail stores, movie theaters, performance venues, museums and other entertainment. Art and literature lovers can catch the Merced Shakespeare Festival held outdoors in Applegate Park each summer and avid shoppers can take advantage of the local choices or the close proximity to Modesto, Fresno, Gilroy and San Francisco. Merced has something for just about everyone.

LOCAL ATTRACTIONS, ENTERTAINMENT & COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Applegate Park and Zoo
26th & R streets, Merced
(209) 385-6840

Bellevue Bowl
785 Bellevue Road, Atwater
(209) 358-6466

Buchanan Hollow Nut Company
6510 Minturn Road, Le Grand
(800) 532-1500

Castle Air Museum
5050 Santa Fe Drive, Atwater
(209) 723-2178

Castle Lanes (bowling alley)
3350 G St., Atwater
(209) 723-7454

Castle Science and Technology Center
3460 Challenger Way, Atwater
(209) 726-6200

Downtown Farmers Market
Corner of N and 19th streets, Merced

Gallo Center for the Arts
1000 I St., Modesto
(209) 549-0601
www.galloarts.org

La Grange Off-Highway Vehicle Park
Highway J-59, La Grange
(209) 673-8080

Lake McClure-Lake McSwain
9090 Lake McClure Road, Snelling
(209) 378-2521

Mainplace Stadium Cinema
403 W. Main St., Merced
(209) 725-1965

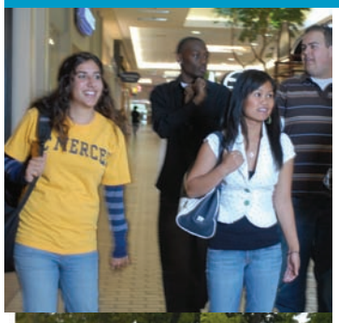
Merced Courthouse Museum
21st and N streets, Merced
(209) 723-2401

Merced Theater
Main Street and Martin Luther King Jr Boulevard, Merced
(209) 722-3266

Merced Mall
Between M & R streets on Olive Avenue, Merced
(209) 723-3981

Multicultural Arts Center
645 W. Main St., Merced
(209) 388-1090

Playhouse Merced
452 W. Main St., Merced
(209) 725-8587



Rancho Del Rey Golf Course
5250 Green Sands Ave., Atwater
(209) 358-7131

Regal Entertainment Group (Cinema)
2323 W. Main St., Turlock
(209) 664-3623

San Luis Reservoir
31426 Gonzaga Road, Gustine

Santa Fe Golf Driving Range
3536 N. Santa Fe Ave., Merced
(209) 726-7740

Save Mart Center
(Entertainment, athletics and performance venue)
2650 E. Shaw Ave., Fresno
(559) 347-3401
www.savemartcenter.com

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Park
47050 Generals Highway, Three Rivers
(559) 565-3341 *(recording)*
www.sequoia.national-park.com

Stevinson Ranch Golf Club
2700 Van Clief Road, Stevinson
(209) 668-8200
stevinsonranch.com

A Regency (Cinema)
635 Fairfield Drive *(near Merced Mall)*, Merced
(209) 725-3456

UC Merced Wilderness Center
5200 N. Lake Road *(UC Merced Campus)*
Joseph Edward Gallo Recreation and Wellness Center
recreation.ucmerced.edu

Vintage Faire Mall
3401 Dale Road, Modesto
(209) 527-3401
www.shopvintagefairemall.com

Yosemite Lake Recreation Area
5714 N. Lake Road, Merced
(209) 722-2568

Yosemite National Park
www.yosemite.com
(877) 98YARTS
Check out the live Yosemite Web cams at www.yosemite.org

TRANSPORTATION

Amtrak
324 W. 24th St., Merced
1 (800) USA-RAIL (1 (800) 872-7245)
www.amtrak.com

CatTracks
(209) 384-LYNX (5969)
www.cattracks.org

Greyhound
710 W. 16th St.
1 (800) 231-2222
www.greyhound.com

Merced County Transit (Bus)
DIAL-A RIDE (209) 384-3111
FIXED ROUTE (209) 725-3813
www.mercedthebus.com

ANNUAL EVENTS

The following is a sampling of popular events hosted by UC Merced and other community organizations. All events listed below are within 75 miles of the UC Merced campus.

JANUARY

- **UC Merced January Jump Start**
  studentlife.ucmerced.edu
- **Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration**
  www.norcalmlk.org

FEBRUARY

- **UC Merced Internship Fair** *(For UC Merced students only)* e-mail careerservices@ucmerced.edu
- **UC Merced Leadership Events** *(For UC Merced students only)*, studentlife.ucmerced.edu
- **Almond Blossom Festival**, www.cityofripon.org
- **Annual Mardi Gras Parade in the Tower** *(Fresno)*
  www.co.fresno.ca.us
- **The Rogue Performance Festival** (Fresno)
  www.co.fresno.ca.us

MARCH

- **UC Merced Kat Walk**
  studentlife.ucmerced.edu
- **UC Merced Etiquette Dinner** *(For UC Merced students only)* e-mail careerservices@ucmerced.edu
- **UC Merced Rainbow Festival**
  studentlife.ucmerced.edu
- **Merco Credit Union Cycling Classic** *(Merced)*
  mercocyclingclassic.com
- **Spring Blossom Festival & Fresno Bonsai Society Spring Show**, www.co.fresno.ca.us

APRIL

- **UC Merced Asian Fest**
  studentlife.ucmerced.edu
- **UC Merced Bobcat Day**
  studentlife.ucmerced.edu
- **UC Merced Fairy Shrimp Festival, Earth Day Celebration and annual Arts Festival**
  studentlife.ucmerced.edu
- **Annual Golf Classic**, www.modchamber.org
- **Annual Tri-Tip Picnic in Courthouse Park**
  www.mercedmuseum.org
- **Arbor Day Celebration**, www.ci.ceres.ca.us
- **Asparagus Festival**, www.asparagusfest.com
- **Big Hat Days – Western Heritage Festival**
  www.clovischamber.com
- **Clovis Rodeo**, www.clovisrodeo.com
- **Merced County Chamber of Commerce Annual Pasta/Calamari & Tri-Tip Dinner**
  www.mercedcounty.com

MAY

- **UC Merced Cinco de Mayo Celebration**
  studentlife.ucmerced.edu
- **UC Merced Commencement**
- **UC Merced Stress Fest** *(For UC Merced students only)* studentlife.ucmerced.edu
- **Annual Ceres Street Faire**, www.cereschamber.org
- **Merced County Spring Fair**, www.co.merced.ca.us
- **Oakdale Chocolate Festival**
  oakdalechamber.com
- **Open Cockpit Day at Castle Air Museum** *(Atwater)*
  www.elite.net/castle-air/index.htm
- **Springtime Reunion Car show**
  www.merced-chamber.com
- **Strawberry Jamboree**, www.clovischamber.com

JUNE

- **Concert in the Park Series/Farmers Market** www.cereschamber.org
- **Merced Downtown Association's Thursday Night Farmers' Market**, www.downtownmerced.org
- **Merced Antique Fly-In**, www.mercedflyin.com
- **PT Cruiserfest**, www.visitmodesto.com
- **San Joaquin Fair**, www.sanjoaquinfair.com

JULY

- **Fourth of July celebration at Ralston Park**, Atwater atwater4thofjuly.tripod.com
- **Merced Downtown Association's Thursday Night Farmers' Market**, www.downtownmerced.org
- **Merced County Fair**, www.mercedcountyfair.com
- **Modesto X-Fest**, www.xfestmodesto.com
- **Stanislaus County Fair**, www.turlockchamber.com

AUGUST

- **UC Merced Welcome Week** studentlife.ucmerced.edu
- **Hot Summer Nights Car Show at Merced County Fairgrounds**, www.mercedcountyfair.com
- **Madera District Fair**, www.maderafair.com
- **Merced Downtown Association's Thursday Night Farmers' Market**, www.downtownmerced.org

SEPTEMBER

- **UC Merced Community Involvement Fair** studentlife.ucmerced.edu
- **UC Merced Registered Club and Organization Fair** studentlife.ucmerced.edu
- **Clovis Fest**, www.clovischamber.com
- **California Dry Bean Festival** tracychamber.org
- **Merced Downtown Association's Thursday Night Farmers' Market**, www.downtownmerced.org
- **9/11 Remembrance**, www.ci.ceres.ca.us

OCTOBER

- **Preview Day** admissions.ucmerced.edu
- **UC Merced Family Weekend** studentlife.ucmerced.edu
- **UC Merced Leadership Events** studentlife.ucmerced.edu
- **Central Valley Blues Festival** *(Merced)* www.centralvalleybluesfestival.com
- **Halloween Festival**, www.ci.ceres.ca.us
- **Oktoberfest**, www.modchamber.org
- **The Big Fresno Fair**, www.fresnofair.com
- **Zoo Boo at Applegate Park Zoo** www.cityofmerced.org

NOVEMBER

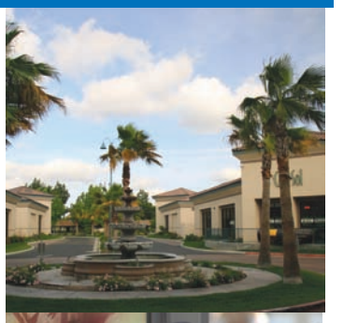
- **Greater Merced Chamber of Commerce Cioppino Dinner & Auction**, www.merced-chamber.com
- **Hilmar Cheese Company Holiday Extravaganza** *(Hilmar)*, www.hilmarcheese.com

DECEMBER

- **UC Merced Stress Fest** *(For UC Merced students only)*, studentlife.ucmerced.edu
- **UC Merced Winter Glow Dance** *(For UC Merced students only)*, studentlife.ucmerced.edu
- **UC Merced World AIDS Day** studentlife.ucmerced.edu
- **Christmas at the Courthouse Open House** *(Merced)*, www.mercedmuseum.org
- **Christmas Tree Lane Festival,** www.ci.ceres.ca.us
- **Hmong New Year Celebration at Merced Fairgrounds,** www.mercedcountyfair.com
- **Merced Downtown Association Christmas Parade** www.downtownmerced.org
- **The Manteca Twilight Holiday Parade** www.visitmanteca.org

080414VisitorsBrochureRev.qk 4/15/08 11:00 AM Page 5

DINING, SHOPPING AND ACCOMMODATIONS



Dining

The following restaurants are in close proximity to campus. This is not a complete listing of Merced restaurants, but a sampling of what's available within four miles of the campus.

You don't have to go far to get a good meal. The Yablokoff-Wallace Dining Center on the UC Merced campus features a variety of menu options from homestyle comfort foods, soups and salads to Italian-style Panini and Mexican specials.

Yablokoff-Wallace Dining Center
5200 N. Lake Road, Merced
dining.ucmerced.edu

Café Sol
3361 G St., Ste. A, Merced

El Asadero (taco shop)
3532 G St., Merced

Hong Kong Restaurant
3556 G St., Merced

La Hacienda 2
3355 G St. , Merced

Little Caesars Pizza
3250 G St. Ste. B, Merced

Mel's Cafe
3544 G St., Ste. N, Merced

Me-N-Ed's Pizza
3524 G St., Merced

New Star Vegetarian Restaurant
3518 G St., Merced

Papa Murphy's Pizza
220 E. Yosemite Ave., Merced

Port of Subs
731 E. Yosemite Ave., Ste. E, Merced

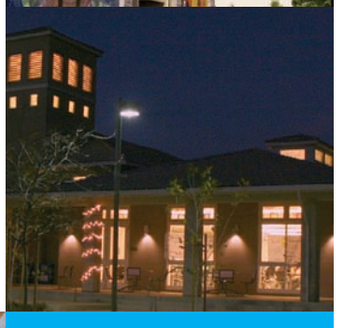
Starbucks Coffee
779 E. Yosemite Ave., Ste. 100, Merced

Strings Italian Café
731 E. Yosemite Ave., Merced

Subway Sandwiches & Salads
3250 G St., Ste. D, Merced

Thai Cuisine II
779 E. Yosemite Avenue, Merced

Wing Stop
731 E. Yosemite Ave., Merced



111983 visitor guide 4/10/08 9:11 AM Page 15

Shopping

Wondering where to go to ensure that you have all the necessities for a student's life away from home? Merced's major retail districts will help to make sure you have a well-equipped dorm room, apartment or house:

- **Downtown Merced** *(Boundaries: G Street and 16th to M Street and 19th)*
- **West Olive Avenue** *(includes Merced Mall)*
- **The Promenade** *(Yosemite Avenue)*

Accommodations

Bed & Breakfast

Hooper House Bear Creek Inn
575 W. N. Bear Creek Drive, Merced
(209) 723-3991
www.hooperhouse.com

Hotels and motels

Best Western Inn
1033 Motel Drive, Merced
(209) 723-2163
www.bestwestern.com

Courtyard Marriott
7150 Motel Drive, Merced
(209) 725-1221
www.marriott.com

Days Inn
1199 Motel Drive, Merced
(209) 722-2726
www.daysinn.com

Holiday Inn Express
730 Motel Drive, Merced
(209) 383-0333
www.hiexpress.com

Quality Inn
1213 V St., Merced
(209) 723-3711
www.choicehotels.com

Ramada Inn
2010 E. Childs Ave., Merced
(209) 723-3121
www.ramada.com

Vagabond Inn
1215 R St., Merced
(209) 722-2738
www.vagabondinn.com

Motel 6
1410 V. St., Merced
(209) 384-2181
www.motel6.com

Super 8
1983 E. Childs Ave., Merced
(209) 384-1303
www.super8.com

Travelodge
1260 Yosemite Parkway, Merced
(209) 722-6224
www.travelodge.com

Hampton Inn and Suites
225 S. Parsons Ave.
(209) 386-1210
www.hamptoninn1.hilton.com

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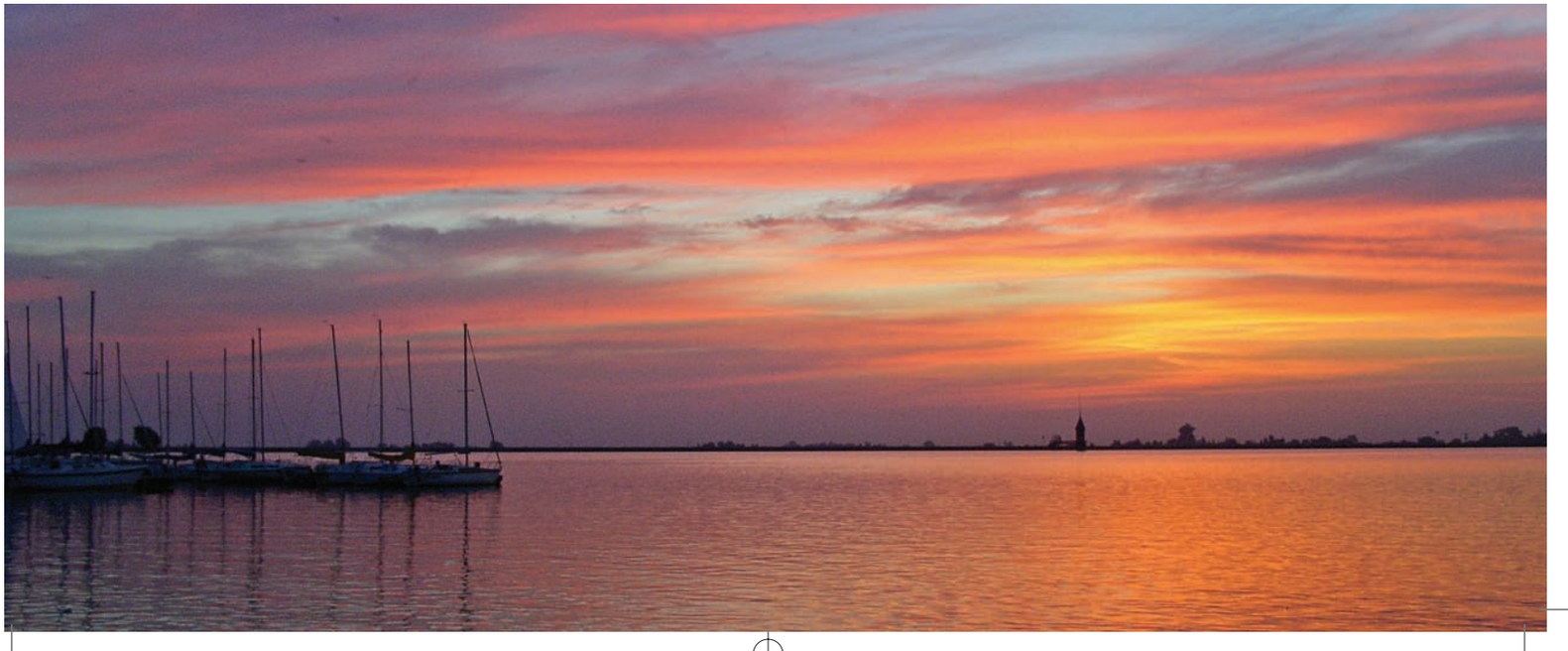

080414VisitorsBrochureRev.qk 4/15/08 4:49 PM Page 6

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Printed on recycled paper
April 2008/25K

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