



UCLA Latin Americanist

LATIN AMERICAN CENTER □ UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

From the Director's Desk

This issue of our newsletter, the last for 1998–1999, gives us an opportunity to review the year's activities. Thanks to the involvement of faculty, students, and staff, we have accomplished quite a lot.

In the area of research, we have begun work on three large-scale projects (described in detail in previous issues): a project funded by the Ford Foundation titled "Culture and Globalization in North America: 21st Century Challenges"; also funded by the Ford Foundation, a pilot project on resource management using the experience of the Chimalapas Peasant Reserve in Mexico as a test case; and a study of the effects of political decentralization and economic privatization in Latin America, supported by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation.

New initiatives include the "Program on Digital Cultures," directed by Fabián Wagmister of the Department of Film and Television, and the Latin American Center Fellowship, an award which provides one quarter release time for a junior tenured or not yet tenured UCLA faculty member, from any department or professional school, to complete a research, writing, or art project or its equivalent in Latin American Studies. The first and second recipients of the fellowship will be announced in the fall.

The Latin American Center has financed four conferences this year, in the domains of ethnomusicology, higher education, transnationalism, and decentralization and privatization.

(Cont. on p. 2)

More than 65 UCLA Mexicanists, both faculty and students, traveled to Guanajuato, Mexico, in April, to attend the PROFMEX conference "Shared Visions: I PROFMEX-Guanajuato Forum on New Ideas for Mexican Development." Organized into eight plenary sessions and sixteen working sessions, the conference, hosted by the governor of

International Conference Addresses Mexican Development

Guanajuato, Vicente Fox, welcomed 130 speakers and some 600 participants from South America, Europe, Asia, and many regions of Mexico. According to PROFMEX president **James W. Wilkie** (UCLA professor of history), "The meeting achieved its goal to establish an ongoing forum for Mexico that has not previously existed. Other countries, such as Taiwan, have had great success in establishing such forums, which periodically bring back as guests professors, students, and entrepreneurs living abroad as well as invited foreign experts to formally interact with their resident thinkers and practitioners."

"An important aspect of the Guanajuato meeting," noted **Alfonso Galindo** (UCLA doctoral candidate and secretary general of PROFMEX), "was plural political discussion. For example, Governor Fox [PAN] opened the conference, Porfirio Muñoz Ledo [PRD] closed it, and among the participants was the noted policy analyst Romeo Flores Caballero [PRI]."

The Program on Mexico (POM), a research program of the UCLA Latin American Center, has hosted the presidency of PROFMEX, the



Vicente Fox, governor of the state of Guanajuato, Mexico, addresses participants at PROFMEX-Guanajuato conference.

Worldwide Network for Policy Research on Mexico, since its founding in 1982. PROFMEX and POM have been leaders in providing an independent forum for discussion and debate

among the various political parties in Mexico.

A highlight of the conference was the presentation of the first PROFMEX Prize for Contribution to Global Policy. Roberto González Barrera was honored for introducing two of Mexico's four Green Revolutions that have been exported to the world. Reminiscent of Norman Borlaug's First Green Revolution in Agriculture in the 1940s, González Barrera launched the First Green Revolution in Nutritious Staple Food Production. By developing corn flour and packaged tortillas (both with added vitamins and minerals) for his company (founded in 1949 as MASECA), González Barrera formulated a way to not only reduce wastage of corn in the industry but also to decrease, by up to half, the amount of energy and

(Cont. on p. 2)

Inside . . .

<i>Latin Americanists Convened</i>	p. 2
<i>Student Profile</i>	p. 3
<i>SALAS Explores Immigrant Issues</i>	p. 3
<i>Faculty Profile</i>	p. 4
<i>Faculty News</i>	p. 5
<i>New Publications</i>	p. 6

Director's Desk

(Cont. from p. 1)

Looking ahead to fall 1999, the Center will develop a proposal for the Department of Education Title VI National Resource Center grant competition. This highly competitive program identifies and supports centers of excellence for the study of languages and world areas. It has been fundamental in the creation of a small number of programs that have developed the teaching faculties and libraries to train area experts at the highest level. UCLA and other nationally ranked institutions with National Resource Centers produce the specialists who staff universities and colleges throughout the nation, and who work in senior positions in government and the private sector.

The Title VI program is critical to the maintenance of U.S. competitiveness in our increasingly interdependent world. The nation must maintain its capacity to respond to unexpected economic, political, social, and public health challenges. The program is a vital element in maintaining a cadre of specialists who understand the languages and societies of countries throughout the world. It enables the nation to react in a constructive and forceful manner to defend our national interest in a rapidly changing international environment. Domestically, the Title VI program is important in maintaining our capacity to develop and implement appropriate policies to address the social,

economic, and political issues arising from the country's increasingly diverse population. Successful governance of a multicultural society requires a citizenry educated to value and respect cultural and linguistic diversity.

Title VI funds have added significantly to the maintenance and expansion of UCLA's Latin American Studies academic and outreach programs. These resources provide National Resource Centers with institutional flexibility to undertake important activities that multiply the impact of University allocations for area studies. At UCLA these funds have been particularly significant in fostering the development of interdisciplinary courses and degree programs, linkages between professional training and area studies, instructional programs in less commonly taught languages, and training and curriculum support services for precollegiate and community college teachers.

Much of our time and effort this spring has focused on planning the Center's 40th anniversary gala dinner, to take place in November 1999. The event will inaugurate a yearlong schedule of special events. Next year promises to be an extremely exciting and busy one, so stay tuned.

Carlos Alberto Torres, Director
Professor of Education

International Conference

(Cont. from p. 1)

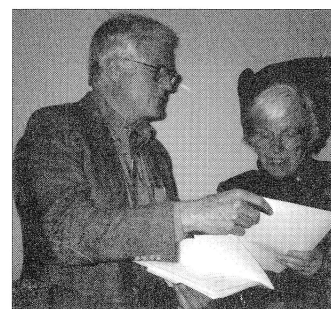
water needed in the production process. His ideas improved the nutritional value of tortillas—the main item of consumption for the popular sector—and increased the product's shelf life up to seven days in markets and a year frozen.

At the working session titled "U.S. Social Security Rights for Mexicans Who Have Worked Legally and 'Illegally' in the USA," **Raúl Lomelí** (UCLA graduate student and worldwide director of PROMEX affairs) urged the UCLA social security team to follow up on its joint survey of

Mexicans in California. At the session the UCLA researchers decided (1) to seek legislative changes in the administration of U.S. social security law, which prejudices the rights of Mexicans who are legally entitled to social security benefits regardless of their immigration status while working in the United States, and (2) to develop the terms of a draft social security treaty between the United States and Mexico. □

UCLA Latin Americanists Convene

The annual gathering of Latin American Studies students and faculty Latin Americanists featured dinner and a talk by **Allen Johnson**, professor of anthropology and chair of the Latin American Studies Interdepartmental Program. In his illustrated presentation, "Rich Man, Poor Man, Poet, Beast: The Political Psychology of Folktales of Brazilian Sharecroppers," Johnson discussed his research on landlords and sharecroppers in northeastern Brazil and his interest in Brazilian folktales and what they tell us about the psychology, human interactions, and emotions of a particular community.



Professors Allen Johnson and Shirley Arora discuss Brazilian folktale texts.

Johnson's interests include studies in cultural ecology, economic anthropology, and psychological anthropology, with particular emphasis on native South America and Latin American communities. He has conducted fieldwork on the Fazenda Boa Ventura, Ceará, Brazil, and among the Machiguenga Indians of the Peruvian Amazon. He is co-author (with Douglass Price-Williams) of *Oedipus Ubiquitous: The Family Complex in World Folk Literature* (Stanford University Press, 1998), which was awarded the 1998 L. Bryce Boyer Prize for the outstanding publication in psychoanalytic anthropology. In addition, Johnson received the Stoller Prize from the Robert Stoller Foundation for outstanding research bridging academic and clinical psychoanalysis. □

Student Profile

Student's Goal Is Career in International Business

“Wherever my career takes me,” says Latin American Studies graduate student **Peter Gates**, “I expect to be working ‘in’ or ‘about’ Latin America, perhaps for a multinational firm or in the Latin American division of a U.S. logistics company. I’m interested in strategic management—helping companies that want to enter the Latin American market by identifying expansion options, analyzing and setting up distribution channels, and so on.”

In preparation for a career in international business, Gates has combined language courses, study abroad, work experience, and an academic focus on Latin America. While an undergraduate at Miami University in Ohio, where he majored in marketing and minored in Spanish and math, Peter studied in Denia, Spain, during the summer after his junior year. The following summer he interned at Osvaldo Fernández y Asociados, a logistics consulting company in Buenos Aires. “We conducted warehousing and transportation cost analyses and design studies for Phillips Argentina/



Peter Gates

Magnavox to help them prepare for the twenty-first century,” he explains. After graduation, he traveled in Argentina, Chile, Paraguay, and as far south as Tierra del Fuego. Upon returning to the States, he took a job with Chep USA, a logistics company in Chicago. After eight months in Chicago, the company sent him to Mexico City to work for the Mexico division. There he conducted operational trials and cost analyses for Kellogg’s, Kraft General Foods, and Gamesa.

Gates became interested in Latin America while taking Spanish in high school. “Although I didn’t speak the language very well then,” he says, “I realized that knowing Spanish would be valuable in the future. Then, after a family trip to Puerto Vallarta when I was a sophomore in

college, I was ‘hooked.’”

After gaining close to four years of work experience Gates decided to enter a master’s program in Latin American Studies and chose to come to UCLA. His areas of specialization in the program have been management, economics, and history, with a focus on the Southern Cone and Mercosur countries.

He has been president of the Student Association for Latin American Studies (SALAS) this year. “I’ve tried to get student input and organize as many activities as possible, given everyone’s busy schedules and time commitments. We started what we call ‘Culture Nights.’ We get together once or twice a quarter at a local restaurant, speak Spanish, hear about one another’s research, socialize,” he says. SALAS was able to obtain funding from the Graduate Students Association to make a donation to Doctors Without Borders, a volunteer organization of doctors, nurses, and other aid workers who bring medical services to people in need around the world. The main spring quarter activity was an exploratory trip to the United States–Mexico border region (see accompanying story).

After completing the M.A. in June, Gates will spend the summer in Lima and Buenos Aires. In Lima, he will study “business” Spanish and the economy of Latin America at the Escuela de Administración de Negocios para Graduados (ESAN). Then he will travel to Buenos Aires to conduct research for several weeks on political parties in Argentina. In the fall he will begin the M.B.A. program at UCLA’s Anderson School, where he plans to concentrate in the area of international strategic management.

In addition to academic pursuits and SALAS activities, Peter is quite a sportsman. He runs, bikes, swims, and plays soccer. “My interest in soccer developed because I was traveling so much in Argentina and Mexico. I played a bit there and then continued when I came back to the States. I play here with a team in the L.A. municipal league. Since I began playing only four years ago, I’m not all that good, but it’s a lot of fun.” Over the past year, he has been training and competing in triathlons and participated in the Los Angeles triathlon in May. □

SALAS Explores Immigrant Issues on the San Diego–Tijuana Border

Five Latin American Studies graduate students, along with Professor Joe Nevins from the UCLA Geography Department, spent Saturday, May 1, 1999, exploring the San Diego–Tijuana border area. Nevins organized the trip and provided valuable insights during the discussions of border issues. Participants included Peter Gates (president of SALAS, the Student Association for Latin American Studies), James Cypher, Denise Perpich, J.V. Vina, and Patty Wagonhurst.

The first stop was a meeting with Roberto Martínez of the American Friends Service Committee, an organization that documents abuses by border patrol agents against aliens in the United States and represents them if human rights violations appear to have occurred. According to Martínez, abuses by the border patrol and the resulting deaths of migrants because of the implementation of “Operation Gatekeeper” three years ago have increased substantially. The organization is lobbying the U.S. Congress and the California State Legislature to terminate “Operation Gatekeeper.”

The next activity was a visit with the U.S. Border Patrol to hear additional points of view on border issues. The SALAS students had the opportunity to ride along with agents in border patrol vehicles to observe the area firsthand. The agents responded candidly to questions and expressed their opinions on migration issues. According to one official, for example, during one eight-hour shift prior to “Operation Gatekeeper,” the San Diego–San Ysidro border patrol would apprehend an average of 1,000 immigrants. Since the implementation of “Operation Gatekeeper,” the average has decreased to six per day because most of the crossing activity has shifted eastward. Later in the daylong tour, the students visited Casa del Migrante, a home in Tijuana that provides food and shelter for up to fifteen days for immigrants trying to cross into the United States or who have been deported back to Mexico. The excursion concluded with a walk through downtown Tijuana and brief history of the city’s “tourist” section.

—Peter Gates

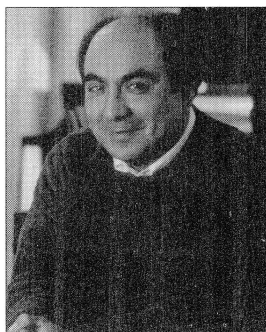
M.A. student, Latin American Studies

Faculty Profile

Classical Pianist Promotes Music Education for Youth

Walter Ponce, an internationally acclaimed pianist, joined the Department of Music in 1996 as Professor and Head of the Piano Area. He comes to UCLA from the State University of New York at Binghamton where he taught for more than twenty years.

Born in Cochabamba, Bolivia, Ponce received his early musical training in Buenos Aires. "I guess as a youth I showed musical promise," he says. "A very inspiring group of people in Bolivia who loved music influenced my early musical studies. At that time, Buenos Aires was the great center for the arts in Latin America. Because opportunities to study music were so limited in Bolivia, I went to Buenos Aires to attend high school and the National Conservatory of Music." It was at this time that he first met Alberto Ginastera,



Walter Ponce

his favorite Latin American composer. "I think Ginastera was one of the most important American composers of the twentieth century. His works are now part of the standard repertoire in concerts throughout the world."

At the age of seventeen, Walter Ponce was awarded a Fulbright scholarship to study in New York, where he would receive a Bachelor of Science degree from the Mannes College of Music and Master of Science and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees from the Juilliard School of Music. Based in New York, he established a successful international career as soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician, performing in concert halls of major cities of North and South America, Europe, and Asia. His European debut took place in London's Wigmore Hall. New York City solo recitals include the Bosendorfer Artists Series, Carnegie Hall's Emerging Artists Series, Alice Tully Hall, Town Hall, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Ponce has collaborated with many renowned musicians and has participated in music festivals in the United States and abroad. He has given the world premieres of more than one hundred works, including Ezra Laderman's Piano Concerto, written specifically for him, with the American Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

So, why did Ponce decide to come west? He explains, "Once you turn fifty you begin to get tired of the intensity and winters of New York. But it is really the university that attracted me. I was very impressed by the leadership and the faculty. Once I met the chairman of the Music Department, I knew I wanted to work with him. UCLA is a beautiful place and the School of the Arts and Architecture is full of creative energy and wonderful enthusiasm."

There is another reason too. Ponce thinks that the future is the west coast. "I have a theory," he says, "that for the first 2,000 years the world revolved around the Atlantic. By that I mean Western Europe and the eastern coast of the United States. The great centers were London, Paris, Rome, Vienna, New York, Boston, Philadelphia. But I think in the next 2,000 years the Pacific—the west coast of the Americas, China, Japan, Korea—will be the economic power of the world. In the United States, California has become a powerful state in both economic and political power. During presidential election campaigns, candidates come more often to California than New York."

He is also impressed with the quality of music being composed and produced on the west coast. He remarks, "Reluctantly, more and more people in the 'classical' field are beginning to accept the notion that there is beautiful music being composed in movie studios and that much of the future of music lies in movies, television, and other media of mass communications."

Since coming to California, Ponce has become very interested in music education. "Music education in California has been neglected," he says. "Things like Proposition 13 [which resulted in reduced spending on music education in the state's public schools] are a bit like a Big Mac. It makes you feel good and you love it at the moment. But ultimately, it is really bad for you. People felt good about Proposition 13 and lower taxes fifteen years ago, but now they are suffering the consequences. Music education has suffered, but I think people are beginning to realize that we need to reintroduce music to bring our schools out of this comatose state with respect to the arts. I am proud of the fact that in the UC system UCLA is the only campus with an undergraduate music education program."

Another area of concern for Walter Ponce is the Latin American community in Los Angeles. He fears that Latin Americans are getting further and further behind even though their numbers are increasing. "Latin Americans have a great responsibility to help provide more and better educational opportunities for young Latinos. We do not always work together; there is not enough communication and unity among the various Latino communities both within and outside the university."

He would like to become more involved in introducing classical and Western European music to the Latin American community in Los Angeles. "I like to teach the language of classical music. In New York I taught a course called 'Listening to the Classics.' I would like to do the same here, in Spanish." He believes that the arts stimulate the imagination and creativity. "Just because you study music doesn't mean you will be a musician," Ponce says. "Studying music will make you a better engineer, doctor, physicist. Music activates, promotes, and stimulates the imagination." □

Latin American Studies Now on the Web

The Interdepartmental Program is pleased to announce that Latin American Studies now has its own Web site [<http://www.isop.ucla.edu/las>]. Students and others interested in the Latin American Studies instructional program will find helpful information about admissions, curriculum, degree requirements, financial aid, courses, research resources, events, important deadlines, student activities, and much more.

Faculty News

Alfredo Artiles (Education) is the author (with co-author M. D. Clark) of "A Cross-National Study of Teachers' Attributional Patterns," *The Journal of Special Education* (forthcoming), and "Evaluando los procesos de pensamiento de los maestros en contextos urbanos: Un estudio de caso en escuelas primarias de Guatemala" [Assessing teacher thought processes in urban contexts: A case study in Guatemalan primary schools], *Revista Electrónica de Investigación y Evaluación Educativa* 4:1-2 (1998).

Judith Carney (Geography) reports the publication of an article of interest to Latin Americanists: "The Role of African Rice and Slaves in the History of Rice Cultivation in the Americas," *Human Ecology* 26:4 (1998), 525-545. She participated in the PROFMEX conference in Guanajuato, Mexico, in April.

Edwin L. Cooper (Neurobiology) has been awarded the prestigious Alexander von Humboldt Award from the Federal Republic of Germany for his research and teaching.

Jon Davidson (Earth and Space Science) attended an NSF-sponsored workshop (January 1998) to initiate project(s) on structure, tectonics, and volcanism of the Northern Andes. Since then he has begun a project with colleagues from the Instituto Politécnico Geofísico of Quito to examine volcanological and geochemical evolution of Cotopaxi Volcano, Ecuador. The project will form the focus of thesis work for UCLA graduate student Jennifer Garrison and possibly an Ecuadorian counterpart. In summer 1998 he gave an invited presentation to an international conference in Italy on "Crustal Growth in the Andes." In addition, he was awarded the Wager Medal from the International Association of Volcanology and Chemistry of the Earth's Interior.

Kris Gutiérrez (Education) has been named the 1999 Outstanding Latina/o Faculty in Higher Education. The award, presented in Washington,

D.C., honors Gutiérrez for advancing public awareness of Hispanic issues and culture through her scholarship and teaching.

Susanna Hecht (Urban Planning) is spending spring quarter in El Salvador working with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources on the national environmental land use plan. The project is part of the new government's regional development strategy. She participated recently in a conference on land use change in Amazonia, and is continuing her research, with Bolivian collaborators and scholars from the Goddard Space Science Laboratory and the Missouri Botanical Garden, on deforestation and the expansion of the soybean frontier in the Amazon.

Efraín Kristal has won the "Outstanding Academic Book 1998" award from *Choice* for his *Temptation of the Word: The Novels of Mario Vargas Llosa*, now available in paperback. The book was originally published jointly by Vanderbilt University Press and Liverpool University Press (1998). Kristal is currently working on a book on Jorge Luis Borges and will be traveling to Australia and to Germany to lecture in July.

David Lopez (Sociology), who coordinates the Mellon Fellowship Program in Latin American Sociology, is pleased to announce that Sara Schatz, the second graduate of the program (1995-1998), has accepted a position as an assistant professor in the Department of Sociology of the University of Florida, Gainesville. Lopez reports that the first two Mellon program graduates are now assistant professors, and in both cases, an essential criterion in the selection process was demonstrated expertise in Latin America.

Pamela Munro (Linguistics) is coordinating a conference, "Vox Indígena de México," funded by the Latin American Center, to be held in fall 1999. Inquiries may be directed to Prof. Munro.

Nick Burbules and **Carlos Alberto Torres** are co-editors of *Globalization and Education: Critical Analyses* (Routledge, in press). The

volume assesses the extent to which the educational process is affected by processes of globalization that at present threaten the autonomy of national educational systems and the sovereignty of the nation-state as the ultimate ruler in democratic societies. The authors examine the origins, nature, and dynamics of globalization and seek to answer a number of questions about the processes of globalization in the context of educational practice and public policy. For example: How is globalization changing the fundamental conditions of an educational system premised on fitting in to a community characterized by proximity and familiarity? If globalization is an inexorable trend, how does it affect the political economy of countries and, in turn, their culture and education? What is the impact of moves toward economic restructuring on educational systems worldwide? Is there an international educational organization, and agenda, that could create a new hegemony in curriculum, instruction, and pedagogical practices in general, as well as in policies concerning school financing, research, and evaluation? Are these factors and outcomes symmetrical or homogeneous in their implications for all countries and regions? How does globalization relate to the ongoing process of political struggle in different societies?

Mary Yeager (History) reports that her edited work *Women in Business* (3 vols.) is now available from Elgar Press, England. The book contains Yeager's introduction and her contribution titled "Will There Ever Be a Feminist Business History?" in addition to other articles on women in business. □

UCLA Latin Americanist

Editor: Colleen H. Trujillo

Publication Design: Weller Designs ©1999

©1999 by The Regents of the University of California

Published by the UCLA Latin American Center

10343 Bunche Hall

Telephone: (310) 825-7547

Fax: (310) 206-6859

E-mail: ctrujill@isop.ucla.edu

http://www.isop.ucla.edu/lac

New Titles

Latin American Center
Publications

The new issue of the **Journal of Latin American Lore** (Volume 20, Number 2) contains these articles:

Mixtec Manipulations: Pictographic History and Cultural Identity in the Art of Early Colonial Mexico

Eleanor Wake and Phil Stokes

Assimilation and Transformation of Some Catholic Icons in Huichol Myth and Ritual

Peter T. Furst

The Curassow and the Severed Leg: Cross-Cultural Implications of Ancient Panamanian Ceramic Motifs

Mary W. Helms

Illuminative Serpents: Tobacco Hallucinations of the Warao

Johannes Wilbert

Bridging the Gap: Mythical and Historical Discourse in *La ley del amor*

Rosa Fernández-Levin

**Annual subscription rates**

Individuals, \$35.00; Institutions, \$45.00

Two issues per year.

Submissions

Manuscripts (two copies) and editorial correspondence should be addressed to:

UCLA Latin American Center

Editor, Journal of Latin American Lore

10343 Bunche Hall

Box 951447

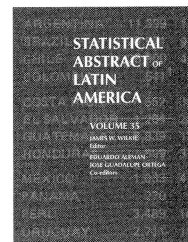
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1447

Volume 35 (1999) of the **Statistical Abstract of Latin America (SALA)** is now available. SALA publishes current reliable statistics on the societies, economies, and politics of Latin America and guides users to additional quantitative publications and statistical sources on the region. Many tables include statistics on regional and world totals, as well as data for non-Latin American countries.

Coverage includes: Geography, Land, and Environment; Transportation and Communication; Population, Health, and Education; Politics, Religion, and Military; Working Conditions and

Migration; Drugs and Crime; Industrial Production; Mining; Energy, Sea, and Land Production; Trade; Finance, Investment, Debt, Prices, and Gross Product; and more.

SALA 35 also contains a map chapter, titled "Population Change in South America: A Map Series and Analysis," by Richard W. Wilkie and Sean FitzGerald.



Volume 35, edited by James W. Wilkie, with co-editors Eduardo Alemán and José Guadalupe Ortega; 1,112 pages; 989 tables; \$325.00 (cloth); ISBN 0-87903-262-6

To order Latin American Center publications

Mail: Send check (payable to Regents -UC) to:

UCLA Latin American Center

10343 Bunche Hall

Box 951447

Los Angeles, CA 90095-1447

Telephone (credit card orders): (310) 825-6634

Fax (credit card orders): (310) 206-6859

E-mail: lacpubs@isop.ucla.edu

<http://www.isop.ucla.edu/lac>



University of California, Los Angeles
Latin American Center
10343 Bunche Hall
Box 951447
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1447

Address Correction Requested

Nonprofit Org.

U.S. Postage

PAID

UCLA