UCHR

Thinking Differently Together



CONTENT

Our Difference Our Purpose Trajectories Our Approach Stakes Impact Who We Are

OUR DIFFERENCE

In thinking differently together, UCHRI encourages diverse perspectives and methodological approaches within the humanities and humanistic social sciences. We pioneer innovative practices, wielding worldwide influence and impact.

With a global reputation for thought leadership, we connect faculty and graduate students across the research universities that make up the University of California. This powerful combination of networks and platforms builds engaged intellectual relationships with communities across California and internationally.





UCHRI shows the world what can happen when the humanities intervene.

OUR PURPOSE

TRAJECTORIES

For over 30 years UCHRI has promoted collaborative humanistic research through residential labs, working groups, conferences, workshops, seminars, projects, and public conversations on pressing contemporary and historical problems ranging from racial justice and diasporic cultures, to technoscience and war.

The success of this work has allowed UCHRI to foster vibrant cultures of dialogue and transformation through key partnerships:

The Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes (CHCI), The Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory (HASTAC), The Seminar on Experimental Critical Theory (SECT), featuring programs in Africa, the Middle East, and China, and The UC Humanities Network, a collaboration between humanities centers and departments on all UC campuses.





OUR APPROACH

UCHRI humanizes problem-solving, building networks and connections for public good and social change.

STAKES

Human states – articulating the value of human life and flourishing across fractious sociocultural, geographical, and technological divides

Planetary perspectives/partnerships – leveraging regional, national, and global networks to cultivate and enact a just, sustainable world

Working futures – imagining futures that work while securing life, labor, and leisure to resist becoming automatons in the age of automation

The university we are about – creating, imagining, and refining proposals for a better society not reducible to metrics of instrumentalization

The California condition – navigating useable pasts and bold futures through California as experiment, norm, and example of fable and cautionary tale

The connected academy for learning and research – animating critical data and media literacies for learning, living, and civic participation in unstable worlds

Leadership for socially heterogeneous worlds – offering renewed possibilities for thoughtful, consultative, and collective decision-making in the face of strongmen hollowing out democracies





IMPACT

Financial – over \$5,000,000 in funding awarded to UC faculty and graduate students since 2014, supporting innovative collaborative research, and public outreach; over \$70,000,000 in external funding raised in the last 20 years

Infrastructural – connecting faculty, graduate students, public intellectuals, and creative practitioners across the UC system and beyond, seeding projects advancing critical, playful, and interventionist humanistic work

Public – fostering communities that matter: from connecting UC researchers to K-12 students and incarcerated peoples, to partnering with government in promoting vibrant cultures of music, protest, and community history

WHO WE ARE

UCHRI is a leader in interdisciplinary humanities scholarship, building partnerships and supporting research across the state of California, nationally, and internationally. A catalyst for innovation and experimentation, UCHRI has cultivated influential collaborations across all 10 UC campuses since its founding in 1987 by UC President David Gardner as a centerpiece of the world's largest public university system.

UCHRI's humanistic programs and deep inquiries focus on high-impact issues, including:The future of work and higher educationLeadership for socially heterogeneous worldsClimate at boiling pointThe promise and perils of technologyCalifornia as influential incubator.

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