President Obama congratulates UC Santa Cruz astronomer Sandra Faber after awarding her the National Medal of Science in 2013.

AN INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION FOR EXCELLENCE

Fifty years after opening in fall 1965, UC Santa Cruz celebrates its internationally recognized scholars and students who work in and across disciplines to create knowledge and transform paradigms.

RANKED...

1ST in the nation for the publication impact of the computer engineering Ph.D. program, by the National Research Council.

1ST in the nation by BestColleges.com for the degree programs, scholarships, and other support the campus provides Hispanic students.

2ND in the world for research influence in 2015–16 Times Higher Education rankings as measured by how often UCSC faculty’s published work is cited by scholars.

5TH in the nation on Affordable Colleges Online’s list of the 20 Best Colleges for Computer Science Majors and included in their 20 Best Schools for English Majors.

7TH in the nation by the Center for Public Anthropology for the number of times social sciences faculty are cited in news media in relationship to the federal research support they receive.

7TH in the nation on College Factual’s top 10 list of the country’s best colleges for film majors.

8TH on Princeton Review’s list of the Top Graduate Schools for Video Game Design for 2014.
INNOVATIVE EDUCATION

As one of the world’s most respected public research universities, UC Santa Cruz offers rigorous academic programs and cutting-edge research opportunities that teach students how to think, not what to think.

COMPRISED OF 10 DISTINCTIVE UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGES, each structured around a unique socio-cultural theme. “Core courses” emphasizing those themes foster a strong sense of community and a common intellectual foundation among students at each college.

KNOWN FOR OFFERING HANDS-ON EDUCATION TO UNDERGRADUATES through programs like the Network Management and Operations Lab, where student interns partner with engineers from Cisco Systems to troubleshoot complex, real-world networking problems.

HIGHLIGHTED AS AN ‘UP-AND-COMER’ by the Washington Post, which cited UC Santa Cruz as one of five U.S. campuses that are a “new breed: young, fast-growing schools that are swiftly ascending into the top rank.”

RECIPIENT OF A PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN SCIENCE, MATHEMATICS, AND ENGINEERING MENTORING for the campus’s unique Academic Excellence program, which provides comprehensive peer-to-peer mentoring for beginning math and science undergraduates.

NAMED AMONG THE WORLD’S MOST BEAUTIFUL COLLEGE CAMPUSES BY FORBES alongside universities such as Oxford, Stanford, and Princeton.

HIGH-IMPACT RESEARCH

At UC Santa Cruz, world-renowned faculty members work in state-of-the-art research facilities to create an atmosphere of revolutionary discovery.

PRODUCER OF THE FIRST WORKING DRAFT OF THE HUMAN GENOME, supporting researchers worldwide. Today, UC Santa Cruz is also playing a leading role in the promising field of cancer genomics and has published an Ebola genome browser to help global researchers create a vaccine.

HEADQUARTERS OF UC OBSERVATORIES and a managing partner of the world’s second-largest ground-based optical telescopes at the W.M. Keck Observatory in Hawaii.

HOME TO ONE OF THE WORLD’S TOP MARINE MAMMAL RESEARCH CENTERS at Long Marine Laboratory, overlooking Monterey Bay—the second-largest marine sanctuary in the world.

AWARDED A 10-YEAR CONTRACT WITH NASA to help develop 21st century air traffic management systems, space-based biotechnology, and other cutting-edge high-tech innovations to support the space agency’s mission.

AWARD-WINNING FACULTY whose honors include the National Medal of Science, Benjamin Franklin Medal in Electrical Engineering, Urey Prize in Planetary Science, Kavli Prize in Astrophysics, Weldon Memorial Prize, and Bower Award and Prize for Achievement in Science.

RECOGNIZING THE VALUE OF UCSC’S HUMAN HEALTH RESEARCH, funding from the National Institutes of Health to the campus continues to increase, even while NIH’s budget has declined more than 20 percent since 2004.

SERVICE TO SOCIETY

A commitment to environmental stewardship and community engagement is central to UC Santa Cruz’s core values and an enduring source of pride for the entire campus.

UCSC RANKS FOURTH AMONG UNIVERSITIES WHOSE RECENT GRADS WORK WITH CITY YEAR, a national organization that partners with schools to provide tutoring, mentoring, and behavior assistance for more than 150,000 students, helping reduce dropout rates and increase test scores.

A PIONEER OF THE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE MOVEMENT and a training ground for students like Drew Goodman, who founded Earthbound Farm Organic, the world’s largest producer of organic produce.

UCSC RECEIVED THE HIGHEST SCORE IN THE PRINCETON REVIEW’S ‘GREEN HONOR ROLL’ for its commitment to sustainability in academic offerings, campus infrastructure, activities, and career preparation.

PROUD CUSTODIAN OF FIVE STUNNING NATURAL RESERVE SITES on the Central Coast—from 25 acres on Año Nuevo Island to 4,200 coastal acres in beautiful Big Sur.

WITH PROGRAMS PROVEN TO RAISE COLLEGE ATTENDANCE RATES among disadvantaged communities, the university’s Educational Partnership Center serves thousands of high school students every year.

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