With the support of our administration and our campus, we have successfully recruited a number of very distinguished new faculty members. In the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, we have hired the renowned aerospace expert, Professor Satya Atluri, a member of the National Academy of Engineering and fellow of numerous societies. Atluri has been designated the Henry Samueli “von Karman” Endowed Chair in Aerospace Engineering. In addition, Professor Marc Madou, a world-class expert in microfabrication, biosensors and bioMEMS, also has joined the department.

In the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, we have hired Dr. Ender Ayanoglu as the Conexant/Broadcom Endowed Chair and as the director of the Center for Pervasive Communications. Professor Ayanoglu’s presence will be a catalyst to our aggressive expansion in communications and wireless technologies—key components of the UCI California Institute for Telecommunications and Information Technology. We also have hired two very talented bioMEMS experts, who are featured in an article on page three. In addition, we are in serious negotiations with several rising stars in engineering, and will have even more progress to report in the next issue of UCIngenuity this winter. In the meantime, I hope you will enjoy this issue.

Nicolaos G. Alexopoulos

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Letter from the dean

Dear Friends,

As I begin a second term as dean of The Henry Samueli School of Engineering, I report that I am most encouraged with our rapid progress in every category of importance. Our undergraduate enrollment has nearly doubled to approximately 2,200 students; graduate enrollment has increased by more than 40% and our faculty numbers will reach 91 by January 1, 2003, an increase of 42%.

We also have enjoyed considerable success in attracting research support. Our funding has increased by 38% since last year. We now have the second highest research budget on our campus after the College of Medicine, which has a greater number of faculty and research staff resources. This progress is a result of the excellent accomplishments of our faculty in our collective effort to “Engineer the Future at UCI” in energy and transportation, nanoscale/microscale engineering, information technology and biomedical engineering.

One of the most notable recent achievements was the formation and campus approval of the Department of Biomedical Engineering, an astonishing feat considering the fact that the Center for Biomedical Engineering was formed only four years ago. We are continuing to develop the biomedical engineering education and research program with the vision that engineering training is increasingly essential to the success of future biotechnologists and medical doctors. For that reason, our biomedical engineering faculty will work alongside faculty from the School of Biological Sciences and the School of Physical Sciences in a new building, Natural Sciences II. Plans also call for biomedical engineering to share a building with the College of Medicine in the next few years.

We also have hired two very talented bioMEMS experts, who are featured in an article on page three. In addition, we are in serious negotiations with several rising stars in engineering, and will have even more progress to report in the next issue of UCIngenuity this winter. In the meantime, I hope you will enjoy this issue.