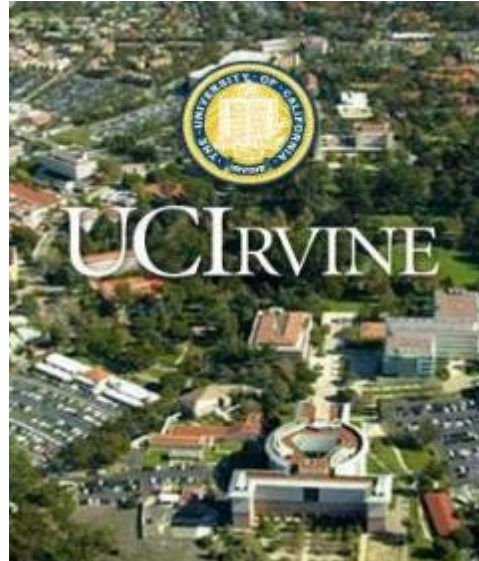


# California-Catalonia Program

## Balsells Fellowship

### Mobility and Graduate School in California



## Presenters

Professor Roger Rangel

Professor Sergio Gago

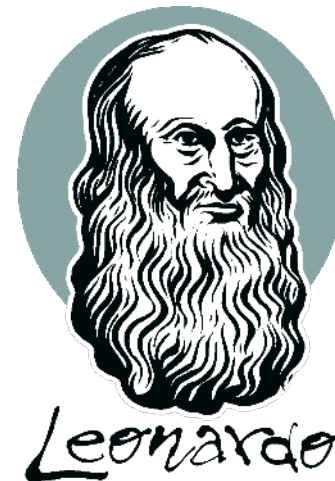
October 2020

# What to do after graduation?

- Get a job

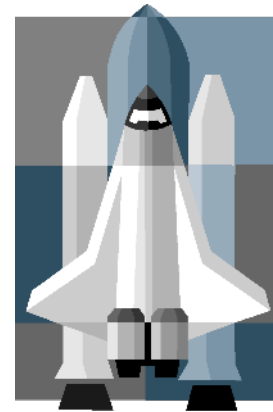
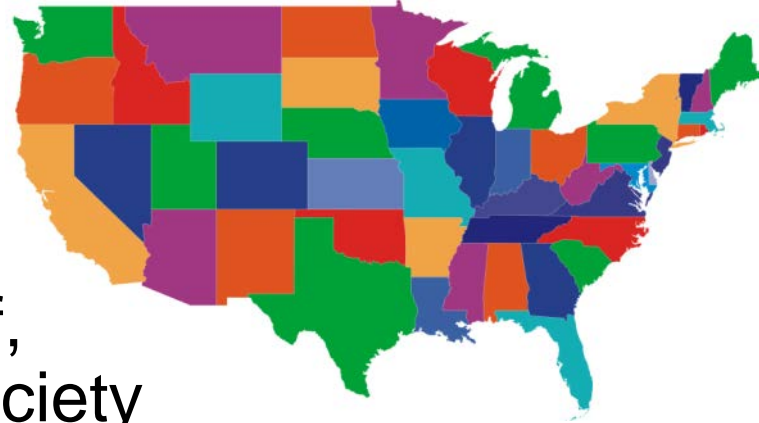


- Learn more, become an expert and **leader** in your field



# Why Graduate School in the USA?

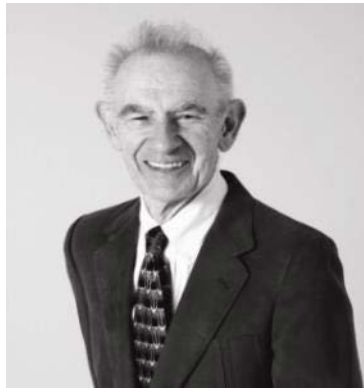
- Opportunity to travel
- Learn more, better yourself, and benefit society
- Live abroad
- Expand your career options
- Achieve competitive positions and salaries



# Historical Perspective

- The Balsells Fellowship (1996-2020)

Pete Balsells



- The Generalitat de Catalunya participated in the program until 2018

# Peter J. Balsells



- Born in Barcelona in 1928
- Moved to United States at age 18
- Graduated from CU Boulder in 1952
  - B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering
- Started **Bal Seal Engineering Company** in California in 1958 with his wife, Joan
  - Located near Irvine, California, and Colorado Springs, Colorado, the company today employs over 500 people
- Started the Balsells Fellowship Program at UCI in 1996
- Started the Balsells Graduate Fellowship Program at CU Boulder in 2010; at UCCS in 2013; and at UCD in 2015
- Francesc Macia Medal in 2003
- Premi Nacional de Recerca, Categoria Mecenatge in 2012
- Creu de Sant Jordi in 2013
- Honorary doctorates from CU Boulder (2014) and UdG (2016)

# The Balsells Effect

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9v65Udt8r2c>

# Student Opportunities

## Mobility Program

Short-term visits of 6 months to carry out final thesis for Bachelor's or Master's degree and to explore possibility of returning to the U.S. graduate school (M.S. and PhD)

## Graduate Studies

Long-term visits to obtain Master's degree and/or PhD degree

## Postdoctoral Fellowship

One-year visit for PhD holders to conduct research at UC Irvine under the guidance of a faculty member.



# Balsells Fellowships 1996-2020



**UC Irvine**

**143 MS and PhD fellows  
15 post-doctoral fellows  
80 mobility fellows**

**Catalan Universities:**

**UAB, UB, UdG, UdL, UPC, UPF, URL, URV**



# Irvine - Orange County - Southern California

- Pop: 267,000 (Irvine)  
3.2 Million (Orange Co.)
- 60 km south of Los Angeles
- A hub of high tech companies
- Surrounded by beach, mountains, arts, and entertainment

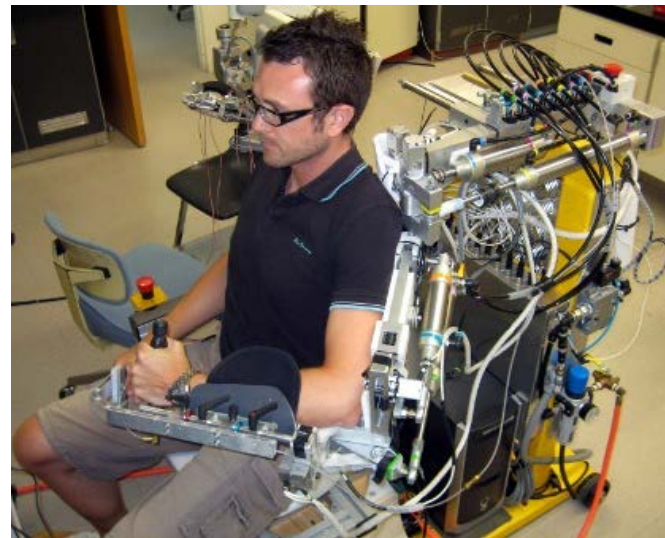




# University of California, Irvine Snapshot



- [www.uci.edu](http://www.uci.edu)
- 36,000 students
- 15 schools and programs
- 3,100 teaching faculty members
- 7<sup>th</sup> among all U.S. public universities (USNews&WR 2019)





UCI

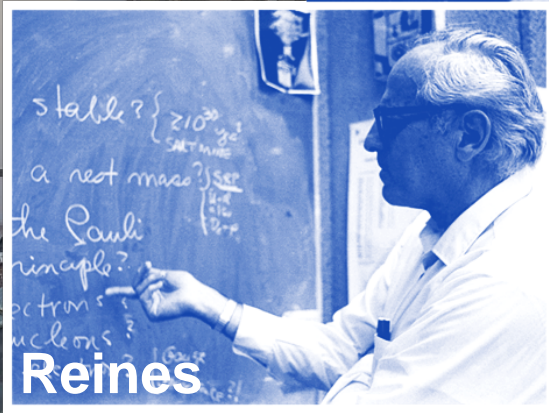
FREDERICK REINES HALL

3

Nobel Laureates



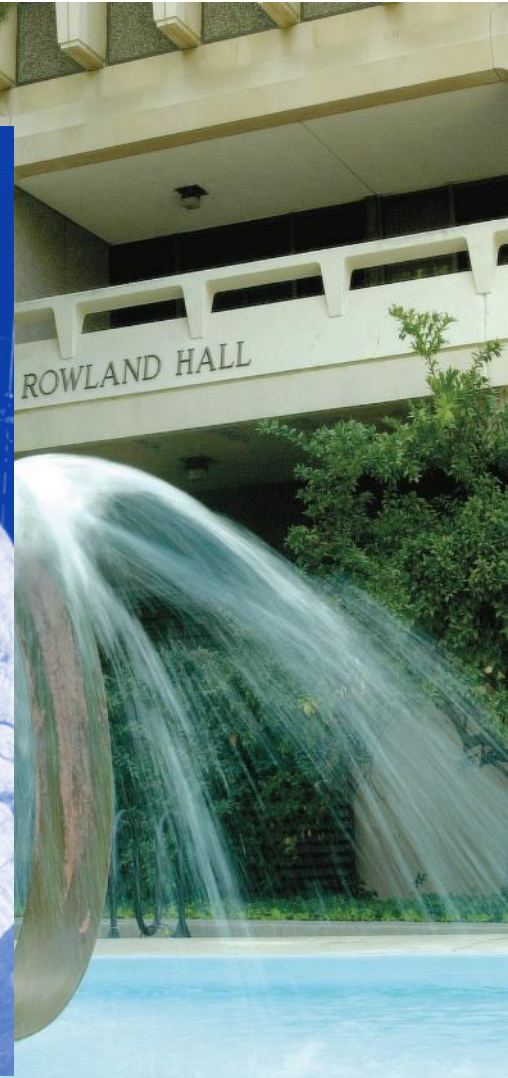
Rose



Reines



Rowland



# Henry Samueli School of Engineering

4,000 Undergraduates  
1,000 Graduate  
students  
150 Faculty Members

[www.eng.uci.edu](http://www.eng.uci.edu)







# UCI Samueli

School of Engineering

## DEPARTMENTS

HENRY SAMUELI SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

MCDONNELL  
DOUGLAS  
ENGINEERING  
AUDITORIUM

- Biomedical Engineering
- Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering
- Civil and Environmental Engineering
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Materials Science & Engineering
- Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering



# Some of Our Graduate Programs

GRADUATE PROGRAM  
**Biomedical Engineering**

<http://engineering.uci.edu/dept/bme/graduate>



GRADUATE PROGRAM  
**Chemical and Biochemical Engineering**

<http://engineering.uci.edu/dept/chems/graduate>



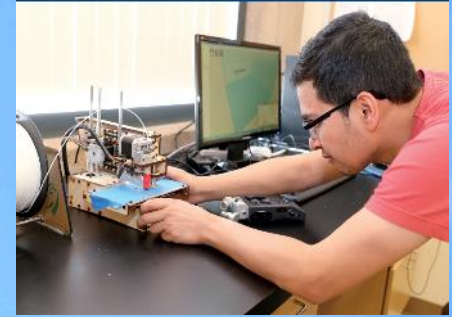
GRADUATE PROGRAM  
**Civil Engineering**

<http://engineering.uci.edu/dept/cee/graduate>



GRADUATE PROGRAM  
**Electrical and Computer Engineering**

<http://engineering.uci.edu/dept/eecs/graduate>



GRADUATE PROGRAM  
**Engineering with a Concentration in Environmental Engineering**

<http://engineering.uci.edu/dept/cee/graduate/programs/environmental>



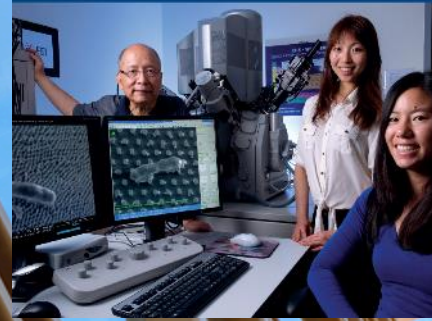
GRADUATE PROGRAM  
**Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering**

<http://engineering.uci.edu/dept/mae/graduate>



GRADUATE PROGRAM  
**Materials Science and Engineering**

<http://engineering.uci.edu/dept/chems/graduate>



GRADUATE PROGRAM  
**Embedded and Cyber-Physical Systems**

<http://mecps.uci.edu>





## National Recognition

### ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY

Scott Samuelsen &  
Jack Brouwer

The  
New York  
Times



POPULAR  
MECHANICS

PBS  
NEWS  
HOUR

NGT  
News  
Next-Gen Transportation

ORANGE COUNTY  
REGISTER

### HUMAN COMPUTER INTERFACE

Zoran Nenadic &  
Payam Heydari



TIME

EE|Times

ORANGE COUNTY  
BUSINESS JOURNAL



Buzz  
Feed

### CYBER SECURITY

Mohammad Al Faruque

Newsweek

Los Angeles  
Times



gizmag Futurism

GIZMODO

# Donald Bren School of Information & Computer Sciences

[www.ics.uci.edu](http://www.ics.uci.edu)

## Figures:

- 3,547 Undergraduates
- 764 Graduate students
- 100 Faculty Members



## Departments:

- Computer Science
- Informatics
- Statistics



# Donald Bren School of Information & Computer Sciences

## GRADUATE PROGRAMS

**Computer Science**

**Software Engineering**

**Informatics**

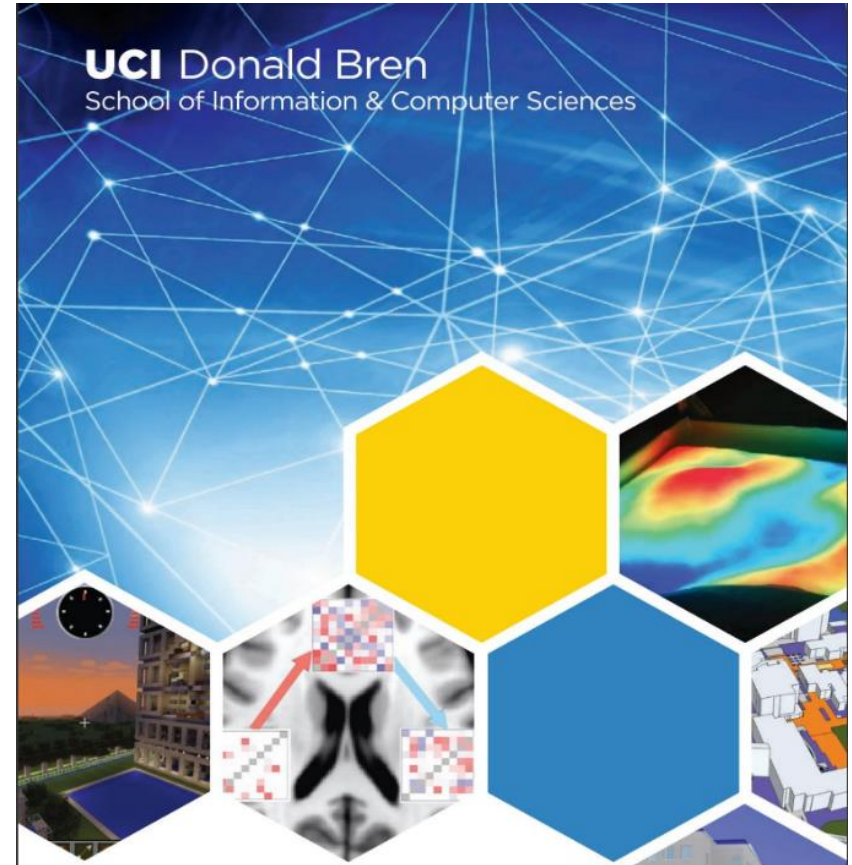
**Networked Systems**

**Statistics**

**Data Science**

**Embedded and Cyber-Physical Systems**

**Human-Computer Interaction and Design**



## HIGHLIGHTS

Computer Science is UCI's 2nd-largest undergraduate major.

Top 15 Computer Science Graduate Program among public universities, as ranked by U.S. News & World Report.

Software engineering research is ranked #2 and HCI research is ranked #8 by CSRankings.org.

Game design program is ranked 3rd among public institutions by Animation Career Review.

Statistics received 2 of the 13 NSF Graduate Research Fellowships awarded to statistics students nationwide in 2019

## ICS RESEARCH AREAS

- Medical Informatics
- Mobile and Ubiquitous Computing
- Multimedia Computing
- Networks and Distributed Systems
- Operating Systems
- Organization Studies
- Privacy and Personalization
- Programming Languages and Software Engineering
- Science and Technology Studies
- Scientific and Numerical Computing
- Security, Privacy, Cryptography
- Social Informatics
- Software Engineering
- Software Systems
- Statistics and Statistical Theory
- Sustainability and Green IT
- Ubiquitous Computing
- Algorithms and Complexity Theory
- Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning
- Biomedical Informatics And Computational Biology
- Computational-Social Relationships
- Computer Architecture
- Computer Games and Virtual Worlds
- Computer Graphics and Visualization
- Computer-Supported Cooperative Work
- Computer Vision
- Database Systems
- Design
- Educational Technology
- Embedded Systems
- Environmental Informatics
- Health Informatics
- Human-Computer Interaction
- Information Retrieval and Visualization
- Interactive and Collaborative Technologies



The UCI logo is positioned in the top left corner of the image. It consists of the letters 'UCI' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font, set against a white, stylized sunburst or geometric pattern. The background of the entire image is an aerial photograph of a university campus, showing various buildings, trees, and a paved walkway. The main building in the center is a large, modern structure with a flat roof and a prominent glass facade. To its left is a smaller, older building with a curved roof. The surrounding area is lush with green trees and a clear sky.

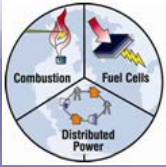
**UCI**

## Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering Building

**113,000+ SQ ft.**  
includes laboratory support  
space, conference and  
collaboration centers



# Engineering Research Centers and Institutes



Advanced Power and Energy Program



California Institute for Telecommunications and Information Technology



Institute for Design and Manufacturing Innovation



Beckman Laser Institute and Medical Clinic



Center for Embedded Systems and Cyber-Physical Systems



National Fuel Cell Research Center



Center for Advanced Design & Manufacturing of Integrated Microfluidics



Irvine Materials Research Institute



UCI Combustion Laboratory



Integrated Nanosystems Research Facility



Center for Pervasive Communications and Computing



Water-Energy Nexus Center



The Edwards Lifesciences Center for Advanced Cardiovascular Technology



Center for Hydrometeorology and Remote Sensing



Institute of Transportation Studies



# Mobility Program

- Undergraduates or master's students
- Undertake final project or master's thesis typically for one term (6 months) at UC Irvine
- UC Irvine: [Balsells Mobility](#)
- Partial funding provided \$7,000
- Approximately 5 positions per year
- Spring semester preferred
- **Significant preference given to those students who want to continue as graduate students at UCI after the mobility visit.**



# How to Apply for the Mobility Program

## Students interested in the Mobility Program should:

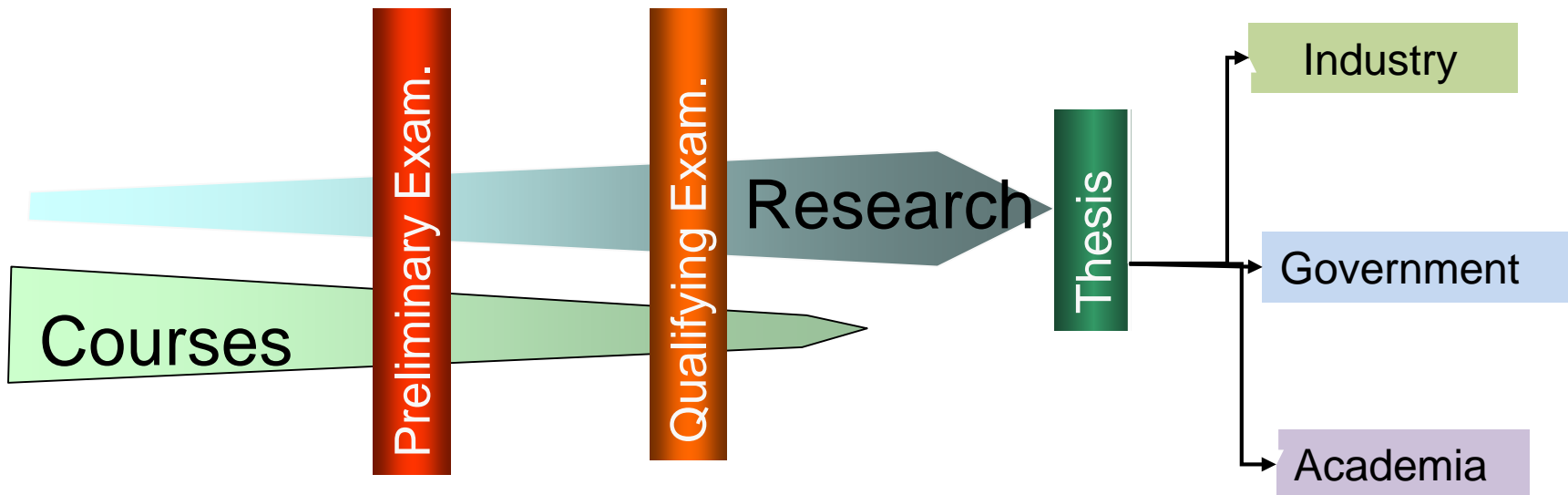
- Be interested in applying for the graduate program
- Have a strong academic record and at least intermediate English proficiency
- Provide letter of interest, curriculum vita, and academic transcript (all in English) to:
  - **UC Irvine:** Balsells Fellowship Program at [balsells@uci.edu](mailto:balsells@uci.edu)
  - <https://balsells.eng.uci.edu/balsells-mobility-program/> for more information.

# Graduate Programs

## Master's: 1.5 years with thesis



## Ph.D.: 3-4 additional years





# GraduateStudent Support

## The support includes:

- Monthly stipend: **\$2,300 per month (\$27,600 per year)**
- Tuition, Fees & Insurance: **\$33,000 per year**
- Travel stipend: **\$1,000 per year**
- Total value: **\$62,000 per year**
- Balsells Fellowship available for MS and PhD for up to 2 years
- Research & teaching assistantships available for the PhD
- 6-7 new fellowships each year
- Priority to students who apply for the PhD or the MS/PhD



# Postdoctoral Fellowship at UC Irvine

## Postdoctoral Fellowship in Engineering (UC Irvine)

- Monthly stipend: **\$4,150 per month**
- Health Insurance: \$10,000-25,000 per year
- Travel stipend: \$1,000 per year
- Total value: **\$75,000 per year**
- Up to 2 fellowships each year





# Balsells Eligibility

## Who can apply?

Spanish citizens who are permanent residents of Catalonia; speak English, Catalan and Spanish; and are graduates from Catalan or other European universities majoring in engineering or related fields.





# Admissions—How To

## Requirements for admission to any of the graduate programs:

- Undergraduate transcripts (original and English translation)
- GRE scores (**some programs waiving GRE for this cycle**)
- TOEFL/IELTS scores
- 3 Letters of recommendation
  - Highlighting your potential for performing independent, thoughtful research, and ability to think beyond formal course assignments
- Candidate statement (Statement of Purpose)
  - How you prepared for the graduate degree (courses, experiences)
  - Interests and career goals (why you want to pursue this degree)
  - Fit (why you are a good match for the program)
  - Your personal history that helped you decide to pursue this degree

# Timeline for Graduate (MS/PhD) Application

For undergraduate students currently in their 4<sup>th</sup> year or M.S. students in their final year

<b>What</b>	<b>When</b>
This presentation .....	Oct 2020
Take GRE and TOEFL or IELTS exams .....	Dec 2020
<b>Complete graduate application.....</b>	<b>Dec 2020 / Jan 2021</b>
Admissions decision by the university.....	Mar 2021
Decisions on funding announced.....	May 2021
Fall term of graduate school starts.....	Sep 2021

# Timeline for Mobility and Graduate Application

For undergraduate students currently in their 3<sup>rd</sup> year or MS students in their first year

What	When
This presentation .....	Oct 2020
<b>Apply for Mobility</b> .....	<b>Feb 2021</b>
Start Mobility.....	Fall 2021 or Spring 2022
Take GRE and TOEFL or IELTS exams .....	Dec 2021
<b>Complete graduate application</b> .....	<b>Dec 2021</b>
Admissions decision by the university.....	Mar 2022
Decisions on financial support announced.....	Apr 2022
Fall term of graduate school starts.....	Sep 2022

# Application and Exam Websites

Information on GRE, TOEFL & IELTS exams:

[www.gre.org](http://www.gre.org), [www.toefl.org](http://www.toefl.org), [www.ielts.org](http://www.ielts.org)

Information on applying to UC Irvine:

<http://www.grad.uci.edu/admissions/applying-to-uci/>



# Thank you! Any questions?

***For additional information please contact:***

**University of California, Irvine**

balsells@uci.edu

<https://balsells.eng.uci.edu/>

