

## UCI wins state environmental award for innovative bike-sharing program

### ZotWheels reduces traffic congestion, air pollution and demand for parking

— Irvine, Calif., March 17, 2010 —

Adding to its growing list of environmental accomplishments, UC Irvine has received a Green California Leadership Award for ZotWheels, the first automated bike-sharing program in the state and the second at a U.S. university.

UCI's Parking & Transportation Services department launched ZotWheels last fall as an alternative to driving a personal or fleet vehicle to, from and around campus. Students, staff and faculty members take advantage of the program, reducing traffic congestion, the demand for parking, and UCI's carbon footprint.

Computerized and networked ZotWheels stations are strategically located at high-volume destinations throughout campus, allowing members to rent a bike from one site, ride it and then return it to any of the other stations. Bicycles can also be used in the neighboring community. ZotWheels membership is \$40 per year.

"We're honored to be a recipient of the Green California Leadership Award," said Ronald Fleming, Parking & Transportation Services interim director. "It acknowledges the forward-thinking work and dedication of our staff, who strive to improve air quality on and around campus. I hope other organizations will be inspired to implement similar programs."

The Green California Leadership Awards were established to recognize outstanding environmental achievements in government. Awards were presented Tuesday, March 16, at the *Green California Summit* in Sacramento.

**About the University of California, Irvine:** Founded in 1965, UCI is a top-ranked university dedicated to research, scholarship and community service. Led by Chancellor Michael Drake since 2005, UCI is among the most dynamic campuses in the University of California system, with nearly 28,000 undergraduate and graduate students, 1,100 faculty and 9,000 staff. Orange County's largest employer, UCI contributes an annual economic impact of \$3.9 billion. For more UCI news, visit [www.today.uci.edu](http://www.today.uci.edu).

**News Radio:** UCI maintains on campus an ISDN line for conducting interviews with its faculty and experts. Use of this line is available for a fee to radio news programs/stations that wish to interview UCI faculty and experts. Use of the ISDN line is subject to availability and approval by the university.



With the swipe of a computerized ZotWheels membership card, students, faculty and staff can check out a bicycle for campus commuting. Photo by Michelle S. Kim / University Communications

#### Related Links

##### Photo Links

- [Larger image of ZotWheels docking station](#)

##### Web Links

- [ZotWheels program](#)
- [Pedal power feature](#)
- [ZipCar](#)
- [Parking & Transportation Services](#)
- [California Green Summit](#)

#### Media Contact

Cathy Lawhon  
University Communications  
949-824-1151  
[clawhon@uci.edu](mailto:clawhon@uci.edu)

#### Need an expert?

UCI maintains an online directory of faculty available as experts to the media. To access, visit [www.today.uci.edu/experts](http://www.today.uci.edu/experts). For UCI breaking news, visit [www.zotwire.uci.edu](http://www.zotwire.uci.edu).