

UCR International Scholars Monthly Newsletter August 2026

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Upcoming ISS Events

Scholar Coffee Hours

Meet and chat with other scholars – bring your own beverage and make some friends!

Where: Outside of The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf

When: Fridays 11:00 AM - Noon

August Meet & Greet

Please come meet our new scholars!

As always, we will provide lunch.

Where: HUB 265

When: 07/29/2026, Noon – 1:00 pm

Thank you so much to Dr. Marko Princevac for speaking about his journey at the Meet & Greet on July 29th. Our Guest Speaker this month will be Dr. Bohan Ye, of the Economics Department!

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Cultural Conversation Class

**(On break until
September)**

**If you or your dependents are
interested, please participate
in the Cultural Conversation
Class to help improve your
English and to meet new
friends. Thank you to the
regular attendees who help
make CCC successful!**

Update from the ISS Office

**Scholars who are already at UC Riverside are
advised to avoid international travel unless
absolutely necessary.**

**H-1B visa holders seeking a new visa are
currently subject to increased social media
vetting, which may result in significant
delays in visa processing.**

Important Update Regarding D/S Rule and ISS Town Hall Registration

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) published its Final Rule on the Elimination of D/S on 17 July 2026.

The Final Rule will replace duration of status (D/S) with a specified end date on the I-94 for Exchange Visitors in F and J status. The rule will also modify certain regulations pertaining to those visitors, such as extension of stay.

Should you have questions regarding the changes to duration of status, please reach out to the scholars team via our email (internationalscholars@ucr.edu)

We will be hosting a weekly Drop-in hour on Mondays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Log into your UCR Zoom account to join The End of D/S Monday Drop-In Hour.

Pre-registration is not required at this time.

Remaining Drop-in Mondays:

Monday, August 24

Monday, August 31

Q&A
WITH
AUGUST
MEET &
GREET
GUEST
SPEAKER

Learn
about her
story

BOHAN YE

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

Dr. Bohan Ye will be speaking at the International Scholar Meet & Greet on August 26th! Learn more about her story below.



Please tell us about your background.

I was born and raised in Beijing, China, and my life and education have taken me across different parts of the world. I have lived in China, the United States, and Europe, studied in three different U.S. states, and traveled to more than twenty countries.

Professionally, I am an economist whose teaching and research focus on behavioral and experimental economics, game theory, and microeconomics. Before coming to UC Riverside, I was an Assistant Professor of Economics at the University of Southern Indiana, and I received my Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Arizona.

Outside academia, I have also received rigorous training in Chinese opera and am part of the third generation of the Mei Lanfang artistic lineage. I continue to perform regularly in the Los Angeles area.

What is your role at UCR?

I am an Assistant Professor of Teaching in the Department of Economics. I teach courses such as game theory, behavioral economics, and microeconomics, but I often think of my role as more than simply delivering economic knowledge. I like to think of myself as a designer of students' learning journeys. I often wonder why people will watch a favorite movie again, listen to the same comedy performance again, or ride the same attraction again even though they already know what will happen. It is because the experience itself is enjoyable and memorable. I hope learning can feel that way too.

Experimental economics is especially well suited for this approach. Instead of only telling students how people cooperate, compete, trust, signal, or make strategic decisions, we can let them experience these situations themselves through games, experiments, and interaction. One of my favorite moments is when students look at the results and realize, "Oh—that makes sense. Of course people behave this way!" For me, that moment of discovery is what makes learning meaningful.

How did you get into your field?

I am an Assistant Professor of Teaching in the Department of Economics. I teach courses such as game theory, behavioral economics, and microeconomics, but I often think of my role as more than simply delivering economic knowledge. I like to think of myself as a designer of students' learning journeys. I often wonder why people will watch a favorite movie again, listen to the same comedy performance again, or ride the same attraction again even though they already know what will happen. It is because the experience itself is enjoyable and memorable. I hope learning can feel that way too.

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What are some of your favorite memories at UCR?

One of my favorite memories actually comes from my first visit to UCR. I was walking under the orange trees with my colleague Anil, and he told me that UCR was ranked No. 1 in the nation for social mobility. I still remember that conversation because it immediately made this place feel very special to me.

To me, social mobility represents one of the most beautiful things education can accomplish. Regardless of someone's family background, where they come from, or where they begin, education can create opportunities for people to move forward and become more than they once imagined possible. In many ways, that feels like the American dream.

I remember thinking during that walk: what a meaningful place to be a teacher. Since then, some of my favorite UCR memories have been the small moments when I see students become more confident, more curious, or suddenly excited about something they did not understand before.

Do you have any advice for incoming international scholars?

I would encourage international scholars to see their different backgrounds and cultures not as something they need to hide or overcome, but as something valuable they bring to the community.

One of my colleagues, Urmee, sometimes wears traditional clothing, and I really enjoy hearing her explain the fabrics, craftsmanship, and cultural meaning behind what she is wearing. I have never been to India or Bangladesh, but those conversations made me genuinely curious to learn more. One day, I decided to wear my own traditional Chinese mamianqun, or horse-face skirt, to campus as well.

I think these small exchanges are incredibly meaningful. In the age of AI, we can look up almost anything about another culture in seconds, but information is not the same as human connection. When someone shares a tradition, a piece of clothing, a food, or a story with genuine enthusiasm, it creates curiosity and warmth in a way that a search result cannot.

So my advice would be to share the positive, beautiful, and interesting parts of your own culture generously, while also being genuinely curious about what others bring. We can help people associate our cultures with warmth and excitement, and at the same time allow other people's cultures to enrich our own lives. That kind of exchange makes both an academic community and our individual life journeys much richer.

Scholar Photo Request

Hello, scholars!

Have you taken any wonderful photos lately?

The ISS Office is seeking photograph contributions. We would love to feature the adventures of our active scholars in a new section of the monthly scholar newsletter.

**Please email photographs you would like us to highlight.
internationalscholars@ucr.edu**



RIVERSIDE

International Affairs

Contact us at: internationalscholars@ucr.edu



**King's Canyon -
Janne Heirman**



**King's Canyon -
Janne Heirman**



**King's Canyon -
Janne Heirman**



**The Dolomites -
Janne Heirman**

Events in Riverside

UCR Faculty & Staff Picnic

Kickoff the new academic year with food, fun, and time with colleagues from across campus. Hosted by Chancellor Jack Hu. Registration is required, beforehand.

More details: <https://events.ucr.edu/event/ucr-faculty-staff-picnic>

When: 09/09/2026

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Where: HUB Patio

UCR Discounts - LA Sparks

UCR has secured special offers for staff, faculty, and students for the LA Sparks as the WNBA celebrates its 30th season. Save \$30 on each of your first two tickets, for \$60 in total savings, across select upcoming LA Sparks games at Crypto.com Arena.

<https://events.ucr.edu/event/ucr-discounts-lafc-leagues-cup>

Frequently Asked Questions

I need to leave the U.S. and ISS has not signed my DS-2019 document! Is that OK?

Please know that you do not need a travel signature on your DS-2019 document to either remain in or to depart the U.S. You do need a valid travel signature to return to the U.S. in J-1 status. A valid travel signature must be no more than twelve months old on the date that you return to the U.S.

If you are departing the U.S. soon and know that your travel signature will expire by the time you expect to return to the U.S., please contact our international scholar's office at internationalscholars@ucr.edu. If your DS-2019 is going to expire soon, please consult with your department to extend your stay and then contact our scholar advisor.

What will happen if I end my UCR appointment early and/or depart the United States and do not intend to return to the U.S. for my J program?

If you are a scholar and you depart the U.S. early (more than 15 days before your DS-2019 end date) and you do not intend to return to the U.S. for the remainder of your J program, please discuss this with your faculty sponsor. Please also email our advisors so that they can advise you on the steps and the visa implications of ending your program early.