



To: Kenneth Barish, Chair, UCR Academic Senate; Ivy Zhang, Chair, Academic Senate Committee on University Extension
From: Kevin Vaughn, Dean, University Extension
Re: Approval of UCR Extension Name Change
cc: Cherysa Cortez, Executive Director; Beth Beatty, Senate Analyst

May 20, 2026

Dear Professors Barish and Zhang,

I am writing to share that Chancellor Hu has approved, as a campus-level administrative action, the renaming of UCR Extension to **UCR Professional and Global Education (PGE)**, effective July 1, 2026. Consistent with similar actions at other UC campuses, the name change was reviewed and approved first through the Office of the Provost and then through the Office of the Chancellor.

Importantly, this change is limited to naming and positioning only. There are no changes to academic programs, departmental structures, Senate-regulated curricula, governance responsibilities, or the role of the Senate Committee on University Extension. As discussed with the committee during our April 3, 2026 meeting, this change is intended to better align the unit's name with the current scope of our work, including workforce-aligned programs, professional certificates, international education, global partnerships, and programs serving learners and institutional collaborators across multiple regions of the world. The decision followed a comprehensive review process that included internal research, stakeholder surveys, focus groups, market analysis, and consultation with campus leadership and the Senate Committee on University Extension.

The new name also aligns UCR more closely with broader trends across the UC system and continuing and professional education nationally, where the term "Extension" has increasingly been replaced by terminology that more accurately reflects contemporary educational models and audiences.

I appreciate the engagement throughout this process and wanted to ensure that Senate leadership and the committee were informed promptly following final approval.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "K. Vaughn", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Kevin J. Vaughn, Dean
University Extension
University of California
Riverside, CA 92507