The 2001-2002 academic year was one of great change for UCLA and far beyond. The tragic events of September 11, 2001, forever altered our world, our nation, and our campus. However, all of us at UCLA can take pride in our achievements in the wake of those horrific terrorist attacks. The debates and discussions that took place across campus were substantive, constructive, and civil. The University’s role as a forum for rational discourse was exemplary.

Recognizing that students would arrive on campus with a strong desire to discuss and understand what occurred on 9/11, the College of Letters and Science organized a special group of undergraduate seminars, “Perspectives on September 11,” as part of the 2001 Fall Quarter curriculum. That program evolved into a permanent seminar series called “Fiat Lux” — taken from the University’s motto, which means “Let There Be Light.” Taught by senior faculty, the Fiat Lux seminars explore a wide range of topics in the arts and humanities, culture and society, and science and technology. Our goal is to make this interactive, small-class experience available to every undergraduate student, particularly freshmen.

UCLA continues to be among the most outstanding universities in the nation, a distinction that reflects the quality of our faculty, students, and staff. Our faculty’s preeminence in the realm of teaching is complemented by their superior scholarship, which has consistently placed UCLA at the forefront of the discovery process. In fiscal year 2001-2002, UCLA investigators received $767.8 million in extramural contracts and grants, 63 percent of which came from the federal government. This was a campus record — a 15-percent increase more than the previous year — keeping UCLA among the top five universities in the nation for total research funding from all sources.

Once again, UCLA received more applications for undergraduate admission than any other university in the nation. Among those students welcomed to our campus in Fall 2001 were 4,300 freshmen and 2,300 transfer students, all of whom arrived with outstanding academic and personal histories.

UCLA also enjoyed the most successful year of fund-raising in campus history. Despite the nation’s uncertain economic climate, Campaign UCLA generated more than $509.4 million in private gifts and grants, setting a record for the University of California system. Highlighting the effort was a landmark gift of $200 million in May from entertainment executive and philanthropist David Geffen to the UCLA School of Medicine.

An ambitious capital program has enabled UCLA to strengthen and modernize aging facilities while adding others essential to the future of the academic program, student life, and the medical enterprise. The largest of these projects has been the construction of a new academic medical center featuring a state-of-the-art hospital. In fiscal year 2001-2002, that project continued apace with steel construction completed. Student-housing facilities also continued to be significantly upgraded and expanded. De Neve Plaza, our newest undergraduate student-housing complex, opened its dining room, additional bed space, and a 430-seat lecture auditorium in spring 2001. More than 90 percent of the freshman class lived in campus residence halls in fiscal year 2001-2002.

The information on the following pages is proof of UCLA’s fiscal soundness. Still, as UCLA’s resources from the state decline, private support and other non-state resources continue to be integral to the future of our facilities and programs. We look forward with confidence to the continuing success of our students, faculty, and programs, and to the steadfast dedication of our alumni and friends whose support and commitment ensure the great future of UCLA.

Albert Carnesale
Chancellor