

Big ideas. Bold futures. The University of California has a proud history of contributing to the fabric of our nation, advancing innovation and shaping American history. We're [marking America's 250th birthday](#) by highlighting our shared past and looking ahead toward an even brighter future. For more than 150 years, UC has powered American innovation, national security and health care. UC research is behind some of our country's greatest achievements -- making [D-Day](#) a success, enabling California to produce one-third of the [country's food](#) and increasing the [premature baby survival rate](#) to 90%.

Today, we're proud to continue that tradition. UC campuses are on the cutting edge, fostering the technology of the future. A qubit chip from UC Berkeley, powering quantum computing, was selected as part of California's contributions to the [national time capsule](#). And across our ten campuses, six academic health centers and three affiliated national labs, we're training the next generation workforce to keep our country competitive in a rapidly changing world. This summer, as we commemorate the 250th anniversary of our country, we're celebrating the enduring partnership between UC and the U.S. -- and the opportunities that lie ahead.

-- **Chris Harrington, UC Associate Vice President,
Federal Governmental Relations**

What We're Watching

1.

Pancreatic cancer breakthrough

Basic research conducted at **UCSF**, and funded by the **federal government**, helped develop the drug [daraxonrasib](#) for the treatment of pancreatic cancer. A new study, led by **UCLA**, confirms it significantly extends survival. There's now new hope for treating the third-leading cause of cancer deaths in the U.S., made possible by the foundational work and partnership of UC and the federal government.

2.

Giving AI common sense

Researchers at **UC Santa Barbara** received funding from the **National Science Foundation** to help [artificial intelligence](#) better understand and make sense of the physical world. By giving AI knowledge of spatial relationships and geometry, it can better interpret complex, real-world data, with applications ranging from medicine to mapping to robotics.

3.

Better treatment for brain trauma

Funded largely by the **U.S. Department of Defense**, with support from the **National Institutes of Health (NIH)**, **UC Riverside** researchers discovered that immune response after a [traumatic brain injury](#) can lead to memory loss, seizures or long-term cognitive problems. By understanding how the brain heals, they're laying the groundwork for treatments to improve recovery.

4.

How loneliness leads to declining health

There's a difference between being alone and being lonely. How connected people feel matters just as much as how often they interact with others. A [new study](#) from **UC Davis**, funded by the **NIH**, found that loneliness can predict cognitive decline and shorter life expectancy. The findings could improve programs and interventions for older adults at risk of dementia.

5.

Long-term investments in science

UC Berkeley researchers developed new [electron microscopy technology](#), producing clear images of tiny proteins, which could speed development of newer, more effective treatments. The federal government's long-term investment in the basic research that leads to powerful tools like these, combined with **NIH** funding, makes future breakthroughs possible.

Did You Know?

UC Davis alum [Max Arfsten](#) is proud to represent **team USA** at the World Cup.

64% of UC medical students train at [Veterans Affairs](#) medical centers.

UC's 75 [Nobel prizes](#), more than any other institution in the world, underscore its enduring role in strengthening American innovation and scientific research.



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