Claire Trevor School of the Arts Office of the Dean MAB 200 Irvine, CA 92697-2775 (949) 824-4339 (949) 824-2450 Fax

Dear CTSA Community,

I can't tell you how excited I am to welcome you to UCI's creative center—the Claire Trevor School of the Arts, and to invite you to play an exciting role in the world of the arts this year. It seems that each year the Trevor School becomes a more distinctive, vibrant part of the UCI campus and of the regional, national, and international arts scene, at the cutting edge of arts production, scholarship, and research. As always, we'll be building on that well-earned reputation this year, with your creative participation.

2018-19 is going to be a unique and engaging year, full of opportunities to develop and deepen your participation in, and appreciation of, the arts in all their current and emerging forms. As a student, you'll be displaying your many talents, enhancing your skills, and broadening your knowledge of the arts and their vital place in culture. As a family member or friend of CTSA, you'll be experiencing the very best in the arts.

If you had the chance to come to the CTSA's New Swan Shakespeare Theatre's seventh season of Shakespeare under the stars in Aldrich Park, you already know something of the remarkably high quality you can expect from our productions and exhibitions. The Trevor School and the Beall Center for Art + Technology expanded our summer workshops, camps, and academies to new levels of outreach, new projects and presentations, and record numbers of participants from across the region.

Now, at the beginning of the academic year, as you look ahead over the next months, your greatest challenge will be to try to take advantage of as many opportunities as possible in the CTSA and across the campus. It's always my hope that you'll choose to experience at least one event from each of our four departments: if your interest is drama, come to an art exhibit, if it's dance, come to a concert! You'll be amazed. You'll be able to sample all of our offerings in early November at the Trevor School Open House, when the entire School comes alive with music, dance, drama, and art. There'll be food trucks, bands, family-friendly activities, performances, and much more. For more Open House information, have a look at the CTSA website.

The CTSA puts on nearly three hundred events during the course of the academic year—literally something for everyone, in every corner of the artworld. Just a glimpse at our Season Brochure, which you'll find on our website at <u>http://www.arts.uci.edu</u>, will amaze you. Check out the various options for attending a wide variety of events.

It's never been a better—nor a more important—time to become immersed in the arts, whether you're part of a production or exhibition, or learning about and enjoying the arts as an audience member. In fact, this year you'll have many, many opportunities to do both.

Let me thank you in advance for your interest in making and experiencing art and for the part you play in the creative process.

Sincerely,

Stephen Barker, Ph.D. Dean, Claire Trevor School of the Arts