



May 2022

Dear ,

UC Riverside is initiating a process of seeking national designation from the Association for Public and Land Grant Universities as a leader in “Innovation and Economic Prosperity.” We believe UCR and the Inland Empire region are well-poised to receive this recognition, which will help us to boost our national and international visibility and access new funding sources. We also believe the process will be valuable to us in helping to define our structures, communicate our successes, and strengthen areas where we need to grow.

We appreciate your leadership and insight in economic and community engagement and would like to invite you (or your designate) to serve on the advisory committee for this project. You can find more information and links about the project in [this shared document](#), and here is a summary of the general expectations for the advisory committee:

- Meeting quarterly during 2022 and 2023, with some input via email in between meetings. The first meeting would likely fall in early June.
- Purpose:
 - Set direction for the working group
 - Participate in data gathering from appropriate stakeholders
 - Provide feedback on preliminary drafts of the self-study and narrative portions
- Deliverables:
 - Self-study (and analysis)
 - Economic engagement narrative for UCR and the region
 - Summary of accomplishments
 - Growth/improvement plan

Please respond to Beth Claassen Thrush (bethclaa@ucr.edu) to confirm your availability to serve on this advisory committee as soon as possible. Don’t hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

Rodolfo Torres, Vice Chancellor, Research & Economic Development

Elizabeth Watkins, Provost & Executive Vice Chancellor