

# New Vice Chancellor In Honor Of Rosser

continued from front page



Clarice Ford

idents and associate vice chancellor of student services. Ford brings more than 20 years of professional experience in student affairs as well as notable record of public service to UIS.

The UIS Student Affairs Division is comprised of many units that are critical to student recruitment and success, including admissions, records & registration and financial assistance. Accord-

ing to UIS Chancellor Susan Koch, Ford leads with a forward-thinking, student first philosophy to enhance the co-curricular experience and promote student success.

"Ford received strong support from the Vice Chancellor Student Affairs Search Committee whose members were appreciative of her considerable expertise working in student affairs and her sincere commitment to improving and enhancing student life and opportunities," said Koch.

Ford earned her doctorate in educational leadership and change from the Fielding Institute in Santa Barbara, California. She holds a master's degree in religious education and theology from Lincoln Christian Seminary and a master's degree in adult education/multi-cultural education from Antioch University. She also received her bachelor's degree in human services from Antioch University.

continued from front page



James Rosser

president.

Rosser led Cal State LA for 34 years, longer than any other president in the university's history. He was selected as the sixth president in 1979 and retired in 2013.

The April 10 dedication, one of a number of events during the university's 70th anniversary year, was held on a warm spring afternoon in front of Rosser Hall, formerly Wing B of the Wallis Annenberg Integrated Sciences Complex. The complex opened during Rosser's tenure and features state-of-the-art science laboratories and equipment.

Rosser spoke fondly of his decades of service at Cal State LA, thanking family, friends and colleagues who helped him along the way. He credited the university with having some of the best faculty members in the nation and lauded their dedication to the mission of quality with diversity. "I remained here because the people here really believed in the mission," Rosser said. "The greatest asset that any university has is the quality of its faculty and students."

Cal State LA President William A. Covino presented Rosser with a proclamation in recognition of his decades of service to the university. Then, as streamer cannons fired, music played and the crowd cheered, the signage on the newly

permanent hallmark to President Rosser's innumerable contributions. Great minds will study in this hall, wonderful discoveries will be made here, and President Rosser's legacy will continue for generations to come."

California State University Chancellor Emeritus Barry Munitz, who has known Rosser for six decades, noted that Cal State LA is ranked number one in the nation for upward student mobility. He credited that ranking to Rosser's leadership and vision. "All of you stand in honor of that extraordinary accomplishment," Munitz told the crowd.

Among those who attended the dedication were Cal State LA alumna and former Congresswoman and California State Senator Diane Watson; President and CEO of PBS Southern California Andrew Russell; Cal Poly Pomona President Soraya Coley; and CSU Channel Islands President Emeritus Richard Rush. The emcee for the event was Cal State LA Executive Vice President Jose A. Gomez.

"Rosser was a scientist, educator and philanthropist who transformed Cal State LA and helped shape the City of Los Angeles into a model for diversity and inclusiveness," Gomez said.

Rosser was a pioneering administrator in higher education. He was the

Rosser building, praised the longtime former president's commitment to diversity and academic distinction. "From this wonderful sciences complex, to our long history of graduating students of color who go on to earn the Ph.D. in STEM fields, President Rosser's commitment to excellence and diversity, and his love for science are clear," Scott-Johnson said.

With Rosser at the helm, Cal State LA added more than a million square feet of building space. Projects championed by the former president include the Los Angeles County High School for the Arts; Marc and Eva Stern Math and Science School; Edmund G. "Pat" Brown Institute for Public Affairs; Anna Bing Arnold Children's Center; Harriet and Charles Luckman Fine Arts Complex; Hertzberg-Davis Forensic Science Center; University-Student Union, Television, Film and Media Center; along with the Metrolink Station, Golden Eagle building, and student housing.

Prior to accepting the presidency at Cal State LA, Rosser served as deputy chancellor of the State of New Jersey Department of Higher Education. He had previously been an associate vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, and faculty member in pharmacology and toxicology.

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