

**From:** [Melanie Ortiz](#)  
**To:** [Melanie Ortiz](#)  
**Subject:** Time to discuss parent leadership at UCI?  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 17, 2021 10:56:08 AM

---

Greetings, I hope this email reaches you well, and that your family is staying safe and healthy.

My name is Melanie Ortiz, and I would like to welcome you to the UCI community! In my role, I support parent and family engagement through university-wide programs. I help parents to leverage their passions to advance critical initiatives at UCI through mentorship, volunteerism, and supporting philanthropic priorities.

I thought to share the testimonial below because the sentiment shared by Dr. Amir resonates with so many of our parents who benefit from engaging more deeply with the university:

*“As a parent located in Northern California, I wanted to stay connected with my student Henry without him feeling like I was intruding into his college life or meddling into his studies. Through the Parent Executive Board, I’ve found a group of like-minded parents that provide guidance to UCI’s administration from a parent standpoint and provide philanthropic support to important campus initiatives. It has been empowering for me to support initiatives such as mental health for students, which will make a lasting impact on the UCI student body. My involvement has provided insight into what Henry’s experiencing, and I think he has been pretty happy with that too.”*

-Dr. Ahmad Amir, UCI Parent Executive Board

**If parent engagement at UCI sounds like something you may be interested in, I would love to connect with you at your earliest convenience.** Please respond to this message with dates and times that may work well for you. I look forward to learning a bit more about your interests and your student’s journey to UCI.

Thank you for your time, I look forward to hearing from you soon!

Best regards,

**Melanie Ortiz, MPP**  
Associate Director  
Parent & Family Engagement