



University of California, Irvine (UCI) is a modern university that mirrors the aspiration and mood of modern youths. Through this university the statue of modern society and the ever changing face of globalization can be seen. Although I stayed in UCI for only three months, I had an opportunity to observe many things.

Of all the things that I came to know, the most important one has been the different ways of imparting knowledge in traditional Tibetan monastic universities vis-à-vis modern universities. These two disciplines differ not only in the goals of imparting knowledge but also on the ways and means by which knowledge is disseminated. There is an overall difference in these two disciplines including the bond that is shared between teachers and students.

During my stay at UCI, I walked across Langston Library and Aldrich Park to attend classes at the Humanities Hall. I was living in Verano Place Housing on the campus. Sometimes when I had work, I walked to Bibi Do's office. Bibi Do's office has a large number of Buddhist related items, and likewise, her heart is blessed with all the essential qualities spoken in Buddhism.

I had a unique feeling when I saw a Tibetan scarf in a picture frame in Vice Chancellor Dr. Parham's office; the scarf was in fact offered to him by His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama. Since my stay at the university was made possible mainly due to Bibi Do and her husband, Jangchup's, kindness and effort, and also Dr. Thomas Parham-Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs and Dr. Herbert Killackey-Vice Provost of Academic Personnel, I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks. I am also grateful to my two main Instructors at the university, Brenna Shepherd and Jessica. Both of them are highly trained in teaching English as a foreign language. I still retain so many English vocabularies, which they taught me at UCI. Beside the two Language Instructors, Professor Robin Scarcella, Professor and Director – Program in Academic English and ESL, was the one who not only taught English, but also took me for outings on the weekends. She has been very kind and supportive. I still vividly remember the kind and generous face of Professor Robin Scarcella and her husband.

June 14th, 2014 turned out to be a very special day. It was UCI's 50th anniversary and the graduation day. The 44th President of the United States, President Barack Obama was the commencement speaker. The President spoke eloquently on the importance of environmental conservation. Since I have so many memories of being at UCI, my hope is to visit the university's Aldrich Park once again and recollect the memories of my first visit to the University of California, Irvine.

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