For 60 years, generous donors have supported UC San Diego and UC San Diego Health by giving back to the areas they care about most. Your generosity ensures we continue to serve our students, patients and the world at large for generations to come. Donations of any size combine to create a significant impact. We invite you to see some of the ways you made a difference this past year and the stories you were a part of.

For U.Care, UC San Diego’s Day of Caring, we raised $2,043,038 from 7,764 gifts.

In response to the pandemic, donors contributed to the COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund this past fiscal year $960,181.

On #GivingTuesday, 232 donors raised $20,325 for the Hub Basic Needs Center and 133 donors raised $330,421 for the newly opened La Jolla Family House.

Continuing the nontradition

At the University of California San Diego, challenging convention is our most cherished tradition. Through the Campaign for UC San Diego — our university-wide comprehensive fundraising effort concluding in 2022 — we are enhancing student support, ensuring student success, transforming our campus, connecting our community, and redefining medicine and health care on a global scale. Annual gifts from donors like you enable us to fulfill our campaign priorities. Thank you for your loyal support.
Chancellor’s Associates Council Chair Jerrilyn Malana ’86 hopes to show donors the impact of their support for scholarships. “Improving social mobility through education is at the heart of our scholarship program, which has given more than 1,400 motivated learners the opportunity to achieve their academic dreams at UC San Diego,” said Jerrilyn. “With your help, under-resourced students get the college start they need to succeed, as exemplified by Sarah Davis ’21. For Sarah, transferring to UC San Diego and receiving a Chancellor’s Associates Scholarship was a huge positive step forward.”

“I am a reentry student with a disability and who is also in recovery from substance abuse with five years of sobriety. The Chancellor’s Associates Scholar Program (CASP) is how I made it through college. It allowed me to stay local, so I could continue to be close to my family and support system. Without it, I would not have graduated summa cum laude because I would have had to get a job. The scholarship also helped me pay for my therapist. Therapy is fundamental to my well-being, and it is expensive to find one who is trained in the specialized care I need. Having my bills covered allowed me to grow internally and take care of my mental health while in school. Straight As wouldn’t have happened without CASP,” said Sarah.

Although COVID-19 altered Sarah’s college experience, she was still able to take advantage of the Academic Internship Program before lockdown, interning for a criminal defense attorney, visiting clients in prison and going to court, gaining valuable insight and guidance for her law school applications. This summer, Sarah graduated with a degree in sociology and a full ride to California Western Law School. With the help of donor support, even greater accomplishments are ahead for Sarah.

“I am focused on public interest law and dream of working for the American Civil Liberties Union. I am passionate about prisoners’ rights and their access to health care, especially mental health care. I am lucky enough to have already networked and become involved with the local ACLU chapter. The legal director agreed to be my mentor, which is very exciting and intimidating!” said Sarah.

“I chose to attend UC San Diego Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences because of the community I felt when I stepped onto campus for the first time and the strong academic offerings. The experiential education I’ve received has far surpassed my expectations and led me to see the type of well-rounded pharmacist I can be one day.

One of the most amazing opportunities I had was volunteering at a number of different COVID-19 vaccination sites, including UC San Diego’s own Petco Park Superstation. The first week it opened, I worked there for full 10-hour shifts and helped vaccinate some of the 5,000 health care professionals there that day. Being able to see what so many volunteers working together made possible was astounding, and I learned so much about how helping one’s local community is vital to working in health care. It can be easy to get caught up in our own hectic lives, and we may not think to give back to the communities and support systems that have contributed to our own successes. The gratitude that was expressed to me that day and the feeling of accomplishment I felt from helping so many others was incredible. It’s an experience I’ll treasure forever.

Having so many formative experiences during my time at UC San Diego encourages me to be empathetic and to communicate effectively to be a well-rounded health care professional. Thanks to my experience here, I know I will be an asset to any health care team and my community.” – Sarina R. Jenkins, PharmD ’23

Donor Support Helps Make UC San Diego a Destination

After welcoming students to the west side residential areas last fall, the east side of North Torrey Pines Living and Learning Neighborhood is starting to spring to life. This integrated community of students spaces to live, learn and play, including the UC San Diego Craft Center, dedicated facilities for the Divisions of Arts and Humanities and Social Sciences, and a new home for Sixth College with housing for 2,000 undergraduate students, in addition to 1,200 underground parking spaces, six restaurants, a market and a dining hall.

SKAGGS SCHOOL OF PHARMACY STUDENTS GIVE BACK TO OUR SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY

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“I arrived at UC San Diego’s math department in 1983 for a master’s program. It was the perfect atmosphere—a welcoming campus with an intimate teacher-student ratio. Together, we visualized theoretical mathematics into real-world applications in medicine and cyber security.

During my time at UC San Diego, the campus was on the brink of installing a supercomputer. I was enrolled in a cryptography class and programmed in Pascal. My numerical analysis class used FORTRAN IV. Before personal devices, large computer labs generated a collaborative atmosphere. Nearby beaches provided the backdrop for learning without undue stress. Before I left San Diego, I also took my first actuarial exam.

After seven years in pension actuarial work, health care consulting, insurance underwriting and medical economics, I entered law school. The math training served me well. I received writing awards in law school and secured coveted internships. In both math and law, the most elegant proof is the shortest proof. I have had opportunities to be a journalist, a legislative aide, and a political advisor. I have advised on film and book projects and served on boards of community-based organizations advocating for culturally and linguistically competent services. I now have 20 years as a public consumer attorney.

The critical thinking skills I honed at UC San Diego provided me with infinite possibilities in work and civic engagement. That is why I decided to contribute to a named scholarship for a master’s student using mathematics or statistics toward social justice or civic engagement. We can all do our part to help the next generation of Tritons.”

– Julie D. Soo, MA ’85
Senior Staff Counsel at California Department of Insurance

Leaving a Legacy for Positive Change, Now and Tomorrow

Professor Emeritus Jim Lin spent 40 years championing diversity and representation at UC San Diego.

“I taught the first Asian American studies course in 1986, got the minor approved, and then was a cofounder of the Cross-Cultural Center. I’ve always felt like UC San Diego is such a young campus—very innovative and willing to take risks around key social issues. My donations with my wife have to do with creating awards for students who want to do social justice-oriented work,” said Lin.

“I and my wife also have a planned estate gift for UC San Diego’s CrossCultural Center to continue the legacy he helped start. UC San Diego and the CrossCultural Center are a big part of my life. When you look around the country, how many places are there that are really thriving and creating a future that you feel like would be good for your children? It’s one of the communities I feel like I played a role in. I’m very happy when I go into the Center and see that students who come from underserved backgrounds and couldn’t find a place elsewhere found it there,” said Lin.

If you are also interested in leaving a lasting legacy at UC San Diego through a planned gift, contact Kim Wenrick at kwenrick@ucsd.edu or (858) 761-2099.

Lin is a part of the networking platform TritonsConnect.com, where over half of now 12,000+ members have made themselves available to provide students and alumni with mentorship and career advice.