$5.7 Million Gift to Benefit Graduate Students

Chancellor’s Associates Rita and Richard Atkinson make the largest gift to date for Invent the Future, UC San Diego’s student support campaign.

One look at the wind-swept beaches and turquoise waters of the Caribbean, and work would be the last thing on most people’s minds. Unless you’re Ayana Johnson. Johnson is a marine biology Ph.D. candidate at Scripps Institution of Oceanography and is currently studying on Curaçao, a tiny island off the coast of Venezuela. Her research on the impact of sustainable management of fishing on coral reefs is interdisciplinary in nature, involving classical ecological experiments as well as socio-economic surveys of fishermen in the region. It is also very expensive.

“I would not have been able to pursue an unconventional dissertation topic without a fellowship,” said Johnson. “Fellowship support has allowed me complete academic freedom.”

Now, thanks to a $5.7 million gift from Chancellor’s Associates donors Richard and Rita Atkinson, many graduate students like Johnson will have the freedom to pursue innovative, interdisciplinary work. The UC San Diego Foundation has recently been designated the charitable-income beneficiary of the Atkinsons’ charitable lead trust, which will provide gifts over time in excess of $5.4 million to establish the Rita L. Atkinson Graduate Fellowship Fund. The permanent endowed fund will provide perpetual annual income in support of fellowships—graduate level scholarships—for students engaged in interdisciplinary studies in the sciences and related fields leading to a Ph.D. at UC San Diego. The couple also pledged $350,000 for the Atkinson Expendable Graduate Fellowship Fund, which provides current-use funds for the fellowships until the endowment is fully funded. The Atkinsons’ gift represents the largest gift to date for Invent the Future: The UC San Diego Student Support Campaign, an initiative to raise $50 million for undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships at the university.

“Rita and I have always been committed to supporting the excellence of UC San Diego,” said Richard Atkinson, former president of the ten-campus University of California system and chancellor at UC San Diego from 1980 to 1995. “One very important aspect of that excellence is the ability to attract quality graduate students—they are a key ingredient to what makes a world-class university. But the campus is in tough competition with schools such as Harvard and Stanford for top graduate students. Private schools often have much larger endowments and are able to provide many more fellowships. Our hope with this fellowship gift is to at least begin to correct that problem at UC San Diego.”

Graduate students spur innovation and research at a university, in addition to playing a critical role in undergraduate instruction. Yet currently, UC San Diego is only able to provide fellowships for 16 percent of its graduate students. Financial support for UC San Diego graduate students is 30 percent lower than at competitor schools; factor in San Diego’s high cost of living, and the inequities are magnified.

“Great universities fuel the economy, spark medical and research breakthroughs and drive the excellence of the country,” noted Richard Atkinson. “By supporting students now, we are establishing the underpinnings for the future.”

For more information on Invent the Future, visit www.InventTheFuture.ucsd.edu.

UC San Diego Is Home to Great IDEaS

Engage and network with leading innovators during IDEaS (Innovation Day Expo and Symposia), a week-long series of high-profile events for the UC San Diego campus and community. The events, which take place Feb. 22 to 25, will highlight the exciting innovation emerging from UC San Diego and are part of the university’s 50th Anniversary milestone celebration.

IDEaS kicks off with a dynamic series of talks presented by innovators from UC San Diego. Panelists participating in the lively discussion forums will include Nobel laureates in economics and chemistry; cultural, social and medical innovators; and noted alumnus Maurizio Seracini, who is renowned for using Calit2’s infrared technology for art and exploration. The symposia will be held Feb. 22 to 24 in the Price Center West Ballroom.

The Innovation Day Expo takes place Friday, Feb. 25, and will feature live demonstrations, hands-on exhibits and face-to-face interaction with UC San Diego faculty and alumni innovators. The expo will be held in RIMAC Arena from 4 to 7 p.m.

We hope you’ll be able to join us for this exciting week of events celebrating UC San Diego’s golden anniversary. For more information and symposia times, visit www.50th.ucsd.edu.
What happens when brilliant minds in engineering, the arts and humanities and computers collaborate? The Center of Interdisciplinary Science for Art, Architecture and Archaeology (CISA3) at UC San Diego is born.

Join us Wednesday, Feb. 9, for a special Chancellor’s Associates Colloquium, Creating a Future for the Past, highlighting CISA3. Launched in 2007, CISA3 is a collaboration among California Institute for Telecommunications and Information Technology (Calit2), the Jacobs School of Engineering, and the Division of Arts and Humanities. The center positions UC San Diego at the intersection of art and science, putting the campus on the international cultural map.

You’ll learn about current CISA3 projects and enjoy a live demonstration of the HIPerSpace Wall used in research. Featured speakers include Associate Director Falko Kuester, a computer scientist and structural engineer who leads CISA3’s research in cultural heritage diagnostics; Associate Director Tom Levy, an archaeologist who leads CISA3’s Cyber-Archaeology initiatives; and Research Scientist Albert Yu-Min Lin who leads UC San Diego’s Engineers for Exploration Program. Director Maurizio Seracini, a pioneer in the use of multispectral imaging and analytical diagnostics in art and historic structures, will provide introductory remarks via live broadcast.

The colloquium will be held in the HIPerSpace Lab in Atkinson Hall on the Warren College campus. Limited space; please RSVP early to ca@ucsd.edu.

For more information about CISA3, visit http://cisa3.calit2.net.
Now well into UC San Diego's 50th Anniversary year, the campus remains focused on its steady trajectory to the future. In fact, the university continues to shape the future in many areas: medicine, biofuels, astrophysics, musical composition and sustainability, just to name a few.

And Chancellor's Associates is keeping up! Given the university's growing need for our support, we have established a new giving level for Chancellor’s Associates: the Visionaries Circle. Donors who give $25,000 in unrestricted funds to the campus will be recognized as such, and we are very excited to welcome our first two Visionaries: Mark Ascolese, CEO of EDSA Micro Corporation, and William E. Connor. Their gifts note a new era for Chancellor's Associates.

Since our support group was established in 1966, Chancellor's Associates has been recognized as UC San Diego's premier philanthropic giving society. As university insiders, we create an influential social network dedicated to furthering UC San Diego's mission of education, research and community service. Chancellor's Associates' dollars provide UC San Diego with the flexibility to pursue emerging opportunities and to act quickly on priorities. As the need for financial support from private sources increases, Chancellor's Associates will continue to augment unrestricted funding essential to the university's endeavors.

From Chancellor's Associates Young Alumni to Visionary, every Chancellor's Associate makes something possible at UC San Diego.

Sincerely,
Dr. Mitchell and Deborah Friedlaender, M.P.I.A. ‘90

Mentoring is a two-way, mutually enriching experience, very often as rewarding to the mentor as it is to his or her protégé. For Chancellor's Associates, a group comprising alumni, community leaders and well-connected friends, a mentoring program seems like an excellent match.

At the suggestion of a current member, we are exploring the idea of establishing the Chancellor's Associates Mentoring Program. The program would serve as a constructive link between Chancellor's Associates and Chancellor’s Associates Young Alumni (CAYA). Not only would it provide unique volunteer opportunities for members interested in becoming more engaged with young alumni, but it would also offer CAYA members additional networking opportunities and greater access to the professional knowledge and relationships held by Chancellor's Associates.

To determine the program's viability, we are gathering feedback regarding your interest in supporting this endeavor. If you are a Chancellor's Associate or CAYA member and would like to participate, send an email to ca@ucsd.edu or call Paulyne Becerra at (858) 534-7424. If you email, please provide your name, whether you are interested in mentoring someone or being mentored, your area of expertise (e.g., finance, biotech, law, marketing) or area you are interested in learning more about and the number of years active within the profession. If there is a positive response, we will formalize the program. Thank you for your assistance.

March Colloquium Date Change

The March 2011 Colloquium featuring Dean Mark Thiemens will now be held on Monday, March 14, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Ida and Cecil Green Faculty Club.

Faculty Excellence Awards March 31

Save the date for the Faculty Excellence Awards on Thursday, March 31! The 37th annual fete for faculty will be held at Atkinson Hall, located at the California Institute for Telecommunications and Information Technology (Calit2) on the UC San Diego campus. Please join us as we recognize the important contributions of the university’s most exemplary teachers and researchers with the presentation of six prestigious awards for excellence in teaching, research, community service and the visual and performing arts.

Stay tuned for more information and an invitation to the event.
Welcome New Chancellor’s Associates

Mr. Armin Afsahi
Mr. Mark A. Ascolese, ECSA
Micro Corporation
Mrs. Denise M. Bevers ’97
and Mr. Lon A. Bevers
Mr. Dana L. Blankenfeld ’82
Dr. Abbie C. Celniker ’80
The William E. Connor
Foundation
Ms. Renata Greenberg
Mr. Taner Haliqoglu ’96

Mr. James Ho and Ms. Christine Lin
Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Huller
Ms. Martha Kaplan
Ms. Ruth R. Mardis ’87
Mrs. Winona B. Mathews
Mr. Mark L. Oberman ’84
Drs. Clifford M. Surko
and Dr. Hedong Yang ’92

New Chancellor’s Associates Young Alumni

Mr. James P. Aque ’09
Mr. Aaron D. Coleman ’06
and Mrs. Jessica
Oratozki-Coloman
Mr. Al S. Evangelista ’09
Mr. Rong S. Feng ’10
Mr. Andrew Fenlason ’08
Mr. Andres C. Herrera ’09
Mr. Michael Hirschman ’09
Mr. Elliot J. Howard ’06
Mr. Alexander Hu ’09
Mr. Walter V. Li ’08
Mr. Alexander M.
Lesberg ’09
Ms. Seung Hwa Lim ’10

Mr. David Manley ’06
Mr. Amir Motamedi ’08
Ms. Mary-Lysianne
Pham ’09
Mr. Robert R. Phillips ’07
Mr. Jed Sundwall ’06
Mr. Darius M. Tan ’09
Mr. Joshua L. Tanner ’09
Mr. Alexander R. Tierer ’09
Ms. Amy Tran ’09
Ms. Megan C. Van Der
Burch ’04
Mr. Joseph Wang ’10
Ms. Connie Yu ’10

New Senior Class
Gift/Chancellor’s Associates Young Alumni

Ms. Anita A. Athavale ’10
Mr. Petrus J. Chan ’10
Ms. Peggy Chang ’10
Mr. Brian J. Chang ’10
Mr. Joseph A. Chen ’10
Mr. Stanley I. Chen ’10
Mr. Elvin Chiang ’10
Ms. Jennifer J. Choi ’10
Mr. Garrett M. Chow ’10
and Mrs. Jacqueline
Chow
Mr. Daniel B. Chun ’10
Ms. Kristin K. Eng ’10
Mr. Amy Fan ’10
Mr. Avelino R. Fannas ’10
Ms. Nicole L. Fong ’10
Mr. Adrian K. Fung ’10
Ms. Mimi Lee Gim ’10
Mr. Andrew K. Grossman ’10
Ms. Kelli Hayashi ’10
Mr. Min Kyu Hong ’10
Mr. Aaron M. Homming ’10
Mr. David Y. Hua ’10
Mr. Chester C. Y. Huang ’10
Ms. Michelle Jue ’09
Mr. Jeremy J. Jung ’10
Mr. Joseph K. Kang ’10
Mr. Brandon Y. Kikuchi ’10
Mr. William Kwok ’10
Ms. Len Lam ’10
Mr. Steven T. Lee ’10

Mr. Alan Leung ’10
Ms. Susan C. Lin ’10
Ms. Vivian Loo ’10
Ms. Jennifer L. Ma ’10
Ms. Kelsey A. Marrujo ’10
Mr. Anoop H. Neboori ’10
Ms. Thao T. Nguyen ’10
Mr. Anoop H. Neboori ’10
Ms. Kelsey A. Marrujo ’10
Ms. Jennifer L. Ma ’10
Ms. Vivian Loo ’10
Ms. Jennifer L. Ma ’10
Ms. Kelsey A. Marrujo ’10
Mr. Anoop H. Neboori ’10
Ms. Thao T. Nguyen ’10

Literary Reading: The Department of Literature’s New Writing Series presents critically acclaimed fiction writer Christine Schutt. Her work has been widely published in literary journals and magazines, and her novel All Souls was a finalist for the 2009 Pulitzer Prize. Free. Date: Feb. 10, 4:30 p.m. Location: Visual Arts Facility, UC San Diego. Info: (858) 534-4618 or ndaly@ucsd.edu.

Musical Performance: The New Century Chamber Orchestra (NCCO) breathes new life into the rarely heard jewels of the classic repertoire, as well as a range of exciting contemporary work. $60. Date: Feb. 11, 8 p.m. Location: Conrad Prebys Concert Hall, UC San Diego. Tickets and info: (858) 534-TIXS or athomas@ucsd.edu.

Theatre Performance: Based on the Academy Award-winning film, Little Miss Sunshine is an outrageously funny and surprisingly touching new musical. $44–$80. Dates: Feb. 15–March 27, 7 p.m. Location: La Jolla Playhouse. Tickets and info: (858) 550-1010 or info@ljp.org.

Lecture: “OECD 50th Anniversary Humor Session: A Spirited Look at Climate Change and Green Growth” celebrates the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development’s 50th anniversary. Stand-up comedian, economist and professor at the University of Washington Yoram Bauman will be presenting a monologue on the topics of climate change and green growth. Free. Date: March 31, 5:30 p.m. Location: Price Center East Ballroom, UC San Diego. Info: (323) 314-6714 or lklibing@ucsd.edu.

Musical Performance: Andrew Shulman and Jeffrey Kahane, two of today’s most acclaimed soloists, join forces for a rare treat—Beethoven’s complete works for cello and piano, a collection of stirring sonatas written for two instruments rarely paired together. $60. Dates: April 2, 8 p.m., and April 3, 5 p.m. Location: Conrad Prebys Concert Hall, UC San Diego. Tickets and info: (858) 534-TIXS or athomas@ucsd.edu.

Green Open House: UC San Diego opens Earth Week with a “Green” Open House showcasing the campus as a living laboratory of green innovation. Attendees will enjoy interactive demonstrations of environmentally friendly cars, healthy living and sustainable cooking. Part of UC San Diego’s 50th Anniversary celebration. Free. Date: April 16, 10 a.m.–3 p.m. Location: UC San Diego campus. Info: (858) 534-7835 or fifty@ucsd.edu.

For additional events, and more information, please visit http://calendar.ucsd.edu. For specific Chancellor’s Associates events, visit www.chancellorsassociates.ucsd.edu.