

UCLA COLLEGE REPORT

Summer 2014 | Volume Twenty-Two



Dear Friends,

A great university's history is marked by defining moments, bookmarks in time that serve as reminders of exactly how that greatness came to be.

These moments are concrete, palpable events that act as timeless pillars: At such a place and such a time, this university leapt forward. If we are lucky, we serve as witnesses. If we are driven, we play a hand in their making.

One of those rare moments is upon us.

Last month, UCLA announced the launch of the Centennial Campaign, the largest fundraising effort ever undertaken by a public university. In true Bruin fashion, our goal is ambitious: to raise \$4.2 billion by our 100th anniversary in 2019.

The Centennial Campaign will ensure that UCLA enters its second century as a strong, vibrant and modern laboratory of learning and research. The funds raised will go toward attracting the best researchers, scholars and students in the world, enable us to push the limits of human knowledge and prepare an entire generation to tackle the challenges of our century.

Here at the UCLA College, the Centennial Campaign will ensure that scientific research continues to improve our health, preserve our planet and make stunning discoveries about our galaxy; that knowledge gained by studying intractable societal problems leads to innovative, real-world solutions; that those who have worked hard to earn admission to UCLA have the opportunity to attend, regardless of financial constraints; and that our students graduate with the intellectual dexterity and sense of purpose necessary to thrive and lead.

In less than 100 years, a university that began in the farmlands of Westwood as the Southern Branch of the University of California has become one of the greatest institutions of higher learning in the world. And a century from now, our successors will be able to look back to this time as the moment UCLA leapt forward once again.

We are fortunate to witness it. Now, let us all play a hand in its making.

Sincerely,

Joseph Rudnick
Senior Dean, UCLA College
Dean of Physical Sciences

Alessandro Duranti
Dean of Social Sciences

David Schaberg
Dean of Humanities

Victoria Sork
Dean of Life Sciences

Patricia Turner
Dean and Vice Provost for
Undergraduate Education



Left to right: Alessandro Duranti, Victoria Sork, Joseph Rudnick, Patricia Turner and David Schaberg



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On the Cover

As part of the celebrations on campus to launch the Centennial Campaign for UCLA, Marina del Rey, Calif.-based Mirada Studios created a spectacular light and sound show projected onto Royce Hall to commemorate UCLA history. It was shown to donors, alumni, students and staff over three nights in May.

UCLA College

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Regents UC 2014

Correction: In the print version of the Fall 2013 issue, the article "New Book by UCLA Historian Traces Role of Gender in 1992 Los Angeles Riots" incorrectly stated that Brenda Stevenson's mother was murdered. It was Latasha Harlins' mother who was murdered.

Campus Launches The Centennial Campaign for UCLA

UCLA HAS KICKED OFF THE \$4.2 BILLION CENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN, THE LARGEST FUNDRAISING EFFORT EVER UNDERTAKEN BY A PUBLIC UNIVERSITY.

Launched as UCLA counts down to 2019, the 100th anniversary of its founding, the campaign celebrates a century of growth and achievement as a top-tier university and seeks to secure the institution's future as a center for higher education where innovative teaching, groundbreaking research and dedicated service advance the public good.

The campaign's slogan, "Let There Be"—inspired by the University of California motto "Let There Be Light"—invites partnerships that enhance UCLA's strengths and forge new paths. Chancellor Gene Block said the campaign asks supporters to dream, imagine and invest as UCLA poises to take on the challenges of its second century.

"The history of UCLA is very much the history of Los Angeles," Block said. "As the city and region have developed, so has UCLA. The Centennial Campaign for UCLA will help prepare us for our second century, creating new knowledge and embracing opportunities to transform lives and create a brighter future for all of us."

Building toward the next century of growth
In less than 100 years, UCLA has matured into one of the world's leading universities. UCLA competes with other leading

universities — many of them private institutions with longer histories and much larger endowments — for the brightest students and most distinguished faculty. In this environment, ensuring long-term excellence requires that UCLA increase its endowment. Meanwhile, a long-term reduction in state support has dramatically changed how UCLA is funded, with state general fund appropriations now accounting for only 7 percent of revenue. The campaign will continue progress toward a more self-reliant funding model.

Since the beginning of the campaign's private phase in July 2012, UCLA has raised \$1.3 billion in cash and pledges, or 31 percent of the \$4.2 billion goal.

Longtime UCLA boosters co-chair campaign

The campaign is co-chaired by Garen Staglin, a UCLA alumnus and private equity investor, and Anthony Pritzker, managing partner and co-founder of the Pritzker Group. Staglin and his wife, Shari, began supporting mental health research and treatment after their son was diagnosed with schizophrenia.

"The impact of UCLA's academic and scientific advances is felt far beyond our campus," Staglin said. "Our campaign goal is to reach out and engage as many people as possible who may be interested in supporting UCLA's world-class education

and research efforts. UCLA accelerates cures for illness. UCLA invents devices that transform and save lives. UCLA develops scholars who advance learning across all academic disciplines."

Pritzker, a member of the advisory board of the UCLA Institute of the Environment and Sustainability and its founding chair, and his wife, Jeanne, have supported a wide range of initiatives at UCLA.

"UCLA has a unique commitment as a public institution to remain accessible to the best qualified students, regardless of their socioeconomic backgrounds," Pritzker said. "Nearly 80 percent of UCLA graduates live in California, directly benefiting the state as engineers, teachers, physicians, artists and scholars, among other professions. When they train here, they stay here, helping to power California's economic engine and demonstrating that investing in UCLA is investing in the state."

Learn more:

Watch the campaign launch video at <http://youtu.be/LJJA19nH3So>.

Learn more about how you can support the College through the Centennial Campaign at <http://giveto.ucla.edu/school/college-of-letters-and-science/>.

Faculty Honored for Teaching and Research; Graduate Programs Take Top Rankings; Alumnus Wins Boston Marathon



Professor Neil Garg (left) is one of six Senate faculty recipients of this year's Distinguished Teaching Award. Photo: Coral von Zumwalt

Three faculty from the College receive 2014 Distinguished Teaching Award

Three faculty from the College are among the six recipients of this year's Distinguished Teaching Award, one of the highest honors given by the UCLA Academic Senate. The awards recognize academically and professionally accomplished individuals who bring respect and admiration to the scholarship of teaching, according to the committee, which selects recipients from nominations received from colleagues and leaders across campus.

Senate faculty recipients, who receive an honorarium of \$6,000, include **Paul H. Barber**, a professor of ecology and evolutionary biology who received the Undergraduate Mentorship Award, and **Neil K. Garg**, a professor of chemistry who received the Eby Award for the Art of Teaching. English professor **Felicity A. Nussbaum** was awarded Distinction in Teaching at the Graduate Level.

U.S. News rankings show UCLA's graduate programs are among best in country

More than two dozen UCLA professional schools and graduate programs have been ranked among the best in the nation in *U.S. News & World Report's* 2014 survey.

Eleven graduate programs housed in the UCLA College placed in the top 20 in the U.S.: Psychology (ranked No. 2), Math (7), History (9), Sociology (9), English (10), Political Science (10), Earth Sciences (13), Chemistry (15), Economics (15), Physics (18) and Biological Sciences (19).

Last September, *U.S. News' Best Colleges* rankings placed UCLA second among public universities in the nation and 23rd overall.

The graduate program rankings, published in the *Best Graduate Schools 2015* guidebook, are based on experts' opinions about program excellence and on statistical indicators that measure the quality of a

school's faculty, research and students. The data come from surveys of administrators at more than 1,350 programs and more than 13,500 academics and professionals conducted during fall 2013 and early 2014.

American Academy of Arts & Sciences elects eight new fellows from UCLA, three from the College

This year UCLA had more scholars elected to the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, one of the nation's oldest and most prestigious honorary societies and independent policy research centers, than any other public university. The only institutions with more 2014 fellows were Harvard and Stanford.

Distinguished Professor of Psychology **Patricia Marks Greenfield's** central theoretical and research interest is the relationship between culture and human development. She is a recipient of the American Association for the Advancement ▶

THE \$4.2 BILLION CENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN SEEKS TO RAISE:

\$500 MILLION each for UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS, GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIPS AND FACULTY SUPPORT, including hundreds of NEW ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIPS

\$800 MILLION for CAPITAL PROJECTS

GOALS FOR THE COLLEGE:

Collegewide: **\$30 million**

Humanities: **\$80 million**

Life Sciences: **\$80 million**

Physical Sciences: **\$45 million**

Social Sciences: **\$110 million**

Undergraduate Education:

\$55 million

\$1.65 BILLION to expand and add RESEARCH PROGRAMS

\$250 MILLION in UNRESTRICTED SUPPORT to provide the flexibility to seize unforeseen opportunities

continued from page 3

of Science's Award for Behavioral Science Research, the American Psychological Association's Urie Bronfenbrenner Award for Lifetime Contribution to Developmental Psychology in the Service of Science and Society, and the Society for Research in Child Development's Distinguished Contributions to Cultural and Contextual Factors in Child Development Award.

Sabeeha Merchant, distinguished professor of chemistry and biochemistry, studies metabolic flexibility in plants in response to environmental stress, including mineral nutrient limitation, a problem that limits

which resulted in a treasure trove of data of great importance to agriculture, bioenergy and research on human diseases. Merchant has been named editor-in-chief of the prestigious journal *The Plant Cell*, a publication of the American Society of Plant Biologists. The society recognized her research contributions with the Shull Award in 2009 and the Kettering Award in 2010.

She was honored with the Gilbert Morgan Smith Medal from the National Academy of Sciences in 2006 and was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 2012.

Paul S. Weiss, director of the California NanoSystems Institute, Fred Kavli Professor of Nanosystems Sciences and distinguished professor of chemistry and biochemistry and of materials science and engineering, explores the ultimate limits of miniaturization, focusing on the atomic-scale chemical, physical, optical, mechanical and electronic properties of surfaces and supramolecular assemblies. He and his students have developed new techniques to expand the applicability and chemical specificity of scanning probe microscopies and have applied these and other tools to the study of catalysis, self- and directed assembly, and molecular and nanoscale electronics. They work to advance nanofabrication down to ever smaller scales and greater chemical specificity in order to operate and to test functional molecular assemblies and to connect these to the biological and chemical worlds.

Two UCLA social scientists named Guggenheim Fellows

Two UCLA social scientists are among an esteemed group of 178 scholars, artists and scientists from the United States and Canada to receive 2014 Guggenheim Fellowships. The new fellows were chosen from a pool of nearly 3,000 applicants.

Miriam A. Golden, a professor of political science and vice chair of graduate studies



Miriam A. Golden

Robin D.G. Kelley

for the political science department, will work on a book-length study of bad government in rich and poor democracies, with a focus on political corruption, political criminality, electoral violence and electoral fraud. The project draws on extensive empirical materials collected in Italy, India and Ghana over more than a decade of research. During her fellowship year, Golden will be away from UCLA and will serve as a visiting professor at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies at Stanford University and an associate member at the University of Oxford's Nuffield College in England.

Robin D.G. Kelley, a distinguished professor of history who holds UCLA's Gary B. Nash Endowed Chair in United States History, will use the fellowship year to complete a biography of journalist and adventurer Grace Halsell. Halsell, the granddaughter of Confederate slave owners, worked as a correspondent for several Texas papers during the 1940s and '50s, traveled the world as a freelance journalist during the '50s and early '60s (including a stint in Vietnam), lived in Peru for four years and worked as a staff writer under President Lyndon B. Johnson — all before setting out in 1968 to chemically darken her skin and live as a black woman for several months, an experience she chronicled in her best-selling 1969 book *Soul Sister*. Halsell would go on to write 11 more books, including exposés about living as a Navajo, an undocumented worker from Mexico and a right-wing Christian fundamentalist. Kelley's research will take him to Boston; Fort Worth, Texas; and Lima, Peru, and he will not be teaching during the 2014–15 academic year.

ROYCE HALL PHOTO: REED HUTCHINSON

College Creates New African American Studies Department

By Cynthia Lee

TO BOLSTER UCLA'S SCHOLARSHIP AND OPPORTUNITIES IN AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES, THE INTERDEPARTMENTAL PROGRAM IN AFRO-AMERICAN STUDIES HAS BECOME THE DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES AT UCLA.

Departmentalization will help to build on the strength and increasing popularity of African American studies and provide the resources needed to aid faculty recruitment, expand partnerships with professional schools and potentially develop a doctoral degree program.

The number of undergraduates majoring in Afro-American studies increased from 23 in 2000 to 93 in 2012. Interest in courses remains high, with more than 1,400 undergraduate course enrollments.

The creation of the Department of African American Studies was supported by Chancellor Gene Block, the dean of social sciences and multiple faculty committees during a yearlong process of deliberation.

"It's wonderful and long overdue," interim chair Robin Kelley, a distinguished professor of history and holder of the Gary B. Nash Endowed Chair in U.S. History, said following the vote. "Clearly, the faculty recognized the need for a department. ... Now the really hard work is about to begin because just declaring it a department is not enough. We need to make this department work for the benefit of the broader UCLA community, the college and the university. We're going to do that work."

Since its founding in 1974, the interdepartmental program has built a strong reputation for scholarship and innovative undergraduate and graduate courses that have been taught by top UCLA faculty from sociology, history, communications and many other disciplines. These course offerings have attracted students from a wide range of backgrounds and fields.

One major benefit of becoming a department, supporters noted, is that it will draw more faculty, who may hold joint appointments, to teach certain courses and allow the new department to reduce its reliance on lecturers and adjuncts.

In a letter sent earlier this year to the Graduate and Undergraduate councils, Kelley explained that the new department will continue to depend on affiliated faculty, including faculty with Bunche Center appointments who have consistently taught courses in the program.

UCLA's Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies, Kelley said in his letter, will continue to work closely with the new department. "The Bunche Center is not only an ally but a key asset as we move toward departmentalization," Kelley said. "As we plan to expand and refine our curriculum, we expect to continue to rely on the Bunche Center faculty to teach in the department, develop new courses and deepen our faculty base."

In the past two decades, at least three dozen programs, centers and institutes in the field of African American, Africana and African Diaspora studies at other universities have transitioned to departments, including those at Harvard, Yale, Brown, UC Berkeley, University of Illinois and University of Wisconsin.

Alumnus Meb Keflezighi wins Boston Marathon

UCLA alumnus Mebrahtom "Meb" Keflezighi won the 118th Boston Marathon, becoming the first American man in 31 years to win the iconic race. Keflezighi, 38, graduated in 1999 with a degree in communications studies and a specialization in business. He is UCLA's most-accomplished distance runner.

Keflezighi ran the 26.2-mile race in 2:08:37, bringing joy to a city and community of runners a year after a bombing at the finish line killed three people. The victory was the latest American winless streak that Keflezighi ended. He won the New York City Marathon in 2009, ending a 17-year drought. At the Athens Olympics in 2004, Keflezighi won the silver medal to become the first American man to medal in the marathon since 1976.

Keflezighi (pronounced Ka-FLEZ-gee) was born in the east African country of Eritrea and grew up one of 11 children during the country's war for independence from neighboring Ethiopia. His brothers hid in the bushes so they would not be forced to join the military to fight against Ethiopia, according to his bio with USA Track & Field. To escape the war-torn country, Keflezighi's family immigrated to the United States (after two years in Italy) in 1987. He became a U.S. citizen on July 2, 1998.

While at UCLA under then-coach Bob Larsen, Keflezighi won four NCAA titles during his junior year, sweeping the cross country, outdoor 5,000 meters, and indoor 5,000 and 10,000 meters. Keflezighi earned a total of 12 All-America honors in his four-year Bruin career.



Mebrahtom "Meb" Keflezighi



plant productivity and contributes to "hidden hunger," which affects one in three people worldwide. She was the lead author of a major study interpreting the genome of a tiny green alga called *Chlamydomonas*,

CSI: Middle Ages

UCLA ENGLISH PROFESSOR ERIC JAGER HAS NEVER PLAYED DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS. HE IS NOT A MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY FOR CREATIVE ANACHRONISM. HE DOESN'T EVEN UNDERSTAND THE APPEAL OF HISTORICALLY THEMED RESTAURANTS LIKE MEDIEVAL TIMES.



Professor Eric Jager is attracting attention for his true-crime nonfiction, set in medieval France.

By Meg Sullivan

"If you really want to reenact the Middle Ages, then you should drink contaminated water, contract the plague and die very quickly," Jager quips. "It wasn't a very pleasant time."

Yet Jager appears to enjoy sending others

on the journey. With his scrupulously researched works of true-crime nonfiction, the author and 18-year veteran of UCLA's English department has gained a reputation for his uncanny ability to transport readers to medieval France, warts and all. His books have drawn rave reviews, and at least one so far has inspired filmmakers. Not bad for dramas set during a conflict whose very name conveys interminable misery—the Hundred Years' War.

Jager's first foray into the genre, *The Last Duel: A True Story of Crime, Scandal, and Trial by Combat in Medieval France* (Broadway Books, 2004), recounted a 1386 duel to the death by two French noblemen, one of whom had accused the other of raping his wife.

"Jager's book succeeds brilliantly in combining page-turning intensity ... with eye-opening insights into the bizarre ritual

of judicial combat in the Middle Ages," the *London Times* wrote upon the publication of *The Last Duel*, which was translated into nine languages and shortlisted for the Crime Writers Association's nonfiction Gold Dagger award.

The success didn't end in bookstores. *The Last Duel* was adapted for a BBC TV documentary, and legendary film director Martin Scorsese has secured rights to develop it as a feature-length film.

Judging from reviews of Jager's latest effort, *Blood Royal* (Little, Brown, 2014), the medievalist appears poised for another success.

A murder mystery six decades in the making

"Few works of fiction will grab readers' attention as well as Jager's riveting story of a 1407 murder mystery that split the royal family of France," *Kirkus Reviews* said.

The book illuminates the drama and mystery surrounding the gruesome murder of French King Charles VI's unpopular younger brother, Duke Louis of Orleans. For the 15 years preceding his murder, the duke served as France's regent during his brother's periodic descents into madness. Despite this service to his country, Louis was a controversial figure. A notorious womanizer, he made enemies of several highly placed men by seducing their wives. At the time of his murder, he was suspected of having an affair with the queen. With less provocation, Charles VI had already pulled a sword on his brother and tried to kill him.

Meanwhile, Louis was jostling for power and privilege with other members of the court, and his tax-and-spend ways made him unpopular with his countrymen. So many people had motives for doing away with him that isolating his killer proved a real challenge for Guillaume de Tignonville, Paris' chief of police at the time.

The resulting story drips with palace intrigue, infidelity and violent encounters, and its "attention to atmosphere and detail allows the setting to come to life in all its gruesome detail," wrote *Publishers Weekly*.

Exploring social and political history

More though than a juicy whodunnit, Jager's efforts show how the events divided France, dissolving the country into a civil war and

True-Crime Mystery by UCLA Medievalist Illuminates 15th-Century Paris

making it an easy target for the military ambitions of England's Henry V, whose invasions prolonged France's involvement in the Hundred Years' War, which pitted the two kingdoms against each other between 1337 and 1453.

It is "an impressive combination of mystery, crime story, and social and political history," *Publishers Weekly* said. Others seem to agree. *Blood Royal* has been picked as a selection of the History Book Club, the Military Book Club, the Scientific American Book Club and the Mystery Guild Book Club.

Jager traces his interest in the period to the early 1960s, when his father's job with NATO required the family to relocate from the U.S. to central France. Though a preschooler at the time, the author

remembers being fascinated by the ruins of a centuries-old tower in his French town. The experience fueled a boyhood fascination with armor, weaponry and the legends of Robin Hood and King Arthur. Jager rediscovered his fascination with French language, history and culture while preparing for graduate school in the early 1980s.

Juicy, suspenseful and meticulously researched

Today at UCLA, he teaches Chaucer, Arthurian legends, Old English and medieval romance — influences that permeate his nonfiction works. While Jager's books have been lauded for reading like fiction because of their superb sense of drama and suspense, they are all meticulously researched.

Blood Royal, for instance, boasts more than 1,000 footnotes. Jager even flags the occasions where his interpretations are at odds with those of other scholars and provides evidence for those scholars' cases. In all, he consulted 42 primary sources and 313 secondary sources for the book.

The most important source for *Blood Royal*, Jager explains, was a collection of interviews by law enforcement with witnesses, suspects and inhabitants of Le Marais, the Paris neighborhood in which the murder occurred. Shortly after they were conducted, the interviews were transferred onto a 30-foot scroll of parchment that today is housed in an archive in the French Pyrenees. He also relied heavily on a chronicle of the era kept by a Parisian monk, as well as a detailed analysis of the case published in 1992 by prominent French historian Bernard Guenée.

For his vivid descriptions, Jager studied

old maps, illustrations and paintings, and he walked the streets of contemporary Paris. *Blood Royal* includes a photo of the spot in today's Paris where the duke was killed on a public street in the middle of a November night 607 years ago.

Aside from action, passion, intrigue and suspense, Jager is drawn to historical points of transition, he said. Guillaume, the protagonist in *Blood Royal*, is a man at the edge of historical and social change. With what an expert on medieval law describes as "remarkable legal and scientific rigor," Guillaume's shoe leather, intelligence and courageous pursuit of the truth make him one of history's first detectives, Jager writes.

"We can see something of the Middle Ages slipping away," he said, "and something of modernity slipping in."

MEDIEVAL STUDIES THRIVING

The past two years have seen major reinvestment in medieval studies at UCLA. New hires in English, Italian, Japanese and History have brought some of the most promising young scholars in these fields to campus, while new interdepartmental and interdisciplinary initiatives in the Division of Humanities have provided a venue for advanced collaborative research and teaching.

The Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies celebrated the first 50 years of its history while looking forward: With generous support from the Mellon Foundation, the division is kicking off its baccalaureate and graduate programs in Renaissance Latin.



Assassinat Louis d'Orleans: An illustration in a late 15th century chronicle depicts the assassination of Duke Louis of Orleans on Paris' rue Vieille du Temple.



Rue Vieille du Temple today: This is the spot on the rue Vieille du Temple in today's Paris where Duke Louis of Orleans was killed in 1407.

Breakthrough Therapy Allows Four Paraplegic Men to Voluntarily Move Their Legs

By Rebecca Laming and Stuart Wolpert

FOUR YOUNG MEN WHO HAVE BEEN PARALYZED FOR YEARS ACHIEVED GROUNDBREAKING PROGRESS — MOVING THEIR LEGS — AS A RESULT OF EPIDURAL ELECTRICAL STIMULATION OF THE SPINAL CORD, A TEAM OF LIFE SCIENTISTS REPORTED IN THE MEDICAL JOURNAL *BRAIN*.



V. Reggie Edgerton



Yury Gerasimenko

The study, conducted by researchers from UCLA and the University of Louisville, was funded largely by the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation and the National Institutes of Health (NIH), with additional funding provided by the Broccoli Foundation.

All four participants suffered from chronic, motor complete spinal cord injuries and were unable to move their lower extremities prior to the implantation of an epidural stimulator. The stimulator delivers a continuous electrical current to the participants' lower spinal cords, mimicking signals the brain normally transmits to initiate movement.

The research builds on a study published in May 2011 in the journal *The Lancet* that evaluated the effects of epidural stimulation in the first participant, Rob Summers of Portland, Ore., who recovered a number of motor functions as a result of the intervention.

The key findings documented in *Brain* detail the impact of epidural stimulation in the four participants, including new tests conducted on Summers. He was paralyzed after being struck by a vehicle; the other participants were paralyzed in auto or motorcycle accidents.

What is revolutionary, the scientists said, is that the second, third and fourth participants — Kent Stephenson of Texas; Andrew Meas of Louisville, Ky.; and Dustin Shillcox of Wyoming — were able to execute voluntary movements immediately following the

implantation and activation of the stimulator.

The participants' results and recovery time were unexpected, which led researchers to speculate that some pathways may be intact post-injury and therefore able to facilitate voluntary movements.

Recovering movement

"This research brings up an amazing number of possibilities for how we can develop interventions that will help people recover movement they have lost," said V. Reggie Edgerton, a distinguished professor of integrative biology and physiology, neurobiology, and neurosurgery at UCLA and a co-author. "We have uncovered a fundamentally new intervention strategy that can dramatically affect recovery of voluntary movement in people with complete paralysis even years after their spinal cord injuries. The circuitry in the spinal cord is remarkably resilient. Once you get them up and active, many physiological systems that are intricately connected and that were dormant come back into play."

Lead author Claudia Angeli, a senior

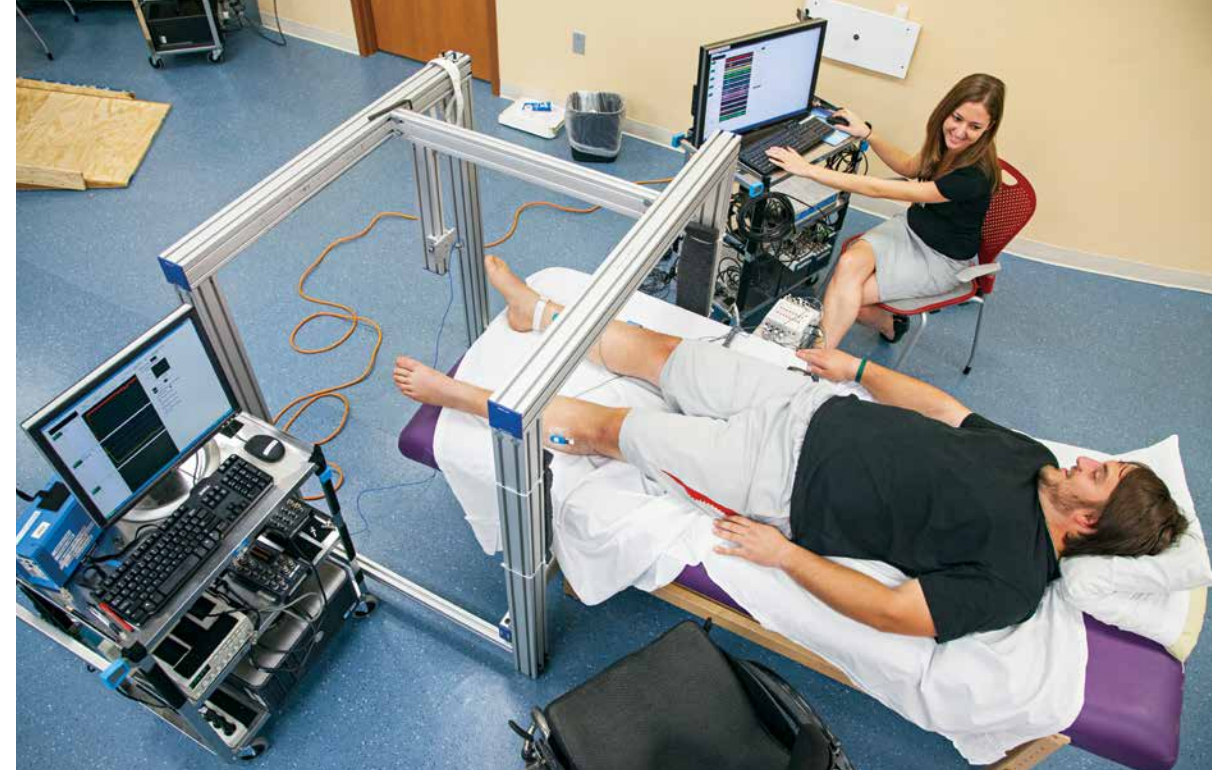
researcher with the Human Locomotion Research Center at Frazier Rehab Institute and an assistant professor at the University of Louisville's Kentucky Spinal Cord Injury Research Center (KSCIRC), said, "Two of the four subjects were diagnosed as motor and sensory complete injured with no chance of recovery at all. Because of epidural stimulation, they can now voluntarily move their hips, ankles and toes."

In epidural stimulation, the electrical current is applied at varying frequencies and intensities to specific locations on the lumbosacral spinal cord, corresponding to the dense neural bundles that largely control the movement of the hips, knees, ankles and toes. With the participants, once the signal was triggered, the spinal cord reengaged its neural network to control and direct muscle movements.

When coupling the intervention with rehabilitative therapy, the impact of epidural stimulation intensified. Over the course of the study, the researchers noted that the participants were able to activate movements with less stimulation, demonstrating the ability of the spinal network to learn and improve nerve functions.

"The belief that no recovery is possible and complete paralysis is permanent has been challenged," said Susan Harkema, a University of Louisville professor and rehabilitation research director at KSCIRC, Frazier Rehab Institute, director of the Reeve Foundation's NeuroRecovery Network and senior author.

Beyond regaining voluntary movement, the research participants have displayed a myriad of improvements in their overall health, including increases in muscle mass and regulation of their blood pressure, as well as reduced fatigue and dramatic



Kent Stephenson does voluntary training. Photo: University of Louisville

improvements to their sense of well-being.

Additionally, all four men were able to bear weight independently, reported the team, which includes UCLA's Yury Gerasimenko, professor and director of the laboratory of movement physiology at Russia's Pavlov Institute and a researcher in the UCLA Department of Integrative Biology and Physiology.

Providing hope for people living with paralysis

The study offers hope that clinical therapies can be developed to advance treatment for the nearly 6 million Americans living with paralysis, including nearly 1.3 million with spinal cord injuries.

"This procedure has completely changed my life," Rob Summers said. "For someone who for four years was unable to even move a toe, to have the freedom and ability to stand on my own is the most amazing feeling. To be able to pick up my foot and step down again was unbelievable, but beyond all of that, my sense of well-being has changed. My physique and muscle tone has improved greatly, so much that most people don't even believe I am paralyzed. I believe that epidural stimulation will get me out of this chair. This has all been made possible thanks to the diligent work by Dr. Edgerton and his very talented team at UCLA to take this amazing breakthrough from the labs into human trials."

Two of the paralyzed participants had been rated "A" on the American Spinal

Injury Association's classification system, meaning they had absolutely no sensation or cognition below the site of their injury; the researchers were highly skeptical that these men would elicit any voluntary movement as a result of the intervention.

However, with the application of epidural stimulation, all four participants recovered voluntary control of their lower extremities, surprising the scientists, who believed at least some of the sensory pathway must be intact for epidural stimulation to be successful.

"Reggie Edgerton has been conducting fundamental life sciences research in this area for 38 years, and this research is now greatly benefitting human patients," UCLA Life Sciences Dean Victoria Sork said. "His remarkable research is a wonderful illustration of why life sciences are the essential science of the 21st century and of how the foundations for biomedical innovations are occurring in UCLA's Life Sciences."

Profound implications

Susan Howley, executive vice president for research at the Reeve Foundation, said, "With this study, the investigators show that their findings about a motor complete patient regaining movement, as published three years ago in *The Lancet*, were not an anomaly. At the present time, other than standard medical care, there are no effective evidence-based treatments for chronic spinal cord injury. However, the implications of this study for the entire field are quite

profound, and we can now envision a day when epidural stimulation might be part of a cocktail of therapies used to treat paralysis."

"Now that spinal stimulation has been successful in four out of four patients, there is evidence to suggest a large cohort of individuals, previously with little realistic hope of any meaningful recovery from spinal cord injury, may benefit from this intervention," said Roderic Pettigrew, director of the NIH's National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering, which provided support for the study.

"This is a wake-up call for how we see motor complete spinal cord injury," said Edgerton, who is a member of the Reeve Foundation's International Research Consortium on Spinal Cord Injury. "We don't have to necessarily rely on regrowth of nerves in order to regain function in those diagnosed with complete paralysis."

The scientists are optimistic that the therapy intervention will continue to result in improved motor functions. They have strong evidence that with continued advancements of the epidural stimulator, individuals with complete spinal cord injuries will be able to bear weight independently, maintain balance and work toward stepping.

Learn more:

Get more information about epidural stimulation studies and other spinal cord injury research at <http://chartingourcourse.org/research/victory.html>.

Find more information on the Reeve Foundation at www.christopherreeve.org/epi.



From left, Andrew Meas, Dustin Shillcox, Kent Stephenson and Rob Summers are the first four people to undergo training with epidural stimulation at the Human Locomotion Research Center laboratory, a part of the University of Louisville's Frazier Rehab Institute. Photo: University of Louisville

Astronomers Witness Mysterious Asteroids

ASTRONOMERS LED BY THE COLLEGE'S DAVID JEWITT HAVE REPORTED TWO MAJOR DISCOVERIES SINCE NOVEMBER: THEY WITNESSED FOR THE FIRST TIME THE BREAKUP OF AN ASTEROID INTO AS MANY AS 10 SMALLER PIECES, AND THEY DISCOVERED A "WEIRD AND FREAKISH OBJECT" RESEMBLING A ROTATING LAWN SPRINKLER IN THE ASTEROID BELT BETWEEN MARS AND JUPITER.



This series of Hubble Space Telescope images reveals the breakup of an asteroid over a period of several months in late 2013 and early 2014. The images were taken in visible light with Hubble's Wide-Field Camera 3. Images: NASA, ESA

By Ray Villard

Though fragile comet nuclei have been seen falling apart as they near the sun, nothing resembling the type of breakup into smaller pieces has been observed in the asteroid belt before. NASA's Hubble Space Telescope photographed the demolition, and the discovery was published in *The Astrophysical Journal Letters*.

"Seeing this rock fall apart before our eyes is pretty amazing," said Jewitt, a professor in the UCLA Department of Earth, Planetary and Space Sciences and the UCLA Department of Physics and Astronomy, who led the astronomical forensics investigation.

The crumbling asteroid, designated P/2013 R3, was first noticed as an anomalous, fuzzy-looking object on Sept. 15, 2013, by the Catalina and Pan-STARRS sky-survey telescopes. A follow-up observation on Oct. 1 with the W.M. Keck telescope, the world's largest telescope, on Hawaii's Mauna Kea revealed three co-moving bodies embedded in a dusty envelope that is nearly the diameter of Earth; the W.M. Keck Observatory, Jewitt noted, is run by the University of California.

"The Keck telescope showed us that this asteroid was worth looking at with Hubble," Jewitt said.

With its superior resolution, the Hubble telescope revealed that there were really 10 embedded objects, each with comet-like dust tails. The four largest rocky fragments are up to 200 yards in radius, about twice the length of a football field.

A slow drift

The Hubble data showed that the fragments are drifting away from one another at a leisurely pace of 1 mile per hour—slower than a strolling human.

This makes it unlikely that the asteroid is disintegrating because of a collision with another asteroid, which would be

instantaneous and violent. Some of the debris from such a high-velocity smashup would also be expected to travel much faster than observed.

Nor is the asteroid coming unglued due to the pressure of interior ices warming and vaporizing, Jewitt said. The asteroid is too cold for ices to significantly sublimate, and it has presumably maintained its nearly 300-million-mile distance from the sun for much of the age of the solar system, he said.

This is the scenario in which the asteroid is disintegrating due to a subtle effect of sunlight, which causes the rotation rate to slowly increase. Eventually, its component pieces, like grapes on a stem, gently pull apart due to centrifugal force, Jewitt said. The possibility of disruption by this so-called YORP torque has been discussed by scientists for several years but, so far, never reliably observed.

For this to happen, P/2013 R3 must have a weak, fractured interior, probably as the result of numerous ancient but non-destructive collisions with other asteroids. Most small asteroids, in fact, are thought to have been severely damaged in this way, giving them a "rubble pile" internal structure. P/2013 R3 itself is probably the product of collisional shattering of a bigger body some time in the last billion years.

Astronomers are seeing more circumstantial evidence that the pressure of sunlight may be the primary force that disintegrates small asteroids (less than a mile across) in the solar system.

The asteroid's remnant debris, weighing in at 200,000 tons, in the future will provide a rich source of meteoroids, Jewitt said. Most will eventually plunge into the sun, but a small fraction of the debris may one day enter the Earth's atmosphere to blaze across the sky as meteors, he said.

'A weird and freakish object'

Jewitt and colleagues also reported in the November 2013 issue of *The Astrophysical Journal Letters* that they discovered a "weird and freakish object" resembling a rotating lawn sprinkler in the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter.

Normal asteroids appear simply as tiny



David Jewitt

points of light. This bizarre asteroid has six comet-like tails of dust radiating from it like spokes on a wheel.

"It's hard to believe we're looking at an asteroid," Jewitt said. "We were dumbfounded when we saw it. Amazingly, its tail structures change dramatically in just 13 days as it belches out dust."

One interpretation is that the asteroid's rotation rate increased to the point that its surface started flying apart, ejecting dust in episodic eruptions, starting last spring. The team has ruled out a recent asteroid impact scenario because a large quantity of dust would have been blasted into space all at once. This object, designated P/2013 P5, ejected dust for at least five months, Jewitt said.

The asteroid was first seen as an unusually fuzzy-looking object with the Pan-STARRS survey telescope in Hawaii. Its multiple tails were discovered in images taken by NASA's Hubble Space Telescope on Sept. 10, 2013. When Hubble returned to the asteroid on Sept. 23, its appearance had totally changed; it looked as if the entire structure had swung around.

"Nothing like this had ever been seen before," Jewitt said. "We were completely knocked out."

The tails could have been formed by a series of "impulsive dust-ejection events," modeling by team member Jessica Agarwal revealed. Agarwal, of the Max Planck Institute for Solar System Research in Lindau, Germany, calculated that the first ejection event occurred on April 15, 2013, and the last one on Sept. 4, 2013. The intervening eruptions occurred on July 18, July 24, Aug. 8 and Aug. 26.

Radiation pressure from the sun smears out the dust into streamers. The asteroid could possibly have been spun up if the pressure of sunlight exerted a torque on the body, Jewitt said.

If its spin rate became fast enough, he said, the asteroid's weak gravity would no longer be able to hold it together. Dust might avalanche downslope toward the asteroid's equator and eventually drift into space to make a tail. So far, only a small fraction of the asteroid's main mass—perhaps 100 to 1,000 tons of dust—has been lost, Jewitt said. The 700-foot-radius nucleus is hundreds of thousands of times more massive.

Follow-up observations may reveal whether the dust leaves the asteroid in the equatorial plane; if so, that would indicate a "rotational breakup," Jewitt said.

A new understanding

This must be a common phenomenon in the asteroid belt, Jewitt said, and may even be the main way in which small asteroids die.

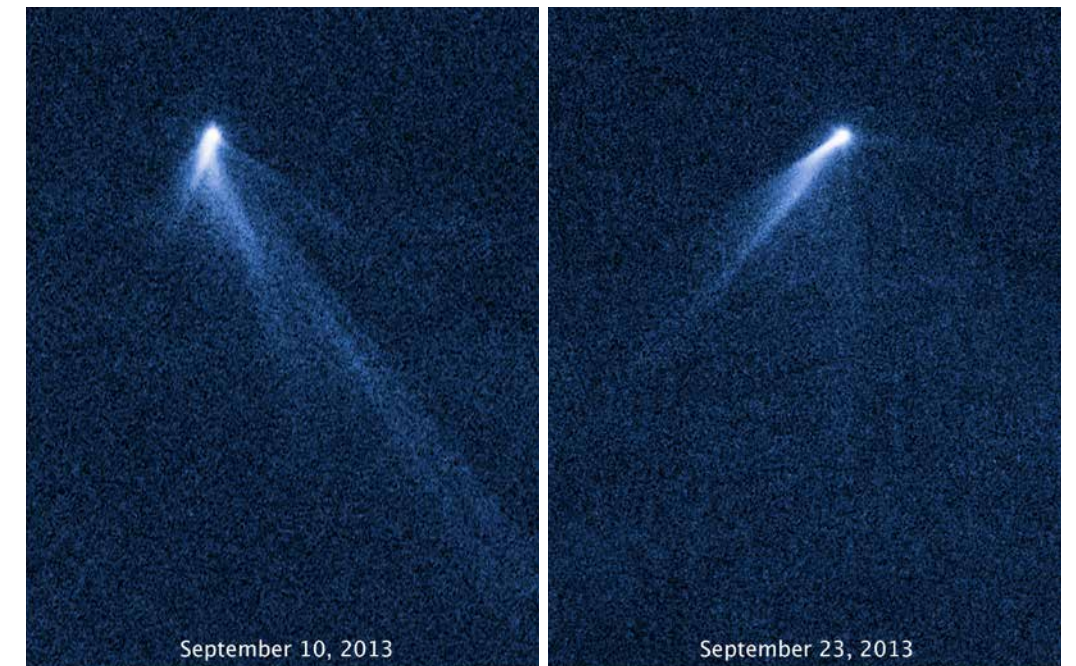
"In astronomy, where you find one, you eventually find a whole bunch more,"

he said. "This is an amazing object and almost certainly the first of many more to come."

The object may be a piece from an asteroid collision that occurred roughly 200 million years ago, Jewitt noted.

Jewitt is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and a fellow of both the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He co-discovered the Kuiper Belt beyond Neptune in 1993. The discovery of the belt, which contains more than a billion objects and was once believed to be empty space, has fundamentally changed the modern perception of the solar system.

Co-authors of this research are Jessica Agarwal (Max Planck Institute), Jing Li (EPSS-UCLA), Harold Weaver (Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory), Max Mutchler (Space Telescope Science Institute) and Stephen Larson (University of Arizona). The research is funded by NASA.



These NASA Hubble Space Telescope images reveal a never-before-seen set of six comet-like tails radiating from a body in the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter. Images: NASA, ESA, and David Jewitt/UCLA

Straight Talk: Doctoral Students Learn to Connect With Mainstream Audiences

UCLA's New Dissertation Launchpad Teaches Students to Communicate Their Complex Research in Ways the Rest of Us Can Understand

By Judy Lin

HAD YOU ASKED UCLA COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY DOCTORAL STUDENT VERONICA YAN A FEW MONTHS AGO ABOUT HER DISSERTATION RESEARCH, SHE LIKELY WOULD HAVE TOLD YOU ABOUT METACOGNITION, ENHANCING SELF-REGULATED CATEGORY LEARNING AND OTHER DIZZYING CONCEPTS THAT WOULD LEAVE YOU MORE MYSTIFIED THAN EDIFIED.

But at a recent presentation, Yan wowed hundreds of academics and non-academics packed into the California NanoSystems Institute auditorium with an eight-minute, jargon-free, straightforward talk about her research on how people do some of their best learning when learning is a struggle.

In fact, the audience voted her talk one of the best of the evening's 10 presentations made by Ph.D. candidates who were all practicing their newfound skill—communicating to a mainstream audience.

Yan and her fellow presenters, all of whom are close to completing their dissertations, credit their new ability to speak plainly about complex ideas to the

new Dissertation Launchpad Program. Inaugurated last quarter in the Division of Social Sciences in the UCLA College, the program was conceived and led by Dean Alessandro Duranti, distinguished professor of anthropology, in partnership with Associate Dean for Research and Innovation James Stigler, a professor of psychology. The program was made possible by gifts from Daniel Greenberg and Susan Steinhauser, and the Scott Waugh Endowed Dean's Discretionary Fund for Social Sciences.

Ten weeks of prep, eight minutes on stage

Meeting every Thursday evening over 10 weeks, the students gathered with their teachers over sandwiches and coffee in Murphy Hall to talk, listen, challenge and encourage one another to find ways, as Duranti put it, "to talk to the world in a language the world understands" about the importance of their work.

"We want to make graduate students bilingual," Duranti said. "They get plenty of training in the important skills of speaking and writing academically, but the more they learn that, the further they get from the way they should talk with somebody they're sitting next to on an airplane or at a dinner party. If you're doing interesting work, you've got to be able to talk about it rather than say, 'Well, just read my book.'"

Proficient communication with a broad audience, Duranti said, can also help bridge the



Graduate students Keziah Conrad and Lisa Newon joined Associate Dean for Research and Innovation James Stigler, professor of psychology, and Dean of Social Sciences Alessandro Duranti, distinguished professor of anthropology, in preparing for presentations at the Dissertation Launchpad Showcase. Photo: Paul Connor



Veronica Yan, a doctoral student in cognitive psychology, presents an eight-minute TED Talk-style presentation about her dissertation research on March 13 at the Dissertation Launchpad Showcase in the Division of Social Sciences. Photo: Paul Connor

gap for the many Ph.D.s who will go on to non-academic jobs, either by choice or out of necessity. Recent surveys show that only 50–60 percent of newly minted Ph.D.s in the social sciences will land tenure-track faculty posts.

'Find your story'

Keziah Conrad, an anthropology Ph.D. candidate specializing in psychological anthropology, did reams of research for "Loving Your Enemies: Subjectivity and Relationship in Mixed-Ethnicity Families in Post-War Bosnia-Herzegovina," based on several years she spent in Sarajevo and Bosnia-Herzegovina. She worked with organizations that led reconciliation efforts in the aftermath of the bloody "ethnic cleansing" of the 1990s.

"Find your story," Duranti and Stigler instructed Conrad and her cohorts, a mantra oft repeated by Barbara Seymour Giordano, a professional presentation coach who worked with the students individually. Off campus, Giordano has worked with

corporate executives and scientists crafting TEDx talks. On campus, she's coached students in the Startup UCLA Accelerator, a program for budding entrepreneurs that was launched three years ago by the social sciences division.

"Storytelling," explained Giordano, "is the oldest form of expression," breathing life into content and adding an emotional dimension. "We want more people to fall in love with our subject."

Conrad found her story in recollecting her stinging disappointment at the failure of institutionalized political reconciliation efforts in Bosnia, coupled with her unanticipated discovery of a deeper kind of peacemaking that unfolded in interracial families. In her Launchpad presentation, now titled "The Extraordinary Power of Ordinary Life in Post-War

Bosnia," she shared what she had learned from families creating wholeness by transcending distressing memories and divergent politics—findings that could change the way societies recover from a painful past.

A linguistic and medical anthropology doctoral student, Anna Corwin incorporated personal memories as a 6-year-old visiting her ailing grandmother in a nursing home into her Launchpad talk, "Prayer, Nuns, and the Language of Aging Well."

"Down the hall ... I heard moans and cries for help," Corwin recalled. "As I stood staring at her, holding my breath, I could see fear in my grandmother's eyes. I didn't want this to happen to my grandmother or anybody I loved."

Corwin studies how everyday interactions shape the way people experience their lives, in hopes that she can use her expertise to improve the lives of elderly individuals at the end of life. Her dissertation centers on ethnographic studies she did of elderly nuns living in a Midwestern

convent whose health and other quality-of-life measures surpass those of many others their age. Corwin has found a link between the nuns' well-being and the concise ways they word their prayers to engender everything from social support to spiritual sustenance.

"Dissertation Launchpad was a great opportunity that I'm extremely grateful to have participated in. As someone who works on aging and well-being, I am motivated to make my scholarship both accessible and relevant to audiences outside of academia," said Corwin, who, like Yan, was voted by the audience as one of the evening's top three presenters.

"Barbara was tremendously helpful," Corwin said of her coach. "She is the master of a genre most people have never tried to speak in, and she was extremely dexterous at helping us create and shape stories in this new genre."

Interdisciplinarity is key

Corwin also extolled the value of working with an interdisciplinary group of scholars. "In graduate school and beyond, we primarily interact with people within our own discipline and even within the subfields of our discipline. Our conversations therefore become more and more highly specialized and sometimes insular," she said. "Dissertation Launchpad provided the opportunity to hear the questions, ideas and concerns of a group of interested, bright scholars outside my field."

For Conrad, the anthropology Ph.D. candidate, the class rekindled her excitement about her work. "It reminded me why I came to graduate school," she said.

"We produce these really great Ph.D.s in disciplines where students can become very specialized," Duranti said. "This is a great strength, but the flipside is that you lose track of the bigger picture in terms of students' interests in making a better world. This is an opportunity for them to think about why they're doing what they're doing and to learn how to communicate it."

Learn more:

Watch Dissertation Launchpad videos at <http://dissertationlaunchpad.sscnet.ucla.edu>.

Undergraduate Research in the Spotlight

THIS SPRING, UCLA STUDENTS PROVED THE VALUE OF UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH TO D.C. POLICYMAKERS, AND SHOWCASED GROUNDBREAKING RESEARCH DURING UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH WEEK. IT'S ALL PART OF UCLA'S COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE RESOURCES AND RESEARCH SUPPORT THROUGH ITS UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CENTERS.

With reporting by Letisia Marquez, Cynthia Lee and Kim Irwin

Second-year UCLA students Akash Patel, biology, and Sarah Barritt, political science, have a sizable academic edge that will help Patel get into medical school and help Barritt get into law school.

For more than a year, both students have been working in professor Mark Cohen's lab. Under the direction of biomathematics graduate student Wesley Kerr, they've been doing essential work to find out whether a computer-aided diagnosis of epilepsy using clinical information provided by physicians can help them detect and treat the condition correctly.

"You couldn't do this type of research without them," explained Kerr, who, with the students, is working on estimating the probability of epileptic versus non-epileptic seizures based on the historical factors reported by a patient to his or her neurologist. "The alternative to having knowledgeable people read these clinical notes is to have computers do it. And computers are nowhere as good at pulling out these individual details. So we really need these undergraduates."

Sharing research with D.C. policymakers

The two-way benefits of involving undergraduates in original research were part of an important message the students recently took to policymakers and their staffs on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. All three student researchers were chosen to



Sarah Barritt (from the left), graduate student Wesley Kerr and Akash Patel went to Washington, D.C., after their research project on epilepsy was selected to represent the best of undergraduate research in California. Photo: Christelle Nahas

represent California and present their research at Posters on the Hill, an event sponsored by the national Council on Undergraduate Research.

Their application, along with one from CSU Dominguez Hills, was among the 60 chosen by the council from approximately 600 submitted by undergraduate researchers from colleges and universities across the nation.

During their big day on Capitol Hill, the student researchers met privately with staffers from the offices of Sens. Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer and three members of California's congressional delegation. Discussion focused on the importance of funding undergraduate research and the challenge of finding support for innovative research projects such as theirs.

In the evening, the three students answered questions about their poster at a crowded public event held in the Rayburn Building, alongside the other selected student researchers.

The Posters on the Hill exhibit typically picks just one or two research projects per state to participate in the prestigious event, said Cohen, Kerr's faculty adviser and a professor-in-residence of psychiatry in the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior.

Playing a role in critical research

"One of our laboratory's goals is to create an automated system that can aid physicians in distinguishing patients with epileptic and non-epileptic seizures," Kerr said. "Currently, that's a challenge. On average, the time from the first seizure to the diagnosis of non-epileptic seizures is seven years."

"A large fraction of patients with seizure disorder are misdiagnosed and treated inappropriately," Cohen said. "As such treatments carry their own risks and negative side effects, their research could positively affect the lives of millions of Americans."

In addition to serving patients with seizure disorder, the computer-aided diagnostic methods developed by Kerr and his team may be applicable to the diagnosis of other maladies in the future.

Opportunities through Undergraduate Research Centers

While being able to participate in this kind of cutting-edge research is exciting, Patel and Barritt said, they also point out that these opportunities, made possible by UCLA's Undergraduate Research Centers, are valuable for all students, whether they are in pre-med or headed for law school.

"It's definitely helped me academically," said Barritt, who wants to work in criminal

prosecution. "One big benefit of doing undergraduate research is that everyone can be a part of it. It's so beneficial for the skill set that it teaches you. It sharpens your critical thinking skills, your ability to look at many different factors at the same time and draw conclusions. And having publications on your resume won't hurt your grad school application, either."

Akash said the experience has helped solidify his interest in medicine. "It also opened up a new avenue for me. I thought going into medicine meant going to clinics and treating patients. But there's another avenue — doing research to create new tools to help physicians diagnose disease. Now I'm thinking about doing research or even going into public policy in the area of medicine or the health sciences."

A week to honor student accomplishments

Undergraduate Research Week, held in May, presented another opportunity for undergraduates to share their research prowess and talents.

Throughout the week, students in the humanities and social sciences made oral and poster presentations at Powell Library while fine arts students performed at Glor

Kaufman Hall. Students in the life and physical sciences as well as engineering presented their research at Science Poster Day.

"The ability to conduct research alongside world-class scholars is one of the hallmarks of a UCLA undergraduate education," said Patricia Turner, dean and vice provost of undergraduate education in the UCLA College. "Our undergraduates have the opportunity to conduct the kind of high-level and meaningful research that often isn't available to students until graduate school."

Research that advances knowledge

Charlotte Rose, an English major with a minor in Scandinavian literature, was one of approximately 600 students to participate in Undergraduate Research Week. She conducted research on a series of letters written by John Ruskin, the leading Victorian-era art critic.

The series, titled "Fors Clavigera: Letters to the Workmen and Labourers of Great Britain," was considered revolutionary for its time because few intellectuals wrote literature they wished to be read by the working class, Rose said.

Rose argues that the letters also set in motion changes to the British higher

education system. Back then, primarily the elite classes had access to higher education. In the letters, Ruskin argued that middle and working classes should also pursue academic degrees.

Rose found that little scholarly work has focused on Ruskin's letters because he wrote them later in his life, after he experienced a nervous breakdown

"I'm saying that these are important," she said. "He was writing for the working classes, and maybe they didn't have the money to read them and put his work into action, but they were indirectly affected."

"The middle classes took up these letters, read them and helped the working classes," she added.

Positioning students for success

This fall, Rose will start a Ph.D. program in English literature at Rutgers University. Few undergraduate students are able to gain acceptance into a Ph.D. program without having earned a master's degree first, she said.

"My senior thesis definitely helped me stand out," said Rose, who was also admitted to Oxford University. "It was the equivalent of writing a master's dissertation but at the undergraduate level."

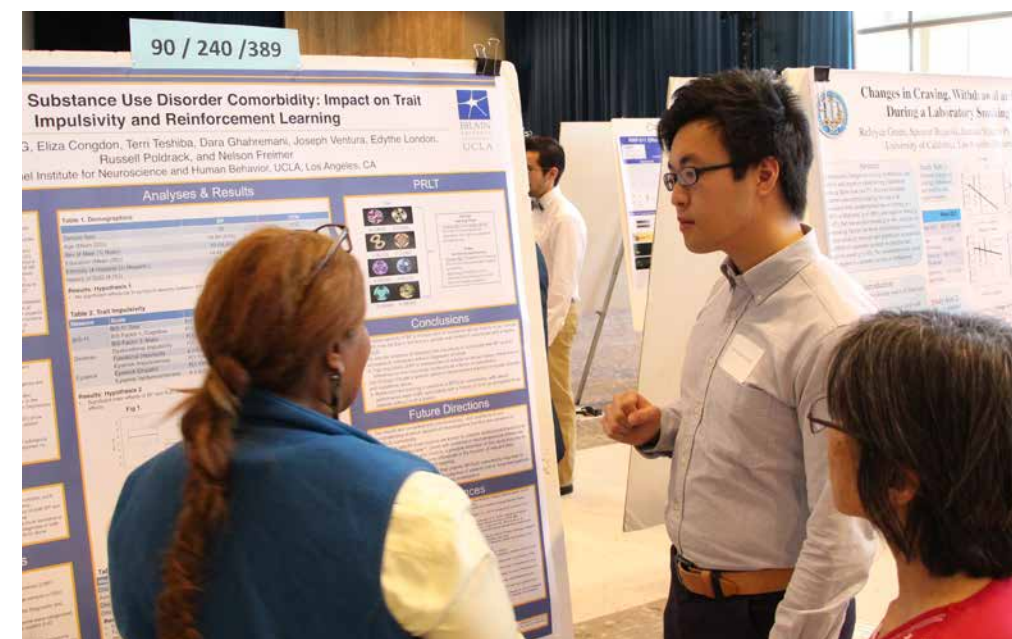
Brett Lopez, an aerospace engineering student who also transferred to UCLA from El Camino College and is the first in his family to attend a four-year college. He often advises younger students to take advantage of the research opportunities UCLA offers.

"If you are driven and want to learn and be successful," he said, "UCLA definitely gives you the tools to do that."

Learn more:

Watch a video featuring UCLA students at Undergraduate Research Week at <http://youtu.be/ZEoosFwqi-Q>.

For more information on how to support the Undergraduate Research Centers, please contact Beatrix Richman at (310) 825-8654.



Lap-Woon Keung presents a science poster as part of Undergraduate Research Week.

From *Mad Men* to Mesoamerica: Archaeology Alumna Establishes Transformative Endowments at Cotsen Institute

By Margaret MacDonald

UCLA ALUMNA MARILYN BEAUDRY-CORBETT HAS PROVEN THAT IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO PURSUE ONE'S DREAMS. SHE FORGED A SUCCESSFUL CORPORATE CAREER BEFORE CHANGING COURSE IN HER EARLY 40S TO PURSUE HER TRUE VOCATION, ARCHAEOLOGY.

This thrilling “second chapter” led to Beaudry-Corbett’s desire to give back to her alma mater. Her transformative gift of \$5 million to the UCLA Cotsen Institute of Archaeology established two named endowments that address key priorities of the Centennial Campaign for UCLA: graduate student support and endowed faculty chairs.



Marilyn Beaudry-Corbett and Don Corbett

The Marilyn Beaudry-Corbett Endowed Graduate Fellowship in Archaeology is a \$4 million testamentary pledge in support of Cotsen graduate students, with preference given to women aged 30 and over. The \$1 million Marilyn Beaudry-Corbett Endowed Chair in Mesoamerican Archaeology — the first chair in this field at UCLA — ensures that the Cotsen Institute has a robust presence in Mesoamerican archaeology.

Affiliated with the Cotsen Institute since 1977, Beaudry-Corbett is a visiting assistant professor at the institute and former director of publications. She also directs the Cotsen’s Ceramics Research Group, which offers practical experience in ceramics and ceramic analysis to students and researchers.

“We are incredibly honored that Marilyn chose the Cotsen as the beneficiary of this gift,” said Charles Stanish, the Cotsen’s

director and a professor of anthropology. “She understands our need for such large-scale philanthropy, which will help us recruit the best faculty and students. What makes her gift even more meaningful is that she is a treasured colleague, an accomplished scholar in her field and an inspiring mentor.”

John Papadopoulos, a professor of classics and archaeology and chair of the Cotsen’s Interdepartmental Archaeology Graduate Program, said, “Marilyn Beaudry-Corbett’s generous endowed fellowship provides funds where they are needed most: student support. Her gift is an investment in generations of young scholars to come and ensures UCLA’s leading role among the world’s best archaeology programs.”

An uncommon drive

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Beaudry-Corbett earned a bachelor’s degree in marketing from USC in 1953 and completed a one-year graduate management-training program at Radcliffe College before returning to USC in 1961 to obtain a master’s in industrial sociology.

In the *Mad Men* era of the 1960s, when women were starting to flex their corporate muscles, Beaudry-Corbett joined Audience Studies, Inc., a marketing and advertising research firm, where she rose to the rank of chief operating officer. Her job took her all over the world and ignited her passion for travel. As a single professional woman in the early ’70s, a poster child for women’s liberation, she had conquered the corporate world.

“Then one day, I asked myself, ‘Do I want to keep doing this for the next 15 to 20 years?’ My answer was, unequivocally, no,” she recalled.

Beaudry-Corbett’s “Plan B” was archaeology, sparked by her participation in UCLA Extension courses. “There was something about discovering how people lived their everyday lives that had always intrigued me, particularly the Mesoamerican cultures,” she said.

The drive and determination that underpinned her corporate success helped her gain entrance to the graduate program at UCLA. Undaunted by a graduate adviser’s discouraging words about her lack of relevant academic credentials, Beaudry-Corbett went straight to her instructor, Christopher Donnan, former director of the Fowler Museum at UCLA and emeritus professor of anthropology. Donnan encouraged her to pursue her dream.

“Soon after Marilyn’s admission to our graduate program,” Donnan said, “she became recognized as an outstanding student. It has been a great pleasure for me to witness Marilyn’s remarkably successful career and her pivotal role in developing the Cotsen Institute of Archaeology Press.”

Beaudry-Corbett was one of the first to earn a master’s degree in UCLA’s Interdepartmental Program in Archaeology, in 1977, followed by a doctorate in 1983. She was awarded a postdoctoral fellowship at the Smithsonian Institution and spent a year as a Fulbright scholar in Honduras.

Following a passion

Beaudry-Corbett’s career has included work on international excavations in often primitive conditions. Recalling a site in Honduras, she said, “We were lucky to have showers once a week, and we ate rice and beans many nights in a row.”

In 1987, while teaching a class in ceramic analysis at UCLA, Beaudry-Corbett met Don Corbett, a dentist who shared her passion for archaeology. He proposed at a shabby restaurant near an excavation she was leading in Guatemala, and the second half of their honeymoon was spent on a Smithsonian study tour she led in Mexico.

Don Corbett is former president of the Cotsen’s Friends of Archaeology and is active with the Ceramics Research Group. After 25 years of marriage, he marvels at how much he and Beaudry-Corbett have in common.

“Archaeology brought us together, and we have the same interests in most everything else: music, travel, wine and food,” he said.

Nobel Laureate’s Gift a Game-Changer for Physics at UCLA

By Jean-Paul Renaud

A FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP IN THE UCLA COLLEGE WILL TRANSFORM THE DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY BY ENABLING IT TO ATTRACT SOME OF THE WORLD’S BEST STUDENTS IN PHYSICS, THANKS TO A \$1.2 MILLION GIFT FROM THE JULIAN SCHWINGER FOUNDATION FOR PHYSICS RESEARCH.

“The Julian Schwinger Fellowship is a game-changer for the department,” said Joseph Rudnick, dean of the UCLA Division of Physical Sciences and senior dean of the College. “This fellowship will allow the department to compete with the best programs in the world, recruit the finest minds in physics and lead in discoveries that could change the world.”

The Schwinger Foundation expects that the comprehensive fellowship will enable students to focus on their research without undue financial pressure by providing, for a maximum of four years, full tuition and fees, along with an inflation-protected stipend of \$42,000 a year. An additional \$3,000 a year will be provided for professional and travel expenses.

Former UCLA physics professor Julian Schwinger shared the 1965 Nobel Prize with Richard Feynman and Sin-Itiro Tomonaga for their research on quantum electrodynamics. In 1971, he joined the faculty at UCLA, where he taught and carried out research until his death in 1994. At Schwinger’s request, his wife, Clarice, and his colleague Seth Putterman, a UCLA professor of physics, collected the Schwinger assets into a charitable foundation.

“Knowledge creation is the key product of the university, and

Beaudry-Corbett’s proudest achievements include co-authorship of the first compendium of Honduran pottery, *Pottery of Prehistoric Honduras*, and her role as principal investigator of two important excavations: Sin Cabezas on the south coast of Guatemala and Joya de Ceren in El Salvador.

Thanks to Beaudry-Corbett’s dedication to archaeology and her generous legacy, the faculty and students of the Cotsen Institute will reap the benefits far into the future.

Beaudry-Corbett said, “I am thrilled that my gift will support future archaeologists and the field of Mesoamerican archaeology at the Cotsen, which has given me so much pleasure and professional fulfillment.”

Learn more:

For more information on the UCLA Cotsen Institute of Archaeology, please visit <http://www.ioa.ucla.edu/>.

this fellowship will enable generations of young physicists to pursue their passions and make a difference,” Putterman said on behalf of the foundation directors. “I can think of no better way to honor the monumental legacy left by Dr. Schwinger, who is considered one of the finest physics scholars of the 20th century.”

The inaugural Julian Schwinger graduate fellowship, which could be the first of several fellowships established by the Schwinger Foundation at UCLA, was awarded in March to fourth-year UCLA undergraduate student Justin Kaidi, a physics major with a focus on mathematical physics and minors in math and Japanese.

“This tremendous gift not only emphasizes the strength of our physics program here at UCLA but also highlights the philanthropic spirit of our faculty,” Rudnick said. “Dr. Putterman and Dr. Schwinger are shining examples of the kind of investment our faculty are willing to make in our students and in the future of this institution.”



Julian Schwinger

New Chair in Ancient History to Be Created in Honor of Ron Mellor

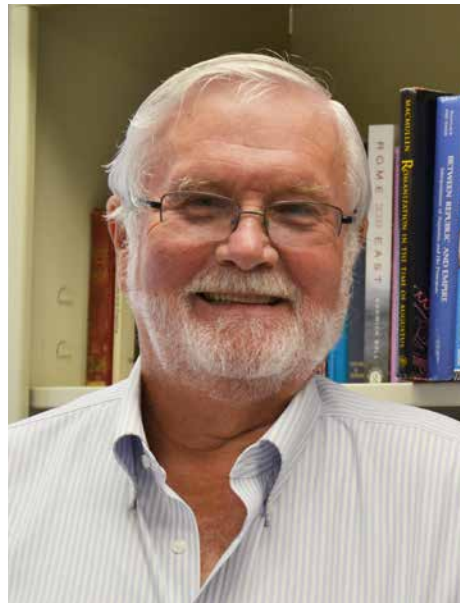
THE ARCADIA FUND HAS MADE A \$5 MILLION GIFT TO ESTABLISH THE FIRST ENDOWED FACULTY CHAIR IN ANCIENT HISTORY IN THE UCLA COLLEGE OF LETTERS AND SCIENCE.

By Margaret MacDonald

The Ronald J. Mellor Chair in Ancient History is named for a leading international scholar of Roman history and historiography, a distinguished professor emeritus and the former chair of the UCLA History Department.

Arcadia, a U.K.-based philanthropic foundation, previously established two chairs in honor of eminent UCLA history faculty: the Joyce Appleby Endowed Chair of America in the World and the Gary B. Nash Chair in U.S. History.

"This generous endowment from the Arcadia Fund ensures that Ron Mellor's legendary scholarly legacy and steadfast devotion to UCLA will continue to have a lasting impact on future generations of history scholars," Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Scott Waugh said. "The fact that the Arcadia Fund has chosen to support faculty shows a true understanding of the importance of endowed chairs to the future excellence of this university."



Ronald J. Mellor

This endowed chair will provide crucial resources to fund the chairholder's salary, research, student support and new teaching initiatives. As such, it will allow UCLA to attract an outstanding scholar and thereby enhance the university's competitive edge in housing the best faculty.

Honoring an Accomplished Scholar

Ron Mellor studied classics and philosophy at Fordham University and the University of Louvain in Belgium before earning his doctorate in classics from Princeton University. He joined the UCLA faculty in 1976 and also held visiting scholar appointments at University College London, the Humanities Research Centre of the Australian National University, the American Academy in Rome and the Princeton Institute of Advanced Studies. He is the author of several authoritative books on Roman history and historians and the recipient of fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Council of Learned Societies. Retired from full-time teaching since February 2013, he continues to work on his research, teach part-time at UCLA and lead alumni tours to destinations worldwide.

In 2013, he and his wife, Anne Mellor, a distinguished research professor emerita of English at UCLA, made a bequest of \$1 million to support graduate student fellowships in their home departments as well as the Ronald and Anne Mellor Endowed Educational Fund, which provides resources for visiting lecturers, summer travel-study opportunities and new acquisitions for UCLA Library Special Collections.

An 'Extraordinary Gift'

"We are doubly honored by this extraordinary gift," said David N. Myers, professor and chair of the History Department. "First, it is a great tribute to Ron Mellor, who is one of the most renowned and beloved scholars and teachers of Roman history in North America. Ron has given so much of his life to UCLA, and it is only fitting that we perpetuate his larger-than-life legacy at UCLA through an endowed chair. Second, the Arcadia Fund has demonstrated once again its unsurpassed commitment to scholarly excellence in fields that anchor our very notion of civilization. To make a commitment of this scale to ancient history — unprecedented in the College — is an affirmation of the foundation of historical knowledge on which our department and this university stand."

Anthea Case CBE, the Arcadia Fund's principal adviser, said, "We are delighted to know that our philanthropy honors the achievements of such an eminent scholar and allows a first-rate history department at one of the world's top universities to have a strong presence in the field of ancient history."

PHOTO: ROBERT EWING

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

From UCLA Bruin to Fashion Industry Icon: Natalie Massenet '87

By Margaret MacDonald

ENTREPRENEUR, FASHION INDUSTRY ICON AND UCLA ALUMNA NATALIE MASSENET '87 TOOK A HUGE RISK BACK IN 2000 AND NEVER LOOKED BACK. AND ALONG THE WAY, SHE TRANSFORMED THE WAY WOMEN SHOP.



Natalie Massenet

Natalie Massenet is founder and executive chairman of THE NET-A-PORTER GROUP Limited, a fashion, media and commerce group that originated with NET-A-PORTER.COM, the online luxury fashion retailer of women's designer items ranging from \$50 T-shirts to gowns worth thousands. The company expanded with web offshoots THEOUTNET.COM (which bills itself as "the most fashionable" fashion outlet), and MRPORTER.COM (an online retail destination for men's style). Massenet also recently launched *Porter*, a women's fashion magazine with global distribution.

Massenet founded the original website in a tiny London art studio as the dotcom crisis was in full swing, and the start-up soon exceeded all expectations. Today, the company sells more than 550 brands across 170 countries and attracts more than 9 million unique visitors a month to its websites. In 2010, Massenet sold a majority stake to Swiss conglomerate Richemont, staying on as executive chairman.

Based in London for the past 17 years, Massenet serves as chair of the British Fashion Council. Among her many accolades, she was named one of *Time's* most influential people in April, and "Woman of the Year" by *Glamour* magazine in 2013. She was also named "Innovator of the Year" by *Harper's Bazaar* and ranked No. 3 in "Britain's Top 100 Entrepreneurs" by *Management Today*. She was on *The Wall Street Journal's* list of "One of ten women to watch in Europe" in 2006, and one of the "Top 30 Most Influential Women in the UK" (*Harper's Bazaar*). She was awarded an MBE (Order of the British Empire, Member) by Queen Elizabeth in 2009 for her service to the fashion industry.

Daughter of a California journalist (with a UCLA English degree) and a British Chanel model, Massenet was raised in Paris, Los Angeles and Madrid. She followed in her father's footsteps as an English major, joined the Delta Gamma sorority and was a photographer for the *Daily Bruin*. After graduating from UCLA, she became a

fashion writer and stylist for publications such as *Women's Wear Daily*, *W Magazine* and *Tatler*.

IN HER WORDS:

I was so proud to be accepted to UCLA, particularly as my father was an alumnus. I loved all four years there, from orientation through to graduation, especially being surrounded by so many smart people. I thrived off of the constant activity on campus.

I lived in Sproul Hall during freshman year, where I had a great view of the campus from my room on the fifth floor and lived on the cafeteria French fries and soft ice cream. During my sophomore and junior years I shared an off-campus apartment with fellow sorority sisters just off of Fraternity Row, and senior year I lived in the Delta Gamma sorority house. I loved all the camaraderie and support. During football season, I loved attending the games and cheering on the team. To this day, I have a healthy feeling of rivalry for anyone I meet from USC!

Rather than studying alone in my room, I preferred going to YRL [Charles Young Research Library], as seeing other people studying always made me feel I could do more. But to be honest, I probably spent more time chatting in North Campus over coffee!

I had a scooter that gave me great freedom to get around campus and Westwood. I remember when, just minutes after my last final, after four years of zooming about campus, my scooter died. I rolled it into a bicycle bay and left it and my wonderful college years behind. But I made lifelong friends at UCLA who have all gone on to do inspiring things.

A couple of years ago, a woman on the user experience team at NET-A-PORTER came over to me to introduce herself and said she too had been a UCLA Delta Gamma, starting school the year after I left. It was amazing how we instantly bonded over this shared experience.

THE WIDE WORLD AWAITS

An accomplished group of commencement speakers, led by 2013 Nobel laureate Randy Schekman '71, inspired the Class of 2014 with words of wisdom and encouragement at graduation ceremonies held all over campus in June. Here, the speakers share in their own words what UCLA has meant to them, and we offer brief recaps of their remarkable achievements to date.



Nobel Laureate and UCLA Alumnus Randy Schekman '71

UCLA College Ceremony
Pauley Pavilion

UCLA opened my eyes to the world. I was given an opportunity to study with great scholars who valued knowledge for its own sake and who strived to advance human understanding in all its dimensions. And all this was made possible by the wise public investment that made the University of California the finest system of higher education in the world.

In 2013, Randy Schekman became the first UCLA alumnus to win the Nobel Prize in physiology or medicine for his pioneering work in figuring out how the human cell organizes its transport system—which could be key to solving neurological diseases, diabetes and immunological disorders.

As a child he regularly won prizes at science fairs. As a teenager he built a lab in his parents' garage. At UCLA, he first chose pre-med as his major, but as a freshman doing hands-on research in a lab, he fell in love with basic science. The young researcher was intrigued by the possibility of "plumbing the depths of nature with intellect and intuition and work." As an undergraduate, he created his own major in molecular biology, which did not previously exist; it is now one of the most popular science majors at UCLA.

A faculty member at UC Berkeley for 38 years, Schekman has been a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator since 1991. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and editor-in-chief of *eLife*, an open-access online science journal. He is the seventh UCLA alumnus to become a Nobel laureate.

Severyn Ashkenazy '59
Humanities Ceremony
Royce Hall

Reflecting on my past, I find that my years at UCLA were the best of my life. I could not wait to come to the campus to be enveloped by the optimism that existed there. Rubbing shoulders with genius, I hoped that some of that genius would rub off on me.

Severyn Ashkenazy was born in Tarnopol, Poland (now Ukraine), in 1936. He and his family survived the Holocaust, arriving in France in 1946. He earned a bachelor's degree in philosophy from the University of Paris and, after immigrating to the U.S. in 1957, completed advanced graduate course work in French and Francophone Studies at UCLA.

In 1964, Ashkenazy established a real estate development company that developed more than 200 residential and



commercial projects in 25 years. He founded The L'Ermitage Hotel Group — a collection of 11 hotels in Beverly Hills, West Hollywood and Santa Barbara — and is also founder and former chairman of Small Luxury Hotels of

the World. The West Hollywood Chamber of Commerce declared a "Severyn Ashkenazy Day" to thank him for making cityhood viable.

Ashkenazy established L'Ermitage Foundation to support children's causes. He was involved in a leadership role in ORT, the world's largest Jewish education organization, for which he was named "Man of the Year."

Ashkenazy is founder of Beit Warszawa, the first progressive Jewish community in Poland since World War II, and Beit Polska, the umbrella organization for all progressive Jewish communities in Poland. To support these efforts in the U.S., he founded and is chairman of Friends of Jewish Renewal in Poland.

Nestor Barrero '78
Academic Advancement Program
Celebration of Excellence
UCLA Carnesale Commons

For me, UCLA has been a credential for upward mobility. The credibility, prestige and benefits associated with a UCLA degree have only been positive in my life.

Attorney Nestor Barrero is vice president-employment law for NBCUniversal Media LLC and has volunteered on the UCLA Academic Advancement Program Council for 12 years.

He is the primary labor and employment attorney for matters affecting the NBCUniversal workforce in the corporate, broadcast and network operations, Film, NBC and Telemundo television stations and theme park businesses.

Prior to joining NBCUniversal, Barrero was senior counsel for Union Bank and was associated with the law firm of Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton in Los Angeles. He is also a part-time adjunct professor at Pasadena City College and a frequent speaker and lecturer. He has served on the board of directors of L.A. Universal Preschool and the Constitutional Rights Foundation and is a pro bono advocate for



Kids in Need of Defense (KIND), which assists children in deportation proceedings.

Born in Bogota, Colombia, Barrero is a native Spanish speaker and first-generation immigrant to the United States. He grew up in the San Gabriel Valley and attended Rosemead High School. While at UCLA, he worked as a peer health counselor and was in the Greek system. He received his B.A. in psychology from UCLA and his J.D. degree from UC Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco. He is married to Zinnia Coronel (a USC Trojan) and has two daughters (one attended UC Santa Barbara and the other UCLA). He loves to travel and ski, and enjoys '40s and '50s mambo music as well as salsa and Latin jazz.

Angela Y. Davis
African American Studies Ceremony
Fowler Museum

I've really enjoyed the time I've spent here thus far. I'm very impressed with the students and, of course, I have a very different perspective since some of my former Ph.D. students are now teaching here. That makes me proud.

Forty-five years ago, Angela Davis taught her first class at UCLA to an overflowing audience of 2,000 in Royce Hall. In spring quarter this year, she returned to campus to serve as Regents' Lecturer in the Department of Gender Studies.

Through her activism and scholarship over many decades, Davis has been deeply involved in social justice movements around the world. Her work as an educator — both at the university level and in the larger public sphere — has always emphasized the importance of building communities of struggle for economic, racial and gender justice.

Davis' teaching career has taken her to San Francisco State University, Mills College and UC Berkeley. She also has taught at UCLA, Vassar, the Claremont



Colleges and Stanford University. Most recently, she taught for 15 years at UC Santa Cruz where she is distinguished professor emerita of History of Consciousness — an interdisciplinary Ph.D. program — and of Feminist Studies.

Davis is the author of nine books and has lectured all over the world. Her recent work has focused on the range of social problems associated with incarceration and the generalized criminalization of communities most affected by poverty and racial discrimination. Her books include *Abolition Democracy*, *Are Prisons Obsolete?* and *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*. In 2012, she published a new collection of essays titled *The Meaning of Freedom*.

Davis is a founding member of Critical Resistance, a national organization dedicated to the dismantling of the prison industrial complex. She is also affiliated with Sisters Inside, an Australia-based abolitionist organization that works with women in prison.

Stephen J. Girsky '85
Mathematics Ceremony
Court of Sciences

I will always be grateful for the extraordinary education I received at UCLA, and in particular, the UCLA Math Department. Little did I know at the time that this stepping stone on my educational path would prepare me for the time of my life. The outstanding faculty taught me the analytical and strategic leadership skills needed to succeed in corporate America globally, and that if you work hard, success will follow.

Steve Girsky serves as senior adviser and board member of General Motors Corporation. From March 2010 to January 2014, he served as vice chairman of GM, with responsibility for global corporate strategy, new business development, global product planning/program management, global connected consumer/OnStar, GM Ventures LLC, and global research & development, while also serving as chairman of the Adam

Opel AG Supervisory Board.

Previously, Girsky was president of S. J. Girsky & Co., an independent advisory firm based in New York, where he applied more than 25 years of experience working with senior corporate and board executives, labor leaders, OEM leaders,

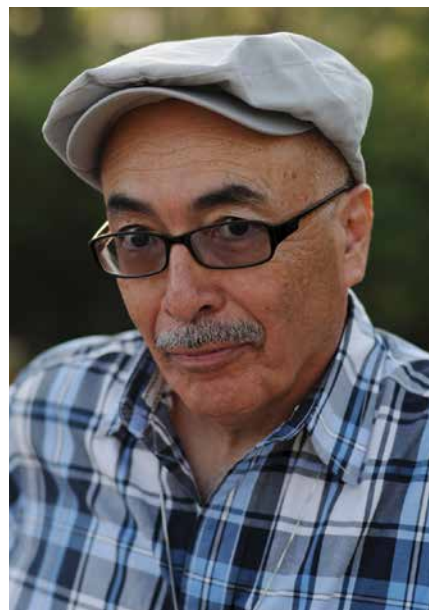


suppliers and dealers, and national and local policymakers. He also served as president of Centerbridge Industrial Partners, an affiliate of Centerbridge Partners LP, and a multibillion dollar investment fund. Prior to Centerbridge, he was special adviser to the CEO and CFO of GM.

Girsky is currently chairman of the Focus HOPE Capital Campaign and a member of the Downtown Detroit Partnership Board. He has supported numerous other charitable and nonprofit organizations, including the UJA-Federation of New York, Student/Sponsor Partnership, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, UCLA Chancellor's Associates Fund, Harvard Business School, Columbia University, Cornell University, the United Way, and The Babies & Children's Hospital of New York.

He holds a B.S. in mathematics from UCLA and an M.B.A. from the Harvard Business School.

Juan Felipe Herrera '72
Anthropology Ceremony
Dickson Court



My time at UCLA changed my life. I visited the Chiapas Lacandón Mayan rain forest, and filmed and recorded in various endangered indigenous communities in Mexico. With students, I organized Yolteotl, the first University Chicana-Chicano Arts Expo. Most of all, I blossomed as a poet for the people. My professors were all pioneers. These were my first steps that oriented my life's vision for all-world community, dynamic cultural life and the central role of collective poetics.

UC Riverside creative writing professor Juan Felipe Herrera has served as California Poet Laureate since 2012. In this capacity, he has presented poetry readings throughout California at fiestas, schools, libraries and community events. He also compiled *The Most Incredible and Biggest and Most Amazing Poem on Unity in the World*, composed of thousands of verses from Californians of all ages.

The son of migrant farmworkers,

Herrera has chronicled the bittersweet lives, travails and contributions of Mexican Americans in numerous volumes of poetry, prose, theater, children's books and young adult novels. *Half of the World in Light: New and Selected Poems* (University of Arizona, 2008) received the PEN/Beyond Margins Award, the International Latino Award in poetry, and the National Book Critics Circle Award.

He was elected to the Board of Chancellors of the Academy of American Poets and is the recipient of the Guggenheim Fellowship in poetry, fellowships and grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the California Arts Council, and the UC Berkeley Regent's Fellowship. Other honors include the Breadloaf Fellowship in Poetry, the Stanford Chicano Fellows Fellowship, the Ezra Jack Keats Award, the Hungry Mind Award of Distinction and the Focal Award.

He holds a B.A. in social anthropology from UCLA, an M.A. in social anthropology from Stanford University, and an M.F. A. in poetry from the University of Iowa Writers' Workshop.

William R. Johnson '71
Political Science Ceremony
Pauley Pavilion

Graduating from UCLA is one of my proudest achievements. I have indelible memories of the academic challenges that I successfully confronted there while maturing into an adult. Importantly, it is where I learned how to think independently and express myself, while developing an insatiable curiosity that has guided me throughout my life. It's where I became a Bruin for life!

William R. Johnson is the former chairman, president and CEO of the H. J. Heinz Company. Johnson joined Heinz in 1982 as general manager and within two years was promoted to vice president. Following a series of quick promotions, he was appointed president and CEO effective April 1998, followed by his appointment

as chairman in September 2000. Prior to joining Heinz, Johnson was employed by Drackett, Ralston Purina and Anderson-Clayton.

An active supporter of community organizations, Johnson has served as a member of the national Athena Awards committee. He chaired the 2001 annual campaign for the United Way of Western Pennsylvania, and numerous local events including the 2004 Pittsburgh Cultural Trust gala event.

In 2006, Johnson received the inaugural Global Visionary Award from Helen Keller International in recognition of Heinz's micronutrient program for combating childhood anemia. He also received the Marco Polo Award — the highest honor bestowed by the Chinese government on foreign business leaders — for Heinz's support of the development of the Chinese food industry.

Johnson earned his B.A. in political science from UCLA and his M.B.A. from the University of Texas.



Susan Kellogg '82
Sociology Ceremony
Wilson Plaza

No matter where I am in the world, I am proud to say I am a UCLA graduate. I received a quality education, was exposed to top-notch PAC 10 sports and made lifelong friends. Attending UCLA was the best decision I made to date, second only to having my daughter.



After graduating from UCLA, Susan Kellogg began her fashion career at Macy's West, where she worked for eight years in several store and buying executive positions. She then moved on to a series of leadership positions with Liz Claiborne Inc. over a nine-year period. This included serving as group president for Bridge and Contemporary Brands from 2004–07, where she was responsible for five companies: Juicy Couture, Laundry by Shelli Segal, PrAna, Ellen Tracy and Dana Buchman. She then served as CEO of Elie Tahari, Inc., where she significantly increased the contemporary fashion brand's international and retail business.

Currently Kellogg is president of the Contemporary Brands Coalition for VF Corporation, the largest apparel company in the Western Hemisphere. She is responsible

for three brands of the VF portfolio: 7 For All Mankind, Splendid and Ella Moss (also John Varvatos from 2009–12). Contemporary Brands Coalition has more than 200 retail stores globally and distribution in more than 47 countries.

Her personal interests include surfing, skiing, traveling, dogs, horses and UCLA basketball/football. Her favorite charities and organizations are UCLA, the Marfan Foundation, Special Olympics, Stuart House, Women In Need, Verte Green and breast cancer awareness.

Meyer Luskin '49
History Ceremony
Dickson Plaza North

UCLA was the only opportunity for a great higher education that I could afford. The multidisciplinary education I received has helped me immeasurably in life and business, whether the issues are organizational, managerial or philosophical. I am forever grateful.

A Southern California business leader, philanthropist and UCLA alumnus, Meyer Luskin is passionate about UCLA's role as a public resource and agent for social mobility. He has been the chairman, CEO and president of Scope Industries since 1961. Its operational subsidiary, ReConserve, Inc., produces a high-caloric animal feed supplement from food waste and agricultural byproducts — essentially a recycling process. Luskin is the founder of several companies and has been on the boards of various entities, including companies on the New York Stock Exchange, American Stock Exchange and Nasdaq. He is a member of the board of directors of OSI, Inc., a Nasdaq company in the security and health care industries, and serves on its executive and compensation committees.

Luskin is a director and former chair of the board of advisers of UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica; a director and former chair of the board of directors of the Orthopaedic Institute for Children;



and a board director of the Jazz Bakery, the Alliance College-Ready Public Schools, the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs, the Luskin Center for Innovation, and the UCLA Foundation. He also serves on the UCLA College Centennial Campaign Committee.

In 2011, he and his wife, Renee, established the annual Luskin Lecture for Thought Leadership, which enables UCLA College to bring world leaders to campus to stimulate dialogue on pressing national and global issues among scholars and the Los Angeles community.

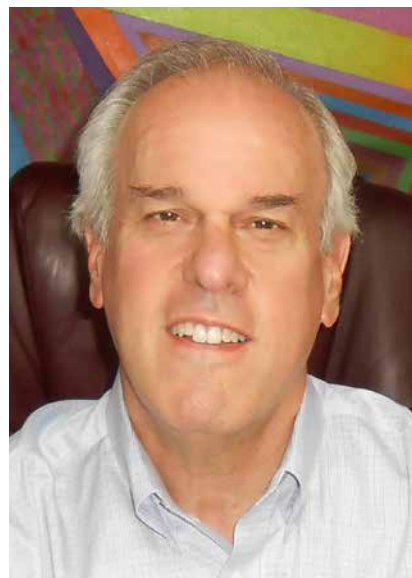
Luskin holds a B.A. in economics from UCLA and an M.B.A. from Stanford University.

Michael D. Mooslin '68
Economics Ceremony
Pauley Pavilion

Graduating from UCLA opened doors that were otherwise closed, and the association continues to benefit me. The high standards associated with the UCLA brand is a reflection on its graduates and informs people's opinions. As a graduate, I take great pride in this.

Michael Mooslin has served as CEO and president of Color Me Mine since April 1997. Previously, he was president and CEO of Koo Koo Roo International; president of MDM Restaurant Group; and president of Naugles, Inc. While attending UCLA, he worked part-time for the then-budding fast food company McDonald's, hiring the first female employees in the company's history. He also developed the company's first bar-chart scheduling system, which ultimately became widely used throughout the fast food industry.

The subject of a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services documentary, Mooslin was interviewed by major networks regarding his efforts to achieve fair employment of disabled individuals and senior citizens in the restaurant industry.



His work led directly to a change to the law whereby the developmentally disabled could keep their medical benefits upon gainful employment, earning him recognition by President Reagan. He also spearheaded the building of a fast food training facility within the California Elwyn sheltered workshop, which allowed its disabled clients to shift into mainstream employment.

Mooslin earned his B.A. in economics from UCLA. He serves on numerous nonprofit boards and lives with his wife, Nancy, in Los Angeles and Newport Beach. They have two children and five grandchildren.

Raymond G. Nasr '84
Communication Studies Ceremony
Royce Hall

UCLA opened my aperture — my field of vision — to the world of ideas. The Communications Studies Program in particular gave me the confidence and courage to engage with that world.

Raymond Nasr is the former director of executive communications at Google. He held this role from 2001 to early 2005 and was responsible for several aspects of the public communications for the senior management of the company, including Google CEO Eric Schmidt as well as Google co-founders Larry Page and Sergey Brin.

Prior to Google, Nasr was director of corporate relations at Novell, where he led the company's corporate and government relations efforts. Before Novell, Nasr held various positions in public relations and corporate speechwriting at Apple Computer and Sun Microsystems.

Since 2004, he has been part of a team of instructors teaching venture capital and entrepreneurship at the Stanford University Graduate School of Business (GSB) and was recently appointed lecturer at the GSB. He is also a visiting fellow at the Said Business School at Oxford University.

Nasr maintains a communications consultancy where he has advised a number of start-up companies and venture capital



firms, including Pandora Media, Twitter, Snapchat, Square and Innovation Endeavors. He is also a past president of the Churchill Club, a Silicon Valley-based business and technology forum.

After graduating with a B.A. in communication studies from UCLA in 1984, Nasr earned his law degree with honors from Pembroke College, Cambridge in 1986. In 2007, he became a certified sommelier through the London-based Court of Master Sommeliers. In 2009, he was appointed director of wine programs in the Wine Division of Silicon Valley Bank.

Annette Salmeen '97
Chemistry & Biochemistry Ceremony
Court of Sciences

UCLA's vibrant energy, engaging faculty and spirited community promoted my curiosity, inspired my creativity and fostered my desire for lifelong learning. My experiences at UCLA in athletics, in the classroom and in research opened up life-changing opportunities that continue to shape my life today.

Annette Salmeen graduated from UCLA with honors in chemistry in 1997. The epitome of a student-athlete, she won an NCAA title in the 200-yard butterfly as a member of the UCLA swim team and was a gold medalist as a member of the 1996 U.S. Olympic Swim Team. That year she was named UCLA Female Athlete of the Year and Alumni Association Outstanding Senior. She also received the NCAA Top VIII Award, presented to only eight NCAA student-



athletes annually for excellence in academics and athletics. After graduating from UCLA, she received a Rhodes scholarship to study at Oxford University, where she earned her Doctor of Philosophy degree in biochemistry. She then did her postdoctoral

training in chemical and systems biology at Stanford and worked as a project scientist at the DOE-Joint Genome Institute. From 2005 to 2012, Salmeen served on the board of the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency (USADA). She has a long-standing interest in science education and is now a lecturer and core course coordinator for the Human Biology Program at Stanford.

Salmeen was inducted into UCLA Athletics Hall of Fame in 2006. She continues to swim several times a week with the Stanford masters swim team and also enjoys running and cycling.

Caprice Willard '94
English Ceremony
Pauley Pavilion

UCLA gave me the tools to succeed in whatever I wanted to do. I knew upon graduation, the only thing that could stop me was ME!

Caprice Willard has served as vice president/regional planning manager for women's apparel for Macy's Southwest Region since 2009. She oversees 100 Macy's stores around the United States, and selects clothing lines that match the style of customers in that region based on demographics. After graduating from UCLA with a B.A. in English, Willard was recruited into Macy's Executive Training Program. She worked her way up through various positions, both in the buying offices and retail stores. In 2006, Willard was promoted to the position of vice president/divisional merchandise manager of cosmetics for the Macy's West Division. She will be celebrating her 20th year with Macy's in August.

Willard served as a featured buyer for Macy's on NBC's show "Fashion Star," a reality competition in which aspiring fashion designers compete to have their designs sold in major retail stores. Active in her community and recognized as a leader in her field, Willard was named one of the most powerful women in finance/retail by *Women of Color* magazine in 2012. Earlier this year, she helped organize and host "Eras of Black

Style," a philanthropic event (sponsored by Macy's as part of Black History Month) that honored and acknowledged the influence of African-American culture on the fashion industry.

In her spare time, Willard is an active member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated and serves on the board of Inroads-Los Angeles. She enjoys spending "downtime" with family and friends, and loves dancing, traveling and — of course — reading.



Class of 2014: Profiles in Excellence

PHYSICAL SCIENCES

Jennifer Kadowaki: Leading the Way for Women



The Hubble Space Telescope has found objects traveling through space that cannot be identified. Jennifer Kadowaki is going to help figure out what they are.

Kadowaki, 22, graduated this spring with a degree in physics and is now working at the Space Telescope Science Institute, which operates the Hubble Space Telescope.

“I really enjoy understanding how the world works,” she said.

A native of Orange County, Calif., Kadowaki has always been fascinated by astronomy. While still in high school, she sought out

professors at the University of California, Irvine, whom she could help with research.

At UCLA, she was awarded a Clare Boothe Luce scholarship, which supports women in math, science and engineering. Although still underrepresented, women are pursuing the sciences in increasing numbers at UCLA.

“It’s exciting to see that there are more women coming up in physical sciences,” she said. “Women are definitely not common in this field, but at the same time we do have a really good support group at UCLA.”

After taking a year off from school, Kadowaki hopes to pursue her doctoral degree in astrophysics. While most people in their early 20s still struggle with their future, Kadowaki’s goals are crystal clear.

“I’ve always loved extra-galactic astronomy,” she said. “I want to become a staff scientist, and study how stars are formed and how they influence the creation of galaxies.”

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Ajwang Rading: A Record of Helping Those in Need



At just 22 years old, Ajwang Rading has accomplished more than most. He has met with countless members of Congress and governors, shadowed a U.S. secretary of state throughout Ireland as a youth adviser to the Clinton Centre, and provided commentary on the *BBC* about U.S. foreign policy during the G-8 Summit. In addition to mentoring Los Angeles-area high school students in his spare time, he created a global fellowship that empowers undergraduates to

create public service projects across the globe.

Not surprisingly, Rading’s resume lists many prestigious UCLA honors, such as the Charles E. Young Humanitarian Award, “Senior of the Year” award and the Chancellor’s Service Award. He can now add one more: UCLA graduate in political science, with a minor in film.

Rading is just getting started. Thanks to a Humanity in Action fellowship, he will spend the summer in Paris studying humanitarian issues surrounding the Holocaust.

It’s easy to pick out a theme running through his resume: studying issues related to poverty and inequity. It’s a theme he wants

to pursue in the future because of how it’s shaped his own life.

“Because of the poverty and adversity I have endured in my own life, I feel blessed to have the opportunity not only to understand other people’s struggles, but to answer them,” Rading said. “It is a precious responsibility — and it is because of that sense of responsibility that I do what I do.”

Rading grew up in Newport Beach, Calif., raised by a single mother who emigrated from Kenya at a young age. She and Rading struggled in poverty in this wealthy enclave, just so he would have the opportunity to receive a good education.

He kept his poverty a secret from his classmates, and credits his mother for instilling his passion for service, which was also rooted in his desire to escape his “parochial life.” It was this drive that led him to be elected class president of his high school nearly every year, and he remains drawn to both policy and government to this day.

These experiences were at the heart of his record at UCLA of helping those in need. He is most proud of his involvement as co-founder and chair of the UCLA Global Citizens Fellowship, a competitive summer grant that enables students to pursue self-directed public service projects in international communities.

After his summer in Paris, he hopes to return to the U.S. to focus on community development, inequality and socioeconomic security for working-class families, in particular women and children. “UCLA has helped me fully understand my potential,” he said. “It has made my mother’s vision for me come true and given me the tools to achieve my dreams and serve others.”

LIFE SCIENCES

Jeremy Edwards: Scholarships Help on an Uphill Road to Academic Success



Growing up in South Los Angeles, Jeremy Edwards was frequently on the move with his hardworking single mom. Partly because of the family’s limited income but also to find neighborhoods with access to decent schools away from gangs and drugs, he and his mother moved five times before he graduated from Westchester High School.

“She didn’t want me caught up in the wrong stuff,” said Edwards, 22. “Both my parents, who were divorced, always instilled in me,

‘Make sure you get your education.’ I heard that all the time from my mom and my dad, who was a very prominent figure in my life. Living paycheck to paycheck was really not what I envisioned for myself.”

In June, Edwards became the first in his immediate family to earn a bachelor’s degree from a prestigious four-year institution, and he’s headed straight from UCLA into a Ph.D. program in education at University of California, Santa Barbara, which he chose over Harvard, Columbia and other universities. During his four years as a Bruin, he won an impressive list of awards, scholarships and honors, including the Lew Wasserman Memorial Senior Prize. Edwards said he realizes how fortunate he is — because of the scholarships, he has had to take out only one student loan for \$1,700 while at UCLA.

The psychology major, who has a minor in education, is wrapping up a two-year research project that examines how taking the SAT affected the psychological well-being of underrepresented students as well as their academic outcomes.

Looking back at all of his success at UCLA, Edwards said it only motivated him to work harder. “I celebrated every one of those for a few minutes. And then it was back to work, doing what I needed to do to keep making progress.”

HUMANITIES

Michael Reyes: An Unconventional Path to UCLA



“During my early high school years, I just didn’t really apply myself,” Michael Reyes said about his time at a Covina, Calif., high school. “I wasn’t focused on my studies, hanging with the wrong crowd, getting myself into trouble.”

So Reyes left the United States to finish high school in Mexico, from where his family descends. It changed his life.

“I was around students who wanted to go to college and were actively thinking about their

post-graduation lives,” he said. “They made me appreciate the privileges I had as an American citizen and that I shouldn’t take those opportunities for granted.”

Reyes returned to Southern California to attend Citrus Community College in Glendora before being accepted to UCLA, his dream school.

Now 23, Reyes graduated this spring with a major in English and

a minor in French and Francophone Studies. He has been accepted into the graduate program at the University of Texas at Austin, where he will work toward his Ph.D. in comparative literature.

His experiences while a student at UCLA helped him make the decision to pursue an academic career. Reyes participated in an internship at a literary agency and also conducted undergraduate research as a Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow.

“I was able to learn about two different workplace environments: non-academic and academic,” he said. “Through undergraduate research and networking with graduate students, I understood what would await me if I went for the academic route,” he said.

Even his decision to minor in French came about thanks to a UCLA experience.

“My roommate would study Chinese in our room every day, and seeing him study like that made me wonder, ‘If could learn another language, what would I do?’”

Reyes hopes one day to become a professor of literature. But before that can happen, UT Austin requires students to command three languages other than English.

“I may just shoot for a non-romance language,” he said.

UCLA COLLEGE REPORT

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“IN LESS THAN 100 YEARS, A UNIVERSITY THAT
BEGAN IN THE FARMLANDS OF WESTWOOD AS
THE SOUTHERN BRANCH OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
CALIFORNIA HAS BECOME ONE OF THE GREATEST
INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING IN THE WORLD.
AND A CENTURY FROM NOW, OUR SUCCESSORS
WILL BE ABLE TO LOOK BACK TO THIS TIME AS THE
MOMENT UCLA LEAPT FORWARD ONCE AGAIN.”

— Deans of the UCLA College