Defining the Future of the Public Research University

UC San Diego

UC San Diego’s Birch Aquarium at Scripps Institution of Oceanography is the largest provider of ocean and earth-science education in the region. As part of its mission for K-12 outreach, the aquarium uses its resources to provide programs that teach learning skills and understanding of the planet.

Cultivating Tomorrow’s Leaders

Education is the great equalizer, a powerful force for students from all backgrounds. The University of California, San Diego is playing a key role in transforming education through progressive K-12 outreach, innovative models for middle and high school learning, and STEAM education (science, technology, engineering, arts and math). Improving education at all levels supports our next generation of leaders as they prepare to address the planet’s most pressing issues, from battling disease to protecting our environment.

Mentoring the Next Generation

Rommie Amaro, Ph.D., is equally devoted to battling infectious viruses and bacteria as she is to guiding the next generation of scientists. While working on models of proteins that will lead to new drugs, she launched BioChemCoRe, a new research camp designed to retain women in science, and mentored Eric Chen, winner of the 2013 Google Science Fair Grand Prize for his influenza research.

Changing Lives

Inspired by a belief that education changed his future, world-renowned pianist Cecil Lytle co-founded The Preuss School UCSD, a charter school at UC San Diego for low-income students who strive to become the first in their families to graduate from college. Select graduates from Preuss—ranked as one of the nation’s best high schools—also receive financial support to attend UC San Diego through Lytle’s endowed scholarship.

Partnering With Educators

For more than 20 years, sociology and education professor Hugh “Bud” Mehan, Ph.D., has linked research to practice. He founded UC San Diego’s Center for Research on Educational Equity, Access, and Teaching Excellence (CREATE), which improves academic preparation of underrepresented students by partnering with K-12 schools. Mehan works closely with educators to make informed decisions that ensure excellent educational opportunities are available to all children.

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Washington Monthly