
Campus Narrative

At the University of California San Diego, we constantly push boundaries and challenge expectations. Recognized as one of the top 15 research universities in the world, we are driving innovation and change to advance society, propel economic growth and make our world a better place.

Established in 1960, UC San Diego has been shaped by exceptional scholars who aren't afraid to take risks and redefine conventional wisdom. "Our longest-running tradition at UC San Diego is challenging tradition," said Chancellor Pradeep K. Khosla. "It's why we attract the most clever creatives and innovative thinkers. It's why we make advances and breakthroughs that benefit humankind and our planet. And it's why, despite our relative youth compared to our peers, we continually rank among the world's top universities."

We offer a wide range of educational and research opportunities across eleven divisions and schools—from engineering, medicine and oceanography to the arts and humanities, and physical and social sciences. Our students, who learn from Nobel laureates, MacArthur Fellows and National Academy members, are as committed to public service as they are to their studies. As a result, our campus has been consistently ranked first based on research, civic engagement and social mobility.

Fueling Economic Growth

As a billion-dollar research enterprise situated in the heart of one of the most densely concentrated innovation hubs in the nation, collaborative research plays a big part in our university's mission. Our faculty, students and researchers leverage multidisciplinary collaborations and lead the way to new discoveries—from climate science and the human microbiome to nanotechnology and social mobility.

These collaborations often serve as a catalyst for a new technologies and start-ups. A culture of entrepreneurship thrives at UC San Diego with nearly half a dozen incubator resource centers on campus. Bright ideas come to life in centers like the Envision Maker Space, where engineering and art students converge to create, and The Basement, a campuswide space for students to find alumni industry mentors. More than 650 companies have been launched by or use technology developed by UC San Diego faculty, staff, students and alumni, including over 200 active in San Diego, contributing an estimated \$32 billion to the local economy.

Forging New Pathways

Jacobs Medical Center, which opened November 2016 on the UC San Diego campus, is a 10-story medical specialty center made possible by private support and provides advanced surgical, cancer and women and infant care to the community. The facility is part of UC San Diego Health, the region's only academic health system. Comprised of three hospitals—an NCI-designated comprehensive cancer center, a medical school and a school of pharmacy—UC San Diego Health provides patient care, conducts medical research and educates future health care professionals.

Also in 2016, Scripps Institution of Oceanography welcomed America's newest research vessel, *Sally Ride*, to the university's fleet. Operated by Scripps Oceanography and owned by the U.S. Navy, *R/V Sally Ride* is one of the world's most technologically advanced ships and will help solve some of our planet's most pressing challenges, from climate change to global food supply.

And in 2021, the UC San Diego Blue Line will be extended from the U.S.-Mexico border to the university in La Jolla with nine new stops, including two on the UC San Diego campus. The San Diego

Metropolitan Transit System partnership will enhance regional access to diverse educational, cultural, employment and health care opportunities available on campus.

Innovation with Purpose

UC San Diego is guided by four multidisciplinary research themes that focus on the environment, human health, human knowledge and social disparities. These areas are rich with potential for addressing prevalent issues impacting society and the world.

Following is just a sampling of how our scholars are uncovering unique insights and promoting novel solutions:

- **Understanding and protecting the planet:** Veerabhadran Ramanathan is engaging policymakers and religious leaders across the globe to communicate the importance of environmental stewardship. A distinguished Professor of Atmospheric and Climate Sciences at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, Ramanathan discovered and shared that the worst consequences of climate change will be felt by the world's poorest—a message that helped shape Pope Francis' 2015 Encyclical on the Environment.
- **Enriching human life and society:** Rachel Dutton, an assistant professor in UC San Diego's Division of Biological Sciences, studies the communities of bacteria and fungi that produce cheese in order to better understand how microbial communities form and work together. She is part of a new campus-wide Microbiome and Microbial Sciences Initiative comprised of researchers focused on understanding the role of microbiomes—communities of bacteria, viruses and other microorganisms that live within and around us—in human and environmental health.
- **Exploring the basis of human knowledge, learning and creativity:** Pulitzer prize-winning composer Roger Reynolds has dedicated his career to discovering new modes of making music. A professor in the Department of Music, he combines spoken word, musical performance, computer sound processing and video to create an immersive multimedia experience. Reynolds extends the bounds of creativity by tearing down the conventional borders between sound, image and text.
- **Understanding cultures and addressing disparities in society:** The idea is unconventional, yet simple—to send cash directly to the mobile accounts of those in dire need. A UC San Diego associate professor of Economics, Paul Niehaus co-founded GiveDirectly, a nonprofit that enables charitable gifts to be shared easily, no strings attached. Each donation is about \$1,000, deposited through a mobile banking system, straight to a recipient's cell phone. The goal is to help improve the living conditions, business prospects and food security of impoverished people across the globe.

The Power of Philanthropy

Philanthropy plays a crucial role in supporting our intellectual evolution and academic foundation. In fiscal year 2015-16, UC San Diego received a record 46,000 gifts totaling \$213 million. The generosity of our donors allows us to advance important initiatives across campus – from scholarships and fellowships to research, faculty chairs and new buildings.

"We want people to understand that their investments in UC San Diego will be returned in many ways –through life-saving discoveries, through the development of students into leaders, through economic growth and prosperity for all," said Chancellor Khosla.

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