Much Ado About Nothing

Chancellor's Scholars were given the opportunity to attend a free showing of the UC San Diego Theatre Department's play, *Much Ado About Nothing* in February 2020 at the Mandell Weiss Forum Theatre.

Director's Statement: Much Ado About Nothing is a play about the lies we tell each other. The little white lies we tell to help a friend, the lies we tell to get what we want, or the lies we tell ourselves to make life a little brighter. In the same way, one of the greatest gifts that theater has to offer an audience is the ability to imagine the world differently through storytelling. And what is a story but a lie we agree to believe temporarily? This production interweaves the stories the characters tell in the play with the stories the actors tell on stage in order to embrace the idea that the fact that it's fiction doesn't make it any less true.

This event was made possible with the generous assistance of Steven Adler, Professor Emeritus of Theatre, and UCSD Theatre and Dance Director of Promotions Mark Maltby. A sincere thank you to Professor Adler, Mr. Maltby, and the entire UC San Diego Theatre and Dance Department for providing such a wonderful opportunity for our scholars.

Please Donate Generously to the Emeriti Association’s Chancellor’s Scholarship Fund

Through the Chancellor’s Scholarship Award, scholars receive $5,000 a year for four years at UC San Diego. Your monetary support of this program allows bright young scholars to achieve a higher education and helps them meet the challenges they face at a rigorous university like UC San Diego. Please help us continue to award these prestigious scholarships to students in need. With your financial help today, we can ensure that future scholars continue to receive outstanding educational and leadership opportunities at the university. Chancellor’s Scholars are the future leaders of America. With your contribution today, we can help make these scholars’ dreams a reality.

To donate, please mail your check (made payable to UC San Diego Foundation - Fund # 4556) to the: UCSD Retirement Resource Center, 9500 Gilman Drive, MC 0020, La Jolla, CA 92093-0020. Note: Gifts must be postmarked by 12/31/2020 to count as a deduction for Tax Year 2020. For more information, call (858) 534-4724, and ask to speak with RRC Director, Suzan Cioffi.

Follow us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ucsdchancellors.scholars
Follow us on LinkedIn: @ UC San Diego Chancellor’s Scholars Program

Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CSP Closing Reception</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
<td>May 28, 2020</td>
<td>5:00 PM—6:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring 2020 Hosted EMP Luncheon</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
<td>June 10, 2020</td>
<td>12:00 PM—1:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSP Opening Reception</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
<td>October 8, 2020</td>
<td>5:00 PM—6:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSP/EMP Annual BBQ</td>
<td>Zoom/+</td>
<td>October 10, 2020</td>
<td>11:00 AM — 2:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSP Dream to Reality: Health Sciences</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
<td>November 5, 2020</td>
<td>5:00 PM—6:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>A CSP Speed Networking</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
<td>November 12, 2020</td>
<td>5:00 PM — 6:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>LinkedIn Workshop</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
<td>December 3, 2020</td>
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Who are Chancellor’s Scholars?

These scholars are some of the best and the brightest students who receive admittance to UC San Diego, and they are coming in with top GPA’s and test scores. They all have in common:

- Demonstrated academic excellence
- Leadership potential

However, these top students have had to work hard to achieve their place here, faced with difficult life challenges. Chancellor’s Scholars have one or more of the following attributes:

- First generation college attendee
- Hall from a 4th or 5th Quintile school
- Financial need

Chancellor’s Scholars on the set of the Saturday, February 15 evening showing of the exceptional play. In alphabetical order by last name: Henry Chan, Dephny Duan, Sidney Huen, Rachel Lii, Stephanie Mountam. Leyna Nguyen, Jovelyn Orellas-Manor, Jenny Saiyaseng, Megan Tran, Phillip Vail, Benson Vuong, Eric Xiao. Not in photo: Daniel Naymrserski, Jack Zhong

Inside

- Etiquette Dinner:…2
- Dream to Reality:…3
- Study Abroad:…4-5
- Remote Learning:…6-7
- Alumni Spotlight:…8
- Meet our Mentors:…9
- Volunteer Events:…10
- CSA:……..11
- Fundraising:……12

UCSD Emiriti Mentor Program
The Importance of Etiquette

An important part of the Chancellor’s Scholars Program provided to Chancellor’s Scholars at UC San Diego is a formal dining Etiquette training event, scheduled for January of the first year. Our young scholars will be thrust into formal dining events, where dining etiquette skills are requisite, as early as the following month. In February of each year, the university holds a major university donor recognition formal dinner, to which many of the Chancellor’s Scholars are invited. There is an assumption that Chancellor’s Scholars, who are identified as future potential leaders, will be called upon to dine with knowledge and ease when faced with a formal western dining setting.

The 2020 Chancellor’s Scholars Etiquette Dinner, presented with the gracious support of Chancellor Pradeep Khosla and the UCSD Emeriti Association, took place on Friday, January 17, from 6:00pm to 9:00pm at the Ida and Cecil Green Faculty Club. Attendees to this unique fine-dining learning experience are first year Chancellor’s Scholars, select upper class Chancellor’s Scholars, Emeriti Mentors and key staff members.

After a welcome from Professor Emeritus of Oceanography, Dr. Robert Knox, first year Chancellor’s Scholar Megan Tran introduced Executive Vice Chancellor Elizabeth Simmons. EVC Simmons gave a wonderful Opening Benediction, where she addressed the fact that on this night, guests were to review etiquette training from a western perspective, but also keep in mind that each culture has its own set of etiquette rules. After EVC Simmons’ insightful comments about cultural sensitivity in dining etiquette, Chancellor’s Scholar Juan Cortes introduced Etiquette Instructor Dr. Grace Bagunu. Dr. Bagunu led guests through each step of an elegant five course meal. Musical entertainment was provided by pianist Danny Green. After a toast led by Professor Emeritus Dr. Roger Spaggi, Professor Emeritus Mark Appelbaum, gave closing remarks.

Etiquette Instructor - Grace Bagunu, Ph.D.

Grace Bagunu is a higher education professional and leadership expert. Grace currently serves as the assistant dean of student affairs at Revelle College at the University of California San Diego. In addition, she works with RISE San Diego to develop urban leaders in the San Diego community, including college and high school students, through various leadership development programs. Grace facilitates various workshops and seminars on various topics on personality assessments, professional communication, and dining etiquette. Most recently, Grace facilitated the annual Chancellor’s Scholars Etiquette Dinner as well as a workshop for the scholars on the etiquette of writing a thank you letter. Grace has extensive experience in areas related to student activities, student governance, test prep, design thinking, strategic planning, and organizational consulting.

Asian Meal Etiquette

During this year’s Etiquette Dinner, scholars and mentors both expressed interest in learning more about the meal etiquette in different cultures. In response to this interest, the Chancellor’s Scholars Alliance hosted a virtual Asian Meal Etiquette presentation, with an overview of key points, and a brief demonstration on how to correctly use chopsticks. Thank you to CSA Board Members Henry Chan, Dephny Duan, Megan Tran, and Eric Xiao for hosting this highly informative presentation.

President’s Message

Hello everyone and congrats on making it to the end of the school year! This quarter has been a rough one, as we transitioned to online learning and adapted to our “new normal” for the time being. We finished winter quarter, filled with uncertainty surrounding the circumstances, yet tried our best to succeed. This was a period of transition for all of us — many of our scholars moved home, seniors lost their graduation ceremonies, and we all adapted to a new learning environment. There is a bright side to this however, as our students were able to spend more time with their families and explore new hobbies.

Our student organization, Chancellor’s Scholars Alliance was also able to adapt quickly and implement new, creative ideas for virtual events. We took our popular, in-person Game Night event and turned it into a Virtual Game Night on Zoom, with breakout rooms which allowed participants to join smaller groups, play a wide variety of games, and interact with different people. Our CSA Study Jams were revamped into social hangouts, with opportunities to collaborate and talk about life during quarantine. This creative period also brought to life events such as “CSA Pets: Show-Tell-and-See,” “Make Someone Smile with Your Letters,” our first ever CSA General Body Meeting and the highly successful Asian Meal Etiquette Dinner. All events were conducted over Zoom and helped to connect our scholars across cohorts, and even Emeriti Mentors!

During these uncertain times, it is important to stay connected and maintain a strong sense of community. Our CSA board is doing this and more by hosting interactive and engaging events, and we hope to see you all there! Stay on the lookout for emails and posts regarding future events and we can’t wait to see your smiles and hear about what you’ve been up to this quarter!

Sincerely,
Jenny Sayaseng
CSA President, 2019-2020

Congratulations to our Graduating Senior CSA Board Members!

Ivy Dang
Jocelyn Ornelas Munoz
Jenny Sayaseng

Welcome to the new CSA Board!

2020-2021 Board Members

President: Rachel Luu
Vice President (Internal): Sonali Bhanvadia
Vice President (External): Vince Ly
Secretary: Sidney Huen
Vice Secretary: Melissa Espinosa
Treasurer: Megan Tran
Vice Treasurer: Ixchel Rivas Torres
Peer Mentoring Chair: Leyna Nguyen
Peer Mentor: David Ma
Social Chair: Jack Zhong
Vice Social Chair: Andrew Hu
Volunteer Chair: Vivian Chou
Vice Volunteer Chair: Kelley Ha
Webmaster: Benson Vuong
Vice Webmaster: Henry Chan
Media Chair: Eric Xiao
Vice Media Chair: Dephny Duan
Freshman Ambassador: TBD Fall 2020
Member at Large: Stephanie Mountain

For more information visit: http://chancellorsscholarsalliance.ucsd.edu/

Follow us on Instagram: @ucdcsascholars
Volunteer & Service Events

Donation Drive

During Winter Quarter, Chancellor’s Scholars put out a call for donations to create wellness kits for UCSD students in need. With the help of the UCSD Retirement and Emeriti Associations, they were able to gather enough items to assemble 45 Winter Goodie Bags filled with soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, socks, and other hygiene products. These were all donated directly to the UCSD Basic Needs Hub. Donated canned food and other nonperishable goods were donated to the Triton Food Pantry. Scholars hope to make this an annual event, and thank all of the donors for their generosity.

Preuss School Volunteering

On Saturday, March 7, a group of 16 Chancellor’s Scholars gathered to tutor Preuss School students in 7th and 8th grade math and science subjects. Our scholars enjoyed being of service to such outstanding students, and look forward to working with Preuss School for future tutoring events.

Letters of Encouragement

On Thursday, April 16, scholars got together via Zoom to write letters to adults and children who have intellectual and developmental disabilities. The goal of this event was to create online cards that would help them smile and know that people were thinking of them, especially with COVID-19 social distancing restrictions in place.

Dream to Reality

A unique component to the Chancellor’s Scholars Program consists of quarterly informal seminars, bringing together a sector-specific panel for a dialogue. The goal is to offer students an up-close look at what it takes academically and professionally to succeed in each of these sectors. These seminars are called “Dream to Reality.” In the past, Chancellor’s Scholars chose to attend based on the sector presented at each seminar. However, since there was such a wealth of knowledge presented at these workshops, we changed the format so that the whole first year of Chancellor’s Scholars could attend. Four years ago we decided to include the workshop in the weekly meetings. Last year, because of its popularity among scholars, we began hosting two Dream to Reality Panels a quarter. This allowed students to have more opportunities to ask questions to more professionals in a wider array of fields. Since last year, in addition to Emeriti professors, we have also had at least one UCSD Alumni serve as panelist during each session. A special thanks to UCSD Alumni Board Director Sam Knight for recruiting alumni panelists for these sessions.

Thank you to all of our panelists this year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health Sciences</th>
<th>Biological Sciences</th>
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<tr>
<td>October 31, 2019</td>
<td>November 14, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professor John Wheeler</td>
<td>Professor Mel Green</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Jake Jacoby</td>
<td>Professor Immo Scheffler</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Laurel Ball*</td>
<td>Dr. Marguerite Jackson</td>
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<td>Dr. Melissa Keenan*</td>
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<tr>
<th>Arts &amp; Humanities</th>
<th>Social Sciences</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 9, 2020</td>
<td>April 23 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professor Steven Adler</td>
<td>Mr. Wayne Kennedy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professor John O’Neal</td>
<td>Professor Gary Jacobson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Jonathan Villegas*</td>
<td>Mr. Neville Billimoria*</td>
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<tr>
<th>Math &amp; Engineering</th>
<th>Computer Science</th>
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<td>May 9, 2020</td>
<td>May 21, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professor James Lin</td>
<td>Mr. Rick Ord</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professor Peter Chen</td>
<td>Mr. Russ Schnapp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Celine McRae-Hamdy*</td>
<td>Ms. Donna Mulcahy*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Jack Ly*</td>
<td>Mr. Luis Pineda*</td>
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*UCSD Alumni Participants

Do you have a volunteer opportunity our scholars can be a part of? Email ChancellorsScholars@ucsd.edu to let us know more!
Study Abroad

Meet Our Mentors

Phyllis Mirsky

Phyllis S. Mirsky retired as the UCSD Deputy University Librarian from the UCSD Libraries after holding series of appointments at UCSD, including service as Acting University Librarian on three occasions. Her previous employers include the National Library of Medicine and the UCLA Biomedical Library. Ms. Mirsky received a master’s degree in librarianship at the University of Michigan and a BS in Social Welfare from the Ohio State University. An active member of the Medical Library Association, Ms. Mirsky has held several leadership positions including service as its president in 1985. As an educator, researcher, and administrator, she has influenced scores of health sciences librarians all over the world. In 1995 Phyllis was awarded one of the Medical Library Association’s (MLA) highest honors: MLA Fellow. She was also honored by the Medical Library Association by being selected as one of “MLA’s 100 Most Notable”. Those individuals identified for this honor were recognized for their significant contributions to MLA and the health information profession throughout MLA’s 100 year history.

“Education has been a core of my professional life so the opportunity to contribute to the educational experience of Chancellor’s Scholars [through the Emeriti Mentor Program] was important to me. It is difficult enough to navigate one’s first year at university but more challenging for First Generation students. The University has much to offer students, not only academically, but it is not always clear where and how to access these resources. Mentors have a broad range of life and academic experiences that Scholars can draw on. [It is important to support the Emeriti Mentor Program because] both the students and mentors benefit from the relationship.”

Morton Printz

Professor Emeritus of Pharmacology Morton Printz received undergraduate training in pharmacy (B.S. Pharmacy) and graduate doctoral training (Ph.D. Biophysics) at the University of Pittsburgh gaining experience in both retail pharmacy and research pharmacology. His doctoral thesis research focused on copper respiratory proteins, hemocyanins, and how their “function”, i.e., oxygen carrying capacity linked to protein subunit association. Professor Printz conducted two years of post-doctoral research at Dartmouth (in Biochemistry) where he applied the technique of tritium-hydrogen exchange (THX) to probe the dynamic secondary structure (“breathing rate”) of helical DNA and other helical nucleic acids. Following a period at Rockefeller University using THX, he joined the newly formed UCSD Division of Pharmacology in the Department of Medicine. His research at UCSD transitioned to biological and genomic studies focused on stress, molecular pharmacology, and rat genetic hypertension. These efforts led to a series of five-year NIH Grants, Program Project (P01) and SCOR (Specialized Centers of Research) under his direction as Principal Investigator (PI). Professor Printz was a 1st-generation undergraduate in his family so he has empathy with the career track mentoring conducted for Chancellor’s Scholars. Upon retirement, colleagues introduced him to the Emeriti Mentoring Program (EMP) and he found it was a “natural fit” to his own long-term academic interests of teaching and research. He is the Spring recipient of the Dickson Award. “Emeriti mentoring of Chancellor’s Scholars fuses career achievements and experiences of UCSD faculty with a greater likelihood of career success of our scholars. Support of the EMP, both financial and experiential, provides a greater opportunity for Scholars to achieve career success.”
Chancellor’s Scholars Alumni Spotlight

Grace Kim

During my summer of 2019, I was fortunate enough to study abroad in Italy through the Revelle in Rome program. Because the program provided courses on humanities and visual arts, I saw this as an opportunity to gain an interdisciplinary learning experience. I wanted to understand the core principles that gave meaning to human interaction and relationships in another culture, observe what holds communities together, and overall obtain a more open-minded mode of thinking. However, since I did not really know what my experience living in a foreign country would entail, I thought much of my learning goals would be fulfilled through those academic courses.

No doubt, I learned a lot about the structure and values of Roman society as well as the different eras of thought and expression that swept through Western civilization over the course of history. I discovered a newfound appreciation for sculptures, such as The Boxer and Michelangelo’s Prisoners that line the hall leading to the David in Galleria dell’Accademia. Their conveyance of human emotions could somewhat understand. However, although I learned much in the classroom and the tours supplemented to my courses, studying abroad had taught me a lot about myself. Gaining a new sense of independence came new responsibilities, and I had to find ways to be patient and helpful to others when we were all struggling to cope in a foreign environment. Overall, this was an invaluable experience for me, one that I will always look back on with a longing smile.

Do you have any advice for current Chancellor’s Scholars?

As scholars, we spend most of our time studying for our courses and preparing for our future careers, and it’s easy to get lost in the day-to-day grind. Be sure to make time to enjoy life and pursue your own interests. Whether you’re going to a concert in North Park or getting food with friends on Convoy, make memories that you’ll cherish long after college.

Is there anything else you would like to add?

Chancellor’s Scholars, I encourage you to start looking for internship opportunities. The first step is to do your research. Look online at the websites of different companies in your industry for services or products that you might be interested in working on. Find out when the university hosts recruiting fairs and plan to attend, even if it’s just to talk to industry professionals and try different things, including taking classes outside of your major. When I began spending more time thinking about internships and full-time positions, Mark shared with me a lot of his own personal experiences as a young professional. He encouraged me to step outside of my comfort zone and try different things, including taking classes outside of my major. When I began spending more time thinking about internships and full-time positions, Mark shared with me a lot of his own personal experiences as a young professional. I loved hearing his stories. Mark’s mentorship helped me take full advantage of the opportunities offered by this university and make progress on advancing my own career.

Study Abroad

Chancellor’s Scholars Journal | Spring 2020 | PAGE 5

Tommy Dang

2015 Cohort
Muir College
Computer Engineering

Currently:
Software Developments Engineer at Amazon

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Currently:
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As a Software Development Engineer at Amazon, I work primarily on operating systems for devices. I originally started as an intern the summer of my third year and accepted an offer to return for a full-time position. During my summer of 2019, I was fortunate enough to study abroad in another culture, observe what holds communities together, and gain a new sense of independence and responsibility. My experience studying abroad has helped me in my professional career by exposing me to industry. I was able to tour a tech company campus with other engineering scholars and I loved hearing the stories of Dream to Reality panelists as they reflected on the choices they made and the obstacles they faced throughout their professional careers. Emeriti mentors who had done software over the course of their careers shared their experiences with working in a team and developing products. The opportunity to meet industry professionals and learn from their experiences was one of the greatest aspects of the Chancellor’s Scholars Program.

How has the Chancellor’s Scholars Program helped you reach your education and career goals?

The Chancellor’s Scholars Program helped me prepare for my professional career by exposing me to industry. I was able to tour a tech company campus with other engineering scholars and I loved hearing the stories of Dream to Reality panelists as they reflected on the choices they made and the obstacles they faced throughout their professional careers. Emeriti mentors who had done software over the course of their careers shared their experiences with working in a team and developing products. The opportunity to meet industry professionals and learn from their experiences was one of the greatest aspects of the Chancellor’s Scholars Program.

How has the Emeriti Mentor Program helped you reach your educational and career goals?

The guidance I received from my mentor, Mark Appelbaum, helped me tremendously as I was getting accustomed to life at the university. He encouraged me to step outside of my comfort zone and try different things, including taking classes outside of my major. When I began spending more time thinking about internships and full-time positions, Mark shared with me a lot of his own personal experiences as a young professional. I loved hearing his stories. Mark’s mentorship helped me take full advantage of the opportunities offered by this university and make progress on advancing my own career.

Is there anything else you would like to add?

As scholars, we spend most of our time studying for our courses and preparing for our future careers, and it’s easy to get lost in the day-to-day grind. Be sure to make time to enjoy life and pursue your own interests. Whether you’re going to a concert in North Park or getting food with friends on Convoy, make memories that you’ll cherish long after college.
Remote Learning as a UCSD Chancellor’s Scholar

Stress, loneliness, anxiety. These feelings are natural but have only increased in volume because of COVID-19. Our daily vocabulary has changed, there is a universal empathy when we ask each other “how are you?”, and our lifestyles have adapted to a new normal. But has it adapted to an environment conducive to learning? Personally, the answer leans towards no.

Courses have felt depersonalized and disconnected, especially if they lack any synchronous offering. Being a literature major, generating meaningful discussions is increasingly difficult across barriers of space and time. What used to be an engaging dialogue is more so posting into a digital void with little response. This personally has been the most difficult part of remote learning; the human element of education cannot be imitated through Zoom.

Perhaps the silver lining for me has been time. This is a subjective prize but one I have chosen to maximize. I can now invest in projects, like my art/clothing business, while also investing in myself. Although many of the internships I had intended to apply for are on pause, many programs have adapted to the digital workspace. In particular, witnessing the mental toll of our situation, I have involved myself in mental health advocacy, applying to become a Wellness Peer Educator with CAPS. It feels strange to imagine dressing up for a Zoom interview with no handshaking or body language to read. But as with all things in our new world, we adapt.

To my fellow scholars, I suggest you find a purpose and continue your passion. Give yourself time-specific goals in an obscure timeline, grow and reflect. But most importantly, be kind to yourself. Our current period is filled with so much uncertainty it is important to have a support system in place and that starts with ourselves. CAPS and the Zone are underrated resources for wellness education, office hours have been an invaluable means of feeling connected to the individual a screen away from you, and workshops like iLead continue this conversation.

In a time of social distancing, social solidarity is priceless.

The transition to online classrooms has taken away the opportunity for hands-on experience during lab experiments. Virtual simulations aren’t enough to replace the actual learning that students should be getting from doing the experiments themselves. Luckily, I had previously taken a lab course and learned the basics of experimental procedures, but I am missing out on learning the advanced techniques this quarter.

Aside from this, I appreciate that all classes have recorded lectures so that students may re-watch these videos when we struggle with keeping up. I also appreciate that the professors are more accessible and are providing extra study help so that we adjust better to online classes.

I do actually prefer remote learning because it creates flexibility in student lives but I don’t have a chance to interact with others and network or create study groups. Sharing a space with other students and being able to hold conversations made it easier to ask for clarity during a lecture. That’s what on-campus classrooms encourage and is absent in remote learning.
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To all of my fellow scholars, I know the world is a little confusing and strange right now, but remember you are capable of overcoming it all. Reach out to those you find support in, and don’t forget to keep in virtual contact with people who make the world seem a little more normal. CAPS is always available if you need anyone to confide in, and so are the rest of your fellow Chancellor Scholars.

Remote Learning as a UCSD Chancellor’s Scholar

COVID-19 has reduced my classroom experience to a collection of Zoom calls throughout the day. It’s not the same because I don’t have that face-to-face interaction with my peers and professors, which help me learn. Despite this, I’ve been slowly transitioning to the online quarter and do find it in a way more relaxing. This is probably because I’m usually crouched on my chair, wrapped in several blankets, and in my pajamas after finding the guilt of roll out of bed to “attend lecture.” I am in a physics lab class this quarter, and rely on watching pre-recorded videos of my professor performing the experiments. Lab data are provided so it’s very convenient.

I would say the best part of remote learning is the freedom. I find that I am able to sort of learn at my own pace because everything is recorded now for “asynchronous viewing.” This means that I can set my own schedule of when I want to watch lectures, take notes, and do homework. This is sort of a double-edged sword because it becomes very easy to fall behind if you don’t keep up with the course work. It took a few weeks, but I think I’ve figured out what works best for me.

I intended to study abroad this coming summer in Osaka, Japan to conduct research but my trip was cancelled. The study abroad office also told me that I’d have to reapply next year for a spot in the same program, but that I’d be given “special consideration.” We’ll see how that goes…

Understand that this is a new experience for everyone and you are not alone in your struggles. If you need help, don’t be afraid to reach out to friends/staff or CAPS at UCSD!

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Chancellor’s Scholars Alumni Spotlight

Grace Kim

What have you been up to since graduating?

After graduating from UCSD last spring, I moved back to the Bay Area and began working at Amazon as a Software Development Engineer. I work primarily on operating systems for devices. I originally started as an intern the summer of my third year and accepted an offer to return for a full-time position.

How has the Chancellor’s Scholars Program helped you reach your education and career goals?

The Chancellor’s Scholars Program helped me prepare for my professional career by exposing me to industry. I was able to tour a tech company campus with other engineering scholars and I loved hearing the stories of Dream to Reality panelists as they reflected on the choices they made and the obstacles they faced throughout their professional careers. Emeriti mentors who had done software over the course of their careers shared their experiences with working in a team and developing products. The opportunity to meet industry professionals and learn from their experiences was one of the greatest aspects of the Chancellor’s Scholars Program.

How has the Emeriti Mentor Program helped you reach your education and career goals?

The guidance I received from my mentor, Mark Appelbaum, helped me tremendously as I was getting accustomed to life at the university. He encouraged me to step outside of my comfort zone and try different things, including taking classes outside of my major. When I began spending more time thinking about internships and full-time positions, Mark shared with me a lot of his own personal experiences as a young professional. I loved hearing his stories. Mark’s mentorship helped me take full advantage of the opportunities offered by this university and make progress on advancing my own career.

Do you have any advice for current Chancellor’s Scholars?

Chancellor’s Scholars, I encourage you to start looking for internship opportunities. The first step is to do your research. Look online at the websites of different companies in your industry for services or products that you might be interested in working on. Find out when the university hosts recruiting fairs and plan to attend, even if it’s just to talk to industry professionals. It’s important to apply early to positions that interest you. By the time the fall quarter starts, companies like Google or Apple are already looking at applications from students in semester systems. For CS/CE majors, most interviews are going to require you to answer theoretical questions and solve a technical problem either online or on a whiteboard. In order to prepare for interviews, use sites like Leetcode to get comfortable with the type of questions you will encounter. It’s important to be able to clearly explain your decisions when you’re solving these problems. Many engineering clubs and organizations offer mock interviews, and you can always practice with a friend. Most importantly, practice your elevator pitch! Regardless of your major, be sure to document projects or other works that you’ve done and be ready to talk about them to interviewers. These projects provide evidence on your resume that you’re able to apply what you learn in your courses.

Is there anything else you would like to add?

As scholars, we spend most of our time studying for our courses and preparing for our future careers, and it’s easy to get lost in the day-to-day grind. Be sure to make time to enjoy life and pursue your own interests. Whether you’re going to a concert in North Park or getting food with friends on Convoy, make memories that you’ll cherish long after college.

Study Abroad

Grace Kim

During my summer of 2019, I was fortunate enough to study abroad in Italy through the Revelle in Rome program. Because the program provided courses on humanities and visual arts, I saw this as an opportunity to gain interdisciplinary learning experience. I wanted to understand the core principles that gave meaning to human interaction and relationships in another culture, observe what holds communities together, and overall obtain a more open-minded mode of thinking. However, since I did not really know what my experience living in a foreign country would entail, I thought much of my learning goals would be fulfilled through those academic courses.

No doubt, I learned a lot about the structure and values of Roman society as well as the different eras of thought and expression that swept through Western civilization over the course of history. I discovered a newfound appreciation for sculptures, such as The Boxer and Michelangelo’s Prisoners that line the hall leading to the David in Galleria dell’Accademia. Their conveyance of human emotions and struggles revealed the universality of the human experience that even a college student from San Diego could somewhat understand. However, although I learned much in the classroom and the tours supplemen-
tary to my courses, studying abroad had taught me a lot about myself. Gaining a new sense of independence came new responsibilities, and I had to find ways to be patient and helpful to others when we were all struggling to cope in a foreign environment. Overall, this was an invaluable experience for me, one that I will always look back on with a longing smile.
Study Abroad

In Spring 2019, Emerita Mentor Ruth Covell, M.D., awarded two meritorious Chancellor’s Scholars $2000 each to help support their dream of studying abroad. Dr. Covell is a huge advocate for students wanting to expand their horizons. She believes that study abroad and foreign immersion makes for a more well-rounded student. Recipients of the 2019 Study Abroad Awards, Kyle Skelil & Grace Kim, share the following about their experiences:

Kyle Skelil

During summer 2019, I was fortunate enough to both intern and study abroad. I first spent 2 months in Barcelona, Spain, where I was the lead engineer for the Instituto Tecnico Ortopedico, an orthopedic doctor’s office. My job there was to shadow the lead doctor to treat patients and 3D scan them, so that I could 3D CAD their required remedies. In my time there, I made arm and leg casts, insoles, prosthetics, and other orthopedic devices. I also was able to help fit the patient once these printed and work with them through their physical therapy, so I could truly see the impact our work was having. I worked closely with the other technicians, who created the parts by hand, but I was hired to try out the 3D printing. After I finished my time there, I moved to Sydney, Australia for another 2 months. There, I studied neuroscience and was able to visit some labs doing cutting edge research in brain development.

As someone who was raised in a multicultural household, I always felt the allure of going abroad to understand more of the world. I knew that college was the time to do it, but I was conflicted as I also wanted to intern for a summer. I was lucky to learn that I could do both, and jumped on the opportunity immediately. After spending my time there, I can truly say that I have come back a different, more mature person. I was able to understand not just the cultures of these other countries, but the cuisines, the politics, the societies as a whole, and how different they are to what I was used to. The exposure and understanding of such different parts of the world truly help one be more open minded and accepting, and I encourage everyone who can do it to try.

Aside from learning more about these cultures and my own self, I also had amazing times there. I made great friends that I traveled all over with, including Amsterdam and the Great Barrier Reef (which I even got to snorkel in). I was able to celebrate regional holidays of our neighborhood in Barcelona, and I was able to watch a Broadway show in the Sydney Opera House. The experiences and friends I made are ones I will treasure for the rest of my life, and I would not have been able to learn so much and try to help those people without the assistance of Dr. Ruth Covell. To that, I am forever grateful.

Meet Our Mentors

In each issue, we will introduce two of our dedicated mentors

Phyllis Mirsky

Phyllis S. Mirsky retired as the UCSD Deputy University Librarian from the UCSD Libraries after holding series of appointments at UCSD, including service as Acting University Librarian on three occasions. Her previous employers include the National Library of Medicine and the UCLA Biomedical Library. Ms. Mirsky received a master’s degree in librarianship at the University of Michigan and a BS in Social Welfare from the Ohio State University. An active member of the Medical Library Association, Ms. Mirsky has held several leadership positions including service as its president in 1985.

As an educator, researcher, and administrator, she has influenced scores of health science librarians all over the world. In 1995 Phyllis was awarded one of the Medical Library Association’s (MLA) highest honors: MLA Fellow. She was also honored by the Medical Library Association by being selected as one of “MLA’s 100 Most Notable”. Those individuals identified for this honor were recognized for their significant contributions to MLA and the health information profession throughout MLA’s 100 year history.

“Education has been a core of my professional life so the opportunity to contribute to the educational experience of Chancellor’s Scholars through the Emeriti Mentor Program was important to me. It is difficult enough to navigate one’s first year at university but more challenging for First Generation students. The University has much to offer students, not only academically, but it is not always clear where and how to access these resources. Mentors have a broad range of life and academic experiences that Scholars can draw on. [It is important to support the Emeriti Mentor Program because] both the students and mentors benefit from the relationship.”

Morton Printz

Professor Emeritus of Pharmacology Morton Printz received undergraduate training in pharmacy (B.S. Pharmacy) and graduate doctoral training (Ph. D. Biophysics) at the University of Pittsburgh gaining experience in both retail pharmacy and research pharmacology. His doctoral thesis research focused on copper respiratory proteins, hemocyanins, and how their “function”, i.e., oxygen carrying capacity linked to protein subunit association. Professor Printz conducted two years of post-doctoral research at Dartmouth (in Biochemistry) where he applied the technique of tritium-hydrogen exchange (THX) to probe the dynamic secondary structure (“breathing rate”) of helical DNA and other helical nucleic acids. Following a period at Rockefeller University using THX, he joined the new UCSD Division of Pharmacology in the Department of Medicine. His research at UCSD transitioned to biological and genomic studies focused on stress, molecular pharmacology, and rat genetic hypertension. These efforts led to a series of five-year NIH Grants, Program Project (PO1) and SCOR (Specialized Centers of Research) under his direction as Principal Investigator (PI). Professor Printz was a 1st generation undergraduate in his family so he has empathy with the career track mentoring conducted for Chancellor’s Scholars. Upon retirement, colleagues introduced him to the Emeriti Mentoring Program (EMP) and he found it was a “natural fit” to his own long-term academic interests of teaching and research. He is the Spring recipient of the Dickson Award.

“Emeriti mentoring of Chancellor’s Scholars fuses career achievements and experiences of UCSD faculty with a greater likelihood of career success of our scholars. Support of the EMP, both financial and experiential, provides a greater opportunity for Scholars to achieve career success.”
A unique component to the Chancellor’s Scholars Program consists of quarterly informal seminars, bringing together a sector-specific panel for a dialogue. The goal is to offer students an up-close look at what it takes academically and professionally to succeed in each of these sectors. These seminars are called “Dream to Reality.” In the past, Chancellor’s Scholars chose to attend based on the sector presented at each seminar. However, since there was such a wealth of knowledge presented at these workshops, we changed the format so the whole first year of Chancellor’s Scholars could attend. Four years ago we decided to include the workshop in the weekly meetings. Last year, because of its popularity among scholars, we began hosting two Dream to Reality Panels a quarter. This allowed students to have more opportunities to ask questions to more professionals in a wider array of fields. Since last year, in addition to Emeriti professors, we have also had at least one UCSD Alumni serve as panelist during each session. A special thanks to UCSD Alumni Board Director Sam Knight for recruiting alumni panelists for these sessions.

### Health Sciences
October 31, 2019

- Professor John Wheeler
- Dr. Jake Jacoby
- Ms. Laurel Ball*

### Biological Sciences
November 14, 2020

- Professor Mel Green
- Professor Immo Scheffler
- Dr. Marguerite Jackson
- Dr. Melissa Keenan*

### Arts & Humanities
January 9, 2020

- Professor Steven Adler
- Professor John O’Neal
- Mr. Jonathan Villegas*

### Social Sciences
April 23 2020

- Mr. Wayne Kennedy
- Professor Gary Jacobson
- Mr. Neville Billimoria*

### Math & Engineering
May 9, 2020

- Professor James Lin
- Professor Peter Chen
- Ms. Celine McRae-Hamdy*
- Mr. Jack Ly*

### Computer Science
May 21, 2020

- Mr. Rick Ord
- Mr. Russ Schnapp
- Ms. Donna Mulcahy*
- Mr. Luis Pineda*

*UCSD Alumni Participants

### Volunteer & Service Events

#### Donation Drive

During Winter Quarter, Chancellor’s Scholars put out a call for donations to create wellness kits for UCSD students in need. With the help of the UCSD Retirement and Emeriti Associations, they were able to gather enough items to assemble 45 Winter Goodie Bags filled with soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, socks, and other hygiene products. These were all donated directly to the UCSD Basic Needs Hub. Donated canned food and other nonperishable goods were donated to the Triton Food Pantry. Scholars hope to make this an annual event, and thank all of the donors for their generosity.

#### Preuss School Volunteering

On Saturday, March 7, a group of 16 Chancellor’s Scholars gathered to tutor Preuss School students in 7th and 8th grade math and science subjects. Our scholars enjoyed being of service to such outstanding students, and look forward to working with Preuss School for future tutoring events.

#### Letters of Encouragement

On Thursday, April 16, scholars got together via Zoom to write letters to adults and children who have intellectual and developmental disabilities. The goal of this event was to create online cards that would help them smile and know that people were thinking of them, especially with COVID-19 social distancing restrictions in place.

Do you have a volunteer opportunity our scholars can be a part of? Email ChancellorsScholars@ucsd.edu to let us know more!
The Importance of Etiquette

An important part of the Chancellor’s Scholars Program provided to Chancellor’s Scholars at UC San Diego is a formal dining Etiquette training event, scheduled for January of the first year. Our young scholars will be thrust into formal dining events, where dining etiquette skills are requisite, as early as the following month. In February of each year, the university holds a major university donor recognition formal dinner, to which many of the Chancellor’s Scholars are invited. There is an assumption that Chancellor’s Scholars, who are identified as future potential leaders, will be called upon to dine with knowledge and ease when faced with a formal western dining setting.

The 2020 Chancellor’s Scholars Etiquette Dinner, presented with the gracious support of Chancellor Pradeep Khosla and the UCSD Emeriti Association, took place on Friday, January 17, from 6:00pm to 9:00pm at the Ida and Cecil Green Faculty Club. Attendees to this unique fine-dining learning experience are first year Chancellor’s Scholars, select upper class Chancellor’s Scholars, Emeriti Mentors and key staff members.

After a welcome from Professor Emeritus of Oceanography, Dr. Robert Knox, first year Chancellor’s Scholar Megan Tran introduced Executive Vice Chancellor Elizabeth Simmons. EVC Simmons gave a wonderful Opening Benediction, where she addressed the fact that on this night, guests were to review etiquette training from a western perspective, but also keep in mind that each culture has its own set of etiquette rules. After EVC Simmons’ insightful comments about cultural sensitivity in dining etiquette, Chancellor’s Scholar Juan Cortes introduced Etiquette Instructor Dr. Grace Bagunu. Dr. Bagunu led guests through each step of an elegant five course meal. Musical entertainment was provided by pianist Danny Green. After a toast led by Professor Emeritus Dr. Roger Speagg, Professor Emeritus Mark Appelbaum, gave closing remarks.

Etiquette Instructor - Grace Bagunu, Ph.D.

Grace Bagunu is a higher education professional and leadership expert. Grace currently serves as the assistant dean of student affairs at Revelle College at the University of California at San Diego. In addition, she works with RISE San Diego to develop urban leaders in the San Diego community, including college and high school students, through various leadership development programs. Grace facilitates various workshops and seminars on various topics on personality assessments, professional communication, and dining etiquette. Most recently, Grace facilitated the annual Chancellor’s Scholars Etiquette Dinner as well as a workshop for the scholars on the etiquette of writing a thank you letter. Grace has extensive experience in areas related to student activities, student governance, test prep, design thinking, strategic planning, and organizational consulting.

Asian Meal Etiquette

During this year’s Etiquette Dinner, scholars and mentors both expressed interest in learning more about the meal etiquette in different cultures. In response to this interest, the Chancellor’s Scholars Alliance hosted a virtual Asian Meal Etiquette presentation, with an overview of key points, and a brief demonstration on how to correctly use chopsticks. Thank you to CSA Board Members Henry Chan, Dephny Duan, Megan Tran, and Eric Xiao for hosting this highly informative presentation.

President’s Message

Hello everyone and congrats on making it to the end of the school year! This quarter has been a rough one, as we transitioned to online learning and adapted to our “new normal” for the time being. We finished winter quarter, filled with uncertainty surrounding the circumstances, yet tried our best to succeed. This was a period of transition for all of us—many of our scholars moved home, seniors lost their graduation ceremonies, and we all acclimated to a new learning environment. There is a bright side to this however, as our students were able to spend more time with their families and explore new hobbies.

Our student organization, Chancellor’s Scholars Alliance was also able to adapt quickly and implement new, creative ideas for virtual events. We took our popular, in-person study jams and CSAs to small groups, play a wide variety of games, and interact with different people. Our CSA Study Jams were revamped into social hangouts, with opportunities to collate and talk about life during quarantine. This creative period also brought to life events such as “CSA Pets: Show-Tell-and-See,” “Make Someone Smile with Your Letters,” our first ever CSA General Body Meeting and the highly successful Asian Meal Etiquette Dinner. All events were conducted over Zoom and helped to connect our scholars across cohorts, and even Emeriti Mentors!

During these uncertain times, it is important to stay connected and maintain a strong sense of community. Our CSA board is doing this and more by hosting interactive and engaging events, and we hope to see you all there! Stay on the lookout for emails and posts regarding future events and we can’t wait to see your smiles and hear about what you’ve been up to this quarter!

Sincerely,
Jenny Sayaseng
CSA President, 2019-2020

For more information visit: http://chancellorsscholarsalliance.ucsd.edu/

Follow us on Instagram: @ucdcsascholars

Chancellor’s Scholars Alliance

Congratulations to our Graduating Senior CSA Board Members!

Ivy Dang
Jocelyn Ornelas Munoz
Jenny Sayaseng

Welcome to the new CSA Board!

2020-2021 Board Members

President: Rachel Luu
Vice President (Internal): Sonali Bhangadia
Vice President (External): Vince Ly
Secretary: Sidney Huen
Vice Secretary: Melissa Espinosa
Treasurer: Megan Tran
Vice Treasurer: Ixchel Rivas Torres
Peer Mentoring Chair: Leyna Nguyen
Vice Peer Mentoring Chair: David Ma
Social Chair: Jack Zhong
Vice Social Chair: Andrew Hu
Volunteer Chair: Vivian Chou
Vice Volunteer Chair: Kelley Ha
Webmaster: Benson Vuong
Vice Webmaster: Henry Chan
Media Co-Chair: Eric Xiao
Media Co-Chair: Dephny Duan
Freshman Ambassador: TBD Fall 2020
Member at Large: Stephanie Mountain

For more information visit: http://chancellorsscholarsalliance.ucsd.edu/
Much Ado About Nothing

Chancellor’s Scholars were given the opportunity to attend a free showing of the UC San Diego Theatre Department’s play, Much Ado About Nothing, in February 2020 at the Mandell Weiss Forum Theatre.

Director’s Statement: Much Ado About Nothing is a play about the lies we tell each other. The little white lies we tell to help a friend, the lies we tell to get what we want, or the lies we tell ourselves to make life a little brighter. In the same way, one of the greatest gifts that theater has to offer an audience is the ability to imagine the world differently through storytelling. And what is a story but a lie we agree to believe temporarily? This production interweaves the stories the characters tell in the play with the stories the actors tell on stage in order to embrace the idea that, the fact that its fiction doesn’t make it any less true.

This event was made possible with the generous assistance of Steven Adler, Professor Emeritus of Theatre, and UCSD Theatre and Dance Director of Promotions Mark Maltby. A sincere thank you to Professor Adler, Mr. Maltby, and the entire UC San Diego Theatre and Dance Department for providing such a wonderful opportunity for our scholars.

Please Donate Generously to the Emeriti Association’s Chancellor’s Scholarship Fund

Through the Chancellor’s Scholarship Award, scholars receive $5,000 a year for four years at UC San Diego. Your monetary support of this program allows bright young scholars to achieve a higher education and helps them meet the challenges they face at a rigorous university like UC San Diego. Please help us continue to award these prestigious scholarships to students in need. With your financial help today, we can help make these scholars’ dreams a reality.

To donate, please mail your check (made payable to UC San Diego Foundation - Fund # 4556) to the: UCSD Retirement Resource Center, 9500 Gilman Drive, MC 0020, La Jolla, CA 92093-0020. Note: Gifts must be postmarked by 12/31/2020, to count as a deduction for Tax Year 2020. For more information, call (858) 534-4724, and ask to speak with RRC Director, Suzan Cioffi.

Follow us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ucsdchancellors.scholars

Follow us on LinkedIn: @ UC San Diego Chancellor’s Scholars Program

Who are Chancellor’s Scholars?

These scholars are some of the best and brightest students who receive admittance to UC San Diego, and they are coming in with top GPA’s and test scores. They all have in common:

- Demonstrated academic excellence
- Leadership potential

However, these top students have had to work hard to achieve their place here, faced with difficult life challenges. Chancellor’s Scholars have one or more of the following attributes:

- First generation college attendee
- Hail from a 4th or 5th Quintile school
- Financial need

Chancellor’s Scholars on the set of the Saturday, February 15 evening showing of the exceptional play. In alphabetical order by last name: Henry Chan, Dephny Duan, Sidney Huen, Rachel Lui, Stephanie Moutain. Leyna Nguyen, Jocelyn Ornelas-Munoz, Jenny Sayaseng, Megan Tran, Phillip Yohan, Benson Vuong, Eric Xiao Note in photo: Daniel Naysenski, Jack Zhong