



May 2021
Volume 3, Issue #2

Chancellor's Scholars Journal

Q&A Session with Chancellor Pradeep Khosla

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
- ◆ Hail from a 4th or 5th Quintile school
- ◆ Financial need

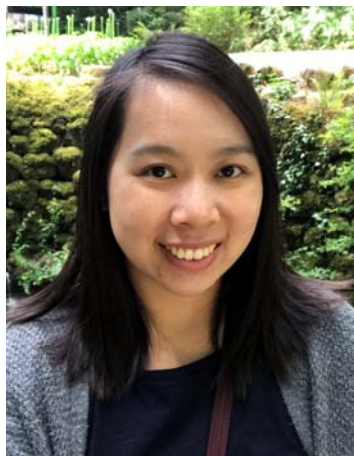


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On Tuesday, May 18, 2021, the Chancellor's Scholars Program held its first Q&A Session with UCSD Chancellor Pradeep Khosla. Our scholars greatly benefit from the scholarship, mentorship, and leadership development opportunities they receive through the UCSD Chancellor's Scholars and Emeriti Mentor Programs. Through this event, scholars formed a better understanding of the important role Chancellor's Scholars have in the UCSD institutional environment, and the positive impact they can have in the UCSD community, and their future networks. Several Emeriti Mentors were also in attendance, and enjoyed hearing the interactions. We sincerely thank Chancellor Khosla for encouraging out scholars to "stay curious" and have confidence in their abilities. We hope to hold similar events in future years.

Chancellor's Scholars Alumni Spotlight



Michelle SooHoo
2007 Cohort
B.S. Psychology

Currently:
Adjunct Lecturer
at Cal State Poly Pomona

What have you been up to since graduating from UCSD?

Since graduating from UC San Diego, I have gone on to earn a Ph.D. in School Psychology at Texas A&M University. I was excited to come back to California to complete both my predoctoral internship and postdoctoral fellowship at Children's Hospital Los Angeles before finding myself on the job market in the middle of a pandemic. Over the past year, I've been a lecturer at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, teaching undergraduate and graduate psychology courses and learning to navigate the world through Zoom. I will soon be transitioning back to Children's Hospital Los Angeles as a licensed psychologist, fulfilling my desire to work with children and their families as they navigate mental and behavioral health challenges associated with living with a chronic medical illness.

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

The UCSD Chancellor's Scholars Program provided me with opportunities to interact with individuals from diverse backgrounds and with exposure to opportunities I would have not otherwise known about as a first-generation college student. These networking opportunities offered me a glimpse of what was possible for my future, including attending graduate school and studying abroad, and taught me that it's okay to have what feels like unreasonable, unrealistic education and career goals because, with determination and thoughtful planning, there will always be a way.

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

Take advantage of all the opportunities afforded to you as a Chancellor's Scholar and as a student at UC San Diego. Whether it's a research opportunity or an internship or studying abroad, every experience has the potential to provide a wonderful learning opportunity that will support your ability to reach your goals. Even something that doesn't look perfect for you on paper can provide you with the most perfect learning experiences. There's a lot to discover when you reach just a little outside your comfort zone.

Is there anything else you would like to add?

UC San Diego has such a unique campus with so many hidden gems. As the world opens up again, I encourage each of you to continue to explore the outdoors and continue to find all the different corners of campus. Do things like go out and find every piece of the Stuart Collection with your friends or create your own campus scavenger hunt!



Dream to Reality Panels

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. We host two Dream to Reality Panels a quarter. This allows students to have an opportunity to ask questions to a wide range of professionals in an array of fields. Special thanks to UCSD Alumni Board Director Sam Knight for recruiting alumni panelists for these sessions.

November 5—Health Sciences

Professor Mandy Butler, Dr. Roger Spragg, UCSD Alum Dr. Wilson To

November 19—Health Science Specialties

Dr. Joel Dimsdale, Gail Lew, Pharm.D., UCSD Alum, Sarah Wang, NP, RN

January 7—Arts & Humanities

Professor Steven Adler, Professor Michael Parrish, UCSD Alum Ms. Ragan Linton

March 1—Physical Sciences

Dr. Bob Knox, Professor John Wheeler, UCSD Alum Jordan James

May 6—Engineering & Computer Science

Professor David Miller, Professor Jeanne Ferrante, Professor Charles Tu, UCSD Alum Todd Stewart

CSP Alumni Participants

Our scholars asked for it, and we responded! Last summer, we held a focus group of current scholars to ask how we could improve the first and second-year programs. One recurring suggestion—more CSP Alumni. Thank you to all of the Chancellor's Scholars Program Alums who joined us this past year.

Alumni Q&A Event—February 2

Abdi Adbullahi, 2017 Cohort, Medical Student, UC San Francisco

Naghan Adeeb, 2015 Cohort, Dental Student, UC Los Angeles

Tommy Dang, 2015 Cohort, Software Development Engineer, Amazon

Ciara Dooley, 2016 Cohort, PhD Student, Oceanography/Applied Ocean Science & Engineering, MIT

Winnie Kuang, 2018 Cohort, Research Associate, NASA Ames Center

Andy Thai, 2018 Cohort, PhD Student, Computer Science, UC Irvine

Alumni Panel—March 9

Trevor Irwin, 2017 Cohort, Aerospace Engineer, Flometrics

Michelle SooHoo, 2007 Cohort, Adjunct Lecturer, Cal State Poly Pomona

Medical School Panel—March 30

Anthony Yip, 2013 Cohort, Medical Student, UC San Diego

Graduate School Panel—April 6

Winnie Shi, 2014 Cohort, PhD Student, Rice University

Jocelyn Ornelas-Munoz, 2016 Cohort, PhD Student, Math, UC Merced

Computer Science Post-Graduate Options Panel—April 20

Bella Le, 2016 Cohort, Software Engineer, Quora

Chancellor's Scholars Work/Research Spotlight



Rhianen Callahan
2019 Cohort
Marshall College
History &
Sociocultural
Anthropology

What opportunities have you been taken part in since starting at UCSD?

Since I became a student at UCSD, I have had the great privilege of being a part of multiple work/research opportunities on campus. My first job was becoming an orientation leader (OL) for Seventh College, which would later inspire me to apply again to be an orientation leader for Marshall this summer. I have also been conducting research for the Anthropology department on meeting the needs of Anthropology students and attracting students from other majors.

How did you find this opportunity, and what was the application process like?

I found both opportunities through advertisements. A friend of mine sent me the college OL application and my research position was advertised in the Anthropology department's newsletter. I had taken a class with the professor in charge, Dr. Saiba Varma. For both opportunities, I was required to send in my resume and later be called in for an interview.

What are/were some of your daily tasks?

My daily tasks as an OL consisted of hosting a small group of orientees over Zoom. We would go over our designated subject, conduct a bonding activity, I would give a presentation, and then we would have a section for questions at the end.

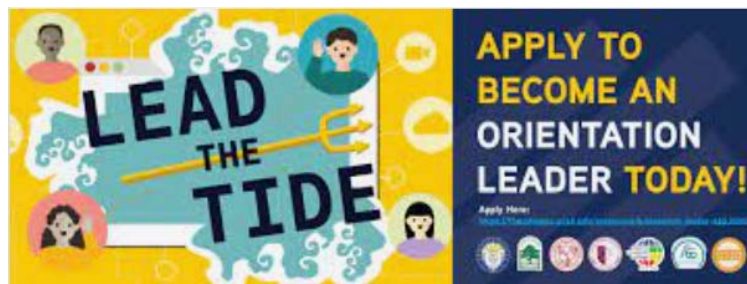
My daily tasks for my research position consist of weekly meetings with my team. We have created a survey together, worked on advertising said survey, and revived the Anthropology club on campus. Currently, we are working on coding the survey results to present to the department and helping anthropology students form their club.

Did/Have social distancing guidelines affected any part of your job/research?

Both of my positions have been entirely remote. It has been challenging to work without having contact with one another. Many students struggled to participate during orientation, which pushed us OLs to think outside of the box on how to increase socialization.

Any advice for other scholars currently struggling to find similar opportunities in your field?

The advice I would give to other scholars struggling to find opportunities is don't lose faith in applying. I have personally struggled with doubting my abilities and feeling like someone else could do the job better than me. I suggest working hard on your interview skills, as the interview process is the main factor in your application. Don't be afraid to be yourself and to put yourself out there.



Chancellor's Scholar Research Spotlight



Rachel Luu
2018 Cohort
Sixth College
Mechanical Engineering

What opportunities have you been a part of since starting at UCSD?

Since starting at UCSD, I have been able to have the opportunity to explore research with different labs in the engineering department. Last year, I worked in a soft robotics lab at the Center for Medical Devices and currently I am researching with the Meyers Group in the Material Science and Engineering Program within the Mechanical and Aerospace (MAE) Engineering Department.

How did you find this opportunity? What was the application

process like? In my first year, I applied to the GEAR Program run by the IDEA Engineering Student Center, a guided program that introduced engineering students to research on campus. The program had a written application where I wrote extensively about my curiosity to try out research. I was accepted to this program and I was placed in a robotics lab where I was taught the technical basics of conducting research such as how to read papers, write proposals, and make research posters. Overall, participating in the GEAR Program allowed me to build my research skills and prepared me for my later opportunities. For my current position,

I signed up for the MAE Mentorship Program and was paired with my graduate student mentor. I got to know my mentor well and he invited me to join his research project because I had a skill set that would be helpful for this particular project. In both cases of obtaining these opportunities, I made sure to exhibit a great amount of initiative and willingness to learn because both of those qualities lend to being a strong and great researcher.

What are/were some of your daily tasks?

In my current position, I am collaborating on a project with my graduate student mentor where we study keratin based biological structures in order to characterize their mechanical properties. In particular, we study horse hooves as a source for bioinspired design. Some of the tasks I did remotely include reading research papers, modeling the structure of the hoof using computer aided design software, and running finite element analysis simulations on bioinspired models. Additionally, I would meet weekly with my mentor and the research group to report findings and brainstorm research hypotheses. In times when I am able to go in person, I prepare hoof samples to then conduct material compression, tensile, and impact testing using the equipment in the lab.

Did/Have social distancing guidelines affected any part of your research?

Funny enough, I started my current research project in March 2020 right before COVID regulations took place. Thankfully, the work I was able to do for the project was able to be done remotely since I had the software at home and of course, reading papers could be done anywhere. What helped the remote experience was having scheduled calls with my mentors to stay on track and stay motivated. Unfortunately though, the current situation did inhibit me from being able to get more hands-on experience at first.

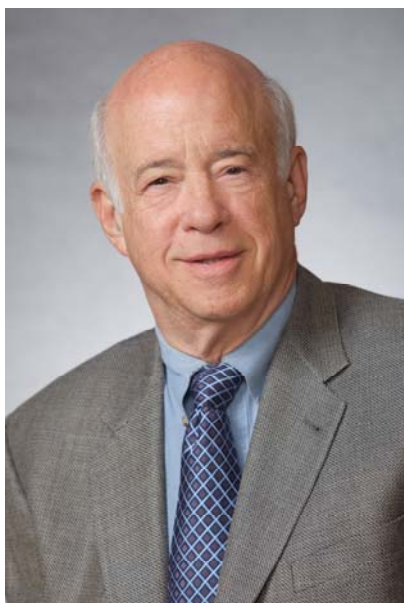
Any advice for other scholars currently struggling to find similar opportunities in your field?

There are many different ways to get into engineering research! You can talk to a Professor, apply for a guided program like GEAR, or apply directly to labs. In my experience, I would recommend you also join mentorship programs or network with graduate students who work on projects that seem interesting to you. Many undergraduates typically work under graduate student researchers so it makes sense to reach out directly to those you would be working with! Nonetheless, please feel free to reach out to me and I am always happy to talk to anyone personally about my work, advice, or engineering research as a whole!

Professor Emeritus Mark Appelbaum



In Memoriam



Our friend, colleague, mentor, and leader, Professor Emeritus Mark Appelbaum, died on December 21, 2021. His passing was swift and unexpected and has left a huge void, not only for his family and friends, but for the entire UCSD community, and the close-knit community of mentors and scholars in the Emeriti Association and Chancellor's Scholars and Emeriti Mentor Programs. Mark Appelbaum dedicated the last 24 years of his life and career to our campus and he made a significant mark as a professor, administrator, and leader in the UCSD Emeriti Association and as Chair of the Emeriti Mentor Programs. We miss him dearly.



*Infinite thanks from all of the Chancellor's Scholars
for your generous donations.*

Donations to UCSD Emeriti Association Scholarship Fund

2019-2020

Gifts of \$10,000 and above:

Jerry & Elaine Schneider

Gifts of \$500-\$5,000

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Morton & Jana Printz

Feroza Ardeshir & Suresh Subramani

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RA Members \$7,000

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Yutaka & Eugene Kunitake

Meet Our Mentors:

In each issue, we introduce two of our dedicated mentors



Mae Brown: Assistant Vice Chancellor Mae Brown's career began at UC San Diego in Undergraduate Admissions in 1972. She served as an Academic Counselor and Coordinator of Orientation at Earl Warren College prior to her appointment at Third College, today Marshall College, where she served as Director of Academic Advising for sixteen-years. She moved on to serve as the Director of Undergraduate Admissions in 1995 and was appointed Assistant Vice Chancellor for Admissions and Enrollment Services in 2003, where she was instrumental in upholding the university's academic excellence. She is deeply committed to student success. Mae attended Harding University, San Diego State and Claremont Graduate University. She is

“Serving as an Emeriti Mentor brings me great joy. I am impressed with the brilliance of our scholars. I enjoy hearing about their campus experience, their plans, and their passion for identifying their role in the world. It has been incredible to watch the growth and transformation of our scholars. The EMP creates an opportunity for scholars to flourish and grow on a large research campus, with incredible resources. The introduction to world renowned scholars and key administrators early in their academic careers has been shown to enhance time to degree completion, successful academic achievement and increase the possibility of pursuing graduate and professional school studies. Some mentees have developed wonderful relationships with their mentor, thus making it easier to request letters of recommendation for advanced studies or future career opportunities. I would encourage others to consider exploring the Emeriti Mentor and Chancellor's Scholars Programs. If you enjoy working with students, this is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with academically talented undergraduates who bring intellectual curiosity, an awareness of critical issues facing our country, including global warming, social justice, emerging technologies, and health disparities. When I interact with some of these scholars, it gives me great hope for our future!”

Jake Jacoby: Dr. Irving "Jake" Jacoby is a graduate of the University of Miami and the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. After a medical residency at Boston City Hospital and the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, he completed an Infectious Disease fellowship at the Brigham Hospital. He is board certified in Emergency Medicine, Internal Medicine, Infectious Diseases, and Undersea and Hyperbaric Medicine. He attended in the UCSD ER for over 25 years and served as Hospital Director for Emergency Preparedness and Response. As CDR of the CA-4 Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT CA4), he has deployed on 2 dozen federally declared disasters and special security events. He received the Teaching Award from the Graduating Class of Emergency Medicine Residents in 2000, and most recently was recognized with the Disaster Medical Sciences Award from the American College of Emergency Physicians. He has been a Chancellor's Scholars mentor for over 6 years.



“I joined the Emeriti Mentor program at the urging of the founder of the program, Prof. Mel Green, who thought that with my many interests, I would be able to mentor a variety of undergraduates, and that is how it has worked out. Mentors are not supposed to be replacements for academic mentors. What they do bring to the undergraduates is the ability to share life experiences in an academic setting...sharing the kind of education that is not found in books or classes, but in the realm of acclimating to campus life and the pursuit of an education while adjusting to becoming independent. Supporting the programs of the Emeriti Association has been and continues to be a way to continue to participate in campus life. After all, UCSD Emeriti chose their careers hopefully based on what rewarded them the most intellectually; but when they chose to remain in an academic setting they could have only chosen that path because they were believers and supporters of training and educating the next generations of professionals, while in the company of other colleagues in their fields. By participating in the Emeriti association, we can continue to enjoy all the benefits of academic life that we had while working through the many activities of all sorts that the Emeriti Association provides. Mentoring the scholars has had benefits for both mentees and mentors alike, sharing the experiences and viewpoints of the two generations, getting together to answer questions and discuss issues. to raise scholarship funds to ensure that high achieving but financially disadvantaged students have an opportunity to attend.”

Chancellor's Scholars Alliance

Welcome to the new CSA Board!

2021-2022 Board Members

President: Andrew Hu
Vice President: TBD
Secretary: Melissa Espinosa
Vice Secretary: Taymor Tsepina
Treasurer: Ixchel Rivas Torres
Vice Treasurer: Nhat Pham
Peer Mentoring Chair: David Ma
Vice Peer Mentoring Chair: Carolina Marin
Co-Social Chair: Quyendi Nguyen
Co-Social Chair: Jemariz Arzobal
Volunteer Chair: Benson Vuong
Vice Volunteer Chair: Anthony Luu
Webmaster: Henry Chan
Vice Webmaster: Brandon Chaing
Media Chair: Ryan Jones
Senior Advisor: Rachel Luu
Members at Large: Eric Xiao, Jack Zhong, Vivan Chou

Follow us:

Instagram: @ucsdcsascholars

Private Facebook Group: Chancellor's Scholars Alliance

For more information visit:

<http://chancellorsscholarsalliance.ucsd.edu/>



**Congratulations to our
Graduating Senior
CSA Board Members!**



Sonali Bhanvadia

Will be working at Phanes Therapeutics, and doing research at UCSD SOM.



Sidney Huen

Will be attending graduate school at UCSD



Stephanie Mountain

Will be entering the workforce, has a position at Somatek.

Connect with CSP Alumni on LinkedIn!

LinkedIn is a great networking tool that will be incredibly useful to you in all future endeavors.

If you haven't already, please make sure to connect to the following profiles:

[Chancellor's Scholars](#) & [UCSD Chancellor's Scholars Alumni](#)

Follow the CSP LinkedIn page: [UC San Diego Chancellor's Scholars Program](#)

Scholars—Make sure to add “UC San Diego Chancellor's Scholars Program” to your profile's “Education Section.” This will automatically add you to the CSP page's alumni section.



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Managing Editor: Vania Bailon, Coordinator, UCSD CSP/EMP; EMP Chair: Professor Emerita Ann Craig
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The UCSD Chancellor's Scholars Program is domiciled on the UCSD Campus in University Center Building 400

— Calendar —

Event Name	Location	Date	Time
CSP Closing Reception	Zoom	May 27, 2021	5:00 PM—6:00 PM
June Hosted EMP Mentor Meeting	Zoom	June 9, 2021	12:00 PM—1:00 PM
CSP Fall Opening Reception	Zoom	Sept. 30, 2021	4:30 PM—6:00 PM
CSP Fall Kick-Off Event	Zoom	Oct. 2, 2021	12:00 PM—1:30 PM

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



help make these scholars' dreams a reality.

Through the Chancellor's Scholarship Award, scholars receive \$5,000 a year for four years at UC San Diego. Your monetary support for 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 generous financial assistance, we can ensure that future scholars continue to receive outstanding educational and leadership opportunities at UC San Diego. Chancellor's Scholars are prepared to be the future leaders of America. With your contribution today, we can

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. You may also make a gift to this scholarship fund electronically by going to the UCSD Emeriti Association website, <https://emeriti.ucsd.edu/>. Once there, please scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on the bright yellow [Make a Gift button](#) which will take you to the e-gift page for the **UCSD EMERITI ASSOCIATION CHANCELLOR'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND (Fund #4556)**. Thank you for your generous intent.

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

