Meet UCSC's Ninth Chancellor: Denice D. Denton

Celebrating 40 years of alumni achievement

Providing financial support for students
When a student calls, say ‘YES.’

Students are making an all-out effort this year to raise funds for scholarships and fellowships at UC Santa Cruz. They are asking you to help by making a generous pledge to the $50 million Cornerstone Campaign.

So, when a student calls, please say ‘yes.’
A standing-room-only crowd turned out to greet Denise D. Denton during her first visit to campus after the Board of Regents named her UC Santa Cruz’s ninth chancellor. Less than 24 hours after the announcement was made on December 14, Denton was welcomed to UCSC by University of California President J. Michael V. Drake.

February 14, comes to UC Santa Cruz from the University of Washington, where she served as dean of the College of Engineering. She is clearly thrilled by her new affiliation. “This has been a wonderful experience,” said Denton of her selection. “I’m trying to enjoy it and take it all in. The University of California leads the United States and the world in public higher education,” she added, noting that UC is thereby also at the forefront of the “challenges and opportunities” facing academia today. More than 700 people applied for the top post at UCSC, a process that began in May, noted search committee member and UCSC chemistry and biochemistry professor Eugene Swires. “It was a sunny day when the committee was charged, and it’s a sunny day this December 15 when we welcome Chancellor Designate Denton,” said Swires. “I look forward to working with you, Denise.”

The new chancellor offers her views of UCSC and outlines the emerging goals of her administration. See Q&A, pages 8–9.

First major study of organic farming in state yields surprises

UCSC is celebrating its 40th anniversary in 2004–05 with a number of special events and a fundraising campaign that makes the support of undergraduate and graduate students a top priority. For information about anniversary events, as well as the Cometsong Campaign, please go to www.ucsc.edu and select the logo, shown at right. See also pages 22–23.

Computer simulation of Indian Ocean tsunami

Soon after hearing news reports of the tsunami that devastated coastal regions throughout the Indian Ocean, research geophysicist Steven Ward, an expert on tsunamis, went to work on his computer. Using sophisticated computational techniques to simulate the tsunami, Ward created an animated movie showing the tsunami waves spreading out through the Indian Ocean from the site of the powerful earth-quake that triggered them. The simulation, based on the physics of earthquakes and tsunamis, was considered preliminary because geologists had not yet fully characterized the earth-quake, Ward said.

“The tsunami model depends on earthquake parameters, so as we learn more about the earth-quake I will be able to refine it. But the essence of the phenomenon is captured in the animation,” Ward said in January. A magnitude 9.0 earthquake, the most powerful earthquake recorded in more than 40 years, struck underwater off the Indonesian island of Sumatra on December 26. The resulting tsunami caused devastation throughout South Asia, with the death toll estimated at more than 200,000.

According to Ward, the speed of a tsunami depends on the depth of the water, with waves traveling as fast as 400 miles per hour in the deep ocean. When the waves come ashore, they are typically moving at about 30 miles per hour, he said, adding that tsunami waves are very different from the waves one usually sees at the beach. “It’s like the ocean turns into a river and starts to flow onto the land. It’s not a big crashing wave like in the Hollywood movies,” Ward said.

In the aftermath of the disaster in South Asia, he was contacted by numerous media outlets, including the Washington Post, Dateline NBC, the New York Daily News, and Newsweek magazine.

UCSC has received a $500,000 gift to benefit Special Collections in the University Library. The endowment is being established in honor of the late Miller and Bunny Outcalt and their lifelong partnership in the field of photography. Christine Bunting, head of Special Collections, displays an untitled photograph taken by Miller Outcalt. Proceeds from the endowment will be used to fund a permanent staff position dedicated to work on the extensive photography archives housed at UCSC.

Laser technique opens opportunities for nerve regeneration research

In a breakthrough for research on nerve regeneration, a team of UCSC and Stanford scientists has reported using femtosecond laser pulses to precisely cut individual axons of nerves in the roundworm C. elegans, one of the most versatile and widely used experimental organisms for genetic and biomedical research.

The nerves severed by this technique regenerate within 24 hours, often with complete recovery of function. The project was a collaboration between biologists at UCSC led by Yulio Jin and Andrew Chisholm and applied physics researchers at Stanford led by Adela Ben-Yakar.

The team’s findings give researchers an experimental sys- tem in which they will be able to investigate in great detail the genetic and molecular factors that control whether damaged nerves can regrow, said Chisholm, an associate professor of molecular, cell, and developmental biology. “This technique will enable us to find the genes that are important in allowing an axon to regenerate. In the worm, we can do systematic screening of large numbers of genes, and of drugs and other small molecules as well, to ask how they affect the process of regeneration,” Chisholm said.

The researchers reported their findings in a paper pub- lished in the December 16 issue of the journal Nature.

Revisiting Vietnam in the midst of Iraq

The Vietnam war was never mentioned at all during history major Martin Smith’s high school days in Tennessee. But by delving into research at UCSC on that conflict in the midst of media coverage of the Iraq war, he has discovered many similarities between the two wars.

Smith, who served in the Marine Corps from 1997 to 2002, is the winner of last year’s Mellonian Prize for submitting the top proposal to UCSC’s Humanities Undergraduate Research Awards program: “The Soldiers’ Rebellion in Vietnam: Race, Class, and Resistance.”

“THERE HAS BEEN RESISTANCE [among soldiers] to every war we have ever fought,” he said. “But in Vietnam the resistance to fight was on a scale never seen before by the U.S. military.”

Smith found that one reason why resistance in Vietnam was so much greater than in previous wars was the contradiction between what the U.S. government claimed was occurring in Vietnam and what the troops were actually encountering on the ground. He also uncovered the exis- tence of hundreds of underground newspapers that were utilized to help build an anti-war GI movement.
UCSC scientist endorses nitrogen-management efforts

A s a soil scientist at UCSC, Marc Los Huertos helps farmers on the Central Coast manage nitrogen levels to maximize harvests and minimize pollution. He is also part of a growing global effort to address the problem of farm-generated nitrogen pollution. Back from the Third International Nitrogen Conference in Nanjing in October, Los Huertos had a sobering message for farmers: “China is ramping up agricultural production, and strong international environmental regulations could be what saves U.S. farming from a formidable competitor,” said the research manager for UCSC’s Center for Agroecology & Sustainable Food Systems (CASFS).

Convinced that U.S. farmers have a huge stake in regulations that would force global competitors to clean up their act, too, Los Huertos is eager to increase public understanding of agricultural related nitrogen pollution. In Nanjing, about 800 conference participants approved a declaration that each state elect two senators to the U.S. Senate regardless of population, a system that has created “perhaps the most unrepresentative legislative chamber in the world,” says Daniel Wills, a professor of politics at UCSC and coauthor of the new book “The Invention of the United States Senate.”

Exploring the political meaning of words

D emocracy, patriotism, freedom…these are words spoken with overwhelming fervor in the aftermath of 9/11, the invasion of Iraq, and the days that preceded the November presidential election. But what do those words really mean? Apparently, different things, depending on your political affiliation. “An effort to reclaim language of the ‘war on terror,’” said Wirls, a professor of politics and Chicana & Chicano Studies at UCSC.

UCSC researchers develop technologies to assist the blind

E ngineers at UCSC are developing new assistive technologies for the blind based on advances in computer vision that have emerged from research in robotics. A “virtual white cane” is one of several prototype tools for the visually impaired developed by Roberto Manduchi, an assistant professor of computer engineering, and his students.

The traditional white cane is still in use, but presents mobility problems and can cause weight on the shoulder. Manduchi’s virtual white cane project researchers are collaborating with the Smith-Kettlewell Eye Research Institute, a nonprofit research institute in San Francisco, on the virtual white cane and other projects.

“People at Smith-Kettlewell are helping us to understand the real needs of the blind, and they have blind engineers who test the systems we develop,” Manduchi said.

The “virtual white cane” combines a laser, a camera, and a computer processor to give blind people feedback about features such as stairs and curbs.

Three receive top awards from Alumni Association

A gifted teacher of the Spanish language, a public defender who successfully argued a case for the U.S. Supreme Court, and a dedicated scholar-advocate received the Alumni Association’s highest honors for the 2004–05 year.

M. Victoria Gómez-Pagani received the Distinguished Teaching Award; Roberto Najera, the Alumni Achievement Award; and Cheryl Perazzo, the Outstanding Staff Award.

UCSC researchers have shown that rifampicin, an antibiotic used to treat liver synthetic tuberculosis, can prevent the formation of protein filaments associated with the death of brain cells in people with Parkinson’s disease. The paper was published in the November issue of the journal Chemistry & Biology.

The research was carried out by a team of scientists in the lab of Anthony Fink, professor of chemistry and biochemistry.
Two UCSC scientists elected AAAS fellows

THE UCSC SCIENTISTS—Anthony Fink, professor of chemistry and biochemistry, and Russell Hegel, professor of environmental toxicology—were among the 2004 fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) announced by the association.

Election as a fellow is an honor bestowed upon members of AAAS by their peers.

The association recognized 308 members as 2004 fellows for their efforts to advance science or its applications that are deemed scientifically or socially distinguished.

An acknowledgement ceremony for the fellows took place during the 2005 AAAS Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., in mid-February.

Scientists collaborate with museum to create gallery exhibit

THE BIG AND BOLD exhibit, on display this past fall at the Santa Cruz Museum of Art and History, is a prime example of the benefit derived from combining university research with an important cultural institution in the community.

The exhibit featured an array of large and oversized graphic art from prominent American artists such as Roy Lichtenstein, Robert Rauschenberg, and Helen Frankenthaler.

Working closely with the museum, 12 students from UCSC art history professor Catherine Soullé’s History and Visual Culture class researched large-scale print projects by prominent American artists from 1970 to the present. They held collaborative discussions, interviewed living artists, and visited the presses that produced the prints—in addition to conducting extensive archival, library, and web-based investigations.

Based on this research, the students then produced original wall-label descriptions and interpretations for each of the prints displayed within the public about the exhibition.

“It’s very unusual for students to work directly with such well-known artists at a museum,” noted Soullé.

Unusual structure in the SARS virus offers target for drugs

RESEARCH ON THE GENOME of the virus that causes severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) has revealed an unusual molecular structure that looks like a promising target for antiviral drugs.

A team of scientists at UCSC has determined the three-dimensional shape of this structure, an anticistronically twisted and folded segment of RNA. Their findings suggest that it may help the virus hijack the protein-building machinery of infected cells.

The SARS virus is a type of RNA virus, meaning that its genetic material is RNA rather than the more familiar DNA found in the chromosomes of everything from bacteria to humans. All RNA viruses have relatively large numbers of RNA segments, making their genomes highly variable. In HIV, for example, the high rate of mutation contributes to the rapid appearance of drug-resistant strains of the virus. In SARS and related viruses, however, one segment of the RNA genome—known as the s2m RNA—remains virtually unchanged.

“Because viral evolution has not been able to tamper with this sequence, it is clear that it must be of vital importance to the viruses that have it, but no one knows exactly what its function is,” said William Scott, an associate professor of chemistry.

The structure is a helix that is symmetrically related to the RNA itself, with the RNA strand within the center, surrounded by proteins. These proteins involve in regulating the RNA, including a segment of RNA. Their findings showed several unique features of the RNA dimer, including a distinctive fold that appears to be capable of binding to certain proteins involved in regulating protein synthesis in cells.

Contrary to the movie Jurassic Park, in which scientists recreate dinosaurs from ancient DNA, genetic material more than about 50 thousand years old cannot be reliably recovered. Nevertheless, a team of scientists has now demonstrated that computers could be used to reconstruct with 98 percent accuracy the DNA of a creature that lived at the time of the dinosaurs more than 75 million years ago—a small, furry nocturnal animal that was the common ancestor of most placental mammals, including humans.

Knowing this ancestral mammal’s complete genome would not mean that scientists could bring it to life. But that’s not the point, said a member of the team, David Hauster, UCSC professor of biomanufacturing engineering. “We will be able to trace the molecular evolution of our genome over the past 75 million years. It’s like seeing a new way to think about our origins, a kind of DNA-based archaeology to understand how we came to be,” said Hauster, a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator and director of UCSC’s Center for Biomolecular Science and Engineering.

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Two UCSC scientist...
Introducing Chancellor Denton

What have you learned about UC Santa Cruz since your appointment as chancellor?

In a global society, universities have new obligations to seek, understand, and celebrate diversity—not only diversity in people, but the intellectual diversity and creativity that can be found at the edges of inquiry. I have learned that this interdisciplinary approach to creativity is a cornerstone of UC Santa Cruz's history and remains an integral element of its current aspirations. This appreciation for intellectual diversity provides a strategic advantage for our campus—one that I believe will continue to distinguish UC Santa Cruz as one of the world's most innovative universities.

I have also observed that UCSC's students and faculty are committed to making positive contributions to society, regardless of their discipline. And this fire burns brightly among our alumni, who clearly carry forward a tradition of making a difference in the world. Already, I have seen examples of this desire to tackle critical issues in the work of the Center for Justice, Tolerance, and Community; the Institute for Advanced Feminist Research; the Center for Ocean Health; the Institute for Humanities Research; and the Center for Adaptive Optics, to name just a few. With students, staff, and faculty, I will build on the collaborations already begun and develop new ones.

How does the current climate of limited budgets affect your vision for UC Santa Cruz?

When I started as Dean of engineering at the University of Washington, budgets also were lean and state budget cuts were frequent. Even so, we doubled our resources over a period of a few years. That experience underscored my belief that an entrepreneurial spirit along with productive partnerships can lead to new sources of funds and more effective ways to use the resources at hand. UC Santa Cruz is emerging from a period of significant budget reductions. Still, I see opportunity to recover and expand resources, whether from private philanthropy or increased state and federal funding. For example, a reputation for excellent teaching and research has led to fundraising success in the current Cornerstone Campaign. I intend for UCSC to build on that unprecedented success.

What led you to accept the position of chancellor at UC Santa Cruz?

UCSC is clearly going places. The campus has a well-deserved reputation for—and a passionate commitment to—diversity, excellence, and innovation. As the new chancellor, I welcome the chance to support the education of some of the country's most talented students and to help sustain and inspire the work of distinguished faculty and outstanding staff. I will dedicate myself as an ambassador and ardent advocate in both national and international circles to increase recognition of UCSC's achievements. On a personal note, this position has given me the wonderful opportunity to live in a community that is renowned for its natural beauty and progressive attitudes.

A Record of Achievement

From 1996 until her UC appointment, Chancellor Denton was Dean of the College of Engineering and Professor of Electrical Engineering at the University of Washington (UW), the first woman to hold such a position at an NRC-designated Research One university. Previously, she held academic appointments at the University of Massachusetts in Boston, the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zürich, and the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

Chancellor Denton has an international reputation for effective advocacy supporting access to science, math, and engineering opportunities for women and minorities. In May 2004, Denton was among nine scholars honored by the White House with a Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring, recognizing her role as a leader in enhancing diversity in science and engineering.

Chancellor Denton is a current member of the President's Committee to select recipients of the National Medal of Science, and she also serves on the committee to select recipients of the A. T. Waterman Award sponsored by the National Science Foundation to honor exceptional individual achievement in science or engineering. She is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Association for Women in Science, and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and serves on several prestigious commissions and boards. The author of nearly 100 scholarly journal articles, book chapters, and conference papers, Denton earned a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where she earned three other degrees, including a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering, the Electrical Engineering degree, and a Master of Science in Electrical Engineering. Her research is in microelectromechanical systems (MEMS) as an enabling technology, particularly in life sciences applications. She also works in the area of transformational change in higher education and holds a UCSC appointment as Professor of Electrical Engineering.

Denice D. Denton, the ninth chancellor to lead UC Santa Cruz, was appointed by the UC Regents in December and officially assumed the position on February 14. On the eve of her first official day as chancellor, Denton took a few minutes from a very full schedule to contemplate the future. As she stresses in the following interview, she is eager to pursue opportunities that will benefit students, support the work of staff and faculty, and foster productive connections with alumni, donors, corporate partners, and others.

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Julie Packard
Executive Director, Monterey Bay Aquarium
B.A. Biology, Crown College, 1974; M.A. Biology, 1978

The Monterey Bay Aquarium, which Julie Packard helped found and has led as executive director since it opened 20 years ago, is among the world’s most popular attractions. A recent national survey ranked it the best aquarium and one of the top family destinations of any kind, ahead of Disneyland and the San Diego Zoo.

But the aquarium is not just about family fun and entertainment—it aims to educate and inspire people to care about the oceans and help protect them. And with nearly 2 million visitors a year, the aquarium reaches a lot of people.

“We provide an opportunity for people to connect with ocean wildlife and establish a sense of caring for it,” says Packard, an eloquent and passionate advocate of ocean conservation.

In 1998, Packard was awarded the Audubon Medal for Excellence in Environmental Protection, and in 2004 she received the Ted Danson Ocean Hero Award from the conservation group Oceana. She also served on the Pew Oceans Commission, which issued an influential report on ocean policy in 2003.

The Pew Oceans Commission, in parallel with the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy, undertook the first comprehensive review of national ocean policy in 30 years. These two independent efforts reached essentially the same conclusions: “Our oceans are in trouble, and the federal regulations we have now are not working to protect marine ecosystems,” Packard says.

Packard’s interest in science and nature started early. Her father, David Packard, co-founder of the Hewlett-Packard Company, was both a scientist and an avid outdoorsman. “I grew up with a very strong sense of connection to the environment,” Packard says.

Her passion for marine science, in particular, was kindled by a class in intertidal biology she took in her sophomore year at UC Santa Cruz. The class brought students out to the tidepools and introduced them to field research; it also introduced Packard to biologist William Doyle, founding director of UCSC’s Institute of Marine Sciences. She conducted research with Doyle both as an undergraduate and as a graduate student at UCSC, studying the ecology of marine algae.

Packard has made sure that the aquarium’s programs and exhibits are always firmly grounded in science. In addition, as concern about human impacts on the marine environment has escalated, the aquarium’s mission has evolved to become more explicitly focused on ocean conservation and advocacy.

Packard says she has been pleased to see marine scientists at UCSC and other institutions focusing more of their research on questions that relate to conservation issues. “Many UCSC scientists are working at the forefront of where I believe science needs to go, which is interdisciplinary approaches that are linked to real-world environmental problems,” she says.

She also says that getting undergraduates involved in research is essential for training the next generation of environmental scientists.

“There’s just no match for that kind of experience to get students engaged with the subject matter and fired up about exploring the natural world,” Packard says. “The opportunity for undergraduate research and the focus on undergraduate education is a real strength of UCSC.”

—Tim Stephens

As mayor of San Jose, Ron Gonzales (B.A., community studies, ’73) grapples with reshaping city government to promote teamwork and efficiency, stoking the economic engine that powers San Jose, balancing economic and environmental concerns, and supporting the schools that educate tomorrow’s workforce. Before becoming mayor in 1998, Gonzales served on the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors.

Since receiving an Academy Award for his work editing the blockbuster film Traffic in 2000, Steve Mirrione (theater arts–film, ’91) has had no shortage of work. His credits since his Oscar include Ocean’s Twelve and Criminal (2004); 21 Grams (2003); Confessions of a Dangerous Mind (2002); and Ocean’s Eleven, Tribute, and Thirteen Conversations About One Thing (2001).

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From pundits to presidents, regular readers of the New York Times rely on the paper’s Sunday “Week in Review” section to tell them what they need to know.

One of the most influential publications in journalism, the section provides context for the week’s top stories, combining insight and analysis with fine writing on topics from politics and religion to science and the symphony.

In short, section editor Katy Roberts shoulders the burden of sifting through mountains of news and information so we don’t have to. “Keeping up with the news used to be relatively easy. Now it’s impossible,” Roberts says with typical candor.

“Accepting that is the only way to survive,” Roberts’ self-effacing manner belies her achievements. During more than 20 years at the Times, she has held several positions, including a two-year stint as national editor and five years as editor of the op-ed page. She believes her greatest impact was on the op-ed page, where she brought in voices “outside the Eastern Establishment” and sped up the page’s responsiveness to events.

“I’m not a producer of ideas, but an enthusiastic consumer of them,” says Roberts. “I learned to question conventional wisdom and authority, wherever it was vested.”

After graduating from UCSC, Roberts earned a master’s degree in journalism and Russian area studies from Indiana University. Although she says she got “abysmal grades” in her journalism classes, Roberts picked up some reporting experience and landed a job at the Hayward (CA) Daily Review in 1977. By 1979, she had moved to the Minneapolis Star, where she was a columnist and deputy opinion-page editor. Three years later, she was recruited by the Times.

In a field where learning never stops, Roberts says her liberal arts background has been an asset. She has had to become an expert in space shuttle technology, New York City taxis, Nicaraguan dynasties, immigrant health care, and forest fire policy, among other topics.

“I did my undergraduate work at Santa Cruz, and my graduate work at the ‘Week in Review,’” says Roberts. “It’s a continuing education.”

Roberts lives in Manhattan with her husband and has been known to watch surfing documentaries when she’s not reading the Atlantic Monthly, the New York Review of Books, or the New Yorker.

Asked about her worst day in journalism, Roberts describes the morning of September 11, 2001, when, as national editor, she got a call at home from the office. Stepping outside her Greenwich Village apartment, she saw one tower, then another, on fire. Heading to the office on foot, she kept looking over her shoulder as the tragedy unfolded.

Inside the newsroom, however, the scene was “awe-inspiring as the paper’s staff went to work.” Sixteen hours later, she and a reporter trooped to the only subway that was running. They stood alone on the dead-quiet platform, waiting for the downtown train.

“The paper is criticized from every quarter, and sometimes we make mistakes,” says Roberts. “But you’d be hard-pressed to find a more honest, dedicated, thoughtful group of people on earth.”

—Jennifer McNulty

Katy Roberts
Editor, New York Times “Week in Review”
B.A. Politics, Kresge College, 1974

Fifty years ago, the planets Venus and Mars were only the second and third to be discovered outside our solar system.
Francisco Rosado-May's path to the presidency of a public university in Mexico began in the rural village of Felipe Carrillo Puerto, where he and other eager Mayan youngsters gathered in a hallway to take classes. "I vividly remember the end of my first year, when my teacher called me to her house and gave me a big can of cocoa—my first cocoa ever—for having very good grades," recalls Rosado-May.

Teachers continued to encourage Rosado-May, who earned government fellowships to attend high school and to study agricultural engineering in Tabasco, Mexico. That's where he first met his mentor, Stephen Gliessman, a pioneer in the field of agroecology.

For Rosado-May, the affiliation with Gliessman was life changing. After earning a master's in tropical ecology, Rosado-May followed his mentor to UCSC in 1985 for doctoral study. At UCSC, he also worked closely with biology professor Jean Langenheim (see page 23), a leader in the field of chemical ecology. Building on Gliessman and Langenheim's work, Rosado-May focused on the role of weeds in the management of agroecosystems. "In Tabasco, farmers believe that once you learn how to manage weeds properly, they become your allies, not your enemies," said Rosado-May.

While at UCSC, Rosado-May embraced his ancestry. As a Maya in Mexico, he has frequently felt the sting of discrimination. "I grew up in the days when the federal government was trying to homogenize the country," recalls Rosado-May. "Getting to know other UCSC students who were proud of their origins, especially Native Americans, was eye-opening for me. Now I take pride in my ancestry, but before going to California, I could hardly talk about it."

While completing his doctorate, Rosado-May joined the team that was planning the campus for his native state of Quintana Roo—the only Mexican state without a university. "The challenge was to create a model that would respond to the needs of a rapidly changing world," says Rosado-May.

Founded in 1991, the University of Quintana Roo (UQRoo) in Chetumal emphasizes teaching excellence and research that addresses real-world problems. As a founding faculty member, Rosado-May shifted his own focus from chemical ecology to applied ecology. Tourism has placed tremendous pressures on the natural resources of Quintana Roo, and Rosado-May's work fueled environmental planning changes, including zoning reforms and the adoption of management plans for protected areas.

As president, Rosado-May has aggressively sought accreditation for the young campus's programs, and his administration has adopted "transparent" accountability practices and expanded funding sources to reduce reliance on government subsidies. Rosado-May's pride in his Mayan heritage is accompanied by high expectations—for himself and his community. Halfway through his first four-year term as president of UQRoo, he is promoting programs that integrate ancient Mayan knowledge into the fields of science, technology, and the arts. "Can you imagine a botanist with a Ph.D. and a shaman who cares about local plants standing side by side?" he asks. "The synergy between conventional education and traditional knowledge might represent the best potential Mexico has to face the challenges of globalization."

—Jennifer McNulty

40 Years and Counting
Ted Goldstein has built a successful career in the computer industry by combining expertise in programming with an appreciation for the human side of technological innovation. Now a vice president at Apple Computer, Goldstein oversees the development of programming tools for Apple’s highly acclaimed new operating system, Mac OS X.

In his work, Goldstein says he draws on the entirety of his undergraduate education at UC Santa Cruz. When asked about influential teachers, he mentions not only computer science professor Ira Pohl, but also Murray Baumgarten, professor of English and comparative literature.

“Having a liberal arts degree is terrific. I find that so much of what we do is not just about technology, but about technology in the context of people and society,” he says. “The Stevenson core course is as important in what I do as Data Structures 101, because it’s all about people.”

The programming tools Goldstein develops at Apple are used by software developers to create applications for OS X. Just as OS X is designed to be a friendly, trouble-free system for ordinary users, the developer tools are designed to make writing software for OS X easy and efficient.

“We try to design things that are good for developers as well as end users,” Goldstein says. “Everywhere I go, I meet people who love Apple products—it’s a chance to share his fascination and delight with science.”

Goldstein says he first got a sense of what computer programming can do for people while working as an undergraduate in UCSC’s first computer center. Noticing a group of biology graduate students using a text editor to do painstaking genetic comparisons, he offered to write a program that would automate much of the work for them.

“It was a wonderful experience to work with the users and design a specialized tool to meet their needs,” he says.

The resulting software, used by UCSC biologists for many years, was probably the first generic sequence alignment editor, a precursor of the powerful bioinformatics programs for which UCSC has since become famous.

“...and Counting

For Joe Palca (Ph.D., psychology, ’82), science journalism has a lot in common with teaching: It’s a chance to share his fascination and delight with science. A science correspondent at National Public Radio since 1992, Palca has covered a wide range of stories—from biomed-ical research to the Pathfinder landing on Mars. Also at NPR is another award-winning science reporter, Richard Harris (B.A., biology, ’80).

Kathryn Sullivan made two historic trips to space during her years as a NASA astronaut. During her first voyage, in 1984, she became the first American woman to walk in space. During the second, six years later, Sullivan (B.S., Earth sciences, ’73) joined fellow UCSC grad Steven Hawley (Ph.D., astronomy and astrophysics, ’77) on the mission that deployed the Hubble Space Telescope.

Ted Goldstein
Vice President of Development Technologies, Apple Computer
B.A. Computer and Information Sciences, Stevenson and Oakes Colleges, 1983
The Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles draws thousands of visitors each day for exhibitions and public programming. Director of MOCA since 1999, Jeremy Strick (B.A., art history, ’77) is involved in every aspect of the museum’s operation—from acquisitions and event programming to fundraising and marketing. He even curates on occasion.

Cheryl Scott
Country Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Tanzania
B.A. Biology, Oakes College, 1974

Tourists come from around the world to witness the wonders of Serengeti National Park in Tanzania, but Dr. Cheryl Scott has never been able to slip off with friends or family to see the wildebeests and cheetahs herself. Her job running the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) office in the East African nation of about 34 million people—where an estimated 10 percent of the population has HIV—leaves little time for sightseeing.

Since the Global AIDS Program Office was founded in 2001 with a small staff at the invitation of the Tanzanian government, the CDC’s contribution to the fight against HIV/AIDS in that country has grown “exponentially,” Scott says. Under her leadership, CDC—Tanzania has supported improving blood-transfusion safety, strengthening laboratory services, developing a national HIV/AIDS surveillance system, and preventing mother-to-child HIV transmission. With recent funding from President Bush’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, her office now manages a $17 million budget.

Working closely with the Tanzanian government, the CDC and other U.S. government partners are providing technical support to the rollout of a national antiretroviral drug therapy program—which can turn HIV into a manageable condition instead of a death sentence. Over the next five years, the government plans to put 400,000 people on the drugs in a nation where roads are frequently impassable and communications are sporadic.

“Tanzania is a large and populous country, and care and treatment present tremendous logistical challenges,” Scott says. Developing a reliable laboratory system, planning large-scale counseling and testing, and training practitioners to work with clients on often-complicated drug regimens are just a few of the challenges she and her staff regularly face.

The introduction of antiretroviral drugs will complement an effort begun in 2003 providing life-saving medicines for expectant mothers. The single-dose treatment can cut infection rates of newborns by up to 80 percent.

Batting HIV/AIDS in Tanzania is the latest step in an international career that has taken Scott to the Ivory Coast, Kenya, India, and the Caribbean. An investigator in the elite Epidemic Intelligence Service at the CDC, Scott has also worked in maternal and child health and disaster epidemiology in California, New York, and New Jersey, where she was the state’s maternal and child health epidemiologist.

In Africa, Scott’s challenges are not all medical. Her job also has a diplomatic side, involving frequent consultation with the U.S. embassy and the Tanzanian government. While mobilizing the host government’s support for the fight against HIV/AIDS in several countries has been politically difficult, “it is a privilege to partner with the Tanzanian government,” she says. “They are very clear about their situation and what assistance is needed.”

Despite the long hours and travel schedule that takes her around the continent, Scott enjoys her time in Tanzania. Her public health physician husband, Stephen S. Robinson, works with the National Institute for Medical Research, and their 9-year-old daughter, Ajayi Omiseye, attends a local elementary school. “She gets a lot out of being here,” Scott said, noting that her husband and daughter have become more fluent in Kiswahili than she has. “It’s a rewarding life.”

—Louise Gilmore Donahue

Because he enjoyed teaching and research, William “Bro” Adams (Ph.D., history of consciousness, ’82) made the transition from academic to administrator with some reluctance. However, in 1995 Adams became the 14th president of Bucknell University and, five years later, was named the 19th president of Colby College. Fellow campus president Alexander Gonzalez (M.S., Ph.D., psychology, ’79), headed California State University, San Marcos, before taking the helm of CSU Sacramento in 2004.

In 1985, Brent Constantz was on a South Pacific atoll near Tahiti, working toward his doctorate on how corals make their skeletons. Ten years later, Constantz (M.S., Earth sciences, ’84; Ph.D., Earth sciences, ’86) headed Norian Corporation, a company that made waves for a remarkable product: a paste that can be injected into and around a fracture, dramatically speeding the healing of broken bones.

40 Years...and Counting
40 Years...and Counting

In 2000, Martha Mendoza (B.A., journalism–education, ’88) received journalism’s highest honor—the Pulitzer Prize. Mendoza and her AP colleagues were honored for reporting on a Korean War massacre. Mendoza is one of four UCSC grads to have received this coveted prize. Another is Laurie Garrett (B.A., biology, ’79), who in 1996 received a Pulitzer for a series of articles in Newsday about the outbreak a year earlier of the ebola virus in Zaire.

When an unknown respiratory illness began infecting thousands of people in more than two-dozen countries in 2003, Joseph DeRisi (B.A., biochemistry and molecular biology, ’92), a biochemist and biophysicist at UC San Francisco, determined that the culprit was a previously unknown coronavirus. The finding moved scientists one step closer to controlling the outbreak.

Composer, pianist, and keyboardist Wayne Horvitz has performed on more than 100 albums and CDs over the past 25 years. He has written for theater, dance, and film, and collaborated on a mind-boggling variety of musical projects—in styles ranging from rhythm & blues and improvisational jazz, to classical minimalism and urban noise.

Since he graduated from UCSC in 1977, Horvitz has gone on to perform extensively throughout North America, Europe, Asia, and Australia. National Public Radio recently described his music as “a dazzling sonic playground full of some wild rides.” Added the New York Times in another accolade: “What makes Mr. Horvitz’s music so good is its ingenuity and variety of textures... one gets surging planes of sound and viscerally involving rhythms, and of that kind of music, Mr. Horvitz is some kind of master.”

Although he has acquired an international reputation as a cutting-edge composer/musician steeped in the avant-garde, Horvitz says he never deliberately sets out to shatter musical boundaries. “I’m not interested in innovation for innovation’s sake,” he explains, “I like beauty in music. I don’t want people just to be intellectually stimulated. I basically look for soulfulness in everything—whether it’s blues or classical music.”

Horvitz says that UCSC had a “tremendous impact” on his career, opening him up to a wide variety of musical formats, exposing him to a number of extraordinary musicians, and teaching him about the technical aspects of producing concerts and recordings. He also met his wife during his undergraduate days—UCSC alumna Robin Holcomb (B.A., individual major, Porter ’84)—who has herself gone on to record eight albums as a singer/songwriter. Together, they moved to New York City in the late 1970s to immerse themselves in a stimulating downtown music scene that also spawned the careers of people like David Byrne of the Talking Heads, revolutionary guitarist Bill Frisell, and saxophonist John Zorn.

Horvitz would eventually produce several CDs by Frisell and to date has helped create nearly 30 other recordings by a variety of artists. He has composed for a number of film, video, television, and multimedia projects, including three PBS specials and director Gus Van Sant’s film Psycho. He also has been involved with the New York dance community, collaborating with artists such as renowned choreographer Paul Taylor and with the White Oak Dance Project.

All the while, Horvitz has received dozens of commissions to compose works for the likes of the Kronos Quartet and the Seattle Chamber Players, as well as leading various ensembles such as the acclaimed jazz/funk group, Zony Mash, and his modern big band, the New York Composers Orchestra.

Although Horvitz already has a vast array of dynamic artistic projects under his belt, he always looks forward to experimenting with that next project—whatever it might be.

“It’s at the edges where things get interesting, and that’s where art should lie,” Horvitz observes. “You don’t need art the way you need food in the sense that you’ll expire if you don’t get it. But art is like love. It’s an essential experience beyond the mundane.”

—Scott Rappaport

Wayne Horvitz
Composer/Musician
B.A. Composition for New Music Improvisation, Porter College, 1977
First UCSC fundraising campaign nears goal

The Cornerstone Campaign is the first major campuswide fundraising effort in the history of UC Santa Cruz. The campus is well on its way toward raising the goal of $50 million by the end of June.

All areas of UCSC are benefitting from the campaign, with increased undergraduate and graduate support a top priority.

To help meet that priority, hundreds of alumni, parents, donors, and other friends of UCSC attended the Scholarships Benefit Dinner, held in November. A record $1 million, double the amount of the previous year’s event, was raised to support UCSC students.

“With this campaign, we will continue advancing the mission of UCSC at a crucial time for the students we serve,” said Gordon Ringold (Crown ’72), chair of the Cornerstone Campaign Council.

Some recent campaign highlights:

Alumna’s gift supports scholarships and library

When KIT MURA-SMITH (Merrill ’75) came to UCSC as a “re-entry” student, she had nearly enough units to graduate—but in four different majors. UCSC welcomed me and provided a grant and the support I needed to complete my degree in one year without working. I’ll always be grateful for that,” said Mura-smith, who recently made the largest gift ever by a graduate. Her $1.4 million planned gift will be split equally between scholarships for re-entry students and improvements to the University Library’s facilities.

Colleges benefit from support initiatives

Volunteer leaders have launched new fundraising programs that are providing immediate and long-term benefits for UCSC’s colleges. Nearly $80,000 has been raised through the first-ever Reunion Match Challenge.

Humanities graduate program gains support

One of UCSC’s earliest graduate programs has received a major gift from CRAIG SCHIFFER (Cowell ’78), who established the History of Consciousness Fellowship Endowment. The history of consciousness program is an interdisciplinary Ph.D. program centered in the humanities with links to social sciences, natural sciences, and the arts. Schiffier’s $25,000 gift provides crucial student support, enabling focused dissertation research and writing.

Santa Cruz couple’s surprise gift

Graduate students in psychology will be benefiting from the hard work of a couple they will never meet. Long-time Santa Cruz residents FEDERICO and RENATA PERLINI lived modestly, worked hard, and donated their estate to local charities and organizations, including UCSC. More than $600,000 from the Perlins’ planned gifts will support psychology graduate students working with deaf or hearing-impaired individuals.

Fellowships support science students

Graduate students studying marine mammals and plants have new options for student support with the creation of two fellowships.

“Can focus more on my academics,” says Charles Tolliver Jr., describing the impact scholarship support has had on his studies at UC Santa Cruz. The Merrill College senior is the first recipient of the Eric Thomas Memorial Scholarship, an award established to celebrate the life and achievements of the late alumnus. The scholarship recognizes and supports students who are committed to community service.

A South Central Los Angeles native who had never been outside the U.S., Tolliver worked all last summer to save enough for one quarter in the Education Abroad Program in Rome. Now he’s nearly fluent in Italian. The scholarship support he received supplemented his savings, enabling him to get more out of the trip and not have to worry about fees and book expenses as he completes his degree.

A legal studies major and sociology minor, Tolliver is applying to graduate school. His long-term goal: a J.D. in criminal justice. “I would like to say thank you to the donors who helped create the Eric Thomas scholarship,” said Tolliver. “This support has given me access to opportunities I otherwise would not have had.”

“Professor Emerita of Social Ecology and Evolutionary Biology”

Jean Langenheim, professor emerita of ecology and evolutionary biology, has been studying plant ecology and evolution for 60 years. Now she is giving financial support to a new generation of graduate students through an endowed fellowship fund. Her $200,000 gift establishes the Jean H. Langenheim Graduate Fellowship in Plant Ecology and Evolution, which will be available to students in two departments: ecology and evolutionary biology, and environmental studies.

For more information on the Cornerstone Campaign, go to givetoucs.edu
Celebrating spring and UCSC’s 40th anniversary with a visit to your alma mater during Banana Slug Spring Fair, the campus reunion weekend. Enjoy lectures, receptions, and panel discussions designed especially for alumni. Selected highlights are listed below. Check the web—alumni.ucsc.edu—for a complete list, all the details, and to RSVP, or contact the Alumni Association at (800) 933-SLUG.

• All-Alumni Reunion Luncheon, honoring UCSC’s 40th anniversary and the graduating classes of ’70, ’75, ’80, ’85, ’90, ’95, and ’00, all alumni and guests welcome.
• Second Annual Alumni Panel Discussion, featuring graduates from the class of ’75, including Professor Brian Brodmann, senior curator at the Corcoran Gallery of Art; Palmer, Polk, and Peabody prize-winning author and journalist Lawrence Garrett; social entrepreneur Carol Realini, named one of the top 100 women in computing; and Gordon Wester, whose photographs regularly appear in National Geographic and other magazines.
• Third Annual Distinguished Faculty Lecture presented by professor of psychology Craig Haney, an expert on the psychological effects of incarceration and other legal and civil rights issues.
• Class of 1975 30-year reunion, reception, and dinner.
• Jack Bankin School of Engineering reunion—for all majors related to computer and information sciences, engineering, and bioinformatics.
• Gala opening of the exhibit “Remembering Cowell College: The First 10 Years.”
• Humanities Division party, including faculty—past and present.
• Psychology Department reunion.
• All-sciences reunion.
• Receptions at each college.
• 2005 African American alumni reunion.
• Latino Alumni Network student and alumni mentoring forum and networking reception.
• UCSC’s first-ever Asian American and Pacific Islander alumni reunion.
• Hilld/Jewish alumni reunion.
• Lionel Comité Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Intersex Resource Center lavender reception.
• “A Day on the Bay” morning whale-watching cruise with ocean sciences professor Mary Silver, on ADA-compliant ship. Proceeds benefit GLBT Resource Center.
• UCSC track and field reunion, including the alumni Slug Run, to benefit the Track and Field Club.

Supporting students: Alumni Association soars to new heights

This academic year, UCSC graduates and other donors to the Alumni Association Scholarship Fund (AASF) have provided more student scholarships than ever before. Both the dollar amount and the number of financial-need-based scholarships reached record levels: 20 undergraduates received new awards of $3,000 each, and 23 students renewed their scholarships at $1,500 each. Together, these awards total $94,500.

The Alumni Association has recently launched two new scholarship initiatives within AASF and a new program to raise money for the colleges.

For more information on the Alumni Association and its activities, contact:

Alumni Association
University of California
1156 High St.
Santa Cruz, CA 95064-1077

On the web: 
alumni.ucsc.edu

Email: 
alumni@ucsc.edu

Toll-free long distance: (800) 933-SLUG

Locally: (831) 459-2530

Alumni site makes connecting easier

As April’s Banana Slug Spring Fair campus reunion weekend draws near, carry UCSC graduates are finding the Alumni Association’s web page more useful than ever before. The Online Directory contains password-protected information on some 60,000 graduates, including 16,000 e-mail addresses—a record number of alumni e-mails since the site was launched in March 2002. E-mail makes it easy to find and contact old friends.

The Alumni Registration/RSVP function allows guests to submit an RSVP and payment online for reunions and other events, and also to see who else plans to attend.

Now it is a great time to contact old friends, invite them to join you at the on-campus April reunion, submit your reunion RSVP, and/or confirm the accuracy of your personal data at alumni.ucsc.edu.

Make your nomination: You may have a winner

UCSC lecturer M. Victoria Gonzalez Pagani “introduced me to a world of Spanish language, literature and linguistics that I could not have known otherwise. She is the reason I am pursuing graduate studies in Spanish,” wrote Jenny Nadaler (Cowell ’03) when she nominated the winner of the Alumni Association’s 2004-05 Distinguished Teaching Award.

Nominations are now open for the Alumni Association’s 2005-06 Alumni Achievement, Outstanding Staff, and Distinguished Teaching Awards. Your nomination of a memorable professor, an exceptional student staff member, and/or an accomplished UCSC graduate may bring well-deserved recognition to a member of the campus community. To make a nomination, go to alumni.ucsc.edu/programs and choose the “awards” button. The 2005-06 nomination deadline is May 6.

Your membership makes a difference

Alumni keep UCSC’s unique experience alive, accessible, and affordable. Membership in your Alumni Association supports UCSC and its students by:

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• Offering career advice and networking
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alumni.ucsc.edu
29 Sarah DIAZ-BASTIN is working as a fine arts photographer in San Francisco and recently finished her first mixed media installation dedicated at the Qun Yin Healing Arts Building; her web page is www.sarahdiab.com.

30 Kristian JENSEN is entering his third year of a PhD program in marine biology at Oregon State University, where he also teaches composition.

31 Marnie Lynn GRANADOS is a freelance journalist and runs a 10-year NIH grant for research on kidney disease. She lived in Los Angeles for 17 months; she is a client advisor in the Private Client Services Division for JPMorgan Bank, where she keeps her tax returns.

32 Marina FINÉ joined the staff of Best Bet & Krier in October 2004 as a partner in the Firm’s Schools and Special Education Practice Group; he has a law degree from Harvard and a master’s degree in counseling psychology from Saint Mary’s University, and he is a certified trainer in negotiations and advanced mediation techniques.

33 Douglas MAYNARD is a lawyer practicing with the law offices of Marandu & Hagen in Santa Clara County, San Jose Magazine recently named him one of the top attorneys in Silicon Valley.

76 COLANGELO lives with her husband and two children; she recently published a book, entitled Embodied Wisdom: What Our Ancestors Can Teach Us about the Art of Living.

78 Katrin FLECHSIG received a Ph.D in Language and Literature in 2004; she teaches and travels worldwide; she has private practices in Berkeley and Santa Cruz, California.

83 Sarah CREWE and her husband, Patrick Conner, are the parents of a baby girl, Brigitte, born in July 2004; she is a staff writer for the New York Times.

84 After four years on Mauna Kea, John McDONALD is working as a flight dynamics engineer for a small spacecraft operation at UC Berkeley Space Sciences Laboratory and managing the Hawaiian Islands Space and Science Center.

89 Robert BULMAN received his Ph.D. in sociology from UC Berkeley; he is a legal professor of sociology at Saint Mary’s New Seminary in San Francisco, and he is a certified trainer in negotiations and advanced mediation techniques.

93 Terren ROSENBERG has moved to north Florida to start up the education department at a small alternative school.

99 Evelyn OLSON lives with her husband, Dave, and a son, Evan; they live in Santa Cruz, where Mart is a priest at Church of the Good Shepherd.

104 Barbara DELGADILLO completed her doctorate in Latin American history from UCLA; she recently completed a book for the English and Beverly Hills Public Library. Allison JCC is senior staff trainer at the Santa Clara County Office of Education.

105 Robert FLECHSIG graduated in May 2004 from Howard University School of Law and was admitted to the Washington, D.C. Bar.

106 Kirsten BERZON recently began working at Berkeley Repertory Theatre as the special events manager; she lives with her partner, Karby, and their sons, 11 and 5.

107 Susan HARRISON is the curator of the Santa Barbara Children’s Museum, a professor of New Media and Public Programs at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

108 In 2003, Tiffany VOGEL married Gerik Edger and joined him in his start-up venture, an online internet voting company; in 2004, little Elisha, weighing 11 lbs. 5 oz., was born, while still engaged in the Ski/Snowboard School. In the summer, she teaches tennis at the resort and was honored with the coveted Women’s Rondo/Tahoe region by the U.S. Professional Tennis Association.

109 She continues to run the organization from her home in the Sierra Mountains and has a wedding photography and portraits, www.bobthephotog.com.

114 Lazaro DAVIDI is a director of the School of Architecture at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County; he is pursuing a master’s in arts administration at the School of Architecture at the University of Maryland, and he is married to Marya FRIEDMAN.

115 Navya DARLINGTON is in her first year teaching elementary school in Santa Rosa, and she received her life and health insurance license from Sonoma State University.

118 Kaez OLIF is working for the Santa Barbara County Sheriff’s office as a School Resource Officer. Her Website is www.kaezolif.com, and she enjoys making highlights videos and other team media.

120 Anthony REVLING Gravlin is a baker, pastry chef, and food writer; his book, Antarctica: The South Pole, has been published by The Crown in 2004; he is currently working on a new book about Antarctica.

200 Jennifer JONES Jr., who participated in the EPA in Spain, is now teaching high school Spanish and is about to go into administration.

207 Michael McINTYRE, author of the novel, titled Here Be Two Lost Pigeons, was published in fall 2004 by Glimmer Train, an international literary magazine; he is also the curator for the 2004 Iowa Short Fiction Award.

210 Stacey LEWIS recently got engaged to David St. John, an architect from San Francisco; she’s the publicity and marketing director of City Lights Publishers.

211 After enjoying every second at UCSB, Lisa ARNETT went on to get a master’s degree in psychology from Antioch University and is now working with adolescents with severe learning disabilities as an art therapist at Pixar as amazing and powerful work.


215 Mark JACOBS is a co-founder of the Program, the Donald P. McCullum Youth Court, and the Juvenile Program, the Donald P. McCullum Youth Court Appointed Special Advocates in Alameda County, Cal ifornia, in 2004; he is married to Steven New in March 2004; they live in the San Diego area with two young children.

219 Andrew McINTIRE is a cartoonist and illustrator for many major newspapers, including the San Francisco Chronicle and the Los Angeles Times; he is also the author of two books, both of which have been published by The Crown in 2004; he is currently working on a new book about Antarctica.

220 After 25 years as counsel in the juvenile justice system, Paul SEBAN was appointed a court commissioner for the Superior Court in Alameda County, California, in 2004; he is a founding member of the Court Appointed Special Advocates Program, the Donald P. McCullum Youth Court, and the Juvenile Project. He is also a member of the UCSB Alumni Council.

224 Andrew McINTYRE is a cartoonist and illustrator for many major newspapers, including the San Francisco Chronicle and the Los Angeles Times; he is also the author of two books, both of which have been published by The Crown in 2004; he is currently working on a new book about Antarctica.
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