A passion for learning infuses UCLA at all levels. More than a premier university, UCLA is a champion for universal learning, offering excellent educational experiences to students ages four to for as long as you want to learn. Gifts to the Centennial Campaign enhance these opportunities and empower people across the lifespan.

This spring, UCLA Lab School celebrated its 138th anniversary with more than 650 alumni, teachers, and friends raising $350,000 for scholarships. The on-campus elementary school nurtures an extraordinary learning environment that alumnus Mayor Eric Garcetti calls “the most important educational experience of my life.”

Up the K–12 ladder, Mann UCLA Community School opened for sixth- to ninth-graders in South Los Angeles this fall. Supported by corporate and foundation partners, UCLA is building on the success of its first community school, where college-acceptance rates have reached 99 percent.

Philanthropy also enables Bruins to pursue their passions. Since 2011, the Dream Fund has invested $28 million — including a recent $3 million gift — in Achievement Scholarships for top freshmen and transfer students. In June, the first David Geffen Medical Scholarships recipients graduated debt-free, able to select careers based not on salary but on passion and societal need.

Finally, 2017 marks 100 years of continuing education at UCLA Extension. As Extension expands online and launches new campuses and courses, funding from the Bernard Osher Foundation endows programming for older adults, promising lifelong learning opportunities.

“Intellectual growth should commence at birth and cease only at death.”

– Albert Einstein

To give the gift of education to students of all ages and stages, contact Melanie Burzynski at 310-983-3491 or mburzynski@support.ucla.edu.
BY PURPOSE

Athletics $250,267,509 of $260 million

Health Sciences $1,319,189,432 of $2 billion

The College $360,904,726 of $400 million

Professional Schools $1,090,711,433 of $1.487 billion

Programs/Research $1,576,364,448 of $1.65 billion

Capital $534,358,204 of $800 million

Designated Discretionary $669,877,832 of $250 million

Do the math at lettherebe.ucla.edu/progress.

Data as of 08/15/2017

Data as of 06/30/2017

**Value Added**

Graduate students are integral to the work of the university. Selected for their talent, their willingness to work hard, and their commitment to their disciplines, they represent the future of their chosen fields. And their contributions begin while they are on campus.

In labs and classrooms, in publications and at conferences, graduate students are crucial to productivity, research, and innovation. They partner with faculty members, putting in long hours, inspired energy, and fresh ideas. Their teaching, research, and mentoring enhance the educational experience for undergraduate students, too.

The most talented graduate students — those most likely to profoundly influence their specialties — are highly sought after, and they often go to schools that offer them attractive financial packages, which free them to devote themselves wholly to their work. The little funding available from departments and grants is not enough; private philanthropy to support graduate scholarships, or fellowships, builds the bridges that will bring the best to UCLA. And raising money for this important purpose is a Centennial Campaign priority.

Behind nearly every accomplishment in the academy is a faculty member backed by a graduate student backed by generous funds from donors like you.

— KELSEY MARTIN, Dean, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

More here! lettherebe.ucla.edu/graduatescholars

**PROGRESS AT EVERY TURN**

Fiscal Year '17

Most $1M+ gifts: 104
Most online gifts: 27,000 (36% of total gifts)
Most gifts from young alumni: 5,800

80% of $4.2B goal

$3.36B

108% of $600M goal

$650M

Momentum defined

Above and beyond: The UCLA Way

Data as of 06/30/2017

**Progress Report**

**BY UNIT**

Health Sciences $1,319,189,432 of $2 billion

Professional Schools $1,090,711,433 of $1.487 billion

The College $360,904,726 of $400 million

Athletics $250,267,509 of $260 million

Campuswide $373,187,315 of $178 million

**BY PURPOSE**

Student/Faculty Support $613,659,931 of $1.5 billion

Programs/Research $1,576,364,448 of $1.65 billion

Capital $534,358,204 of $800 million

Designated Discretionary $669,877,832 of $250 million

Do the math at lettherebe.ucla.edu/progress.

Data as of 08/15/2017
Every day in their laboratories, UCLA health sciences researchers demonstrate dedication and determination in their quests for discoveries that will improve and save lives. What happens behind the scenes helps medical professionals and their patients get out in front of illness and disease.

The support for such life-changing work sometimes comes from behind the scenes, too. For example, thanks to a $5 million pledge from an anonymous donor, UCLA experts will be able to accelerate discovery and improve patient outcomes in cancer and neuroscience.

A portion of the funds will help Drs. Roger Lo and Antoni Ribas address challenges caused by resistance to melanoma treatments. Although targeted therapies and immunotherapies have made important headway in combating melanoma, many cancer cells develop a resistance to them. Despite being the least common skin cancer, melanoma causes the majority of skin cancer deaths. And in the U.S., more cases of melanoma occur in California than in any other state. Lo and Ribas are ardently exploring new options to provide the best long-term outcomes for patients.

In addition, an aging population makes brain health one of the most important issues of our time. Accordingly the rest of the gift will support UCLA neuroscience. One recipient is Dr. S. Thomas Carmichael, who leads research in mixed dementia and cell communication during tissue repair in the brain. The most common form of dementia, mixed dementia shows that Alzheimer’s disease and small strokes interact in the aged brain.

Elsewhere in neuroscience, the work of Dr. Baljit Khakh also will benefit from the donors’ generosity. His groundbreaking research on astrocyte function in the central nervous system has vital implications with respect to understanding and treating injury and illness. “These new insights herald the concept that these astrocytes play significant roles in health and disease,” says Khakh.

Donors, even anonymous ones, play leading roles, too. To back revolutionary research, contact Karen Colimore at 310-267-0496 or kcolimore@support.ucla.edu.
Professor Jeffrey Zink might be an academic star — he’s in the top one percent of the world’s most frequently cited authors in chemistry — but he hasn’t forgotten what it’s like to be getting your career off the ground. That’s why he and his wife, Helo, recently established the Jeffrey and Helo Zink Endowed Professional Development Chair in Chemistry in UCLA College.

Zink pioneered a scientific process poised to revolutionize the treatment of cancer and infectious diseases. With standard chemotherapy, large amounts of a drug in the veins cause myriad side effects. Zink’s process carries the drug without leakage directly to the tumor. “What’s driving me is getting our nanomaterials to clinical trials and ultimately benefiting patients,” he says.

Always seeing the human side of his work, Zink credits his colleagues and their collaborative spirit for the stellar reputation of UCLA Chemistry. “It isn’t about bricks and mortar or labs,” he says. “It’s about the people.”

The Zinks’ gift will bolster that reputation by attracting more such collaborators — the best young faculty — to the department. “This term chair will be so helpful for young faculty at the start of their careers, which can be a really tough time,” Zink says. “One of the reasons I gave the gift is that the department believed in me and hired me straight out of graduate school, and I’ve been here ever since.”

Zink says that he wants his own work to benefit patients and help humanity. In the meantime, his and his wife’s generosity is helping young faculty members whose work also will serve society.

To help Dr. Zink’s vision reach children in need, contact Gail Summers at 310-206-9701 or summers@jsei.ucla.edu.

TO HELP A LIFELONG VISION

A leading university like UCLA sees its researchers transform visionary ideas into life-changing reality. For more than 50 years, beloved and pioneering Bruin Dr. Leonard Apt did just that: One of the world’s first physicians to earn board certification in pediatrics and ophthalmology, he dedicated his career to preventing blindness for the youngest patients.

Today Apt’s commitment to children’s eyesight continues through a generous bequest. Since his passing in 2013, the Leonard Apt Trust has given more than $15 million to UCLA Stein Eye Institute. Building on a fellowship and chair created during his lifetime, the new Leonard Apt, MD Pediatric Fellowship Fund, Pediatric EyeSTAR Residency Training Fund, and Pediatric Ophthalmology Fund will sustain focused efforts in the specialty he started.

An original member of Stein Eye, Apt co-founded the Center to Prevent Childhood Blindness. He and fellow faculty also developed safer, more affordable medication for fighting post-operative infection and blindness in newborns — a treatment now helping thousands in the U.S. and across Africa and Asia. Apt put UCLA on the map as the first U.S. medical school to offer pediatric ophthalmology service.

“Dr. Apt’s philanthropy will create a living and enduring monument in the form of vast numbers of children who will enjoy the gift of sight in California and throughout the world,” says Dr. Joseph Demer, chief of the pediatric ophthalmology and strabismus division that the prolific professor established. From early discoveries to estate gifts, Apt’s compassion for children drove his life’s work and continues to define his legacy.

To help Dr. Apt’s vision reach children in need, contact Gail Summers at 310-206-9701 or summers@jsei.ucla.edu.

To be a catalyst for UCLA Chemistry, contact Brooke Sanders at 310-794-9045 or bsanders@support.ucla.edu.

Fostering Young Faculty

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To be a catalyst for UCLA Chemistry, contact Brooke Sanders at 310-794-9045 or bsanders@support.ucla.edu.
Vocal Victories

College is the proverbial time for many to find their voices, an adage particularly appropriate for voice performance students at The UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music.

These talented students have earned encouragement from Suzanne Weiss Morgen ’74, whose philanthropy created the biennial Vocal Vision Awards. Competitors sing opera, art songs, and classical musical theater at a public concert. Judges from the music industry, such as representatives from the Los Angeles Philharmonic and Los Angeles Opera, choose the top three to receive cash prizes.

Such awards and other scholarships give students the freedom to dream big. They certainly did for fellow voice performance alumna India Carney ’15, who gained fame on NBC’s The Voice and has performed at Centennial Campaign events to support her alma mater. She says, “Scholarships relieved the burden of trying to find funding sources for my education, allowing me more time to focus on achieving the dreams I had envisioned.”

Morgen also appreciates the value of student support. During her junior year at UCLA, she won the Frank Sinatra Award, which came with its own cash prize. Now a singer, composer, and teacher, she decided to give current students the chance to win in the same way.

Taking advantage of the UCLA Chancellor’s Centennial Scholars Match for undergraduates, Morgen added a new gift of $75,000 to endow biennial Vocal Vision Awards scholarships. Her generosity will help talented singers develop their voices, setting the stage for successful musical careers to come.

To raise your voice — and funds — in support of music scholarships, contact Ava Sadripour at 310-206-5645 or asadripour@schoolofmusic.ucla.edu.

UCLA School of Nursing’s Class of 1955 included Helen Shishino (front row, far left).

Vocal Victories

Open Doors Open Possibilities

A UCLA education is transformative. That fact drove a record-breaking 102,000 prospective freshmen and more than 22,000 transfer students to apply for 2017–2018.

UCLA’s capacity for changing lives is also the impetus behind prioritizing student support, promoted over the past year with the UCLA Chancellor’s Centennial Scholars Match for undergraduate scholarships. Inspired to respond, donors are opening doors for students to step onto campus and into their educational and professional journeys.

One anonymous donor used the match to grow her gift honoring a UCLA School of Nursing alumna who knows how influential a scholarship can be.

As a child, Helen Shishino ’55, MS ’60 was interned with other Japanese Americans during World War II. In high school, she read the Sue Barton novels chronicling the career of a nurse, catching her interest. Shishino considered several routes: Her best friend entered a hospital training program; her brothers’ military service suggested an army nurse; and a counselor recommended medical school.

Instead Shishino received a scholarship that enabled her to attend UCLA, where she earned one of 12 spots in the second nursing class and eventually her master’s degree. Professionally, she spent decades making a difference, from establishing policies at a new hospital to serving diverse communities at local health centers to helping children as a school nurse. And financial support made it all possible: “I wouldn’t have been able to attend college or become a nurse without the scholarship,” she says.

For those following in Shishino’s footsteps, her influence goes beyond her inspiring story. Now the Helen F. Shishino Centennial Scholars Undergraduate Scholarship will make a UCLA education — and so much more — possible for nursing’s next generation.

To keep the door to UCLA Nursing open wide, contact Amy Drizhal at 310-794-2358 or adrizhal@sonnet.ucla.edu.
For some, a bachelor’s degree is the first of many steps on a higher education journey. For UCLA’s graduate students, study beyond undergraduate years enhances their careers and their futures — and UCLA. Across campus and beyond, graduate student contributions are vital to UCLA’s mission of education, research, and service for the public good. And financial support for these students is vital, too. Competing with other universities for top talent often comes down to funding. That’s where graduate scholarships — also known as fellowships — come in. They help UCLA attract the best graduate students to study their specialties and strengthen the university.

**Education:** Undergraduate students often learn from graduate teaching assistants (TAs) who help faculty deliver lectures, lead discussions, grade papers, and introduce educational innovations. For example, one TA in UCLA College helped create online tutorials illustrating chemistry concepts with pop culture to make them more relatable and memorable.

**Research:** Graduate students contribute to important research. UCLA’s cityLAB engages researchers to explore challenges facing the 21st-century city. Graduate students drive their own inquiries into community development, sociopolitical power, art, and public space. They also collaborate with cityLAB faculty, serving as editors, authors, curators, and coordinators.

**Service:** Many use their skills to serve others. Graduate students are key to UCLA’s Depression Grand Challenge, which aims to eliminate depression by the end of the century. In addition to supporting long-term research goals, they help suffering students right now: Graduate therapists provide counseling and clinical treatment, while others train as Resilience Peers leading support groups for those in need.

Given the importance of graduate students to the life of UCLA, Chancellor Gene Block is expanding the UCLA Chancellor’s Centennial Scholars Match to graduate fellowships that enable students to pursue their passions while pushing their fields forward. Through June 2018, qualifying gifts of $250,000 to $1 million will be matched at 50 percent. As Chancellor Block marks his ten-year anniversary at UCLA, supporting students at all levels remains one of his top priorities. The new Centennial Graduate Scholars Match reflects that commitment and keeps the university — and the world — on the path to progress.

**To graduate your giving with a matching gift, contact Melanie Burzynski at 310-983-3491 or mburzynski@support.ucla.edu.**