

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF IMPACT, INSPIRATION AND FRIENDSHIP

When Women & Philanthropy at UCLA was formed in 1994, the group had one overarching goal: to have women's voices represented on campus. Today, there's no question that this group of strong, smart, powerful women is not only being heard loud and clear, it is impacting every single area of the university and inspiring other women to do the same.

A few members recently gathered to share their stories.

"Two decades ago, women were not being recognized in our own right as donors," recalls Founding Member Bea Mandel. "We weren't being offered the same kind of leadership opportunities and board positions as men." Determined to change that, Mandel, along with a small group, encouraged women to direct their giving to areas they were passionate about. Connecting them to these areas and inspiring leadership opportunities for women throughout campus became the group's vision – and Women & Philanthropy at UCLA was born.

"There are so many wonderful things about this group," says Janet Marott, a former executive at Boeing who serves on several boards on campus. "I thought I knew a lot about UCLA, but that was nonsense! There is more going on here than I could've ever imagined. I've learned about so many amazing programs by being part of this group."

These women represent some of the group's many diverse areas of interest – from performing arts and athletics to physical sciences, education and astronomy. For Agi Hirshberg, it's all about healthcare. After losing her husband to pancreatic cancer, Hirshberg established the UCLA Hirshberg Laboratory for Pancreatic Cancer Research. "From the first meeting, this group was home," says the incoming Women & Philanthropy president and a former executive in the fashion industry. "It doesn't matter what your passions are; here, everyone is a driver."

This bond also drew Sue Baumgarten, current president of Women & Philanthropy, to the group. "I was asked to speak to the group 10 years ago about how to be effective in a boardroom full of men, which was basically my career!" says Baumgarten, former president of Raytheon International. "I immediately felt connected to these women."



(Left to right) Astin, Mandel, Marott, Hirshberg and Baumgarten.

GIVING IS A PRIVILEGE

"From my own research, I know that giving is one of the most wonderful things we can do," says Lena Astin, Distinguished Professor Emerita, UCLA Graduate School of Education & Information Studies. "The act of giving and caring is a privilege." And for these women, serving UCLA through Women & Philanthropy is a privilege that has many rewards.

"Being part of Women & Philanthropy is a door to the university," says Mandel. "It can help you make the impossible possible," adds Hirshberg.

"I admire their passion, their commitment, their interests ... this is a group that really supports you in whatever you do."

– Lena Astin

As the discussion turns to the group's future – how do we engage more women? How can we mentor the next generation? – it's clear that these members, who have made such a large impact on campus, share a deep respect and affection for one another.

"This is a very special group of women who support the university, and each other," says Astin. It warms my heart every time I meet with them.

"I admire their passion, their commitment, their interests ... this is a group that really supports you in whatever you do."

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: OUR 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IS ALMOST HERE!



Time seems to be flying by, and our 20th Anniversary Celebration is rapidly approaching! I am so looking forward to “celebrating the past, creating the future” with you, the inspiring members of Women & Philanthropy, along with our guests, friends and impressive women leaders from across the campus.

The Celebration Committee, co-chaired by Tricia Grey and our incoming president Agi Hirshberg, is planning a lovely event on June 3rd. We'll be honoring some of our outstanding members, reminiscing about our beginnings, sharing conversations with university leaders at each table, and listening to an inspiring message from passionate, longtime supporter of the UCLA School of the Arts and Architecture, Dallas Price-Van Breda. Even if you have not had an opportunity to be involved recently, please plan to attend and get reacquainted with this dynamic group of women.

As the 20th Celebration approaches, my tenure as president is drawing to a close at the end of June. Again, the time has just flown by. I have learned so much about UCLA, about the women of Women & Philanthropy, and FROM all of you. Many of you were friends before, and more have become friends. The dedication and passion of all to individual causes, and to the shared vision to foster student success and UCLA's local and global impact, are absolutely infectious.

It has been my goal to broaden our reach and make us a more inclusive group that reaches out to the next generation of givers, while celebrating the accomplishments of those with the foresight to create this amazing organization. Thank you all for the opportunity, and for taking the journey with me.

Looking forward to seeing you at our celebration!

Sue Baumgarten
President, Women & Philanthropy



MAKING A LONG-TERM INVESTMENT ... CHRISTINE SOL

A few years after her 2005 graduation from UCLA, Christine Sol started to do some soul searching. She had paved a successful career path and began reflecting upon how – and where – she could give back and make a difference. What experiences had deeply impacted her life? What had contributed to her success? To Sol, the answer was clear: UCLA.



“UCLA was the most significant investment I had made in my young life,” says Sol, a strategy manager at Research Affiliates, a money management firm.

“But it doesn't stop at graduation – investing in UCLA is a long-term investment with perpetual dividends. Giving back ensures that UCLA continues to be one of the top universities in the world, and we, as alumni, benefit from that.”

One of the many areas Sol is passionate about supporting is the UCLA Center for American Politics and Public Policy (CAPPP).

A double major in history and political science with a minor in public policy, Sol participated in CAPPP's Quarter in Washington Program, interning for the U.S. Senate and conducting research on financial governance and corporate responsibility. It was an experience that would set her career path – and one that she wanted to give back to, with the help of her company's generous matching program. A huge athletics supporter, she is also a donor to the Wooden Athletic Fund, sits on the program advisory board for UniCamp, volunteers with the UCLA Alumni Association, and of course, is a member of Women & Philanthropy.

“I am blown away by the vast experience and accomplishments of Women & Philanthropy members,” says Sol. “I also enjoy learning about the many groundbreaking things happening at UCLA, and knowing we're in a group that cares enough to be part of it all.”

As Women & Philanthropy celebrates its milestone, Sol considers it a privilege to be among these women. “These longtime members are everything I aspire to be,” she says. “I hope more of my peers will join me in actively engaging and giving back to the university like these accomplished, amazing women who serve as our role models and mentors.”

CONNECTING STUDENTS AND FACULTY WITH WORLD-CLASS RESOURCES ... VIRGINIA “GINNY” STEEL



Virginia “Ginny” Steel can speak volumes about the critical role a library plays in a world-class university.

As UCLA University Librarian, Steel is at the helm of the UCLA Library system, ranked among the top 10 academic research libraries in North America. It’s a position she considers the highlight of her career.

“It’s energizing to be part of such a vibrant, intellectual community of people doing fascinating work in so many disciplines,” says Steel, who was appointed in July 2013. Among her many priorities is continuing to utilize technology to expand one of the best digital libraries in the world.

Steel, who joins UCLA after eight years as university librarian at UC Santa Cruz, received her undergraduate degree from the University of Rochester and her M.A. from the Graduate Library School at the University of Chicago.

“When I first started my career as a librarian, not many women had made it to become university librarian at any institution,” says Steel. “Over my career, I’ve seen an important change in that. Women are passionate about advancing every discipline, from research and medicine to cultural institutions. There’s so much we can contribute by playing a leadership role, and I congratulate Women & Philanthropy on its 20th anniversary.”



HONORING TWO EXTRAORDINARY WOMEN ...

Women & Philanthropy is thrilled to honor two amazing members at the 20th Anniversary Celebration for their dedication to the group and to the university.



Betsy Wood Knapp founded the Knapp New Venture Competition in which Anderson students present their entrepreneurial business plans to a panel of judges. She also established the Betsy Wood Knapp Chair in Innovation and Creativity (awarded to Professor Andrea Bertozzi, Applied Mathematics), has guest lectured at UCLA Anderson, gives to many campus areas, and is the only female to serve as chair of the UCLA Foundation.

“If UCLA were simply a world-class university, it would still be exceptional,” says Knapp. “But it happens to be a world-class research university, and that makes it extraordinary.”



Bea Mandel served as the first woman president of the UCLA Alumni Association, is a Regent Emerita of the University of California, and was the first woman elected chair of the International Board of Hillel. Mandel supports the Chancellor’s Greatest Needs, the Brain Tumor Program, the Center for the Art of Performance, and the Center for Jewish Studies – to name just a few.

“20 years is a milestone,” says Mandel. “There’s a tremendous amount of affection and respect we have for one another as we step forward into the next 20 years.”

CONGRATULATIONS TO BOTH HONOREES for being shining examples of Women & Philanthropy at its best.



DID YOU KNOW...

To commemorate the program’s 20th anniversary, Women & Philanthropy is making a one-time, pooled gift to UCLA!

Please join us as we support

PHILANTHROPY AS CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

an undergraduate course that teaches the next generation about the value and process of philanthropy, taught by Judi Smith, Dean and Vice Provost Emerita of Undergraduate Education.

This unique course is in perfect alignment with Women & Philanthropy’s mission to inspire the next generation of philanthropists.

Student participants:

- Conduct site visits at Los Angeles nonprofits
- Write proposals
- Award funds to four worthy nonprofit organizations in the arts, health and welfare, human services, and education
- Begin developing their own lifelong philosophy of giving

Join us in making a collective gift in honor of our 20th-year milestone at giving.ucla.edu/wp20th.

For questions, call 310-794-2389 or email wmpphil@support.ucla.edu.

Find out about the course at <http://newsroom.ucla.edu/portal/ucla/a-class-above-ucla-students-distribute-241700.aspx>.



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Development/Women & Philanthropy
405 Hilgard Avenue
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TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2014
LUNCHEON 11:30 AM – 2:00 PM
CARNESALE COMMONS, UCLA CAMPUS

For tickets, go to: giving.ucla.edu/wp20th

To join this dynamic group, email us at wmnphil@support.ucla.edu or call **310.794.2389**.

To find out more, see a list of current members, and be inspired, visit women.support.ucla.edu.