

WOMEN & Philanthropy

AT UCLA

A NEW LEADER OF LEADERS

KATHLEEN FLANAGAN BECOMES PRESIDENT OF WOMEN & PHILANTHROPY



"EDUCATION PROVIDES THE
ULTIMATE FREEDOM TO BE
ANYTHING YOU WANT AND
TO LIVE YOUR DREAMS."

Kathleen Flanagan, MBA '00

Forward-thinking and entrepreneurial, Kathleen Flanagan, MBA '00 will lead Women & Philanthropy into the next decade of support for UCLA. During a recent conversation, the start-up company founder and current vice president for communications and government relations at Loyola Marymount University discussed her new role and primary goals.

How does Women & Philanthropy motivate giving?

At Women & Philanthropy, we engage with the UCLA community to learn first-hand about the challenges the university faces and the positive impact philanthropy can have. Every gift—even the most modest—does make a difference, especially when you join a group of like-minded philanthropists. The group's efforts add up to real positive change.

What inspires you to do this work?

Education has made a huge difference in my life. I want to help young adults who are unable to afford the education that everybody deserves. The power of philanthropy is that it can make equitable access to education possible, despite the challenges presented by limited state funds and increasing costs. Our members have given more than \$10 million to directly support students in the last decade. I want to build on that legacy.

What are your top priorities?

It is all about the basics: increasing our membership and our philanthropic giving. To do that, I want to focus on the outstanding students that ultimately benefit from our efforts. They are our inspiration and best tell the story of UCLA.

Can you give an example of how you plan to grow participation?

One way we can do that is by building a mentoring program to engage women at a younger age. Through our example and collaborative relationships, more women will have the opportunity to connect to the people and programs that make UCLA such a highly regarded university across the country. This will be a goal of ours with the formation of a committee led by Board member Barbara Bergman.

What is the biggest obstacle to achieving the W&P mission?

I do not see any big obstacles. I believe in the motto "Just do it!" This is a group of dynamic women who get things done. It is only a matter of devoting time and brain power!

Is there a Women & Philanthropy experience that stands out?

Supporting the university with fellow Women & Philanthropy members has led to some of my most memorable experiences at UCLA. This past spring, Women & Philanthropy held an event that highlighted Operation Mend, a wonderful program that was made possible by one of our Board members and her husband. This is a partnership between the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and the Brooke Army Medical Center to perform plastic surgery on the faces of U.S. soldiers who were injured while serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. We brought in two of the soldiers. It was so emotional and very empowering to see how philanthropy made possible something so needed in an area overlooked by the government.

I will never forget that day—it is the ultimate example of how philanthropy and excellence and reaching out can make a difference.



Rita Pynoos, with a rendering of her late husband Morris by artist David Hockney.

In decades past, Rita Pynoos worked tirelessly as a proponent of women’s rights and the Equal Rights Amendment. Today, she channels her vibrant energy toward several areas of interest. Women’s issues remain a passion, which partially explains her involvement with Women & Philanthropy at UCLA.

“At Women & Philanthropy, women from all walks of life come together for a common cause,” Rita says. “They each follow their own path to advance UCLA.”

For Rita, that path leads to supporting the research of her son, psychiatry professor Robert Pynoos, who directs the university’s Trauma Psychiatry Service at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior. A member of the faculty since 1980, Dr. Pynoos has become nationally known for his expertise in post-traumatic stress disorder.

“Research takes money,” says proud mom Rita, who also supports the work of her other son Jon, the UPS Foundation Professor of Gerontology at USC. “And raising money requires teamwork.”

She and her late husband—engineer, inventor, real estate developer and civic booster Morris Pynoos—worked together for several decades

to generate support for causes close to their hearts. In 1970, when their son Jon developed a corneal disease called keratoconus, they established the Discovery Eye Foundation, a research center now based at UC Irvine. They also worked actively on behalf of UCLA and other community institutions.

Rita and Morris were avid collectors of contemporary art. Today, Rita takes pride in her collection and remains personal friends with luminaries including David Hockney, whose works occupy a special place in her home. She is an accomplished weaver and designer of unique furniture, a long-time commissioner of the Smithsonian American Art Museum, a board member of the UCLA Iris Cantor Breast Imaging Center and, of course, an active participant in Women & Philanthropy at UCLA.

“All the good that we do for people reverts back to us a hundred-fold,” Rita says. “There is great satisfaction in helping others.”

WOMEN & PHILANTHROPY AT UCLA RECOGNIZES AND PROMOTES WOMEN’S LEADERSHIP AND PHILANTHROPY ON THE UCLA CAMPUS.

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STUDENTS OF ACTUARIAL STUDIES GET A BOOST

PATTY BOYLE

Patty Boyle admits to feeling “a certain electricity” when she steps onto the UCLA campus. It is, after all, the place where she received both her bachelor’s degree and a master’s in education in the 1970s, where her son and father-in-law are also alumni, and where her late husband Ira earned his math degree with honors and helped launch the actuarial studies program. Patty has given generously to support that initiative in Ira’s name.

“My primary concern is to preserve my husband’s legacy,” she says. “I want to be sure that the program he started continues to grow and prosper.”

It all began, Patty explains, after Ira graduated from UCLA in 1972 and went to work for Transamerica Life Companies, at one point assuming actuarial director duties. When he tried to recruit new actuarial students for the firm, he found it difficult because there were no such college programs in the area. “So he approached his alma mater about offering classes,” Patty says, “and the actuarial studies program in the UCLA Department of Mathematics was born.” This remains one of the few universities in the western U.S. that prepares students who wish to become actuaries.

When Ira died in 1993, Transamerica created a scholarship in his name for actuarial students at UCLA. Patty established two additional funds in the math department and the UCLA Library to provide support for actuarial exam fees and actuarial club activities, and for the purchase of books, periodicals and study materials.

This year, she also inaugurated the Ira and Patty Boyle Endowed Actuarial Science Fund in the math department, designed to expand course offerings in actuarial studies and attract industry support for the program. Patty’s daughter Rebecca, an actuary herself, worked

with her mom to provide guidance in the fund’s creation.

A teacher of special education teachers at Cal State Dominguez Hills and Cal State Northridge, Patty became involved with Women & Philanthropy at UCLA through her giving and is an active board member. “These women use their influence for the good of the university and the community, and strive to make a difference in a very positive way,” she declares. “It’s a wonderful group and I am so proud to be a member in support of UCLA.”



Patty Boyle, center, spoke at the math department’s commencement ceremony last June. Here, she poses with daughter Rebecca and department Chair Christoph Thiele.

BRUIN ALUMNAE SOAR TO NEW HEIGHTS

From aerospace engineering to the humanities, UCLA’s women alumni are demonstrating their leadership skills in high-flying fashion.

K. MEGAN McARTHUR

Few have flown as high as NASA astronaut K. Megan McArthur, who will serve as a mission specialist on the upcoming flight of the space

shuttle Atlantis. McArthur, who earned her B.S. in aerospace engineering at UCLA and her doctoral degree at UC San Diego, has been at NASA since 2000 and will be one of seven astronauts to fly on the space shuttle’s fifth and final servicing mission to repair and upgrade the Hubble Space Telescope.

KAY RYAN

If McArthur finds inspiration in outer space, Kay Ryan prefers to look inward to pursue her passions. A reluctant poet at first, her compact, witty and philosophical work over more than 30 years has earned her an appointment this year as the 16th poet laureate of the United States. Ryan, who received both her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in English from UCLA, has published six collections of poetry and



Poet Laureate Kay Ryan

garnered myriad awards and honors. Her work has been described as “intense and elliptical as Dickinson, as buoyant and rueful as Frost.”



Astronaut K. Megan McArthur

FROM CHILDHOOD OBESITY TO SCHOOL VIOLENCE

CLINICAL SCHOLARS WORK TO SOLVE COMMUNITY ISSUES

UCLA Pediatrician Anisha Patel is partnering with the L.A. Unified School District to lead the fight against childhood obesity. Together, they are working to provide access to free, clean, chilled drinking water in public schools so that children will consume fewer sweetened drinks.

Anisha is a fellow in the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program, a national philanthropic initiative that trains physicians to be community leaders, both in public policy and the research arena. UCLA's scholars conduct transformational, community-partnered projects in the multi-ethnic Los Angeles area—a pursuit that supports Chancellor Gene Block's priority to strengthen community ties at the university level.

INTERNIST KRISTINA CORDASCO, WORKING WITH THE L.A. COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES, DESIGNED AN INTERVENTION TOOL TO HELP SERIOUSLY ILL LOW-LITERACY PATIENTS TO BETTER UNDERSTAND THEIR MEDICATIONS AND TAKE THEM MORE APPROPRIATELY WHEN THEY LEAVE THE HOSPITAL.



Dr. Carol Mangione, program co-director

“Our scholars are an extraordinary group of very accomplished young doctors who are committed to improving the health of communities,” says Dr. Carol Mangione, UCLA professor of medicine and co-director of the program along with doctors Robert Brook and Kenneth Wells. “They come to us with excellent clinical skills, and we overlay public-health training, teaching them



Clinical Scholar Nazleen Bharmal, far left, works with representatives of the L.A. Urban League and Rand Corporation to sort photos on photovoice methodology.

community engagement, policy analysis and leadership skills so they can be effective agents of change for communities.”

The clinical scholars, all of whom have finished medical school and residency or are in the research years of a surgical residency, complete a two- to three-year structured program leading, for most, to a master's degree in the science of health services (MSHS). During the first year they learn the fundamentals of being a researcher, then go on to design and implement projects in partnership with community agencies and guided by their faculty and community mentors. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, a long-time supporter of UCLA's medical science enterprise, pays the cost of tuition and provides each of them a modest stipend and research budget.

FAMILY PHYSICIAN KARA ODOM IS CONDUCTING A SURVEY IN SOUTH LOS ANGELES THAT INVESTIGATES THE HEALTH IMPLICATIONS OF THE CLOSURE OF MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.-HARBOR HOSPITAL FOR PEOPLE WITH CHRONIC DISEASES.

The program operates at four sites—UCLA and the universities of Michigan, Pennsylvania and Yale. According to Dr. Mangione, UCLA is a highly competitive

site and scholars must pass a rigorous selection process. “One-third to one-half of the national applicants will rank this as their first choice,” she says. The majority of this year's 19 UCLA scholars are women, many from underrepresented groups.

PEDIATRICIAN RASHMI SHETGIRI IS WORKING TO MITIGATE VIOLENCE IN THE VENICE-MAR VISTA SCHOOLS BY EVALUATING A PROPOSED PROGRAM THAT WOULD BE INSTITUTED IN LOS ANGELES HIGH SCHOOLS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS AMONG STUDENT GROUPS.

Dr. Mangione, a professor of internal medicine and public health at UCLA since 1994, stresses the importance of going beyond the program's requirements. “Just because our scholars publish their research in JAMA doesn't mean they're done,” she says. **“Our clinical scholars must think outside the box and work with their partners to find solutions to problems that aren't in the traditional medical model. Often they must work to change the cultural norms if they are to make a real difference in our communities.”**

No one was predicting that Dawn Harper, a 2006 UCLA alumna, would win the gold medal in the women's 100-meter hurdles in last summer's Beijing Olympics. She had garnered the last spot on the American team at the Olympic Trials by 0.007 seconds, and the surprise made her victory that much sweeter.



Dawn Harper '06

"It's jaw-dropping," Dawn said. "You work so hard and for it to come true, to realize you raced the best in the world, it's a blessing. I'm holding the medal in my hand, but it's so surreal."

Hers was a huge personal victory, and an important one for her teammates and her hometown of East St. Louis, Ill. But her fellow Bruins rejoiced as well.

Dawn was one of 39 UCLA Olympians in Beijing and, of 15 total Bruin medal-winners, one of four to win gold. Her connection to the university extends back to another Bruin track star—



Natalie Golda '06

Jackie Joyner Kersee '86, a fellow East St. Louisan and Dawn's inspiration and mentor. More than that, Dawn's coach is Joyner-Kersee's husband, Bob Kersee.

Dawn wasn't the only UCLA gold medal-winner on the track and field team. Fellow Bruin Monique Henderson '07, appearing in her third Olympics, triumphed in the women's 4x400 relay, one of the most exciting track and field events of the meet. She was urged to compete by another great Bruin alumna, Gail Devers '89. The team was led by current UCLA head coach Jeanette Bolden, herself a gold medalist at the 1984 Games in Los Angeles.

The UCLA connection was deeply felt among all the athletes and coaches in Beijing. "It was nice having our Bruin family there," says Natasha Watley '05, who won silver as a member of the U.S. women's softball team. "There were four of us on the team and it made for good bonding between us because we all got to represent UCLA at the Olympics."

Indeed, the event provided an opportunity for women to demonstrate their athletic skill and leadership on the world stage. Twenty-five of the 39 UCLA representatives, including 12 of the 15 medalists, were women, and three of the four golds were garnered by women athletes.

The university's third female gold medalist, current junior Lauren Cheney, was a member of the U.S. women's soccer team that played Brazil to a 1-0 victory in the deciding game. Born with a congenital heart defect, Lauren had open-heart surgery when she was three and her doctors encouraged her parents to keep her active in sports. She was a soccer standout before her sixth birthday.



Natasha Watley '05

"I think I've wanted to go to the Olympics since I was seven years old," Lauren says, "and the 1999 Women's World Cup win only made me want it that much more."

"But UCLA is not just about soccer, it's about learning how I can contribute to the world."

Qualifying for the Olympics is a medal-winning feat in itself. The Women & Philanthropy family is proud to salute all 39 members of the UCLA contingent to the Olympic Games. Please see the sidebar for a complete list of participants.



Sheena Tosta '05

UCLA OLYMPIANS 2008

These athletes played for the U.S. except where noted.

WOMEN:

Track & field

Jeanette Bolden, coach
Amy Acuff '97
Jessica Cosby '05
Dawn Harper '06 — GOLD
Monique Henderson '07 — GOLD
Suzy Powell-Roos '99
Sheena Tosta '05 — SILVER
Rhonda Watkins '09 (for Trinidad & Tobago)

Soccer

Jillian Ellis, coach
Lauren Cheney '11 — GOLD
Kara Lang '10 (for Canada)

Water polo

Guy Baker (former UCLA head coach)
Natalie Golda '06 — SILVER
Jaime Hipp '03 — SILVER

Swimming

Nicolette Teo '09 (for Singapore)
Kim Vandenberg '08 — BRONZE

Beach volleyball

Liz Masakayan '04, coach
Elaine Youngs '93

Gymnastics

Elyse Hopfner-Hibbs '12 (for Canada)

Softball

Stacey Nuveman '02 — SILVER
Andrea Duran '07 — SILVER
Tairia Mims Flowers '05 — SILVER
Natasha Watley '05 — SILVER
Lisa Fernandez '95 (replacement player)
Tanya Harding (for Australia) — BRONZE

MEN:

Track & field

Yoo Kim '06 (for Korea)
Jonathan Williams '05 (for Belize)

Water polo

Brandon Brooks '05 — SILVER
Adam Wright '07 — SILVER

Tennis

Marcin Matkowski (for Poland)
Mark Knowles (for Bahamas)

Soccer

Marvell Wynne '09
Patrick Ianni '09
Benny Feilhaber
Frankie Hejduk (alternate)

Rowing

Mike Altman
Mark Hunter (for Great Britain) — GOLD

Volleyball

John Speraw '95, asst. coach

Beach volleyball

Bob Alejo, asst. coach



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COMING SOON

Plant and animal populations are profoundly affected by climate change. Can they adapt? Will they survive? Women & Philanthropy invites you to join us for a fascinating look at climate change in Southern California and beyond, and the amazing research being conducted by UCLA's environmental pioneers.

UCLA RESPONDS: CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACT ON BIODIVERSITY

Featuring Victoria Sork and Tom Smith, professors

UCLA Institute of the Environment, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

Wednesday, November 12, 2008

California NanoSystems Institute Auditorium

To learn more, call Sandy Levin at 310.794.2389 or e-mail wmnphil@support.ucla.edu

The Alumni/Donor Census is Here!

Our mission: to develop programs and events that matter to you – and to support academic excellence and public service at UCLA.

Our goal: a comprehensive census of the UCLA community.

Our need: your participation!

You've received our brief census. Please help us by responding – it will take but a few minutes to complete.

Thank you.

UCLA

