

UCLA Women & Philanthropy

volume 29 | spring 2020

EMILY CARTER: A BUILDER ON A MISSION

A personal quest led Emily A. Carter to become UCLA's executive vice chancellor and provost (EVCP) this past September. "For more than a dozen years, I've been on a mission to do everything I can to help move the planet onto a sustainable path," she says. Her journey has included research, teaching and, for the last decade, she's been tackling it as an administrative leader.

Myriad milestones preceded Carter accepting the EVCP position. She got her start at UCLA (1988–2004) as faculty in the chemistry and biochemistry department, then later also in the materials science and engineering department. During this time, she helped establish UCLA's Institute for Pure and Applied Mathematics (IPAM) and the California NanoSystems Institute (CNSI).

As Carter describes herself, "I'm a builder, I don't like a steady state." This drive compelled her to join Princeton's engineering faculty in 2004. There, Carter served as founding director of the Andlinger Center for Energy and the Environment (2010–2016). This experience made her realize the breadth of impact possible for an administrative leader.

When named Princeton's dean of engineering and applied science in 2016, Carter pushed forward initiatives in other important areas of 21st-century engineering, including bioengineering, robotics, urban systems, and data science. Upon becoming dean, Carter also worked to improve the culture within science and engineering for underrepresented groups, including women. Then, UCLA came calling.

UCLA's progress over the 15 years she'd been gone struck chords for Carter. Among them, the concept of UCLA's deeper integration into Los Angeles and the UCLA Sustainable LA Grand Challenge.

"These projects resonated with me as being key to transforming the planet," Carter says. "Whatever we do in cities to combat societal ills and climate change will have a huge influence on the entire world."

A vision evolved: Galvanize UCLA and Los Angeles to listen to issues faced by the city's immigrant communities, including those of climate change; try out different social and technological interventions; determine what works; then export these best practices with international reach in mind.

"I thought, what better place to serve as a test bed for transforming cities than Los Angeles. And UCLA is the best university to make that happen." Carter hit the ground running. "I basically work every waking minute," because, she says, "I feel a sense of urgency and responsibility to use my talent in whatever way I can for as long as I can."



Photo by David Kelly Crow

"Together we can have a profound and positive impact on the world."

— Emily Carter, Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost

Underway is a re-scoping of the Sustainable LA Grand Challenge to encompass resilience, livability and equitability, in addition to sustainability.

Also on Carter's slate is an initiative through which UCLA will make groundbreaking advances in data science algorithms, applications, policies, and education.

"It's a way of accelerating discovery and understanding," she says of processing and interpreting massive amounts of data. "Data science won't solve every challenge, but by developing unbiased algorithms that can identify patterns in data, we may reveal insights we wouldn't see otherwise."

As for confronting universal problems, Carter believes in a team approach, one where Women & Philanthropy can be integral.

"Anyone passionate about something has a role to play, and everyone has something they can offer." Whatever that contribution may be — resources, contacts, time, funding, or advocacy — Carter says this can make enormous differences locally and globally.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE: A MEANINGFUL LEGACY



My term as president of Women & Philanthropy is coming to an end. Yet my passion and dedication to the organization grows stronger by the day. We’ve accomplished extraordinary things over the last two years, from hosting 36 fun and enlightening programs, to celebrating Women & Philanthropy’s 25th anniversary. I’m so proud to be a part of this legacy.

Speaking of legacies, I’d like to honor several here — members of Women & Philanthropy who’ve recently passed away but left indelible memories at UCLA. These are dear friends of ours who cared deeply about the University and will be greatly missed.

Elaine Krown Klein felt philanthropy was about cultivating a legacy of generosity. Elaine has ensured that over 225 undergraduate and graduate students can realize their dreams through the Elaine Krown Klein Fine Arts Scholarship Fund. She and her husband also established the Leo M. Klein and Elaine Krown Klein Chair in Performance Studies in the UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music.

Bruin alum **Marcia Howard** ’54 devoted 60 years of leadership, advocacy and philanthropy to 20 campus committees and organizations, such as the *Fiat Lux* Freshman Seminar Program. She also created the English department’s Marcia H. Howard Term Chair in Literary Studies.

A lifelong philanthropist, **Rita Pynoos**’ contributions benefitted medicine, including the research of her son, Professor Robert Pynoos, director of Trauma Psychiatry Service at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior.

In February, UCLA Anderson School of Management’s new Marion Anderson Hall opened its doors. Named after Women & Philanthropy Lifetime Member **Marion Anderson**, the building honors Marion’s desire to impact the lives of future global leaders by paving the way for students to achieve their dreams.

I’m so excited to see where Women & Philanthropy’s ever-evolving legacy will take us next.

Anne-Marie Spataru
President, Women & Philanthropy



THE POWER OF A GRANDMOTHER’S LOVE

When Matthew Agostini was a toddler, his mother Susan noticed he stumbled when walking. “Boys are clumsy,” the pediatrician replied to Susan’s concerns. “Don’t worry, he’ll outgrow it.” Unconvinced, Susan and husband Peter continued to seek answers to Matthew’s balance issues. When Matthew was 5, a diagnosis was made: ataxia with oculomotor apraxia, a rare, neurodegenerative condition.



After learning some cousins had also been diagnosed with a neurological disease, the Agostini family banded together, believing in a brighter future for Matthew and

his younger brother, Christian, who was also identified as having ataxia.

Signs of ataxia, which generally strikes young children, include difficulty with walking, balance and stability, impaired speech and peripheral vision. “It’s heartbreaking to see a child becoming more debilitated day by day,” the boys’ grandmother, Rosemarie Agostini, a Women & Philanthropy Circle Member, says.

A relentless search for answers eventually led the New Jersey residents to Brent Fogel, M.D., Ph.D., director of UCLA Neurogenetics Clinic. Rosemarie recalls, “Dr. Fogel spent hours with me, talking in terms I truly understood and reassuring me we’re going to be successful.” To support Fogel’s mission, the Agostinis founded the Agostini Ataxia-1 Research Fund.

A momentous call came from Fogel in October 2019. He’d discovered a potential cure for ataxia. “We were thrilled,” Rosemarie says, “because there had been absolutely no hope.”

Fogel studies genes that can cause specific forms of ataxia and disability in otherwise healthy children. He’s now focusing on developing a gene therapy to correct and treat ataxia. “We raised the first year’s research allocation, but this is a four-year project,” Rosemarie says. “The sooner we raise the money, the sooner we see the fruits of Dr. Fogel’s labor.”

Matthew is now a 23-year-old college student. Christian attends high school. Rosemarie credits these wonders to everyone from Fogel to her now deceased husband Ray. “We’re all one team battling this horrible disease. I truly believe this miracle will happen.”

To learn more and to support Dr. Fogel’s research, contact Elizabeth Naito, Senior Director of Development at enaito@support.ucla.edu, (310) 206-6749, or visit spark.ucla.edu/mattandchris.

DID YOU KNOW?

In addition to the 100th anniversary of UCLA, there are many other significant campus milestones being celebrated in 2019–2020.

90 YEARS

UCLA's Westwood campus is officially dedicated

85 YEARS

Clark Library is donated to UCLA by William Andrews Clark

College of Business Administration (now Anderson School of Management) becomes UCLA's first professional school

Alumni Association is formed

80 YEARS

School of Education is founded

70 YEARS

School of Nursing is established

John Wooden becomes head coach of men's basketball

School of Law is inaugurated

School of Social Welfare is founded

65 YEARS

UCLA Medical Center opens

55 YEARS

School of Dentistry is established

UCLA Film & Television Archive is founded (second only in size to Library of Congress)

Men's basketball wins first national championship under John Wooden (leading to 10 over 12 years)

50 YEARS

Institute of American Cultures is formed

The first email ever is sent from UCLA to the Stanford Research Institute, launching the Internet

35 YEARS

Center for the Study of Women is created

Campus hosts the 1984 Summer Olympics tennis and gymnastics competitions and Olympic Village

25 YEARS

Hammer Museum merges with UCLA

The Simms/Mann – Center for Integrative Oncology is established

School of Public Affairs is founded (includes Public Policy, Urban Planning, and Social Welfare)

10 YEARS

Dr. Elinor Ostrom becomes first woman awarded Nobel Prize in Economics

UCLA Community School opens in Koreatown-Pico Union

First Volunteer Day and the UCLA Volunteer Center are created

Development/Women & Philanthropy
405 Hilgard Avenue
PO Box 951590
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1590

Women & Philanthropy is going green!

Please share your email address at

wmnphil@support.ucla.edu.

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

UCLA



AN INVITATION TO AN INTRIGUING EVENT ...

The Impact of Women on Election 2020



TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2020

6:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Tamkin Auditorium at UCLA Ronald Reagan Hospital

RSVP: eventsrsvp.ucla.edu/WPElection2020



Women will have a tremendous amount of influence in the 2020 Election — in the voting booth and as candidates running for office.



A panel of UCLA experts will discuss what women mean for the election nationally and locally. How much of an impact the participation of women as candidates and voters will actually have on different elections. What can and should women do to have their voices heard.

Women & Philanthropy at UCLA celebrates and inspires women throughout the UCLA community as major donors, leaders and decision-makers.

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

To get more information about the program and our activities, visit our updated website: **women.support.ucla.edu**.