

# UCLA Women & Philanthropy

Celebrating and inspiring women throughout the UCLA community as major donors, leaders and decision-makers

## Celebrating Title IX’s 50th with Women of Westwood

Arguably, nothing has had a more positive impact for women in collegiate sports than the passage of Title IX, and this June marks the 50th anniversary of the landmark legislation that prohibits sex-based discrimination. To honor this tremendous milestone, UCLA is launching “Women of Westwood.”

UCLA began making strides in women’s athletics from its beginnings in 1919 with the creation of its Women’s Athletic Association, encompassing basketball, baseball, tennis and track. The 1923–24 founding of the intramural athletics program brought swimming, indoor baseball, track and tennis into the mix.

Title IX was integral in 1974 for UCLA’s launch of a women’s athletics department. “To me, UCLA was the epitome of Title IX,” Judith Holland, who became UCLA’s first full-time director of women’s intercollegiate sports in 1975, told UCLA Newsroom. “UCLA was trying to do everything possible to make its women’s sports program as good as the men’s.”

That same year, the university awarded its first full athletic scholarship to a woman, basketball player Ann Meyers Drysdale, ’79. “Title IX was starting to take effect, and people were making change happen,” Meyers Drysdale recalled to UCLA Athletics. “In 1975, I had no idea where I was going to school, but UCLA came to me and offered the very first women’s athletic scholarship. So I played basketball, volleyball and ran track here, and that was the best decision I ever made.”



Another victory occurred in 1978, when UCLA’s women’s basketball team claimed its first national title. “Dr. Holland believed athletics would pave their way as women in society, and that’s exactly what it did,” Anita Ortega ’82, who earned all-league honors as a starter on the 1978 squad, said in a *UCLA Magazine* article.

With moments throughout the 2022–23 academic year to celebrate UCLA’s female student-athletes, alumni and coaches, Women of Westwood will enhance educational and athletic-related resources at UCLA in support of the next generation of female leaders. UCLA alumni, fans and friends are invited to show their support for “Women of Westwood.” This initiative focuses on four areas:

- 1. Support operational expenses and enhancements across all women’s sports
- 2. Fund female student-athlete scholarships
- 3. Endow women’s team coaching positions
- 4. Gifts of any amount given directly to a women’s sport

“This celebration is a chance to commemorate the wonderful successes of our women’s athletic programs,” Valorie Kondos Field, whose 29-year tenure as UCLA women’s gymnastics coach led to seven national titles,

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## Shelly Carlin Makes History ... Again

When it comes to supporting Title IX and its impact on women, Women & Philanthropy Lifetime member Shelly Aguilar Carlin has always walked the walk. She’s continuing to do just that with a \$1M commitment establishing The Shelly Carlin UCLA Head Softball Coach Endowment. The goal of her generous gift: to elevate UCLA softball and the student-athlete experience for future generations to come.

The Bakersfield native’s undergraduate journey at UCLA included her standout performance on the UCLA 1982 NCAA Championship Softball team, as well as being named Academic All-American in softball in 1983, the same year she graduated summa cum laude. The Phi Beta Kappa member went on to earn her MBA from UCLA Anderson School of Management in 1985. Today, Carlin is the executive vice president of the HR Policy Association, the leading public policy organization of chief human resource officers.



Kelly Inouye-Perez, the Shelly Carlin UCLA Head Softball Coach

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## President's Message

Since 1972's passage of Title IX, we've seen the number of women leaders increase substantially. This federal law, prohibiting sex-based discrimination in any school or education program that receives federal government funding, has changed women's lives.

Title IX has empowered women and is the focus of this issue. Athletically confident women inspire our young girls to try new things and to exert themselves beyond their dreams. Many of today's women leaders have excelled because of the lessons they've learned participating in sports, and through those experiences gained self-assurance and determination to take on challenges.

At a time when few women were studying engineering, our Women & Philanthropy president-elect chose this discipline. She is a woman who leads by example: Coretta Harris. A 1983 graduate of UCLA Samueli School of Engineering, Coretta developed a career as a senior systems engineer with several large technology corporations in Southern California and beyond. She joined Women & Philanthropy in 2008 and the Board shortly after, participating on the Membership

Committee and, most recently, on the Diversity & Inclusion Subcommittee. In addition, Coretta has given back to UCLA by serving as president of the Engineering Alumni Association — the first woman to be elected. She was vice president of programs in Gold Shield and is currently on the boards of the Engineering Alumni Association, the UCLA Alumni Association and Operation MEND. Please join me in warmly welcoming her as our leader when she assumes the presidency this July.

In addition to the cover story that highlights the impact of Title IX at UCLA and the launch of the Women of Westwood initiative, this newsletter profiles the new head coach of UCLA Women's Soccer, Marguerite Aozasa. Also featured is Women & Philanthropy member Shelly Aguilar Carlin, who has established The Shelly Carlin UCLA Head Softball Coach Endowment.

Women & Philanthropy has flourished in the last two years, expanding our programs through a virtual, "Zoom" format, and implementing more robust and systemic equity, diversity and inclusion efforts. It has been an honor to be president. Most memorable has been the Women & Philanthropy friendships I cherish. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

— Susan F. Rice, MPA, '76, President,  
Women & Philanthropy

## Celebrating Title IX's ...

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told UCLA Athletics, "while the fundraising initiative is an opportunity to build upon those successes from the last 50 years and allow our female student-athletes to represent UCLA as difference-makers in our community."

Alice and Nahum Lainer Family Director of Athletics Martin Jarmond told Bruin Athletics, "From our legendary alumni to our current student-athletes; when women are supported, everyone benefits."

For more information on "Women of Westwood," please visit: <https://woodenathleticfund.com/women-of-westwood>

**UCLA women's athletics teams have lifted 56 national championship trophies, won 378 conference team and individual titles, earned 865 All-America honors, and produced hundreds of Olympians. There are currently more than 350 female student-athletes across 14 teams.**

## Shelly Carlin ...

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"My years at UCLA — the education at both the undergraduate and graduate level, as well as the chance to be a part of a national championship team — is the single biggest factor in my success," she told UCLA Athletics. This was the impetus for her to "reinvest some of that success to benefit future generations of student-athletes."

In 2006, Carlin established the Michele Aguilar Carlin endowed scholarship for UCLA Softball. Six years later, she established a legends wall at Easton Stadium and helped to fund a leadership curriculum for members of the softball team. With this most recent monumental gift, Carlin is encouraging fellow former UCLA student-athletes, along with all alumni, fans and friends of UCLA to support UCLA Athletics' female student-athletes through the Women of Westwood philanthropic initiative.

Of her recent gift, Carlin told UCLA Athletics, it "...reflects the special bond that all of us who played here have with the program. The tradition of excellence — not just on the field and in the classroom but in life after college — is what makes UCLA Softball so special. I'm excited for our program and can't wait to see how future Bruins will make their mark on our legacy."

# UCLA Women’s Soccer’s New Head Coach Joins Women & Philanthropy

Joining the Women & Philanthropy fold as its newest University Leadership member is Margueritte Aozasa, the new head coach for UCLA women’s soccer. Stepping into this role, Aozasa becomes the sixth head coach in the team’s history. “I was immediately struck by the emphasis on energy, integrity and competitiveness throughout the department,” Aozasa told UCLA Athletics. “This program’s standard of excellence has been well-established, and I cannot wait to continue its tradition of elite performance on and off the field.”

Aozasa joins UCLA from Stanford University, where she coached from 2015 through 2021. During her tenure there, the Cardinal won two national championships and five Pac-12 titles. Associate UCLA Athletic Director of Compliance Erin Adkins shared that UCLA is impressed by Aozasa’s ability to “clearly define who we are as a team now and where the team could continue to grow in the future.”

As a former soccer player herself, Aozasa was a starter for Santa Clara University (2008–11), where she earned a major in psychology, along with minors in public health and Spanish. Later, she’d earn her masters in coaching and athletic administration (2020) from Concordia University, Irvine, and received her U.S. Soccer A Coaching license.

Over the last nine years, UCLA women’s soccer has thrived under the leadership of former Head Coach Amanda Cromwell, who joined the Bruins in 2013. During that first year, Cromwell led the team to NCAA and Pac-12 titles. She would helm the Bruins to three additional Pac-12 titles, three College Cup appearances and seven Sweet 16 appearances.



Margueritte Aozasa, the new UCLA Women's Soccer Head Coach

“Amanda has played a pivotal role in the overall development and growth of NCAA women's soccer, and as a female head coach, she has inspired many other women to lead their positions, whether on the soccer field or in everyday life,” Adkins told UCLA Athletics. “I’m certain she will continue to do the same at the professional level.” In December 2021, Cromwell set out to do just that as she became the head coach of the National Women’s Soccer League’s Orlando Pride.

As for Aozasa, she’s already making history at UCLA with her new position making her one of just five Asian American women currently serving as head coach for an NCAA women's soccer team.

“Margueritte continues to pave the way for female soccer coaches in the United States,” U.S. Women’s National Team defender and four-time UCLA All-American Abby Dahlkemper ’14, told UCLA Athletics. “I can’t wait to see all the success she brings to the UCLA soccer program.”

## FOR MORE INFORMATION ON UCLA ATHLETICS

Contact the Wooden Athletic Fund at [development@athletics.ucla.edu](mailto:development@athletics.ucla.edu) or (310) 206-3302

## Did You Know ...

**UCLA’s Olympic Medal Count** as of the 2022 Winter Olympics is 270 (more than many countries), with 60 of those golds won by women athletes who called themselves Bruins. Some notable Bruins who brought home hardware from Olympics over the years:

- Marion Roper, Platform Diving: 1 bronze, 1932 Los Angeles
- Shirley Babashoff, Swimming: 2 gold and 2 silver, 1972 Munich; 1 gold and 4 silver, 1976 Montreal
- Ann Meyers Drysdale, '79, Basketball: 1 silver, 1976 Montreal
- Florence Griffith Joyner, '83, Track and Field: 1 silver, 1984 Los Angeles; 3 gold and 1 silver, 1988 Seoul
- Jackie Joyner Kersee, '85, Track and Field: 2 gold, 1988 Seoul; 1 gold and 1 bronze, 1992 Barcelona; 1 silver, 1984 Los Angeles; 1 bronze, 1996 Atlanta
- Michelle Kwan, Figure Skating: 1 silver, 1998 Nagano; 1 bronze, 2002 Salt Lake City
- Lisa Fernandez, '95, Softball: 1 gold, 1996 Atlanta; 1 gold, 2000 Sydney; 1 gold, 2004 Athens; 1 silver, 2008 Beijing



**Development/Women & Philanthropy**

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**Women & Philanthropy is going green!**

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With setbacks to our return to “normal” life, what does normal even look like as this pandemic doesn’t seem to end? Will we ever be able to “return to normal”? What long-term impact has the pandemic had on different aspects of our lives and various sectors?

Faculty from across UCLA will discuss how our world has altered, if we will ever go back to our pre-pandemic routines, and what we may want to retain or do away with as we attempt to return to the lives we once knew.

**AN INVITATION  
TO AN ENLIGHTENING EVENT ...**  
**How Do We Move Forward?  
Navigating Life “After”  
the Pandemic**



**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2022**

6:00 PM – 8:30 PM

In-Person and  
Live Streaming Program

**RSVP**

<https://tinyurl.com/WPAfterPandemic>