

UC San Diego Alumni Association

About the UC San Diego Alumni Association

The UC San Diego Alumni Association, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization was formed by a small group of early graduates and now represents more than 175,000 alumni at the forefront of the sciences, business, research, the arts, social innovation and political service in California, throughout the nation and around the world.

Board of Directors Overview

The Association's Board of Directors was formed by a group of UC San Diego alumni. The original bylaws were signed June 3, 1974, and the official date of incorporation was endorsed by and filed with the Secretary of State on October 17, 1977. Today, the Board includes alumni representing various industries, backgrounds and from five decades of graduating classes. Each of the 60 members may serve unlimited, three-year terms and are selected based on their strengths, area of professional expertise, university involvement, philanthropic capacity and leadership.

The Board serves as the primary advisors to UC San Diego's Chief Alumni Officer and, together, oversees the strategic development of UC San Diego Alumni programs and initiatives that advance UC San Diego in communities around the world. In past years, the primary philanthropic objective of the Board has been to raise scholarships for ambitious and motivated UC San Diego students.

Directors are responsible for the business affairs of the Association and oversee corporate powers exercised by, or under, their direction. Fiscally, the Board provides oversight in regards to income generated through donations, Triton magazine advertising and royalties, signature event attendance and Association managed investments.

Charter

The UC San Diego Alumni Association has made it its mission to help graduates remain on the forefront of their professional, intellectual and personal pursuits. By helping alumni build meaningful, valuable relationships, the Association fosters a deeper affinity among alumni, between alumni and the university, and between the university and the world. Programs, events and communications are designed to ensure that university graduates—and UC San Diego—always remain world class.

Core Objectives

1. To advise and support the Chief Alumni Officer of the University of California San Diego
2. To organize the alumni of UC San Diego, and develop and encourage their interest in the welfare, benefit and betterment of UC San Diego and its faculty, students, former students and graduates
3. To create, foster, develop and encourage individual and community interest and participation in UC San Diego and higher education
4. To attract to UC San Diego exceptionally capable students
5. To render, directly or indirectly, through its membership and otherwise, financial and other aid and assistance to UC San Diego

Roles and Responsibilities

Directors are asked to serve in the following ways:

Board Meeting Attendance:

The Board meets quarterly and these meetings are part of a series of engagement activities that may include special signature events and campus tours. Board meetings present opportunities for Directors to learn about university and Association priorities, network with fellow alumni and connect with campus leadership.

Directors are expected to actively participate in scheduled meetings, in person at least once per year, and their attendance is encouraged at events in support of Alumni and the university.

Directors who travel on behalf of UC San Diego Alumni and the university to attend board meetings should pay for their personal travel expenses. Non-reimbursed travel expenses, such as the cost of meals and/or lodging, necessarily incurred while away from home in the course of performing donated services to UC San Diego may be deductible on individual federal income tax returns.

Philanthropic Investment:

Philanthropic commitment in support of UC San Diego is vital. Each Director's commitment to support the university annually at a personally appropriate level signals confidence in our mission and inspires broader alumni community support.

Board Service through Committee Participation:

Executive Committee

The Executive committee is responsible for the overall executive and operating management of the Association. In this capacity, the committee meets regularly to review strategic objectives and annual goals, as well as ensure the broader Board is actively engaged in all facets of the Association and university endeavors.

Nominations Committee

The Nominating Committee oversees the annual nomination, election and onboarding of the Board of Directors, Executive Committee and ex-officio appointments to the Board. In this capacity, the committee maintains the strategic framework to ensure diversity, inclusion and representation that strengthens alumni engagement, advocacy and philanthropy at UC San Diego.

Awards Committee

The Awards Committee advises on the annual selection of outstanding alumni for exceptional leadership, notable accomplishments and service. Honorees are recognized annually at Alumni Celebration and True Triton Brunch held during Alumni Weekend.

Volunteer Service:

Board members serve as inspired volunteer ambassadors. They lead by example and encourage volunteer support of UC San Diego and encourage alumni engagement through leadership, service, advocacy and philanthropy.

Board Governance:

Directors become familiar with Board Governance basics, such as the Association's mission, bylaws, key programs and services, and business and financial operations. Directors should actively engage in organization initiatives and support the strategic goals set forth in the business plan.