A Note from Your Alumni Board

Happy summer, CHPers! Also, to all those who have just graduated, congratulations on finishing your UCI education! Your fun with CHP, however, does not have to end. We at the CHP Alumni Chapter are happy to keep you connected with your fellow CHPers and continue to make those honors memories.

Our next alumni event will be the summer BBQ at Irvine’s Mason Park on **Sunday, August 20**. Look for the call for RSVPs soon and come out for some good food, good fun, and good company!

If you haven’t already, do please join our Facebook group at [https://www.facebook.com/groups/UCICHPalumni/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/UCICHPalumni/) and our LinkedIn group at [https://www.linkedin.com/groups/113802](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/113802)! Share your status or opportunities for fellow alumni and keep abreast of news and events throughout the year.

For those who would like to stay involved and even give back to CHP, we invite you to join the CHP Alumni Chapter Board to engage in event planning and other alumni/student projects. We hold two large alumni gatherings per year and try to have a few other hangout and/or networking events as well. Just this past May, we held our inaugural career roundtable event to bring alumni and students together, “Honors To Meet You.”

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**CHP Alumni Reunion & BBQ**

**Grillin’ and chillin’!**

We’re getting ready to fire up the grill for this year’s **CHP Alumni Summer Reunion and BBQ**. You and your family and friends are invited to join us for some good food, good fun, and good company! This year’s summer gathering will take place at **William R. Mason Regional Park** on **Sunday, August 20, 2017**, 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Please **RSVP on the Evite** by **Wednesday, August 16**, and let us know what you’ll be bringing for the potluck in the comments section.

We hope you can join us!

[Read more and RSVP](#)
We’re excited to say that the event had such a great response from the attendees that we plan to do it again next year. We’d love to have more such events and opportunities so if you have an idea, feel free to let us know! Our next board meeting is planned for Sunday, September 10, and we welcome those interested to come and participate or email us at honors@uci.edu. Stay tuned!

As part of our continued initiative to better connect the CHP graduates with the undergraduates, we also invite alumni to send us blog posts/articles about your career and/or post-graduate life, or tips you would like to share with students and the community via the alumni website or a future newsletter. Please send submissions to honors@uci.edu.

Again, have a great summer and we hope to see you at a future alumni event!

Wayne Sung, Vice President of Community Outreach
On behalf of the CHP Alumni Chapter Board

CHP Alumni Chapter Board Members
Julia Emerson, President ('97)
Wayne Sung, Vice President of Community Outreach ('99)
Marlo Yonacruz, Vice President of Finance ('13)
Tiffany Yu, Vice President of Membership and Programs ('11)
Alison Ozaki, Secretary ('12)
Daisy Bautista, Board Member ('16)
Ashley Bangunan, Board Member ('14)

**The Honorable CHP**

We are always so happy and proud to recognize members of the CHP community for their hard work, dedication, and stellar achievements. While this compilation of awards and award winners is by no means exhaustive, it is a wonderful sampling of the recognitions that our CHP students have received for the 2016-2017 school year:

Named in honor of Professor Roger McWilliams, the CHP’s founding director and Professor of Physics, the **McWilliams Renaissance Award** is given to a CHP graduating senior who demonstrates excellence in a number of fields, and a curiosity that drives them to explore and develop skills in many different areas—in short, a Renaissance man or woman.

The 2017 McWilliams Renaissance Award goes to **Blaine Valencia** ('17) for making the most of his UCI journey with double majors in Film & Media Studies and Political Science as well as numerous study abroad experiences, independent research projects, and leadership positions, not the least of which was CHP RA of Arroyo.

Guy Sircello was UCI’s first Dean of Undergraduate Education and this award was established in his memory. The **Sircello Award** is given to a CHP graduating senior to recognize the student’s commitment to, and demonstration of, “excellence and breadth in scholarship” in various fields.

**Emma Walsh** ('17) received the 2017 Sircello Award for her eagerness to learn, engage and contribute through her multidisciplinary studies as a major in both Dance Performance as well as Education Sciences.

Continued on next page
The Honorable CHP continued...

Amber Fong and Celine Phong are honored for their outstanding theses by Research Librarian, Nicole Helregel.

In partnership with the UCI Libraries, the CHP offers the Nellie Ansley Reeves and CHP Research Thesis Award to a few select CHP students for their outstanding Honors Theses. This year’s winners are:

- **Amber Fong** (’17)
  “Spatial Assessment of Tri-Generation Fuel Cells to Support Hydrogen Refueling Infrastructure in California Using Conventional and Renewable Feedstocks”
  Faculty Advisor: Prof. Scott Samuelsen, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

- **Imane Hamza** (’17)
  “Determination of high-resolution structures of oligomers formed by β-amyloid”
  Faculty Advisor: Prof. James Nowick, Chemistry

- **Celine Hein Phong** (’17)
  “A CAS9 Mediated Gene-drive System in the Malaria Vector, Anopheles Stephensi”
  Faculty Advisor: Dr. Anthony A. James, Microbiology & Molecular Genetics

- **Jason Yu** (’17)
  “Developing a Genetic Algorithm: Optimizing Luciferin Molecules for Bioluminescence Imaging”
  Faculty Advisor: Prof. Filipp Furche, Chemistry

The CHP Community Rallies for UCI Giving Day

On April 12, 2017, UCI hosted its first-ever 24-hour online fundraising campaign called Giving Day. The goal of UCI’s Giving Day was to bring the UCI community together and celebrate the Anteater spirit.

The Campuswide Honors Program set a special challenge to raise 100 donations in order to unlock a $10,000 gift to the CHP. The $10,000 gift was made possible by members of the CHP’s founding class and other friends of the program.

Thanks to generous contributions from many of our alumni, current students and other community members we were able to exceed our goal, receiving 129 gifts and raising $17,795 that will be used to subsidize and enhance programs for CHP students such as the spring camping retreat and Coffee Hour as well as growing our endowment to improve our offerings to students for years to come.

The CHP community outpouring on UCI Giving Day was a wonderful reminder for our staff and students about how lucky we are to be a part of such a dynamic and generous community of alumni, students, faculty, staff, and friends. Thanks to each and every person who gave on UCI Giving Day – your donation will make a difference! The students of The Shire also asked us to share their special “Thank You” video with you in appreciation for your contributions.

The 2016-2017 Year-in-Review issue of NAR was recently published on issuu.com (https://issuu.com/narchp). Visit the issue to enjoy creative works from our talented CHP students.
Life in Honors

CHP alumni give back by hosting events for CHP students

Dinners with Anteaters

What do you get when you put together a group of hungry CHP students and alumni volunteers with great food? A Dinner with Anteaters, that’s what! Every year the UCI Alumni Association offers alumni the opportunity to host current students for dinner. The evenings, which usually take place at a restaurant or at one’s home, are a way for alumni and students to get to know one another and to share stories.

Bridging CHP generations, these dinners have resulted in lively discussions where alumni share their experiences, and students get their questions answered and hone their networking skills! This past academic year Dinners for Anteaters were hosted by CHP alumni Michael and Kimberly Ong (‘93 and ‘95, respectively) and by former CHP Director Gail Hart, with the assistance of CHP alumnus Dillon Dejam (‘16). A good time was had by all, and students told CHP staff that they loved this experience and would do it again.

Hosting a Dinner with Anteaters is a great opportunity to reconnect with the CHP community. If you are interested in hosting a Dinner with Anteaters next academic year, please watch alumni.uci.edu/saa/dinners.php for more information, and contact the CHP staff at honors@uci.edu to let us know about your plans. Bon appetit!

Honors to Meet You

When the CHP Alumni Board held their first meeting in fall 2016, they quickly agreed on one big priority: to provide opportunities for CHP alumni to serve as a network for current CHP students. By spring 2016, the alumni planning committee (Daisy Bautista, Julia Emerson, Alison Ozaki, Wayne Sung, Marlo Yonocruz and Tiffany Yu) had an event in place to do just that: Honors to Meet You.

Ten CHP alumni converged at UCI for Honors to Meet You on May 6. They met with current CHP students in small groups, answering questions as well as offering support and advice in alumni’s areas of expertise. There was also time for general networking, opportunities for students to create their own business cards, and an impromptu alumna-led clinic in how to give a professional handshake. (Shout out to Julia Emerson!)

Alumni volunteers who shared their career trajectories and gave professional advice appreciated having another reason to come home to UCI, and enjoyed their interactions with current and future CHP alumni. Students were grateful for the opportunity to learn and practice professional networking skills.

Overall, Honors to Meet You was a great success! The CHP Alumni Chapter is hoping to build on this success by offering a field-specific alumni/student networking event for the upcoming year.

Special thanks to alumni volunteers Eric Schiffer (‘92), Amanda Thompson (‘10), Dillon Dejam (‘16), David Cao (‘14), and Christina Lam (‘11) for bringing their expertise to Honors to Meet You.

If you are interested in participating in events where you connect with current CHP students, please complete our Alumni Involvement Form at http://honors.uci.edu/alumni/how-to-get-involved/.

Dinner with Anteaters at the home of former CHP Director Gail Hart.

CHP alumni discuss careers with current students at Honors to Meet You

Lisa Roetzel / CHP
Daisy Bautista (‘16), Alison Ozaki (‘12), Tiffany Yu (‘11), Julia Emerson (‘97), Marlo Yonocruz (‘13), and Ashley Bangunan (‘14) are some of the CHP Alumni Chapter members who planned the holiday luncheon in December.

Congratulations to Tiffany Yu (‘11) and Adam Poe (‘11), the winners of the tacky sweater contest at the Alumni Holiday Luncheon.

The CHP welcomed UCI alumna Jennifer Friend, CEO of Project Hope Alliance, to share her personal story and professional trajectory with honors students during winter quarter’s Lunch with Leadership event.

CHP first-year Miranda Wardle was among more than 100 student volunteers at the 2017 Honors Experience Day.

CHP first-year Emma Dorn performed as Wednesday Adams at the 2017 CHSC Variety Show.

The 2017 CHP Retreat at Joshua Tree National Park continued the tradition of CHP students gathering to camp, hike, bond, and make s’mores.

This spring UCI Chancellor Howard Gillman welcomed 30 CHP freshmen to the Chancellor’s residence, Tierney University House, for dinner and conversation about their UCI experiences.
Life in Honors

Councilwoman and former Mayor of Newport Beach, Diane Dixon joined honors students to talk about her career path and to discuss leadership during the spring Luncheon with Leadership event.

Christina Treble / CHP

Kurissa Sorenson / CHP

CHP students and alumni gathered in Aldrich Park on Saturday, April 22, 2017 at Celebrate UCI to sell baked goods from our famous wooden booth (above) and to catch some shade and catch up with each other in the alumni tent (left).

The alumni team helped close the Round 1 score gap, but in the end the students triumphed at the Sherlock-themed Battle of the Brains in May.

The old Hollywood, La La Land-themed banquet honored CHP seniors with performances, slideshows, awards, honors cords and more!
**Honors Housing Scholarships promote CHP student success**

If you have ever lived in honors housing, you know that this living-learning component of the Campuswide Honors Program can be crucial to a student’s success in the program. It has long been a dream of the CHP to provide a way for more students to enjoy the benefits of living in honors housing. This year, for the first time ever, we were thrilled to begin offering honors housing scholarships to CHP students to ease their financial burden and support their connection to the CHP community.

All CHP students currently living in honors housing and those planning to live in honors housing for the 2017-2018 school year were invited to apply for the scholarships. The recipients themselves can tell you best what a difference living in honors housing has made to their UCI experience . . .

“I was returning to The Shire every evening to be greeted by friends, not just students, who not only shared my values in learning from classes but also in learning from each other- sharing their backgrounds, beliefs, causes, and dreams. I learned that those in CHP are curious about just about everything in the world, and working to help build a culture around a mutually insatiable curiosity gave me the home at UCI that I never knew I could have.” – Jacob, first-year Computer Science major

“Ever since I transferred, I made the CHP housing my second home. As a transfer student, I had thought the transition process would be difficult, but I was glad to be wrong. Right from the start, I developed friendships that I will take with me as I have now graduated from UCI. My grades also reflected the successful transition since living in the honors housing provided me with extra time for my studies.” – Former AV 1010 and 1012 Resident

“For me, the opportunity to live in Honors Housing is not so much addition to my UCI experience as it is the experience itself . . . Honors Housing gathered a diverse and incredible group with the same drive, ambition, and hunger to learn into a tight-knit family that encouraged us to play hard and work harder. And that is what made my freshman year at UCI. I am so excited to be moving into upperclassmen CHP dorms this coming year, because I know it will be just as great.” – Emma, first-year Psychology & Social Behavior major
1990s

**Tiffany Welt Doctors** (’92) graduated Cum Laude from the UNLV Boyd School of Law this past December. In February, she took the Nevada Bar Exam and was admitted to practice law in the State of Nevada last month.

**Kristine (Johnson) Hunt** (’92) recently returned to graduate school and completed an M.A. in Historical Resources Management at Idaho State University. Since graduating from UCI, Kristine has worked in the health insurance industry, as well as a freelance copy editor, proofreader, indexer, and freelance cartographer.

**Carol Caronna** (’93) is a Professor at Towson University in Maryland. Her honors experience came full circle when she acted as Faculty Director of the university’s Honors College in fall 2016.

**Christine Cloak** (’93) earned her Ph.D. in Neuroscience from UCLA in 2002 and is now an Associate Researcher with the University of Maryland.

**Wayne Sung** (’99) and wife Hsuan welcomed their son Wyatt (pictured below) into the world on December 22, 2016.

2000s

**Ian Crossfield** (’04) will start this fall as an Assistant Professor of Physics at MIT, where he will work with NASA’s new space telescopes to find and study new planets orbiting other stars.

**Fazlul Zubair** (’04) attended UCI for graduate school, earning an M.S. and Ph.D. in Aerospace Engineering. He has since worked at Raytheon, Space and Airborne Systems as a Senior Principal Systems Engineer. Fazlul married his wife, Fatima Shahnaz Iqbal-Zubair and together they adopted their child, Aydin Zubair, from Morocco.

**Ksatria Williams** (’05) started working as a Software Development Manager at Amazon Fresh earlier this year.

**Salpy Kabaklian-Slentz** (’06) is fully enjoying her new position as Extra Help Attorney at the Merced County Department of Child Support Services.

**Jenny Ouyang** (’07) and Davide Baldan were married on July 7, 2017 on Isola delle Rose in Venice, Italy. Jenny met Davide, a native Venetian, when they worked together in the Netherlands.

**Troy Campbell** (’09) was recently interviewed by one of his former honors housing residents, Philip Menchaca, about the “psychology of Trumpism” for bloggingheads.tv Watch the video here.

2010s

**Rachel Cheng** (’10) received her Ph.D. in History from the University of Glasgow and is now Associate Director of Mission Advancement for the Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose.

Continued on next page
Boris Wong ('11) completed his Ph.D. in Economics at UC San Diego in June, 2017 and is set to start working at the Vanguard Group, an investment management company.

Alexander Ball ('12) completed his M.P.H. from the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health this year and will now return to Stanford University School of Medicine to finish his M.D. while applying to residency in Pediatrics.

Nicholas Ma ('12) attended law school at UC Hastings, College of the Law and has been practicing law as a trial attorney in the San Francisco Bay Area for a year and a half.

Faye Cheng ('13) is currently a Software Developer at ThoughtWorks in San Francisco. After graduating as a Sociology major, she completed her graduate studies in Computer Science, and is thrilled that she can combine both her passions in her work.

Heather Craun ('14) works as a Registered Nurse for Scripps Health in San Diego County.

Steven Lo ('14) will complete his M.S. in Electrical Engineering from Purdue University this August.

Gabriela Manzo ('14) plans to pursue a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology at Texas Tech University with a four-year fellowship.

Daniel Ho ('15) will be starting medical school at the Tulane University School of Medicine in New Orleans this fall.

Yoohee Lee ('15) is about to begin attending UCLA’s M.A. program in Higher Education Organizational Change.

Matthew Ripley ('15) made the move to Mitchell International as a Business Systems Analyst this past May.

Chris Chen ('16) just finished the first year of his M.P.P. degree at UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs. He is interning this summer at Fremont Unified School District.

Katherine Lee ('16) has begun working for IUSD teaching student how to use technological devices and various software. She is also an administrator for an online Sci-Fi/Horror collaborative writing community and she started a blog for her two betta fish.

Jacquelyn DeVries ('17) is about to begin medical school at the UC San Diego School of Medicine.

IN MEMORIAM
The CHP would like to honor the memory of an alumnus who passed away this year:

Justin Hesketh ('01)

Have updates to share?
Just earned a new degree? Changed jobs or got a promotion? Added to your family? Started a business or published a book? Share your important life events with other CHP alumni by submitting an alumni update.

Visit honors.uci.edu/alumni and click on “Update Your Contact Information.”
Congratulations, class of 2017!
You’ve worked hard and are now part of the elite group of CHP alumni!
We hope that you will achieve great success, remember your time in the CHP fondly, and come back to visit often!
#UCIHonorsAlumni