One Seed is Stella Liu’s (‘15, International Studies) gardening kit startup business intended to help motivate people to grow their own food. The startup was born out of Stella’s travels to South East Asia and her senior thesis, which focused on food insecurity and sustainability. Stella is now applying for a Fulbright fellowship to support her project of mapping the local food system of Orange County in order to guide effective policies and programs.

In the water polo mecca of Orange County, Wyatt Moscoso’s (‘15, Mechanical Engineering) research on assessing and preventing athlete concussions is especially important. Through UCI’s Exercise Medicine & Sport Sciences Initiative, Wyatt worked to gauge the impact of water polo balls shot at a crash-test dummy head at various speeds and levels of inflation. He will now pursue his master’s in Mechanical Engineering at UCI.
Honoring the best of UC Irvine

2015 Lauds & Laurels

Campuswide Honors Program alumni gathered in May at the UCI Alumni Association’s Lauds and Laurels banquet to reconnect and to cheer on this year’s Outstanding Undergraduate Student award winner and CHP student, Sanaa Khan. Sanaa (‘15, International Studies and Political Science) was celebrated for academic excellence, and for her passionate commitment to social justice and advocacy. She joined a stellar line-up of UCI alumni being recognized for outstanding contributions in a variety of fields.

In recognition of UCI’s 50th Anniversary, this year’s Lauds and Laurels looked back to 1965 with a mock 60’s style talk show format hosted by public radio journalist and UCI alumna Kitty Felde, flower power décor, and entertainment by a Beatles tribute band. CHP alumni Michael and Kimberly Ong generously sponsored a table for the CHP. Proceeds from this event support UCI Alumni Association scholarships.

In attendance were CHP alumni Sabrina Bow (‘98), David Cuccia (‘02), Jeff and Emily (Yee) Fulkerson (‘07), Kimberly Ong (‘95), Christine (Link) Stevens (‘93), Tiffany Yu (‘11), and Christina Zabat-Fran (‘06), who was also honored as a member of the first class of UCI’s School of Law. CHP parents and supporters Vuong and Thuthuy Nguyen joined the group as well. The Division of Undergraduate Education (of which the CHP is a part) was well represented by its new Dean and Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning, Michael Dennin, CHP Director Ted Wright, DUE Development Director Daniel Harper, and members of the CHP staff.

Congratulations award winners!

CHP students receive Chancellor’s Award of Distinction

The UCI Alumni Association’s “Chancellor’s Award of Distinction” acknowledges UCI’s most outstanding graduating seniors. These students represent exceptional academic achievement, and a commitment to research, leadership and service to UCI. Here are the 2015 CHP recipients:

- Alexander Block
- Amrit Panjabi
- Arlene Ho
- Bo Lundqvist
- Carolyn Hua
- Juan Miguel Enverga
- Kelly Laugenour
- Laureen Bousmail
- Nikhita Kathuria
- Nilofar Becker
- Patrick Nutter
- Shannon Chang
- Stella Liu
- Wendy Hu
CHSC Officers rake in the sales with their newly renovated cookie booth at the 2015 Wayzgoose Festival.

Alumni Jeff Fulkerson '07 and Eric Schiffer '92 won raffle prizes, but the students won the real prize at Battle of the Brains.

CHP student Anh Nguyen welcomes prospective freshmen and their parents at the 2015 Honors Experience Day.

CHP seniors Matthew Ripley and Erin O'Connell earn the McWilliams and Sircello Awards.

Dean of Undergraduate Education Michael Dennin presents awards at Banquet.

CHP seniors are honored for their successes at the Spring Banquet.
UCI Chancellor Howard Gillman attended CHP Coffee Hour this past winter. Gillman used this opportunity to engage with CHP students and enlighten them on new university initiatives.

The Locus was full to the brim with excited CHPers. Students learned about Gillman’s arts and culture initiative, Illuminations, which awards grants to faculty and students who wish to create interdisciplinary activities and events for undergraduates that incorporate the arts. Gillman was especially pleased to learn that a student present at coffee hour had already submitted a proposal.

In between bites of bagels, students answered Gillman’s questions about what they found most valuable about the CHP. In particular, students mentioned an appreciation for the opportunity to delve into topics outside of their majors through the honors core courses, as well as a tight knit yet diverse community where they’ve been able to meet and cultivate close friends.

The CHP staff and students are so appreciative that Chancellor Gillman took the time to continue this great Coffee Hour tradition!

Recapture the magic of Coffee Hour

The CHP announces Alumni Coffee Hour, a new event series that will gather CHP alumni at hip coffee houses in Southern California to meet, mingle, and get caffeinated!

The first Alumni Coffee Hour will take place on Sunday, July 12, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at Kéan Coffee in Tustin. We hope to see you there!

Read more about Illuminations

Read more and RSVP
Congratulations to the class of 2015! As you embark upon life after graduation, we hope you reflect fondly on your time in the CHP, and that you come back and visit us soon!
**CHP alumni updates**

**1990s**

Anna-Lisa George (’93) just finished her 21st year of teaching and is engaged to be married to Russell Lee.

Jason Low (’96) and his wife Allison welcomed a new son, Aether, into their family on May 31, 2015.

Sejal Parekh (’01) founded Innovae Designs, an interior design company that offers one-day complete room transformations, home staging, and staging consults.

Michael Miller’s (’02) work is now featured online through the Poetry Foundation in Chicago. View his webpage.

Jennifer Hsia (’04) expects to graduate with her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of South Dakota this August. In September she will start a one-year postdoctoral residency at the San Diego VA.

Irene (Tang) Sparck (’04) and her husband Aren recently celebrated the birth of their second child, Ida. Their first daughter, Aria (three years old), is enjoying life as a big sister. Irene also completed the CPA exam and is looking forward to obtaining her license. She is enjoying life in Seattle, where she has proudly worked at Tableau Software for the past five years.

**2000s**

Richard Brutchey (’00) is an Associate Professor of Chemistry at USC.

Jacob Ailes (’07) and his wife Sarah recently welcomed their twins, Andrew and Micah, into their family. The twins joined two older siblings – Lucy (four years old) and Patrick (two years old). Jacob is currently a Systems Engineer with Northrop Grumman.

Jeannine Choi (’07) is working as a Regulatory Compliance Attorney at Bloomberg LP.

Justin O’Neill (’07) will be starting his Ph.D. in Jurisprudence and Social Policy at UC Berkeley this August.

Kent Boydston (’08) is now a Research Analyst with the Peterson Institute for International Economics in Washington, D.C.

Andrea Bui (’08) and Jacob Kanady (’09) are living and working in the Bay Area following Jacob’s recent graduation from Caltech, where he received his Ph.D. in Chemistry. They are also expecting a new addition to their family in the near future!

Continued on next page
## 2010s

**Julia Damron** ('11) passed the California bar exam this past November and is now practicing law at a small firm in Los Angeles County doing estate planning litigation.

**Pooja Raja** ('11) returned to the UCI campus in March to speak on a panel of distinguished Ayala School of Biological Sciences alumni. She spoke to students about overcoming challenges, the importance of her UCI education, and about her position as Managed Care Analyst at Memorial Care Health Systems.

**Tiffany Yu** ('11) is working as a pediatric physical therapist at Kids in Motion Pediatric Therapy in Torrance, CA.

**Jeremy Moore** ('12) has been accepted to UC Santa Barbara’s Film and Media Studies Ph.D. program starting this fall.

**Alison Ozaki** ('12) will soon begin her final year of dental school at UCLA. She is treating patients and is applying to a one year general dentistry residency following graduation.

**Kayla Barekat** ('13) will begin school this fall at the University of Pennsylvania where she will pursue her Ph.D. in Pharmacology.

**Hannah Little** ('13) is a Ph.D. candidate at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. She is studying myonectin, a novel protein secreted from the skeletal muscle, and its role in glucose and lipid metabolism in the contexts of exercise, obesity, and diabetes.

**Madison Wilson** ('13) found her calling after working at a youth shelter alongside several marriage and family therapists. She will soon pursue her master’s in Marriage & Family Therapy at Chapman University.

**Kevin Fu** ('14) is maximizing his time at Harvard, serving as the Taiwanese Language Table Host of the Harvard Asia Law Society (HALS) to Taiwan, Student Attorney with the Harvard Defenders, and Editor on the *Harvard Business Law Review*.

**Brian Jow** ('14) just completed his first year of dental school at UCLA.

**Sarah Ottone** ('14) will attend the master’s program in Criminology & Criminal Justice at CSU Long Beach starting in the fall, thanks in part to a generous graduate tuition scholarship and research assistantship. Her research will focus on the practical implications of criminal laws and policies.

**Marina Toft** ('14) was accepted to NYU’s MFA program in Musical Theatre Writing and was offered a scholarship that will allow her to begin school this fall.
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.”

The CHP’s Alumni Update form can also be used to update your address and other contact information, which solely will be used to keep CHP records up-to-date.

Send a postcard to Kenya

CHP alumna Teresa Villaruz ('11) is currently living and working in Kenya through Maryknoll Lay Missioners. She contacted us recently with an update that her group has established a library and is asking for contributions of postcards to share with locals about different places and cultures. Here is Teresa’s message:

Well folks, the library is open for business! All of our books were from donations from private schools and other friends here. Our theme is “Travel the World - Read!” Many adult Kenyans that I have talked to understand the value of travel, but it just is not a reality when you are making between 50 cents and three dollars a day per family. So I propose we bring the world to these children. If you are willing, I ask that you send us a postcard from your home or a place you are visiting. Our address here is:

Maryknoll Lay Missioners
ATTN: Teresa Villaruz
Box 84425-80100
Mombasa, Kenya

Please include where you are, what the weather is like, what you eat, what do you like about living there, what kind of animals do you have living in your region, what languages do you speak (and maybe teach them a couple of fun phrases…perhaps please and thank you), what music is popular there, etc. Basically we just want the kiddos to get a taste of the culture and for them to be able to write back to you! Let me know if you have any questions or if I can do anything to support you in this. Thanks for the help and love with this project, y'all. The kiddos are already pumped about it.

You can read more about Teresa’s experiences on her blog: carrymysoul.weebly.com
Thank you to our 2013-2015 donors

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ua-web.uadv.uci.edu/CampuswideHonorsProgramDUE*