

ALL IN THIS TOGETHER

OUR COMMUNITY'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19



MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR



Since February, the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted nearly every facet of our lives, from health care infrastructure to educational delivery to interactions with friends and family. But the support of dedicated philanthropic partners has empowered UC San Diego to ensure the health and well-being of our students, health care workers, and the San Diego community.

Together, we have secured personal protective equipment and other supplies for health care workers, expanded support for students and families displaced by the coronavirus, transitioned to distance learning, and pursued novel research in subjects as diverse as clinical research, public health, economics, and engineering. And we aren't just reacting; we are preparing for what's next. We are collaborating with research institutions across the Torrey Pines Mesa and mobilizing our extensive network of university clinicians, molecular biologists, technologists, infectious disease experts, bioinformatics specialists, disease modelers, public health experts, and others to define a safe path forward for our campus and community to return to in-person activities.

I hope you will explore more about how donors' collective generosity has empowered our campus to respond to COVID-19 and learn more about our ongoing efforts as we continue to confront the coronavirus. Ultimately, the pandemic has reinforced our commitment to our mission as a public research university. **Because of you, UC San Diego is stronger and more adaptable: we continue to provide accessible higher education, compassionate health care, and leading-edge research that benefits our entire community.**

Thank you.

Pradeep K. Khosla
Chancellor

DONOR SUPPORT BY THE NUMBERS



1,600+

DONORS

- 21% ALUMNI DONORS
- 18% INTERNATIONAL DONORS
- 13% FACULTY AND STAFF DONORS

52%

FIRST-TIME DONORS

28%

PATIENTS OF
UC SAN DIEGO HEALTH

\$100

MEDIAN GIFT SIZE

64%

MADE GIFTS OF
\$100 OR LESS

\$5.8M

TOTAL RAISED

YOUR GIFTS IN ACTION

UC San Diego has been at the forefront of our community's efforts to address the COVID-19 pandemic. And thanks to philanthropic support for the **UC San Diego COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund, critical PPE and testing needs, and research**, we are making headway in our response to the novel coronavirus.

Below are some highlights of the impact your giving has made possible:



TRANSITIONING TO REMOTE LEARNING

At UC San Diego, we have always known that our students depend on us for more than their education – many undergraduate and graduate students rely on work-study jobs to make ends meet, campus basic needs services to mitigate food and housing insecurity, and student health and wellness resources to maintain their socio-emotional, psycho-social, and physical health.



TRANSITIONING TO REMOTE LEARNING

The COVID-19 public health crisis has made many of those needs even more urgent. But thanks to widespread community support, we have been able to continue providing our students with the resources they need to live, learn, and be well.

The UC San Diego [Basic Needs Initiative](#) is helping undergraduate and graduate students with housing assistance grants, grocery costs, and a laptop loaner program to enable remote learning, while local students and their families have access to a new mobile food pantry. Meanwhile, the Teaching + Learning Commons has helped students and faculty members transition to distance learning. From tutoring to writing consultations to strategies for remote learning, the Commons has not only moved their services online, they have also expanded their resources to make the shift as seamless as possible.

While UC San Diego has pivoted smoothly to remote services in many areas, including physical and emotional well-being services, campus leaders are also acutely aware of the difference an on-campus experience has for students. In collaboration with public health experts, clinicians, data scientists, and others, we are taking our first steps toward resuming in-person activities this fall with our [Return to Learn Program](#). The leading-edge testing program is designed to detect cases of COVID-19 early, mitigate transmission risk, and inform university-wide decisions that aim to keep our campus and community safe.

LEARN MORE

- [Redefining an Accessible Education](#)
- [Going Virtual: UC San Diego 2.0 Keeps Students Connected to Campus](#)
- [Asymptomatic Testing Central to Return to Learn](#)
- [The Flip to Remote: Responding to COVID-19 with Dean Cristina Della Coletta](#)

TRANSITIONING TO REMOTE LEARNING

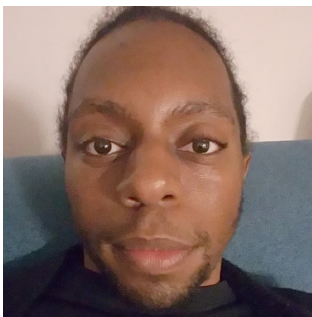
COMMUNITY VOICES

"What is obvious and clear for us may not be for a lot of people . . ."



For international nanoengineering graduate student **Juliane Sempionatto**, being away from family has presented unique challenges, like managing the stress of being far away from high-risk family members. But it has also provided an opportunity to practice communicating technical information to nonexperts. Juliane has learned that the most important thing has been to educate herself so she can help others.

"What's stuck on our minds is all that we've got—time and uncertainties . . ."



As one of the students who continued to live on campus in spring quarter, **Stevon Marshall '21** faces an eerie sight every time he leaves his rooms on campus: a nearly empty university. But in the face of a more socially distanced UC San Diego, Stevon appreciates even the subtlest interactions — a nod here, a wave there. And as he continues taking five classes and filling online orders at the bookstore, he reminds himself that he is doing more than just keeping busy. He is keeping his momentum going forward.

"My first senior game was also my last . . ."

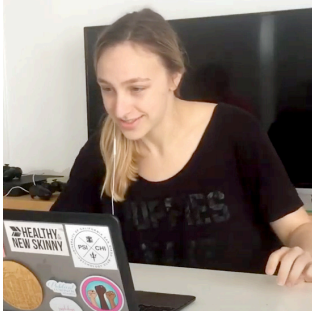


After rotator cuff surgery in June 2019, and nine months of recovery, **Alyssa Wing '20** was thrilled to get clearance to resume softball in mid-February. But her first game of her senior season on March 9 also turned out to be her last. While her final year as a scholar-athlete may not have ended the way she thought it would, Alyssa is still connecting with her teammates via Zoom and learning to appreciate the experiences she had, the friendships she made, and the lessons she learned.

TRANSITIONING TO REMOTE LEARNING

COMMUNITY VOICES

Remote Spring Quarter YouTube Diaries



Remote learning and teaching have presented a number of challenges – from unhelpful furry colleagues to finding a balance between our work and personal lives. But UC San Diego students and faculty are finding new ways to adapt. While biological sciences professor **James Nieh** and his cat Nala Nala are trying to manage email, connect with colleagues and friends, and entertain students, psychology senior **Zoë Siddall '20** is juggling school, extracurriculars, and date nights in her studio apartment. And their remote diaries on YouTube provide an opportunity for them to share the highs and lows of this new normal: from riding an electric unicycle to managing one's health to trying new recipes at home to providing telehealth services to children with autism.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Qualcomm Donates 300 Laptops to Preuss Students for Remote Learning



As The Preuss School UC San Diego transitioned to remote learning after spring break, Qualcomm Inc. stepped in to make sure that every student had the equipment they needed to continue their education from a distance. The company donated 300 laptops to the school and UC San Diego alumni and Qualcomm employees **Charles Bergan '87, MS '88**, and **Jeff Gehlhaar '92** matched students with computers so they could hit the ground running when school started up again.

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY'S HEALTH

The COVID-19 pandemic has placed unprecedented stress on our health care systems and workers. But as UC San Diego Health employees have continued to provide exceptional care — both to individuals with coronavirus and others seeking care at our facilities — our community has also stepped up to support efforts that keep our community safer.



SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY'S HEALTH

From a generous \$350,000 challenge grant from The Conrad Prebys Foundation, to personal protective equipment from parents in China and international business magnates, to UC San Diego's annual Day of Caring, we have come together to support one another in inspiring new ways.

We have worked with partners across the region to expand COVID-19 testing to more individuals in San Diego. We are collaborating with corporations to develop, validate, and deploy new cost-effective screening protocols that can provide results in an hour or less, including home testing kits. Our clinical team is also identifying and testing new drugs and expediting them through our robust drug discovery pipeline to improve outcomes for individuals with COVID-19. And our physician-scientists are developing monoclonal antibody therapies and vaccines to help prevent the disease in the first place.

Meanwhile, we are using leading-edge epidemiological and data science technologies to better understand exposure pathways in different settings and track disease spread. Our clinics and offices have shifted to telehealth appointments where possible to reduce their potential exposure to coronavirus. And our expertise in improving public health and fighting infectious disease is informing our goal and ongoing efforts to improve the health and well-being of our community and our world.

LEARN MORE

- [National Clinical Trial Launches, Will Test Promising Vaccine Against Novel Coronavirus](#)
- [New Model Connects Respiratory Droplet Physics with Spread of COVID-19](#)
- [Pandemic Survival: Testing, Treating and Vaccines](#)

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY'S HEALTH

COMMUNITY VOICES

"We set up a decontamination zone in the garage . . ."



Returning to work from maternity leave can be a challenging transition; returning to work from maternity leave in the midst of a pandemic is even more so. For emergency room physician **Christanne Coffey**, it involved a number of emotional decisions. Ultimately, she and her husband – a head and neck cancer surgeon – set up a decontamination station to prevent their two young children from coming in contact with the virus. But in spite of the stress and the physical distance, Christanne still sees a silver lining: people around the world working together to take care of one another.

"I'm hopeful we absorb the smart changes that need to happen now . . ."



Work changed almost overnight for physician assistant **Matt Spencer '97**: The clinic he worked in went from seeing between 30 and 50 patients a day to seeing no more than five. But even as the physical traffic in and out of the clinic declined, he saw an increase in telehealth appointments. And Matt thinks that these changes could have a permanent effect on health care: physicians have found new ways to connect with patients, making care more accessible and cost-effective for everyone.

The Gladiolus Project: Aiding the Most Vulnerable



Sarah Mirsadi, a rising senior at Canyon Crest Academy, and fellow students **Lily Pfizer** and **Kyra Wu** launched the [Gladiolus Project](#) to support communities that are most affected by communicable diseases. Their goal for their first GoFundMe campaign is to raise \$1,000 to support the UC San Diego COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund, while also gathering personal messages of thanks for health care workers. Sarah, Lily, and Kyra hope their gift can cheer up individuals impacted by COVID-19 and help provide meals and resources for patients and their families.

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY'S HEALTH

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

[Conrad Prebys Foundation Awards \\$350K Challenge Grant to Support COVID-19 Efforts](#)



As hospitals across the region prepared to deal with an influx of COVID-19 cases, **The Conrad Prebys Foundation** awarded a \$350,000 challenge grant to support frontline health care workers at UC San Diego. The generous matching gift inspired more than \$1.5 million in support for UC San Diego's COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund from nearly 1,200 individuals in San Diego, across the country, and around the world.

[Donors Support Research, Health, and Emergency Student Resources](#)



Almost before anyone knew what was happening, the world was in the middle of a pandemic. But thanks to UC San Diego Foundation Trustee **Dene Oliver** and his wife **Elizabeth**, who made the first major gift to the COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund, UC San Diego was able to provide leading-edge health care and move critical research forward. Their leadership helped expand COVID-19 testing and diagnostics, advance clinical trials, and support displaced and impacted members of the UC San Diego community – including students.

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY'S HEALTH

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

[Billionaire Joseph Tsai Gives San Diego \\$1.6 Million in Critical Medical Supplies](#)



In late April, businessman **Joseph Tsai** and his wife, **Clara**, donated 500,000 medical-grade masks and goggles to UC San Diego to use in their health care spaces and distribute to other health systems in the region. After watching the pandemic unfold in China and seeing New York become a national epicenter for the virus, Joseph and Clara wanted to make sure that hospital workers in San Diego were protected. And thanks to their gift and broad social distancing orders, local hospitals have been well-equipped to deal with new patients.

[Parents Support COVID-19 Efforts](#)



A group of more than 300 **UC San Diego parents from China** sent more than 20,000 masks, thousands of protective face shields, and full body suits to UC San Diego Health. The group had planned to donate funds, but as need increased, the group decided to send equipment to help protect health care workers and patients. Additional funds from the group are supporting UC San Diego's other COVID-19 related efforts.

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY'S HEALTH

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Day of Caring Addresses the Greatest Needs of Our Community



In this unprecedented historical moment, it was an inspiration to see our community come together on May 14 and 15 for UC San Diego's Day of Caring – u.care – demonstrating the depth of our compassion for one another, and especially for those most impacted by COVID-19. As part of the 32-hour campaign, we raised over \$840,000 from more than 1,800 gifts to benefit our health care workers, students, and individuals whose lives have been affected by this public health crisis.

EXPLORING NOVEL SOLUTIONS

As a public research university with a number of specialty schools – including UC San Diego School of Medicine, Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, and the Herbert Wertheim School of Public Health and Human Longevity Science, as well as Jacobs School of Engineering, Rady School of Management, and the School of Global Policy and Strategy – UC San Diego is uniquely positioned to advance interdisciplinary research efforts to better understand SARS-CoV-2 and track disease spread.



EXPLORING NOVEL SOLUTIONS

Thanks to your philanthropic support, we are leveraging our institutional strengths to advance new innovations that help our local community.

Collaborations between experts in diverse fields, including music, computer science, and engineering are developing new ways to track disease progression using apps. Students from across campus are participating in a challenge to design low-cost and easy to produce ventilators. Robotics specialists are looking at ways to use machines to alleviate some of the burden of clinical care. And teams are evaluating 3D printing techniques for producing safe and effective medical equipment. Meanwhile, global policy experts are looking at ways to extend our COVID-19 response across the border and examining how cooperation with China could improve our response to the pandemic.

And we are piloting projects that could inform nationwide returns to in-person activities. Starting with our [Research Ramp Up](#) – which is slowly reintroducing low-density research, academic, and creative activities on campus – to the first-of-its-kind [Return to Learn Program](#) – which implements innovative strategies for early detection of SARS-CoV-2 through daily symptom screening and adaptive regular testing as well as interventions such as isolation and quarantine to lessen the likelihood of a significant outbreak on campus – UC San Diego is at the forefront of efforts to address the COVID-19 pandemic.

LEARN MORE

- [Tested and Testing: UC San Diego Health Expands COVID-19 Diagnostics](#)
- [UC San Diego Health Launches Trial to Assess Antiviral Drug for COVID-19](#)
- [Global Coronavirus Challenge Calls for U.S.-China Cooperation](#)
- [Jacobs School of Engineering Community Engages](#)
- [Rady School of Management Launches COVID-19 Business Recovery Coalition](#)

EXPLORING NOVEL SOLUTIONS

COMMUNITY VOICES

["The Heart of Experimentation Beats Outside the Classroom Anyway..."](#)



Working from home as an experimental scientist is a bit . . . impossible. Although UC San Diego doctoral candidate **Andy Zhao, MS '17** has struggled to move forward toward his degree, he is finding new ways to teach his experimental techniques lab class. Instead of using a sophisticated laboratory, he is using an open-source electronic prototyping platform and Zoom. And while this may not be ideal, Andy is sharing an important lesson with students: A real experiment grapples with a question that no one knows the answer to.

[Infectious Disease Modeler Predicts How Interventions Limit Spread of COVID-19](#)



Natasha Martin knew early on that a plan for San Diego's response to the novel coronavirus was critical. As an infectious disease modeler, she is leading UC San Diego's Return to Learn Program — the campus's interdisciplinary effort to implement a scientifically backed, evidence-based plan for resuming in-person activities this fall — and also juggling parenting responsibilities for her two young children. As Natasha continues to adhere to public health guidance, she is glad she can run computer simulations while she homeschools her daughter, and hopes her efforts lead to both a better understanding of disease spread and more work-life balance.

["I don't mind driving to deliver that special moment, a memory of happier times."](#)



DK Donuts & Bakery owner, **Mayly Tao '12**, has adapted her business to do more than survive the coronavirus pandemic; it is helping keep her community safe. The alumna launched DK's Secret Sandwich Shop through Uber Eats, turned her bakery into a local grocery store with essentials, and started Lunchboxes for Love, which provides individual lunches for frontline health care workers. But ultimately Mayly is happy to be able to deliver something special to the people who need it most.

EXPLORING NOVEL SOLUTIONS

COMMUNITY VOICES

"I see it as an obligation—we can make this specific thing that can help people."



Two Triton-owned distilleries are repurposing their facilities to make a difference during the pandemic. **Yuseff Cherney '92**, of Cutwater Spirits, and **Justin McCabe '00, MS '03, PhD '06**, of 117° West Spirits, shifted their operations from making alcoholic beverages to producing hand sanitizer. Following the FDA's recommendations, both alumni have redirected some of their equipment to provide homemade, alcohol-based liquid hand sanitizer to San Diego County hospitals, first responders, shelters, and food banks.

EXPLORING NOVEL SOLUTIONS

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

[\\$1M Gift Speeds COVID-19 Testing and Tracking](#)



In the midst of so many unknowns, the **John and Mary Tu Foundation** is working to bring some clarity. Their \$1,000,000 gift to support UC San Diego translational research virologist Davey Smith, MD, MAS, (pictured above) whose work focuses on new diagnostics, therapies, and ways to monitor the virus, could help save lives. And while his research has obvious immediate benefits, it could also bolster the science, technology, and capabilities that help us respond to potential future pandemics.

[Helping San Diegans Return to Work](#)

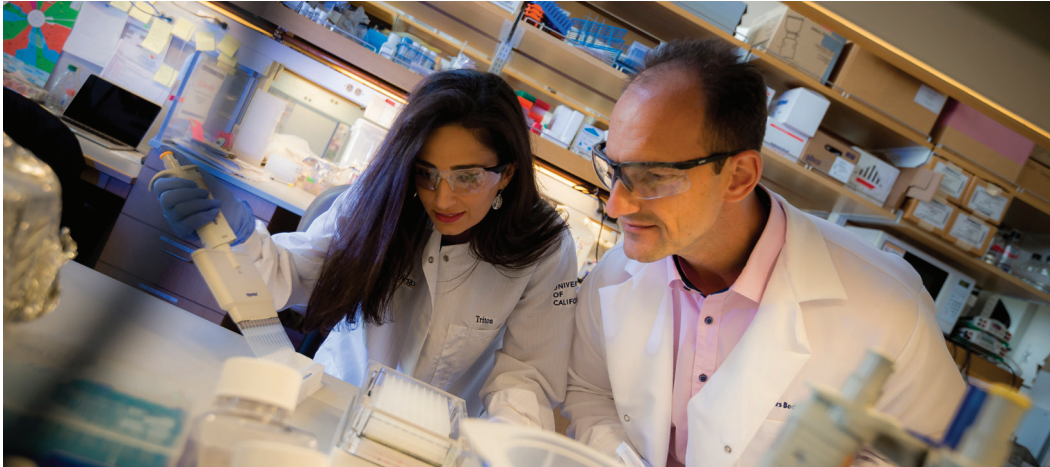


As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to exact costs in human lives and economic hardships for individuals and businesses across San Diego, **Gary and Jean Shekhter** are helping find a way for our local economy to return to work. Their \$350,000 gift to the San Diego Epidemiology and Research for COVID-19 Health (SEARCH) alliance is funding a collaborative research study co-led by UC San Diego, Scripps Research Institute, and Rady Children's Hospital-San Diego, aimed at helping local businesses and employees return to work safely.

EXPLORING NOVEL SOLUTIONS

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

How COVID-19 May Impact Breast Milk and Pregnancy



COVID-19 has produced a number of questions, about transmission, risk factors, and safety measures. And Lars Bode, principal investigator and director of UC San Diego's Larsson-Rosenquist Foundation Mother-Milk-Infant Center of Research Excellence (MOMI CORE), is working to find answers that benefit society's most vulnerable members: newborn children. Thanks to an additional \$100,000 in support from the **Family Larsson-Rosenquist Foundation** and gifts from other donors, Bode is investigating whether COVID-19 can be transmitted via human milk and whether components of human milk can protect infants from the disease. Ultimately, these projects are part of MOMI CORE's larger goal to ensure the health of breastfeeding mothers and their children.

WHAT'S NEXT

As a research powerhouse and academic institution, UC San Diego possesses the skills, knowledge, and resources to help get our economy and society back on track as soon as possible. And thanks to your support, we are in the midst of a comprehensive approach to what comes next.



WHAT'S NEXT

From on-campus efforts including the Return to Learn Program and Research Ramp Up to community-wide initiatives like San Diego Epidemiology and Research for COVID-19 Health (SEARCH) alliance, we are uniting research institutions across the Torrey Pines Mesa and mobilizing our university clinicians, molecular biologists, technologists, infectious disease experts, bioinformatics specialists, disease modelers, public health experts, and others to define a safe path forward for our campus and community to return to in-person activities.

Our [Return to Learn Program](#) has begun to explore what our fall quarter will look like. In addition to regular no-cost testing for students, faculty and staff who are on campus, we are also defining limits for classroom instruction: Approximately 30 percent of our 4,750 courses will be in-person this fall, with the remaining 70 percent either fully remote or hybrid. In-person classes will be limited to either fewer than 50 students or 50 percent of classroom capacity, whichever is smaller. Meanwhile, we are staggering move-ins for on-campus housing, and offering only double or single-occupancy rooms. We will continue to follow CDC and other public health guidelines as we plan for the fall.

We are also in the first phase of our [Research Ramp Up](#), which is designed to gradually increase on-site research activity, while managing health risks associated with COVID-19. Eligible on-site research, scholarly, and creative activities must meet baseline health and safety protocols as defined by county public health experts and CDC guidelines, including reconfigured workspaces, scheduling changes to accommodate social distancing, and daily symptom screenings.

LEARN MORE

- [Return to Learn Q&A: Isolation Housing and Fall Move-In](#)
- [Q&A with Infectious Disease Modeler Natasha Martin](#)
- [Q&A with Epidemiologist Cheryl Anderson on Contact Tracing](#)



Thank you for continuing the nontradition

At the University of California San Diego, challenging convention is our most cherished tradition. Your gift in support of UC San Diego's efforts to fight COVID-19 also contributes to the Campaign for UC San Diego — our university-wide comprehensive fundraising effort concluding in 2022. Together, we are enhancing student support, ensuring student success, transforming our campus, connecting our community, and redefining medicine and health care on a global scale.

Thanks to you and our philanthropic partners across the community and the globe, we will continue our nontraditional path toward revolutionary ideas, unexpected answers, lifesaving discoveries, and planet-changing impact.

The Campaign For
UC San Diego

campaign.ucsd.edu/coronavirus