UCEAP announces the 2016 Distinguished Alumni Award Winners

(Pictured left to right: Susan Carlson, Vice Provost for Academic Personnel at UC Office of the President, Linda Duttenhaver, Randy Schekman, Vivian-Lee Nyiray, Alicia Sabuncuoglu)

Named after one of UCEAP’s strongest alumni supporters, the Linda Duttenhaver Distinguished Alumni Award honors an alumna or alumnus who has a record of extraordinary service or achievement in his/her field and has made a significant impact on the global community.

Nobel laureate Dr. Randy Schekman received this year’s Linda Duttenhaver Distinguished Alumni Award. As an undergraduate at UCLA, Randy participated in the University of Edinburgh program in 1968-69. He credits his year in Edinburgh as a key event in the development of his career aspirations as an academic scholar and teacher. Dr. Schekman has been a professor of molecular and cell biology at Berkeley for 39 years and in 2013 received the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine.

The 2016 UCEAP Emerging Leader Award winner is Alicia Sabuncuoglu. Alicia oversees Strategic Partnerships at Google. She participated in the Paris Center for Critical Studies program in 2005-06 and was a recipient of the UCEAP Dan Wise Scholarship. After returning to UCSD, Alicia gave back to the program by working with the campus office on student outreach and other activities. In her spare time, she has dedicated herself to the Google Art Project, a stunning global cultural experience online that brings the world's richest institutions and rarest collections into an open digital ecosystem. “My UCEAP experience abroad permeates nearly every facet of my life,
and I would be proudly honored to express my thanks to the organization and help continue alumni efforts and the current program today.”

Randy and Alicia accepted their awards at the UCEAP Alumni Awards Dinner in June. Congratulations to our exceptional alumni!

Read more about our Distinguished Alumni Awards

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**UCEAP Students meet Desmond Tutu**

This past May, UCEAP students Betty Nguyen, UCLA (second from left) and Savannah Berkley, UC Berkeley (second from right), along with other University of Cape Town students, attended an intimate service with [Archbishop Desmond Tutu](https://www.archbishoptutu.org). Since his retirement in 1996, local congregants and international visitors gather for small and intimate services with the “Arch” and Father Michael Weeder, the Anglican Dean of St. George’s. Betty and Savannah were welcomed by the Arch and asked to say where they are from and their reasons for visiting the city. Prayers were then offered for those suffering in events unfolding in the world. The services offer an hour of peace, love, warmth and worship.

These early morning services in the presence of the Arch and the people who attend are a good and timely reminder of his words, “Despite the ghastliness in the world, human beings are made for goodness. The ones that are held in high regard are not militarily powerful or even economically prosperous. They have a commitment to try and make the world a better place.”

More From UCEAP
FORUM Award Recipients: Life Lessons

Three UCEAP alumni and former recipients of the National Undergraduate Research Award are profiled in a recent publication. Hear how their research abroad impacted their careers!

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Madrid Internship Stories

The Madrid Study Center has created a video documentary on local student internships experiences and the overall impact on the UCEAP experience.

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Remembering UCEAP Faculty

UCEAP remembers Professor Joonhong Ahn and Professor Mattison Mines. Both had a major impact on our students and programs.

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UQ Alumni Reunion

Over 30 UCEAP alumni from the Marine Science program at the University of Queensland joined Dr. Ian Tibbetts for a reunion weekend in June. Interested in planning your own reunion?

Contact Us

Do you have a UCEAP story to share? Did your UCEAP experience transform your life and career? We would love to hear from you. Send us your story. Contact an alumni team member today!

Join our official UCEAP LinkedIn group. This growing group supports current UCEAP students and alumni, helping them to connect and share their passion for experiencing education abroad.

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In 2009, Francesco Gini, a student from Italy, came to UC Irvine on an exchange with UCEAP. "Already having the opportunity to study in beautiful California would have been a dream for me. But when I arrived there, I met a wonderful and special girl, also from Italy on exchange with UCEAP. It is with extreme happiness that I tell you that the girl I met while at UCI, thanks
to you, is now my wife." Congratulations Francesco Gini and Mara Dambour!

**OCT 22**

**Save the Date - Sweden 50th Anniversary @ UCLA** Join us on October 22, 2016, at UCLA Fowler Museum as we celebrate our 50th Anniversary of student exchange with Lund University. All UCEAP alumni are invited. Join the Alumni Network to receive future invitations to this and other upcoming UCEAP events. [More Info]

**SEP 22**

**Alumni Reunion in Shanghai** Network with other UC alumni in China and meet current UCEAP students. Thursday, September 22, 2016. [More Info]

**APR 7**

**Save the Date - Lund University, Sweden Reunion, April 2017** Save the Date for a reunion in Sweden as we celebrate 50 years of student exchange with Lund University. Events will take place April 7-8, 2017. All alumni are invited. Contact your fellow alumni and plan a reunion back to Sweden! [More Info]

UCEAP has a powerful and expanding network of 100,000 alumni in every field and every corner of the world. Whether you want to take the next step in your career or simply catch up with old friends, you'll find many ways to reach out, link up, and join the conversation. We look forward to seeing you soon!