Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC San Diego has been a beacon of world-class research and education since its founding in 1903. We are proud of the work that has advanced the understanding of our home planet and addresses the world’s most challenging environmental problems.

The student experience at Scripps Oceanography is unparalleled. We take our responsibility to train the next generation of scientists very seriously, and offer a hands-on approach to learning as well as access to top scientists and global research opportunities.

Our undergraduate enrollment has grown rapidly, and with the addition of the new oceanic and atmospheric sciences major, we are now approaching 700 undergraduate students. The marine biology major continues to be in demand, and it’s no wonder given the access to our fleet of ships and course work in the field.

The UC Ship Funds program is part of what makes this ship time available for students. On page 14, we’ve highlighted that unique program as well as a few examples of graduate student work made possible because of this funding, which is exclusive to UC students.

In May, Chancellor Pradeep Khosla hosted the “UP Summit,” to which UC San Diego invited regional elected officials, policymakers, and key decision makers to campus. They learned about the breadth of research to understand and protect the San Diego region taking place throughout UC San Diego. These efforts range from the ALERTWildfire cameras that aid firefighting (page 6) to work in the Biological Sciences division to study the future health of honeybees.

As always, key elements of our research would not be possible without philanthropy and I would like to thank our donors for their generosity. From funding symposia to find solutions to marine plastic pollution to a campaign funding a new workboat for students (page 28), donors find that Scripps can take action on issues and causes of importance to them.

A focus on the student experience would be remiss without mention of Scripps’ oldest and highly accomplished alum Walter Munk, who has inspired students on campus for nearly 80 years and recently celebrated his 101st birthday. This summer Munk was awarded the French Legion of Honour for his contributions to oceanography, gaining the title of Chevalier, or knight. Kudos to Walter for inspiring our students to do daring science that leaves a lasting mark on the world.

Thank you, all, for making this a great year.

Margaret Leinen
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UC San Diego