Dear Cal alumni and friends,

Excitement and pride are in the air on campus. The women’s basketball team made history with Cal’s first trip to the Final Four. Prospective students tour campus with their hopeful parents—freshman and transfer applications to Cal were up by eight percent and rose to a record high of 83,640.

The renovation and revitalization of the Lower Sproul Plaza area began in March. It is a great time to be part of this invigorating campus and an amazing honor to be a Golden Bear!

The Cal Alumni Association (CAA) continues to build community in support of Berkeley and a array of alumni programs and student services. In 2013, we are launching new programs designed to serve the diverse needs of Berkeley alumni. Some of our priority programs include the Berkeley Network career program, Southern California alumni programs, and a digital, interactive component to our award-winning magazine.

Our new alumni programs are designed to connect our global alumni community to campus and to each other. You’ll learn more about The Berkeley Network in this issue of Giving Notes. In addition, you can enjoy photos from Charter Gala 2013, hear from the first cohort of Equity Scholars as they graduate from UC Berkeley, and read about our Cal Advocacy and athletic events.

The work we do here at CAA is made possible thanks to your generosity. Whether you volunteer for scholarship interviews and readings, host viewing parties through your local alumni chapter, or make your philanthropic priority, you are part of our legacy. Thank you for your continued commitment and support. Together, we keep Cal Golden.

Fiat Lux, and Go Bears!

President of the Cal Alumni Association Karen Leong Clancy ’76 and Executive Director Jefferson C.M. Coombs ’89 congratulate Alumnae of the Year Frank Davis, Ph.D., ’55 at Charter Gala 2013.

Chevron Corporation Returns as California Sponsor

Excitement and energy filled the air as hundreds of guests gathered at the Palace Hotel for Charter Gala 2013. Alumni and friends commemorated the founding of the University of California and honored Alumni Award recipients.

For the third year in a row, Chevron Corporation was the California Sponsor for CAA’s signature event. CAA’s community engagement with Chevron contributed to a spectacular celebration and was an integral part of Charter Gala’s success. In addition, Chevron directly supports Cal students through donations to The Achievement Award Program and The Equity Scholarship.

“We invest in education because we recognize the crucial role education plays in building healthy communities,” shared Shariq Youssafzai, Vice President, Global Offices of Diversity and Ombuds, during his remarks at Charter Gala. “We look toward our world-class institutions of higher learning to continue innovating energy both in the state and throughout the world.” Youssafzai added.

Chevron Corporation’s commitment to the alumni association helps advance the important work we do on behalf of alumni, students, and the University. We thank and applaud Chevron for its partnership with CAA. All proceeds from this event support The Cal Alumni Association Fund, which enables us to serve our alma mater and our alumni community.

Nominations for 2014 Alumni Awards

The vision, groundbreaking research, imaginative thinking, talents, and service of our UC Berkeley alumni have changed the world and our University. They are inspiring leaders who contribute to the vitality of our communities, businesses and culture. They are leading volunteers and supporters of the University, making a difference in every corner of our campus. Please share the accomplishments of our incredible alumni with us by submitting a nomination for one of our 2014 Alumni Achievement or Alumni Service Awards. For more information, please visit alumni.berkeley.edu/awards.
Top Dog with Top Dogs

Hundreds of dedicated alumni and ambitious Cal students gathered on the Alumni House patio this past February for career networking and lunch from a Berkeley institution. Top Dog with Top Dogs gives alumni the opportunity to provide direct guidance to young Golden Bears who are starting to learn about the many doors opened by a degree from UC Berkeley.

“It’s so awesome to be in the presence of dedicated alumni like the ones I met today,” said Nicholas Salire, a current senior, while munching on his chicken-apple hot dog. Top Dog, Berkeley’s most popular student lunch spot since 1966, offered on site to satisfy everyone’s hunger. Participating alumni, in addition to providing students with sage guidance about career choices, also generously donated to help minimize the charge to student attendees.

Peter Lee-Matlock ’02 delivered remarks about the power and importance of lifelong dedication to our University. Moved by his energetic oration, the students in attendance gained a new appreciation for the Cal family of which they are a part. On his way out, Salire said “[This event] makes me want to come and give back to students and to the Cal family of which they are a part.”

2013 Hoops Parties

CAA was proud to host the Official Pre-Game Hoops Parties in support of Cal Men’s Basketball. We had three successful parties this past season. Party-goers enjoyed a different format this year, with themed parties designed to engage specific audiences.

The first party of the year was for young alumni. More than 200 alumni from the Classes of 2002 through 2012 enjoyed fresh Italian cuisine, unlimited drinks, and an afternoon of fun before Cal’s 58–54 victory over Arizona State.

The second party, newly hired Cal Football Coach Sonny Dykes spoke to a sold-out audience of more than 190 enthusiastic alumni.

The last hoops party welcomed all bears in a “family-friendly” format. Cal alumni and fans were encouraged to bring their little ones out for a bounce house, games, and fun with the Cal Band and cheer teams. We hope to see you at Alumni House for CAA Hoops Parties in 2014!

First Cohort of Equity Scholars Graduates

This year, CAA’s first cohort of Equity Scholars will graduate from Cal. Most scholars are walking in May and a few will walk in December. Their stories are exciting and confirm our belief about what comes next with a UC Berkeley degree in hand.

How do you feel about graduating from the number one public university in the world?

If you are among the lucky enough to feel happy and proud, I am one of myself for this great accomplishment. It definitely feels surreal that this great achievement is coming to an end.

Claudia Rocha

Dykes spoke to a Coach Sonny Dykes.

The greatest lesson you learned at Cal?

Life is a journey you can never fully prepare for or plan for, and you shouldn’t try to. You don’t need to learn every single detail about the bells and whistles your interests, and enjoy the here and now.

Adolpho Gomez

The greatest lesson I learned at Cal is to be a critical thinker. Professors don’t give you questions that you can find answers in a book, they prompt you to look at all aspects of the question and draw your own conclusions.

Nayely Chavez

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Claire-Marie Kool

Cal Students Give Thanks

Grateful and enthusiastic Cal students participated in CAA’s Thankathon at Alumni House this past March. This annual event is a chance for students to express their gratitude to the donors who contribute to The Equity Scholarship, The Achievement Award Program, and The Leadership Award.

CAA’s Thankathon is one of the largest stewardship events on campus. Fifty-six CAA scholarship recipients wrote letters and made phone calls during the event. Some donors also received a thank you email.

More than 700 donors were thanked for their continuous support of CAA’s scholarship programs. Your generosity helped CAA distribute nearly $10 million to more than 750 undergraduate students during the 2012–13 academic year. We are grateful for your donation!

During the annual Leadership Award Recognition Luncheon Marilyn ‘42 and Wilbert Fountain ’41 (pictured with 2012–13 Leadership Award scholars) represented with 12 endorsements established by the Classes of 1941 and 1942.

GIVING NOTES PHILANTHROPY NEWSLETTER · SPRING 2013

Recurring Giving Is Now Available

Giving to CAA on a regular basis has never been easier. You can now extend your support by making a recurring gift or regular payment with your credit or debit card. Recurring gifts allow CAA to serve our alma mater and vibrant alumni community as they stay connected to the University and to each other. Setting up a recurring gift allows us to focus our efforts on advancing our work and allows us to move a step closer to realizing our vision—to build and engage a broad alumni community that supports the University. Recurring gifts also allow you to make a larger commitment and break up your gift into smaller payments.

To make a recurring gift today, please visit alumni.berkeley.edu/donate.

Sneak Peak at The Berkeley Network

This fall CAA will launch The Berkeley Network, its new professional development and networking program. In preparation for the launch, CAA is now hiring a new director for the program and building partnerships to pilot events in year one. The Berkeley Network will provide programming and networking of broad interest as well as some targeted to specific industries.

To learn more about CAA, please visit alumni.berkeley.edu/advocacy.

Alumni Delegates Head to the State Capitol

On March 19, more than one hundred UC alumni from all ten UC campuses advocated on behalf of the University of California at the State Capitol. Our eleven UC Berkeley delegates met with all of the Bay Area state legislators and/or their senior staff and sent the message that the state must increase funding for UC Berkeley and its sister campuses.

State funding, though now only 11 percent of Berkeley’s operating budget, is still essential to maintaining access to the best public university system in the world.

In addition to meeting with the Bay Area legislators, including Cal Alumni Assembly Members Nancy Skinner ’77, M.A. ’99 and State Senator Leon Clark ’82, alumni hosted a reception for alumni staffs and legislators at The Park Ultra Lounge, a restaurant owned by Cal alumnus Mason Wong ’92. To learn more about Cal Advocacy, please visit alumni.berkeley.edu/advocacy.