

# UC LEADS

Preparing Diverse Future Leaders for Graduate School and Beyond



Since 2000, the University of California's Leadership Excellence through Advanced Degrees (UC LEADS) program has helped discover hundreds of educationally or economically disadvantaged UC undergraduates in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) with the potential to succeed in graduate school.

The UC LEADS experience enhances the next generation's potential for success in graduate school and prepares them to assume leadership roles following completion of a doctoral degree. With your help, we can continue to provide this wonderful program to even more qualified students today and into the future.

## Program Features

- Top undergraduate students from underrepresented backgrounds embark on a 2-year program of scientific research and graduate school preparation in STEM
- Collaboration between all 10 UC campuses with UC Santa Barbara serving as the systemwide headquarters
- Participants undertake 2 summers of paid research (first on their home campus, second summer at a different UC) as well as research during the academic year
- UC LEADS scholars present their research at an annual research and leadership symposium
- Attendance at professional and scientific society meetings
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) preparation course provided
- Donor support is leveraged by several other fund sources to make an amplified impact



"The experiences that I had through UC LEADS provided the opportunities and community that has instilled the confidence needed to pursue science at a high level."

**Javin Oza '03, Ph.D. '12**

Assistant Professor, Chemistry & BioChemistry,  
California Polytechnic University at San Luis Obispo

## 20 Years of Success

- 1,061 alumni of the program
- 98% of UC LEADS participants received their undergraduate degrees
- 76% of UC LEADS participants are either enrolled or have completed graduate programs - with 47% of those enrolled in UC graduate programs
- 53% of the current UC LEADS participants are first generation college students
- Many alumni of the program have gone on to tenure track faculty positions

## Expanding Opportunities for the Next 20 Years

Despite the documented success of UC LEADS over the past 20 years, the program is currently available for only a small number of UC Santa Barbara students (8). Growth of the program to cover more qualified students will amplify the power of UC LEADS.

## Funding Needs

### Current Support Opportunities

- \$20,000 to add 1 qualified UC Santa Barbara student to the 2 year program
- \$10,000 per year to bring the UC LEADS summer research stipend to a more competitive level (for all UC Santa Barbara scholars)
- \$1,000 per year to provide professional attire for all UC Santa Barbara scholars (cited by campus coordinators as a critical need when scholars attend conferences)

### Long-Term Support Opportunities

- \$500,000 will endow one additional space and allow more qualified students to participate
- \$250,000 will endow the increased research stipend, thereby ensure that students have adequate funding
- \$25,000 to ensure that all future UC Santa Barbara scholars will receive professional attire as part of the program

### For information on how to support UC LEADS, please contact:

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