Message from the Dean

Dear Graduate Student,

Too often, we see graduate education as a time of preparation for something else—for careers in academia and industry, for professional practice, for roles in cutting edge research. Preparation, in brief, for the real world or our real lives—which we will resume only when our degrees are awarded and job placement has been secured.

But if you think more deeply about the context in which you will conduct your graduate studies, you will see that the doing begins now. As graduate scholars, you will enrich the academic community with your insights, your perspectives, your experience. Faculty will be challenged by your questions and perspectives. Undergraduate students will find in you able teachers of fundamental concepts, caring mentors for laboratory work, and role models showing them a possible future for themselves.

Similarly, the symbol of the ivory tower suggests that you are about to enter a rarefied atmosphere, rising above pedestrian concerns and dealing with substances uncommon in everyday life. But in today's world, the ivory tower has many bridges and walkways to other key institutions in our society: to government, to business, to culture. While the university provides a relatively sheltered and safe arena in which to examine ideas and events from a variety of critical perspectives, what we do here has an impact on people and events far beyond the campus boundary.

There has always been a tension between engagement and sanctuary as features of the academic life. Some view graduate study as a time to withdraw from the grit and grime of workaday concerns into the noble purity of intellectual pursuits. Others believe that the treasury of knowledge we safeguard at universities—the treasury to which we each add our own discoveries—must become intimately engaged with the daily-ness of life if we are to have any relevance. I would urge you to find a balance between involvement and retreat. While we make ourselves time and a quiet space to pursue our goals, we must remain attuned to the enormously significant events unfolding in the world around us and not loose sight of how our participation in public life can help to shape a better future.

Claudia Mitchell-Kernan
Vice Chancellor Graduate Studies
Dean, Graduate Division
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ON THE COVER: Ford Fellow Vanesa Estrada in front of a housing development in Mar Vista. She studies racial differences in homeownership.
DOZENS OF UCLA GRADUATE STUDENTS and postdoctoral fellows have received Ford Fellowships since the program was founded in the early 1960s, joining 1,200 ethnically diverse recipients nationwide. Just since 1996, 23 UCLA graduate students—in the physical, life, and social sciences as well as humanities and education—have received Ford Foundation support.

In this issue, we take a close look at nine current Ford Fellows: their academic history, their research, and the impact the Ford Fellowships have had on their lives. The range of scholarly contributions among the students profiled here is broad: online racism, Filipino literature and the image of women, American literature and the image of Black men, the impact of adoption on crack babies, antibody-mediated therapies for AIDS, cultural approaches to AIDS education, the interaction of race and class in homeownership, the history of a Mexican silver mining region, and the development of therapies for age-damaged cells.

Some Ford Fellows grew up in constrained financial circumstances that gave them a somewhat restricted sense of their potential. The support and prestige of the Ford Fellowship opened their eyes to new opportunities and opened the doors allowing them to pursue their dreams.

Besides offering some of the most generous financial support available for graduate students, the Ford Fellowship program has also built an extensive professional network, in particular through an annual conference for current and former Ford Fellows. UCLA’s student fellows speak of the encouragement they experienced as they

the varied yet connected worlds of the Ford Foundation Fellows
were introduced to this large community of people of color involved in rewarding academic careers. Through Ford, many fellows meet mentors and role models to help them move forward in their doctoral studies, find jobs, and build careers. In turn, UCLA’s current fellows reach out to help younger students pursuing advanced studies.

One of the Ford Foundation’s goals is to promote university careers among underrepresented minorities, and UCLA provides some evidence that the goal is being achieved: A dozen or more UCLA faculty—some of them department chairs and program directors—are former Ford Fellows. Mentoring the next generation of scholars has been their mission for many years. Edmond J. Keller, professor of political science, is one example.

Professor Keller got his first Ford Fellowship in 1971, while he was at the University of Wisconsin, studying secondary schooling and socialization in Kenya. The next year, he got a Ford Fellowship for African Americans who wanted to do research in Africa. After earning his PhD in political science, he was awarded a Ford Postdoctoral Fellowship for his work at UC Berkeley. At UCLA since 1989, Professor Keller is Director of the UCLA Globalization Research Center-Africa and former director of the James S. Coleman African Studies Center.

Early on, he began to give back to the Ford Fellowship program, serving on committees to help select new Fellows, and today, he is a regional liaison. He has also engaged consistently and powerfully in mentoring work. As a keynote speaker for a Ford Fellows conference at UC Irvine, he had this to say about ongoing efforts to improve the position of underrepresented minorities in the academy:

The [Ford] fellowships provide us with the means, the resources, for intellectual empowerment. Duly armed, we have the ability to pursue more effectively our own citizenship rights as well as to fulfill our social responsibility to make our society as free, fair, and just as it can possibly be. We have the responsibility to make a commitment to pursuing this objective in whatever walk of life we find ourselves.

…What keeps me going is the recognition that as long as I stick with it, I will have yet another opportunity to inspire yet another young person to strive to reach higher and to carve out [a] little part of life to make better. In the long run, if we all do this, we will collectively make a profound difference.
Brendesha Tynes

In three years, Brendesha Tynes produced the three pieces—one already published—that compose her dissertation on race-related discourse in online adolescent exchanges, along with a half dozen other papers on their way into print, all the while supported by a Ford Fellowship. It’s little wonder, then, that she calls being a Ford Fellow “the highlight of my graduate career,” which culminated in a PhD from the School of Education’s psychological studies in education program.

As Brendesha puts it, “I was able to work unencumbered by worries about income.” In addition, the idea that grew into her dissertation began life as a proposal for the Ford Fellowship. Brendesha was a graduate student researcher in the Children’s Digital Media Center when its director, Patricia Greenfield, showed her a transcript from an online chatroom frequented by teenagers. Professor Greenfield had been looking at expressions of sexual identity, but the transcript also “had all these racial epithets in it,” Brendesha recalls, “and I said, This is what I’m going to study.” With barely six weeks to prepare a proposal outlining a three-year research agenda, she nevertheless received the Ford on her first try and set to work accomplishing the tasks she had outlined.

First, she found that visitors to the teenage chat rooms and discussion boards she monitored “had a 19 percent chance of being exposed to negative remarks about a racial or ethnic group in monitored chat and a 59 percent chance in unmonitored chat.”

Next, Brendesha analyzed a range of contexts in which children and adolescents experienced online hate—not always as passive observers but also as “agents in the creation of racist materials and perpetrators of racial attacks online.” It was “pretty disturbing to read some of the things I found,” she says.

Finally, whereas whites in other studies have scored lower than other racial/ethnic groups on the Multi Ethnic Identity Measure, her research found that white teenagers were similar to their peers. Brendesha speculates that their stronger sense of a racial identity might have resulted from their “adopting racialized roles online.” For example, white teenagers may find themselves targets of racial prejudice, or racist comments may prompt them to become advocates for peers of other ethnicities.

Her findings, alarming in some cases, also provide hope. While many teenagers continue to live in segregated communities, “there are these amazing online friendships with people of different ethnic groups,” she says, and “sometimes these extend into the offline world.” In this respect, “teens may be leading the way” in interracial conversation. For example, one teenage girl followed up on a long-term online friendship with a young Mexican American by traveling—with her parents—to meet face to face with him.

Not all the benefits of Brendesha’s Ford Fellowship were monetary. At the national Ford Fellows conferences in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and San Juan, Puerto Rico, she found “this sea of scholars
of color who were just like me—I could strike up a conversation with anybody."

When the Ford Foundation announced that it lacked the funds to hold a conference in Fall 2004, Brendesha stepped in and organized a Southern California Conference of Ford Fellows at UCLA, during a time when she was also finishing her dissertation and applying for jobs and postdoctoral fellowships. Brendesha was successful in all her endeavors.

The all-day conference offered seminars on publishing, dissertation writing, job hunting, and new classroom techniques, and it gave birth to a mentoring project that connects Ford applicants with “seasoned scholars.” The American Educational Research Association awarded her a postdoctoral fellowship, which she declined to accept a tenure track teaching position. This fall, she’s an assistant professor of African American Studies and educational psychology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and she’s moving forward toward her next research goal.

Brendesha’s idea is to create an online curriculum that combines case studies about the contributions of different ethnic groups and opportunities for online discussion, with the goal of increasing interracial understanding. “We need to respond to the prevalence of racism in online environments for teens,” she says, “and since the Internet has become a primary tool for communication among youth, I’d like to use this medium to foster healthy race relations, as well.”

Denise Cruz

Envisioning a project comparing images of Filipinas in fiction, Denise Cruz was concerned about one particular hurdle: All of the books on her reading lists were written by Filipinos—men not women. Supported by a three-year Ford Fellowship, Denise had the time to do “significant archival research,” and —what do you know—she found plenty of Filipina authors “people didn’t know about,” publishing both short stories and novels.

Denise found herself “checking out books from U.S. libraries that no one had ever checked out before—they were tucked away in boxes somewhere.” One was a fictionalized autobiography of an American woman of mixed Filipino and Irish heritage who joined the guerrilla movement in the Philippines during World War II.

The woman warrior is not at all like the Filipinas often found in Filipino literature of the mid-20th century, their image taken from Maria Clara in Noli me tangere, the founding nationalist text of the Philippines. National hero and novelist Jose Rizal’s character gave birth to “the cult of Maria Clara,” Denise says, and a long succession of idealized women: chaste, modest, and self-effacing.

On closer examination, Denise says, other kinds of women appear in Filipino fiction, however. For example, in his highly regarded Scent of Apples, Bienvenidos Santos depicts not only “Maria Clara” figures
but also “some women who have gone to the United States to become educated, who speak English and talk openly about dating,” Denise says. These women, however, are seen as “suspicious characters.”

Indeed, Filipino literature from the 1920s to the 1950s—published both in the United States and the Philippines—features “a lot of anxiety about ‘the new Filipina,’ who has been irrevocably influenced by the U.S. colonial presence in the Philippines,” Denise says, and that anxiety seems to be intertwined with the Filipino struggle for independence.

Asian American literature is often viewed as starting in the 1970s and 1980s, when the Asian American population grew with the easing of immigration quotas. Also, the focus is “almost always linked to the Asian experience on U.S. soil,” Denise says. She hopes “to shift the boundaries of critical discussion a little bit,” including an earlier time period and looking at works published or set in the Philippines as well as those published or set in America.

Toward that end, she used a foreign area studies grant this summer to visit the Philippines, where she searched libraries, had conversations with Filipino scholars about her research, and took advanced Tagalog. A happy side effect of her graduate studies in English is that Denise has learned the native language of her parents, Filipino immigrants who “are absolutely thrilled” with this outcome, and she has become better acquainted with her own cultural heritage.

Those goals were not on her list as an undergraduate at UCLA. Although Denise was an English major, she nevertheless applied to medical school, a longtime plan. She recalls being interviewed by a surgeon who asked why she wanted to be a doctor. “I gave my rehearsed answer, and I could see the fog growing over his eyes,” Denise says. “I said to myself, ‘This man doesn’t believe me—perhaps I don’t believe myself.’” So instead of going to medical school, she got a job as a mentor and teacher for Americorps in San Francisco’s Chinatown.

Soon after Denise’s return to UCLA, this time for graduate work in English, she made an important ally. LaTonya Rease-Miles, also a graduate student in English, “made it a point to introduce herself and to check in with me on a regular basis,” Denise says. It was Dr. Rease-Miles—also a Ford Fellow—who told Denise about the fellowship and encouraged her to apply. At the time, Denise had been reading Filipino literature as preparation for her qualifying examination in comparative literature, and so it made a convenient topic for the research proposal she needed to write for her Ford application. Happily, it also provided the kernel for her dissertation. Denise expects to spend about two years on the research and writing, then look for an academic position where she can continue her studies while teaching what she’s learned.

In the meantime, she is working part-time as a graduate mentor in the Academic Advancement Program, which Dr. Rease-Miles directs. Denise made other contacts with Ford Fellows at a national conference in Puerto Rico, “by far the best conference I’ve ever attended. You’re invited to become part of this network of colleagues,” she says, “a Ford Fellow for life.”

**Dana Velasco Murillo**

After her first year as an elementary school teacher, Dana Velasco Murillo and her husband went to Mexico and took the bus to Zacatecas to visit her relatives. After 11 hours winding through terrain that was often barren and desert-like, she recalls how suddenly “out of nowhere this beautiful vibrant city appears.”

Dana spent nine weeks in and around the old silver mining town, a UNESCO world heritage site that is now home to ten museums. Although she had come to visit her parents’ families, she left with the kernel of a research question: What was Zacatecas like as it grew from a mining camp to a mecca for Spaniards seeking silver and for those who saw an opportunity to profit from the Spanish quest?

This summer, Dana returned to Zacatecas with a much more refined set of questions and a growing kit of historian’s tools. Supported by a Ford Fellowship, she did research in the various state and church archives that record what life was like in the region during the 1600s. More than a decade of time elapsed between Dana’s two trips. Dana is the youngest of seven children of Mexican immigrant parents, short on financial resources but powerful in urging their children “to make our fortune through education.” Graduating from medical school, a longtime plan. She recalls being interviewed by a surgeon who asked why she wanted to be a doctor. “I gave my rehearsed answer, and I could see the fog growing over his eyes,” Denise says. “I said to myself, ‘This man doesn’t believe me—perhaps I don’t believe myself.’” So instead of going to medical school, she got a job as a mentor and teacher for Americorps in San Francisco’s Chinatown.

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Loyola-Marymount University with a bachelor’s degree in history, she needed to make herself financially independent and to help her family. Because she had received grants and scholarships over the years, she also felt she “owed the community,” and she took a job as a Spanish-speaking teacher in a public school “right around the corner from my old home.”

But while she was teaching, her passion for learning never faltered. While acquiring a master’s degree in English literature at Cal State Northridge “kind of as a hobby,” Dana came under the wing of English Professor Sandra Stanley, “who helped me get back into the academic swing.” Professor Stanley also told Dana about a predoctoral scholarship, which she used to work one summer with Kevin Terraciano, associate professor in UCLA’s History Department.

Dana’s research had already led her to Professor Terraciano, “a pioneer in working with colonial Mixtec language sources to generate a history of the colonial period,” focusing on the Mixtecs of Oaxaca. Dana is hoping to do the same thing for the various indigenous peoples who were drawn to Zacatecas.

Some came from central Mexico, attracted by the opportunity to work for wages instead of laboring in the traditional tribute system. The Spaniards encouraged their migration, hoping that their “model indigenous communities” would help to transform what the Spaniards saw as “northern barbarians,” indigenous nomads who were hostile to the Spanish intrusion. The area was also home to African slaves, former English sailors, and others who were simply hiding out.

Dana plans to look at how this ethnic diversity played out and whether indigenous people and women enjoyed any greater freedoms “in the backwoods” of 17th-century Zacatecas than in Mexico City. Frontier towns are often notable for relatively lax authority and for tolerating behaviors that might not be acceptable elsewhere. “To me, that’s all fascinating,” she says.

Not long after her summer of research with Professor Terraciano, Dana applied for graduate studies in history at UCLA and, at about the same time, for a Ford Fellowship. While UCLA accepted her, Ford turned her down on that first try. Enrolled at UCLA in Fall 2003, Dana took her husband’s advice and reapplied, this time earning the fellowship. “I recommend tenacity,” she says.

This coming year, she’ll apply for a Fulbright Fellowship to support research in the archives of Madrid and Seville, which is her next destination. Ten years ago, Dana “worried that economic necessity was going to rob me of my dream.” Now, she’s well on her way, full of energy and determination to complete her work: “After you’ve been in the workforce for 13 years and get to go do something that was a dream for you,” she says, “you definitely have a different attitude.”
The “myth of the irrevocably damaged coke baby” is the target of Claudia Kernan’s dissertation in clinical psychology. Examining a group of stimulant-exposed youngsters at the time they were adopted and again one year later, Claudia found that the children displayed “significant increases in IQ after being in a loving, stable, adoptive home for a year.”

Claudia met the youngsters who were part of her study through an internship with Training, Intervention, Education, and Services (TIES) for Adoption, a collaboration between UCLA and county agencies to promote successful adoption of foster children with histories of prenatal substance exposure, abuse, and neglect. In that assignment, Claudia made home visits to mothers who had just adopted children, “observing their strategies for discipline and offering support.” As needed, she also modeled “ways to handle problem behaviors.” Through another externship—this one at UCLA’s Neuropsychiatric Institute (NPI)—Claudia learned applications of neuropsychology while working on projects related to long-term epilepsy and to memory and aging.

The two streams of experience came together in her dissertation, with neuropsychology providing the theoretical template and children adopted from foster care providing the population of focus. Jill Waterman, a UCLA faculty member and a founder of TIES, and Robert Asarnow, a senior research scientist in the NPI’s Cognitive Neuroscience Initiative, are her co-chairs.

The pool of TIES children who participated in Claudia’s study were four to eight years old when they were adopted. “On top of the biological risk associated with stimulant exposure,” these youngsters “also had experienced a lot of environmental risk,” she says, living with birth mothers in a drug-abusing environment and then moving through a number of foster placements, some of them with abuse or neglect, on their way to adoption.

Claudia says the goal of her research was to move from the “focus on whether or not cocaine has an independent effect on IQ” to examine “why some kids do better than others.” In her study, some children with prenatal exposure to stimulants had significant cognitive problems while others were doing quite well. Both biological factors (such as smaller birth size, which is associated with drug use) and environmental factors (such as adverse foster care experiences) are important in determining outcomes. Being adopted into a permanent, loving home can often ameliorate the negative impacts of early biological and social trauma.

At the beginning of her graduate career at UCLA, Claudia was involved in research about interethnic conflict on high school sports teams, and that was the project she outlined in her proposal for a Ford Fellowship and pursued for her master’s thesis. The work is about to be published under the title, “Becoming a Team: Individualism, Collectivism, and Group Socialization in Los Angeles Girls’ Basketball,” in *Ethos*, one of anthropology’s most prestigious journals. In a fortuitous irony, however, the Ford Fellowship “gave me the freedom to pursue more of my clinical interests,” Claudia says, and she chose to move away from her original project to design research addressing issues of importance to the population she worked with clinically.

Although Claudia’s dissertation topic changed over the term of her Ford Fellowship, her interest in human behavior, and in particular cognitive issues, is long-standing. The daughter of two well-known UCLA anthropologists, Claudia majored in anthropology as an undergraduate at Princeton University. “I still have a love of anthropology, and I try to include some of those methods in my work,” Claudia says, “but I’m more attracted to clinical psychology because of its applied aspects—I enjoy working with the children.”

She’s doing just that this fall. Having successfully defended her dissertation, Claudia is fulfilling her required one-year internship for a degree in clinical psychology by working in pediatric neuropsychology in a program sponsored by North Shore University and New York University. She recently received the UCLA Women’s Faculty Club scholarship, a merit award for sons or daughters of faculty members.

Besides supporting her graduate education and giving her time and space to explore new directions, the Ford Fellowship also provided Claudia with valued social and professional connections. She met Brendesha Tynes, another UCLA Ford Fellow, when they “coached each other through the application process.” Preparing a
As Dennis Tyler read Saul Bellow’s *Mr. Sammler’s Planet* for a class on African American and Jewish relations, he couldn’t help but notice that “the one black character in the text was not only nameless, but also voiceless.” Referred to only as “the black pickpocket,” the character is nevertheless a central figure as the Jewish hero, Mr. Sammler, “follows him all over New York City,” Dennis says, “in order to catch the pickpocket in action as he steals from other people.”

Moreover, Mr. Sammler “enjoyed telling his Jewish male friends about his encounters with the black pickpocket,” in particular repeatedly describing an incident when the pickpocket corners Mr. Sammler in the lobby of his apartment building and reveals his uncircumcised penis. “His friends were all curiously obsessed with the incident, demanding to know specific details about the size and shape,” Dennis says. Theorizing about the homoerotic bond linking the black and Jewish characters, Dennis wonders if “Sammler’s ritual of dismemberment—the fixation on the pickpocket’s penis and the need to isolate it from the rest of the body—is an attempt to eroticize and perhaps even maintain control of an essence of manhood that is both feared and desired.”

Indeed, he turned his wondering and theorizing into a paper for his class with Professor Eric Sundquist and, in shortened form, into a research proposal for the Ford Fellowship. Dennis had applied—and been turned down—shortly after he arrived at UCLA for graduate studies in English, proposing an extension of the senior honors thesis on the Harlem Renaissance that he'd written as an undergraduate at Stanford. UCLA faculty encouraged him to try again, and the proposal about *Mr. Sammler’s Planet* was successful.

She continues to connect with people she met at a national conference of Ford Fellows, and the lessons she took away remain powerful: “The conference helped strengthen my sense of belonging to a larger community of minorities in academia,” she says, and emphasized “the importance of giving back to your community—there are a lot of Ford Fellows who are setting that example.”

Dennis Tyler

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His research plan, however, is still developing, as his adviser, Associate Professor Richard Yarborough, has encouraged his explorations. “The great thing about the Ford,” Dennis says, “is that I now have the resources and time to research multiple projects and determine which one would make the best dissertation.”

Although Dennis spent the summer pursuing the Bellow project with Professor Yarborough—while becoming thoroughly familiar with about 100 books for his first qualifying examination—he’s also looked in other directions. Coursework on disability studies with Helen Deutsch, for example, has prompted him to consider how race signifies a disability in black male bodies in 20th-century African American literature. “I’m interested in how the legal and scientific discourse on black blood as defective either marks African American men as degenerate or labels them freaks of natural law,” Dennis says. “Perhaps one example of the rhetorical association of blackness and disability is the stereotype of the handicapped black man who can’t lift himself up by the bootstraps.”

Dennis himself has achieved quite a record with bootstraps. Attending public schools in New Orleans, he “always felt that I had found my niche in academics,” he says, but “even though I did well in high school, I admit there was some uncertainty as to whether or not I would have the same success in college.” A high school guidance counselor encouraged him to be assertive in his college applications, and he was accepted at both Columbia and Stanford universities.

People always seemed to find it “such a shock” to learn he was attending Stanford, he says. “It’s rare that black men from New Orleans go off college and still rarer that they leave the state to do so.” Although confident of his intelligence and abilities, he nevertheless “felt a great deal of pressure to perform well at Stanford, and I wasn’t sure what all my studying would amount to.”

The Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship, awarded at the end of his sophomore year, helped him to envision a future. The Fellowship’s goal is to encourage minority scholars to become professors, and for the first time, Dennis found himself “not just being an English major but actually thinking about a career in academia.” The Fellowship provided an opportunity to attend conferences and get a taste of the academic lifestyle.

Dennis chose UCLA for his graduate work because “I was won over by the extraordinary faculty when I visited the campus.” In particular, he was impressed with Professor Yarborough, who continues to be a mentor. “He’s wonderful because he encourages me to choose a research topic that best fits my interests” Dennis says. “He’s really good at forcing me to think more critically about my research ideas, and he’s always willing to make time for me no matter how busy his schedule. That’s why I’m holding onto him.” As it happens, Professor Yarborough is also a Ford Fellow.

Just settling down to his graduate studies, Dennis has made no firm career plans; teaching at a research university is a goal, and he’s confident about finding a position. Nevertheless, he says, “I get the sense that the job market itself is such a crapshoot. The choice about where I teach may not ultimately be up to me.” For these reasons, he says, “I’m content with taking everything one step at a time.”

Sarah Villa

As Sarah Villa describes it, Arabidopsis is “just a little meadow weed—it doesn’t have much value, but it’s a model plant.” This modest creature, however, might help researchers identify a substance that could erase lines and wrinkles on human faces and help slow the progress of aging.

Like all living things, Arabidopsis suffers cellular damage over time and generates proteins to repair itself. Sarah is looking at one of those repair proteins, called PIMT for short. Because Arabidopsis doesn’t make PIMT in huge quantities, Sarah grinds up the plant’s leaves, extracts DNA, and clones it into E. coli, turning the bacteria into “a little factory for the enzyme.”

Sarah’s goal is to understand how the enzyme works and how fast, what temperature it likes, and how it recognizes the damaged proteins that need to be repaired. If PIMT turns out to be particularly successful at its repair work, the applications could make headlines. With genetically engineered plants to make more PIMT, the substance could eventually find commercial applications in “cosmetics or drugs that could help repair damaged skin,” she says. Arabidopsis turned out to be a good model for her research because “it grows quickly, doesn’t take up much space, and is cheap and easy to use,” Sarah explains.
The encouragement of three women helped to bring Kileen Mershon to graduate school at UCLA, where she’s studying microbiology, immunology, and molecular genetics. First, there was Professor Christina Bailey, who gave a tea each spring for junior and senior women in chemistry, biochemistry, and physics at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. Attending in her junior year, Kileen was persuaded that graduate school was an option for her: As a magna cum laude student, she had the grades, and the chances were good that fellowships would pay the way.

Nevertheless, she thought she might like to take a year or two off before continuing school. Then chemistry instructor Peggy Rice told her that graduate school “wasn’t five more years of cramming for tests,” Kileen says. “She said I’d spend my time doing hands-on science research—the same thing I’d be doing if I got a job.”

And finally, there was her mother. About the time Kileen was in middle school, her mother went back to college to work on a degree in food science and dietetics and “asked me to help her study for her exams.” The microbiology coursework was especially appealing to Kileen—“I said, this is really cool stuff.” Besides introducing her daughter to science, Mrs. Mershon encouraged good study habits: “Sunday afternoons at my house were homework time,” Kileen says. Sometimes, her friends came over “because it was such a good study environment.”

Long before she met Arabidopsis, however, Sarah found out that she liked chemistry—so much so that she took more chemistry and biology “for fun.” At Pierce College, Sarah was looking ahead to nursing school, following in her mother’s footsteps, when UCLA’s Bridge Summer Research program, part of the Center for Academic and Research Excellence (CARE), gave her an opportunity to work in a UCLA lab for a few weeks. She transferred to UCLA for her undergraduate degree, and supportive faculty, including Richard Weiss and Sabeeha Merchant, persuaded her to stay on for graduate studies.

Soon, she found herself “surrounded by people who wanted to learn biochemistry, who were really excited about it.” Faculty had urged her to apply for fellowships, and she found information about the Ford Fellowship online. Professor Guillaume Chanfreau helped her to draft a proposal, and she was a successful candidate.

Besides supporting her graduate studies for three years, the Ford provided extra funds to buy equipment, and this year, it sent her to a conference of the American Society of Plant Biologists. She has also attended annual conferences of Ford Fellows. Although those don’t have “as many people in the plant sciences,” Sarah says, she enjoyed workshops that provided advice on being a woman in the sciences, balancing work and life, and generally insisting “that it can be done.”

After her doctorate is in hand, Sarah hopes to do postdoctoral research and then find a faculty position, perhaps at a smaller campus. She’s discovered that she loves to teach, in part through a mandatory first-year experience as a teaching assistant and in part as a teacher/mentor in CARE’s program for entering minority freshmen, offering a science workshop.

“I really appreciate what CARE did for me,” she says. “If you had told me in high school that I would be a PhD candidate in biochemistry, I would never have believed it. I never thought I had the aptitude, but I got here because so many people were encouraging me.”

**Kileen Mershon**

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And as Kileen continued to waver on whether or not to pursue graduate studies, it was her mother who asked the crucial question: What’s holding you back? Kileen couldn’t come up with an answer, so she “picked some schools based on their web sites and applied.” Kileen chose UCLA because of the ACCESS program, which lets
students rotate through three laboratory settings before they select a research mentor. Graduate school hadn’t been part of her long-term plan, Kileen says, so although “I liked science, I had no idea what particular area I wanted to study.”

As it turned out her first rotation—with Professor Sherie L. Morrison—was the one she chose. With encouragement from the ACCESS program, Kileen applied for a Ford Fellowship during her fall term with Professor Morrison and based her research proposal on the work she was doing in that lab.

Professor Morrison’s research involves antibody-mediated therapies for Cryptococcus, a fungus associated with pigeon droppings that can lead to serious illness and death in countries where modern medicines are not readily available or among people whose immune systems are compromised by AIDS or other health conditions.

Kileen is using mouse cancer cells to produce large quantities of Cryptococcus antibodies, turning them into “protein machines,” she says. “We put the DNA with its instructions into the mouse cell cultures, and they spit out the protein.” Her next step will be to create mutations in the antibodies, turning off one amino acid at a time and checking to see what the outcomes are. What symptoms are associated with different mutations? How do survival rates change?

Having just finished her second year, Kileen has a lot of work ahead. Besides paying for two more years of study, the Ford provides valuable feedback, Kileen says. Twice a year, she’s required to submit a progress report. “That means I take a moment to stop and see what I’ve done this far,” she says, and she also likes the idea that “one more person is looking out for you, making sure you’re progressing through your graduate career.”

Once her PhD is in hand, Kileen plans a year or two of postdoctoral studies, perhaps overseas. A dual citizen of the United Kingdom and the United States, Kileen is intrigued by the idea of “learning how they do science over there—I hear it’s different.” After that, she will choose between work in the research industry and an academic appointment. The latter is gaining in attractiveness. Although Ford funding can mean freedom from work as a teaching assistant, the ACCESS program requires teaching, and Kileen found she “loved the interaction with students.” She worked to incorporate student-friendly attitudes in her teaching, and she has talked to several students about graduate school as an alternative to medical or dental school, passing along the support and guidance that set her feet on this path.

Vanessa had known all along that “I wanted to apply my talents to anything I wanted,” but she was a college intern at the Urban Institute in Washington, D.C., before she settled on what “anything” would be: the interaction of social class, race/ethnicity, and urban environments. In particular, she became interested in housing as “a key to understanding the racial landscape of a city, levels of segregation, and access to resources like schools and jobs,” says Vanessa. “Homeownership is the main component of wealth for most families—it’s important for socioeconomic mobility.”

Vanessa had known all along that “I wanted to apply my talents to work I thought was important for society,” she says, but as an undergraduate, “you don’t know all the career options and how to get there.” She entered Stanford University in an interdisciplinary human biology program leading to medical school. By the time she left, however, she was “more interested in the big picture issues, especially concerning social inequality and public policy—all those research questions that need to be answered in a smart, intelligent way.”

These experiences prompted her to pursue a PhD in sociology, and after visiting several campuses, she settled on UCLA for graduate school. “Talking with graduate students about their experiences in the program helped me make my decision,” she says, and she was impressed by the strong, diverse faculty in sociology. Arriving in September, she had only a few weeks to find an adviser and develop a proposal so that she could apply for the Ford Predoctoral Fellowship. She quickly connected with Professor Robert Mare, who “was just beginning a new line of research in segregation and residential mobility,” she says, and she joined his team.

For her master’s thesis, Vanessa used the recently completed Los Angeles Family and Neighborhood Survey to examine segregation and residential mobility patterns: How did the racial composition of various Los Angeles neighborhoods affect the likelihood that respondents of different races would move there? Through statistical modeling, she found that although socioeconomic and demographic characteristics could account for some people’s neighborhood choices, there was “still a tendency to self-segregate into racially similar neighborhoods that cannot be explained by other factors.”

In other research co-authored with fellow graduate student David Cort, Vanessa studied mortgage lending in Los Angeles, finding not only that minorities are less likely to be approved for mortgages than whites, but that their loan is more likely to be approved if they’re buying a home in a Black or Latino neighborhood, rather than a white neighborhood.

For her dissertation, Vanessa has decided to return to the study of racial differences in homeownership. The Panel Study of Income

Vanesa Estrada was still in elementary school in Oxnard when she realized “I was a good student, and I could study anything I wanted,” but she was a college intern at the Urban Institute in Washington, D.C., before she settled on what “anything” would be: the interaction of social class, race/ethnicity, and urban environments. In particular, she became interested in housing as “a key to understanding the racial landscape of a city, levels of segregation, and access to resources like schools and jobs,” says Vanessa. “Homeownership is the main component of wealth for most families—it’s important for socioeconomic mobility.”

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Dynamics, based on interviews with a national sample from 1968 to 2003, offers the opportunity to broaden her geographic perspective beyond Los Angeles and to identify changes over three decades. Her goal is to examine why the racial gap in homeownership has remained stable despite efforts to encourage minorities to become homeowners. Through simulations she also hopes to identify what factors affect the homeownership gap and identify possible policy strategies to increase minority homeownership.

Vanesa learned about the Ford Fellowship from Simon Weffer-Elizondo, a former teaching assistant and Ford Fellow at Stanford, currently a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University. He told her the award meant “more than just getting money every month—you’ll be connected to this wonderful community of minority scholars.”

Simon was just the first of those contacts. At national conferences of Ford Fellows in 2002 and 2003, Vanesa had an opportunity to present her work and get feedback. “It was really different from other conferences I attend because it’s so interdisciplinary,” she says. In 2003, Vanesa’s topic was issues in the measurement of discrimination, so “I had to think a lot about translating my work and making it non-technical.” Through the national conferences, she also met Cynthia Feliciano, a former Ford Fellow and UCLA graduate student who is currently an assistant professor of Sociology at UC Irvine; she was an important mentor in Vanesa’s first years of graduate school. And, when the national conference was cancelled in 2004, Vanesa helped Brendesha Tynes (see page 6) put on a regional conference at UCLA.

Having passed her qualifying exams, Vanesa will focus on her dissertation for the next year or two. With her Pre-doctoral Ford Fellowship’s tenure ending, she’ll be applying for a dissertation year fellowship or perhaps a postdoctoral appointment. Then, she’ll be looking for a job at a research university where “professors get paid to think and write—what a great lifestyle.” In the long run, she may add some consulting work, she says: “I really loved working at the Urban Institute.”
Although she “was prepared to be uncomfortable” on her first trip into the Surinamese rainforest—which was also her first fieldwork—JoAnn Staten found all the comforts of home. Reaching the villages by motorized canoe, she saw A-frame houses laid out along clear-cut walkways; the buildings had thatched roofs and doors—which could be closed and locked—covered with elaborate wood carvings. The wildlife kept a discreet distance, and when she sat down to a dinner of chicken, green beans, and rice, she says, “It was like my grandmother had cooked the food.”

The Maroons JoAnn visited are descendants of runaway slaves who rebelled against Dutch colonists hundreds of years ago and fled to the rainforest. In the early days, their freedom gave the Maroons an edge over African slaves and indentured servants from East India and China. Today, however, descendants of the slaves and servants have more education and higher political, social, and economic status than the Maroons, who have remained somewhat isolated from the mainstream.

This isolation has also affected their access to AIDS information. While the overall rate of AIDS infection in Suriname is one percent, among Maroons it is officially reported at 17 percent but is more than likely much higher. JoAnn’s continued visits to Suriname give her the opportunity to work on AIDS education with the Maroon Women’s Network, an organization created by Maroon women to promote their health and economic welfare, while assembling data for her dissertation. Her objective is to find out how to create public health interventions for women, using that culture’s concepts and symbols.

For example, during her second trip to Suriname, JoAnn and representatives of the Maroon Women’s Network were outdoors, eating and chatting with the local women in a rainforest village. “This is how Maroons get information, sitting and talking to each other,” an influential local woman told her. Instantly, the lesson struck home to JoAnn and her companions: “We looked at each other and said, this is how we have to do the AIDS education—in this very personal way, as a small group talking face to face.” It worked. Creating similar situations in other villages during that summer, JoAnn found the village women were soon asking questions and listening intently to the answers. “Most of the women felt comfortable speaking up,” she says.

In another initiative, the Maroon Women’s Network got women involved in making textiles that incorporate AIDS themes. Many of
A fourth trip to Suriname, this one lasting an entire year, will be supported by her Ford Fellowship. In “one of those serendipitous moments,” JoAnn wandered into an informational meeting about the Ford Fellowship while she was still an undergraduate in English at UCLA. She applied in her first year of graduate school and was turned down for lack of fieldwork. By the time she reapplied in her second year, she had visited Suriname and had plenty of experience.

At a national conference of Ford Fellows held in Puerto Rico, JoAnn presented a paper on the folkloristic aspects of her research, which was then just “beginning to move in the health direction. It was a chance to see how people were going to respond,” she says, and the feedback was encouraging. While JoAnn sees her dissertation as something of a case study, she also hopes it might produce some general guidelines about “entering a culture that’s not your own and figuring out an effective way to access and understand some of the deeper meanings associated with women’s beliefs about health, sexuality, and identity.”

In the long run, JoAnn hopes to find work that “straddles academia and clinical applications,” following the model of her professors in World Arts and Cultures, who continue working in the field while teaching. “From day one, they want you out there doing something,” she says. “Some departments want you to wait until you finish your coursework, but our professors urge you to go get dirty right away. Look around, understand an area, figure out what provokes your curiosity. They’re always motivating students to get out and discover what really excites them.”
On the evening of June 16, this year’s 656 recipients of the doctoral degree were honored at the Doctoral Commencement Hooding Ceremony in Royce Hall. Each year UCLA’s new doctorates are welcomed into the academy at this colorful and majestic ceremony.

Graduates, faculty and members of the official party, including UC Regent Velma Montoya, came together to enjoy light refreshments on the terrace off the West Lobby of Royce, while families and friends took seats in the auditorium. A majestic trumpet fanfare by the UCLA Wind Ensemble Brass signaled the beginning of the formal procession of faculty and graduates, faculty clad in the varied and colorful academic regalia of their individual doctoral alma maters, students in robes and tasseled caps and bedecked with the occasional orchid lei or other personal ornament. The magnificent organ of Royce Hall was played by University Organist, Christoph Bull.

Chancellor Albert Carnesale gave the call to order and welcomed all attendees. Expressing UCLA’s pride in each new doctoral recipient, the Chancellor noted that “These kinds of special ceremonies are very much ‘family affairs’.” Especially mentioned were Katherine Andrea Comanor (Electrical Engineering), who was hooded by her father, Professor William Comanor (Health Services), Dean Ho (Biomedical Engineering), who was hooded by his father Professor Chih-Ming Ho (Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering), and Erin Jill Rotheram-Fuller (Education), who was hooded by her mother, Professor Mary Jane Rotheram (Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences).

Dr. Carnesale spoke of the unprecedented change confronting the modern university, with challenges that include the knowledge explosion, the changing role of the research university, and the technology revolution. He expressed confidence that the graduates’ intellectual training prepares them to confront the challenges the future brings. In his concluding remarks, the Chancellor posited his personal guiding philosophy: “Trust your instincts and do what’s compelling and fun — if you enjoy doing it, you’ll do it well, and that will lead to success and personal fulfillment.”

In her remarks prior to the presentation of diplomas and hooding, Claudia Mitchell-Kernan, Vice Chancellor Graduate Studies, Dean of the Graduate Division, quoted fellow anthropologist Margaret Mead, who once observed that “our accomplishments are made possible by the state of civilization in which we live.” The Vice Chancellor said it is also beneficial to reflect on the reversal of that admonition and to use the benefits and privileged positions that come from the achievements in higher education to improve civilization “through your contributions to the common good.” The Vice Chancellor further noted that although the concept of the common good seems more threatened now than ever, making it flourish is an obligation the new graduates must attempt to fulfill: “As scholars and scientists and citizens, the call to action reaches us from every quadrant: the growing inequality within our own society and among societies; the diseases that rob children of parental nurturance and security, environmental degradation, crime, interethnic and international tensions and conflict - the list is already long and growing every day.” She encouraged the graduates in this endeavor, noting that “With an academic legacy that includes the opportunity to work with individuals of diverse backgrounds, you are well-equipped to help build a world in which the common good is a salient value, the vocabulary of cooperation and collaboration elaborated, and our interconnectedness and common humanity more fully recognized and respected.”

Each student was hooded by a dean from an official party of deans from the Graduate Division and UCLA’s schools and colleges, personally congratulated by Chancellor Carnesale, and presented with a diploma by Vice Chancellor Mitchell-Kernan. Each hooding was accompanied by applause, camera flashes, and frequent whoops of pride and joy from family and friends throughout the auditorium.

Following a final salute from Marie Cowan, Dean of the School of Nursing, graduates, faculty, and guests enjoyed a mid-evening reception in Royce Quad, highlighted by champagne, strawberries and cookies. In addition to a capacity crowd of graduates and their families and friends, more than 100 faculty attended the ceremony and reception.

FROM UPPER LEFT, CLOCKWISE: the stage (Royce Hall); a faculty member congratulates her student; Chancellor Albert Carnesale and Vice Chancellor Graduate Studies, Dean, Graduate Division, Claudia Mitchell-Kernan lead the academic procession; Professor William Comanor hoods his daughter, Katherine Andrea Comanor; student processional marshal Brendesha Tynes.
Welcome Reception

On September 28, 2005, the doors of the Faculty Center opened to welcome over 3,500 incoming graduate students. Chancellor Albert Carnesale and Vice Chancellor of Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate Division Claudia Mitchell-Kernan spoke to the students about their upcoming years at UCLA. Dean Mitchell-Kernan said “We all have a responsibility to try to improve our world, a responsibility that goes hand in hand with the knowledge and training we have been privileged to acquire. It is my hope that the education you will receive over the next several years and the experiential wisdom you gain will prepare you not merely to cope, not merely to achieve some degree of personal success, but also to contribute to the common good.” -MW

Photography by Alan Blake
Congratulations  
2005-2006 Fellowship Recipients

Dissertation Year Fellowships

Chancellorial Dissertation Fellows

Borejsza, Aleksander  
Archaeology

Bray, Benjamin  
Civil Engineering

Brazzale, Claudia  
World Arts & Cultures

Emerling, John  
Art History

Hsu, Erin  
Molecular Toxicology

Ma, Hongyan  
Information Studies

Maciuca, Romeo  
Statistics

Min, Hông-Seok  
Material Sci & Eng

Nouza, Angela  
Anthropology

Opein, Natalie  
Indo-European Studies

Pope, Naumi  
Geography

Powars, Mary  
Theater

Taitano, Melissa  
Information Studies

Tao, Mengshu  
Epidemiology

Thau, Christine  
French & Franco-Stu

Zagaria Benites, Chrystal  
Spanish & Portuguese

Zhao, Yu  
Biostatistics

Ma, Hongyan  
Information Studies

Ganeriwal, Saurabh  
Electrical Engineering

Ha, Eunyoung  
Political Science

Fieni, David  
Comparative Literature

Klima, Tali  
Psychology

Dissertation Year Fellowship

Abbamontian, Ramela  
Art History

Adam, Peter  
Ecol & Evol Bio

Alvarez Espinoza, Roberto  
Management (MS/PhD)

Anderson, Sean  
Art History

Anzivino, Luigi  
Psychology

Arbisi-Kelm, Timothy  
Linguistics

Asensio-Mantique, Maria  
Spanish & Portuguese

Beilman, David  
Geography

Berger-Morales, Julia  
Linguistics

Blustein, Rebecca  
Comparative Literature

Budzelski, Matthew  
Asian Lang & Cultures

Chen, Yue  
Chem & Biomolec Eng

Choi, Brian  
Physics & Astronomy

Choi, Helen  
English

Chua, William  
Asian Lang & Cultures

Chung, Hsiu-Ling  
Material Sci & Eng

Cortes Espada, Josue  
Economics

Cruz Manjarrez, Guadalupe  
World Arts & Cultures

Czaja, Andrew  
Earth & Space Sciences

Daughtrey, James  
Ethnomusicology

De Sales, Fernando  
Geography

Duffy, Kimberly  
Anthropology

Duke, Robert  
Ecol & Evol Bio

Farman, Jason  
Theater

Ferni, David  
Comparative Literature

Friedman, Debra  
AppL & TESL

Ganeriwal, Saarab  
Electrical Engineering

Gilman, Alex  
Ecol & Evol Bio

Graesch, Anthony  
Anthropology

Grodach, Carl  
Urban Planning

Ha, Eunyung  
Political Science

Hanscom, Christopher  
Asian Lang & Cultures

Harvey, Alison  
English

He, Fei  
Molec & Med Pharm

Herodel, William  
Comparative Literature

Hornstein, Seth  
Physics & Astronomy

Hristova, Petya  
Archaeology

Huang, Susie  
Chem & Biochem

Jackson-Jacobs, Carris  
Sociology

Janssen-Bennyvnc, Marc  
Political Science

Kafka, Linus  
History

Kano, Megumi  
Community Health Sci

Kazemi, Elle  
Education

Kellam, Marja  
Political Science

Kim, Kyoo  
Economics

Klima, Tali  
Psychology

Klindenster, Nathar  
Linguistics

Kuritskiai, Shubei  
Political Science

Kurisu, Enru  
Computer Science

Larsen, Erik  
Environ Sci & Eng.

Le, Triet Minh  
Mathematics

Ledwith, Valerie  
Geography

Lee, Jong-H  
Asian Lang & Cultures

Lewis, Tyson  
Education

Li, Fangchun  
History

Lilleshagen, Brook  
Linguistics

Liu, Chengwen  
Civil Engineering

Liu, Fei  
Electrical Engineering

Loar, Chris F  
English

Lodhia, Sharmila  
Women's Studies

Maralani, Vida  
Sociology

Massone Sanchez, Leonardo  
Civil Engineering

Marher, Olivia  
Musicalology

Mendelson, Sherry  
Nursing

Mendonca, Maria  
Music

Menold, Carrie  
Earth & Space Sciences

Mercier, Tany  
Ethnomusicology

Merklen, William  
History

Nguyen, Thu  
Chem & Biochem

Nida, Worka  
Anthropology

Nielsen, Kuniko  
Linguistics

Ntelithios, Dimitrios  
Linguistics

O'Connor, Brian  
Molecular Biology

O'Meara, Caroline  
Musicalology

Ono, Shinji  
Education

Ozato, Konosuke  
Economics

Ozgur, Alper  
Economics

Pedrini, Michele  
Romance Ling & Lit

Pereau, Wayne  
Molec Cell & Dev Bio

Petersen, Maria  
Mathematics

Phalen, Robert  
Environmental Health

Popa, Mihai  
Mathematics

Proctor, Gary  
Biomathematics

Ribaya, Jeronimo  
Molec Cell & Dev Bio

Ring, Stephanie  
Economics

Rivas-Martinez, Josquin  
Anthropology

Ryan, Daniel  
History

Ryan, Nora  
Slavic Lang & Lit

Samui, Nani  
Chem & Biochem

Saxe, Jonathan  
Molec & Med Pharm

Schulte, Kristen  
Sociology

Schuler, David  
Linguistics

Schwartz, Christine  
Sociology

Shademan, Shabnam  
Linguistics

Sharp, Sharon  
Film, TV, & Dig Media

Shoemaker, Lorelei  
Psychology

Sirowa, Karen  
Anthropology

Soderman, Melissa  
English

Song, Joon  
Economics

Su, Wei  
Management (MS/PhD)

Szelényi, Karalin  
Education

Takeushi, Hiroki  
Political Science

Taylor, Erin  
Philosophy

Van Buren, Kathleen  
Ethnomusicology

Veen, Alejandro  
Statistics

Viskontas, Indre  
Psychology

Wang, Dong  
Political Science

Warsch, Saleema  
Art History

Wehmeier, Jennifer  
Art History

Welshans, Sarah  
Social Welfare

Wells, Teresa  
Education

Wilson, Stephen  
Neuroscience

Wingard, Leah  
AppL & TESL

Woo, Jung  
Art History

Woodworth, Griffin  
Musicalology

Xing, Yisen  
Molecular Biology

Yoder, Jon  
Arch & Urban Design

Yu, Chiu-Lung  
Biomedical Physics

Zegarra, Luis  
Economics

Zhan, Jing  
Political Science

Zhao, Yan  
Human Genetics

Zhao, Yu  
Biostatistics

Zheng, Ming  
Statistics

Zhong, Yi  
Management (MS/PhD)

Zusman, Eric  
Political Science

Distinguished TA Dissertation Fellowship

Brea, Sebastien  
Geography

Brotto, Tatiana  
Anthropology

Fontana, Catherine  
Spanish & Portuguese

Garick,救 Lorenzo  
Classics

Hwang, Joseph  
Philosophy

Yiskontas, Indre  
Psychology

Fletcher Jones Dissertation Fellowship

Ryu, Youngju  
Asian Lang & Cultures

UC Office of the President (UCOP) Dissertation Fellowship

Alcantar, Iliana  
Spanish & Portuguese

Brooks, Murrell  
Political Science

Busten, Alexis  
Anthropology

Felson, Amanda  
Mathematics

Hicks, Erin  
Physics & Astronomy

Jarboe, Laura  
Chem & Biomolec Eng

Kalman, Julianne  
Ecol & Evol Bio

Mat, Rebecca  
Human Genetics

Monroe, Raquel  
World Arts & Cultures

Soldarenko, Adrian  
Physics & Astronomy

Thompson, Kimberly  
Neuroscience

Verm, Arthur  
Romance Ling & Lit

EXTRAMURAL DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIPS

Fullbright-Hays Dissertation Research

Abroad Fellowship

Dunne, Laura  
Anthropology, China

Gagliardi, Susan  
Art History, Burdina Fao

Lucas, Ann  
Ethnomusicology, Iran

Miller, Kevin  
Ethnomusicology, Fiji

Munir, Emily  
History, Senegal, Martinique, France

Ulaby, Laid  
Ethnomusicology, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait

Phi Beta Kappa Alumni Scholarship

Cruz Manjarrez, Guadalupe  
World Arts & Cultures

Ha, Eunyung  
Political Science

Jiang, Luobru  
Biostatistics

Van Compernolle, Bart  
Physics & Astronomy

US MexUS Dissertation Grant

Afanao, Angelica  
Art History

Gonzalez, Gloria  
Sociology

Mc Cormack, John  
Ecology & Evol Bio

Nava, Imelda  
Ecology & Evol Bio

Pastor, Camila  
Anthropology

Valdez-Conroy, Hector  
Economics

RECRUITMENT FELLOWSHIPS

Chancellor's Prize

Adams, Britany  
History

Appert, Catherine  
Ethnomusicology

Ash, Karina  
Germanic Languages

Bahier, Walter  
Neurobiology

Bauer, Debonia  
History

Becker, Roy  
Linguistics

Bergren, Katherine  
English

Beyene, Helina  
Women's Studies

Bloom, Joshua  
Sociology
### Center for Near Eastern Studies
- Abajian, Suzanne: Education
- Bennett, David: Near East Lang & Cult
- Blaydes, Lisa: Political Science
- Bordenkircher, Eric: Islamic Studies
- Boyadjian, Tamar: Near East Lang & Cult
- Douziyan, Myrna: Comparative Literature
- Fauser, Stephanie: Near East & Cult
- Janes, Lauren: History
- Kelly, Matthew: History
- Manekin, Devorah: Political Science
- Maniar, Rahela: Near East Lang & Cult
- Naou, Joanne: Islamic Studies
- Oguz, Leyla: Near East Lang & Cult
- Rubin, Lawrence: Political Science
- Shaban, Ayman: Islamic Studies
- Shamir, Munira: Islamic Studies
- Sassi, Guilian: Comparative Literature
- Soghomonian, Ara: Near East Lang & Cult
- Uddin, Sabah: Women's Studies
- Zentmyer, Brian: Anthropology

### Gold Shield Alumnae of UCLA
- Ibanez, Florante: Asian American Stud
- Jackiw, Jennifer: American Indian Stud
- McNair, Kimberly: Afro-American Studies

### Gordon Hein Memorial
- Shinaberger, Christian: Epidemiology
- Smith, Korina: Social Welfare

### Graduate Research Mentorship Program

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Research Grants
Frederick, David ........................................ Psychology
Nukaga, Misako ........................................ Sociology
Shresthova, Sangita .................................. World Arts & Cultures
Singh, Rahimi ........................................ Political Science
Smith, Smith ............................................ Comparative Literature
Wong, Peter ......................................... Urban Planning

Bunche Center for African American Studies Predoctoral Fellowships
Johnson, Birgitta .................................... Ethnomusicology

Research Grants
Nesmith, Nakisha .................................. Ethnomusicology
Smith, Katherine .................................... World Arts & Cultures
Tyler, Dennis ....................................... English

Chicanos Studies Research Center Predoctoral Fellowship
Montenegro, Roberto ................................ Sociology

Research Grants
Cueva, Bert Maria ................................... Women's Studies
Operetin, Natalie ..................................... Indo-European Studies
Sosa-Riddell, CiGali ................................ History

Interdisciplinary Research Grants
Ocampo, Anthony ................................... Sociology

Dr. Ursula Mandal Fellowship
Cowgirl, Burton ...................................... Health Services
Kietzman, Kathryn ................................... Social Welfare
Minin, Volodymyr .................................... Biomatics
Park, Rebekah ....................................... Anthropology

Mangasar M. Mangasar Fellowship
Kahn, Kimberly ...................................... Psychology
Keshriyan, Lili ........................................ Comparative Literature
Murchanian, Jean .................................... Art History

Paulson Fund
Liljeholm, Mami .................................... Psychology

Will Rogers Memorial Fellowship
Coffee, Candace ...................................... Community Health Sci
Karlsgodt, Katherine ................................ Psychology
Love, Monica ........................................ Social Welfare
Miller, Pamela ........................................ Nursing
Sange, Alexandra .................................... Public Policy
Shinaabergen, Christopher ...................... Epidemiology

Charles F. Scott Fellowship
Gaines, Keneth ...................................... Afro American Studies
Huerta, Alvaro ........................................ Urban Planning
Jose, Jane ............................................. Social Welfare
Korin, Daniel ......................................... Political Science
Nelson, Leda .......................................... Urban Planning
Schreiber, Christian ................................ Law

Werner R. Scott Fellowship
Colem-Rosa, Cristina ............................... World Arts & Cultures

Philip & Alda Siff Fellowship
Carpio, Maria ......................................... Social Welfare
Sands, Laurie ........................................ Nursing
Siegerman, Carin .................................... Biomedical Eng
Wood, William ....................................... American Indian Stu

Malcolm R. Stacey Fellowship
Andestani, Allen .................................... Neuroscience
Rees, Galya .......................................... Biomedical Eng

UCLA Faculty Women's Club Fellowship
Edwards, Magdalena ................................. Comparative Literature
Johnson, Ilana ....................................... Anthropology
Kernan, Claudia ..................................... Psychology

EXTRAMURAL FELLOWSHIPS
Ford Foundation Predoctoral Diversity Fellowship
Aguilera, Adrian .................................... Psychology
Gonzalez, Alfonso ................................... Political Science

Rico, Rita ............................................. Political Science
Rouales, Rocio ...................................... Sociology

Fulbright Grant-Institute of International Education (IIE)
Browning, Anjali .................................... Anthropology, Mexico
Carter, Tracy ......................................... History, Gambia
Cole, Abimbola ...................................... Ethnomusicology, Botswana
Foley, Kate ........................................... World Arts & Cultures, Croatia
Gray, Julia ............................................ Political Science, Croatia
Jansen, Robert ...................................... Sociology, Peru
Liptar, Eleanor ....................................... Ethnomusicology, Thailand
Mue, James .......................................... Political Science, New Zealand
Murphy, Keith ....................................... Anthropology & Archaeology, Sweden
Perez, Mitchell ....................................... Law, European Union
Puri, Siddarth ....................................... Art History, India
Rancier, Megan ..................................... Ethnomusicology, Kazakhstan

Jacob K. Javits Fellowship
Park, Rebekah ....................................... Anthropology
Ramos, Lian ......................................... Psychology
Tortes-Vives, Andres ................................ Film, TV, & Digital Media
Wolf, Sara ............................................ World Arts & Cultures

National Science Foundation
Bandari, Roja ........................................ Electrical Engineering
Brandeau, Jeremy .................................... Mathematics
Cantarella, Alejandro ............................... Mathematics
Deo, Meera .......................................... Sociology
Gaebler, David ...................................... Mathematics
Gudino, Omar ....................................... Psychology
Kahn, Kimberly ..................................... Psychology
Kenny, Naomi ........................................ Psychology
Kim, Robyn .......................................... Psychology
Langerhoch, Adam ................................... ACCESS
Levine, Abigail ...................................... Archaeology
Lim, Christopher .................................... Mechanical Eng
Liu, Jessica .......................................... Physics & Astronomy
Master, Carrie ....................................... Psychology
Nowak, Sarah ....................................... Mathematics
Orcholski, Tracy ..................................... Economics
Pfeiffer, Deidre ...................................... Urban Planning
Phan, Sauyen ........................................ Electrical Engineering
Prenouveu, Jason .................................... Psychology
Ream, Kristin ........................................ Sociology
Strom, Charles ....................................... Sociology

NSF Summer Travel Program to the Doctorate
DaSilva, Tim ......................................... Computer Science
D'Arcy, Julio ........................................... Chem & Biochem
Fernandez, Genevieve ............................. Environ Sci & Eng
Garcia, Yemy ......................................... Chem & Biochem
Gomez, Fernando .................................. ACCESS
Gonzalez, Claudia ................................... ACCESS
Inkinga, Silvije ........................................ ACCESS
Monreal, Marisa .................................... Chem & Biochem
Ollervides, Marina .................................. Neurobiology
Olson, Mark .......................................... Chem & Biochem
Rick, Angela ......................................... Neuroscience

UC Diversity Initiative for Graduate Study in the Social Sciences (UC DIGSS) Summer Research Program

2005
Acey, Charisma ..................................... Urban Planning
Beltran Symonds, Sylvia ......................... Political Science
Chou, Tracy .......................................... Economics
Edel, Sara .......................................... Sociology
Fernandes, Sabrina ................................ Sociology
Ocampo, Anthony ................................... Sociology
Pita Loo, Karla ....................................... Anthropology
Smith, Jen ............................................ Geography
Zhu, JohnEconomics

2006
An, Linh .............................................. Anthropology
Park, Rebekah ....................................... Anthropology
Garcia-Ellin, Juan .................................. Geography
Rivers, Natasha ...................................... Geography
Gatson, Juana ....................................... Psychology
Rolades, Rocio ...................................... Sociology
Zamora, Sylvia ...................................... Sociology
Graduate Student
Accomplishments

FEATURED ACCOMPLISHMENT

FILM, TELEVISION, AND DIGITAL MEDIA

Josh M. Mandel: (Director of Photography, Co-producer) “RINGERS: LORD OF THE FANS” (feature length documentary). Premiered at the Sundance International Film Festival, Park City, January 2005. Screenings at the South Pole International Film Festival, USA Film Festival, and Newport Beach Film Festival (Award for Outstanding Achievement in Documentary Filmmaking). Film packaged and sold by William Morris Independent to Sony Pictures, released worldwide on November 22nd, 2005. www.sonypictures.com/ringers.

APPLIED LINGUISTICS & TESL


ARCHAEOLOGY


ARCHITECTURE & URBAN DESIGN


ART


ART HISTORY


ASIAN LANGUAGES & CULTURES


**BIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY**


**Kian Kani:** (First author) “The extracellular domains of ErbB3 retain high ligand binding affinity at Endosome pH and in the locked conformation.” Published in *Biochemistry*, October, 2005.


**BIOMETRONOMICS**


**BIOMETRONOMICS**

**Susan A. Alber:** (1) (First author) “A Bayesian Model Selection Approach for Clustering Treatment Means and Slopes.” Presented at the Joint Statistical Meetings, Minneapolis, MN, August, 2005. (2) (Co-author) “Adolescent Adjustment Before and After HIV-Related Parental Death.” Published in *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, vol. 73, pp. 221-228, April, 2005.

**Wenhu Shu:** (Co-author) “A Random Longitudinal Spline Model of the Effects of Partial Reinforcement on Rats.” Presented at the Joint Statistical Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, August, 2005.


**Nina A. Yoshida:** “The role of the topic-comment construction in the reanalysis of ‘things’ in the Japanese modals -ronwa and -kotada.” Presented at the XVIII International Conference on Historical Linguistics, Madison, WI, August, 2005.


**BIOSTATISTICS**

**Siarmak Ardekani:** (First author) “Diffusion MRI brain atlas at 3.0 Tesla.” Presented at the International society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine, 13th Scientific Meeting and Exhibition, Miami, FL, May, 2005.

**Sarah M. Older Aguilar:** “Writing in the Mirror: Exile and the National Narrative in Cortazar’s Rayuela.” Presented at the 7th Annual Graduate Conference on Hispanic and Lusophone Literatures, Cultures, and Linguistics, Santa Barbara, CA, May, 2005.

**COMPARATIVE LITERATURE**

**Talar Chahinian:** (First author) “Traumatic Pasts and Silent Presents: Testimony of the Genocide’s Aftermath in French-Armenian Literature Between the Wars.” Presented at the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, the University of Western Ontario, Canada, June, 2005.

**COMPUTER SCIENCE**


**COMPUTER SCIENCE**


**COMPUTER SCIENCE**

**Fernando M. Quintao Pereira:** (1) (First author) “Register Allocation via Coloring of Chordal Graphs.” Paper presented at the Third Asian Symposium on Programming Languages and Systems, Tsukuba, Japan, November, 2005. (2) (First author) “Arcademis:


EARTH & SPACE SCIENCES


David A. Galvan: “EUV Observations of Plasmaspheric Refilling.” Poster presented at the Geospace Environment Modeling (GEM) Conference sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF), Santa Fe, NM, June, 2005.


ECOLOGY & EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY


ECONOMICS


EDUCATION


ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING


ENGLISH


Kate Marshall: (Panelist) “Lost Hallway: Corridors, Communication, and Circulation in Contemporary Film and Fiction.” Published in CongressCATH 2005: The Ethics and Politics of Virtuality and
Indexicality, National Film and Television Archive, Bradford, United Kingdom, July, 2005.


EPIDEMIOLOGY

Shu-Chun Chuang (First author) "Radiotherapy for Primary Thyroid Cancer as a Risk Factor for Second Primary Cancers." Poster presented at the American Society of Preventive Oncology, San Francisco, CA, March, 2005.

FILM, TELEVISION, & DIGITAL MEDIA


André R. Mallette: (Director) "Film Screening as part of KCET’s Fine Cut Series." KCET-TV, Los Angeles, CA, September, 2005.


FRENCH & FRANCOPHONE STUDIES


GEOGRAPHY


GERMANIC LANGUAGES


HEALTH SERVICES


Shana B. Traina: (First author) "Telephone reminder calls increased response rates to mailed study consent forms." Published in Journal of Clinical Epidemiology, vol. 58, pp. 743, July, 2005.

HISTORY


Dana V. Murillo: (Panelist) "Negotiating Authority on the Border of Empire, the Urban Indian in Colonial
Zacatecas, 1619-1646.” Presented at the American Society For Ethnohistory, Santa Fe, NM, November, 2005.


INFORMATION STUDIES


ITALIAN


MATERIALS SCIENCE & ENGINEERING


MATHEMATICS


MOLECULAR & MEDICAL PHARMACOLOGY


MOLECULAR BIOLOGY


MOVING IMAGE ARCHIVE STUDIES

Christopher Lane: Recipient, Kodak Fellowship in Film Preservation, 2005.

Noah S. Zweig: (First author) “zapatista archivism and memory.” Published in course, April, 2005.

MUSICOLGY


NEUROSCIENCE


NURSING


PATHOLOGY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE


PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY


POLITICAL SCIENCE


PSYCHOLOGY


Qian Liu: (First author) “Heart Rate Mediation of Sex Differences in Pain Tolerance in Children.” Published in Pain, in press.


PUBLIC HEALTH


ROMANCE LINGUISTICS & LITERATURES


SLAVIC LANGUAGES & LITERATURES


SOCIAL WELFARE

choice by nonprofit human service organizations.” Presented at the West Coast Nonprofit Data Conference. Sponsored by the University of San Francisco Institute for Nonprofit Organization Management, University of California, Los Angeles Center for Civil So, San Francisco, CA, April, 2005.


SOCIOLGY


Christine R. Schwartz: “Earnings Inequality in the U.S.: Decomposing the Role of Income Sorting.” Presented at the International Sociological Association Research Committee on Social Stratification and Mobility (RC28), Los Angeles, CA, August, 2005.


SPANISH & PORTUGUESE


STATISTICS


URBAN PLANNING


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www.gdnet.ucla.edu/grpinst.htm