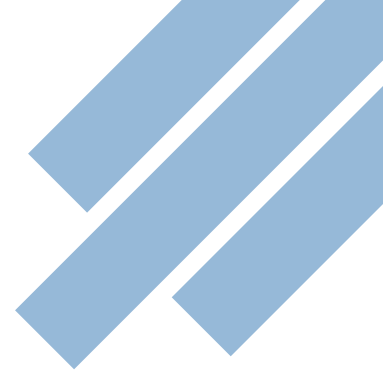


2021 Excellence in Stewardship Award Winners



Jason Sicklick, MD, FACS

*Professor and Executive Vice Chair-Research, Department of Surgery
Sarcoma Disease Team Leader, Moores Cancer Center at UC San Diego Health*

Dr. Jason Sicklick thrives in his role as a physician-scientist: His efforts to bridge research and care using clinical trials and translational research improves the lives of his patients every day.

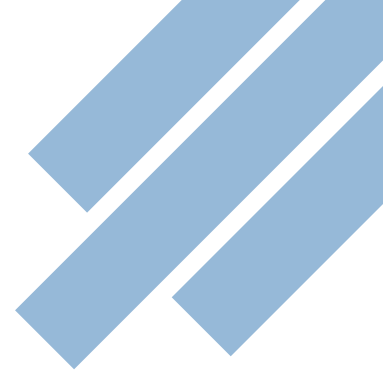
In addition to his biannual participation in the Lighting the Path Forward program — an impact and research presentation for donors to his lab — and personalized impact reports for his donors, Dr. Sicklick is deeply involved in stewardship efforts and sharing information with philanthropists, patients and families. He speaks at the Life Raft Group's annual GIST Day of Learning every July, where he shares research and clinical progress being made in treatment options for gastrointestinal stromal tumors; participated in the 2019 and 2020 Global Genes RARE Summits to raise awareness of rare cancers and advocate for partnerships that advance medical research; and provided a virtual, behind-the-scenes tour of his new labs followed by a question and answer session for UC San Diego York Society members in December 2020.

Dr. Sicklick's personal relationships with his patients, their families and donors to his lab and work form the foundation of his stewardship efforts — efforts that do not go unrecognized. After inviting a donor to be his guest at the 2017 SPARK Gala supporting Moores Cancer Center at UC San Diego Health, he received a note thanking him "... for always being there for my family ... and for me. You continue to be our light and hope ... and my calm and peace of mind. You consistently give so much of yourself and I hope you know how very much we appreciate all that you do."

He also received a thank-you note from a new patient following an education seminar that he planned in collaboration with Life Raft Group in honor of GIST Awareness Day. One particularly poignant moment from the writer said, "Visiting La Jolla to attend the GIST Day of Learning and medical conference, was a profound moment in our lives ... I ... consider you to be ... the leading authority specific to GIST issues ... We are in awe of the dedicated physicians, such as yourselves, who are deeply committed to finding a cure for GIST."

This year marked a number of significant challenges to donor stewardship as COVID-19 and social distancing meant traditional events were cancelled or shifted to the virtual environment. However, Sicklick hosted a virtual stewardship salon event featuring his clinical and research progress. More than 79 households participated in the event, which included videos, a presentation from Dr. Sicklick, and a question and answer session. One participant said of the event, "... you did a tremendous job ... on The Impact of Your Giving to GIST Cancer Research. Thank you for all your kindness and support."

2021 Excellence in Stewardship Award Winners



Karin Marsolais '80

Chief Administrative Officer, The Preuss School UC San Diego

Karin Marsolais '80 serves as chief administrative officer for The Preuss School UC San Diego, where she provides fiscal oversight and is a key contact for understanding the use of philanthropic support at The Preuss School. Karin's commitment to the stewardship of philanthropic funds guides her approach to fiscal responsibility and best practices, while her behind-the-scenes advocacy makes her an important partner for UC San Diego Advancement's stewardship efforts.

Through her long-range planning and resource administration, Marsolais has supported education efforts from K-12 to adult professionals, including the implementation of promising new practices. She has been critical to the development of statewide, national and international contracts and grants, and enjoys developing projects, finding funding and providing structure that ensures donations of time or funding are meeting the mark.

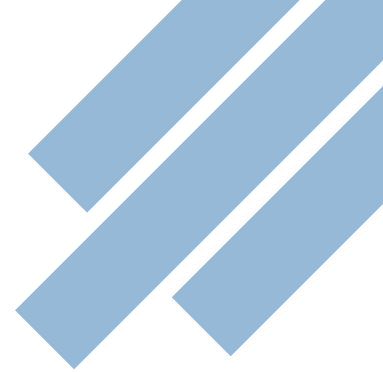
Marsolais is committed to the financial sustainability of The Preuss School. She encourages the administrative team — development included — to think critically about initiatives and programs that are critical to the success of the school, and how endowment support helps to create a sustainable budget. The result of these deliberations are reflected in The Preuss School's focus on the Longer Learning Time and the Transportation for Scholars endowments. Marsolais provides timely and detailed updates on the use of philanthropic funds and not only helps with reporting the numbers, she goes the extra mile to encourage faculty and staff to provide impact stories.

And she brings her own experiences to bear: As a UC San Diego alumna and a philanthropic supporter in her own right, she knows that demonstrating impact increases donor loyalty and builds strong relationships.

In her work with the school's Finance and Budget Committee, Marsolais engages members to consider philanthropy as a pathway to financial sustainability. Her influence led the Finance and Budget Committee to work closely with the Engagement and Philanthropy Committee in aligning philanthropic priorities with fiscal sustainability. Through a partnership with UC San Diego Foundation staff, the Committee has emphasized the need for strategic philanthropy.

But Marsolais' biggest investment is time. Taking care to schedule conversations and employ educational opportunities beyond the regular business for the school's Board of Directors has resulted in meaningful gift conversations with individual members. Working with campus partners to report on the accurate and responsible use of philanthropic funds reinforces the need and inspires more ownership in the donor's ability to create lasting impact. Karin Marsolais' work behind the scenes is critical to supporting the executive director and director of development as they move philanthropic conversations forward.

2021 Excellence in Stewardship Award Winners



Gentry Patrick

Professor, Division of Biological Sciences

Faculty Director, PATHways to STEM through Enhanced Access and Mentorship Program

As a leader in academia and neurobiological research, Professor Gentry Patrick understands the impact of supporting young people – especially those from under-resourced communities. Over the course of his career, Patrick has developed and implemented programs that have – and are continuing to – increase the numbers of first-generation students to become the future leaders of STEM research and industry. These programs are largely successful due to his stewardship of new and existing donors.

As the founder of UC San Diego's PATHways to STEM Program (PATHS), Professor Patrick engages, cultivates and stewards impactful relationships with campus partners, foundations, companies and individuals who share a common goal to empower the future career success of our PATHS Scholars. His relationships with the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, Kimberley Phillips Boehm '82 and Marcus Boehm '83, the Ackerman Foundation, and many others has resulted in more than more than \$3.5 million in support of the PATHS program.

Professor Patrick promotes a culture of collaboration on and off campus for the benefit of PATHS scholars. He meets regularly with existing and potential donors to share his vision of equitable STEM education and access. Patrick also creates opportunities for donors to participate in PATHways to STEM program activities, giving them firsthand interaction with the scholars whose lives they are transforming through their charitable gifts.

Through the philanthropic relationships he has developed, UC San Diego has been able to maintain multiple cohorts of PATHS Scholars on campus and develop new programs to support their growth.

Already, UC San Diego's PATHways to STEM Program has had profound positive impacts on the lives of students who are determined to follow their dreams – students who have overcome substantial obstacles to pursue their education and who are on their way to becoming leaders in their fields. Patrick is committed to removing financial barriers so UC San Diego can recruit and retain brilliant scholars, providing mentorship to secure students' success beyond their degrees, and improving the lives of our PATHS scholars, all while ensuring donors understand the impact of their support.

Professor Gentry Patrick envisions and realizes a possible future where young scholars are provided with a pathway to achieving their full potential through heart-felt donor cultivation and stewardship. In turn, donors feel proud of their association with UC San Diego and develop a genuine interest in the lives of the PATHways to STEM scholars, which ultimately results in their continued giving. Patrick's commitment to uplifting underserved communities becomes their commitment and is reflected in the recent success of PATHS gifts and grants.