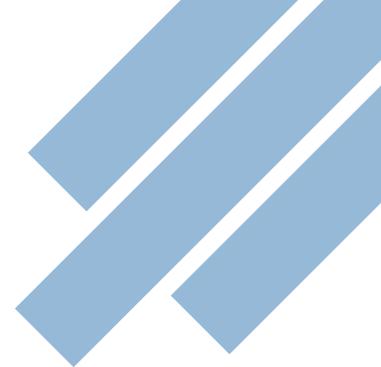


2022 Excellence in Stewardship Award Winners



Maura Caffrey

Registered Nurse, Jacobs Medical Center at UC San Diego Health

Maura Caffrey understands care. As a surgical oncology nurse within Jacobs Medical Center at UC San Diego Health, she cares for patients with cancer every day. But Maura also does more than care — she inspires action. And it is thanks to her empathy for her patients that she was able to launch a community fundraising activity.

Her deep connection to patients is the center of the Miles for Merak Step Challenge — an annual week-long step challenge that raises awareness and funds for gastrointestinal stromal tumor (GIST) research. After caring for a patient who passed away after being treated for GIST at UC San Diego Health, Maura connected with the patient's family to share her vision for a fundraising challenge to help support efforts to identify a cure for the disease. With buy-in from the family, Maura partnered with Walker Tracker, an app that allows participants to convert all physical activity into steps; helped establish a fund that allows participants to donate directly; created an accessible participant platform; and spread the word about the effort. In its first year, the event raised \$35,000 for GIST research; in its second, it more than doubled that amount to raise over \$70,000.

Established during the pandemic, the challenge offered an opportunity to experience community virtually. Maura was at the core of the effort, developing a friendly and healthy community culture, and it was thanks to her stewardship outreach that it continued to gain momentum

in year two. She coordinated personalized letters thanking companies that participated in the challenge, sent daily motivational emails to participants, provided prizes for top performers, and awarded other recognition to high-performing teams.

Maura Caffrey comes from a family of nurses, including her mother and wife, and has been a registered nurse in surgical oncology for 12 years. She is a charge registered nurse, resource registered nurse and bedside registered nurse who also assists with new staff training within Jacobs Medical Center at UC San Diego Health. In 2021, Maura received the Nurse of the Year for Structural Empowerment award on the fourth floor of Jacobs Medical Center. She enjoys pushing herself and her coworkers, and organizes fun, healthy activities for her colleagues. This year, she is planning to summit Mt. Whitney in July with her coworkers and complete her first full Ironman Triathlon in November.

2022 Excellence in Stewardship Award Winners



Andrew McCulloch

Shu Chien Chancellor's Endowed Chair in Engineering and Medicine

Director, Institute of Engineering in Medicine

Director, Wu Tsai Human Performance Alliance at UC San Diego

Director, HHMI-NIBIB Interfaces Graduate Training Program

Andrew McCulloch has a gift for showing impact. As the director for UC San Diego's Institute for Engineering in Medicine, Distinguished Professor of Bioengineering and Medicine, and Shu Chien Chancellor's Endowed Chair in Engineering and Medicine, he is committed to sharing the institute's success over the last decade with donors and the community — from hosting virtual roadshows that highlight innovative research to facilitating ongoing relationships with philanthropists.

The COVID-19 pandemic allowed Professor McCulloch to shine a light on donor stewardship in novel ways. As collaborative teams of engineers and physicians mobilized new resources to address the challenges of the pandemic, including new ventilator solutions, digital health tracking and better diagnostics, Professor McCulloch coordinated comprehensive donor communications. He shared project milestones and progress with top-level supporters in real time, but also developed positive relationships that provided insight into stewardship and impact expectations.

Professor McCulloch's donor-centric approach and thoughtful understanding of philanthropy has also resulted in support for some of UC San Diego's most ambitious collaborative projects. By starting with impact, he was able to craft a vision for an interdisciplinary scientific alliance that aims to transform human health on a global scale through the discovery and translation of the biological principles underlying human performance: the Wu Tsai Human Performance Alliance. Now that the alliance

has been established, Professor McCulloch continues to engage philanthropic leaders as partners in developing the transformational impact of the research happening there.

Perhaps even more significant than Professor McCulloch's thoughtful approach to donor relations is his willingness and ability to connect people. Whether he is uniting researchers from across UC San Diego — or indeed, across institutions — or connecting donors with researchers who are advancing projects that align with donor interests, Professor McCulloch's involvement in philanthropic relationships has a campus-wide impact.

Professor McCulloch is a Distinguished Professor of bioengineering and medicine. He received his undergraduate degree and doctorate in engineering science from the University of Auckland and joined UC San Diego in 1987. He serves as a member of the Qualcomm Institute, senior fellow of the San Diego Supercomputer Center, and leader of the Wu-Tsai Human Performance Alliance at UC San Diego. In addition to his professional awards and service in professional societies and journals, Professor McCulloch's research uses multiscale engineering approaches to help understand, diagnose and treat heart diseases and to understand the biological principles underlying human athletic performance.

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UC San Diego

2022 Excellence in Stewardship Award Winners



Palmer Taylor, PhD

Founding Dean Emeritus, Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

Few faculty have had as a transformational impact on UC San Diego as Palmer Taylor, the inaugural dean of Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. His leadership began in the Department of Medicine in the 1970s and led to the development of the first basic science department at UC San Diego School of Medicine. Dean Taylor's work was also critical to the establishment of Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, academically unique in its pairing of medical and pharmacy education, research science and clinical practices.

Dean Taylor has cultivated and fostered relationships that keep the philanthropic community connected to the school. These partnerships help to support students by defraying the additional costs associated with medical and pharmacy education. The founding faculty scholarships recognize and reward student excellence through direct financial support. His advocacy for students and stewardship of named scholarship donors has not only grown the number of students receiving financial awards, but also created a culture within health sciences at UC San Diego that results in ongoing support.

Building meaningful personal relationships with donors allows Dean Taylor and Skaggs School of Pharmacy faculty to match donor interests with relevant projects and student career aspirations. He personally connects with colleagues, community members and alumni by hosting prospective donors on campus, using personal correspondence to share updates on pharmacy education, and strengthening

connections to the larger pharmacy community. The continued success of fundraising efforts for Skaggs School of Pharmacy — and especially for named scholarships — is in large part due to Dean Taylor's vision for stewardship. Since the program's nucleation five years ago, student merit scholarships have increased to 15.

In addition to his position as founding dean of Skaggs School of Pharmacy, Taylor is the Sandra and Monroe Trout Professor of Pharmacology and former chair of the Department of Pharmacology in the School of Medicine, which now serves both schools. He earned baccalaureate and doctoral degrees in pharmacy from the University of Wisconsin and completed postdoctoral fellowships with the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Cambridge University and the Max Planck Institute in Germany. He has served on councils for the NIH and as president of the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics. In addition to his academic and student interests, Dean Taylor has received numerous awards for research in drug discovery and development. His research employs spectroscopic and other structure-based methods to investigate molecular recognition by targets of drug action, focused on the cholinergic central and peripheral nervous systems.