



## UC San Diego Foundation Trustee



# Mary Ann Beyster

Mary Ann Beyster is an engineer with a business mind, and a businesswoman with the crisp thinking of an engineer. These pragmatic, high-level viewpoints on the world, combined with an innate philanthropic bent, have made her a valued advisor to the UC San Diego Foundation and, closer to her heart, The Rady School of Management.

Mary Ann grew up in an analytical family, so earning an engineering degree at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo was a natural. "I felt that it trained me to *be* an engineer. Because their curriculum is so practical, every summer I had an internship," so by the time she graduated, Mary Ann had worked at Westinghouse, IBM and Hewlett-Packard. "I also learned how to lathe, weld, operate a mill and program computer-aided machinery, run a production schedule and design and model next generation production lines."

After next earning a Master's in business at M.I.T., she returned to California and spent 15 years in environmental/energy policy, management and technology- which led to her current interests with Scripps Institution of Oceanography. "I'm interested in conservation and climate change, personally and professionally. Being involved at Scripps is also very educational for me because it's more biology-based, than pure engineering - I love hearing about what they're discovering." She also loves walking her dog past the Scripps campus, keeping an eye on developments such as the dramatic new Scripps Forum. "Growing up nearby shaped my views of UCSD."

Mary Ann's main focus at UC San Diego is currently as a contributor on the Advisory Board at The Rady School. "I'm personally involved with the Entrepreneurship Challenge, a student-run organization with student teams that invent new venture ideas." Her involvement is rooted in the school's Beyster Institute, which is an offshoot of a Beyster family enterprise, the Foundation for Enterprise Development (FED). Mary Ann is president of the FED, a private operating foundation that promotes business principles for the advancement of free enterprise, broad-based ownership and nationally significant innovation. The FED is catalyzing new research, curriculum/case study development and educational initiatives through fellowships, grants and publications. The FED also works directly with government agencies in support of small business technology transition and commercialization.

Mary Ann's consulting and management experience in business, market and technology development has been in areas of homeland security, energy, environment, water and life sciences. Previous to the FED, she held management and business development positions at SAIC, CH2MHill and SRI International. Her bachelor's degree from California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo is in industrial engineering; she earned a master's degree in



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management from the Sloan School of Management at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Mary Ann is an active member of the La Jolla Music Society board. As a trustee on the UC San Diego Foundation, Mary Ann contributes her time on the Stewardship Committee, which, as steward of her family's enterprises, she sees as a good fit. "I oversee our pledges, and I steward my family's contributions to UCSD and to others."

As a student, successful graduate and now steward of academic initiatives, Mary Ann takes a businesslike and practical view, but also intuitive: "Over the years I've come to know more about relationships with universities: Through relationships, small groups of people can make great things happen."