



## UC San Diego Foundation Trustee



# Darcy C. Bingham

The word that comes to mind when you spend time with Darcy Bingham is “active.” Here is a woman whose personal change of fortune, something that might have set her on a course of leisure, has instead accelerated her nonstop involvement in community arenas that hold very personal meaning to her and her husband, Robert.

Darcy has served UC San Diego in ways that most supporters and volunteers have not, namely through her employment at UCSD as Director of Operations and Associate Director of Recreation. Deciding that she could do more, Darcy became involved with the UCSD Staff Association and eventually became president, which then led to a UC system-wide position as Chair of the Council of UC Staff Assemblies. This included attendance at UC Regents meetings where “I became incredibly informed about the UC system.”

In 1998, Darcy’s husband sold his internet business, a move that changed their lives. “I finished my association term and left my staff position in August of ’99, but I was very, very involved in the campus and the system. At the time, the regents I knew – very successful and supportive people – did a lot to help Bob and me transition to our new life.” That new life included a level of focused involvement that Darcy calls “philanthropreneurism.” She likes starting things.

Much of Darcy’s community engagement is at UC San Diego, largely in areas that are linked directly to students. The Bingham family has established several scholarships at UCSD for students who are employed on campus to help pay their own way through college. Remembering the hardworking undergrads she supervised at RIMAC, she says, “This award is for students who secretly run our campus!”

Darcy serves on UCSD’s Undergraduate Scholarship Council and is very active in the annual Chancellor’s Challenge 5K, an ideal channel for her passions: students, scholarships, recreation and networking. On the UC San Diego Foundation she serves – again with undergraduates – on the Student Foundation Committee. She is also frequently asked to speak at student workshops. Darcy is a member of UC San Diego’s Town and Gown and Chancellor’s Associates, and she cheers on Bob’s surfing in the Moores Cancer Center’s Luau fund-raiser.



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A vocal catalyst for positive change, Darcy is co-founder of San Diego Social Venture Partners (SVP) and SVP International. She is also a founding member of The San Diego Women's Foundation and has served on The San Diego Foundation board since 2000. She has a both a BA and BS from Arizona State University, and completed graduate work at San Diego State University.