



UC San Diego Foundation Trustee



Mark Diamond, '87

Some 22 years after graduating from UC San Diego, Mark Diamond still often reminds himself of something that Roger Revelle once told him: If you want to be happy, work on something bigger than yourself.

Mark's career has been big, as has his commitment to UC San Diego over the years. Currently in his first term as a UCSD Foundation trustee, Mark became familiar with the board in his year as president of the Alumni Association, a liaison position with the Foundation. He has served on the Association in the capacity of secretary, treasurer, vice president and fearless leader. But it goes back further: "About 15 years ago I was president of the Bay Area Chapter of the Alumni Association," which has since become one of UCSD's strongest regional chapters. This group has funded several undergraduate scholarships for students from the Bay Area.

In all of these capacities, Mark has made a point of traveling to campus monthly from his home in Los Altos, staying connected. "I believe in the university, and after I got involved I found it was very enriching personally. If you're in the corporate or commercial world you use one set of skills. I found working with UCSD helps me exercise a different set of skills. As a CEO I get to tell people what to do, but on a board you don't!"

A computer science major, Mark tells companies – including 10 percent of the Fortune 500 – what to do with their computer archives. Mark is founder, president and CEO of Contoural, Inc., a leading independent provider of business and technology consulting services focused on litigation readiness, compliance, intelligent data management and storage strategy.

Started "at the bottom of the dot-com depression, so we know how to survive," the company has grown to be the industry leader in data consulting services with more than 10% of the Fortune 500 as clients. Previously Mark was co-founder of the Professional Services group at Veritas (now Symantec), and subsequently founded and built the worldwide professional services and education organizations for Legato Systems (now EMC). Mark was one of the industry leaders in applying the life-cycle services approach to data management, and is a thought leader in document retention. He is a frequent industry speaker on litigation readiness, compliance, data policy and archiving strategy.

He is also a voice for UC San Diego at the state level: "I work on Legislative Advocacy Day; I'm one of the "UC 200" – the top 200 advocates. I also get pulled into special one-on-one meetings with legislators. It's always a bad time of year and I always think I'm going to bow out but I'm always glad I did it."

Because it's something bigger than himself.