



## UC San Diego Foundation Chair



# Pauline M. Foster

“I consider education the greatest gift you can give someone, because it can never be taken away,” says Foundation Chair Pauline Foster, when asked why she contributes so much of her time and philanthropic resources to UC San Diego.

Pauline’s vision has a wider lens, as well: “UCSD has made this community mature. Without the university we never would have had the intellectual growth we’ve experienced over the last 40 years in San Diego. The city had to grow to meet the needs of the university, and it brought us into the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. We were just a little Navy town when I was growing up.”

Little town notwithstanding, Pauline grew up in a household with a big heart and big ideas: Among many contributions, at UC San Diego her family was instrumental in establishing the Abraham Ratner Children’s Eye Center and the Ratner Children’s Eye Mobile. In 1994 Pauline was asked to serve on the advisory committee to endow The Katzin Chair of Jewish Civilization at UC San Diego, and she has since contributed to other campus committees and boards, including the UC San Diego Foundation, a position her late husband Stanley had also held.

More recently her attention has turned to The Rady School of Management. “My husband was interested in the business school because he recognized the need to train dynamic, creative, ethical leaders to guarantee San Diego’s future growth.” She sees her own contribution to Rady as a connector: “My background is anything but business, but I think I’ve helped them find people who want to be involved with the business community and the management school. I’m a resource for them.”

This is because Pauline is a leader in many high-profile nonprofit organizations across San Diego, including the United Jewish Federation of San Diego County, the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, the La Jolla Playhouse, the Advisory Board of the Jewish Community Centers, the Jewish Community Foundation, and Annex Brands (corporate). She has earned several awards and honors, including the United Way Alexis De Tocqueville Award, Congregation Beth Israel’s Carl M. Esenoff Memorial Award, and Woman of the Year, State of California Legislature. Pauline is President of Foster Investments.

“We need to reach out and engage as many people as humanly possible. The University is such a special place; we’re doing things that nobody else is doing. We need to let people know that.”