



## UC San Diego Foundation Trustee



### Robert S. Marren, '86

Bob Marren is a perfect example of how people typically engage with an organization as a volunteer: He was asked by someone he liked and admired. Since graduating from UC San Diego in 1986, Bob had lost touch with the campus, even when he returned to San Diego after a few years in North Carolina and Los Angeles. What it took was a suggestion from UC San Diego Foundation Trustee John Cambon that Bob help out with the investments of the Student Foundation.

“I’d always wanted to reconnect with UCSD but never knew how. When John provided this opportunity I jumped at it because when I was a student so many adults helped me. I believe in completing the circle.”

Bob became a non-trustee member of and advisor to the Student Foundation Investment Committee. “Later I was asked to become a trustee and now I am chair of the Investment/Finance Committee,” where he spends his time focusing on the university’s endowment investment strategy. “I’m less involved with the students, given the situation with the markets now. I’m spending a lot of time on the endowment side of it. But I’m still involved with the students as much as I can be.”

Bob finds his contribution gratifying: “I like the connection between my professional life and UCSD.” Bob is a managing director and portfolio manager with Nicholas-Applegate, an investment management firm; prior to moving to Nicholas-Applegate, he was with Duncan Hurst Capital Management for several years.

After graduating from UCSD, Bob earned an MBA in Finance from Duke University. His wife Amy, also a UCSD alum, earned her law degree at University of Southern California. The Marrens have three children in North County public schools.

Bob and Amy have good memories of their college years. “UCSD was certainly rigorous but not overly so,” says Bob. “I would say my experience was positive because right at the beginning I hooked up with a good bunch of friends and stayed with them. It was harder to develop a niche at UCSD, without big time sports and somewhat limited organized social outlets.” In fact, the dorms are where Bob and Amy met.

The Marrens now give back by supporting student scholarships. He serves as a mentor to students involved with the Student Foundation, and recently hired a student upon graduation. Like many alumni, he is very impressed by the caliber of the young people enrolled on campus today. “My degree is getting more valuable every year as these kids get smarter!”