

Trustee



Matthew A. Peterson

Though you'd imagine his calendar leaves no room for additional volunteering, Matthew Peterson feels that joining the UC San Diego Foundation Board of Trustees is a given. "It's amazing that we have this incredible institution with worldwide influence right here. How could you not be involved?"

Born and raised in San Diego, Matt graduated from La Jolla High School in 1978, from San Diego State University in 1982, and from the University of San Diego School of Law in 1986. He is a member and officer of the Supreme Court of the United States, a member of the State Bar of California, the San Diego County Bar Association, the County Bar Real Property Section and Lambda Alpha International. He has, in the past, served as Co-Chairman of the Metro San Diego Political Policies Committee appointed by the Building Industry Association of San Diego County, and has served as Co-Chairman of the Environmental Law/Land Use Section of the County Bar Association.

He was appointed by San Diego City Council to the San Diego Stadium Authority Governing Board, where he has served as Chairman and was then appointed by Mayor Susan Golding to serve on the 1998 San Diego Super Bowl Task Force. On the UC San Diego Foundation Board of Trustees, he serves on the Stewardship Committee. He also serves on the Board of the La Jolla Community Foundation (affiliate of the San Diego Foundation).

Matt has a passion for and is very active in children's rights issues. He has served on the Rady Children's Hospital Foundation Board for over 18 years and served as a member of the Board Development Committee. Previously a "Miracle Maker" in the Children's Hospital Telethons, he currently serves on the Rady Children's Hospital Board of Advisors, and volunteers in the Activity Rooms on Mondays in the New Acute Care Pavilion. "I look forward to going and playing with the kids, and I always feel grounded when I leave – even though my clients get frustrated when they can't reach me on Monday mornings!" Matt played a seminal role in establishing a UC San Diego-Rady Children's Hospital partnership: the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Services (CAPS) program, an inpatient unit for children and adolescents up to age 18 with psychiatric illness.

Not one to sit still, Matt recently participated in a Mission Trip to Malawi in partnership with Y-Malawi, World Vision, Opportunity International Bank and the Nkhoma Hospital to address issues such as starvation, health care, nutrition, faith and micro finance.

As a partner in the law firm of Peterson & Price, Matt's focus is in land use, real property, redevelopment, environmental, coastal, historic and port development law. He provides consultant and legal services to property buyers, owners and developers on due diligence and

site assessment matters. He has served numerous times as an expert witness and has testified in complex litigation involving land use and real estate matters. His practice emphasizes municipal and governmental advocacy, including permitting and processing of discretionary and administrative permits, subdivisions, approvals and property development entitlements, as well as neighborhood code compliance and zoning violation matters.

As part of a professional certificate program in Land Use and Environmental Planning, he has taught "Urban Planning and Development Law" and other land use courses at the University of California, San Diego Extension for a number of years. He has also lectured at UC San Diego, University of San Diego, San Diego State University and Point Loma Nazarene University. Matt and his wife, Heidi, have two daughters: Danika attends Point Loma Nazarene University, and Brooke is a student at Syracuse University.