

INSIDER

ARCS
ADVANCING
SCIENCE
IN AMERICA

October 2022

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...



Kathe Albrecht

Welcome to the Fall Issue of the *Insider*, our tri-annual newsletter. This issue is filled with lots of news, information, and photos, that reflect this busy and impactful organization. Our Scholars continue to 'make us proud' as they carry out important research, present findings at conferences, publish papers, and make important discoveries that will positively impact the world. Thank you to all our Scholars for working so hard to improve life on the planet. Our alums, too, are making their way into industry and labs across the nation. How wonderful to hear about their transition from doctoral programs at UCSD, Scripps Research, USD, and SDSU, to important scientific centers for research and industry. In the following pages read about ARCS alums Shirin Doroudgar, Danielle Grotjahn, Caroline Etland, and others. They are truly 'making a difference!'

Of course, the *Insider* is also a source for news about our Field Trips, Social Events, and other ARCS activities. This issue includes photos and details about our Just For Fun Party, our late summer get-together, and an incredible Field Trip to La Jolla Institute for Immunology. ARCS member Kelsey Dale, LJI VP for Advancement, and her team put together a very informative field trip. After fascinating tours of the labs, President and CEO Erica Ollmann Saphire presented the Institute's latest work that focuses on gender differences in disease response, brand new scientific territory which will move research and treatment forward in huge bounds. Started in 1988, LJI quickly rose to the top of the scientific community, currently ranking #5 in the world for its impact in the field of immunology. The Institute holds over 110 patents, is involved in 3 cancer clinical trials, and has 7 drugs in clinical trials in the areas of transplant rejection, autoimmunity, inflammation and gastro-intestinal disease. It is a remarkable institution, indeed. And it was a phenomenal field trip. We all learned so much.

In closing, I would just like to say that the ARCS-SD organization and the women involved in it continue to amaze and impress me. I am so grateful to be able to serve as your president and to continue to learn and grow from the experience. Thank you to all our members who are making a difference in the world. Our mission to "advance science and technology in the United States by providing

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financial awards to academically outstanding U.S. citizens studying to complete degrees in science, engineering, and medical research" is illustrated so well in the following pages. A big "Thank you!" to *Insider* editor Ingrid Benirschke-Perkins and her team. Job well done!

I look forward to seeing everyone in person at the Fall General Meeting on October 25th.

Kathe Albrecht, President

ARCS Foundation, San Diego Chapter

Please Welcome Our New San Diego Chapter Members



Kelsey Dale

Kelsey Dale was appointed to lead the La Jolla Institute for Immunology (LJI) Advancement Department as the Vice President of Advancement in June 2022. She joined the Institute in September 2016 as Deputy Director of Advancement, in which she co-led record philanthropic growth at the Institute. As Vice President of Advancement, Kelsey continues to work very closely with the Institute's Board of Directors and oversee departmental operations, programs, annual giving, and special events, while leading

the Institute's relationships with elite philanthropic partners and donors to secure private support for the Institute's research. Kelsey is also responsible for overseeing the Institute's planned giving program and working with LJI's Planned Giving Advisory Council.

Prior to joining LJI, Kelsey worked in the fundraising and donor relations field for more than nine years at various San Diego organizations with a range of foci from higher-education, to global health and medical research. Early in her career she also served as an AmeriCorps Service Member in Seattle, WA.

In early 2021, when ARCS announced its 2021 Scientist of the Year (SOY) -- Dr. Erica Ollmann Saphire, current President and CEO of LJI -- Kelsey became the primary contact at LJI to help organize the event. What began as a professional relationship soon became a deep friendship, resulting in an invitation to join ARCS. We are thrilled that she accepted!

Kelsey is also a current member and has served on the Board of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) -- San Diego Chapter, and is also a member of the North County Philanthropy Council and corporate member of the La Jolla Rotary Club.

Kelsey earned a B.A. in History and graduated with Honors from Whitman College in Walla Walla, WA. She lives in Carlsbad with her husband and two daughters.

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Sue Kalish

Sue Kalish was born in St. Louis, Missouri, and moved to San Diego in 1959. As a student at San Diego High, she was fortunate enough to receive mentoring and scholarships, without which she would not have been able to attend college. The assistance she received led to her commitment to “leveling the playing field” for other students in need and her motivation to give back to the community.

(Her children teasingly refer to it as compulsive volunteerism.)

Sue feels privileged to have been involved with many worthwhile organizations, such as NCRC (National Conflict Resolution Center), UCSD Moores Cancer Center, San Diego High School Foundation, The San Diego Center for Children, BLCI (Barrio Logan College Institute), Las Patronas, La Jolla High School Foundation, La Jolla High School PTA, The San Diego History Center, UCSD Town and Gown, Salvation Army Women’s Auxiliary, St. Germaine Children’s Charity, The Wednesday Club and Village Garden Club of La Jolla. Her various volunteer leadership and fundraising skills led to jobs with Scripps Foundation and USD as Director of Parent Relations. She was honored to be named a 2006 Salvation Army Woman of Dedication and 2007 Volunteer of the Year for San Diego Magazine’s Charitable Events Registry.

Currently, Sue is on the UCSD Chancellor’s Community Advisory Board. She lives close to UCSD and loves to give walking tours of the campus. Anytime you want to get out your walking shoes, give her a call. (858-822-8281)

Sue received her BA in History at UC Berkeley and her teaching credential from Washington University. She enjoyed teaching non-traditional students. The teacher in her loved being room mother, soccer coach and scout leader for her daughters. Becoming a member of ARCS is a perfect fit for Sue and her interest in education. She looks forward to learning more about ARCS Scholars, getting to know the members of ARCS and exploring the San Diego scientific community.



Lisa Mills

Lisa Mills was raised in Southern California and moved to Tennessee as a high-schooler and graduated from the University of Tennessee with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting. After spending a few years working with Deloitte in Tennessee, she moved to San Diego and it has become home for many years. Professionally, Lisa worked as a CPA in Public Accounting for five years and then was recruited by a client in the Publishing industry and worked as their Controller, CFO and President - finally retiring to pursue other interests. The retirement was short-lived and she soon joined

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Please Welcome Our New San Diego Chapter Members... Continued from Page 3

husband John in his telecommunications company. Working together for 20 years in a new industry provided plenty of challenges, learning opportunities and lots of fun. The business thrived and in 2019, an offer from another company within the industry allowed a sale of the business and the opportunity to embark on travel and catching up with friends and family. John is an avid golfer and Lisa enjoys entertaining, spending time with extended family and (hoping to) refresh her piano skills.

In 2019, a good friend introduced Lisa to Rady Children's Hospital Charity Ball and she has served as Business Manager and in other areas ("however I can help!") for a few years and has enjoyed the opportunity to work with Gwynn Thomas. Gwynn has been a mentor at Charity Ball and made the introduction to ARCS San Diego. "I am thrilled to meet the members of ARCS San Diego and to see how I can help give back to the mission." Lisa has been invited to serve on the ARCS San Diego Finance Committee. In addition, Lisa enjoys volunteering with the San Diego Food Bank and she hopes to feed her "history-nerdness" through travel, reading and connections.



Carol Young

Carol Young was born and raised in Los Angeles where she studied ballet from age seven through college. She moved to Cleveland, Ohio, to attend Baldwin Wallace University and Case Western Reserve School of Law. Upon graduation from law school, she worked for five years in Cleveland in the real estate practice group of a national law firm. While in Cleveland, Carol served as President of the Friends of Cleveland Ballet, a Trustee of Cleveland Ballet Council and continued her ballet classes.

Returning to California in 1994, Carol starting working in the Real Estate Department of a California-based law firm and immediately discovered the San Diego Ballet, becoming a member of its board of directors. She also served on the board of Commercial Real Estate Women of San Diego as Newsletter Editor and on the Programs Committee of the Lawyers Club of San Diego. In addition, Carol enjoyed being on the board of the International Visitors Council of San Diego where she served as Vice President of Membership.

In 2005, Carol opened a law practice focusing on estate planning. She retired in 2018 in order to have more time for traveling, exercising, reading, attending museum lectures and seeing friends and family. Carol plans to get back to her annual trips to Paris, which were curtailed by the pandemic. She enjoys regular visits to The Shell and The Conrad for classical concerts, as well.



Field Trip to La Jolla Institute for Immunology (September 28, 2022)

ARCS San Diego was treated to a guided tour of several labs at La Jolla Institute for Immunology with two ARCS Scholars leading the way: **Gabriel Ascui-Gac** and **Sonya Haupt**. We also had a quick introduction to the newly opened John and Susan Major Center for Clinical Investigation, which has greatly expanded the Institute's capacity to collect human blood samples, which are vital to study allergies, vaccines as well as infectious, autoimmune and neurodegenerative diseases.

Our visit was capped off by a fascinating talk by none other than **Dr. Erica Ollmann Saphire**, our 2021 Scientist of the Year, about women's health research.

Heartfelt thanks to **Kelsey Dale**, Vice President of Advancement, and her team, for the warm welcome and for organizing this inspiring tour!





Just For Fun Party (August 28, 2022)

Over fifty members of our chapter gathered at the beautiful home of **Kathe & Mark Albrecht** in Rancho Santa Fe to celebrate the end of summer. It was a lovely afternoon, with a delicious lunch provided by Giuseppe Fine Catering. Members were happy to gather together with friends, meet new members, and enjoy the gardens, views, and conversation spots throughout the house (and the Fairy Room was a big hit!).





Just For Fun Party (August 28, 2022) ...

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Special thanks to **Leslie Bruce**, VP of Meetings & Social Events, for overseeing the event. Importantly, a big thank you to **Margaret Dudas** and **Toby Eisenberg** who managed this event with ease and organization. Their team of greeters and hostesses made for a smoothly unfolding afternoon. That team included **Ann Hill**, **Sue Hylton** (whose husband Todd and son Tim helped out with parking), **Joy Kirsch**, **Jayne Lindberg**, and **Karen Ludwig**. Thank you, one and all!





Updates from ARCS Members

With great sadness, we report the loss of **Darlene Davies**, a long-time (26-year) Emeritus member who was loved and appreciated for her many accomplishments in the community and her support of ARCS. Here is a personal message from Pattie Wellborn, one of our Founders, who knew Darlene well and for many years:



Once again, such sad news! Darlene was such a very special lady, who believed in our ARCS mission!

She served as Chairman of University Relations years ago. I personally cherish the friendship of knowing Darlene for over fifty years. Words cannot express how much she has given to our San Diego community through her extraordinary talent as a writer, teacher, and through her historical knowledge. If you ever needed information about the history of our community, Darlene could answer.

Her kindness, humbleness, concern for all, and gift of writing, will live within our hearts forever.

She is sorely missed.

Blessings and love,

Pattie Wellborn

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to read her lovely obituary in the *San Diego Union Tribune* on June 26, 2022.

Updates from ARCS Scholars & Scholar Alumni



Congratulations to **Jervaughn Hunter, 2021-2022 ARCS Scholar at UC San Diego**, for receiving the 2023 Siebel Scholars award!

Jervaughn is a bioengineering PhD candidate in the Christman Lab at UCSD's Jacobs School of Engineering. He's developing injectable therapeutics to treat pediatric right ventricular heart failure. Outside of research, Jervaughn strives to advocate for underserved populations by making STEM more accessible through outreach initiatives and scholarships.

Read the full story about the Siebel Scholars Foundation Class of 2023 [here](https://bwnews.pr/3RbZe0m): <https://bwnews.pr/3RbZe0m>



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Kyle Angle, 2021-2022 ARCS Scholar at UC San Diego, joined David A. Dixon, PhD, 2022 ARCS Alumni Hall of Fame inductee, at the September ARCS Forward event on Computational Chemistry and its Environmental Applications. Kyle is a PhD candidate in analytical and atmospheric chemistry studying under Dr. Vicki Grassian at UCSD, where his work focuses on the acidity of atmospheric aerosols. He has developed new techniques for measuring the chemistry of these tiny particles and published several papers on how aerosols can accelerate important molecular behavior. Ultimately, Kyle's work helps improve understanding of the health impact of aerosols and allows better prediction of air quality.



Hailee Perrett, 2021-2022 ARCS Scholar at Scripps Research, lent her artistic talents to another video in the Science Simplified series, designed to break down complex topics for science enthusiasts everywhere. The subject of this latest video is "What are Universal Vaccines? Here's the [link](#):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IROgFuDoqxE&t=7s>



A new initiative of the Art in Medicine program at the University of Arizona College of Medicine - Phoenix pairs scientists with artists to create visual depictions of research. One of those scientists, **Shirin Doroudgar, PhD**, an assistant professor at the College of Medicine, was an **ARCS Scholar at SDSU from 2009-2012**. She was thrilled to be paired with Alexandra "Lexie" Bowers, a wood burning and mixed media artist. Read the full story [here](#):

<https://healthsciences.arizona.edu/connect/features/0822/artist-researcher-project-success>



Genomic data from Indigenous communities plays an important role in understanding an array of diseases; however, this data has often been used without informed consent. A team of UC San Diego researchers—including **2021-2022 ARCS Scholar Alec Calac**—recently proposed a potential model for using blockchain technology to ensure that Indigenous Data Sovereignty (IDS) is maintained during health data collection, storage and sharing. The researchers' study was published by the journal *Cell* on July 27, 2022. Congrats, Alec, on this important first step towards protecting indigenous genomic data!

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Danielle Grotjahn, PhD (2016-2018 ARCS Scholar at Scripps Research) received a 2022 Baxter Young Investigator Award! This award is granted to researchers who are furthering the development of therapies and medical products that have the potential to save and sustain patients' lives. Dr. Grotjahn will receive \$100,000 to help fund her research. Alongside additional award recipients, she will present her results at the annual Baxter Young Investigator Awards ceremony in November. Dr. Grotjahn is studying how mitochondria change shape in response to different stressors. By uncovering the cellular stress pathways involved in mitochondrial remodeling, her lab is shining light on the different mechanisms that contribute to mitochondrial dysfunction—including those involved in neurodegenerative diseases.

Scholar Alumni - Where Are They Now?

Caroline Etland, PhD, RN, CNS, ACHPN (2006-2008, USD) is an Associate Faculty member and the inaugural Kaye M. Woltman and Melisa R. McGuire Hospice and Palliative Care Education and Research Fellow. Dr. Etland received her Masters of Science in Nursing from the University of South Alabama at Mobile Clinical Nurse Specialist program and her PhD from the University of San Diego (1996, 2008). Her expertise is in oncology, palliative care, ethics, vulnerable populations, caregivers and leadership. Her doctoral dissertation focused on mortality prognostication in skilled nursing home residents.



Dr. Etland is a member of the Oncology Nursing Society, the Hospice and Palliative Care Nurses Association, Sigma Theta Tau Zeta Mu chapter and the San Diego Coalition for Compassionate Care. She is a founding member of the Healthcare Surfaces Institute and serves on its Board of Directors.

In 2009, Dr. Etland served as a leader for the San Diego POLST coalition focused on implementing new legislation for Physicians Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment in healthcare facilities throughout the city. Working with the San Diego Coalition for Compassionate Care (SDCCC), she has piloted innovative outreach programs to facilitate access to advance care planning and palliative care.

Dr. Etland also has extensive experience as an Institutional Review Board member, clinician and leader at Sharp HealthCare.

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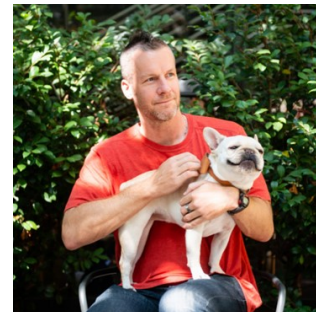


Scholar Alumni - Where Are They Now?

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Paul Dixon, PhD (1998-1999, UCSD/SIO) earned a BS in Oceanography in 1994 at the University of Washington. He went on to earn his PhD in Oceanography at Scripps Institution of Oceanography in 1999 with a thesis titled “Larval supply dynamics.”

Today, Dr. Dixon is Vice President and General Manager at Rover Now, a company founded in 2011 that connects dog and cat parents with loving pet sitters and dog walkers in neighborhoods across the US, Canada, the UK, and Europe. He joined the company in 2016 after working at a number of startups, all based in the Greater Seattle Area.



From 2013-2016, Dr. Dixon served as VP of Product Management at Mobilewalla, which provides innovative data solutions that help data and marketing professionals better understand their customers by enabling them to build more precise AI models to better analyze and predict consumer behavior and drive business results.

In 2012, Dr. Dixon co-founded Härnu, a platform that used a map-based interface to encourage users to start real-time conversations with people anywhere in the world by harnessing Google Translate to allow you to chat with anyone in any language. (The name comes from contracting the Swedish words for “here” and “now.”) Apparently, the company did not take off and is no longer in existence.

From 2007-2012, Dr. Dixon served as VP of Product Management at DS-IQ, a software company based in Bellevue, WA that powers large scale solutions for in-store digital media, facebook, email, ecommerce, mobile scans, digital coupons and ecirculars. DS-IQ claims to have delivered more than \$1 billion in incremental sales for the world’s largest retailers and brands.

From 2003-2007, Dr. Dixon was Director of Analytics at aQuantive, a digital marketing service and technology company based in Seattle, until it was purchased by Microsoft in 2007.

He moved to Seattle in 2001, after earning his PhD at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, and worked for Microsoft as Senior Research Manager until 2003.

John Picuri, MS, (2006-2007, Scripps Research) got his MS in Biochemistry at Scripps Research, and later on got a Certificate in Project Management at UCSD.

From 2008-2013, he worked for Abbott’s Diagnostics division in Carlsbad, first as a Scientist and then made the transition to Project Manager in the same company. There, he managed \$8 million multidisciplinary development effort to create a microfluidic library preparation device for next generation sequencing.



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Scholar Alumni - Where Are They Now?...

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In 2013, John joined Illumina in San Diego as Associate Product Manager. Nowadays, almost 9 years later, John directs Illumina's product management and product marketing team for arrays and on market core library with >60 products, >500 SKUs, and annual revenues >\$600M. Application areas and customers served include consumer genomics, academic/translational researchers, clinical laboratories, agrigenomics, oncology, infectious disease, and population genomics. Activities for eight team members include: management of products from launch through end of life, leading cross functional teams, sales enablement, forecasting, positioning and pricing of products, and product marketing activities.

ARCS Calendar of Events

NOVEMBER

- Tuesday, November 15 – Board Meeting

DECEMBER

- Sunday, December 4 – Member Holiday Event
- Tuesday, December 20 – Board Meeting

JANUARY

- Tuesday, January 17 – Board Meeting
- January 19-21 – National Board Forum and Board Meeting (Tempe, AZ)
- Tuesday, January 24 – Member General Meeting: ARCS Light Award