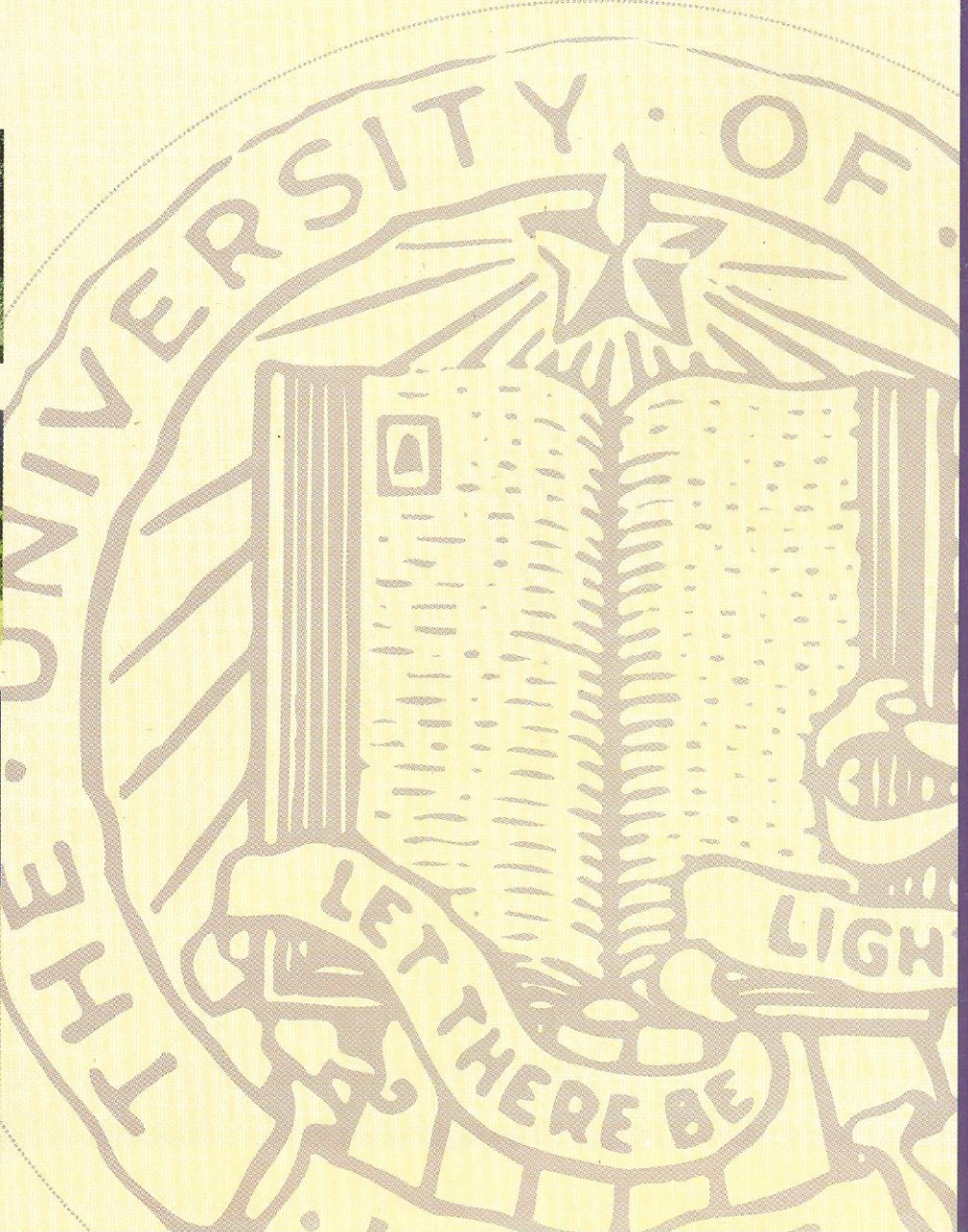
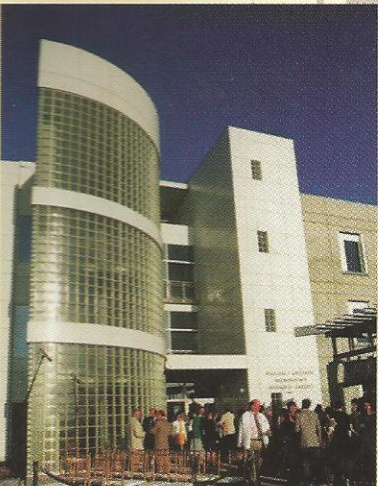


# alumni

# 30<sup>th</sup>

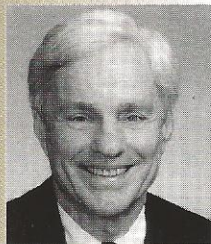
*Special 30th Anniversary Issue*  
**Chancellor Wilkening and UCI:  
Achieving the Goals**





# alumni

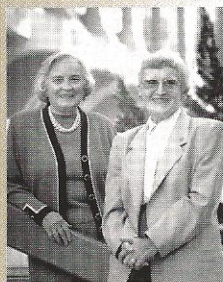
## Special Anniversary Issue 30<sup>th</sup>



page 14



page 24



page 40



page 41



page 58

### F E A T U R E S

From the Executive Director ..... 3

A Report from the UCIAA President ..... 5

Engineering ..... 7  
*Dean Alexopoulos Puts Engineering in Fast Track*

Top Ten Reasons to Join UCIAA ..... 11  
*Our own lighthearted look at the benefits of membership!*

Saying Goodbye to a Chancellor ..... 12  
*An interesting and intimate Q & A with Laurel Wilkening as she reflects on her time at UCI.*

A Message to Alumni from UC President Atkinson ..... 14

Altruism from the Heart ..... 15  
*UCI Professor Kristen Renwick Monroe writes movingly about the true meaning of altruism in an excerpt from her book, "The Heart of Altruism: Perceptions of a Common Humanity."*

Chapter News ..... 20

Louds and Laurels ..... 23  
*Recognizing outstanding achievements of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and members of the community.*

Homecoming ..... 24  
*Returning to your alma mater for a day of friendship and fun!*

Campus Briefs ..... 30  
*Exciting research and campus news to keep you up to date!*

Anteater Athletics ..... 37  
*Show your alumni spirit by attending an exciting athletic event soon!*

Then and Now ..... 40  
*The first ladies of UCI, Jean Aldrich and Suzanne Peltason, reflect on the past and celebrate our 30th anniversary.*

Freedom in the Sea ..... 46  
*Alumnus James Gatacre and his inspiring organization are helping handicapped men and women all over the world break free as underwater explorers.*

Access to the Arts ..... 55  
*A great new benefits program designed to put you front and center.*

The Gallery ..... 58  
*A visual celebration of art that is housed in campus collections.*

On the Cover:  
Chancellor Laurel Wilkening  
Chao Family Clinical Cancer Research Center  
Humanities/Arts Bridge  
William J. Gillespie Neuroscience Research Facility



# Freedom In The Sea

by Kirk Snyder

**A**wesome in its majesty and scope, the ocean is often referred to as earth's "inner space." James Gatacre, BS Biology, 1976, is a UCI alumnus whose life work inspires handicapped men and women to break free from stereotypes and actively participate in one of the most beautiful and adventurous sports known to man—scuba diving. As founder of The Handicapped Scuba Association, Gatacre's organization boasts over 2,000 HSA certified members ranging from handicapped open-water scuba divers to specially trained HSA instructors.



In 1973, after an injury left his right arm paralyzed, Gatacre began diving to assist in a UCI pilot scuba project for paraplegics. That association led him to develop and teach two courses in 1974 and 1977. The success of these courses and the extraordinary empowerment experienced by his students, led him to create the HSA in 1981. In the almost 16 years that has followed, Gatacre has turned the non-profit organization into the leading authority on handicapped diving throughout the world.

"Because diving is active and adventurous, handicapped divers develop greater self-confidence and enhanced social lives as a result of diving," says Gatacre. The growth of his organization is testament to his words as an increasing number of handicapped men and women discover the joys and freedom of diving. "Diving feels like flying" is a statement often heard from new divers as they emerge from this brave new world. Once underwater and weightless, wheelchairs become obsolete and handicapped divers are truly set free, able to roam and explore wherever the sights and beauty (and their mood,) takes them.

Providing the disabled with newfound freedom continues to inspire Gatacre to educate handicapped men and women throughout the world about the joys of diving. Each year the HSA becomes more and more full service in its orientation—planning and conducting custom diving trips to exotic destinations, evaluating the accessibility of dive resorts, and providing recreational outreach options to newly injured people still in rehabilitation hospitals.

Training new instructors is also a vital part of the organization and Gatacre's mission. Developing the HSA Instructor Training Course, Gatacre wrote the first edition of the HSA Instructor Manual in 1986. Since, he has trained over 1,300 HSA Instructors in 41 countries. In 1991, he wrote and developed the HSA Dive Buddy Course and Manual which has been translated into 8 languages.

"Membership in the HSA is open to everyone—divers and non-divers alike," emphasizes Gatacre. Through membership, non-handicapped individuals can also become a vital part of HSA. Support is always welcomed since there are over 10,000 new spinal cord injuries that occur each year in America alone. For further information, please contact HSA headquarters at 714-498-6128, located in San Clemente, California. You may also e-mail HSA at [hsahdq@compuserve.com](mailto:hsahdq@compuserve.com) or visit their web site at <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/hsahdq>.

The UCI Alumni Association salutes James Gatacre and the bold men and women who continue to find Freedom in the Sea as a result of his inspiring work.

30 INTERESTING  
ALUMNI



**DR. DIANE WARA**  
MD College of Medicine, '69  
Physician; Professor

Dr. Diane W. Wara is a Professor of Pediatrics, Director of Pediatric Immunology/Rheumatology, and Director of the Pediatric Clinical Research Center at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). She is also Associate Dean for Minority and Women's Affairs, School of Medicine. She was a member and later became Chair of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Immunological Sciences Study Section, and was a member of the NIH AIDS Program Advisory Committee. She currently serves as Chair, General Clinical Research Center Study Section (NIH). Dr. Wara is an expert in immune system disorders, with a primary interest in Pediatric AIDS and has published extensively in this area. As a key member of the Chancellor's Committee on Women, she guided the passage of a number of faculty changes especially beneficial for parents, and in 1991, she became the first Associate Dean of Women's Affairs at a University of California medical school. This role was extended in 1996 when Dr. Wara took the position of Associate Dean for Minority and Women's Affairs.

Throughout her career, Dr. Wara has received many distinguished awards including the American Cancer Society's Eleanor Roosevelt Award ('83), Research Career Development Award, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development ('79-'83) and the Outstanding Teacher Award, Department of Pediatrics, UCSF ('84).