

UC SANTA BARBARA

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Eileen Conrad

UCSB Foundation Trustee Donates \$500,000 for Engineering Pavilion Expansion; Graduate Students to Benefit

Engineering graduate students will have a centralized gathering place with office space and meeting facilities as a result of a \$500,000 contribution from UCSB Foundation Trustee Richard A. Auhll.

The recent gift will support the expansion and renovation of an existing pavilion located in the courtyard of Engineering II.

It will be named the Richard A. Auhll Engineering Graduate Student Pavilion in honor of the donor.

"The creation of this enhanced space will markedly improve the facilities and environment for many of the College of Engineering's graduate students," said Matthew Tirrell, Richard A. Auhll Professor and Dean of Engineering.

"We are very grateful to have the opportunity, through Richard Auhll's gift, to make this building into a hub of graduate student life in the college."

Auhll, a national business leader, is a generous benefactor and volunteer leader at UCSB.

Previously, he established an endowed chair for the dean of engineering.

An aerospace engineer by training, Auhll earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan, a master's degree from Stanford University, and an M.B.A. degree from Harvard University.

He received the Master Entrepreneur of the Year award in 1992 from the Institute of American Entrepreneurs.

Auhll was founder, president, and chairman of the board of Circon Corporation for 30 years before his retirement in 1998.

Under his direction, Circon became the largest U.S. producer of medical endoscopes and color video systems for minimally invasive surgery.

Auhll has been a distinguished speaker in economics courses at UCSB and at the Harvard Business School and Harvard Law School.

He has served as a trustee of The UCSB Foundation since 1994 and was a former chair of the foundation.

About UC Santa Barbara

The University of California, Santa Barbara is a leading research institution that also provides a comprehensive liberal arts learning experience. Our academic community of faculty, students, and staff is characterized by a culture of interdisciplinary collaboration that is responsive to the needs of our multicultural and global society. All of this takes place within a living and learning environment like no other, as we draw inspiration from the beauty and resources of our extraordinary location at the edge of the Pacific Ocean.