
Women in Electrical Engineering Scholarship

ABOUT YOUR STUDENT



RECIPIENT:
Christina Oliveira

MAJOR:
Electrical Engineering

GRADUATION DATE:
2020

Why did you choose UCLA?

UCLA has become a second home to me. I don't have any family members who have majored in anything STEM, so when I first came here, I didn't really know what to expect, and was worried about if I would excel in this new and strange environment. I of course ended up loving it! Whats not to like? I love the positive and academic feeling of the campus and the entrepreneurship-minded attitude of my peers. Plus, its hard to complain about the amazing weather year round!

How has this scholarship impacted you?

Things can be very tight on a college student's budget. I am so grateful to have been chosen to receive this scholarship because It will take some of the stress off of the quarterly tuition payments so I can focus more on my classes.

How has your time at UCLA Engineering been thus far?

I have had some seriously amazing, world-class professors in my time here who are truly passionate about their subject. I have also made some true friends who are passionate about so many diverse interests, from belly dancing to astrophysics. I am a part of a sorority (Delta Gamma) and several outreach engineering clubs such as the Society of Latinx Engineers and Scientists. Thanks to the support of my peers and professors I have uncovered some of my own passions and increased my confidence in my technical ability, even landing a software internship for this upcoming summer!

What are your plans for the future?

Before I graduate, I hope to try to start my own small business, just to gain some experience in entrepreneurship. Then, after graduation, I plan on going into industry (likely software) and then get my MBA while working, eventually moving into leadership. Farther down the line, once I have some experience, I want to branch off on my own and work on some projects I'm really passionate about.

What are your favorite things about the UCLA community?

I love so many things about UCLA! I love the state-of-the-art fitness center and the great classes offered there (especially the yoga). I love the fact that I can supplement my education and find new interests by taking classes in any department (I've taken Gender Studies, Physiological Science, Arts and Architecture!). And I love that every person I meet is incredibly bright and always has an interesting story to tell, weather it be about where they or from or what they are passionate about, UCLA students are just so interesting.

Women in Electrical Engineering Scholarship

ABOUT YOUR STUDENT



RECIPIENT:
Serene Kamal

MAJOR:
Electrical Engineering

GRADUATION DATE:
2020

Why did you choose UCLA?

Two of my older sisters graduated with an Electrical Engineering degree from UCLA, and they inspired me to follow in their footsteps. The campus and the people at UCLA inspire me to achieve more. I'm also excited to see where my degree will take me in the future.

How has this scholarship impacted you?

I am very grateful to receive this scholarship. This allows me to work harder and helps out my parents, who work very hard. I hope to one day give back and financially contribute to women in engineering.

How has your time at UCLA Engineering been thus far?

I've enjoyed my time here at UCLA Engineering. I spend a lot of time in the IEEE lab, which is a community that helps us to learn. I have also been lucky enough to have some fabulous professors here at UCLA.

What are your plans for the future?

I love working with people, so I hope that after some time gaining technical experience I can get an MBA. My dream job is working at a biotechnology company.

What are your favorite things about the UCLA community?

I enjoyed my Music History of Rock and Roll class. Since I live on campus, I really appreciate being able to eat the dorm food everyday.

Women in Computer Science Scholarship

ABOUT YOUR STUDENT



RECIPIENT:
Nicole Wong

MAJOR:
Computer Science

GRADUATION DATE:
2019

Why did you choose UCLA?

What drew me to UCLA was the community and opportunity for growth, and the people that were passionate about their studies here. After visiting the campus, it was clear that there were many opportunities to be involved in interests both inside and outside respective majors. I was inspired to major in computer science after taking APCS in high school and found myself enjoying working through the challenging projects, and decided on the major because of its potential to make an impact in a variety of fields.

How has this scholarship impacted you?

The scholarship will help relieve some of the financial burden and allow me to focus on the academic side of my studies. Not only does it validate the work that I've done in the past, it motivates me to push myself even further.

How has your time at UCLA Engineering been thus far?

My time at UCLA Engineering has been amazing, and I owe it to the wonderful people that I've been fortunate enough to meet through class and extracurricular activities. As an officer of UPE this year, I've had the chance to help organize events and tutor, which are rewarding by the nature of the events.

What are your plans for the future?

I am planning on working in industry after graduating. Currently, I am considering taking a master's or MBA in the future after working for a couple years.

What are your favorite things about the UCLA community?

One of my favorite things about UCLA is the campus itself. On sunny days, it is easy to relax outside and study. Its proximity to Westwood, Sawtelle, and Santa Monica also offer chances to explore with friends.

Women in Electrical Engineering

ABOUT YOUR STUDENT



RECIPIENT:

Nikki Woo

MAJOR:

Electrical Engineering

GRADUATION DATE:

2021

Why did you choose UCLA?

My father went to UCLA and he played a big role in motivating my intellectual curiosity so, naturally, following in his footsteps was a choice that I considered when applying to colleges and, in the end, it was the best one. As for my major, I had always had an interest in math and science and, as I continued through high school, I realized that I enjoyed the physical applications of such concepts. With my interests in mind, I decided on engineering- something I knew I would be passionate about.

How has this scholarship impacted you?

This scholarship helps not only my financial self but also my morale! It feels good to be recognized for my hard work and simply motivates me to continue down the path of dedication and passion to school and extracurriculars that I am currently on. Furthermore, this amount goes a long way in helping my parents in paying for my education and eases the burden of financial worry that we have.

How has your time at UCLA Engineering been thus far?

My time at UCLA Engineering has definitely been eye-opening. There is a greater academic rigor than was ever asked for in high school and that has been both challenging to adjust to but also rewarding in that I know I am truly putting my mind to work. Meanwhile, my involvement with engineering organizations on campus, specifically IEEE, has given me a sense of belonging as I have befriended people of common interests and hard-working mindsets.

What are your plans for the future?

In the future, I will most likely wish to do something industry-related. Currently, advancements in self-driving cars or amusement park rides most pique my interests but I am continuing to keep an open mind and eye to the other innovations present in our day-to-day world. However, before that, I plan on going to graduate school to obtain a master's degree.

What are your favorite things about the UCLA community?

One of my favorite things about the UCLA community is the collective sense of enthusiasm and spirit that permeates throughout the students on campus. Seeing people passionately advocating a club or enjoying their time out in Westwood makes me happy. Of course, a lot can also be said about the food on campus which I am very thankful for. Bruin Plate's chocolate zucchini bread has a special place in my heart. Furthermore, as I was once in student government in high school, I have a love for the people in Residential Life on the Hill and the ambition that they hold to improve the lives of residents. I believe that they are a community that I can rely on for support and good times.

Women in Electrical Engineering Scholarship

ABOUT YOUR STUDENT



RECIPIENT:
Kathy Daniels

MAJOR:
Electrical Engineering

GRADUATION DATE:
2021

Why did you choose UCLA?

UCLA has been my dream school for as long as I can remember; my dad attended UCLA for dental school residency, and I was born in the UCLA hospital, so I feel that I have deep roots here. Further than this, UCLA is not too far from my home in San Diego, is located near many major companies, and is known for having an outstanding engineering program. During the summer of my junior year of high school, I attended the UCLA Applications of Nanoscience camp where I was able to stay on campus for two weeks and experience student life here, walking to class and doing lab work and research; it only motivated my desire to attend even more. STEM has always been a large part of my life, with my parents always introducing me to the newest scientific discoveries, inspiring and encouraging me to pursue my scientific interests inside and outside of school. I felt that engineering would allow me to uniquely apply my knowledge of math and science to create greater things for society, and I felt that electrical engineering was one of the most versatile branches of engineering that I could pursue.

How has this scholarship impacted you?

I am more than grateful to have the chance to receive this scholarship as I am constantly trying to find ways I can help my mom pay for my college tuition. My parents divorced at a very young age and my mom has had the responsibility of taking care of me and my younger sister, often with very little financial help. Receiving this scholarship has motivated and inspired me immensely to pursue my goals as an engineer, especially a female engineer, and make an impact with my time spent here at UCLA and beyond once I have gotten my degree.

How has your time at UCLA Engineering been thus far?

Although it has been challenging, I am so far enjoying my experience at UCLA Engineering as I have met many new people in my classes and have finally adjusted to college life. It was admittedly a very hard transition for me at first because nothing was what I expected coming out of high school, and I highly underestimated the difficulty level of my classes and the significance of time management; however, I have learned with time what works for me when it comes to academics and organization. I am currently involved with UCLA's IEEE club, getting the chance to work on OPS (Open Project Source) projects, while also working among a General Board group to partake in outreach, professional development, and web development. I have met a lot of new and different people through IEEE that have helped me not only with academics, but also my transition to college life among other things. I continue to be amazed by all the countless resources that UCLA's engineering clubs have to offer students, from resume building workshops to networking

events to tutoring; none of it was what I expected coming into UCLA Engineering but I am very glad that there is such a tight knit and supportive community here.

What are your plans for the future?

I most definitely plan to attend graduate school for a Masters degree, likely at UCLA. I'm not exactly sure what company I would like to work for at this point in time, but I do know that I am very much interested in machine learning and the cross section between hardware and software, as well as the crossover between electrical engineering and the biomedical field. Moreover, as a female engineer in a male-dominated field, I want to be able to effectively demonstrate my leadership skills and contribute to the engineering and business world from a female perspective. I have always felt that there has been a lack of strong female role models in this field, so I also hope to reach out to young female students who are interested in an engineering career as I grow more involved and experienced myself.

What are your favorite things about the UCLA community?

I have been involved in The Daily Bruin's Graphics department with the goal of pursuing my artistic interests outside of engineering. It has been an amazing way for me to take time outside of my STEM classes to focus on developing my graphic artist skills, something I am very passionate about. I also love how beautiful UCLA's campus is and being able to see it every day motivates me and makes me very happy to be here. One thing I love about the engineering community within UCLA is how many resources and opportunities each club has to offer engineering students. I am currently involved with UCLA's IEEE organization and it has not only helped me explore and develop hardware experience as a first year student, but it has also harbored many new friendships and helped me meet many other engineers of different backgrounds and experiences.

Women in Electrical Engineering Scholarship

ABOUT YOUR STUDENT



RECIPIENT:

Sanjana Sarda

MAJOR:

Electrical Engineering

GRADUATION DATE:

2021

Why did you choose UCLA?

UCLA's high ranked electrical engineering program and their focus and research on upcoming technology was one of the main reasons that interested me.

How has this scholarship impacted you?

Thanks to this scholarship, I can focus on my academics and my future ambitions. I don't have to worry about continuously looking for financial aid and stress less before my tuition bills are due.

How has your time at UCLA Engineering been thus far?

I've met my some of my closest friends through my classes and my floor (Design and Innovation Living Learning Community which mostly houses future engineers). My classes are super exciting and insightful - this week we exploded a sprite can into two halves in my Physics lecture! I am involved with ACM NetSec where I learn about software and possible hardware exploitation and Bruin Racing Electric Vehicle, where I design speedometers and overheating sensors for my vehicle.

What are your plans for the future?

In the future, I would like to pursue a career in the field of Network Security, ultimately starting my own business. With the development of "Internet of Things" and Artificial Intelligence, analysts skilled in Network Security will be vital for the protection of data and system defense. To achieve this goal, I would like to strengthen my background in computer hardware through Electrical Engineering while advancing my skills in computer software.

What are your favorite things about the UCLA community?

I love UCLA's music culture. My favorite stress breakers are when I'm jamming with my floor mates or creating my own music at Studio 22.

Women in Electrical Engineering Scholarship

ABOUT YOUR STUDENT



RECIPIENT:
Julia Schell

MAJOR:
Electrical Engineering

GRADUATION DATE:
2019

Why did you choose UCLA?

I chose engineering early in high school because it felt like a natural continuation and deepening of the way I already understood and thought about the world. I chose UCLA after a revisit weekend spent getting Sprinkles cupcakes, thrift shopping in Santa Monica, and attempting to hit balls at a nearby driving range :)

How has this scholarship impacted you?

The financial aspect of the scholarship is definitely so helpful as an out of state student. The most impactful part, though, is the support and solidarity as a woman in engineering (and EE especially) and the added external motivation to keep reaching.

How has your time at UCLA Engineering been thus far?

Every day here at UCLA is a reminder and an opportunity to define success relative only to myself — its exhausting and sometimes disheartening, sure, but much more often the challenge is exhilarating and extremely motivating. The balance I've managed to find between school, community engagement (work with the Depression Grand Challenge and teaching yoga in Westwood), and social life (I'm a member of UCLA's Alpha Phi chapter!) has been incredible.

What are your plans for the future?

Short(er) term, I'm hoping to work in consumer electronics, mainly pursuing the areas I don't feel as confident in/don't have as much experience with — I'm hoping to work somewhere that highlights innovation and development of creativity as fundamental values (Google is the dream). Long term, and my original motivation to choose engineering, I'm planning on getting into medical device design; specifically, I'd like to continue and develop my work towards alleviating the burden of depression.

What are your favorite things about the UCLA community?

I will never ever ever get tired of a sunny afternoon on the hill next to Janss steps .