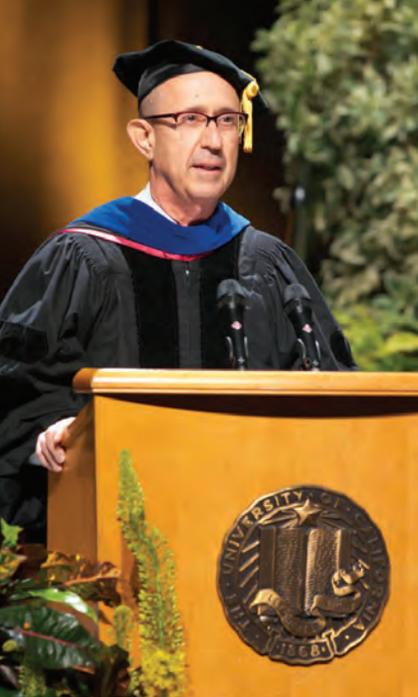


Catalyst

SPRING 2016



On his retirement,
Founding Dean Harold G. Levine
shares his vision for the future



Looking Ahead

I know that when founders leave their institutions, it's traditional for them to look back. But that's never been my style. I've always been about looking forward to our next initiative, and I'm not changing now. Why look back when there's so much important work left ahead for the School of Education?

We founded the School with a vision of eliminating educational inequities. That means we want all students to have access to a high-quality education, regardless of their income, their first language, their address, their learning challenges, their race or their ethnicity. Equal access to a quality education is crucial for individuals to truly fulfill their potential, and for us as a

community, a state and a nation to reach our collective potential.

That's a daunting goal—some would dismiss it as an unreachable dream. We would disagree. And we believe our vision is just as relevant today as it was 15 years ago.

Nearly a quarter of America's children live in families with incomes below the poverty line. Our educational system isn't

Praise for the Dean

In my view, Harold has been the consummate Dean, ever evoking the qualities of leadership and intellectual discourse, as well as an indefatigable commitment to education as the key to a strong democracy. Harold is at his best when he talks about the School—he makes you feel and believe that we indeed are one of the very best Schools of Education in the nation, without ever mentioning the unquestionable role he had in building the school into its national prominence.

PROFESSOR CHRISTIAN FALTIS

Dean Levine has worked tirelessly to build and advocate for the School of Education on campus and regionally. Through his efforts he has enabled us to successfully recruit over these years an exceptional and diverse faculty who have built programs and initiatives with a wide reach locally, regionally and far beyond.

PROFESSOR STEVEN ATHANASES

Harold's tenure as the founding dean has brought great strength to the teacher education program by building support in the local K-12 administrative community and within the UC system itself. Our reputation for educating confident and effective new teachers who are prepared to work with a range of students is solidified through a strong alumni program which Harold has fostered since his arrival.

PAULINE HOLMES, PH.D., LECTURER & SUPERVISOR OF TEACHER EDUCATION



ready to support the growing number of students who are English language learners. And students of color are being disciplined at shockingly higher rates than their white peers, often for trivial offenses, creating a devastating school-to-prison pipeline.

That is heartbreaking, and unacceptable, and it tells me that the vision of the School of Education is as critical as ever. That's what keeps us looking forward to the next challenge, and to the next accomplishment. The pursuit of equity and fairness for all is our driving force. Yes, we have accomplished so much together, but there is so much more to do.

So I'd like to leave the School of Education with a challenge: Continue looking forward. The faculty, staff, students and alumni have the talent, the drive and the heart to make change on a national scale, and it's by looking forward that you'll succeed. Seek out new ideas rather than accepting the status quo. Ask how

something could be made better rather than getting stuck in how it's always been done.

And keep pushing at the boundaries of your collective wisdom by saying a resounding yes to innovation, change and growth. That's how we'll reach our vision.

I've worked with so many talented, dedicated people over my 15 years here. We've built this school together, and I'm very grateful to you. Thank you, each and every one of you, for contributing to the shared dream of our UC Davis School of Education.

Onward,

My experiences with Dean Levine started when he began his work at UC Davis. I pitched an idea to him, and he gave me the opportunity to initiate and build Words Take Wing, Honoring Diversity in Children's Literature. Over the past 13+ years, his active support for this event has positively influenced the literacy lives of many, many students. What a beautiful gift!

JOANNE BANDUCCI, PH.D., LECTURER & SUPERVISOR OF TEACHER EDUCATION, RETIRED

It has been truly an honor for me to work with Dean Levine. The progress that the School of Education has made is beyond any statistical significance and effect sizes in terms of quantity (budget, grant money, national school rank, student admission and progress scores) and well above the national norm in term of quality. Our faculty, staff and students are among the best in the world and have made great contributions to education for anyone who is involved in the field from kindergarten and above.

PROFESSOR JAMAL ABEDI

Through his leadership, Dean Levine has made it possible for us to recruit and support the exceptional students we have honored today: reflective professionals; equity-focused leaders of schools, districts and institutions; innovative and rigorous scholars; and Board members and activists who seek to make change.

PROFESSOR MICHAL KURLAENDER

Honor Dean Levine's Legacy with a Scholarship Gift

There's no better way to celebrate Dean Levine's commitment to a quality education for all learners than through a gift to the **Sandi Redenbach and Ken Gelatt Teaching Credential STEM Scholarship in Honor of Dean Harold G. Levine**.

Not only is this scholarship fully matched by Tom and Nancy Patten, but additional donations up to a total of \$10,000 will be matched as well, so that your gift will go twice as far.

Your support will ensure that talented students won't have to close the door on their educational aspirations due to lack of funds.

Please visit <https://give.ucdavis.edu/go/levine> to make your gift, or send a check made payable to the UC Davis Foundation to Sarah Harlan, School of Education, One Shields Avenue, Davis CA 95616.

Juan Avelar (Cred. '16), recipient of a Sandi Redenbach "Students at Promise" Scholarship Award.

