

Letter from the Director, Professor Juan Campo



The thirteen years I have served as EAP faculty director have been the most fulfilling I have experienced in my 40-year career at UCSB. Together with our staff, we made it possible for nearly 12,000 Gauchos to study abroad in more than 40 countries. These students represented a variety of backgrounds, academic interests, and career pursuits. Although traditional destinations in Europe remained favorites, more than ever before they looked to alternative destinations in Asia, Latin America, Africa, and Oceania. As a consequence, UCSB became the leading UC campus participating in the UC Education Abroad Program (UCEAP), which now celebrates its 60th year after its first cohort in 1962-63. In bringing UCSB to the world and the world to UCSB, our students have discovered that humanity and dignity know no national, ethnic, racial, or religious borders.

During my tenure as director, our resilient students continued to make progress toward their degrees abroad, even when they encountered the unexpected, such as an earthquake and tsunami in Japan, the Arab Spring in Egypt, and, most recently, the global pandemic. In addition to classroom immersion experiences, many took advantage of new research opportunities and internships. Thus, we were successful in keeping the EAP dream alive—reaching out in person with tabling, information sessions, one-on-one advising, and via Zoom. Additionally, I am delighted to report that our UCSB gateway to the world welcomed nearly 200 exchange students from our partner host institutions abroad this year, adding to the nearly 3,000 exchange students who have come to UCSB since 2010.

As my term as director draws to a close and I assume new responsibilities as Chair of the Religious Studies Department in July, I want to personally thank all of you who contributed to our scholarship fund over the years. You have made it possible to provide more Gaucho EAP scholarships than ever before. Even with this, we are still only able to fund a third of those seeking financial aid. Please donate, and help us keep their EAP dreams alive. Your generosity will open a world of opportunities and help make a better world for us all.

Saying Farewell

After 13 years of devoted service as Faculty Director of the UCSB Education Abroad Program, Juan Campo will step down at the end of June 2023. He had also previously served as UCEAP Study Center Director in Egypt (1991-93) and India (1998-2001). Juan has been a passionate advocate for UCEAP at UCSB throughout his tenure from 2010- 2023. Under his leadership, the Freeman Foundation Internship Scholarship Program and the Griffiths Foundation Asia Scholarship Program were established. Fundraising efforts were increased each year creating strong and vibrant scholarship programs for students. He also has been a strong supporter of academic integration for all disciplines. During his tenure as Faculty Director, UCEAP enrollment at UCSB grew significantly resulting in a total of over 11,000 UCSB students studying abroad during this time. He also has been a strong champion and advocate of the UCSB EAP staff and students. We thank Juan for his dedication, commitment, and hard work contributing to the successes of the program. He will be greatly missed!

As a parting gift, Juan and his wife Magda Campo have generously established the Juan & Magda Campo EAP Scholarship Fund, an endowment that will support students participating in Middle Eastern and Arabic language EAP programs that are aligned with their experiences based in Egypt and India.

Celebrate Juan's 13-year commitment to EAP by [contributing to the Juan & Magda Campo EAP Scholarship Fund today!](#)