



Chancellor's Awards
for Public Service

TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2017

KRUTCH THEATRE

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

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WELCOME

Chancellor Nicholas B. Dirks

RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC SERVICE SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Chancellor Nicholas B. Dirks

AWARD PRESENTATIONS

2017 Chancellor's Awards for Public Service

Mather Good Citizen Award

Robert J. and Mary Catherine Birgeneau
Recognition Award for Service to
Undocumented Students

CLOSING REMARKS

Chancellor Nicholas B. Dirks

RECEPTION

The Chancellor's Awards for Public Service are supported by the Office of the Chancellor, University Events, and the Public Service Center.

2017 Chancellor's Awards for Public Service

Undergraduate Award for Civic Engagement

THANH MAI BERCHER, Public Health

In her time at Berkeley, Thanh has been deeply devoted to public service, with a primary focus on addressing the issue of sexual assault. Thanh has worked in policy, shaping the language of SB-967 ("Yes Means Yes" consent law), helping write Hillary Clinton's women's health platform, conducting research on behalf of the Human Rights Center to help rape survivors in Africa, and instituting numerous education programs here at Cal as director of the ASUC Sexual Assault Commission. She has also done direct service, working with Project Hope in the West Bank to help young girls process and overcome trauma they have experienced, and helping health care professionals provide services to over 7,000 patients in Vietnam.

Graduate Student Award for Civic Engagement

SARICK MATZEN & JOSHUA ARNOLD,
Environmental Science, Policy, and Management

Sarick and Joshua have worked together for 3.5 years to establish the Community Soil Health Collaboration. Using their knowledge of science and community organizing, the two act as a team to empower economically depressed urban areas. At a time when rapid economic expansion in the Bay Area is leaving some people behind (especially those in economically depressed industrial areas), Sarick and Joshua work with community members to improve soils for food production and to create a sense of pride and ownership in local communities. Their work, built on participatory action, has led to 11 projects with over 40 community partners and has taught participants how to sample, test, and maintain soil.

JESÚS GUZMÁN, Public Policy

Jesús has been an organizer and advocate for day laborers and immigrants since 2007. Jesús has done remarkable work with the Graton Day Labor Center (Centro Laboral de Graton), serving a population that is often neglected by immigration reform. He provides compassionate advocacy and practical assistance every day, registering workers and using his network to help find work for them in the short term, as well as helping them track employment so that they can ultimately apply for citizenship. He was a founder of the DREAM Alliance of Sonoma County (now NBIYU), which was essential to passing the California Dream Act and DACA. Jesús volunteers while attending graduate school and preparing for the birth of his first child, due this month.

Student Group Award for Civic Engagement

INTERNATIONAL REFUGEE ASSISTANCE PROJECT AT BERKELEY LAW (IRAP-BERKELEY), Law

IRAP-Berkeley provides a broad range of legal assistance to some of the most vulnerable refugee groups, including military interpreters, LGBTQ individuals, sexual assault survivors, and torture survivors. Students provide many services, including interpretation and legal representation, policy advocacy, and direct service in the Middle East, and more. Students perform casework on the clients' behalf, fundraise to pay for legal bills and application fees, and lobby for things like policy reform for LGBTQ refugees. Overall, IRAP's services provide immense assistance to a population that has been facing significant discrimination and demonization recently, all while balancing these efforts with a normal course load.

Campus-Community Partnership Award

APPCIVIST FOR VALLEJO PARTICIPATORY
BUDGETING, PROFESSOR JAMES HOLSTON
(ANTHROPOLOGY, SOCIAL APPS LAB AT CITRIS)
& WILL MORAT (VALLEJO CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE)

The City of Vallejo takes a unique approach to budgeting and implementing public projects, using a participatory budgeting process that allows citizens and community volunteers to design and implement city programs. AppCivist is a collaboration tool developed by researchers from the Anthropology Department and the Social Apps Lab at Berkeley's Center for Information Technology Research in the Interest of Society (CITRIS). This app allows community members to submit and comment on proposals, view updates, and more, which improves city-resident collaboration and further solidifies Vallejo's role as a trailblazer in civic engagement. In the past nine months, Vallejo residents submitted 856 ideas via AppCivist, and then worked together to fine-tune these concepts, ultimately presenting 23 proposals for voting and implementation. AppCivist has helped immensely to empower the citizens of Vallejo.

Faculty Award for Research in the Public Interest

KAREN CHAPPLE, City and Regional Planning

Dr. Chapple was nominated by Berkeley city councilmember Lori Droste for her work on the Berkeley Planning Commission. As lead researcher on the Urban Displacement Project, Dr. Chapple has worked to address the crucial issue of affordable housing. UDP provides indispensable research and policy recommendations to lawmakers to help them combat displacement and promote housing affordability. Dr. Chapple's work dramatically influenced the city's housing action plan and resulted in two successful proposals — the Green Affordable Housing Plan and the Neighborhood Preference (Anti-Displacement) Plan. Though her research spans decades, she has been instrumental in addressing this timely issue in Berkeley for more than three years.

Mather Good Citizen Award

URSULA KAJANI, Public Health

Ursula has demonstrated a remarkable breadth of work, both on and off campus. Her work addresses the roots of social inequity rather than just treating the causes, and it connects her major (Public Health) to how she spends her free time helping others. Before coming to Berkeley, she worked at her community college to provide training for students and faculty on how to provide meaningful service. Now she is a director of Alternative Breaks, a massive service program that organizes service trips for over 100 participants per year. Besides her work with Alternative Breaks, she spent a summer volunteering in Ghana to do public health work, and plans to join the Peace Corps in Rwanda after graduating. She has shown a lifelong commitment to service, and plans to pursue a career in public health.

Robert J. and Mary Catherine Birgeneau Recognition Award for Service to Undocumented Students

MIRIAM AVILEZ, Public Health

Miriam has demonstrated a commitment to public service during her time as both an undergraduate and graduate student. As a leader in Borders and Bodies Collective, she has drawn attention to the opportunities at the intersection of public health and immigration. She has worked with D.U.L.C.E. and R.I.S.E. to help bring much-needed attention to health issues facing undocumented immigrants. She has completed field work as a health worker in low-income areas of San Diego and is currently collaborating with the Center for Latino Policy Research to respond to the Trump administration and support fellow undocumented students at UC Berkeley. Overall, Miriam has masterfully integrated her studies with her passion for helping undocumented immigrants and has advocated for a variety of immigrant communities, with significant impacts.

JUAN PRIETO, Sociology

Juan is a powerful and positive force in the life of undocumented students at Berkeley, inspiring confidence and hope during these uncertain times. An undocumented student himself, Juan came to Cal as a transfer student and hit the ground running as an advocate for student rights. He is a member of the Undocumented Student Coalition, has served as a co-chair of R.I.S.E., and has played an active role in the Transfer Center and Undocumented Student Program. Last November, Juan bravely shared the challenges of being an undocumented student on campus through an essay he wrote for the *New York Times* titled "Even at Berkeley, I Face Threats as an Undocumented Student." Not only did he reach an international audience, but he also showed tremendous courage in proclaiming his undocumented status in such a public way, inspiring fellow students and embodying the principle of "undocumented and unafraid."

Scholarships and Fellowships

In addition to the Chancellor's Awards for Public Service, the Chancellor also recognizes distinguished students who have received the following scholarships and fellowships aimed at offering unique opportunities on the path of public service:

THE JOHN GARDNER FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM selects three outstanding students annually to work with a distinguished social or political leader in an organization of their choice.

THE SHINNYO-EN FELLOWSHIP selects undergraduate students to lead others in exploring the intersections of peace-building and justice through the Alternative Breaks program.

THE JUDITH LEE STRONACH BACCALAUREATE PRIZE enables students to pursue creative research or public service projects involving the arts, humanities, and social or natural sciences after they graduate.

THE PETER E. HAAS PUBLIC SERVICE LEADERS PROGRAM supports a community of undergraduate student leaders who have demonstrated a significant commitment to off-campus service activities.

THE DONALD A. STRAUSS PUBLIC SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP provides funds to sophomores or juniors who will pursue a high-impact public service or social change project over the next year.

