In 1999, Marc Brutten and his wife, Patricia, provided the lead gift to launch the UC San Diego Student Foundation. The first of its kind in the University of California system, its mission is to promote a culture of philanthropy across campus while teaching students how to invest, fundraise, and manage an endowment—all to support student scholarships. The Bruttens have continued to remain involved over the past two decades, including mentoring undergraduate students.

"I am proud of the stewardship of the students," said Marc. "Their efforts to maintain and grow the principal to over six times what they began with is incredible."

Marc and Patricia started their own family foundation in 1996 to benefit numerous local charities, schools, and organizations, including the Make-A-Wish Foundation, The San Diego Center for Children, and The Vanguard Academy. Recently they have begun to contribute to clean-up efforts and trail system mapping so that more hiking and equestrian enthusiasts can access back-country trails.

Today, Marc is recognized as one of the most prolific commercial real estate investors on the West Coast. He is founder and CEO of Brutten Global, a private investment firm. Brutten Global and its affiliate companies have acquired, owned and operated more than 30 companies and 40 million square feet of real estate assets. It has raised $4 billion of debt and equity for its investments.

Marc returns to the UC San Diego Foundation Board after a 12-year hiatus. "I'm very proud to serve on the board for many reasons," he said. "I feel indebted to the university for giving me the opportunity to attend an outstanding institution where I received a great education in one of the most beautiful physical locales in the United States."

From a small town in eastern Pennsylvania, Marc was lured to California to attend UC San Diego. As an aspiring dentist, he was drawn to the university for the strength of its science programs. He majored in psychology with a minor in biology. But his plans changed when, after graduating in 1979, he became an intern at a shopping center development and brokerage firm.

In addition to leading Brutten Global, Marc is also founder and chairman of Westcore Properties, a commercial real estate investment company, and Brixton Capital, a financial services investment company. Prior to forming Westcore and Brixton, he was president of Shidler West, Inc. Marc is involved in numerous professional and community organizations, including the Urban Land Institute, National Association of Industrial and Office Properties, and International
Council of Shopping Centers. He also is a former board member of the New Children’s Museum and California Republic Bank.

In his free time, Marc enjoys reading non-fiction, horseback riding, and martial arts -- he holds black belts in Judo and Brazilian Jiu Jitsu.