Although relatively new to the UC San Diego Foundation Board of Trustees, in terms of having an impact on access to higher education, “Augie” Gallego has been busy for many years. His interaction with former Chancellors Richard Atkinson and Robert Dynes throughout Augie’s notable career led to his present service on the Board. “I have an affinity for the University of California, and UCSD in particular. UCSD has done a remarkable job for the region, and through contributions to the world in its research.”

Augustine Gallego served as Chancellor of the San Diego Community College District (SDCCD) from 1990 to 2004, one of the largest community college districts in the United States. His collaborative efforts on behalf of the SDCCD led to the development of numerous innovative programs, such as public and private partnerships that have provided higher education to hundreds of thousands of students, including U.S. Navy personnel and more than 8,000 people a year in law enforcement, firefighting, lifeguard and emergency medical technician training.

Leading efforts to increase community college transfers to universities, Augie worked closely with UC San Diego chancellors and other leaders to expand and institutionalize stronger links between community college and universities. “It can be very difficult in the impacted areas to get into a university, but with the Transfer Agreement Guarantee program, students who had completed requirements for that impacted program got admission.” This program has made a college degree an affordable, attainable goal for countless young people.

Augie has served on several boards, including as chair of the American Council on Education (ACE), the second community college chief executive in the 85-year history of ACE to lead the organization. He served as chair of the American Association of Community Colleges, as a member of the Business-Higher Education Forum, was appointed by the Governor of Michigan to serve on the National Governor’s Association taskforce on competitiveness, and served as the chair of The College Board’s National Commission on Community Colleges.

Augie received his BA at the University of Arizona, and his master’s from UC Davis. Two of his three children are products of the University of California: Christina, a medical doctor, and Daniel, a mechanical engineer, attended UC Berkeley. Alex, a graduate of the University of Colorado, is a coach, teacher and small business owner in Montana.

Technically retired, currently Augie is a participant on the National Community College Initiative, Achieving the Dream, based at the University of Texas at Austin, and the Salzburg Seminar’s International Studies Program. Among his activities in the San Diego region, he serves on the Board of Trustees at the University of San Diego, he was chair of the San Diego Dialogue based at UC San Diego, and serves on the board of directors of the International Community Foundation. He served on the executive boards of the United Way of San Diego County, San Diego Urban League, New Americans Immigration Museum and the Hate Crimes Task Force. He served on the board of the Commission on Children, Youth and Families.
Trustee

And he manages to do this from his new home in the Lake Oswego community near Portland, Oregon.

“It’s important to stay connected in meaningful ways. Right now, with so much need, we just need to ask, where should I contribute?”