

Trustee



Greg Papadopoulos '79

Gregory Papadopoulos, a 1979 UC San Diego graduate, believes that the exponential growth of the university's reputation over the past three decades is the best return on investment.

"UC San Diego provided me the educational foundation for my life," said Greg. "I'm both honored and excited to have the opportunity to give back to the university at this level. It was also increasingly clear what a vibrant difference Chancellor Khosla has been making. That made the decision even easier, knowing that there is such an effective conduit for change, evolution and growth."

Greg earned his undergraduate degree in systems science, and has been impressed by the growth of the Jacobs School of Engineering – which has vaulted into an undisputed world powerhouse. For the past decade he has served on the school's Board of Advisors, including as chair.

Growing up, Greg moved all over the country. His father was an organic chemist who would travel to different refinery towns to launch new processes. Greg's family finally settled down in Houston, Texas. When his two older brothers headed to UC San Diego for their undergraduate degree, he followed, as did his younger brother. "It turns out all four brothers graduated from UC San Diego – I'm imagining that's some sort of school record!" said Greg.

Greg is a venture partner with New Enterprise Associates, Inc., a venture capital firm. Formerly he served as Chief Technology Officer and Executive Vice President of Research and Development at Sun Microsystems. He has helped found several technology companies and currently serves on numerous boards, including Lytmus, Lytro, and MapD. Greg also served as an Associate Professor at MIT and is an active advisor to engineering students. He earned a B.A. from UC San Diego and an S.M. and Ph.D. from MIT.

Throughout his careers in education, technology management, and now venture capitalism, the common thread he has found most rewarding is the opportunity to work with budding innovators who will to stop at nothing short of changing the world.

In his free time, Greg and his wife, Laurie, enjoy playing golf as well as tasting wine and partaking in new culinary adventures around the world. He also has a small datacenter in his basement where he can cultivate his technical hobbies, including programming and systems-related projects.