Although Campaign UCLA ended in December 2005, its legacy lives on in terms of increased annual giving levels. In this, the first full post-Campaign year and one that saw a transition of campus leadership, year-end results show a total of $373 million in new gifts and pledges. This marks a 20 percent increase over the previous year’s total of $310 million and the eighth consecutive year in which UCLA’s gifts total has surpassed $250 million.

The campus has seen a dramatic increase in dollars raised to help attract and retain top students and faculty since the June 2004 launch of UCLA’s Ensuring Academic Excellence initiative. Designed to generate $250 million in private commitments through 2009 specifically for this campus priority, the initiative generated a record-breaking $73.6 million in 2005–06 and nearly $73 million in 2006–07, bringing its total to $241 million.

In response to the initiative, 24 new endowed chairs were created for faculty in 2006–07. Among them was the Carol and Lawrence E. Tannas Jr. Endowed Chair in Engineering, established through a gift of $1 million to the UCLA Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Science from Carol A. Tannas and Lawrence E. Tannas Jr. ’59, M.S. ’61.

Graduate student fellowship support for the 2006–07 fiscal year included $200,000 from Alexander W. Astin and Helen S. Astin, professors emeriti at UCLA’s Graduate School of Education & Information Studies. Their endowment provides fellowships for two graduate students in the department of education’s division of higher education and organizational change.

Also included in the 2006–07 total was an exemplary gift of $10 million to the UCLA College of Letters and Science from Lloyd E. Cotsen. The gift supplemented a $7 million fund he established in 1999, creating one of the largest endowments in the world for the study of archaeology. With 75 faculty members and research associates, the Cotsen Institute of Archaeology at UCLA is now home to the nation’s largest collection of working archaeologists.

And the UCLA School of Law received a landmark $5 million gift from David J. Epstein L.L.B. ’64, the largest alumni gift ever to the school. The commitment names the David J. Epstein Program in Public Interest Law and Policy and establishes the Jane Epstein Scholarships for Educational Law and Policy, named for Epstein’s wife, a lifelong educator.

Private philanthropy continues to secure UCLA’s position as a leader in American higher education by supporting pioneering research, providing student and faculty support, enhancing interdisciplinary programs and enabling capital improvements.

From the arts and humanities to engineering and medicine, UCLA faculty and researchers work across disciplines to understand the past, improve the present and invent the future.

- In 2006, UCLA researchers submitted 181 new U.S. patent filings and 133 second filings.
- UCLA’s Living Independently in Los Angeles, a community-driven online project, uses digital mapping tools and database technology to identify and map local services and programs for Los Angeles County residents living with disabilities.
- At UCLA, over 60 leading scholars, 16 academic departments and more than 20 research centers are engaged in genetics research.

“Universities raise the level of what’s possible. They can get academics, researchers, politicians, entrepreneurs, dreamers and doers in the same room to seize moments, face issues, define problems, change priorities, do something.”

— Richard Ziman, Chairman of American Value Partners