

# UCSB Alumni Honor Their Own

By **Devon Pettengill** / CASA

**G**RATEFUL GAUCHOS GATHERED to honor their peers whose work has had a positive impact on the University of California, Santa Barbara at the Annual Alumni Awards Banquet at UCSB's Corwin Pavilion on Saturday, April 25th. The awards were presented by Alumni Association President Rob Jupille and UCSB Chancellor Henry Yang following a formal dinner.

Doug Otto, Class of 1973 Alumnus, received the Distinguished Alumni Award for his success as the Founder of Deckers Outdoor Corporation, the international company that creates Teva, Simple Shoes, and Ugg brands. Deckers' efforts at sustainability under Otto's leadership led the company to partner UCSB's Donald Bren School of

Environmental Science and Management in 2006.

The Graver Alumni Service Award was presented to Harvey Schechter, Class of 1947, for his efforts as a longtime volunteer at Alumni Association events such as the Chancellor's recruitment



Harvey Schechter and Alan Shuman

picnic and the incoming student picnic. Schechter credits Santa Barbara with saving his life after he moved here for health reasons from Brooklyn, New York, in 1941.

"If I live to 120, I will never be able to repay Santa Barbara for what it has given me," shared Schechter.

Judy Henley was honored as an Honorary Alumna for her generosity toward UCSB. Henley and her husband Jeff Henley, Class of 1966, have given their name to an endowed chair and the boardroom of the Mosher Alumni House. Henley also provided the



John Dudley, Joyce Dudley, 1st District Supervisor Salud Carbajal, Chancellor Henry Yang, 3rd District Supervisor Doreen Farr, and Chris Henson



Apostolos Athanassakis, Harvey Schechter, Judy Henley, Duncan Mellichamp, Suzanne Mellichamp, Dilling Yang, UCSB Chancellor Henry Yang, and Doug Otto.

Photos by Devon Pettengill

original design for the new Henley Gate, which now elegantly welcomes visitors to the UCSB campus.

"She has become a leader among Gauchos," shared Rob Jupille.

Retired Chemical Engineering Professor Duncan Mellichamp and his wife Suzanne Mellichamp were honored for their contributions to UCSB, including nine endowed chairs focusing on science and globalization. Duncan Mellichamp became an Honorary Alumnus and Suzanne Mellichamp, Class of 1970, received a Special Recognition.

"If you're looking for a place to invest resources and you want the most return on your investment, this has got to be the place," shared Duncan Mellichamp upon accepting his honor.

Classics Professor Apostolos Athanassakis was honored with the Alumni Teaching Award for his positive

impact on the lives of his students and his inspirational teaching. Athanassakis has over 100 publications to his name, including ten books. Showing true

dedication, he lived among his students as a Resident Academic Director of Manzanita Village dormitories. "A good teacher should be a shepherd, aware and caring for all of his charges," shared Athanassakis as he expressed his gratitude for his award.

Following the presentation of the honors, the banquet guests were led in an enthusiastic singing of *Hail to California*, the University of California's Alma Mater. The Alumni Awards Banquet took place in conjunction with the campus-wide All Gaucho Reunion.

The UCSB Alumni Association has honored more than 200 individuals since 1960, recognizing success, service, and philanthropy. For more information, call 893-2288 or visit [www.ucsalum.com](http://www.ucsalum.com).



Jeff and Judy Henley