

PATHWAYS TO STEM (PATHS) PROGRAM

2022-23 IMPACT REPORT



PATHS PROGRAM

Our mission is to increase the number, persistence and success of underrepresented students in science, technology, engineering, math and medicine.



A MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR



Thanks to donor support, UC San Diego has continued to transform the lives of scholars pursuing degrees in science, technology, engineering, mathematics and medicine (STEMM) fields. PATHS is one of the most powerful programs we have for supporting first-generation college students from underserved communities in proven ways that draw upon their existing strengths. Through your support of PATHS, these scholars achieve success in their chosen disciplines and build a pipeline of diverse scholars who are committed to making our world a better place.

Philanthropy has allowed us to establish a robust network of resources — including mentorship, financial aid, academic support and advising, and hands-on learning opportunities — that provides our PATHS scholars with opportunities that inspire and drive scientific curiosity. It is their PATHS cohort experiences that will allow them to advance scientific innovation and discovery through their careers as leaders in STEMM fields.

This report demonstrates the continued impact of your mentorship, financial support and dedication to emerging changemakers. Thanks to you, our students are growing their skills and laying the groundwork for their future success.

Thank you for supporting our PATHS scholars and enabling their achievements at UC San Diego and in their careers.

With gratitude,

Becky R. Petitt, PhD
Vice Chancellor for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
UC San Diego



MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

This year, we celebrated the graduation of our second cohort of PATHS scholars, which includes 17 new alumni who are using what they learned at UC San Diego to transform our world. And it is thanks to our comprehensive support programs, including scholarship support, mentorship, hands-on training and graduate school preparation support that they are equipped with the tools they need to succeed and advance to competitive graduate school programs or top careers in STEMM industries.

As we celebrate the accomplishments of the class of 2023, we also welcome a new group of 34 aspiring leaders as they embark on their academic journey. Thanks to the support of donors like you, these scholars have a comprehensive support network designed to address the historic challenges under-resourced and underrepresented students in STEMM face – from basic needs and well-being resources to mentorship and advocacy to culturally competent programming and hands-on research training.

During the 2022–23 academic year, we worked to provide our scholars access to internship and laboratory placements, build our alumni network, and transition to our new PATHS office, which has allowed us to expand our student-centered collaborations, learning, community building and support.

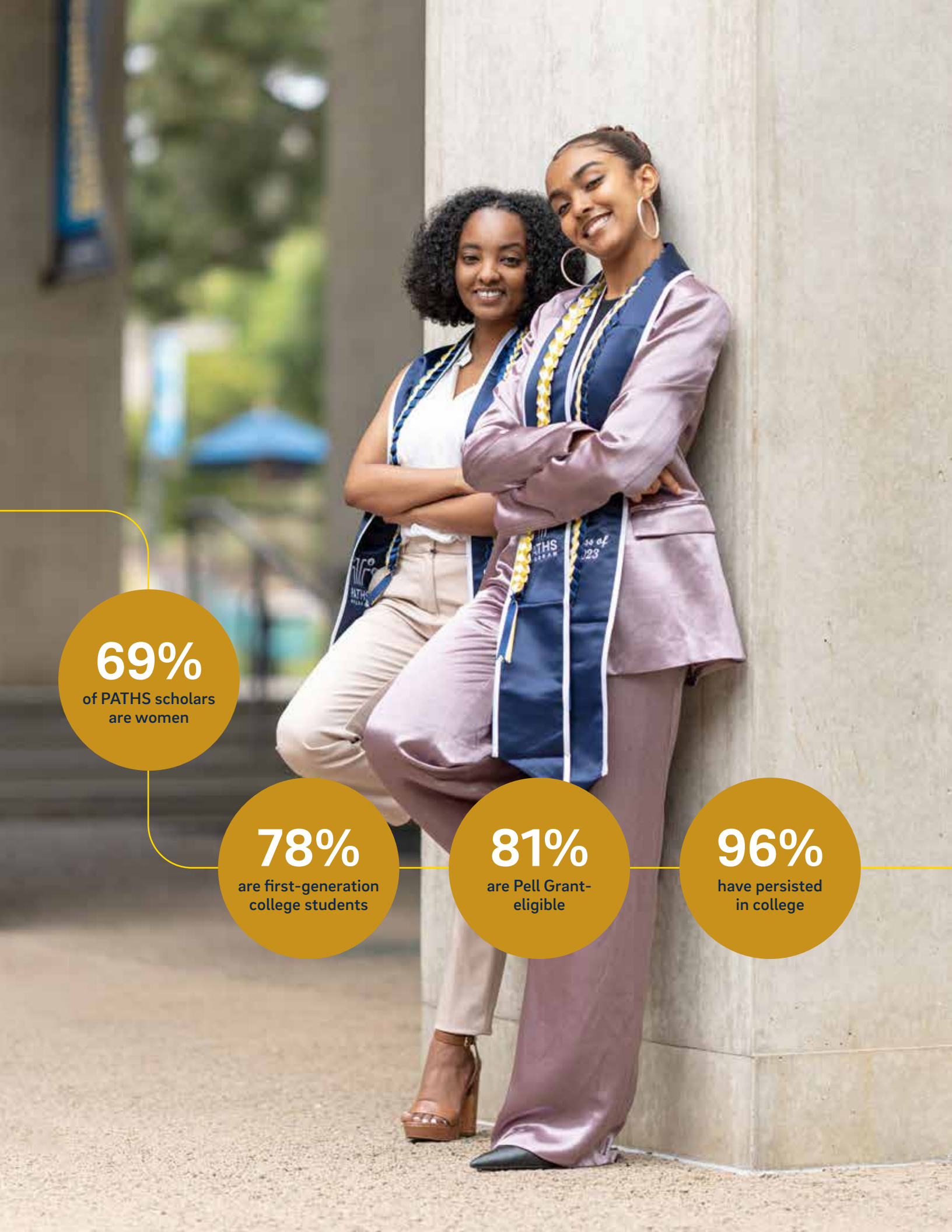
Thank you for your support of the next generation of diverse STEMM leaders.

Sincerely,

Guadalupe Fernandez
Director, PATHS Program

88%

have placed into a
summer research
program or internship
by the end of their
third year



69%

of PATHS scholars
are women

78%

are first-generation
college students

81%

are Pell Grant-
eligible

96%

have persisted
in college



NICHOLAS FISHER '21
P1 Scholar, Biochemistry

Working at Genomatica was a one-of-a-kind experience. The researchers who mentored me really took time to show me how the lab functions in their domain. They taught me how to think about bioscience and produce research that is useful to the company. After my internship, I was offered a full-time position as a lab technician where I was trained to make media and further develop my research skills.



HANIYEH JAVAHERI '21
P1 Scholar, Human Biology

During my first year as an undergraduate, I had a chance to be part of the first group of young scientists in the UC San Diego PATHS Program. Not only did PATHS provide me a network of mentors, they also provided me with access to opportunities to intern at the biotech company Escient Pharmaceuticals as well as the Zarrinpar Lab at UC San Diego. These opportunities and experiences allowed me to further shape my passion for supporting the health of individuals from underserved communities.

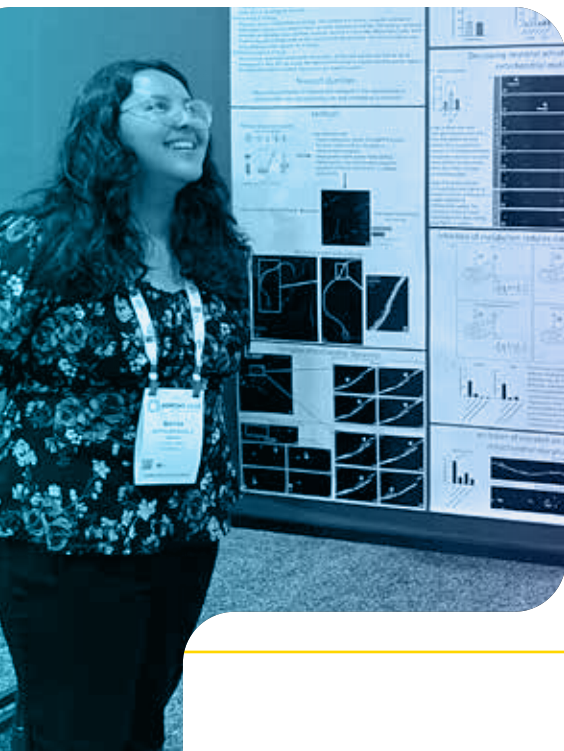
Currently, I am working as an urgent medical caregiver while also studying for the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) and preparing for my American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS) with the help of the Program for Underrepresented Medical Applicants (PUMA) at UC San Diego School of Medicine. I appreciate all that PATHS has done to help me get this far.



ARIANNA GIRMAI '23
P2 Scholar, Human Biology

I am truly grateful for the impact PATHS has had on my years at UC San Diego. Through PATHS, I had the opportunity to intern at the La Jolla Institute for Immunology during summer 2022. While there, I had the chance to gain research experience as well as determine if it is the right path for me. I also connected with several other principal investigators, most notably Stephen Schoenberger. During the 2022–23 school year, I interned in his lab and ultimately decided that biotech is where I want to be.

Fast forward to now, I am a full-time laboratory research associate at GeneGoCell. My main priority is to gain meaningful experiences and develop advanced skills so that I can be a more competitive applicant when I apply to graduate school programs. I want to continuously work myself up the ladder, and to do that, I need a graduate degree and experience.



PROGRAM GOALS

The integrated approach adapted by the PATHS Program for the empowerment of underrepresented students in STEM will leverage dynamic, multilateral partnerships to systematically address historic challenges facing students from socio-economically disadvantaged neighborhoods. The PATHS Program's holistic model for support, empowerment and professional exposure will mobilize a new, diverse generation of STEM leaders.

GOAL 1

Provide a **robust student support package** that addresses each individual scholar's needs in the areas of financial literacy; physical, emotional and psychosocial wellness; and basic needs.

GOAL 2

Deliver **ongoing, high-touch mentorship, advocacy, and academic support and advising** via a team of dedicated graduate advocates and faculty advocates who will in turn help PATHS in disseminating critical evidence of the student-centered experience at UC San Diego to catalyze institutional transformation for improved inclusive excellence.

GOAL 3

Support the **development of scholars' individual personal identities** through culturally affirming programming, interactions with thought leaders in the realms of social justice and the diversification of STEM, and the ongoing cultivation of students' personal visions for positive social impact within local communities.

GOAL 4

Nurture scholars' **professional development** through STEM access programming, laboratory training, summer internship and research opportunities, STEM conference attendance, and meaningful interactions with STEM faculty, UC San Diego alumni, and industry partners.



The most powerful tool we can give to underserved students entering STEM fields is access to mentorship, training and culturally affirming programming that will launch their careers and equip them for success. Thank you for supporting our efforts to diversify the future of STEM and empower the next generation of leaders.

GENTRY PATRICK

Faculty Director, PATHS
Director, Mentorship and Diversity
Professor of Neurobiology,
School of Biological Sciences
Kavli and Dr. William and Marisa Rastetter
Chancellor's Endowed Chair in Neurobiology

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Thanks to donors like you, we will continue to help our PATHS scholars as they pursue exciting opportunities in STEMM fields. Your ongoing support allows us to provide the educational access these students need to achieve their dreams.

- Scholarships help us increase the number of underrepresented scholars in STEMM. Help us reach our goal of admitting 50 scholars each year.
- Stipends for summer research opportunities allow scholars to develop professional experience, grow their network, and expand their career knowledge and preparedness.
- Funds to build program capacity allow us to increase hands-on training, cohort-building activities, and our ability to support and advise more scholars each year.
- Endowed support will ensure the long-term sustainability of the PATHS program, while also driving institutional transformation and bolstering support for a greater number of underrepresented scholars pursuing STEMM degrees.

To make a gift online, please visit giveto.ucsd.edu.

(enter "E3432" in the search bar for PATHways to STEM: Scholarships or E3431" for PATHS Program Support).

For more information about making a gift, please contact:

John Duca • (858) 534-8305 • jduca@ucsd.edu

At UC San Diego, we believe that what we don't know today will forever change our tomorrows. Empowered by generosity and fueled by curiosity, we are unafraid to chase the unknown — to ask the questions no one has asked before and to push the boundaries of possibility.

Together with your support for the PATHS Program, we will unite diverse people and unconventional perspectives to propel limitless impact. Because we know that when we come together, nothing is beyond us.