



# SCHOOL OF PHYSICAL SCIENCES

## FUNDAMENTALLY DIFFERENT

**The School of Physical Sciences is a crucial cornerstone** of UC San Diego's history — and future. Our departments were founded in the university's earliest days and have been vital to our transformation into one of the top research institutions in the world. Our faculty in the Departments of Astronomy and Astrophysics, Chemistry and Biochemistry, Mathematics, and Physics fuel our powerful engine for innovation and discovery. Inherently interdisciplinary, we usher fundamental discoveries into practical applications in partnership with our colleagues in life sciences, earth sciences and engineering.

**Our vision demands the vitality of a diverse community of faculty and students** whose experiences inspire novel, creative exploration as we advance scientific understanding and improve life on our planet. Our priorities are student success, faculty prosperity and groundbreaking research with a continued focus on equity and inclusivity in scientific discovery.

**Fueling discovery means investing in opportunities** to sustain our people and programs. Philanthropy enhances boundary-breaking research as we expand the frontiers of scientific discovery and address complex challenges facing our global society in the key areas of protecting the planet, material discovery and design, and exploring the cosmos. Support for our students and faculty underpins our ability to achieve research excellence and educational innovation — all enhanced by diverse points of view.

## NINE TOP 20 GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Including discrete mathematics and combinatorics (#5), algebra (#10), biochemistry (#8), condensed matter physics (#13), mathematics (#20), and chemistry (#20)  
*(U.S. News & World Report)*

## 4,668

Number of students earning degrees in more than 30 undergraduate and graduate programs, along with 147 postdoctoral scholars furthering their research and training

## 187

Faculty members, including current and former Nobel laureates, Fields medalists, National Medal of Science recipients, Presidential Medal of Freedom awardees, members of the National Academic of Sciences, and fellows of the Academy of Arts and Sciences

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, we unite diverse people and unconventional perspectives to propel limitless impact. Because we know that when we come together, nothing is beyond us.

**UC San Diego**



Together with your philanthropic support, we can build a diverse pipeline of student and faculty talent ready to blaze new trails to advance scientific understanding for global good.

**Learn more at [physicsscience.ucsd.edu/giving](https://physicsscience.ucsd.edu/giving).**

## SCHOOL OF PHYSICAL SCIENCES PRIORITIES

### STUDENT SUPPORT AND SUCCESS

- » We seek to provide **immersive learning experiences**, scholarships, internship opportunities and professional development that give students the chance to envision themselves in the world of scientific discovery beyond the classroom.
- » Our new **Student Success Center** is focused on increasing retention and graduation rates, providing opportunities for hands-on research, and fostering a sustainable culture of academic excellence while preparing a diverse workforce of future leaders.

### OUR CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY

- » **Named endowed chairs** and **faculty fellowships** are powerful tools for retention and recruitment, creating sustained resources for our innovative faculty that honor their vital role on our campus and in the field.

### RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

- » Our cross-cutting research groups are working to **protect the Earth and improve human health outcomes** through groundbreaking work to understand the chemistry of an evolving planet, uncover how viruses thrive and are transmitted, and leveraging big data to gather insights into human behavior and natural systems.
- » Using the **power of physical sciences**, we discover and design advanced materials, uncover the processes of life at the molecular level, utilize artificial intelligence to decipher large data sets and complex simulations, and potentially uncover new worlds and life forms in our universe. This is just the starting point of what we can accomplish.