## **COURSE ORIGINS**

UCLA's creation of the Philanthropy as Civic Engagement course originated in 2012 with a phone call from a representative of The Philanthropy Lab to then Dean and Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education Judith L. Smith. The organization, based in Fort Worth, Texas, offered \$100,000 for UCLA to create a course that engaged undergraduate students in the study of philanthropy and in which the students would have responsibility for making decisions about how to allocate that \$100,000 to nonprofit organizations.

The Philanthropy Lab's primary goal is to "ignite students' interests and participation in philanthropy." Within the context of creditbased undergraduate courses, the Philanthropy Lab facilitates students' engagement in philanthropy by giving them the tangible responsibility of directing real money to nonprofit organizations. Since 2011, the Philanthropy Lab and its donor partners have contributed more than \$9 million to build philanthropy education at more than two dozen U.S. universities. More than 2,900 undergraduates, including 128 UCLA students, have participated in Philanthropy Lab affiliated courses. Among these campuses, UCLA is one of the first to have succeeded in fulfilling the Philanthropy Lab's expectation that partner universities establish self-sustaining courses. The tremendous generosity of local donors to the Philanthropy as Civic Engagement course enabled UCLA, in 2018, to "graduate" from the Philanthropy Lab, thus enabling new partner schools to be involved in their program.

The resulting Philanthropy as Civic Engagement course was a team-taught endeavor that, from 2012-2015 was led by Dean and Vice Provost Smith. In Winter 2016, the Philanthropy as Civic Engagement course was approved as an Honors Collegium course and Assistant Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education and Honors Programs Director Jennifer A. Lindholm, who had been a member of the course's inaugural design and teaching team, assumed leadership responsibility for the course. Through eight offerings of the course, UCLA students have awarded just over \$800,000 of donor contributed funds to 28 Los Angeles area nonprofit organizations. Toward ensuring the long-term sustainability of the course, UCLA Women in Philanthropy members committed in Fall 2019 to establishing an endowment to support the class. Fundraising is ongoing.