

UC IRVINE | THE PAUL MERAGE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS *DEAN'S LEADERSHIP CIRCLE*

Merage School and Dean's Leadership Circle Celebrate 5th Anniversary

Pelican Hill Resort was a beautiful backdrop for the 5th anniversary celebration of the Merage School Naming and Dean's Leadership Circle. Overlooking the ocean outside of the Grand Ballroom more than 300 members and invited guests gathered. Inside the ballroom a video tribute to the 5th anniversary featuring members of the Dean's Leadership Circle played on plasma screens.

The star of the evening, Paul Merage, shared with everyone how amazing it has been for him and his family to watch the success the Merage School has experienced over these five years. He was joined on stage by his wife, Lilly, who thanked everyone for their commitment and support and said how the Merage School community has become a part of their extended family. This point rang true with the continued celebration at their home where Visionary DLC with their spouses were invited to dinner with all members of the Merage family.

Joining Paul at the podium were Edwin Fuller, Chair of the Dean's Advisory Board and President of Marriott International who introduced UC Irvine Executive Vice Chancellor Michael Gottfredson. EVC Gottfredson commended Paul and Lilly for their extreme generosity which created a landmark event in the life of UC Irvine and has allowed the Merage School to take extraordinary leaps forward in excellence and reputation. He noted how The Paul Merage School of Business truly exemplifies the UC Irvine commitment to excellence and has helped to build upon the pride of the UC family.

Dean Andy Policano shared several achievements the School has experienced as a result of the Merage gift such as:

- Faculty excellence and recognition enhanced
- Rise in rankings in every survey – including 15 point leap in this year's U.S. News
- Demand for admittance into our MBA and undergraduate programs significantly grow
- Support from the community and engagement and support from our talented alumni

Dean Policano recognized Founding Chair of the Dean's Leadership Circle, Pamela Adams '98, by thanking her for her vision and leadership and presented her with a token of appreciation from the Merage School. In addition, Dean's Leadership Circle Director Sandra Findly was honored for her service to the School and dedication to strengthening alumni relations and helping the DLC become the largest academic support group on the UC Irvine campus today.