

Dear Members and Friends of the History Department,

This quarter, I am reminded that a community's life is filled with joy and sorrow. We are now in the middle of what will hopefully be our last fully remote quarter and are preparing for our year end celebrations. Graduation will be remote, but please mark your calendars for our virtual Awards Celebration, which will be June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 4 pm. Last year's celebration was very special, and we are looking forward to honoring our undergraduate and graduate class of 2021.

In the spirit of celebrating our students, we'd love to hear from our alumni! If you have any news, updates, personal and professional achievements, or even photographs of your time at UCSB, please share them with us. We've set up a [form](#) to make it easy. We're compiling an alumni archive to share in future newsletters. We figure one weekend-long All Gaucho Reunion is hardly sufficient to celebrate all our amazing alums. You'll also note that we're establishing an alumni mentorship program to help our alumni community connect with one another. There's a spot on the form to indicate if you'd be interested in being either a mentor or mentee. Please fill out the form at your earliest convenience.

On March 4, 2021 the UCSB Department of History welcomed [United States Congressman Adam Schiff](#) as a guest speaker via Zoom in on of our upper-division courses, taught by our very popular lecturer, [Steven Zipperstein](#), J.D. Rep. Schiff is the Chair of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and served as the lead House Manager in the first impeachment trial of former President Trump before the United States Senate in January-February 2020. Rep. Schiff spent one hour with our students discussing the current state of politics in the United States and responding to questions. It was a thrill to have him with us. If you would like to watch this event, please tune in to our Department's [YouTube Channel](#). We are thrilled that Steve has joined our department as a regular instructor. He's added a number of new classes for our History of Public Policy and Law Major, and brought a unique depth of experience to our department from his time as federal prosecutor, Justice Department official, and Chief Legal Officer to two major corporations. Unsurprisingly, he is already a student favorite.

Finally, we mourn the loss of three members of our department community. [Professor Emeritus Chi-Yun Chen](#), the noted expert on the Han Dynasty and Medieval Confucianism who retired from our department in 1994, passed away peacefully in December. We also [share the news](#) of the passing of [Professor Emeritus Frances Dutra](#), a very talented expert in medieval and early modern Portugal and Brazil, who contributed equally to our Latin American and European History programs. We also are deeply saddened by the sudden loss of [Dr. Paul Baltimore](#), who graduated with his PhD in 2014, working under the Direction of Professor Salim Yaqub. We share the grief and sadness of their families and friends.