



Photo courtesy of UC San Diego  
**Gentry Patrick**, biological sciences professor at UCSD, speaks with students in the PATHways to STEM program at the university.

## Program Helps Guide Youth To STEM Education

■ By STEPHANIE GLIDDEN

UC San Diego announced a new partnership funded by \$6.9 million in grants from the **Chan Zuckerberg Initiative**, or CZI, to UC San Diego and its collaborators. The initiative, PATHways to STEM (PATHS) through Enhanced Access and Mentorship program, was launched by biological sciences professor **Gentry Patrick** and Interim Program Director **Leigh Eck**. The program is designed to empower students from under-resourced communities and backgrounds to thrive in STEM at UC San Diego. UC San Diego freshman **Ronald Moreno**, who grew up homeless along with his little brother, is now pursuing a neurobiology major in the PATHways to STEM (PATHS) through enhanced access and mentorship program. Before moving into UC San Diego's family housing, Moreno lived in **City Heights**, one of the most ethnically diverse communities in the country. His surroundings were mixed with gang violence, drug trafficking and other struggles.

"I can't imagine going to college without this (PATHS) scholarship, especially on the financial side of it," said Moreno. "For the first time, my brother and I have a place we call home — our first bedrooms, bathrooms and kitchens."

The PATHS program will be scaled to model the nation's most successful program for helping underrepresented students succeed in STEM fields.

UC San Diego Chancellor **Pradeep Khosla**, said: "This new collaboration will enhance our PATHS STEM scholarship program launched in 2017 by professor Gentry Patrick, which created a new model of success for our students who come from underserved communities.



Photo courtesy of National Conflict Resolution Center  
**Dr. Mary Walshok** associate vice chancellor for public programs and dean of extension at UCSD, left, and **Malin Burnham**, philanthropist/business leader, at the NCRC Annual Peacemaker Awards Dinner.

## Conflict Resolution Center Raises Record \$1 Million

■ By STEPHANIE GLIDDEN

The **National Conflict Resolution Center** recently raised more than \$1 million at its 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Peacemaker Awards Dinner at the **Hilton San Diego Bayfront**. The amount is the largest total raised at an individual fundraising event in the organization's 36-year history and an increase of more than 62 percent from the 2018 event.

Event proceeds support NCRC's programming to empower the community to communicate across disputes with civility and inclusivity. One such program is the Avoiding the Pipeline to Prison initiative, a partnership with regional law enforcement and education leaders that uses restorative justice practices to keep at-risk youth in school and out of detention facilities.

**Steven Dinkin**, president, NCRC, said: "Funds raised at our annual Peacemaker event will help NCRC address some of society's most pressing issues such as the mass incarceration of our young adults, free speech on college campuses and pervasive harassment in our workplaces."

Former regional head of **Cox Communications Inc.** and community leader **Bill Geppert** was emcee to nearly 800 attendees. Event honorees included: National Peacemaker Honoree: Father **Gregory Boyle**; Philanthropy In Peacemaking Honoree: **Malin Burnham**; Community Heroes Honorees: Deputy Public Defender **Steve Binder** Homelessness; Imam Taha Hassane Civility in Politics; Bishop **Cornelius Bowser**, Gun Violence; and **Kim Sontag-Mulder**, Gender Equity.  
*Send Kudos/Giving items to [sglidden@sdbj.com](mailto:sglidden@sdbj.com).*

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