Initiatives funded by the Young Society in 2007-08

Gifts to the Herbert A. Young Society enhance the variety and increase the quality of activities and initiatives that the College of Letters and Science puts forward each year. Young Society funds in 2007-08 furthered important research, opened new doors for graduate and undergraduate students, and provided opportunities for the campus community to hear from experts on a range of topics. A sampling of projects funded follows:

**Division of Humanities, Arts and Cultural Studies**

**Studies of Food and the Body Multi-Campus Research Group**

Hosted at the Davis Humanities Institute at UC Davis, this group brings together faculty and graduate-student scholars in the humanities and social sciences from UC Davis, UC Berkeley, and UC Santa Cruz who are exploring the relationship between food, the body and culture. This collaboration strengthens the work of individual members through work in progress seminars, draws attention to the critical mass of food scholars on the three northern California campuses, provides focused mentoring to graduate students in this area, and fosters dialogue between humanities and science scholars, and the public, on food and body concerns. [http://foodandbody.ucdavis.edu/](http://foodandbody.ucdavis.edu/)

**Taller Arte del Nuevo Amanecer Community Center**

Taller Arte Del Nuevo Amanecer is a cooperative effort between the City of Woodland, and UC Davis’ Chicana/o Studies Program. The community-based arts curriculum serves local junior and senior high school students and promotes the role of art and culture as a viable community-building strategy. The program includes silk-screen and print workshops, gallery space, a visiting artist print program, art and graphic design services, and community advisement. [http://chi.ucdavis.edu/tana.asp](http://chi.ucdavis.edu/tana.asp)

**Roy De Forest Remembered**

A memorial tribute to the late Roy De Forest, longtime professor of art at UC Davis, was held on November 13, 2007. The son of migrant farmworkers, De Forest studied at the California School of Fine Arts in San Francisco and at San Francisco State University. His work was exhibited throughout the United States, most prominently at a Roy De Forest Retrospective that opened in 1974 at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and moved in 1975 to the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York City. De Forest had already established a national reputation as a painter when he joined UC Davis as a young lecturer in 1965. He became a full professor in 1974 and remained on the faculty until December 1992. He was often associated with the California Funk movement whose Dadaist-inspired irony put Northern California on the art-world map.

**Globalization & War: The Aftermath, works by Malaquias Montoya**

The Dean’s office provided support for a traveling exhibition by Professor Emeritus Malaquias Montoya. Globalization & War: The Aftermath features twenty-three paintings and prints exploring the effects of conflict...

Division of Mathematical and Physical Sciences

Department of Statistics Visitor’s Program

The Department of Statistics invited several speakers to present their research and methodologies for analyzing data. Seminars from the past year included:

John Aston, University of Warwick, UK
Runs, Patterns and Change-points: An HMM Perspective

Damla Senturk, Department of Statistics at Pennsylvania State University
Conditional Correlation for Covariate Adjustment

James Ramsay, Department of Psychology at McGill University
Modeling Change: Incorporating Dynamic Components into Data Analysis

The department also invited the following researchers to give presentations:

Dr. Airu Cheng, University of California, Santa Cruz
Dr. Fang Yao, Department of Statistics University of Toronto
Dr. Lajos Horvath Department of Mathematics University of Utah

SYLICCO.07 Symposium

The Chemistry Department hosted SYLICCO (Symposium on Learning and Industry targeting Computational Chemistry Opportunities) on July 26, 2007. The free symposium invited faculty, post doctorate students, graduate and undergraduate students, and high school students interested in research and career opportunities in theoretical and computational chemistry and biology.
http://blueline.ucdavis.edu/sylicco07.html

Large Synoptic Survey Telescope “High Fire” Casting

Dean Winston Ko traveled with other UC Davis leaders to the University of Arizona’s Steward Observatory Mirror Lab in March 2008 to witness the casting of the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope’s 8.4 meter mirror. The 51,900 pound mirror blank consists of a primary mirror and an inner 5 meter third mirror cast in the same mold. It is the first time a combined primary and tertiary mirror has been produced on such a large scale. When completed, the telescope will be positioned in northern Chile to survey the entire visible night sky every three nights for 10 years looking for evidence of the mysterious dark matter and dark energy thought to make up most of the universe. The LSST team of scientists and engineers is led by UC Davis Distinguished Professor of Physics, Tony Tyson. http://www.lsst.org/lsst_home.shtml
Division of Social Sciences

Scholarly Conferences

The Division of Social Sciences had the opportunity to host a number of scholarly conferences this year, including:

The Effects of Globalization on Domestic Markets
Re-Opening the Black Box of War
Gender over the Life-Cycle
New Comparative Economic History: A Conference in Honor of Peter Lindert.

Theory and Society Journal

Theory and Society is a peer-reviewed international journal, interdisciplinary in scope, publishing articles pertaining to theories of power, economies, states, culture, gender, social movements, political economy, and related fields of study. They publish articles that make significant critical contributions to existing theoretical knowledge, while being firmly grounded in empirical research. http://chsc.ucdavis.edu/theory-and-society

Junior Faculty Research Program Institute of Governmental Affairs

The goal of the IGA Junior Faculty Research Program is to assist junior faculty in cultivating a base of external funding that will support their work over the long term. Each dollar invested in the program has yielded nearly ten more to support faculty research while helping junior faculty build skills, knowledge, and experience in obtaining research funding that will benefit them throughout their careers. http://www.iga.ucdavis.edu/Grants/Junior-Faculty-Research-Awards

Recipients in 2007-08 were:

Cheryl Boudreau (Political Science)
Conflicting Cues and their Implications for Citizen Competence

Scott Carrell (Economics)
Getting Qualified High School Seniors to Enroll in College

Burkhard Schipper (Economics)
How to Manipulate Others

James Smith (Anthropology)
Research in the Congo on the Social and Political Consequences of Coltan Mining

Davis Humanities Institute Faculty Research Seminars

Conceived as collaborative incubators for work-in-progress, faculty research seminars bring together mixed disciplinary groups across the humanities and social sciences to explore timely issues. Humanities faculty members select the topics to explore, and the DHI provides the place and resources for the work to be done. The seminar participants meet for a single quarter each year to think in community, challenge each other, and generate new insights into individual research trajectories. The Dean of Social Sciences provided funding for the participation of two History faculty; Omnia El Shakry and Ari Kelman, in the “Transnational Culture” seminar. http://dhi.ucdavis.edu/