

UCLA Geography Announces John Muir Field Course Endowed Fund



"One can learn much in lab, but nothing fires all one's senses--and instills the experience in memory--like a direct encounter with nature."

*Hollis Lenderking,
UCLA Class of 1971*

The Department of Geography is pleased to announce the establishment of the John Muir Field Course Endowed Fund. The endowment will support field courses and related field trips by undergraduate students in the Department's Geography Degree Program and Geography and Environmental Studies Degree Program. With the proceeds from the endowment students will be able to take the theory and technical skills they have learned on campus and apply them outside the classroom in the different environments throughout California and globally. The Muir Fund will support field studies of everything from the natural environment, to human altered environments to cities and their peoples and environments. Professor Greg Okin, Chair of Geography, stated that "Geography is about our world, and being out in the world is one of the best ways to learn geography. This unique gift transforms our ability to get students into the field, from one-day trips to field courses lasting an entire quarter, from downtown LA to the other side of the globe. It amplifies tremendously our ability to create informed and engaged citizens of an ever more connected world. Mr. Lenderking's generosity will allow us to bring students into the very heart of our discipline and to train leaders who will help shape the world for many years to come." The endowment will allow undergraduate students to benefit from field courses regardless of their ability to pay for trips associated with such courses.

The John Muir Field Course Endowed Fund was made possible by a generous gift from Hollis Lenderking, UCLA Class of 1971. The Department of Geography is deeply grateful for his leadership and support of this transformative initiative. For further information on the Department of Geography, including how to support initiatives such as the John Muir Field Course Endowed Fund, please contact Kasi McMurray (kasi@geog.ucla.edu 310-825-1072)