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Wudls Endow Interdisciplinary Chair in Materials with \$1M Gift

UC Santa Barbara organic chemist Fred Wudl and his wife, Linda, have endowed a professorship in materials science in the College of Engineering with a \$1 million gift to UCSB.

"We established the chair to maintain and foster excellence at UC Santa Barbara," said Fred Wudl, a professor of chemistry and biochemistry who also serves as co-director of the campus's Center for Polymers and Organic Solids.

The Wudl Chair will support the teaching and research of an outstanding materials scholar with interdisciplinary research interests that would merit a joint appointment in the life or physical sciences.

Wudl, a creator of new organic materials, has made pioneering contributions to the field of chemistry for more than 30 years. He has been recognized as one of the Top 100 Chemists in the World by the Institute for Scientific Information and has received numerous awards and honors, including the American Chemical Society Award for Chemistry of Materials. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a fellow of the American Association for the advancement of Science. Wudl earned both his undergraduate and doctoral degrees from UCLA.

Linda Wudl, also a UCLA graduate, holds advanced degrees from Harvard University and SUNY Buffalo. She has a Ph.D. in genetics and served as vice president of quality at Amgen until her retirement several years ago.

Endowed chairs are highly prized academic positions that enable a university to attract and retain top faculty members and to develop more fully a field of study by providing ongoing unrestricted financial support for enhanced research and instruction.

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