

SUMMER 2019

Magazine

aging, disease, brain health, biodiversity & more

Advances in the Life Sciences

HONORING THE CENTENNINAL GRADUATING CLASS

Alumni speakers shared remarks at commencement ceremonies across campus as UCLA celebrated its centennial.

Lloyd Greif delivers 2019 Undergraduate Commencement Speech

June 17, 2019



Keynote Speaker – Lloyd Greif '77, President & CEO, Greif & Co.

On June 15, 2019, the UCLA Department of Economics held its Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony at Pauley Pavilion. Keynote Speaker Lloyd Greif (Class of '77), President & CEO of Greif & Co., a leading investment bank, congratulated nearly 800 graduates on their singular achievement and wished them success in their future endeavors. During his speech, suitably entitled "Teaching Young Dogs New Tricks," Greif spoke of his experience at UCLA, the time he spent working while pursuing his MBA and J.D. degrees, and the key life lessons he has learned since graduating. He stressed the importance of having influential mentors and encouraged students to set about building their own personal networks to help them reach their career goals.



LLOYD GREIF '77

The son of Holocaust survivors, Lloyd Greif paid his way through UCLA and USC by working at Ralphs Grocery Co. After earning a bachelor's degree and an MBA, he worked at Touche Ross & Co. and Sutro & Co. while attending Loyola Law School in the evening. His meteoric rise in the world of investment banking culminated in being named the youngest vice chairman and head of investment banking in the 130-year history of Sutro. In 1992, he

left to launch Greif & Co., now a global leader in mergers and acquisitions and corporate financing advisory services.

An engaged civic leader, Greif has served as chairman of the board of the Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation, the Los Angeles Police Foundation and the City of Los Angeles' Business Tax Advisory Committee. He is also a member of the board of directors of the California Chamber of Commerce and the National Museum of American Illustration. He has been married to his law school sweetheart Renée for the past 33 years. They have three children, Nicholas, Lauren and Benjamin.

"I had the good fortune to participate in an experimental, interdisciplinary course of study involving UCLA's schools of architecture, engineering and business, the Creative Problem Solving Program. It provided me with a unique perspective, skill set and grounding that has proven invaluable, not only in obtaining the MBA and J.D. degrees that were to follow, but also in the success I've achieved as a management consultant, investment banker and entrepreneur. And let's not forget the great family time and alumni bonding at Bruin Woods!"