OF THOSE INTERESTED, HOW MANY WANT TO CONNECT OR SERVE IN THE U.S. OR THEIR HOME COUNTRY AFTER GRADUATION?

Undergraduate Students

- Interest in connecting with alumni in the U.S. (n = 579)
  - 88%
- Interest in connecting with alumni in one’s home country (n = 578)
  - 91%
- Interest in serving in the U.S. (n = 578)
  - 71%
- Interest in serving in one’s home country (n = 576)
  - 80%

Graduate & Professional Students

- Interest in connecting with alumni in the U.S. (n = 596)
  - 92%
- Interest in connecting with alumni in one’s home country (n = 592)
  - 91%
- Interest in serving in the U.S. (n = 595)
  - 76%
- Interest in serving in one’s home country (n = 597)
  - 86%
OF THOSE INTERESTED, WHAT PERCENTAGE BY REGION HOPE TO SERVE IN THEIR HOME COUNTRY AFTER GRADUATION

KEY OBSERVATIONS

- Nearly half of all international undergraduates with interest, utilize the alumni network. Just over one third of graduate and professional students with interest, use the alumni network.
- International undergraduate students from South-Eastern Asia and Southern Asia use the alumni network most. International graduate and professional students from South-Eastern Asia, Southern Asia, and South America use the alumni network most.
- Most international students report they wish to connect with alumni in the U.S. and at home.
- Most international students report they wish to serve as part of the alumni network after graduation. International students report a slight preference for serving in their home country versus the U.S.
- Although international undergraduate students from all regions wish to serve in the alumni network, those from South-Eastern Asia and Other regions report slightly less interest. Although graduate and professional students from all regions wish to serve in the alumni network, those from East Asia and Other regions report slightly less interest.

REASONS WHY STUDENTS CONNECT WITH UCLA ALUMNI (452 RESPONSES; 388 RESPONDENTS)

International student responses to an open-ended question about the reasons they connected with alumni were organized in to two categories: content areas and modes of connecting. In terms of content areas, 43% of the international students who answered the question mentioned connecting with UCLA alumni to discuss the future which accounts for 38% of all responses. Students look to alumni to help them navigate the future before attending UCLA, applying for graduate school, entering in to their future career or an internship experience, and deciding on plans after graduation. Students also learned about life at UCLA and in Los Angeles (9% of respondents; 8% of responses) and academics (6% of respondents; 5% of responses) from their alumni connections.

In terms of modes of connecting, international students mentioned networking most often. 14% of those who answered the question mentioned social or professional networking which accounts for 12% of all responses to the question. Other modes of connecting mentioned include mentorship (13% of respondents;
Content Areas
- “I have used UCLA ONE program to connect with an alumni who is working in the field that I want to work in the future. I did this to get advices, comments and support in terms of career paths.”
- “[I contacted alumni] to gain insights into different careers that I was considering, learn how to stand out in relation to other students, how to spend time in college, and the kinds of opportunities and people to surround myself with.”
- “[I connected with alumni] to ask them about their UCLA experience and generally know stuff about the city like housing, food, transport, etc.”
- “[I connected with alumni] in order to prepare myself better for the upcoming academic year.”
- “[I contacted alumni] to learn more about the university and whether it would be a good choice for me.”

Modes of Connecting
- “I found my mentors are really helpful in a way to give me suggestions and it’s good to talk to some experienced people”
- “I wanted more information to make the most of my time here.”
- “[I connected with alumni to] learn more about my options, resources.”
- “Because I believe it is a valuable experience to connect with someone who has gone through and gathered the experiences I am about to encounter during my time at UCLA. It is a valuable additional resource to my studies...”

RECOMMENDATIONS
- **International undergraduates.** Expand alumni events for international undergraduates in East Asia and Other regions before undergraduates begin at UCLA. Increase alumni outreach to undergraduates from these regions before and after they start UCLA. Generate more interest from those from South-Eastern and Other regions to serve in the alumni network after they graduate.
- **International graduate and professional students.** Expand alumni events for international graduate and professional students in East Asia, Western Europe and Other regions before graduate and professional students begin their first Fall quarter. Increase alumni outreach to graduate and professional students from these regions before and after they start UCLA. Generate more interest from those from East Asia and Other regions to serve in the alumni network after they graduate.
- When expanding alumni programs, focus on helping prospective, current, and graduating students navigate their futures; network; and utilize UCLA alumni as resources or mentors. Alumni programs for prospective and current students might also focus on navigating academics, UCLA, and Los Angeles.

APPENDIX
- All data come from the Dashew Center Biennial Survey of International Students, 2019-2020
- Countries and territories are grouped into regions in the following ways. **East Asia** includes China, Hong Kong, Japan, North and South Korea, Macau, Mongolia, and Taiwan. **Southern Asia** includes Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. **South-Eastern Asia** includes Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor Leste (West), and Vietnam. **South America** includes Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Falkland Islands, French Guiana, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, and Venezuela. **Western Europe** includes Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, The Netherlands, and Switzerland.