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Trustees

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Trustees

The Board of Trustees at Chapman has played an instrumental role in Chapman's growth ever since the school moved to Southern California. Trustees like C.C. Chapman and J.E. Wilkinson weathered the institution through the storms of the Great Depression and World War II, saving the school from financial collapse. The Honorable [George Argyros](#) ('59) served as Chairman of the Board for 26 years to keep Chapman from going bankrupt. Without his financial savvy and incredible leadership ability, Chapman would not be as strong as it is today. Like Argyros, [Loretta Sanchez](#) ('82) is very proud of the education she received at Chapman, which helped her become a well-known Orange County Congresswoman (D-Garden Grove). [Karen Wilkinson](#) ('69) joined the Board in 2000, continuing her family's tradition of service. Her grandfather, J.E. Wilkinson, and father Harmon served on the Board before her, and they have helped create a Wilkinson legacy at Chapman that has lasted over 70 years. Although not an alum, [Scott Chapman](#) has been involved with Chapman his whole life. He is the great grandson of C.C. Chapman, for whom the University is named, and also comes from a long line of Chapman Board members. He feels strongly about Chapman's recent development of its Physics program since he is a physicist himself. [Marion Knott](#), who was the only woman on the Board at the time she joined, gave money to help the Film program get off the ground in the 1980s and 90s. [Kristina and Larry Dodge](#), Executives of the American Sterling Corporation, gave the Film School \$20 million, one of the largest gifts in Chapman's history. Knott and the Dodges have helped launch one of the premier film schools in the country and one of Chapman's most attractive colleges.

They, and all of Chapman's trustees, have given their time, money, and efforts so that the University can succeed because, as George Argyros says, "small colleges help you make it big, and the reason they do this is because it is a people business. Life is people."

Oral History Project

Interview with The Honorable George ('59) and Julia Argyros



Interview with Alumna and Trustee Loretta Sanchez ('82)



Interview with Trustee Scott Chapman

