

New Endowment to Honor the Life and Legacy of Professor Michael E. Martinez



Stephanie Martinez, with Dean Richard Arum, presented PhD student Priyanka Agarwal with the 2018 Michael E. Martinez Prize for Outstanding Doctoral Research in Education.

With generous support from Martinez family members, education faculty, and alumni, a new endowment has been established that creates an enduring legacy and fellowship named the Michael E. Martinez Memorial Prize for Outstanding Doctoral Research in Education.

Dr. Martinez was a notable scholar in the fields of learning, cognition, and intelligence. He was the author of many works on these issues, including two influential books, *Education as the Cultivation of Intelligence* and *Learning and Cognition: The Design of the Mind*. A former high school science teacher, Professor Martinez received his PhD in educational psychology from Stanford University in 1987. He joined UCI in 1991 and played a critical role in the Department's development and eventual growth into a top 25 School of Education. In the last years of his life, he served as both Director of the Ed.D. program in Educational Administration as well as Vice-Chair

of the Department. As a scholar and teacher, he mentored hundreds of future teachers who went on to lead successful careers in school districts, youth non-profits, and academia.

The 2018 recipient of the Michael E. Martinez Memorial Prize was doctoral student Priyanka Agarwal. Faculty selected Priyanka based on her superior scholarship, intellectual curiosity, and high levels of professionalism, service, and collaboration with fellow students, qualities that Professor Martinez exemplified during his twenty years at UCI.

“We are grateful to the Martinez family and friends for establishing this important prize to support the work of doctoral students who are vital to making new discoveries in teaching and learning.”

Dean Richard Arum

“Our family members are ardent supporters of graduate education. Michael’s doctoral students were part of our extended family and it is an honor to support the next generation of educational leaders.” Stephanie Martinez



Professor Michael E. Martinez
(1956-2012)