

Telling the UCLA story

“Once upon a time, there was a Bruin named Joe ...”

IT'S BEEN 35 YEARS — practically enough time for two more generations of Bruins to pass through UCLA's hallowed halls — since the last comprehensive history book about the campus, *UCLA On The Move*, was published by Andy Hamilton '35 and Johnny Jackson '27.

So much has happened since 1969 that a new book was clearly overdue. In fact, many in the campus community realized that the need to capture the full scope of UCLA's history, in every way possible, was crucial. As a result, the UCLA History Project was born.

“The book is the cornerstone of the history project, but we've discovered that there is a bigger issue here: How do you have an ongoing collection of UCLA history and use that to communicate to people about what UCLA has become?” says Alumni Association Executive Director Keith E. Brant '83, M.A. '88, Ph.D. '95, who is leading the project. “Telling the story is going to be quite a challenge.”

Marina Dundjerski '94 is principal researcher and author of the new book, which is being planned as a 400-page general history combining narrative, pictorial elements, lively anecdotes and marginalia. The UCLA Alumni Association and longtime support group Gold Shield Alumnae of UCLA will co-fund the new publication, which has a scheduled release date of fall 2006.

As director of the history project, Dundjerski is working closely with volunteers such as Gold Shield member Patricia Hardwick '52. Hardwick is chair of the project steering committee, comprised of Gold Shield members, alumni volunteers and UCLA staff. The book project is especially dear to the hearts of Gold Shield's members, who were instru-

mental in getting the first history book published in 1969.

“The campus itself has turned into such a city,” Hardwick says. “I'd like to see something in the new book about the constant construction, UCLA's Nobel Prize winners and the growth of the arts. And student housing, which is a huge issue. I lived in Hershey Hall, and that was about it when I was on campus!”

The UCLA History Project will be an ongoing effort to preserve the UCLA story, and alumni are invited to help by submitting anecdotes, photographs, videos, programs and other memorabilia. “We're looking to alumni to relate some of their experiences on campus,” Dundjerski says. “That's something you just can't find in the library. There are stories we want to capture before they're lost or forgotten.”

For more information, visit www.UCLAHistoryProject.ucla.edu or call (310) 206-0383.

— Wendy Soderburg '82

