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Hansson Fund Creates New Student Opportunities

Fred Hansson '74 and his wife, Pamela created the Hansson Adventure, Research and Travel Fund

Fred Hansson (B.S. '74, Geography) grew up in San Mateo, lived on a farm in Half Moon Bay during college, and was the first in his family to attend a university. Hansson paid for his education himself, which meant that finances were very tight.

"I remember going to the cafeteria (now the Dining Commons) and making soup from hot water and ketchup," he recalled.

Hansson chose geography as his major after taking a course with Professor McVicar.

"He discussed exploration and discovery, man-land relationships, spatial analysis, and space relations," recalled Hansson. "Geography wasn't about 200 place names on a map,

but about ideas, understanding our surroundings, and making a difference. We would need to take History, Art, Science, and Psychology to understand the world we lived in. Professor McVicar concluded that we needed to share what we learned with others, for our discipline was broad-based."

One of the ways Geography majors could share what they learned with others was to participate in a Geomorphology class that offered students an opportunity to take a weekend trip to the Eastern Sierra and the Long Valley Caldera.

"It was one thing to read textbooks, but quite another to be in the field and see formations, not only textures and subtleties of rock and soil, but also the scale of a 20-mile wide crater," Hansson said.

Unfortunately, he did not have the extra money required for the trip. "Once a quarter, the department professors and students would have dinner together and reminisce about the events for that quarter," explained Hansson. "I had to listen to how some of my classmates went down to the hot springs to swim and the great time they had! I missed out not only on having fun, but also on building upon relationships with others in our department."

Hansson never forgot about this missed opportunity during his time as a student. So in 2014, he and his wife, Pam, created the Hansson Adventure, Research, and Travel Fund

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"The fund my wife and I created is intended to allow students the opportunity to share with each other their enthusiasm, and to venture out of their comfort zones."

HOST Labs

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in all communities, particularly in underserved communities," said Dr.

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Planned Gifts Benefit Cal State East Bay Students

Planned gifts allow alumni and friends to leave a legacy for generations of future

EAST BAY