

Share Your Stories:

# UC Davis, School of Law

SCHOLARS AT RISK  
NETWORK



As a part of our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Scholars at Risk is compiling stories from scholars who have been helped and campus leaders, administrators, faculty, students and friends who open their hearts and homes to them. Please share your stories with us! Send us emails, letters, pictures, audio, video or whatever you have about how you or your campus has been involved in protecting scholars and promoting academic freedom.



Beth Greenwood first encountered intellectual repression as a young child growing up during the Red Scare. She recalls an atmosphere of fear when a playmate's father was called in front of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. "They had to hide all their books and letters," Greenwood recalled. "At a very young age, I was watching people whose ideas were different and seeing how they were hurt; how it impacted their lives."

Then in 2000, Greenwood was the Director of International Programs at the University of California, Davis School of Law, a position that brought her in frequent contact with lawyers, judges and scholars from around the world. Many reported having been pressured because of their work. So when she heard that Scholars at Risk was forming, she knew that getting UC Davis involved would be a perfect complement to the law school's commitment to advancing legal scholarship in service of rule of law, justice and human rights.

UC Davis went on to be one of the founding members of the network and shortly after, Greenwood joined SAR's leadership board. Since then, UC Davis has hosted several scholars, including co-hosting (along with UC Berkeley) one of the first SAR scholars, a law professor from Bangladesh who taught seminars on human rights and Islam and had a devoted following among students. Today, UC Davis is hosting a legal scholar and advocate from Central Asia.\* UC Davis has also hosted multiple SAR Speaker Series events featuring SAR scholars and staff visiting the Davis area, and in 2007 co-hosted (along with University of San Francisco) SAR's first network conference in the western US, which gathered SAR scholars, human rights organizations, and representatives from network institutions from across the country and abroad. Several UC Davis faculty, including Dean of the Law School Kevin Johnson, took part. More recently, in 2010, UC Davis helped grow the network by organizing outreach to other California institutions, involving them in Scholar at Risk's work.

After years of working closely with threatened scholars, Greenwood has gained insight into the mindset of those who are courageous enough to stand up against repression. "One of the things that has really fascinated me over the years of working with threatened scholars is to understand where that level of commitment comes from," she said. "I am sure that the scholar we are currently hosting could apply for asylum here in the U.S. It would be a very strong case. But she has no desire to stay," says Greenwood. "She wants to continue to work for change in her country and is planning to go back, despite the risks."

Looking back, Greenwood realizes that she has spent much of her career defending people like her long-ago playmate's father: people attacked for thinking differently. She sees one of the great strengths of Scholars at Risk is its power to inoculate students against the kind of reactionary forces that she remembers and to empower them to do more. "As an educator, Scholars at Risk is a tremendously powerful tool for showing the human side of repression, and that inspires people." And so do Beth Greenwood and all her colleagues at UC Davis School of Law, who continue to do so much to help Scholars at Risk help others.

## Support SAR's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign

Please help us meet the needs of at-risk scholars today, while reducing the number of scholars needing protection tomorrow.

**\$10** Finds a host for an at-risk scholar through SAR's "Scholar-of-the-Week" email bulletin

**\$100** Drives a global letter-writing campaign to free a wrongly imprisoned scholar

**\$1,000** Reunites a scholar separated from a spouse or child through an Emergency Fund travel grant

**\$10,000** Defeats intellectual repression by supporting safe haven for an at-risk scholar

**Other** At whatever level, your support helps save lives and protects the right to think, to question and to express ideas freely, without fear.

To make a gift to SAR's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign by credit card visit [www.scholarsatrisk.org](http://www.scholarsatrisk.org) or mail a check payable to "NYU/Scholars at Risk" to: Scholars at Risk, 194 Mercer Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10012 USA. Scholars at Risk is hosted by the Office of the Provost at New York University, a 501(c)(3) Tax-Exempt Organization. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

To make a gift or learn more visit [www.scholarsatrisk.org](http://www.scholarsatrisk.org)

\*The scholar's name and country are withheld to facilitate the earliest safe return home.