

INNOVATOR

of the YEAR AWARDS



Richard Sudek Ph.D.,

*Chief Innovation Officer and
Executive Director*

UCI Applied
Innovation

Professional Biography

Richard Sudek, Ph.D., is a lifelong innovator, experienced angel investor and currently serves as Chief Innovation Officer and Executive Director of UC Irvine Applied Innovation. Sudek has been active in the angel investing community since 2000, has served on the Angel Capital Association board and is Chairman Emeritus of Tech Coast Angels. He also works with boards in the engineering sectors, high technology companies and nonprofits.

His research focuses on the investment decision process, and he has worked to pass this knowledge along to young entrepreneurs in his former role as an educator at Chapman University. In 1999 Sudek sold his data networking design business, Nadek, to SAIC, a \$10 billion international firm.

UCI Applied Innovation launched in February 2014 and Sudek has helped it grow significantly since starting in September 2014. UCI applied innovation is as an interdisciplinary and campus-wide center focused on integrating research, entrepreneurship and technology to create real-world applications that benefit the public and drive the economy. The center essentially serves three purposes, they manage all of UCI's intellectual property and industry-sponsored research. The applied innovation center serves as a way to stimulate entrepreneurship throughout all levels of the university from undergraduate and graduate students, to postdocs and faculty. Lastly, the applied innovation center seeks to focus on connecting entrepreneurship throughout the county.

Sudek received a bachelor's degree in information and computer sciences from UCI. Sudek earned a Ph.D. in management and master's degrees in business administration and organizational behavior at Claremont Graduate University.