



KELLY INOUYE-PEREZ

The Shelly Carlin UCLA
Head Softball Coach

19th Season as Head Coach
32nd Season, Overall
UCLA '93

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- UCLA Athletic Hall of Famer (Class of 2022)
- 2-time NCAA Champion head coach (2019, 2010)
- 3-time NCAA Champion assistant coach (2004, 2003, 1999)
- 3-time NCAA Champion player (1992, 1990, 1989)
- 2-time NFCA National Coaching Staff of the Year as head coach (2019, 2010)
- 7-time NFCA Regional Coaching Staff of the Year as head coach
- 4-time Pac-10/12 Coach of the Year (2024, 2023, 2021, 2009)
- 5-time Pac-10/12 Regular Season Champion as head coach
- 10 Women's College World Series appearances as head coach

BIOGRAPHY

UCLA Athletic Hall of Famer Kelly Inouye-Perez begins her 19th season as The Shelly Carlin UCLA Head Softball Coach as the Bruins transition into the Big Ten Conference in 2025. She owns an overall record of 818-209-1 (.796) through 18 campaigns. Inouye-Perez, who is the only person to have won an NCAA Softball Championship as both a player and coach, led the Bruins to their 12th and 13th national titles as head coach in 2010 and 2019.

Inouye-Perez officially took over from Sue Enquist as the third head coach in program history on Jan. 1, 2007. Including her 13 years as an assistant coach (1994-06) and five years as a player (1989-93), this marks Inouye-Perez's 37th consecutive season in Westwood.

Ten times, most recently in 2024, the Bruins have reached the Women's College World Series under Inouye-Perez, including a stretch of seven straight appearances from 2015 to 2022. UCLA has made the NCAA Tournament in all 17 possible seasons under Inouye-Perez and holds an 86-34 record (.717) in the postseason, including a 20-16 mark in the WCWS. Inouye-Perez claimed her fifth Pac-10/12 Conference regular season title and first Pac-12 Tournament championship in UCLA's final year as a member of the league in 2024. Her five Pac-10/12 regular season titles rank third-most in conference history behind Arizona's Mike Candrea (10) and Enquist (7). Inouye-Perez closed her time in the Pac-12 leading active head coaches with 276 conference victories and ranking second with 818 overall victories.

Entering 2025, Inouye-Perez ranks second among active NCAA softball head coaches and seventh all-time with a .796 winning percentage. In addition, UCLA has been ranked in the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) Poll for all 279 weeks with Inouye-Perez at the helm, including 20 weeks at No. 1.

Numerous Bruins have garnered national, regional and conference recognition over Inouye-Perez's 18 seasons as head coach. Rachel Garcia was a three-time winner of the Honda Sport Award (2021, 2019, 2018) and softball's first two-time winner of the Honda Cup (2021, 2019), which is given to the best female athlete across all collegiate sports. Garcia was also a two-time winner of the prestigious USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year award and earned NFCA National Player of the Year in 2018. Inouye-Perez has directed 26 NFCA All-Americans to 46 total citations, including 12 players to 22 First Team plaudits. The Bruins have earned at least one NFCA All-America honor in all 17 possible seasons with Inouye-Perez as head coach. Additionally, Inouye-Perez has coached 43 players to 94 total NFCA All-Region honors.

Four UCLA student-athletes have hauled in eight Pac-10/12 Player of the Year awards since Inouye-Perez took the reins of the program. Garcia became one of five



Inouye-Perez hitting ground balls prior to the start of a game in 2024.

players in conference history to win the Pac-10/12 Player of the Year trophy three times (2021, 2019, 2018). Two of Inouye-Perez's players – Maya Brady (2024, 2023) and Ally Carda (2015, 2014) – have repeated as Pac-12 Player of the Year. Since 2007, UCLA has totaled three Pac-12 Pitcher of the Year awards with Garcia winning the honor in 2019 and Megan Faraimo becoming the first Bruin to secure the award in back-to-back seasons in 2022 and 2023. UCLA has also won seven Pac-12 Freshman of the Year awards under Inouye-Perez, and has taken home the award in five of the last seven possible seasons (excludes 2020). Briana Perez became the first Bruin to win Pac-12 Defensive Player of the Year in 2022. Forty-three players have collected a total of 92 All-Pac-10/12 Team selections in the Inouye-Perez era, and 34 of those athletes have received 66 First Team accolades (excl. honorable mention). Four of her players are four-time All-Conference First Team recipients: Garcia, Faraimo, Briana Perez and Stephany LaRosa.

Four players who have competed in the Inouye-Perez era of UCLA softball have gone on to represent Team USA in the Olympics. Carda, Garcia, Bubba Nickles and Delaney Spaulding all donned the Red, White and Blue at the 2020 Tokyo Summer Olympics and brought home the silver medal.

Inouye-Perez and her staff have been consistently recognized for their efforts on and off the field. For the seventh time, Inouye-Perez's staff was awarded NFCA West Region Coaching Staff of the Year in 2024 after a return to the WCWS stage. UCLA has received the NFCA National CSOY honor twice under Inouye-Perez in 2010 and 2019. Inouye-Perez was an assistant coach on the 2000 and 2004 staffs under Enquist that won the NFCA West Region CSOY award. In 2024, Inouye-Perez was awarded Pac-12 Coach of the Year for the fourth time in her career, which is tied for second-most in the history of the flagship softball conference.

Inouye-Perez became the 20th member of the UCLA softball program to be enshrined in the UCLA Athletic Hall of Fame in 2022.

Inouye-Perez is a link to five decades of Bruin softball success having contributed to eight total NCAA Championships, 12 Pac-10/12 regular season titles and winning 1,705 total games in her previous 36 years as a Bruin. She served as an assistant coach and played for her two predecessors, hall-of-fame-coaches Sharron Backus and Enquist.

Over Inouye-Perez's 13 seasons as an assistant coach (1994-06), UCLA was 617-150-1 (.804) and appeared in the NCAA title game seven times, winning the NCAA Championship in the 1999, 2003 and 2004 seasons. The Bruins also won three Pac-10 titles during that span (1999, 2002, 2006) and in 2004 were named the

NFCA National Coaching Staff of the Year.

Inouye-Perez's primary responsibility as an assistant coach was guiding the Bruins' pitchers and catchers, a list which includes many of the most honored and recognizable names in college softball. Behind the dish, where Inouye-Perez also starred as a three-time All-Pac-10 honoree during her playing days at UCLA, she helped mold and influence arguably the best catcher in the history of USA Softball in Stacey Nuvean. Under Inouye-Perez's tutelage, Nuvean became a three-time Pac-10 Player of the Year, four-time NFCA First Team All-American and the NCAA's all-time single-season and career home run leader.

At least one NFCA All-America award was earned by a UCLA pitcher in 12 of her 13 assistant coaching campaigns. That list includes Pac-10 Pitchers of the Year Courtney Dale (1999) and Keira Goerl (2003), DeeDee Weiman, four-time Olympian Tanya Harding and two-time Olympian Amanda Freed.

As a player, Inouye-Perez was an exceptionally strong fielder. She made her mark immediately as a collegiate player, earning All-Pac-10 First Team as a true freshman and Second Team as a sophomore, leading the Bruins to the 1989 and 1990 NCAA Championships before receiving a medical redshirt in 1991 due to shoulder surgery.

She came back strong in 1992, picking up All-Pac-10 Second Team honors as the Bruins once again won the national championship and finished with a 54-2 record, the fewest losses in a season in program history. Inouye-Perez also was named to the 1992 All-Women's College World Series Team, going 5-for-12 (.417) with four RBI during WCWS play. She wrapped up her career as a fifth-year senior in 1993 with an NCAA runner-up finish. Impressively, Inouye-Perez did not commit a single fielding error during her final two seasons.

Among the UCLA pitchers during her five seasons as a player were Lisa Longaker and Lisa Fernandez, both of whom were named to the NCAA's 25th Anniversary Team. During her UCLA career, Inouye-Perez played in 22 Women's College World Series games, a mark that is tied for third-best in UCLA history behind only Lisa Fernandez and Kristy Howard (23).

Prior to college, Inouye-Perez was one of the top players during her ASA days, winning four national championships with the Panthers (1984, 1985, 1989) and the Raiders (1986). She also competed on an international level in Japan in 1985 and in Peru in 1987 (Pan American Qualifier) and followed her collegiate career with time playing on the NPF Pro Tour.

Inouye-Perez graduated from UCLA in 1993 with a bachelor's degree in psychology and earned her master's degree in physical education from Azusa Pacific University in 2004.

Inouye-Perez and her husband, Gerardo Perez, reside in Cerritos. Along with Kelly's exploits on the diamond, Gerardo competed as a catcher and designated hitter for Cerritos College from 1988-90 and helped lead the Falcons to the 1989 Junior College National Championship. After a stellar career at Cerritos, he went on to compete at Loyola Marymount, earning All-West Coast Conference First Team honors his junior and senior seasons. He currently teaches and coaches baseball at Gahr High School in Cerritos. The couple has two children, Mikey, a former standout on the UCLA baseball team, and Kylie, a soccer player at Long Beach State. Mikey was drafted in Round 15 of the 2021 MLB Draft with the 459th pick by the Minnesota Twins organization.

Coach I's Coaching Awards

- Was inducted into the UCLA Athletic Hall of Fame as a member of the 2022 class, becoming the 20th member of the UCLA softball program to receive the honor.
- Her staff has been honored as NFCA National Coaching Staff of the Year twice (2010, 2019) and Regional Coaching Staff of the year seven times, most recently in 2024.
- Has been honored as Pac-10/12 Coach of the Year four times (2009, 2021, 2023, 2024).

Kelly Inouye-Perez's Most Notable Accomplishments

- Led UCLA to its 12th and 13th national titles as head coach in 2010 and 2019.
- Has guided UCLA to 10 Women's College World Series appearances, including a stretch of seven straight from 2015-22.
- An eight-time NCAA Champion across her 36 consecutive seasons in Westwood, winning three titles as a player from 1989-93, two titles as an assistant coach from 1994-06 and two titles as head coach from 2007-pres.
- The only person to win a NCAA Division I Softball Championship as both a player and coach.
- Has reached the postseason in all 17 possible years (2020 season canceled due to COVID-19 Pandemic).
- Ranks second among active NCAA Division I head coaches and seventh all-time in winning percentage (.796).
- Has produced four Olympians as head coach. Rachel Garcia, Bubba Nickles, Delaney Spaulding and Ally Carda helped Team USA win the silver medal at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.
- Coached two-time Honda Cup and USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year winner and 2018 NFCA National Player of the Year Rachel Garcia.
- Has directed 26 student-athletes to 46 NFCA All-America awards (22 First Team citations).
- Four of her student-athletes have been named Pac-12 Player of the Year eight times and two have won Pac-12 Pitcher of the Year three times. UCLA has won the Pac-12 Freshman of the Year award in five of the last seven seasons.



UCLA's COACHES AND STAFF

Kelly Inouye-Perez's Year-by-Year Head Coaching Record

UCLA	Overall	Conf.	Finish	Postseason
2007	37-18	12-9	t-3rd	1-2 (t-17th, Regionals)
2008	51-9	17-4	2nd	6-2 (t-5th, WCWS)
2009	45-11	16-5	1st	4-2 (t-9th, Super Regionals)
2010	50-11	14-7	2nd	10-0 (National Champions)
2011	36-19	9-12	t-6th	3-2 (t-17th, Regionals)
2012	36-20	12-12	t-4th	0-2 (t-17th, Regionals)
2013	40-20	10-14	t-5th	3-2 (t-17th, Regionals)
2014	52-8	19-5	2nd	4-2 (t-9th, Super Regionals)
2015	51-12	19-5	2nd	6-2 (t-5th, WCWS)
2016	40-16-1	16-5-1	2nd	5-3 (t-7th, WCWS)
2017	48-15	16-8	t-3rd	6-2 (t-5th, WCWS)
2018	58-7	20-4	2nd	8-3 (t-3rd, WCWS)
2019	56-6	20-4	1st	10-1 (National Champions)
2020	25-1	canceled	--	--
2021	47-7	19-2	1st	6-3 (t-3rd, WCWS)
2022	51-10	19-5	2nd	8-2 (t-3rd, WCWS)
2023	52-7	21-3	1st	0-2 (t-17th, Regionals)
2024	43-12	17-4	1st	6-2 (t-5th, WCWS)
18 SEASONS	818-209-1 (.796)	276-108-1 (.717)	--	86-34 (.717), 17 NCAA App.



UCLA after winning the 2024 Pac-12 Tournament title.

Kelly Inouye-Perez, Years Prior to Becoming Head Coach

UCLA		Overall	Conf.	Finish	Postseason
1994	Assistant Coach	43-14	16-6	2nd	6-3 (t-3rd, WCWS)
1995	Assistant Coach	43-6	23-4	2nd	--
1996	Assistant Coach	47-11	20-7	3rd	6-3 (t-3rd, WCWS)
1997	Assistant Coach	49-14	21-7	2nd	8-2 (2nd, WCWS)
1998	Assistant Coach	18-27	8-18	7th	--
1999	Assistant Coach	63-6	22-6	1st	8-0 (National Champions)
2000	Assistant Coach	46-12-1	14-7	3rd	7-1 (2nd, WCWS)
2001	Assistant Coach	62-6	16-5	2nd	7-1 (2nd, WCWS)
2002	Assistant Coach	55-9	18-3	1st	5-3 (t-5th, WCWS)
2003	Assistant Coach	54-7	17-4	2nd	9-1 (National Champions)
2004	Assistant Coach	47-9	12-8	4th	8-0 (National Champions)
2005	Assistant Coach	40-20	11-10	5th	10-4 (2nd, WCWS)
2006	Assistant Coach	50-9	15-5	1st	8-2 (t-5th, WCWS)
13 SEASONS		617-150-1 (.804)	213-90 (.702)	--	90-19 (.826), 11 NCAA App.



Kinsley Washington meets with Coach I in the 2019 WCWS.

Kelly Inouye-Perez, Years as a Player

UCLA		Overall	Conf.	Finish	Postseason
1989	Catcher	48-4	18-2	1st	7-0 (National Champions)
1990	Catcher	62-7	16-2	1st	7-1 (National Champions)
1991	Catcher (redshirted)	56-7	16-4	1st	6-2 (2nd, WCWS)
1992	Catcher	54-2	14-2	2nd	7-0 (National Champions)
1993	Catcher	50-5	25-1	1st	6-2 (2nd, WCWS)
5 SEASONS		270-25 (.915)	72-11 (.868)	--	33-5 (.868), 5 NCAA App.



Inouye-Perez speaks to the media prior to the start of the 2024 WCWS.

UCLA's COACHES AND STAFF

Kelly Inouye-Perez's Head Coaching Record vs. Opponents

Opponents	W-L	Opponents	W-L
Alabama	4-1	New Mexico	3-1
Arizona	46-14	North Carolina	1-0
Arizona State	32-22	North Carolina State	2-0
Arkansas	0-1	North Dakota State	3-0
Auburn	2-3	Northwestern	11-2
Baylor	4-4	Notre Dame	6-2
Boise State	3-0	Ohio	2-0
Boston University	4-0	Ohio State	3-1
BYU	6-1	Oklahoma	7-8
California	32-12-1	Oklahoma State	3-2
Cal Poly	17-0	Ole Miss	4-0
Cal State Bakersfield	13-0	Oregon	38-19
Cal State Fullerton	24-3	Oregon State	43-8
Canisius	1-0	Pacific	2-0
Charleston Southern	4-0	Pennsylvania	1-0
Colorado State	6-0	Pittsburgh	3-0
Connecticut	1-0	Portland State	4-0
CSUN	15-1	Princeton	1-0
Dartmouth	1-0	Providence	2-0
Delaware	2-0	Purdue	1-1
DePaul	1-0	Robert Morris	3-0
Duke	2-0	Rutgers	2-0
Eastern Michigan	2-0	Sacramento State	2-0
Eastern Kentucky	2-0	Saint Mary's	4-0
Florida	9-7	Saint Peter's	1-0
Florida Atlantic	1-0	San Diego	10-0
Florida International	1-0	San Diego State	14-0
Florida State	5-8	San Jose State	5-0
Fordham	2-0	Santa Clara	2-0
Fresno State	15-1	Seattle University	1-0
Georgetown	1-0	Simon Fraser	1-0
Georgia	10-2	SIU Edwardsville	1-0
Georgia State	1-0	South Alabama	1-0
Grand Canyon	4-1	South Carolina	2-0
Hampton	1-0	South Dakota	3-0
Hawai'i	7-1	South Dakota State	1-0
Hofstra	1-1	Southern Utah	4-0
Howard	1-0	Stanford	41-13
Idaho State	1-0	St. John's	1-0
Illinois	3-1	Syracuse	5-0
Illinois Purdue Fort Wayne	1-0	Tennessee	4-2
Illinois State	0-1	Texas	4-7
Indiana	2-0	Texas A&M	6-4
Iowa	2-0	Texas State	1-0
Iowa State	2-0	Texas Tech	1-0
Jacksonville	2-0	UAB	2-2
James Madison	3-0	UC Davis	8-0
Kansas	1-0	UCF	8-0
Kentucky	8-3	UC Riverside	3-1
Lehigh	1-0	UC San Diego	3-0
Liberty	5-1	UC Santa Barbara	18-2
Long Beach State	19-2	UNLV	9-0
Longwood	2-0	USF	1-0
Louisiana-Lafayette	3-0	Utah	34-7
Louisiana-Monroe	1-0	Utah State	4-0
Louisville	1-0	Utah Valley	1-0
Loyola Chicago	4-0	UT Arlington	1-0
Loyola Marymount	16-1	UTEP	1-0
LSU	3-2	Virginia Tech	5-2
Maryland	6-0	Washington	34-20
Massachusetts	2-0	Weber State	6-0
McNeese State	1-0	Western Kentucky	1-0
Michigan	5-7	Wichita State	2-0
Michigan State	3-0	Wisconsin	3-0
Middle Tennessee	1-0	Wright State	3-0
Minnesota	4-0		
Mississippi State	1-0		
Missouri	12-4		
Mount St. Mary's	1-0		
Nebraska	6-0		
Nevada	6-0		