


*A Decade of  
Transformation*

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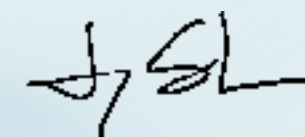
I am honored to have the opportunity to recognize President Stephen Weber's 10 outstanding years at the helm of one of our greatest regional assets, San Diego State University. As mayor of our great city – and a former Aztec – I am also pleased to recognize the many contributions the university has made to our city and region. It is my deeply held belief that the many synergies we share have made us both stronger.

San Diego is blessed with a wealth of riches not bestowed on many places. Our community is a globally recognized academic and research mecca. Moreover, San Diego stands on the cutting edge of science and technology as a growing hub for the biomedical, high-tech and telecommunications industries. Our cultural institutions are second to none; our diversity, legend. These distinctions would not be possible if not for the university's outstanding track record over the past 109 years.

As the newly elected leader of our dynamic metropolis, I have a unique perspective on the university's contributions to our community. For starters, San Diego State provides our community with its intellectual firepower. Not only does SDSU educate our own homegrown talent, but, as President Weber has often noted, the university is also the largest importer of bright minds to the San Diego region. Sixty percent of graduates remain in San Diego, contributing to our local economy and cultural richness. As a result, SDSU graduates are leaders in business, the arts, science and government throughout the region.

Dr. Weber has distinguished his presidency by launching a number of highly successful collaborations between SDSU and our community. Examples of these include: Nurses Now, a program through which local hospitals help the university educate more nurses for the region; the Hospitality and Tourism Management program, which relies on community partners to provide the internships required of all students; and Construction Engineering, a new program designed in collaboration with local industry. These collaborations and others have accrued to the betterment of the institution: since 1996, San Diego State has received \$356 million in donor gifts, approximately 75% more than the total philanthropic support in the institution's previous 99-year history.

One of my first official acts was to restore to the good name of San Diego a historic designation: "America's Finest City." That's because we are. In my opinion, Stephen Weber's first 10 years at the helm of SDSU have made us an even finer city.



Jerry Sanders, mayor  
City of San Diego

# 360

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SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

# 360

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Photo: timtadder.com

**Aztecs Rule**

There's an Aztec at the helm of city government. Jerry Sanders, sworn in as San Diego's mayor in December, is an alumnus of San Diego State University. He graduated with a degree in English in 1973, and now serves on the dean's advisory council for the College of Arts and Letters.

A 26-year veteran of the San Diego Police Department and police chief for six years, Sanders continues the long tradition of Aztecs who've served San Diego in city government. (The most recent is newly elected district 2 council member Kevin Faulconer, '90). Sanders will need all the experience and goodwill he amassed during his time as a public servant to pull San Diego from the undertow of a pension deficit and years of less-than-transparent government.

From his former vantage point as the city's top law enforcement official and now, as mayor, Sanders has a unique perspective of San Diego State's importance to San Diego. Read his comments on SDSU's transformation into a research/education powerhouse on page 2 of this magazine.

**Asian Connection**

Look for San Diego State University to become a force in higher education throughout Asia as the world's largest continent flexes its economic muscle.



SDSU's Presidential Task Force on Asia is leading the expansion of the university's educational presence in Asia to meet growing demand for professional degree and training programs, particularly from China. The demand comes not only from high school and college students but also from adults seeking training to advance in their fields.

Led by Dean Paul Wong of SDSU's College of Arts and Letters, the task force will build on 14 existing collaborative agreements between SDSU and Chinese universities in eight provinces. Additionally, it will tap the

talents of many individual SDSU faculty members who have done research and training with Asian universities, government offices and corporations. The task force also plans to increase the number of exchange programs with Chinese universities, providing SDSU students and faculty with opportunities to improve their language skills and knowledge of China. "Our work is part of the university's internationalization strategy," Wong said.

With Lilly Cheng, director of SDSU's Chinese Studies Institute, Wong has been a personal conduit for stronger U.S.-Asian relations. The two led a group of San Diego business and political leaders on an educational and cultural tour of China and Cheng took a trade promotion group – including California Lt. Governor Cruz Bustamante – to Thailand late last year.

“  
**"Two things motivate me. One is moral outrage and the other, not as socially commendable, is curiosity."**  
Barbara Ehrenreich, author and social critic, speaking Nov. 3, 2005 at a workshop on campus.

# Update

## SDSU Plays Show and Tell with NASA

Scientists from the SDSU Visualization Center used NASA's Blue Marble Next Generation collection – an array of recently released cloud-free images of the Earth – to create a dynamic interactive map of the world. The data sets are from the NASA MODIS satellites, which collect images of our planet from their orbits in space.

The Blue Marble collection has 13 complete views of the Earth taken over the course of a year. Using a simple slider bar on the Web site, viewers can watch the Earth move through its seasons in a few short seconds. As snow and ice levels increase and decrease, deserts advance and retreat and vegetation blooms and withers, the riotous drama of nature is captured with technology's precision.

SDSU's computing power and advanced Internet connectivity allow NASA to share this unique visualization of the Earth with almost anyone who has a PC with an Internet connection and fairly standard graphics cards. It requires downloading a 2 MB extension to a browser; <http://www.geoplayer.com/gateways> is the link for the images and necessary software.

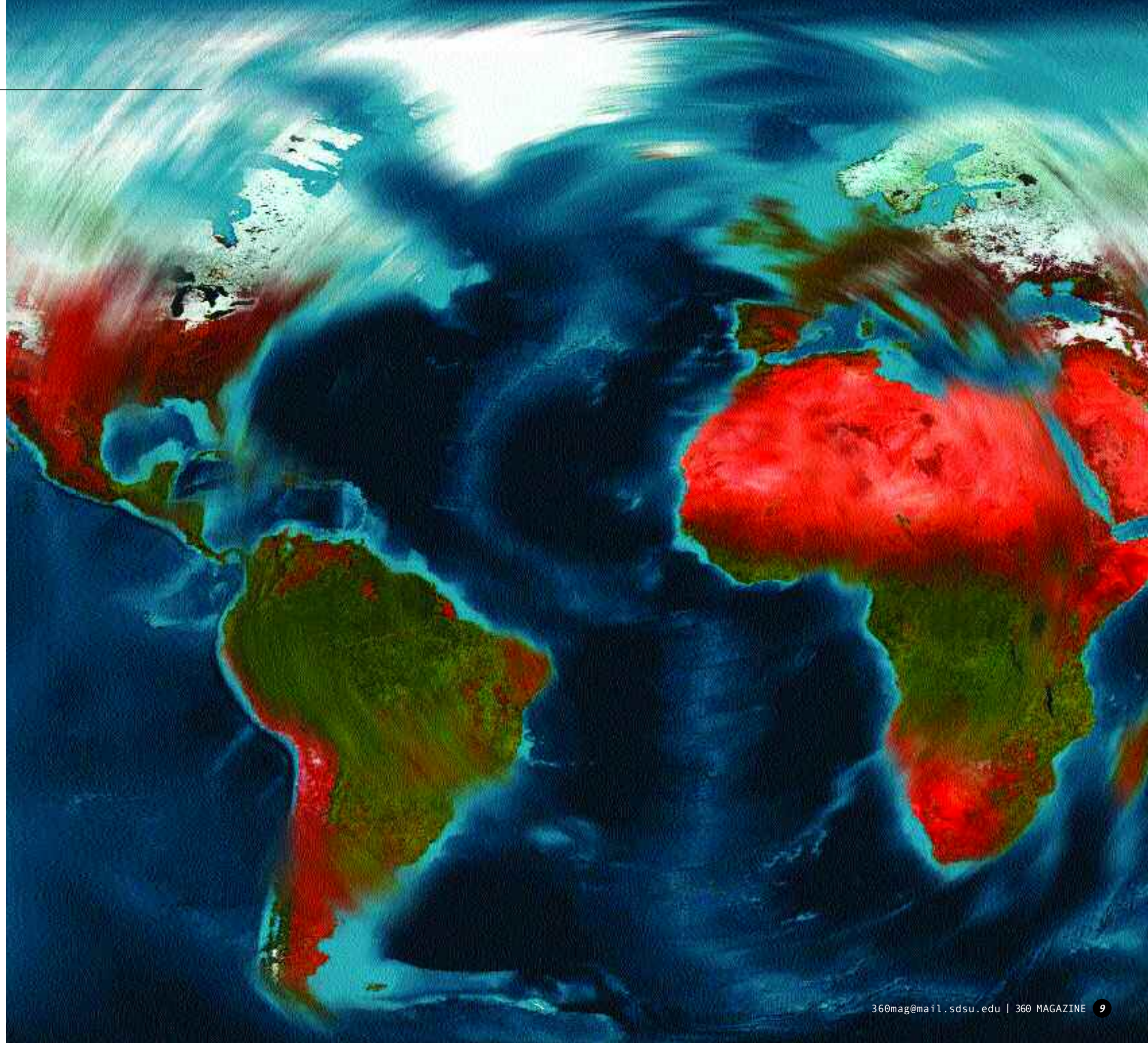
Eric Frost, co-director of the SDSU Visualization Center, said the project has reaped immediate and tangible benefits. San Diego State researchers used the visualization to assist recovery efforts in regions impacted by Hurricane Katrina. The Blue Marble technology also played a role in recent humanitarian and educational efforts in China, Indonesia and Central Asia.

John Graham, chief scientist at the Visualization Center, built the server and Internet capabilities that make it possible to deliver the data to millions of people a day.

"The Blue Marble collection is just one of the data sets served in one format; lots more are in the pipeline," he said. "We are trying to provide foundational and comprehensive data sets, such as population and similar information, which will add other dynamic aspects to this global viewing tool."

In time, with the addition of new data sets, Blue Marble will become a tool for collaborative work by scientists and decision-makers throughout the world.

–Aaron J. Hoskins



## College of Business Celebrates 50 Years

What do leading companies Costco, Jack in the Box, SAIC, Union Bank of California, KPMG and Sempra Utilities have in common? Their top executives are all alumni of SDSU's College of Business Administration (CBA).

Hence, the college chose the theme "50 Years of Educating San Diego's Business Leaders" as it prepares to celebrate its first half century of success.

Although business courses were taught at SDSU as far back as 1922 in the division of social sciences, the CBA of today began to take shape in the 1955-56 academic year. By 1959, it had become the first CSU business college to earn accreditation, joining a small group, including Harvard, Northwestern, Cornell and Stanford. Today, the Association to Advance the Collegiate Schools of Business accredits nearly 500 schools worldwide, of which San Diego State's CBA is the 12th largest. Nearly 60 percent of its 40,000 alumni have remained in San Diego to contribute to the local economy.

For more about the CBA's birthday, and its 50th Birthday Bash at the House of Blues, visit [www.rohan.sdsu.edu/~cba/50th/index.html](http://www.rohan.sdsu.edu/~cba/50th/index.html)



Illustrations: Tom Voss

### A Research Agenda

Do you think of university researchers as balding men in white coats working alone in windowless labs? Think again.

In fact, the \$130 million in grant and contract money to SDSU faculty and staff last year funded research projects in which hundreds of SDSU students took part. Faculty PIs (principal investigators) involve students in everything from collecting data to analyzing it to presenting the conclusions at national conferences. San Diego State has received high praise from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges for the extent of undergraduate participation in basic research.

Terry Cronan is an SDSU psychology professor who has introduced research to a generation of undergraduate students with positive results.

Funded to study the effectiveness of the Head Start project, Cronan taught students to train Head Start mothers to prepare their youngsters to read. "The students felt their work was meaningful," Cronan said. "We've had a lot of success stories."

Tom Scott, San Diego State's new vice president for graduate and research affairs, is committed to elevating SDSU's research mission to full parity with its teaching mission. His job is made easier by the increasing number of SDSU faculty with large grants from prestigious organizations like the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health. Speaking of his aspirations for SDSU, Scott said, "My goal is to raise the research profile and to establish circumstances in which faculty members will have the time and resources to become leading scholars in their disciplines."

### Battling Heart Disease

There's new hope in the fight against heart disease, the number one killer of Americans. Researchers have discovered a link between cardiovascular illness and inflammation resulting from infection.

The nation's first multidisciplinary team is now assembling in San Diego to explore this link and advance this important new line of research into drug development. Their headquarters is the new BioScience Center on the SDSU campus.

The 37,000-square-foot center will be dedicated on March 1. Its four floors of laboratories will house scientists from the fields of microbiology, cardiovascular biology, infectious disease and immunology, all collaborating on cutting-edge research. Working alongside these regional experts, graduate and undergraduate students will

acquire the real-world experience necessary to broaden their education and move into the workforce.

The center will also house two eminent scientific institutes. One is the SDSU Heart Institute, a regional nucleus for cardiovascular research, teaching and clinical practice. The second is the SDSU Center for Microbial Sciences, whose scientists explore basic biological principles that may have novel applications in the biotechnology industry.

### Aztec Intelligence

Former SDSU President *Thomas B. Day* and *Barbara Hartung*, '56, M.S. '76, executive assistant emeritus to the president, visited campus in the fall to receive Outstanding Service awards from the SDSU chapter of the national honor society, Mortar Board. Day served as SDSU's sixth president from

1978 until 1996, a period of tumultuous growth and development on campus. Hartung was chair of the journalism department and assistant dean in the College of Professional Studies and Fine Arts before serving as executive assistant to Day and his successor, Stephen L. Weber... The Campanile Foundation, San Diego State's philanthropic foundation, has appointed five new members to its board of directors. They are: *Thomas Ault*, '67, a practicing attorney with Ault, Davis & Schonfeld; *Dorothy Codling*, '66, president and owner of Codling Company Interior Design; *Bruce Ives*, '89, founding president and CEO of Coronado First Bank; *Rodney Lanthorne*, president of Kyocera International, Inc; and student representative *Arlene Hady*, a third-year nursing student and president of the Health and Human Services College Council.

## Eclectic menu. Think of Eugene Olevsky as the Emeril of materials science.

By Coleen L. Geraghty

Eugene Olevsky is not a chef, but he can tell you how your “recipe” will turn out. That is, if the ingredients are powdered materials like ceramic, metallic, polymer or glass. The SDSU professor of mechanical engineering is a leader in the field of sintering, a manufacturing process in which powdered materials are compacted using heat and pressure. In the sintering process, particles bond at a temperature lower than the melting point, producing a porous material with excellent productivity and high-dimensional precision.

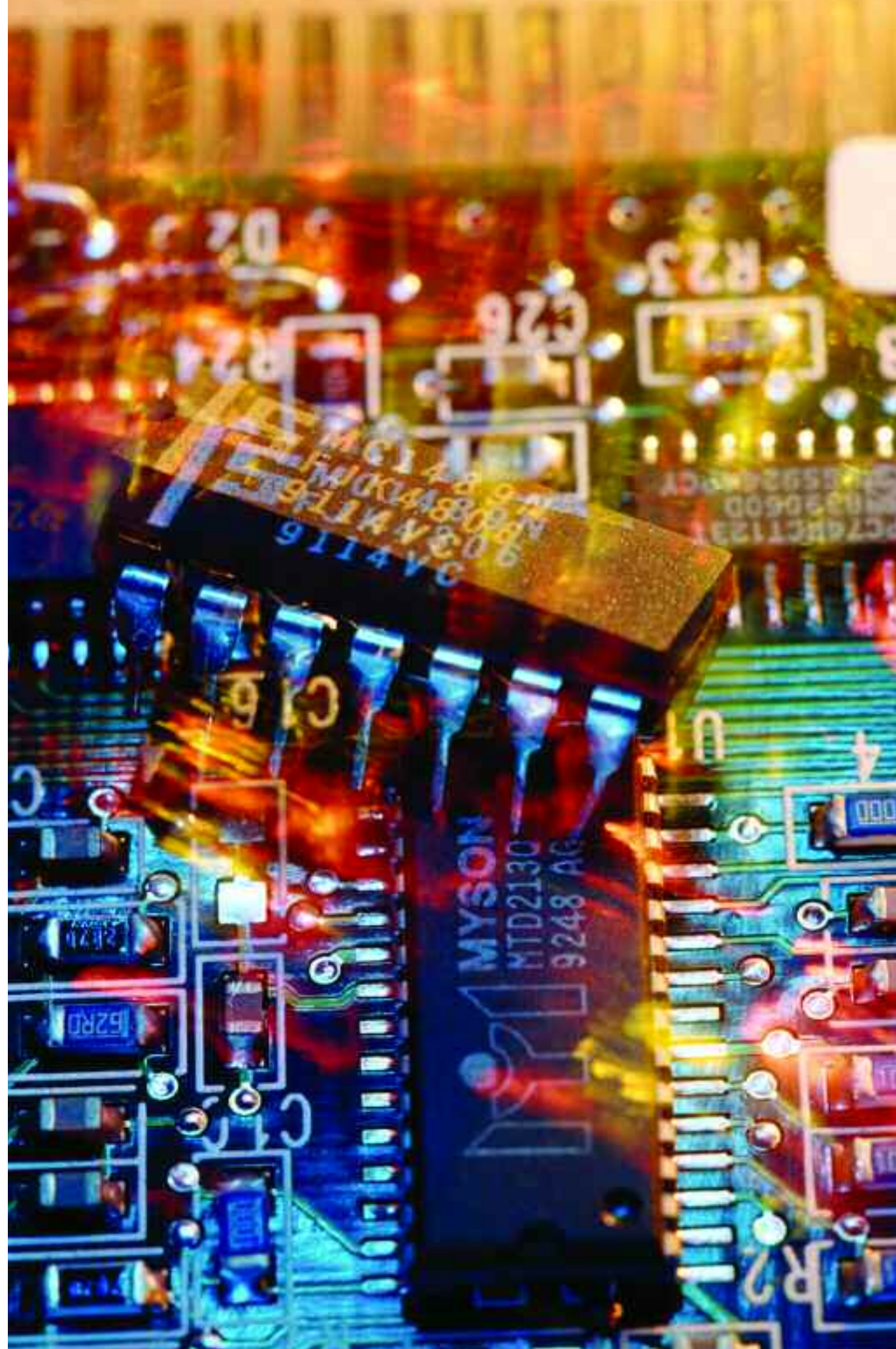
Sintered products are used in the electronics, automotive and aerospace industries. Components in your cell phone are produced with sintering; so are pacemaker parts and solar cells, rocket nozzles, turbochargers, dental implants and golf clubs. The science of sintering is not new. Tungsten powder was used to develop a durable lamp filament for Thomas Edison. However, well into the 20th century, serious limitations existed in the application of developed models to industrial procedures. It wasn't until the '80s that researchers like Olevsky – possessing a combination of materials science and mechanics knowledge – bridged the gap between theory and practice and pushed sintering science to the next level.

A scholar in mathematics and mechanical engineering, Olevsky is renowned in the field for developing the Continuum Theory of Sintering, which bears his name. His generic theory is the basis of computer models capable of predicting shape changes and density evolution during the sintering process. It enables scientists and engineers to construct a full-fledged virtual reality of powder materials' manufacturing to determine how tiny particles will react to extreme heat and pressure. Olevsky's is the only theory that extends to the micro and nano dimensions, describing the sintering behavior of individual powder particles at extremely minute levels. How minute? The width of a human hair is about 80,000 nanometers.

With his breakthrough work in sintering science, Olevsky is among the many San Diego State University faculty members whose research is transforming our world. The extent and quality of faculty research on campus has catapulted SDSU to the Carnegie Foundation category of “Research University” with “high research activity.”

This year, Olevsky is honored as SDSU's Albert W. Johnson University Research Lecturer for outstanding achievement in research and scholarship. With that award, he becomes a Distinguished Professor of Mechanical Engineering, joining a group of 16 other SDSU researchers similarly honored since 1984.

A native of Ukraine, Olevsky earned two master's degrees (math and mechanical engineering) simultaneously and with honors while a student at the University of Kiev. Later, he was Humboldt Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Metal Research in Stuttgart, Germany, and a research fellow at the Catholic University of Leuven in Belgium. Since joining the SDSU faculty in 1998, he has held concurrent positions as visiting



professor at the University of Metz in France and adjunct scholar at the University of California, San Diego.

In 2000, Olevsky received the Young Investigator Award, currently known as the CAREER Award. It is the National Science Foundation's (NSF) most prestigious recognition of the early career activities of teacher-scholars who effectively integrate research and education within the context of their organization's mission.

At SDSU, Olevsky's work has attracted more than \$1 million in grants from the NSF and substantial support from private industry. His Powder Technology Lab on campus is sponsored by Sandia National Laboratory, Sun Microsystems, Solar Turbines, SPAWAR and the state of California, as well as by the NSF. Currently, Olevsky and the graduate and doctoral students he advises are developing advanced materials for use in solar cells, solid oxide fuel cells (alternative fuel-based sources of energy for cars, aircraft and space vehicles) and thermal management of electronic circuitry.

“More than any other investigator in the field of sintering theory, Eugene is just interested and interesting – he has ideas, models and challenges that keep pushing the envelope,” said Randall German. A research colleague of Olevsky's, German is chaired professor of mechanical engineering and director of the Center for Advanced Vehicular Systems at Mississippi State University, as well as a recognized expert and author of books on sintering. He noted that Olevsky was selected by the international sintering community to co-chair its next conference. “It was a clear choice,” German said, “and (we) look forward to the chance to meet again under an umbrella that reflects Eugene's vision of the field.”

*The Albert W. Johnson University Research Lectureship is awarded annually to an SDSU faculty member for outstanding achievement in research and scholarship. Sponsored by the Division of Graduate and Research Affairs and the University Research Council, with support from Instructional Related Activities, the award recognizes achievement and fosters its continuation. Recipients of the Johnson Lectureship are named as Distinguished Professors in their respective disciplines.*

*Eugene Olevsky will present his lecture on Feb. 28 at 4 p.m. in the Aztec Athletics Center auditorium. The lecture is free of charge and open to the public.*



# Bon Appetit!



By Sandra Millers Younger

From burgers at the Box to lobster in La Jolla, Aztecs rule the food-service industry.

Spectacular beaches, palm-framed mountain views and the best climate anywhere on earth. No wonder tourism is a major industry in San Diego – a \$5.5 billion business in 2004. And no wonder San Diego State University offers a Hospitality and Tourism Management (HTM) curriculum to prepare future industry leaders.

But long before the HTM program launched in 2001, a host of Aztecs found their way into the food industry and achieved spectacular career success as restaurant developers and managers, industry consultants and/or top executives. Together, they have pleased San Diego's palate for many years. Here's just a short list.

Norman Brinker, '57, started at Jack in the Box and ended as chairman emeritus of Brinker Intl., a \$4 billion-per-year dining dynasty comprising 1,500 restaurants, including Chili's, On the Border and other chains. His million-dollar gift to San Diego State established an executive-in-residence position within the HTM program.

Aztecs L. Robert (Bob) Payne, '55, and Michael D. Rogers, '61, the entrepreneurial duo who started the Hungry Hunter chain back in the late '60s, also went on to mega-success in the hospitality industry and welcomed many others into the business. In 1999, Payne's \$1.1 million gift seeded SDSU's hospitality and tourism program.

SDSU alumnae Julia Stewart, '77, and Linda Lang, '91, lead major food-service corporations. Stewart is president, CEO, COO and director of IHOP; Lang is chair and CEO of Jack in the Box. Both Ralph Rubio, '78, of Rubio's Fresh Mexican Grill and Wing Lam, '84, of Wahoo's Fish Taco discovered Baja fish tacos as San Diego State students. (Rubio was named 2005 Restaurateur of the Year by the California Restaurant Association). And don't forget SDSU alumna and former social work professor Su-Mei Yu, '80, now a cookbook author, owner of the Saffron Thai restaurants and a leading Thai chef.

What is it about San Diego State that's encouraged so many to do so well in the food industry? Insiders say it has a lot to do with San Diego itself, its ideal climate and casual, beach-party social scene. But beyond that,

food-industry leaders seem to share a few not-so-common denominators: people savvy, business acumen, a commitment to hard work and a flair for innovation. And many say they acquired those all-important skills during their college years.

## Learning the business

Tom DeCotiis, Ph.D., '63, focuses on the big picture. That's his job. DeCotiis is co-founder and CEO of CorVirtus Corp., a Colorado Springs-based research and branding consultancy with dozens of food-industry clients, including Roy's, Hard Rock Café, Outback Steakhouse and Red Lobster. So his assessment of San Diego as a mecca for foodies is high praise.

"I can think of a dozen great restaurants in San Diego," he says, an accolade he reserves for few other cities, New York being a notable exception. But even New York can't outdo San Diego when it comes to creativity and a climate that invites casual socializing year-round, DeCotiis says.

"California, particularly Southern California, is a food-trendy place and always has been. A lot of other people take ideas from California," he points out. "The climate comes together with the lifestyle and there's competition, so it's a place where you can really learn the business."

DeCotiis believes that successful food-service leaders often begin as "party people." "They like to be entertained, and they

like to entertain," he says. But of course there's more to it than that. "When they're good at it, there's a reason," DeCotiis says. "Usually, they truly enjoy being around people and taking care of people. Two, they work hard at it. And three, they're smart. You have to be able to manage the business side or you won't survive, even if you have good food."

DeCotiis graduated from San Diego State in 1963 and joined an oil company, managing service stations. He hated the job, quit and found work at Jack in the Box instead. Later, DeCotiis completed grad school and tried academia, but that early taste for the food industry lingered. In 1985, he launched CorVirtus (i.e., core values), his platform for helping dozens of restaurateurs "build their values into their companies."

## Surf and salsa

Wing Lam, who studied finance at SDSU, would make a great CorVirtus case study. After growing up in Brazil and Orange County, this son of Chinese restaurant owners came to San Diego State to combine college classes with his passion for surfing. In the process, he discovered an unfilled niche in the restaurant market that led to the creation of Wahoo's Fish Taco, a business built squarely on personal priorities.

"San Diego's climate is so conducive to being outside all the time, you tend not to cook; you tend to be out," explains



"California, particularly Southern California, is a food-trendy place and always has been. The climate comes together with the lifestyle and there's competition, so it's a place where you can really learn the business."





Lam worked as a cook at a sorority house. "I learned what girls actually like and don't like. I learned their taste palates are very simple. For example, they'd microwave quesadillas and eat them with ketchup."

Lam, whose fashion signature is still shorts, flip flops and Hawaiian shirts. "But if you're right off the beach and still wet, where are you going to eat? Where besides a fast-food place can you go?"

There was no place until 1988, when Lam and his brothers, Ed and Mingo, launched a restaurant designed to complement Southern California's active lifestyle and appeal to their fellow surfers. Wahoo's "eclectic Brazilian/Mexican/Asian menu" is a direct reflection of extracurricular lessons learned at San Diego State. To help finance his education, Lam worked as a cook at a sorority house.

#### What girls like

"I learned what girls actually like and don't like," Lam explains. "I learned their taste palates are very simple. For example, they'd microwave quesadillas and eat them with ketchup."

Since most surfers are guys, why bother catering to female tastes? Lam answers that question with another question. "When you're on a date, who decides where you're gonna eat?"

Marketing to the surfing community turned out to be easy. "I aligned myself with all the [surfing] brands, and within a year we were the official surf and sport restaurant," Lam says. "The message was, 'If you surf, you gotta like my food.'"

Beach-going, taco-loving, budget-conscious Southern Californians got the message, and Wahoo's Fish Taco took off.

Today, the company operates more than 30 restaurants in California, Colorado and – coming soon – Las Vegas.

#### Haute cuisine at the Cove

When it comes to upscale eateries, you can't beat George's at the Cove, founded and co-owned by George Hauer, '68. With a prominent location on La Jolla's Prospect Street, George's three dining areas offer sublime oceanfront views and superb cuisine.

Included last year in Gourmet magazine's list of "where to eat right now in 30 American cities," Hauer's eponymous establishment is currently celebrating its 20th anniversary year. But his career in the restaurant industry goes back 20 years further—to his senior year at San Diego State when, at the suggestion of a few fraternity brothers, he took a part-time job at the Jolly Ox, a Mission Valley restaurant owned by Bob Payne and Mike Rogers. "The brothers said restaurant jobs were a way to make some money and have some fun at the same time," Hauer remembers.

From the beginning, he showed real promise in the business, progressing in just a year from prep cook to bartender to waiter. Then, after graduation, Hauer left the Jolly Ox "for what I considered a serious job" with a banking and investment company.

Within two years, he was again working for Payne and Rogers, this time as assistant manager at their newest venture, The Hungry Hunter. Payne and Rogers sold out to Ralston Purina in 1973, but Hauer

stayed for 10 years, eventually advancing to vice president and director of operations for the company, in charge of 100 restaurants.

Still, when a friend urged him to open his own place, Hauer hesitated. "He said I was a natural entrepreneur. I didn't believe him; I was scared to death." But he did it anyway. Four years later, in 1989, Hauer gained a partner, SDSU alumnus Mark Oliver, '72, now general manager and proprietor of George's at the Cove. Together they created a new, and still evolving, San Diego institution.

#### Off to the Olympics

John Crisafulli, '92, contributed his comments for this article by e-mail from Torino, Italy where he's busy preparing for the XX Olympic Winter Games Feb. 10-26. Torino 2006 will mark Crisafulli's fourth Olympics. And he's not even an athlete. His company, Behind the Scenes, is the nation's premier on-location catering firm and official caterer for NBC, which broadcasts the Games.

As a finance major at State, Crisafulli never imagined a career in catering. But looking back, he sees direct links between his college studies and his current work. In particular, he appreciates the "practical knowledge and experience beyond the textbook," he got at State, a hallmark of an SDSU education.

Crisafulli writes from Torino: "My education prepared me for the responsibilities of employee

management, contract negotiation, financial forecasting, and product marketing, issues I face in my job on a daily basis."

When negotiating multi-party Olympic contracts, for example, Crisafulli relies on skills he learned as a student participant in group assignments. "Those group projects were microcosms of the reality I face everyday," he says, "especially with my Olympic clients and vendors.

"The bottom line," Crisafulli continues, "is having not had these similar experiences while

at SDSU, working with my fellow classmates, I believe my skills in negotiation and influencing clients, employees and peers would be lacking in many ways."

Crisafulli takes the contrarian viewpoint on San Diego's stature as a great town for restaurants. Despite the obvious standouts, he feels "our restaurant industry is somewhat unsophisticated and infant in its overall existence," especially by contrast with other major cities.

But, he points out, that's good news for the students enrolling in

SDSU's new restaurant management and leadership curriculum, eager to follow the lead of fellow Aztecs at the forefront of the industry.

"For an entrepreneur, it's an ideal situation to bring new and innovative concepts and style to a growing market," Crisafulli says. "Cookie cutter restaurants and caterers are on every corner, and they serve a growing market. But it's the innovators that will encourage and spawn the real growth in the [food-service] marketplace."



"Cookie cutter restaurants and caterers are on every corner...but it's the innovators that will encourage and spawn the real growth."

## An Academic Approach: The SDSU Center for Restaurant Management and Leadership

San Diego State has always been known for its entrepreneurial approach to education and response to real-world needs. So it's not surprising that the university is once again taking a pro-active approach to meeting community and industry demand with plans to establish the SDSU Center for Restaurant Management and Leadership, which will be the nation's first academic program focusing on restaurant leadership.

The center's interdisciplinary curriculum will balance theoretical business management principles with applied industry experiences, leading to a bachelor of science degree.

"Our discussions with leaders in the restaurant industry tell us there's an increasing need for employees with leadership potential and a good grasp of management concepts, as well as entrepreneurial attitudes and approaches," explained Carl Winston, director of SDSU's Hospitality and Tourism Management (HTM) program. "So we're building our program to emphasize those critical areas."

As part of the existing HTM program, the new restaurant management curriculum will be distinguished by a stellar faculty, enriched student experiences and industry interaction. The new center's unique curriculum will ensure that

students stay abreast of current and emerging trends in the industry. Outside restaurant experts will contribute to classes, offering insight into key business areas such as competition, customer service, marketing, technology, training and leadership.

In addition, the program will emphasize the values and legacy of SDSU alumnus and legendary restaurateur Norman Brinker, chairman emeritus of Brinker Intl., who has established an executive-in-residence program to be housed in the new center.

When additional private funding becomes available, SDSU will create an endowed chair and recruit a nationally recognized leader in the field to direct the center.

Industry magnate and SDSU alumna Julia Stewart, who is president, CEO and chief operating officer for the IHOP Corporation, applauds the move to establish an academic emphasis in restaurant management at San Diego State. "The restaurant industry continues to grow and the need to develop leaders is never-ending," Stewart said. "The proposed SDSU Center for Restaurant Management and Leadership can play a vital role in helping the industry meet this challenge. The center will assist in raising the bar on the quality of leadership in restaurants today and in the future."

# A Decade of Transformation

by Coleen L. Geraghty



Ten years ago —

Yoany Tenorio was a 7th grader at National Middle School in the South Bay, determined to follow her older sister to college.

Karen Emmorey was a senior staff scientist at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies.

Mark McMillin was a senior executive at The McMillin Companies, a San Diego community developer.

Today, the three are deeply involved with San Diego State University.

Tenorio is a San Diego State senior and lead adviser for Compact for Success, working with local high school students who aspire to attend SDSU. Emmorey is director of the SDSU Laboratory for Language and Cognitive Neuroscience, conducting research on what sign language reveals about the nature of language and the brain. McMillin is head of The McMillin Companies, sitting on the boards of SDSU's College of Business Administration and The Campanile Foundation (TCF), SDSU's philanthropic presence in the community.

The course of their individual paths to Montezuma Mesa parallels San Diego State's transformation over the last decade into a premier public urban university. Increasingly, SDSU's result-driven programs and academic reputation attract students, faculty, staff and community leaders committed to making a difference in their fields. Within the San Diego region and beyond, SDSU graduates are leaders in business, health care, government, education, sciences and the arts.

The programs that connect Tenorio, Emmorey and McMillin with SDSU did not exist 10 years ago. Since that time, the university has added 20 degree programs and established a national reputation in emerging fields like homeland security and international business. Soon, SDSU will offer independent doctorate degrees in education, an opportunity made possible by recently approved state legislation.



President Stephen L. Weber, (second from left), with Andreas Brown, owner of the Gotham Book Mart and Gallery, Connie Vinita Dowell, dean of the Library and Information Access, and Joyce Gattas, dean of the College of Professional Studies and Fine Arts, during Commencement 2005.

Today's SDSU generates the energy of motivated, highly qualified students; a faculty committed to engaging those students in research; and community donors and partners who share the university's vision.

## An opportune moment

It's no accident that SDSU's decade of transformation coincided with Stephen L. Weber's first 10 years as president. He arrived at an opportune moment. The millennium was approaching, and San Diego State stood at the cusp of its second century. Change seemed inevitable. "It was clear to me that the faculty and staff of San Diego State were eager to go to better places," Weber recalled.

He began by convening a campus-wide discussion of goals and priorities. The resulting blueprint for future growth, titled "Shared Vision," committed SDSU to five long-term objectives: strengthening academic excellence, nurturing a

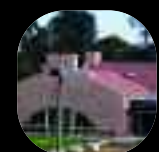
diverse campus community, supporting international study, utilizing resources intelligently and building a learning-centered environment that encourages community involvement. Since 1996, the pursuit of these Shared Vision goals has changed the character of San Diego State University. A few examples:

- The current freshmen class earned an average high school GPA of 3.49. They are 10 percent more likely to complete their degrees than the 1996 freshmen, whose average GPA was only 3.10.
- Four-year graduation rates for first-time freshmen rose 25 percent between spring 1999 and spring 2005, reflecting, in part, the university's decision to place budgetary priority on providing required classes.
- The number of undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degrees conferred on students of color increased from 29.85 percent of all degrees conferred in 1996 to 35.3 percent in

# 10 Years of Building the Campus . . . 10 Years of Building the Community



## N E W C O N S T R U C T I O N A T S A N D I E G O S T A T E S I N C E 1 9 9 6



1  
Campus Children's Center



3  
Pedestrian Bridge Center



5  
Prospective Student Center



7  
Geology, Mathematics, Computer Sciences



9  
Manchester Hall



11  
SDSU Sports Deck and Parking Structure 5



13  
Cox Arena/Aztec Recreation Center remodel



15  
Aztec Tennis Center



17  
Tony Gwynn Stadium renovation



19  
BioScience Center



2  
Cuicacalli Residence Hall



4  
MTS Light Rail Trolley



6  
Chemical Sciences Laboratory



8  
Library and Information Access



10  
Extended Studies Center (Gateway addition)



12  
Fraternity Row



14  
Aztec Athletics Center



16  
SDSU Softball Stadium



18  
Cogeneration Facility

- COMPLETED
- IN PROGRESS
- 20 Aztec Aquaplex
- 21 College of Arts and Letters/Parking Structure 8
- 22 New home for Health, Counseling & Disabled Student Services
- PLANNED
- College of Education-Not pictured
- 23 SDSU Alumni Center
- 24 Storm/Nasatir renovation
- 25 International Student Center addition

SDSU DIGITAL CAMPUS MODEL  
DESIGN: EYE CANDY DESIGN  
IMAGE APPEARS COURTESY OF SDSU  
DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL PLANT



SDSU periodically commissions surveys of the campus climate. The most recent survey in 2004-2005 indicated a high level of satisfaction with SDSU – 86 percent among faculty, 94 percent among staff and 95 percent among students.

2005. Moreover, 25 percent of current SDSU faculty members are persons of color, up from 16 percent in 1996.

- Applications to SDSU more than doubled in the last decade, hitting a new high of 52,000 for fall 2006.

- A record 1,215 SDSU students studied abroad in 2004-2005, five times more than in 1996-1997.

- With Provost Nancy Marlin leading a dynamic faculty, San Diego State has evolved into a research university, securing grants and contracts of more than \$130 million annually.

- Since 1996, private giving to San Diego State has totaled \$356 million, about 75 percent more than total philanthropic support received during SDSU's previous 99-year history.

While working towards the Shared Vision goals, Weber has also led a

\$600 million construction and renovation drive to modernize the campus (see foldout map on page 19).

Although these achievements reveal a sea change at San Diego State over the last decade, they tell only part of the story. Even more significant is the synergy developed between campus and community, alumni and alma mater.

These stronger relationships with constituents is a hallmark of Weber's tenure. Collaborating with local industry, SDSU has created several programs to fill gaps in San Diego's professional workforce and bolster the region's economy. Through "Nurses Now," for example, local hospitals are helping SDSU educate more desperately needed nurses. The Hospitality and Tourism Management program is preparing students to lead this key regional industry, and industry leaders, in turn, are providing financial backing, as well as required student internships. The new Construction

## Stronger relationships with constituents is a hallmark of Weber's tenure.

Engineering Management program will enjoy a similar partnership with local business.

"One genuinely distinguishing characteristic of SDSU is that we are open to our community and willing to work with them," Weber commented. "We listen. We develop relationships. These are people who care about us, and we are open to learning from them."

### Student success

But none of these partnership programs would exist without highly qualified students to fill them. Over the past decade, SDSU has realized the importance of nurturing their education long before they come to campus. Since 1998, the university has joined with the San Diego City School District, Price Charities and the San Diego Education Association to improve student achievement in three City Heights Schools, while also expanding training and support for education professionals working there and in other inner-city schools.

Through another early-intervention program called Compact for Success, SDSU has gone a step further and guaranteed admission to all graduates of the economically challenged Sweetwater Union High School District who successfully meet prescribed academic benchmarks. The first cohort of Compact graduates will arrive at SDSU this year.

These extraordinary outreach efforts convinced alumnus Joseph Johnson, Jr. to return to SDSU as executive

director of the National Center for Urban School Transformation, funded in part by QUALCOMM Incorporated. Johnson previously was director of Student Achievement and School Accountability at the U.S. Department of Education and special assistant to the Ohio State Superintendent of Schools.

"What lured me is the university's commitment to supporting schools and school districts that want to make substantial improvements in K-12 education," Johnson said. "That commitment is articulated not in one department only, but all the way up to the president. It's rare and exciting to see a large university recognize that its well-being is inextricably linked to the well-being of the schools it serves. As simple and logical as it may seem, you don't find that kind of thinking at many universities."

But that is exactly the kind of thinking Weber and faculty have cultivated over the last 10 years. Forward-looking. Community-minded. And student-driven.

In 1999, with CSU approval, SDSU implemented a tougher admissions policy that requires freshmen to complete any necessary remedial work before enrolling. As a result, today's first-time freshmen are primed for the demands of academia, which, at SDSU, include significant research opportunities. A Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) accreditation committee recently cited SDSU as a regional

## The community has begun to grasp the enormity of SDSU's potential.

model for integrating research into the curriculum. And this month, the Carnegie Foundation is finalizing a new classification system that is expected to list SDSU among the top doctoral-granting universities in the country in the prestigious "Research University" category for those with "high research activity." SDSU will share company with such outstanding universities as Georgetown, Notre Dame, Syracuse and the University of Oklahoma.

### A culture of philanthropy

To finance the transformational changes at San Diego State over the last decade – a time marked by severe state budget cutbacks – Weber has overseen a dramatic expansion of SDSU's philanthropic efforts.

In 1997, he recruited a vice president for University Advancement (UA), Theresa Mendoza, who established The Campanile Foundation (TCF), San Diego State's first official philanthropic body. The 34-member TCF board consists of distinguished business and community leaders working in conjunction with a vast network of volunteers and alumni as advocates for San Diego State University. Their work, and that of UA staff, has raised more than \$350 million in private gifts and pledges in the last decade.

Mendoza also engineered an update to SDSU's visual identity and a strategic communications plan resulting in positive national media coverage to enhance San Diego State's image as a prominent university with a pivotal role in the future of the state.

The result – the community has begun to grasp the enormity of

SDSU's potential, according to Ron Fowler, CEO and chair of Liquid Investments, Inc., and chair of the TCF board. "The people of San Diego are beginning to realize the significance of SDSU in this community, the number of students educated here, the impact we have on education and the fact that so many entrepreneurs have degrees from SDSU. This last decade of Stephen Weber's presidency has been a watershed in our efforts to improve public awareness of philanthropy's importance to San Diego State."



Today's SDSU students are primed for the demands of academia, which, at SDSU, include significant research opportunities.

Fueled by increased private and corporate support, SDSU will develop over the next decade and beyond into an engine of growth for Southern California. This globally-minded institution with a proud 109-year history will continue devising visionary ways to meet the needs of our diverse community and our vibrant economy.

# Moving the World

By Jason Foster

SDSU Month 2006



Celebrating the minds that move the world.

“Minds that move the world” is more than a slogan for San Diego State University. It’s a mission carried out every day by SDSU alumni, faculty, staff and students.

In every corner of this global village we call home, Aztecs are making an impact. Their work is the centerpiece of the fourth annual SDSU Month celebration in March 2006, highlighting the campus’ growing international emphasis.



Mayra Correa

“Since 1999, more than 450 faculty members have received international program development grants to establish academic and research programs in dozens of countries abroad,” said Provost Nancy Marlin. “We’ve won international awards for the best study abroad program (international

business) and for our success in internationalizing the campus. In this increasingly interconnected world, the global focus is vitally important for the success of our students and the San Diego region.”

During SDSU Month, members of the community can connect with Aztecs who are making a global impact here and abroad. SDSU will post online journals called Web logs or “blogs” from a number of students, faculty and alumni overseas. These “Aztec Dispatches” will open a virtual window to the world that is SDSU abroad. Read them at <http://www.sdsuonth.com>.

Among the students who will blog is Mayra Correa. A senior with a double major in Hospitality and Tourism Management (HTM) and French, she will study French language, culture and history in Paris. Eventually, Correa hopes to become involved in planning major events in a French-speaking country.

“I know this experience will broaden my horizons and open my eyes to the world,” said Correa, who is the first in her family to travel outside the Americas. “And I’ll be able to speak French at the level I’ve always wanted. I have a real love of languages. Next, I want to live in Brazil and learn Portuguese.”

Correa is among many Aztecs venturing far from home. SDSU now ranks among the top universities of its type for students studying overseas. During 2005-06, more than 1,200 SDSU students will study or work in other countries – a seven-fold increase over 1997-98.

And international involvement doesn’t end at graduation. Many in SDSU’s legion of alumni are hard at work overseas, serving with the Peace Corps, teaching English as Fulbright scholars, or advancing international trade. Some, such as 1st Lieutenant Charles Brandon

Hill, are serving their country in arguably the most dangerous mission of all.

Hill is an infantry platoon leader serving with the U.S. Army’s 101st Airborne Division just south of Baghdad, Iraq. He participated in SDSU’s Army ROTC program and graduated in 2004 with a bachelor’s degree in International Security and Conflict Resolution (ISCOR). In Iraq, Hill’s duties range from combat operations against insurgents to helping rebuild the country.

Hill recently emailed, “The ISCOR faculty emphasized the need for us to play a larger part in the global community. Helping other nations, such as Iraq, is the only way to eventually achieve the global security that most people desire.”



Charles Brandon Hill

There are also hundreds of SDSU faculty working abroad. Stephanie Brodine, professor and head of the division of epidemiology and biostatistics for SDSU’s Graduate School of Public Health, works with colleagues on several international public health projects, from implementing HIV-prevention and education programs in Africa to co-directing the VIIDAI Project, jointly run by SDSU, the Universidad Autonoma de Baja California (UABC) and UC San Diego to promote health and provide services to underserved populations in rural Mexico.

“International public health work is fascinating because the issues are so diverse and complex; it is most effective with a multi-disciplinary team,” Brodine said. “Often the biggest challenge we face is operationalizing strategies to address the issues

effectively in areas where there are cultural differences or few resources or trained personnel.”

Closer to home, SDSU Month is hosting dozens of academic, cultural and athletic events – some with an international flavor. The community can take advantage of special offers from local businesses and organizations. Many will raise funds for the SDSU Month Scholarship Challenge, providing financial assistance to outstanding SDSU students. The celebration also features a partner-supported media campaign, including TV announcements that will run during the 2006 Winter Olympics broadcasts.

SDSU Month begins March 1 and ends April 8 with Explore SDSU/ Open House.



Stephanie Brodine

# SDSU Month 2006 Signature Events

## College of Business 50th Anniversary March 8, 6-9 p.m.

**HOUSE OF BLUES, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO**  
Red and Black sings the blues as the College of Business Administration hosts a 50th Birthday Bash at the House of Blues in the Gaslamp Quarter. Join the college's alumni, friends and the local business community as they celebrate "50 Years of Educating San Diego's Business Leaders." Tickets include hosted bar, hors d'oeuvres and live entertainment featuring Sue Palmer and Her Motel Swing Orchestra. For more information and to register, visit [www.sdsu.edu/BizBirthday](http://www.sdsu.edu/BizBirthday).



## Understanding Terrorism and Global Conflict – Lecture Series March 2-30

**SDSU CAMPUS**  
The Fred J. Hansen Institute of World Peace, the Hostler Institute of World Affairs and the Center for Arab-Islamic Studies present an exciting and thought-provoking lecture series with renowned guest speakers. Highlights include a screening of the film, "Occupation: Dreamland," with director, Garrett Scott; and "Understanding Terrorism: What the Post 9/11 Generation Should Know," a keynote address by Anthony Cordesman from the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, D.C. For a complete listing with dates and locations, visit [www.sdsmonth.com](http://www.sdsmonth.com).



## Madness on the Mesa! Throughout March

**SDSU CAMPUS**  
The NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament headlines a banner month for sports fans on Montezuma Mesa this March. A sold-out Cox Arena will host the first and second rounds of the tournament on Thursday, March 16, and Saturday, March 18. Coach Steve Fisher's Aztecs hope to play in this year's tournament. On March 29, Cox Arena will serve as venue for the 2006 McDonald's All-American High School Basketball Games, featuring the nation's best young players. Aztecs fans can cheer all their teams and celebrate SDSU Month with special offers throughout March. (See additional information below).



## Mozart Festival March 22 & 29

**SDSU CAMPUS**  
2006 marks the 250th birthday of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. In conjunction with celebrations around the globe, the SDSU School of Music and Dance presents a free two-part lecture series by author and international Mozart scholar Daniel Leeson on March 22, and Neal Zaslaw, dubbed "Mr. Mozart" by The New York Times, on March 29. A concert featuring a Mozart symphony and two full choral/orchestral works, including one of Mozart's "Masses," will be performed on April 2. Tickets are available for the performance by calling (619) 594-1696.



## Montys Alumni Awards Gala March 25

**COX ARENA**  
For the first time in 16 years, the Monty Awards gala, at which the Alumni Association presents its highest honor, returns to the San Diego State University campus. In 1990, the gala was held in the Aztec Bowl; on March 25, 2006, it will take place in Cox Arena, within the old Aztec Bowl. A time-honored tradition at San Diego State University, the Montys are a symbol of achievement and success presented to distinguished alumni. For information and tickets, visit [www.sdsualumni.org](http://www.sdsualumni.org).



## Explore SDSU: Open House 2006 April 8

**SDSU CAMPUS**  
In what has become an SDSU Month tradition, SDSU welcomes past, present and future Aztecs and the San Diego community to Explore SDSU, an open house showcasing what makes us a powerhouse university. Join us for fun, food, live-entertainment and tours of the many "villages," including the Future Aztecs and Alumni villages. For event information visit [www.sdsmonth.com](http://www.sdsmonth.com).



## SDSU Month Benefit Partners



Receive the youth price (\$5) for tickets to SDSU baseball and softball games during March. That's \$2 off regular admission! Just say the words

"SDSU Month" at the Aztec Ticket Window to receive the discount. Also, get a Free Youth General Admission ticket (14 & under) with the purchase of a General Admission Adult Ticket for the basketball games against Wyoming on March 1 and South Dakota on March 3 (both games are at 7 p.m.). For more information on schedules and tickets, visit [goaztecs.com](http://goaztecs.com).



Is your red-and-black looking like pink-and-gray? Visit the Aztec Store in Fashion Valley or the SDSU Bookstore during March wearing any SDSU clothing (no matter how old) and get 15% off new SDSU clothing. (See store for details.) You can also save 15% on SDSU clothing at [www.aztecsshops.com](http://www.aztecsshops.com). Each has new and different items, so shop them all.



Adults 18 and over can receive free admission to the Aztec Recreation Center during the month of March by mentioning SDSU Month. Offer valid for first-time or new visitors; log onto

<http://arc.sdsu.edu/membership/index.php> to request the free month offer. The ARC is a 76,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility with weight rooms, more than 90 cardio machines, basketball gyms, more than 60 group exercise classes each week, a rock climbing wall, saunas, free towel service and much more. For more information, visit <http://arc.sdsu.edu>.



The Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (MCASD) in La Jolla is offering 2-for-1 admission (or 50% off one admission) for anyone who mentions SDSU Month during March. The featured exhibitions will be Southern Exposure and La Dolce Vita: Selections from the Ruth and Murray Gribin Collection. For more information, log on to <http://www.mcasd.org/>.



Mention SDSU Month when signing up for a Costco Wholesale membership during March 2006 and receive a \$10 cash card good toward Costco merchandise. Offer good at all Southern California Costco locations and applicable to new members only. For Costco locations and other information, visit [www.costco.com](http://www.costco.com).



Get 10% off of your total purchase at Windmill Farms during SDSU Month when you mention SDSU Month and show any SDSU ID card (student, faculty/staff, Alumni Association, Aztec Center, etc.) Windmill Farms is located at 6386 Del Cerro Boulevard, just north of Interstate 8 at the College exit. [www.windmillfarms.net](http://www.windmillfarms.net) or (619) 287-1400.



SDSU students, alumni and faculty receive 10% off regular-priced clothing throughout March when you mention the SDSU Month promotion! [www.elyziumsurf.com](http://www.elyziumsurf.com)



Save on movie tickets during SDSU Month! Show your student, faculty/staff or Alumni Member ID card at Landmark's Hillcrest or Ken Cinema box office and receive an adult ticket for the bargain rate. For film and show time information log on to [www.landmarktheatres.com](http://www.landmarktheatres.com).



Take 20% off regular price of any tour, rental or Team-Building Event from Hike Bike Kayak for the

month of March. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Hike Bike Kayak in San Diego and La Jolla offers kayaking tours, guided kayak trips to the La Jolla Sea Caves, whale watching by kayak, surfing lessons, cycling tours, hiking tours and team-building events for groups, individuals and families. Kayak rentals, road bicycle rentals and mountain bike rentals are also available. (858) 551-9510 or [www.hikebikekayak.com](http://www.hikebikekayak.com). Also, FREE standard backrest and paddle with the purchase on any new kayak over \$499 for the month of March at Allen's Kayaks [www.allenskayaks.com](http://www.allenskayaks.com)



## Scholarship Challenge Partners

The SDSU Month Scholarship Challenge is back! The Challenge provides scholarships for some of the university's outstanding and deserving students. Through individual donations or by patronizing our partners below, you can help support a future leader of industry, science, arts, education or many other fields. For more information, visit [www.sdsmonth.com](http://www.sdsmonth.com).



Rubio's Fresh Mexican Grill has combined the flavors of Baja in a special meal to benefit the 2006 SDSU Month Scholarship Challenge. Rubio's Aztec Meal Deal includes Rubio's world-famous fish taco, a crispy shrimp taco, pinto beans, chips and a small drink - all for just \$5.59, with \$1.00 from every meal going to SDSU scholars. Available March 7-April 17, 2006.

Other Scholarship Challenge partners include SDC, Cox Communications, PAETEC Communications and Time Warner Cable.

# Rising Stars

Four Aztec athletes San Diego will be watching this spring

By Steve Dolan

## Celena Velasquez

Celena Velasquez admits she came to San Diego State with a habit of procrastinating.

But it didn't take long for the women's softball pitcher to overcome the tendency. There's no room for procrastination in a schedule that demands 12-hour work days.

Now a senior, Velasquez has become accustomed to spring and fall days filled with weight training and classes in the morning, softball practice or games in the afternoon and more classes at night.

"If I were to have open space in my schedule, I would probably stress myself out," Velasquez said. "The thought of not having softball next year scares me because I like the strictness of the schedule. Softball has really helped me."

In return, Velasquez has been a great asset to the SDSU softball team. She made the all-Mountain West Conference (MWC) team each of the past three seasons, was named Conference Pitcher of the Year twice, took the All-West

Region Pitcher award in 2004 and was crowned Freshman of the Year back in her rookie days.

In 2004, Velasquez racked up a 0.85 ERA in MWC games, the third lowest in conference history, just behind her own freshman season in 2003 (0.81) and former Aztec Bre DeSanta's freshman campaign in 2002 (0.83).

And here's another impressive statistic: through it all, Velasquez has maintained a 3.95 GPA in her major, kinesiology, and an overall GPA of 3.6.

The native of Tucson chose SDSU because it offered her a full-ride scholarship, enabled her to continue playing softball and afforded her the envious opportunity of living in San Diego. As she heads into her final season, she has no regrets.

"It's gone so fast here, but I've enjoyed every minute of it," Velasquez said. "Not just the softball aspect, but becoming friends with the girls on the team. I think it's a great thing, being a part of an athletic team."



## Brandon Heath

Brandon Heath knows more than most athletes about hard work and commitment. The Aztec basketball player and sociology major is on track to graduate from SDSU in three years. This, despite the 20 hours of practice he puts in every week. And the fact that he failed to qualify for NCAA ranking as a freshman because of poor grades in high school.

How did Heath move from one academic extreme to another? In his own words, it was a determination to get back in the game.

"It hurt me more than anything to not be able to play," Heath said. "I came from a big-time high school program where everybody in my class played Division I basketball. Seeing them play on TV every night, it burned deep down inside while I was sitting on the couch because I had not taken my education seriously."

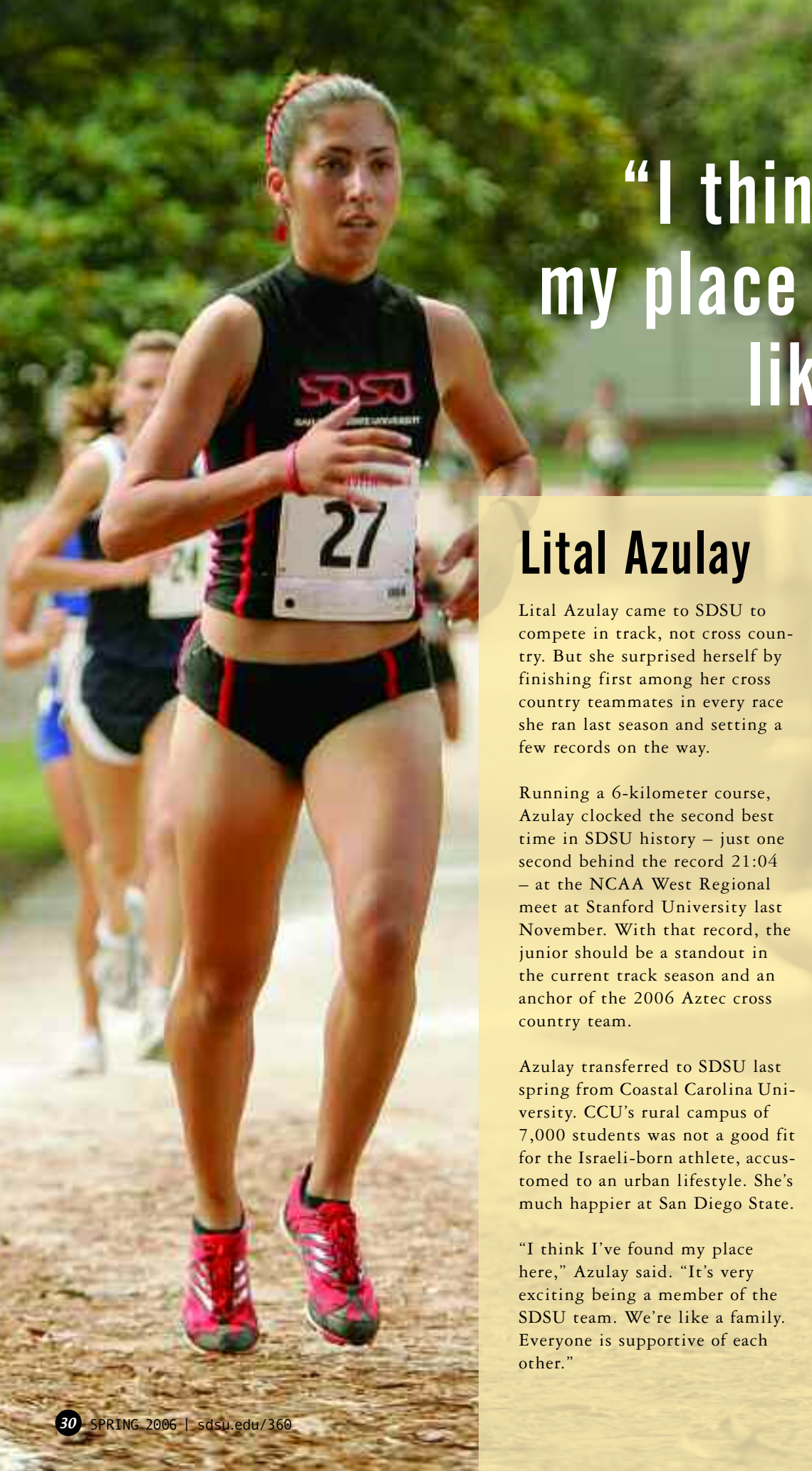
Heath had been a prep basketball standout at Westchester High School in Los Angeles, but most colleges took a look at his grades and walked away. Not SDSU basketball coach Steve Fisher, who

saw the possibilities within the 6-foot-4-inch shooting guard.

"Coach Fisher has made the experience great," Heath said. "I love that guy. I thank him for taking a chance on me."

Fisher's gamble paid off. By the end of last season, Heath had amassed 945 career points, the most by an Aztec player at the conclusion of a sophomore campaign. He was a second-team all-Mountain West Conference selection as a sophomore and made the preseason all-conference first team in this, his junior year. He already ranks sixth in SDSU's Division I career charts in scoring average and seventh in free throw percentage.

Heath's typical day includes early morning weight training followed by classes, several hours of practice and more classes at night. He's taking 16 units this semester, one fewer than during the fall, and also has attended summer school to accelerate completion of his degree. Off the court, he's been recognized for his work with community youth.



“I think I’ve found my place here. We’re like a family.”

## Lital Azulay

Lital Azulay came to SDSU to compete in track, not cross country. But she surprised herself by finishing first among her cross country teammates in every race she ran last season and setting a few records on the way.

Running a 6-kilometer course, Azulay clocked the second best time in SDSU history – just one second behind the record 21:04 – at the NCAA West Regional meet at Stanford University last November. With that record, the junior should be a standout in the current track season and an anchor of the 2006 Aztec cross country team.

Azulay transferred to SDSU last spring from Coastal Carolina University. CCU’s rural campus of 7,000 students was not a good fit for the Israeli-born athlete, accustomed to an urban lifestyle. She’s much happier at San Diego State.

“I think I’ve found my place here,” Azulay said. “It’s very exciting being a member of the SDSU team. We’re like a family. Everyone is supportive of each other.”

The communications major carried a full load of 19 units last semester, and in spring 2005. Her weekday life is a blur of early morning practice, classes, more practice, weight training and more classes. An average three of four weekends are spent on the road, trying to study between meets.

Time will tell whether Azulay can continue to perform for the Aztecs as she did for her native country. She holds the Israeli national junior record in the 5-kilometer run and the half marathon and the Israeli national indoor record in the 5K. Last summer in Tel Aviv, she won a gold medal in the 3,000-meter run at the 17th Maccabiah Games, also known as the Jewish Olympics, the third largest sporting competition in the world.

As for the future, Azulay is uncertain whether she will remain in the U.S. or return to Israel. “I’ll see where life takes me,” she said philosophically. Up to now, life has taken her to some interesting places.

## Markus Dickhardt

Markus Dickhardt enrolled at San Diego State sight unseen two years ago. The winning tennis player and native of a small town near Frankfurt, Germany, came to SDSU at the urging of former German-born Aztecs, never having seen the campus.

“There were three or four players here from Germany who told me it was nice, so I believed them,” Dickhardt said. “And everyone knows California is about good weather, even if they’ve never been here.”

Dickhardt arrived in January 2004, on the heels of a German national doubles title for his age group and appearances in the prestigious Junior French and Australian Opens. He didn’t know much about the level of play in California, but has left no doubt that he can match up with the best college players, winning a berth on the all-Mountain West Conference (MWC) team in each of his first two seasons at SDSU and taking freshman of the year honors in 2004.

Last season, Dickhardt and his teammates won SDSU’s fifth MWC regular season crown in six years and its third conference tournament

title in four years. A two-time all-MWC singles performer, Dickhardt led the team in singles victories with 22 and posted a 12-3 doubles record, tops on the team, with Eugenio Romero.

Dickhardt was one of two SDSU players (with Indra Erichsen, also from Germany) honored in 2005 as a scholar-athlete by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA). The international business major is succeeding to the point where he is on

schedule to graduate in three-and-a-half years. He’s been able to maintain a 3.8 GPA despite a hectic practice schedule and course loads of between 18 and 21 units per semester.

“I’m so happy when the break comes because I can just take time out and just enjoy life,” Dickhardt said.

Clearly, his decision to take a chance on San Diego State has worked out for him – and for the university.





# Every gift has an impact.



## Every gift to the SDSU Annual Fund makes a difference.

Your gift to SDSU makes a difference. By pooling our resources, gift by gift, our alumni and friends help to change lives. Through your contribution to the SDSU Annual Fund, you support scholarship opportunities that enable talented and deserving students to receive a higher education. Scholarships not only attract the best and brightest students and allow them to choose SDSU, but they also enable students to concentrate on their studies, enrich their learning experiences and provide them with the tools they need to succeed. You play an important role in fulfilling dreams and providing opportunities, helping SDSU to reach new heights of excellence. Be a force for change. Make a gift to the SDSU Annual Fund today.

619-594-8541 • [philanthropy@sdsu.edu](mailto:philanthropy@sdsu.edu) • <http://giving.sdsu.edu>

Photo: Alan Decker

## "By giving, you receive..."



Left to right:  
Jane Murphy '91, Brad Murphy,  
Carly Murphy, Yardyn Shraga, Rob Zeps,  
Grant Zeps, Diane Zeps '91, '95,  
Center: Elaine Lipinsky



Bernard & Dorris  
Lipinsky



Left to right standing:  
Steve, Christy, Taeya, Daren, and  
Gina Lipinsky; seated are Jeffrey  
'66) and Sheila ('72) Lipinsky.

"... Every time we hear of something good happening at San Diego State with our students or our Institute, it makes us feel wonderful that we were able to do what we could to see those things continue..."

— Dr. Bernard Lipinsky [1914-2001]

### Supporting the university

SDSU's Office of Planned Giving enabled Bernard and Dorris Lipinsky to realize their philanthropic goals when creating their estate plan. By establishing a Charitable Lead Trust, they were able to reduce their tax burden and maximize the impact of their gift to SDSU.

### Ensuring the future

Since 1985, the generosity of the Lipinsky family has created opportunity for more than 300 students to attend SDSU. Lipinsky Scholars have achieved positions of responsibility and leadership in the communities in which they serve.

### Creating a legacy

The Lipinskys have created a legacy that will enhance students' lives for generations. By endowing the Institute of Judaic Studies, which bears their name, a program they believe in will be supported in perpetuity.

### Continuing a tradition

It is clear that Bernard and Dorris' children share their devotion to SDSU. Elaine is now the philanthropic advisor for Aztec P.R.I.D.E. Jeffrey is a member of The Campanile Foundation's board of directors and his wife, Sheila, is a founding member of SDSU BRIDGES.

We would like to assist you in creating a personal or family legacy.

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# A Gift of Memories and Expectations

Next time you're on campus, stroll by the long, raised building attached to the SDSU Library Dome. The 10-year-old structure houses the President's Office, the offices for Academic Affairs, Graduate Affairs, University Advancement and several Library divisions, including Special Collections.

If you're observant, you'll notice a subtle change to the building's façade. It's now called Manchester Hall, in recognition of two San Diego State alumni who have a long record of service to the university.

Doug and Betsy Manchester have always acknowledged the pivotal role that SDSU played in their lives. They earned their degrees here, met at a fraternity party, fell in love and married. Doug Manchester, who prefers to be called "Papa Doug," leveraged his insurance degree from SDSU into a successful career developing landmark projects such as the San Diego Marriott Hotel and Marina and the Manchester Grand Hyatt Resort Hotel, both in downtown San Diego.

Through the years, they supported San Diego State as members of the President's Leadership Fund and the SDSU Athletic Director's Cabinet. Betsy is also on the board of directors for The Campanile Foundation (TCF), SDSU's philanthropic auxiliary.



With the advent of strategic planning for SDSU's first campus-wide campaign, the Manchesters saw an opportunity to make a difference. They decided to present San Diego State with a gift of \$5 million, the largest from an alumni couple in the university's 109-year history.

About 70 percent of the Manchester gift will be used for presidential initiatives and undergraduate teaching support. The remainder will support the intercollegiate golf program.

"We wanted to make a significant gift to ensure continued success in faculty recruitment and retention," Betsy Manchester explained. "In addition, we hope to inspire other alumni and business leaders to participate in the upcoming campaign."

Doug Manchester said he and his wife have tried to focus their philanthropic efforts on education, children's needs and other health and human services for the community. Their gift to SDSU continues that tradition and recognizes the potential of their alma mater.

"We see great things on the horizon for San Diego State," he said. "We want to not only be a part of that great future, but also to contribute to it."



Photos: Melissa Jacobs

## Class Notes

1960s

'66: **Robert N. Beck** ★ (B.S. and M.S., '68, business administration) is dean of the Graduate School of Business & Public Policy at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey. The school serves U.S. military services and equivalent level civilians working in the Departments of Defense, State and Homeland Security.

'69: **Kathie Ross** ★ (journalism; '74, M.A., counseling) retired as scholarship director at SDSU in 2003 and is serving a second year as president of the SDSU Retirement Association. She also works part time at the Child Abuse Prevention Foundation, mentoring college students who grew up in foster homes, and volunteers with the MFA musical theatre program. **Sandra Conlon** (education) studied in Morocco last summer through the University of Michigan Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies. In 2004, she won a National Endowment for the Humanities scholarship to study in Ghana.

1970s

'72: **Eduardo Diaz** (Latin American Studies) has been appointed executive director of the National Hispanic Cultural Center of New Mexico in Albuquerque. Previously, he was head of the San Antonio Office of Cultural Affairs and the El Paso Arts Council.

'78: **Katha Winther** (English) has published a book of religious poetry "Holy Haikus," her second book. The former editor now writes devotional articles. **Bill Crooks** (biology) recently joined Kleinfelder, Inc., a leading professional services firm in San Diego, as corporate controller. He will be responsible for directing the firm's financial affairs.

'79: **Antonio Rivas** (industrial arts) has been elected mayor of Watsonville, California. He is a former Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) student. **Mary Pendleton** (political science) was voted one of the top 10 construction and real estate attorneys in San Diego. She is a principal of the real estate/construction law firm Balestreri, Pendleton & Potocki.

1980s

'81: **David Cranston** (political science) is a partner at Greenberg Glusker Fields Claman Machtinger & Kinsella LLP in Los Angeles, where he heads the law firm's environmental department. He was listed in the 2005 Guide to the World's Leading Environment Lawyers published by Euromoney Legal Media Group.

'82: **J.W. August** ★ (journalism) received the Society of Professional Journalist's Sunshine Award for his contributions in advocating for more open government in San Diego. He is managing editor for KGTV in San Diego. **Gayle Falkenthal** ★ (telecommunications; M.S. '93 communication) is president of the Falcon Valley Group, an independent public relations consulting practice based in Scripps Ranch.

Please send your news to the SDSU Alumni Association, 5500 Campanile Dr., San Diego, CA 92182-1690 or [alumni@mail.sdsu.edu](mailto:alumni@mail.sdsu.edu). ★ = annual member; ☆ = life member

# When I was at State...

I was a professor at San Diego State from 1948 until 1978 teaching secretarial business communication and office machines. San Diego State was a close-knit community. Before every sports match, play or school event, we would have dessert and coffee. I was the chair



of the Social Committee so I would be in charge of baking and making the coffee. It was wonderful because the entire faculty would attend these events. And I mean the entire faculty, not just the Business School. I remember when they put up the new Business Administration and Math Building because I

helped design part of it. I worked with the building designer on three rooms on the top floor. I can remember having to move all the machines I used for teaching over to the new building. What an endeavor!

*Lynn Straub, 93, retired professor, College of Business*

Do you have a favorite memory from your days at San Diego State? Log on to <http://www.sdsuonth.com/timeline> and add your story to our scrapbook.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**President:** Erica Opstad '93  
**President-elect:** Chuck Luby '64  
**Immediate Past President:** Bruce Ives '89  
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**Vice President for Constituency Relations:** Denise Hosford '97  
**Vice President for Membership & Marketing Communications:** Fred Norfleet '73  
**Vice President for Finance and Contracts:** Paul Tartre '82  
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**Alumni Chapter Coordinator:** Diane Barragan  
**Analyst/Programmer:** Ed Tuley  
**Membership & Marketing Assistant:** Ashleigh Yturalde '04  
**Lifetime Membership Coordinator:** Davene Gibson '68  
**Lifetime Membership Coordinator:** Margo Kasch '67  
**Program Coordinator:** Jen Ranallo  
**Administrative Assistant:** Donna Buttner '91  
**Student Assistants:** Athena Behning, Sean Durkin, Natalie Gomez, Alicia Stark, Alex Vasquez

# 2006 Monty Award Winners

The Montys are a time-honored tradition at San Diego State University. The award, sponsored by the SDSU Alumni Association, was first given out in 1971. It is a symbol of achievement, recognizing the awardees' significant contributions to the community. This year's winners will be honored at a gala dinner and awards presentation emceed by San Diego Magazine's Tom Blair on Saturday, March 25, 2006 at Cox Arena. The event is part of the fourth annual SDSU Month. For tickets and additional information, contact Cheryl Trtan at (619) 594-ALUM (2586) or cstrtan@mail.sdsu.edu.

*College of Arts and Letters*  
**Clare B. Crane, Ph.D.**

Clare Crane ('58, history) has helped build the future with a strong foundation in the past. A retired history teacher, she taught at several San Diego colleges and universities, including SDSU. Crane consulted on local history for the San Diego City Schools and the Cajon Valley School District. She also provided funding for the Cajon Valley Latin Program, through which SDSU's classics department offers Latin instruction to refugee and immigrant middle school students, leading to a sharp rise in their test scores.



*College of Business Administration*  
**Art L. Flaming**

Art Flaming ('60, marketing) is owner and president of The Tierra Corporation, a successful property development and management company with operations in California and Arizona. He is a philanthropist and community volunteer, serving on several local councils and boards of directors, including the SDSU Alumni Association, of which he is a past president, the Aztec Athletic Foundation Board and the Alumni Center Campaign's Design Committee. All three of Flaming's children are also SDSU alumni.



*College of Education*  
**Rhonda Welch-Scalco**

Rhonda Welch-Scalco ('94, special education) is among the youngest people ever elected tribal chair of the Barona Band of Mission Indians. A leader and advocate for families both on the reservation and in other areas of San Diego, she successfully connects people with services they need. Welch-Scalco has collaborated with local physicians on initiatives to advance the growth and development of Native American children. She is steadfast in her support of higher education for tribal members.



*College of Engineering*  
**Douglas Fronius**

Douglas Fronius ('75, music; '85 aeronautical engineering) manages the Fire Scout Program as deputy director of Tactical Unmanned Aerial Vehicles for Northrop-Grumman. Considered a leader in aviation's newest and most innovative field (UAV development), he is also a teacher, accomplished musician and pilot who restores and flies vintage planes. He was featured in the March 2005 issues of Air & Space magazine, published by Smithsonian.



*College of Health and Human Services*  
**Sheila Lipinsky**

Sheila Lipinsky ('72, communicative disorders) is a pioneer in the education of children with special needs. Her innovative model for integrating deaf and hard-of-hearing children into regular classrooms resulted in the development of the Itinerate Program in Chula Vista City Schools and was a precursor for similar initiatives throughout San Diego County. Lipinsky continues to work tirelessly with many philanthropic and cultural organizations in San Diego County.



*College of Professional Studies and Fine Arts*  
**Jack L. Williams**

Jack Williams ('72, speech communication) recently retired as president and chief operating officer of Royal Caribbean International and Celebrity Cruises to pursue philanthropic and humanitarian efforts. His work has benefited such organizations as the Homeland Security Advisory Council, the Andre Agassi Foundation and the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, from which he received the highest honor, the "Breath of Life" Award. Williams's athletic interests include golf, marathons, triathlons and dog sled racing.



*College of Sciences*  
**Tim Day, Ph.D.**

Tim Day ('85, '87, physics) is board chairman, CEO and chief technology officer of Daylight Solutions Inc., a company focused on medical diagnostics and homeland security applications of mid infrared lasers. He is an award-winning and widely published innovator in the areas of science, technology and industry. Instrumental in introducing tunable lasers into the telecommunications market, Day is a leader in a field that translates the latest discoveries in physics into new and powerful technologies.



## 1980s Class Notes

'83: **Gregory Papadeas, M.D. ★** (zoology) was selected by colleague physicians as one of Denver's top dermatologists in a survey by 5280 Magazine.

'85: **David Cole Wheeler** (drama) is a designer and art department coordinator for the Avalon Publishing Group. He is also an accomplished actor and musician and an illustrator for commercial and advertising firms.

'86: **Matthew W. Argue** (political science, English) has opened his new firm, One Mediator, in North San Diego County. It will provide mediation services to clients in Southern California and Las Vegas, focusing on real estate, construction and insurance matters.

'87: **John E. Flannery** (marketing) works with CustomerCentric Systems to help companies build and implement a repeatable process for their sales organizations. **Amit Patel** (finance) was a member of the 2005 Pasadena Tournament of Roses Foundation Board.

'88: **Kevin Day ★** (drama; '94, M.A., education) received the 2005 Magnolia Award for middle school performing arts instructor of the year from the El Cajon Arts and Culture Commission.

## 1990s

'91: **Edward M. Olivos ★** (Spanish; '03, M.A., education) is an assistant professor of teacher education at California State University, Dominguez Hills. His first book, "The Power of Parents," is due out shortly. **John J. Romero ★** (economics) began work for the California Department of Justice as a budget analyst in July 2005. He and his wife, Cynthia, are expecting their first child in May. **Clark Griffith ★** (economics) recently became vice president of GE Commercial Finance and relocated to Beverly Hills.

'92: **Peter Moses** (finance), formerly a vice president with Inforte, is now pursuing a career in southern California real estate development. At SDSU, he was a member of Mortar Board and Homecoming King. **Matt Smith** (psychology) has been working in Italy with a startup America's Cup team, United Internet Team Germany. He and his wife have two children.

'94: **Scott Cook** (political science) has been named vice president of operations and principal at Promus Management. Cook is a realtor with the San Diego Association of Realtors and a licensed California real estate broker.

'95: **Andrew Jimenez** (telecommunications, film and new media) is writing and directing an animated short film, "One Man Band," at Pixar Animation Studios. He served as co-director of photography on Pixar's latest film, "The Incredibles," and worked as a digital artist on "Finding Nemo" and "Monsters, Inc."

'96: **Anthony Carey** (M.A. physical education) published "The Pain Free Program: A Proven Method to Relieve Back, Neck, Shoulder and Joint Pain." He is special consultant to the San Diego chapter of the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports. **Rosemary O'Brien** (English, creative writing) is an instructor for Leaving Prints, a scrapbook resource company.

'97: **Ana Garcia Olson** (international business) recently returned to San Diego after five years in Washington, D.C. Currently an associate with Booz Allen Hamilton, she was Homecoming Queen in 1996.

'98: **Robert Green, Jr.** (religious studies) has published his first book, "Emphysema and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease: Therapeutic Approaches through Nutrition, Natural Medicine, Alternative Medicine."

## 2006 Monty Award Winners

### *Library and Information Access*

#### **Gregory D. Bear**

Gregory Bear ('73, English) is an internationally recognized science fiction writer, illustrator, and freelance journalist who has published more than 35 novels. His collective works address biology, genetics and evolution in a thoughtful, well researched manner. Bear is a member of several scientific boards and think tanks including the National Citizens Advisory Council on Space Policy. His novel, "Darwin's Radio," and the sequel, "Darwin's Children," are being developed into an original miniseries for the SCI FI Channel.



### *Distinguished Alumni Service Award*

#### **Ron and Alexis Fowler**

Ron ('05 honorary doctorate) and Alexis ('93, accounting/accountancy) Fowler are San Diego civic leaders known for their philanthropy and support for education at all levels, including numerous programs and initiatives at SDSU. She is a former lecturer in the accounting department at San Diego State. He has been chair of The Campanile Foundation since its inception in 1999, and is founder of SDSU's Entrepreneurial Management Center, which seeds the San Diego business sector with graduates well-grounded in entrepreneurial skills and methods.



## *In Memoriam*

1932: Wesley Hite; 1934: Norman A. Knoles; 1935: George Budd McPetridge; 1936: Janice Wicklin; 1937: Robert Truman Gardner, Jr., M.D.; 1938: Clarabella Hall Coughlin, Capt. Arthur Mix Savage; 1939: Doris E. Odenthal, Geraldine Wilma Rapp, Wanda M. Sankary, Katherine T. Roberts; 1941: Mary Florence Filteau; 1942: Mary Elise Rogers, Jean Ellen Creelman; 1944: Alan Perry; 1946: Elizabeth Sage Gord; 1947: Raymond Jack Blake, Lois L. Steffey; 1948: Harriette Ramona Minney; 1949: Richard L. Harmon, Gertrude E. Leveque, Barbra Jean Keeran, Dale Brassey, Edith J. Clark, Esten Shreve Clague; Helen Oderbolz O'Donnell, Eric Stitt Pfefferkorn, Duey Smith; 1950: Charles Hall Van Natter, Lloyd Milton Watson, William James Tanner, Charles Porter Strong, Walter B. Everingham; 1951: Arthur Frederick Sick; 1952: George W. Dissinger, Eugene Dale Bockemuehl, Harry William Whelply, Jr.; 1953: John Wesley Brownell; 1954: Willa Lanoy Kinnear, Barbara Eagles Hagstrom, John D. Garrison, Ph.D.; 1955: Milton W. Sanderson, Jr., Damon C. Handley, Jr., Alice John Retes; 1957: Donald F. Hall; 1958: Presley Roberts Betts; 1960: Don L. Pusker; 1961: Mildred Imogene Pfrimmer, Hugh E. McNeilly, Edward Eugene Ollerton, Kirby F. Ludwick; 1962: Alan J. Gruber, Catherine Irma Risty, Carilyn E. Gilbert; 1963: Kenneth L. Greene, Ph.D., Kenneth C. Richards; 1964: Capt. J.C. Gillespie Wilson;

### *Distinguished University Service Award*

#### **Stephen L. Weber, Ph.D., and Susan Keim Weber**

Stephen and Susan Weber have led San Diego State University during a decade of growth and advancement. As the university's seventh president, Weber guides faculty, students, staff, alumni and friends in the common goals of reinforcing academic excellence, honoring diversity and social justice, carefully stewarding resources, developing global programs and enriching the greater San Diego region. Over the last 10 years at SDSU, he has nurtured research, encouraged international study and led a \$600 million construction and renovation drive to modernize the campus. His service as co-chair of Partners for K-12 School Reform in San Diego underscores a strong commitment to serving the educational needs of California's students. Susan Weber is an innovative force behind BRIDGES, a group of women leaders working to increase collaborative efforts between SDSU and the San Diego community. A believer in life-long education, she takes great pleasure in presenting the many features and facets of San Diego State University to non-campus constituencies.



Richard Belding Langston, Richard L. Diabeti, Lois Earner Muizers; 1965: Janet Stober Madill, Harry Charles Seifert; 1966: Robert Vincent Scheidt; 1967: Maxine H. Scott; 1969: Max Yesselman; 1970: Margaret F. Peninger; 1971: Alden C. Holm, Russell Louis Keefer, Grace Ann Taylor; 1972: Larry Wilson; 1973: Earl Waldemar Lofgren, Frank J. Shoemaker; 1975: Jacqueline Jean Meagher, Barbara W. Goddard, Judith Ann Dossey, Patricia Anne Sell; 1976: David Jones Kester, Frank Anthony Kazerski; 1977: George Elmer Ryan, Robin A. Brett; 1979: Thomas Andrew Sexton, Julia Lynn Filanc; 1981: Michael Cihlar; 1982: Robert Hebal Suite, Susan Inderbitzen McKanna, Joseph Dean Mumma; 1983: Daniel V. Elerick; 1984: Ofelia Patricia Miramontes; 1985: Willie Johnson; 1987: Russell Leslie Young, Ph.D.; 1989: Lorna Lee Grund, Michael Antony LeClaire; 1992: Joseph V. Mazares, Jr.; 1993: John Thomas Tracy, Brian Wade Finley, Marie Singer Murphy; 1995: Scott William McKay; 1996: Steven Brian Malesky; 1999: Charles Fredrick Buman; 2003: Scott Robert Anro; 2005: David Glenn Harrison, Gilbert Rojas, Jr., Robert C. Womack; YEAR UNKNOWN: Donald Walter Bender, Lucille Helen Young, Daryl Vaug Armstrong, Loretta Mae Treacy, Eleanor Burne, Conrad C. Caldwell, Esq., Perry Easterbrooks, William F. Lindquist, Lillian Elizabeth Hoffer, Cmdr. Bruce Phillips Gordon

'00: **Debra Wanger Yaruss** (musical theatre) and husband **Mitch Yaruss** ('91 geography) are the parents of twins Calvin David and Madelyn Jade, born last summer. Her one-woman show, "My Nights with George, Kurt and Cole," won the AASD San Diego Actors' Festival Best Actress and Best New Play Awards in 2003. **Amy Rogers** (musical theatre) is a professor of musical theatre at Pace University in New York City. **Jill Colliste Gould** (musical theatre) holds a management position with Origins, a beauty products company.

'02: **James Earwicker** (MBA) was promoted to district manager in San Diego for Wells Fargo & Co. He has received the Community Partnership Award from the San Diego County Board of Supervisors for helping to establish educational partnerships in Point Loma and La Jolla.

'04: **Matthew Rivaldi** (MBA management) is CEO of Wiggity Bang Games, LLC, which has just released the family board game QUELF (<http://www.wiggitybang.com>). **Michael Elliott** (musical theatre) is a professor in the communication arts department at Valdosta State University in Georgia. **Christopher Causee** (political science), a Navy lieutenant, and fellow shipmates conducted maritime security operations during a scheduled deployment to the Suez Canal while assigned to the guided-missile cruiser USS Cape St. George. **Meredith Kaye Clark** (musical theatre) played the Ghost of Christmas Past in the Alabama Shakespeare Festival's production of "A Christmas Carol."

'05: **Yasmin Davidds** (women's studies) has released a Spanish version of her audio CD self-help system "¡Adelante Mujer! Los siete pasos al éxito para la mujer latina" (The Latina's Seven Principles). **Patrick "Buddy" Kornegay** (history) is a crew chief for American Airlines in Dallas.

# By Degrees

## Huijie Hou

**Hometown:** Dalian, China

**Future Profession:** Advocate for Chinese women

**SDSU degree:** M.A. in women's studies

**What differences have you noticed between higher education in the U.S. and China?** In Chinese colleges, the professor teaches and the students learn. Here, the teachers want their students to think. The professor doesn't tell you the answer, but leads students to form their own opinions.

**How do you plan to use your degree?** I want to improve the lives of Chinese women, especially in the rural areas. I am thinking about two ways to do this. One is to become a politician with the power to make social policy more women-oriented. Another way is to be a journalist and use the power of the media to reflect the inequality these women face.

**Who on campus has had the greatest influence on you?** My adviser and thesis committee chair, Huma Ahmed-Ghosh. She understands the problems and difficulties of an international student. She picked me up at the airport when I arrived and arranged a place to stay until I found my own apartment. She encouraged me to explore American society and socialize with people. On the other hand, she's quite hard on me. She told me I would have to do the same work as the American students to qualify. She says I have to deserve my degree. I want to use my achievements to thank her.

## What do you miss most about China when you're here?

I really do miss my parents when I'm here. But when I'm in China, I miss my friends and the food. The food you can get in China is from different regions of China. In the U.S., the food is from different countries. You can have Mexican food, Thai food. This is not very common in China.

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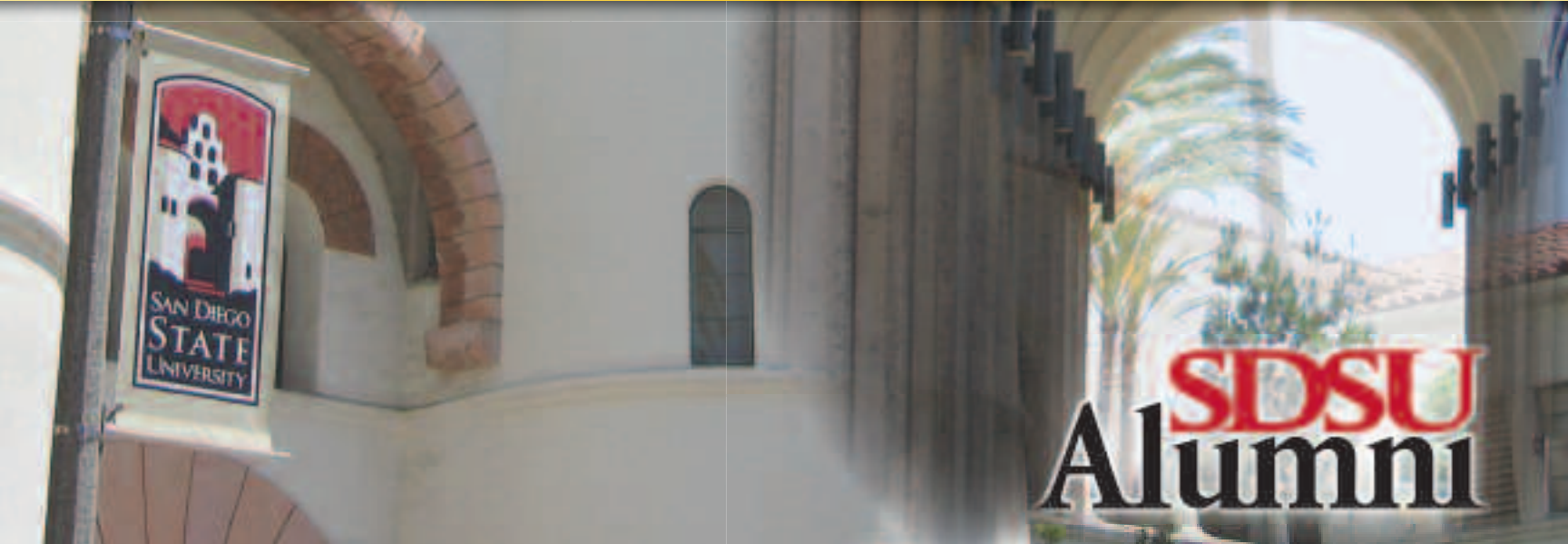
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# EXPLORE SDSU

SDSU Open House – Save the Date: April 8, 2006, 9am – 2pm  
Visit the SDSU Alumni Village for Food, Giveaways, Raffle Prizes + Famous Alums!  
*More information is available on [sdsualumni.org](http://sdsualumni.org)*



*A Decade of  
Transformation*



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