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SDSU Month Edition

Raising the Roof Answering the call to build a home for alumni

Lessons in Leading Catching up with former Aztec leaders

The Big Picture An unconventional history of humanity

Direct

We at San Diego State are proud of our “Minds That Move the World,” the alumni, students, faculty and staff that make a difference in our neighborhoods and in the global community. This year, SDSU Month highlights the forces that move us to discovery, to invention and to action. It’s a reminder of the impetus that drives us to challenge ourselves in a quest for excellence.

The faculty within our seven colleges, our library and on our Imperial Valley campus take that challenge seriously. Their efforts in SDSU’s classrooms, labs and studios impel us to greater achievements each successive year.

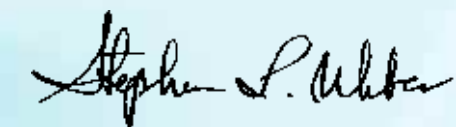
For Mark Sussman, a biology professor and member of the SDSU Heart Institute, the driving force is a commitment to curing heart disease. Mark is the principal investigator for a \$9.5 million National Institutes of Health grant funding three research projects at SDSU and one at UCSD. The five-year projects will investigate how protecting mitochondria – the cell’s energy center – can preserve heart cells during a heart attack.

Wendy Maruyama’s life work revolves around moving people’s minds. Her prize-winning woodwork and furniture are part of museum collections throughout the country and her national reputation has attracted millions in funding to develop SDSU’s School of Art, Design, and Art History. Wendy brings numerous international study experiences to bear on her work and her teaching.

What moves Greg Talavera? Greg and his team in the Graduate School of Public Health have been funded by the National Institutes of Health to lead a \$9.7-million study of health risks in the South Bay Latino community. They hope to gain a deeper understanding of the risk factors for a number of health conditions that afflict Latinos, including diabetes, heart disease and lung disorders.

These are examples of what moves the faculty at San Diego State University. The SDSU Month theme – What Moves You? – is also an invitation to you, our alumni and friends.

Think about the motivations that stir you to action. Consider how your contributions – and those of other SDSU alumni – make San Diego a better, more vibrant place to live. Then plan to visit campus on March 17 for Explore SDSU: Open House 2007 to learn how SDSU students, faculty and alumni are helping to propel our community forward into the future.



Stephen L. Weber, president
San Diego State University

360

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SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

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SDSU Growth Plan

With increasing demand for higher education in California, SDSU is again revising its Campus Master Plan. In September 2005, SDSU received unanimous approval from the California State University Board of Trustees for the most recent version of the Campus Master Plan. However, a California Supreme Court decision in *City of Marina vs. CSU Monterey Bay* has resulted in the need for SDSU to update its plan.

A blueprint for SDSU's growth over the next 20 years, the Campus Master Plan revision is critical to SDSU's ability to provide access to a high quality university education for future generations of Aztecs. SDSU received a record 57,000 applications for 8,800 undergraduate openings for the fall 2007 semester – 9 percent more than the previous year.

The Campus Master Plan will increase SDSU's enrollment capacity from 25,000 full-time-equivalent students to 35,000, and will provide additional student housing, a new student union, classroom and support space and affordable, high quality housing for faculty and staff.

SDSU will conduct several meetings and provide opportunities for comment from campus stakeholders, neighboring residents and others interested in SDSU's future. The plan is expected to go to the CSU Board of Trustees for approval in September 2007.

To learn more about the project and express your support, visit www.sdsu.edu/masterplan.

Say Sí to V-me

KPBS, San Diego's public broadcast service based on the SDSU campus, is in the vanguard of a national Spanish-language public television service scheduled to debut in March.

Offering a unique mix of traditional and innovative programming designed for American Latinos, V-me (pronounced vay-may) will premiere on KPBS-HD and on cable channel 111 in San Diego, as well as in 20 other U.S. cities.

The new public television platform will carry translated versions of popular English-language public television shows like "Sesame Street" and "Nature," as well as exclusive original programming created for and by Latinos living in the U.S.


"V-me reflects, respects, entertains and gives voice to Latino



viewers while bringing a new level of quality to mainstream Spanish-language TV," said Myrian Solis Coronel, manager of Latino education and outreach for KPBS.

KPBS is mounting a related education and outreach initiative called iKPBS Ahora! with activities to strengthen and support Latino families. These will include: public screenings of new television programs followed by audience discussions; and issue-based outreach related to program content on immigration, health care workforce skills and other topics.

Look for more information about V-me and upcoming iKPBS Ahora! events at kpbs.org/v-me.


Knowledge is not knowledge until put into context.
Emeritus Professor Henry L. Janssen.
From the "Last" Lecture Series, 2006

The Golden Section

John Dirks graduated from San Diego State College in 1937 with a degree in art. Ten years later, he returned to teach at his alma mater and never left until his retirement in 1976. SDSU acknowledged Dirks' contributions in 1972 with a Distinguished Teaching Award, which gave him the status of emeritus professor.

Now, Dirks is being recognized by the Mingei International Museum in San Diego's Balboa Park. A retrospective of his sculpture spans four decades and includes more than 40 pieces of art. In a conversation with the Mingei's Karen Seo, Dirks, now 92, spoke about working with wood:

"As a boy, I started making things with just a jackknife, whittling. My father and I made a whole lot of tiny model ships, with sails made of paper. We used to sail those in Wabash Pond (in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, where Dirks grew up). (Later), I did a lot of sculptures, large and small, mostly from rare wood.

"The wood is sensitive to inside space, all the narrow sticks in the center. The next space is a golden section of the previous one and those negative spaces are exactly the same...the builders of the Parthenon (used) the golden section. Diego Rivera, Gauguin, van Gogh, Rembrandt, all used it for basic measurements."

Dirks described his best pieces as having "inner life." The artist's own inner life was on display every day in the classroom for students perceptive enough to recognize it.

Cary Bickler was one such student. He describes himself as a young man on the verge of a career as a professional golfer on the PGA tour, yet haunted by the instinct that he was an artist at heart.

"I began taking art and sculpting classes from Professor Dirks, and my confidence began to grow. When, after a few years, I became his assistant, I began to realize that Professor Dirks taught by simply expressing himself through his own unique, creative view of the world. I was compelled to do the same. I gained confidence in my own artistic expression."

Today, Bickler designs magnificent, artistic golf courses. "I'm painting canvases in my mind of green, rolling landscapes and planning how the light and shadows will dance across the contours of every golf course I design," he said. "I call upon Mother Nature to guide my hand, but it all started with Professor Dirks and a small artist's brush."

The Mingei International Museum's exhibit, "John Dirks, Sculptor – A Retrospective," includes "Experimental Tall Building Concepts," pictured at right. It was sculpted of walnut and Alaskan white cedar.



Meet me Poolside

Starting this month, San Diego State will offer the community another option for fun in the sun.

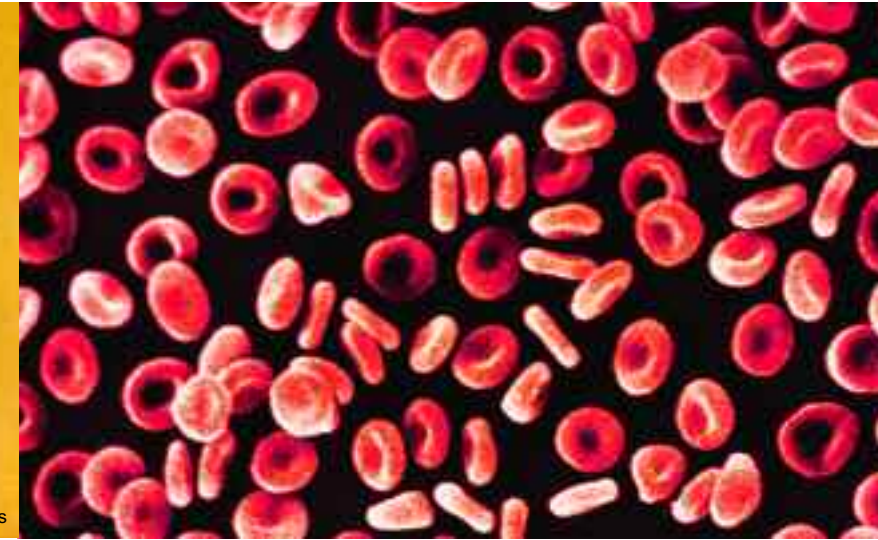
The \$10 million Aztec Aquaplex features three heated pools: an Olympic 50-meter pool with a maximum depth of 18 feet for lap swimming and diving; a 7,200-square-foot recreation pool with beach entry for recreational swimming, aqua aerobics swim classes and water volleyball/basketball; and a 20-person hydrotherapy spa for soaking and relaxing.

Open year-round, the new student-financed facility is located on the west side of campus. It is adjacent to Tony Gwynn Stadium and the SDSU tennis courts and softball field, and close to Parking Structures 4 and 5. Members of the Aztec Recreation Center (ARC) can use the facilities free of charge. Fees will apply to other users; community members are welcome.

The Olympic pool will be the home venue for Aztec swimming, diving and water polo competitions. During athletic team practices and meets, the other pools will remain open for members.



Illustration: Tom Voss



On the Right Track

San Diego State athletes are hitting the books with resolve these days. In compliance with the National Collegiate Athletic Association, SDSU and other Division 1 schools have begun measuring the academic progress rate (APR) of their athletic teams.

San Diego State's 18 athletic teams are submitting APRs for the third time this 2006-2007 academic year. Last year, only the football and baseball teams fell below the NCAA goal of 925 and subsequently paid penalties.

Each player can earn up to two points toward the APR score per semester. One point is awarded for the athlete's athletic and academic eligibility. The other is for retention; it's earned if the student returns each semester to the same university.

Colleen Evans, director of student-athlete academic support services, joined SDSU a year ago.

She created new student-adviser staff positions and night-study programs to motivate SDSU's 527 student-athletes to stay focused on academic and athletic goals.

"Colleen has hired a new staff, established strong relations with campus academic leaders and brought new energy, ideas and programs to student-athlete academics," said Athletics Director Jeff Schemmel.

Although SDSU's scores aren't perfect, student-athletes on the mesa have a better graduation rate and higher average GPAs than non-athletes, Evans noted. A 2005 NCAA report shows an 81 percent graduation rate for SDSU student-athletes who completed their eligibility. And about half of SDSU's student-athletes consistently earn GPAs of 3.2 or better.

Evans said SDSU's APR scores are near the midpoint in a list of schools of comparable size. Florida State and Utah have higher scores and no penalties, while Arizona

State and Fresno State have penalties because of their low basketball and baseball team scores.

Aztec Intelligence

Sahra Abdi ('02, sociology) is a 2006 California Peace Prize Award honoree. Program coordinator at the City Heights Wellness Center, Abdi oversees a health, nutrition and safety education program for Somali and East African mothers...**J. W. August** ('82, journalism) received the Harold Keen Award for Outstanding Contributions in Journalism, the San Diego Press Club's most prestigious award for 2006. He is managing editor of KGTV 10 News...**Tanya Aguiniga** ('02, art) received \$50,000 as one of the first artists to win a United States Artists (USA) Fellowship. The nationwide program was created last year with funding from the Ford, Rockefeller, Prudential and Rasmusson foundations.

A furniture designer, Aguiniga displays her work at www.aguinigadesign.com.

Kyoto Laureate Medalist

San Diego State will host a presentation by Kyoto Laureate Dr. Leonard Arthur Herzenberg, who revolutionized the science of sorting cells.

Japan's Inamori Foundation awarded Herzenberg the 2006 Kyoto Medal in the category of advanced technology for his pioneering research in the sorting of viable cells and his development of a flow cytometer. Herzenberg, an immunologist, geneticist and professor at Stanford University's School of Medicine, will speak March 15 at 9:30 a.m. in Montezuma Hall.

Herzenberg became the first person to sort cells by property, namely fluorescence intensity, to determine which are "viable," or living. In the early 1970s, he

used this discovery to successfully build a mass-producible flow cytometer called the Fluorescence-Activated Cell Sorter (FACS).

The ability to effectively sort cells has a broad range of applications. Many life-threatening diseases, including HIV and leukemia, progress through the death or proliferation of certain cells. FACS technology allows researchers to accurately gauge the cell count, and thus the extent of the disease, helping them prescribe more effective treatments. The technology is also crucial to the field of regenerative medicine.

The Inamori Foundation awards the Kyoto Prize annually to outstanding scholars in the fields of advanced technology, basic sciences, and art and philosophy. SDSU has been a host for the Kyoto Laureate Symposium since 2004. For more information or to reserve a seat, visit www.kyotoprize.org.

Getting It: The public warms to Walt Oechel's pioneering climate change research.

By Lauren Coartney

The world is just now catching up with Walt Oechel.

Having studied the scientific effects of human activity on our planet for more than two decades, the San Diego State alumnus, biology professor and internationally renowned ecologist, was one of the first researchers to sound the alarm about global warming.

"Being in the forefront of discovery is great," Oechel said, "but the message that comes from this research is overpowering. It is so dire it swamps, it supersedes, it overtakes the good feelings."

Finally, the general public is taking heed of Oechel's work as director of SDSU's Global Change Research Group. From policy makers who visit his labs in Alaska, Mexico, California, the Mediterranean basin and the Far East; to national media outlets like ABC and PBS who cover his work; the world is coming around to Oechel's stance that global warming is not an opinion. It's a fact.

In his research, Oechel has found that atmospheric greenhouse gases, byproducts of forest clearing and burning fossil fuels, have risen almost 25 percent. Additionally, the planet's average temperature has risen 1.1 degrees and is getting hotter.

"What we know and there's no doubt about is that greenhouse gases – like CO₂ (carbon dioxide), methane and nitrous oxide – trap heat in the atmosphere and cause warming," he said.

Extreme weather events like Hurricane Katrina and a series of hotter-than-normal years give traction to Oechel's exhaustive research.

He has served as principal investigator on 70 grants, currently holds \$4 million in ongoing funding, and has 195 published scientific articles to his name. The National Science Foundation awarded Oechel its prestigious Director's Award, and the Institute for Scientific Information names him on its list of "Highly Cited Researchers."

This year, Oechel has been chosen as SDSU's Albert W. Johnson University Research Lecturer.

Oechel may still be well ahead of the world, but you can catch him standing still when he delivers the Albert W. Johnson lecture on Wednesday, March 21, at 3 p.m. in the Aztec Athletic Center Auditorium.

Sightings

The Doctor Will See You Now

Four thousand Mexican-Americans in San Diego's South Bay community will be getting their check-up, thanks to a \$9.7 million contract awarded to San Diego State University's Center for Behavioral and Community Health Studies.

SDSU is one of four field centers selected by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for a national Hispanic Community Health Study. According to the NIH, Latinos are experiencing a spike in cases of obesity, heart disease, asthma and diabetes as a result of working conditions, changes in diet and activity and access to health care.

"This is one of the largest, longest and most comprehensive multi-site studies of Latino health," said Greg Talavera, Graduate School of Public Health professor and principal investigator on the grant.

Between them, Talavera and John Elder, also a professor at SDSU's Graduate School of Public Health, have 50 years of community-based clinical research experience. They will work with colleagues at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD) School of Medicine and the San Ysidro Health Center to determine the risk factors for health conditions in the Latino community.

Said Talavera: "We hope the findings of this research will lead to a number of breakthroughs and insights that will help maintain the health of this population in the coming decades."



Raising the Roof on the Alumni Center

By Coleen L. Geraghty

raising the bar

raising expectations

*What defines
an alumni center?*

*What elevates
it from bricks
and mortar to a
lightning rod for
community pride
and spirit?*

*One simple dynamic:
the stakeholders.*

In the past decade, universities all across the country have raised money to build, enlarge or renovate campus homes for their growing alumni populations.

Down the street, the University of San Diego built the Degheri Alumni Center, a three-story structure of 28,000 square feet. Penn State's Hintz Family Alumni Center is a 43,000-square-foot renovation of the former university president's house. The 50,000-square-foot Alice Campbell Alumni Center at the University of Illinois was completed in 2006 for more than \$16 million. Construction is underway at the University

of California, Santa Barbara on a \$12-million, 24,000-square-foot alumni center scheduled to open this year.

In each case, alumni from different eras joined forces to create a permanent presence on the campus where they had once been students.

Now, a similar story is unfolding on Montezuma Mesa. SDSU alumni and friends have raised more than \$8 million, or about 75 percent of the \$11 million needed to erect a world-class campus gathering place for the 200,000-plus SDSU alumni in San Diego County and beyond.

A grand slam

Alumni centers grow kinship from the seeds sown on campus and nurtured at reunions and football games. Or baseball games in the case of Jack Goodall, Robert Payne and Leon Parma.

The three San Diego State alumni, featured on our front cover, never met during their student days. But later, as co-owners of the San Diego Padres, they discovered a shared loyalty to SDSU and a common gratitude for their education on the mesa.

"At some point, you recognize that you're very fortunate to have achieved the success you've had," said Payne, ('55), president and CEO of Multi-Ventures Inc., and owner of the Hanalei Hotel. "It's payback time."

Last year, the trio's gratitude became a conduit for action. With a joint \$2.7 million

naming gift in October, they galvanized the SDSU Alumni Center campaign, lifting total contributions to within striking distance of the \$11 million needed for construction.

Along with this pledge, the trio has issued a "matching gift challenge" to the alumni community. They are challenging Aztecs and SDSU friends to complete the alumni center campaign by contributing another \$2.7 million – the amount needed to raise the roof on a 35,000-square-foot hub for meeting, celebrating, networking and professional development.

"It's critically important to have an alumni center on campus as a drawing card to get people re-energized about the school," said Goodall ('60) former president, CEO and retired board chairman of Jack in the Box Inc. Added Parma ('51), chairman of the board of Parma Management Co., "The alumni center is going to be a gathering place that helps people broaden their sphere of interest and their circle of acquaintances."

Prime location

The SDSU Alumni Center – yet to be officially named – has been designed by Tucker Sadler Architects as a two-story facility with 22,000 square feet of meeting space. Across from Cox Arena on 55th Street, and adjacent to a large parking facility, the center will anchor the western end of Aztec Walk.

"It's critically important to have an alumni center on campus as a drawing card to get people re-energized about the school. The alumni center is going to be a gathering place that helps people broaden their sphere of interest and their circle of acquaintances."



Building

Pride

building camaraderie building a home

The \$11 million SDSU Alumni Center will be a gateway for community access to SDSU's rich academic, athletic and cultural assets. Three donors have challenged alumni to raise the remaining \$2.7 million needed to begin construction.

Guests will enter through a dramatic rotunda to reach the Great Hall Ballroom, a state-of-the-art, technologically "smart" boardroom, a multi-purpose outdoor entertaining pavilion, guest offices and display areas for Aztec memorabilia. The hallway leading to the ballroom will feature a "biography wall" on which donors can inscribe personal messages about themselves and their families.

"The alumni center will host a year-round offering of professional, social and educational events and activities," said Jim Herrick, SDSU Alumni Association director. "It will be a place where our 'minds that move the world' gather for professional development, networking, lifelong education and Aztec celebrations."

Raising the roof on a campus alumni center, Herrick said, will add another dimension to SDSU's role as a resource for the San Diego community.

Cycle of growth

The timing of the alumni center campaign is no coincidence. It comes after a decade of raising the bar on the value of a degree from San Diego State University. One indicator of SDSU's growing prestige is the stiff competition for admission.

The university received a record 57,167 undergraduate applications during the fall 2007 open enrollment period, more than any other California State University campus. The figure is 9.3 percent higher than last fall and 85 percent higher than a decade ago.

Backed by a strong reputation, SDSU is able to compete for the finest faculty. Those faculty, in turn, serve as superior mentors for graduate students and provide challenging environments for undergraduates to enrich their educational experiences. And alumni benefit as their degrees carry growing prestige in the real world.

Each year, more than 9,500 undergraduate and graduate students receive degrees from San Diego State University. The new alumni center will become a magnet drawing a new generation of graduates back to campus and reinforcing their ties with SDSU.

Reconnecting

The construction of an alumni center also raises expectations about Aztec involvement in San Diego State's future. In the last two years, the SDSU Alumni Association reached two milestones – its life endowment surpassed the \$1 million mark and the number of lifetime members rose by one third to 4,000. As more alumni reconnect with SDSU, the need for a physical hub becomes paramount, said Art Flaming, a former president of the SDSU Alumni Association.

"The alumni need a place to gather, to connect with students and professors and to keep up with what's going on at SDSU," Flaming said. "There is a camaraderie and synergism at work when we get together. It's the way a university should be."

To date, hundreds of alumni and friends have helped the university prepare to raise the roof on the SDSU alumni center, including the Alumni Association Past Presidents, who collectively pledged more than \$800,000. As San Diego State grows in size and stature to become a premier urban research university, it's important

Flaming and his wife, Gwen, gave a cornerstone gift of \$250,000 for construction of the alumni center. Other cornerstone donors are: Arthur R. Barron and Robert E. Barron, James S. and Marilyn Brown, Benjamin G. and Nicole A. Clay, The Lipinsky Family Foundation and Dr. Dwight E. Stanford.

for Aztecs to stake their claim in SDSU's future by accepting the challenge pitched by Goodall, Payne and Parma.

"We made this gift for a purpose larger than the recognition we'll receive," Payne said. "We want to see this dream transformed into reality."

"The alumni need a place to gather, to connect with students and professors and to keep up with what's going on at SDSU. There is a camaraderie and synergism at work when we get together. It's the way a university should be."

Lessons

in Leading

Associated Students

turns **75**

By **Gina R. Speciale**

Just beneath the academic surface of San Diego State University is an organization whose influence has been a constant.

It is so significant to the student experience that for 75 years it has been a catalyst to some of the biggest changes on campus. A governing body elected by students and led by students, yet independent from the university itself. That organization is Associated Students.

Over the past three-quarters of a century, the organization has not only led SDSU students through decades of success and turmoil, but has also produced an impressive group of student leaders who became civic leaders, corporate executives and entrepreneurs.

“Restaurateur Norman Brinker, former Escondido Mayor Jerry Harmon and current San Diego City Councilman Kevin Faulconer, just to name a few, all used Associated Students as a springboard to success,” said Dan Cornthwaite, executive director of Associated Students since 1985. “All of them will say their experience leading this organization was instrumental to their success.”

Who knew when the original student governing body was established in 1921 that the organization would become the multimillion dollar corporation it is today?

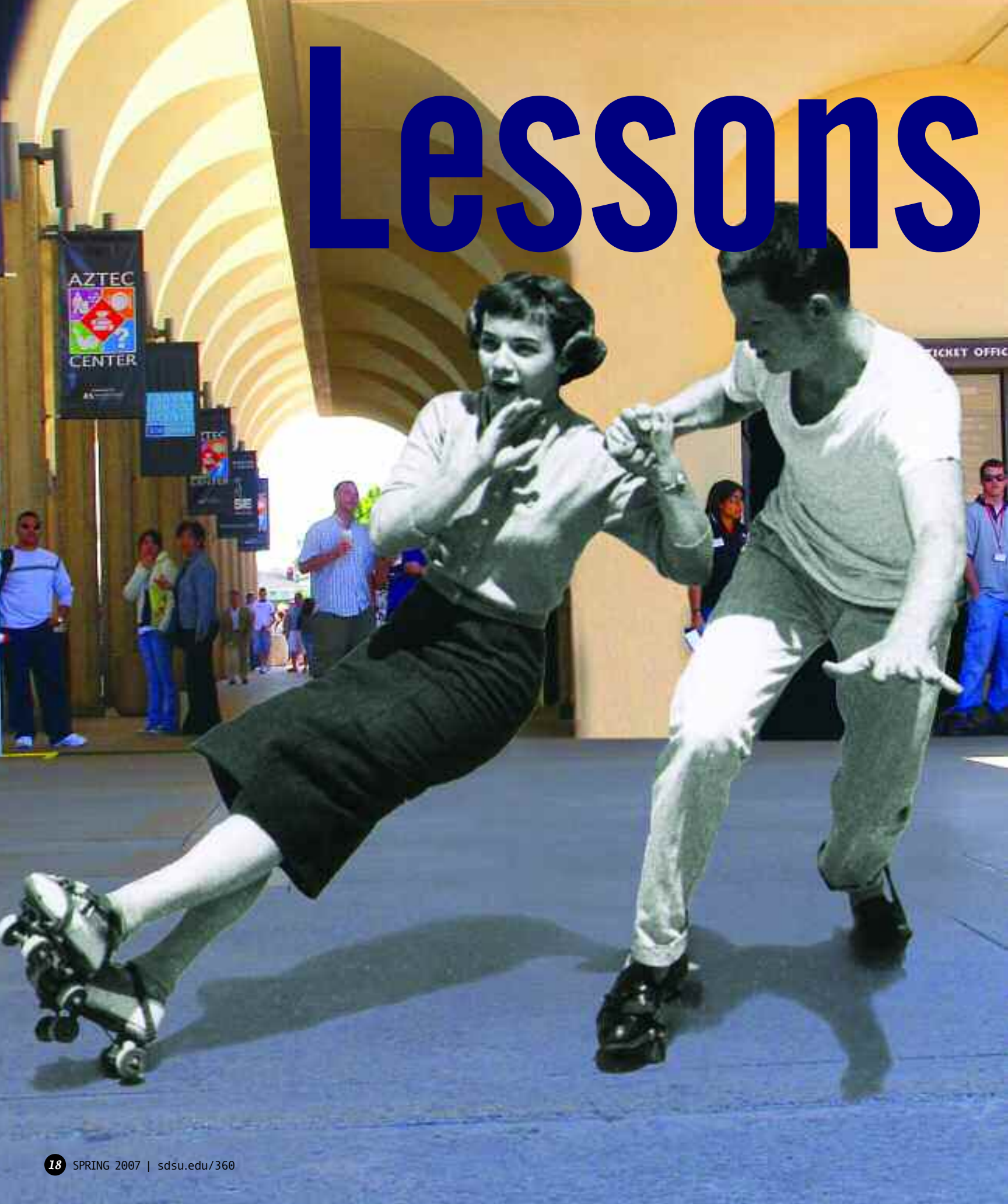
At the time, State Normal School had just merged with the Junior College to create San Diego State College, and because of each school’s separate beginnings, each had its own student organizations and officers. The two groups merged in late 1922, and the first officers of the San Diego State College Student Body were elected, led by President Wilbert Anderson.

It was from those humble beginnings that Associated Students (A.S.) grew to be a force on campus. Over the next decade, and with a budget funded strictly by voluntary student fees of \$1, the organization became the apex of student life – supporting the college’s student organizations, social fraternities and intercollegiate athletics.

In 1932, it became incorporated as a non-profit corporation. Today, as Associated Students marks the 75th anniversary of that milestone, the organization operates a \$19.1 million dollar budget, employs 89 full time staff and fills more than 400 student leadership positions. It also manages six facilities on campus, including Cox Arena, the only major arena run by a student-led organization.

From the beginning

As the first student body organization in the California State University system, the



A.S. 75th Anniversary Celebration Weekend

Join Associated Students in celebrating 75 years of success! The SDSU student government's programs and services will be highlighted during this two-day extravaganza. On Friday, March 2, attend a gala reception and reunion in Cox Arena with live entertainment and a special multimedia retrospective of A.S. achievements since the 1930s. On Saturday, March 3, join behind-the-scenes tours of A.S. facilities, including the SDSU Children's Center and the new Aztec Aquaplex; or bring the whole family to the Mission Bay Aquatic Center. For more information, call the A.S. government affairs office at (619) 594-6555.

vision for the newly incorporated Associated Students was hazy. During its first decade, A.S. helped students adjust to the new, larger campus by helping establish new student organizations and develop a greater sense of school spirit. As the campus grew and the country changed, so did A.S.

In 1944, while most college-aged men were fighting in World War II, the first female president of A.S. was elected. Pat Fritzenkotter led an all-female executive board during 1944-45. After her term, it would be another 25 years before a woman would serve as A.S. president.

"It was very different then because it was wartime," remembers Fritzenkotter. "Women were the majority, so instead of hosting gala dances, we sold war bonds and stamps, held scrap drives and wrote Christmas letters to all the servicemen we could."

A turning point

The following decade was one of tremendous change and growth for A.S. Under the leadership of President Norman Brinker in 1956, the first mandatory student activity fee was passed.

"Up to that point, we never knew how much money we were going to have so we couldn't plan for the future," said Brinker, chairman of the board of the successful restaurant group Brinker International, which owns chains like Chili's, Macaroni Grill and On the Border.

Harvey Goodfriend, who ran against Brinker in the '56 election and lost, said the mandatory fee became the basis for the way A.S. runs business to this day.

"When student activity fees were purely voluntary, we had to stand in line when students were registering for classes to persuade them to pay the extra dollar or two," said Goodfriend, who served as the senior class representative during that pivotal year, and later returned to manage A.S. for 18 years.

With the mandatory fees in place and Brinker at the helm, the board worked as a team to plan ahead and expand; something they could never do before.

"Leading that organization taught me the importance of listening and including other people in the decision-making process," Brinker said. "To this day, I never make an arbitrary decision because of what I learned as president of A.S."

Building for the future

Because of Brinker and the board's forward thinking, A.S. had established a new way of doing business.

In 1963, a second mandatory fee was approved by students to fund the building of the student union, now known as Aztec Center. Former Escondido Mayor Jerry Harmon was on the board at that time and said the campaign to win approval from the student body was one of the greatest lessons he learned in college.



"I learned that getting people to vote for something that would be in their best interest, even with little or no opposition, was a difficult task when their pocketbook was affected," Harmon said. "It was a better lesson than any class or textbook could have ever taught me."

Aztec Center, completed in 1968, opened as the first permanent student union facility on any CSU campus.

"A.S. makes hard decisions based on the needs and demands of the students."

Susan Heiser, who has been with A.S. since 1971, talked about the excitement of seeing students grow to become dynamic leaders, responding to the needs of their constituents and dedicating their time to the university.

In response to a changing student body and more non-traditional students returning to school, A.S. created the SDSU Children's Center. It allows students with children to attend classes during the day, Heiser said.

"A.S. makes decisions based on the needs and demands of the students," Heiser said. "When a need for childcare was determined, A.S. found a solution."



Practical lessons

Cornthwaite has seen dozens of students flourish and excel in their post-university careers, many taking the skills they learned in student government into the real political arena.

Among them is San Diego City Councilman Kevin Faulconer, who says his experience as president of A.S. in 1989 gave him the political itch to run for public office.

“When I was A.S. president, I learned to cherish two valuable tools: listening and compromise,”

said Faulconer. “Today, as a city council member, those qualities have taken on even more value. My first priority, on any issue, is to gain feedback from the community, appreciate the different perspectives they hold and assure them that their input is valued. SDSU continues

“There was a culture of activism and we engaged in serious debates that extended beyond the campus.”

to teach young, aspiring leaders these same tools. Their success at producing dynamic leaders remains unmatched.”

Another alumnus who first spread his political wings leading SDSU’s student body is Tom D’Agostino.

A.S. president in 1974 and 1975, Agostino has made a career representing organizations in the state’s capital, SDSU included. The first and only person to serve two terms as president, D’Agostino led the SDSU student body during the tumultuous end of the Vietnam War era.

“There was a culture of activism at that time and we were heavily engaged in serious debates that extended beyond the campus,” D’Agostino said. “We dealt with issues like Title IX and collective bargaining for faculty, I learned a lot about Sacramento, where I later made my career.”

Previously a consultant for former Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante, D’Agostino said

“I met every week that summer after I was elected with SDSU President Tom Day, Athletics Director Fred Miller, and Associate Athletics Director Jim Herrick planning out the campaign,” Emond said. “We got the yes vote March 3, 1988. I will never forget that date.”

Some of the thornier issues place A.S. in a mediator’s role. Ronald C. Williams, served as executive vice president in 2000 when the Native

A new era

As Associated Students approaches its anniversary celebration this year, the organization continues to grow and change. In March, the \$10 million Aztec Aquaplex will open its pools to the community.

On the drawing board and already approved by students is a student-funded project, to renovate the 40-year-old Aztec Center and build a new student

Leading the Way: Throughout its 75-year history, A.S. has helped physically transform the SDSU campus, revolutionized the way students influence decision-making on CSU campuses and produced dozens of leaders in politics, education and business.

being president of A.S. taught him how to assess the emotional side of an issue and deal with a broad constituency.

“As students, we tried to be part of the process and the solution, instead of being part of the problem,” said D’Agostino, who now serves as an SDSU Ambassador for Higher Education, engaging in public policy to support higher education.

Another former A.S. president, Larry Emond, now chief marketing officer for The Gallup Organization, also got a crash course in leadership during his term.

It took three student body votes to get approval for the reconstruction of the Aztec Recreation Center and Cox Arena, certainly the most prominent venues in the organization’s business profile.

American Student Association brought forward a resolution to get rid of the SDSU mascot. Williams, now a Ph.D. candidate at the University of California, Berkeley, said it was a complex problem that needed a creative solution.

“That issue put us in a position of having to balance the values of the majority with those of the minority opinion,” Williams said. “It was frustrating because people did not understand that although they accounted for less than one percent of the student population, the Native American community had valid concerns that needed to be addressed.”

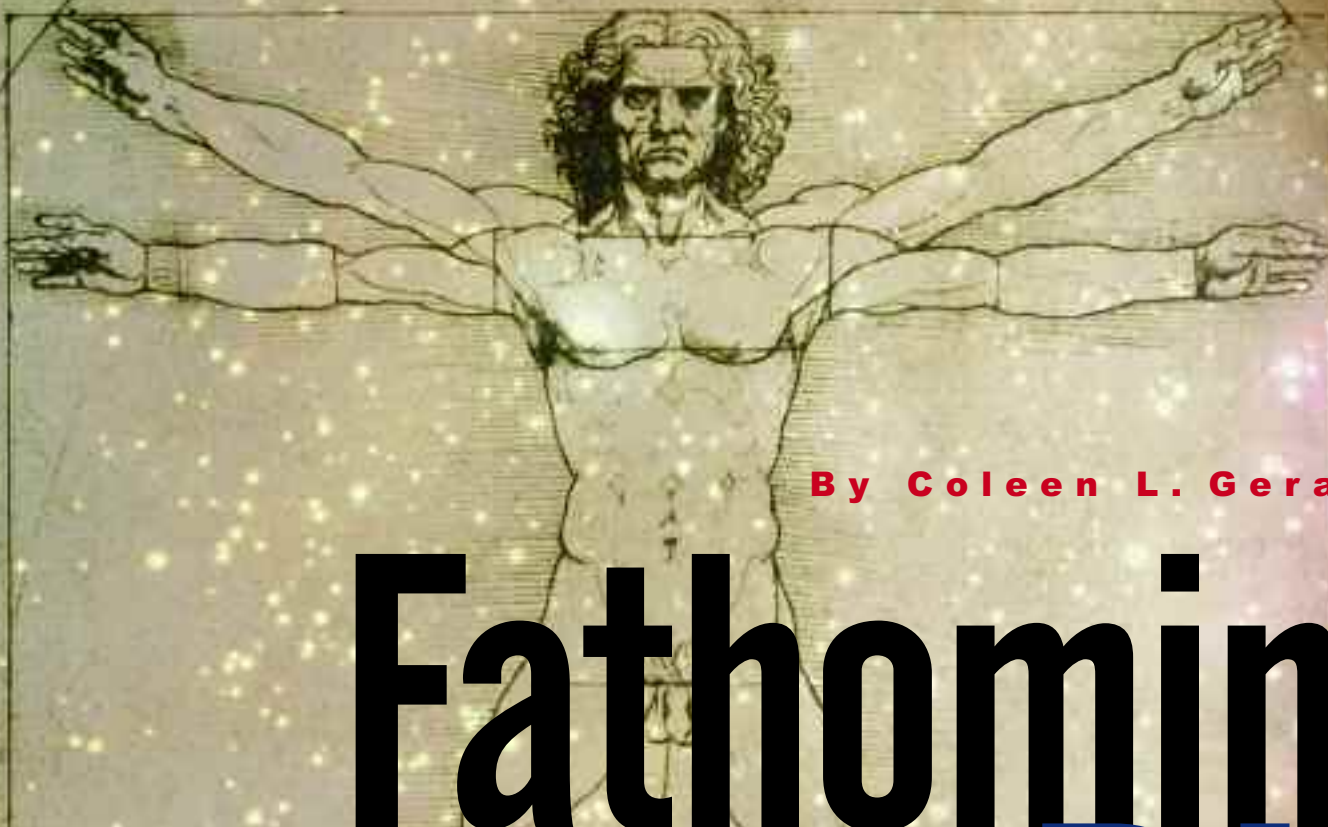
Though the controversy died down after the university redesigned “Monty Montezuma” to become the “Aztec Warrior,” it remains one of the most memorable debates in recent years.

union. Modern Space, a \$44 million project, has already generated its own controversy, once again challenging A.S. to balance growth with respect for tradition.

At the core of the debate is the original sycamore tree planted during the construction of Aztec Center. With the renovation, the tree and its ever expanding roots might have to go. Goodfriend, still on staff at SDSU, wants to keep the treasured tree right where it is.

“We built Aztec Center around the tree and it would be criminal to remove it,” said Goodfriend.

Seventy five years after its birth, A.S. continues to strive for the perfect balance between growth and tradition as another generation of spirited Aztec leaders guides the campus toward its future.



By Coleen L. Geraghty

Fathoming Big History

Anyone who has lived in Australia for as long as David Christian did understands the power of the Aboriginal creation story.

It describes a “dreamtime” when ancestor spirits roamed the earth forming mountains, rivers, plants and animals, even stars, before resting within their creations. To this day, the fierce identity of indigenous Australians finds definition in the contours of the landscape and the canvas of the night sky.

“Creation myths are powerful because they speak to our deep, spiritual, psychic and social need for a sense of place and a sense of belonging,” said Christian, a San Diego State professor of history. “They provide a fundamental sense of orientation.”

From the beginning

In 2004, Christian published his own creation story, which won the World History Association’s annu-

al book prize. “Maps of Time: An Introduction to Big History” makes the case for humanity’s connection with the physical universe.

The book contends that world history is more than the chronicle of individual cultures and races; and to understand humanity’s place in the larger context of the cosmos, a historian must begin at the beginning – the very beginning – as in the creation of the universe. Christian said he called his work “Maps of Time” because it is “the equivalent of a world map of knowledge of the past.”

At SDSU, the big history course covers 13 billion years, weaving strands of modern biology, geology, cosmology, anthropology and other natural sciences into a tapestry of human history. The topic for week one is “Finding Your Place in the Scheme of Things.” Week two examines “The Beginnings of Everything.” Humans don’t make an appearance until week five.

When Christian first developed the course nearly 20 years ago at Macquarie University in Sydney, Australia, he invited experts to lecture on the scientific content; gradually, he began teaching the entire course himself. In 1991, while still at Macquarie, Christian went public with the concept of big history in the *Journal of World History*.

His article rocked the academic community with its startlingly original, scientifically-based interpretation of humanity’s journey through time. Not all

The universe takes center stage in David Christian’s modern creation story

of the reaction was positive. Some historians resisted Christian’s alignment of history with the sciences.

Culture as science

“Big history defines human culture as science,” Christian observed. “Lots of creatures exchange informa-


tion, but the volume and precision of human communication makes us different. If enough information is exchanged, there comes a point at which individuals relate to the environment more on the basis of what they’ve learned from others than from their direct experience. Historians call that cul-

ture, and culture, as seen like this, can be a scientific concept. It’s not going to generate equations, but it does account for our astonishing collective inventiveness.”

From the start, many historians also criticized Christian for working on a scale so large that major events and figures never materialize. The golden age of Greece is not mentioned in “Maps of Time,” nor is Mao Zedong.

Christian counters that historians working at smaller scales fail to consider sweeping changes and broad shifts in society. Metaphorically, big history is the view from the jumbo jet at its highest altitude. As the plane rises, smaller markers vanish but new ones appear. Think of it not as a loss, but as an intellectual tradeoff.

“I’m not arguing that the accomplishments of societies and individuals should be ignored,” Christian defended his perspective. “I also teach 19th century Russian



**“Many students
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exhilarating
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What does
it mean
to be human?
What is my
place in the
universe?”**

history. What I contend is that one cannot make sense of the role of the individual in history without knowing the larger context. In the sciences, it's understood that high theory and detailed research inform each other. Historians have lost sight of that.”

The scale of big history overwhelms some students, while its content challenges the religious beliefs of others. Most, however, relish grappling with the questions Christian poses in his classes. “They find it incredibly exhilarating to be asking these huge, grand questions that smart university kids ought to be asking. What does it mean to be human, and to be human in this particular society? What is my place in the universe?”

Big history gets bigger

Big history is still outside the mainstream, but its influence is spreading in world history circles. Variations on Christian's themes are taught in universities in Canberra, Perth and Melbourne, Australia; in Amsterdam; and in two of the UC colleges, Berkeley and Santa Cruz. Big history's cohesiveness also appeals to high school teachers frustrated by the disjointed state of world history curricula.

Ross Dunn, emeritus professor of history at SDSU, said teachers in grades 6 through 12 need a “humanocentric” framework that examines change in place of a syllabus featuring “one damn civilization after another.” He is project director of World History for Us All, a Web-based model curriculum for teaching world history in middle and high schools.

Dunn, a past president of the World History Association, encouraged SDSU to bring David Christian from Sydney to San Diego, and has

hired him as associate director for World History for Us All. Using many of Christian's concepts, the evolving project presents the human past as a single story – the story of the earth, whose inhabitants have a shared history.

As World History for Us All makes inroads into the nation's public schools, odds are that Christian's large scale multidisciplinary view of world history will reach students at an earlier, more impressionable, age. Never too early for him.

The problems facing humanity in this century – complex issues like global warming and nuclear proliferation – can be solved only through global efforts, Christian insists. What's needed to unite humanity behind these issues is a powerful human history, a history more relevant and more scientifically valid than the classification of American or Russian or Australian.

“The claim I would make about big history,” Christian said, “which is different from saying it's true, is that it is the story that oozes from the 21st century. If you live in this century, in this society, you need to know the story.”

For young people, preparing to live and work in a global community, big history may be the preface to a new universal creation story.

David Christian is currently on leave from SDSU at the National Humanities Center in North Carolina. He was awarded a \$30,000 Donnelly Family Fellowship from the center to research and write about the history of inner Eurasia, comprising Russia, Central Asia and Mongolia.

WHAT MOVES YOU?

SDSU Month 2007



Celebrating the minds
that move the world.

By Jason Foster



For Monica Alnes, it's coming through in the clutch. For Tim Nunnink, it's playing the perfect musical vibe. For Karla Blanco, it's finding the patterns.

There are countless impulses that "move" San Diego State University's students, faculty, staff and alumni. They want to perform, to create, to discover, to learn, to succeed.

The fifth annual SDSU Month celebration this March honors the diverse forces that "move" the SDSU community into action.

Loving the pressure

What excites Monica Alnes about playing softball is the pressure.

"I love the pressure situations," said the social work major from Palos Verdes, Calif. "I want to be the pitcher in the circle with the bases loaded and we need to put a zero on the scoreboard. Or I like to be at bat when we need a hit to win the game. I like the pressure to be on me to come through."

That's not just empty bravado. Alnes earned All-Mountain West Conference honors last year in part for batting .379 and leading the team with nine game-winning plays. And that was as a freshman.

Now, the sophomore hopes to help move the Aztecs into the top echelon of collegiate softball programs.

"I get fired up at the thought of taking on teams that are national powerhouses and beating them," she said. "SDSU is moving up in the softball ranks; I came here because I liked that and wanted to be a part of it. We've had some success, and now a lot of the top schools and experts know us."

Totally in sync

Tim Nunnink fell in love with jazz soon after he joined a junior high jazz ensemble.

"What excites me is the spontaneity of the music – you can perform the same song with the same musicians in the same room, and it can be infinitely different each time."

His talent and passion for performing led to earn a bachelor's degree from the prestigious Berklee College of Music in Boston. Nunnink, now a second-year master's student in the SDSU School of Music and Dance, wants a career as a professional musician.

He currently plays tenor saxophone for the SDSU Jazz Orchestra, which performed in Mexico in fall 2006 and will record a CD this spring.

What moves him most?

"There's a point in a performance when all the practice and all the hard work leads you to a euphoric moment where you're totally in sync with your music, your band

mates, the environment, and the whole world slips away," he said.

Finding patterns

Karla Blanco immigrated to the United States from Mexico at age 14. Despite support from family members, adjusting to her new country wasn't easy.

"I didn't know how huge the differences were in language and culture until I came here," she recalled. "Learning and adapting to those differences was very difficult at first."

Blanco has come a long way since then. Now the psychology major, supported by the federally funded McNair Scholars and Minority Biomedical Research Support programs, is tackling her fourth research project related to multicultural learning and cultural adaptation.

"I wanted to research these differences, how we learn about them and adapt to them, so that I could help other people have an easier transition than I did," said Blanco, who is applying to Ph.D. programs and aspires to be a university professor and psychologist.

"It's so exciting to come up with an idea and investigate it. I love running the sessions and analyzing the data. Sometimes the results aren't what

you expect, but it's thrilling when you start to see patterns or relationships emerge that no one knew about before."

No matter what moves you, you'll find it in the excitement of SDSU Month. Imagine 31 days of artistic, academic and athletic events, special offers from local businesses and a partner-supported media campaign to raise awareness of SDSU's outstanding people and programs.

SDSU Month also offers the chance to support outstanding students via the SDSU Month Scholarship Challenge. You can participate with an individual donation or by patronizing businesses that donate proceeds from special SDSU Month promotions.

And you can get yourself moving to faraway places with a free European vacation package. Move your body with a trek through Bavaria, move your soul with a musical tour of Vienna, move your fork with a culinary sample of Tuscany. STA Travel will take the winner and one guest to multiple destinations with free airfare, First Class Eurail passes and hotel accommodations.

Visit www.sdsumontb.com before March 31, 2007 and tell us (in 75 words or less) what moves you to be an SDSU "Mind That Moves the World"?

SDSU Month 2007 Signature Events

Last Men's Basketball Home Game of the 2006-07 Season March 3, 3 p.m.

COX ARENA
Kick off SDSU Month at the Aztecs' last home game of the 2006-2007 season. As reigning champs of the Mountain West Conference, the SDSU men's basketball team has been playing hard and winning big. This is your last chance to catch the exciting play of Brandon Heath and Mohamed Abukar as they lead Coach Steve Fisher's team against TCU at 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 3, in Cox Arena. The Aztec women play the New Mexico Lobos at noon. For more information, visit <http://goaztecs.com>.



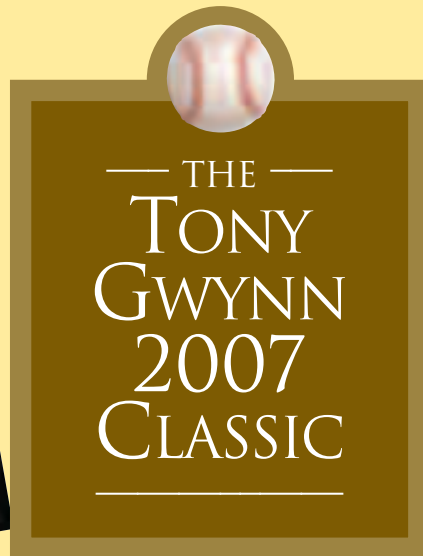
Electricidad March 9-18

SDSU CAMPUS
The Experimental Theatre presents this Luis Alfaro adaptation of "Electra," the 2,500-year-old text by Sophocles. Directed by Peter Cirino and set in an urban barrio, Electricidad tells the story of a daughter seeking revenge for the death of her father and the consequences her vengeance brings. Catch this sizzling production March 9-18 at the Experimental Theatre. For dates, times and tickets, call (619) 594-6365 or visit www.theatre.sdsu.edu. Part of "A Taste of the Arts" at SDSU.



Tony Gwynn 2007 Classic March 10

PETCO PARK
San Diego State will celebrate Tony Gwynn's induction into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in a ceremony during this college doubleheader at PETCO Park. Former San Diego Padre and SDSU alum, Gwynn is the Aztecs baseball head coach. Tickets for this event, featuring a face-off between SDSU and Michigan, are \$15 and can be purchased online at www.goaztecs.com. An exhibit on Gwynn's life and achievements will be on display during March in the **SDSU Library's Donor Hall and Department of Special Collections**.



Explore SDSU 2007 March 17

SDSU CAMPUS
San Diego State University will showcase all the campus has to offer during this day-long open house. Enjoy live entertainment on two stages, behind-the-scenes tours of campus labs and research facilities and an up-close look at SDSU academic programs and departments at the interactive information fair. There's something for everyone with KPBS characters entertaining children in the "Kids Zone" and a special area for alumni and families. Parking and admission are free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.sdsuonth.com.

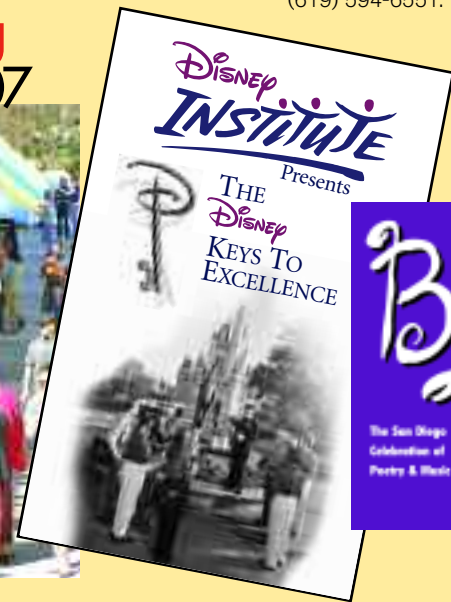


EXPLORE SDSU OPEN HOUSE 2007



The Disney Keys to Excellence March 22

SYCUAN RESORT
SDSU's College of Extended Studies is sponsoring San Diego's first full-day program showcasing the "business behind the magic." Walt Disney World® insiders bring to life the unique business practices that have made the Disney name synonymous with creativity, quality and innovation the world over. The program will be March 22 from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Sycuan Resort. For more details, go to www.neverstoplearning.net/DisneyInstitute.



Border Voices Poetry Faire March 24

AZTEC CENTER
The Border Voices Poetry Faire returns to the Aztec Center Saturday, March 24, with performances from Robert Pinsky, the U.S. Poet Laureate from 1997 to 2000; Adrienne Rich, winner of a National Book Critics Circle Award; Steve Kowitz, author of many poetry collections, including "The Gods of Rapture" (2006); and Catherine Yi-yu Cho Woo, SDSU professor emeritus who served on the National Council of the Arts for Presidents George H. Bush and Bill Clinton. For more information, visit www.bordervoices.com or call (619) 594-6551.



SDSU Month Benefit Partners

AZTEC STORE
Is your red-and-black looking pink-and-gray? Visit the Aztec Store in Fashion Valley or the SDSU Bookstore during March wearing any SDSU clothing and get 15% off new SDSU gear. You can also save 15% on SDSU clothing at www.aztecshops.com. Each has new and different items, so shop them all.

AZTEC RECREATION CENTER
Adults 18 and over can receive free admission to the 76,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art Aztec Recreation Center during 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. For more information, visit <http://arc.sdsu.edu>.

HIKE BIKE KAYAK
Attend SDSU baseball and softball games during March for \$5, that's \$2 off regular admission! And, on March 3, get a \$10 G.A. ticket for the men's basketball game or a \$5 G.A. ticket for the women's basketball game. Just say "SDSU Month" at the Aztec ticket window. Visit <http://goaztecs.com>.

HIKE BIKE KAYAK
Take 25% off the regular price of any tour, rental or team-building event and 15% off any kayak package over \$499 for the month of March. Cannot be combined with any other offer. For more information, call (858) 551-9510 or visit www.hikebikekayak.com.

ELYZIUM SURF SHOP
SDSU students, alumni and faculty receive 10% off regular priced clothing throughout March when you mention the SDSU Month promotion! Check out the new location at 6165 El Cajon Blvd, San Diego. For more information, visit www.elyziumsrf.com or call (619) 265-2725.

COSTCO WHOLESALE
Mention SDSU Month when signing up for a Costco Wholesale membership during March 2007 and receive a Costco Merchandise Sampler Tote Bag. Offer good at all Costco Wholesale locations; applicable to new members only. Aware Code: 23085. For Costco locations and other information, visit www.costco.com.

MCA SD
The Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego in downtown San Diego and La Jolla offers 50% off admission in March for anyone mentioning SDSU Month. Featured exhibitions include Morris Louis Now: An American Master Revisited and TRANSactions: Contemporary Latin American and Latino Art. For more information, visit www.mcasd.org.

LANDMARK THEATRES
Save on movie tickets during SDSU Month! Show your student, faculty/staff or alumni association 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, visit www.landmarktheatres.com.

WOODSTOCK'S PIZZA
Woodstock's is offering \$4 off a large or extra large Aztec Classic Pizza or Classic Combo Pizza to anyone mentioning SDSU Month during March '07. Offer applies to dine-in or take-out. This discount cannot be combined with other offers or discounts. See www.woodstockssd.com for more information.

MTS
Experience a culinary feast at SDSU's Taste of the Arts. Come to campus via trolley and pay just \$20 for a "Trolley Pass" ticket that allows you four entrances to any theatre, dance, music or art event at SDSU. For more information, visit <http://psfa.sdsu.edu>. Bon appétit!

SDSU Alumni
Become a Lifetime Member and receive this once-in-a-lifetime offer – an official Rawlings Major League Baseball signed by Tony Gwynn and including the 2007 Hall of Fame inscription. Visit www.sdsualumni.org/TonyGwynn. Congratulations Tony Gwynn on your 2007 National Baseball Hall of Fame induction!

WINDMILL FARMS
Take 10% off of your purchase at Windmill Farms during March when you mention SDSU Month and show any SDSU ID card (student, faculty/staff, Alumni Association, etc.). Windmill Farms is at 6386 Del Cerro Blvd, just north of Interstate 8 at the College exit. Visit www.windmillfarms.net or call (619) 287-1400.

Scholarship Challenge Partners
The SDSU Month Scholarship Challenge is back! 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.sdsuonth.com.

Rubio's FRESH MEXICAN GRILL
Rubio's Fresh Mexican Grill has combined the flavors of Baja in a special meal to benefit the 2007 SDSU Month Scholarship Challenge. Rubio's "Aztec Combo" includes one world-famous fish taco, a crispy shrimp taco, pinto beans, chips and a small drink with \$1.00 from every meal going to SDSU scholars. Other Scholarship Challenge partners include Cox Communications, Cox Business Services and U.S. Bank.

Devotion to their Alma Mater: The Golds Support SDSU's BioScience Center

When Alan and Debbie Gold first met, among the things they had in common was a love of San Diego and their alma mater, San Diego State University.



Fast-forward 20 years. The couple believes their education provided the foundation for Alan's business success as founder of BioMed Realty Trust, a New York Stock Exchange-traded Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) that leases real estate to the life sciences industry. That's why the Golds decided to deepen their connection with SDSU by making a gift to name the BioScience Center auditorium.

for emerging technologies, developing the resources necessary for biotech startups to succeed.

BioScience Center Director, Dr. Roberta Gottlieb, applauds

the Gold's commitment to enhancing research and training opportunities for students. "Their generous gift provides SDSU faculty and students with a state-of-the-art auditorium and an extraordinary learning environment," Gottlieb said.

She worked with fellow SDSU faculty members Christopher Glembotski and Mark Sussman to secure a \$9.5 million program project grant from the National Institutes of Health. With this funding, the three will lead a five-year study examining how protecting mitochondria, the cell's energy center, can minimize damage to heart cells during heart attacks. Research like this will take place in the BioScience Center.

"Alan and I are committed to supporting higher education and our community, said Debbie Gold. "We believe the BioScience Center is a critical resource for San Diego, especially given the increasing competition in the biotechnology market. The work being done there also has worldwide implications. We view this gift, and our support of Aztec athletics, as doing our small part to help SDSU realize its potential."

The SDSU BioScience Center merges research and scholarship to find solutions for critical human health issues. Undergraduate and graduate students work alongside professors, exploring how chronic infections contribute to health problems, such as heart disease, diabetes and cancer. The center features state-of-the-art research laboratories and serves as an incubator

The Alan and Debbie Gold Auditorium for the Life Sciences will be used to host lectures, seminars, distinguished speaker series and symposia on life sciences-related research. As a focal point for activities within the BioScience Center, it will also be used to educate the community about key public health concerns including heart disease prevention, drug-resistant bacterial infections and therapeutic responses to potential acts of bioterrorism.

—Nicole K. Millett



Photo: Melissa Jacobs

Class Notes

1940s

'43: **Bob Menke** ('50, M.A., both in education) received the meritorious achievement award for community service and was inducted into the Legends Hall of Fame at the San Diego Hall of Champions.

1960s

'62: **The Honorable Edward (Ned) Huntington** ★ (accounting, business administration) received the San Diego Family Law Judicial Officer of the Year award from the Southern California Chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. He is a judge in the Family Law Court.

'65: **Patrick A. Long** (English) was named president of DRI, the Voice of the Defense Bar, a national organization of defense trial lawyers and corporate counsel. He is a founding partner of the Santa Ana-based Long Williamson & Delis.

'68 **Richard Dittbenner** ★ (political science) was appointed director of public information and government relations for the San Diego Community College District. Previously at Southwestern College, he was chair of the Department of Administration of Justice. **Patricia Ennis** (home economics; '74, M.A., education) is the author of "Precious in His Sight: The Fine Art of Becoming a Godly Woman."



Coach Jim Dietz with his Aztec players.

1970s

'70 **Stephen Drew** ★ (chemistry) and Sandra Taylor Drew ('87, M.A., education) have retired from the San Marcos Unified School District. For 34 years, Stephen Drew taught chemistry, physics and mathematics. Sandra Drew was an English teacher and school administrator for 20 years. **Grover Trask** (political science), formerly Riverside County district attorney, joined Best Best & Krieger LLP heading a new government and policy working group to advise clients on ethics, state election laws and the California Political Reform Act.

'72 **Wallace Fingerett** (business), associate at the Los Angeles law firm of Feinberg, Mindel, Brandt, Klein & Kline LLP, has become a certified family law specialist after meeting the California State Bar standards in education, experience and knowledge of the field. **Roger Kemp** ★ (business administration; '74, M.A., public administration) recently edited two volumes: "Cities and Cars: A Handbook of Best Practices" and "Homeland Security for the Private Sector," both published by McFarland and Co. Inc.

'75 **Ray Aragon** (political science), a San Diego County deputy public defender, has been appointed to the California Judicial Council by the State Bar Board of Governors. Chaired by the chief justice, the council is the constitutional policymaking body of the California courts.

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

When I was at State...

"From a town in Washington that had 30,000 people, I came down to (San Diego State) with an enrollment of 32,000, so it was pretty overwhelming initially. And then I was thrown in with a lot of great baseball players during our fall program (including Tony Gwynn). Seeing the competition level that takes place at a Division I school in Southern California, it was pretty impressive.

"I remember my first year there was a rare rainout the opening game of the season in San Diego. But Coach (Jim) Dietz wanted to get that game in. We drove out to the desert to play Cal Poly Pomona so he wouldn't miss a game. That showed me the determination and passion Coach Dietz had for the game. His energy rubbed off on all of us."

Bud Black, a 1979 graduate and life member of the SDSU Alumni Association, recently became manager of the San Diego Padres. The former Aztecs hurler pitched for 15 seasons in the major leagues.

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.

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Vice President for Resource Development:
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 '90; Teresa Leader-Anderson '91; Edgar Patiño '00, '05;
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Past Presidents: (* denotes deceased)
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 2003 Matt Dathé; 2002 Tamara McLeod; 2001 Bill
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 1998 Richard West; 1997 Frederick W. Pierce, IV; 1996
 Lois Bruhn; 1995 Tom Jimenez; 1994 Nancy Reed
 Gibson; 1993 Jerry Dressel; 1992 Walter Turner, Jr.;
 1991 James B. Kuhn; 1990 Art Flaming; 1989 Bernard P.
 Rhinerson; 1988 Craig Evanco; 1987 David E. DeVol;
 1986 Dr. Morton Jorgensen; 1985 Denise Carabet; 1984
 Robert Chapman; 1983 William Hastings; 1982 Thomas
 Carter*; 1981 Walter Weisman; 1980 Don Harrington;
 1979 Nicole Clay; 1978 Daniel Bamberg; 1977 Allan
 Bailey; 1976 Richard Troncone; 1975 & 1974 Robert
 Battenfield; 1973 Robert Butler; 1972 R. Scott Snell;
 1971 James H. Ashcraft; 1970 A. Kendall Wood; 1969
 Michael Rogers; 1968 Gerald S. Davee; 1967 Dr. Louis
 Robinson; 1966 Daniel Hale; 1964 Wallace Featheringill;
 1963 Ed Blessing; 1962 Hon. Frank Nottbusch, Jr.*; 1961
 Bryant Kearney*; 1960 & 1959 Lynn McLean; 1958
 Harvey Urban*; 1957 Ken Barnes*; 1954 Dwain Kantor;
 1948 Joe Suozzo; 1947 Robert Breitbart; 1945 Barney
 Carman; 1940 Sue Earnest.

Ex-officio/ Non-voting Directors:
 Fred Hombeck, Mary Ruth Carleton, Matt Keipper,
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 Natalie Gomez, Ebonee King

2007 Monty Award Winners

The Montys is the annual premier event sponsored by the SDSU Alumni Association. This year's gala dinner and awards presentation honors 11 distinguished alumni and friends of the university. Join us in celebrating these minds that move the world on Saturday, April 21, 2007, at the Manchester Grand Hyatt in downtown San Diego. For tickets and additional information, visit <http://alumni.sdsu.edu/montys.htm> or contact Cheryl Trtan at 619-594-ALUM (2586) or ctrtn@mail.sdsu.edu.

College of Arts and Letters Jeffrey Lipinsky

Jeffrey Lipinsky ('66, business administration) serves not only San Diego State University as a member of The Campanile Foundation, but also supports many other foundations, institutes and non-profit organizations. A successful real estate loan broker and property manager, he is considered a philanthropic leader in San Diego, known for his efforts on behalf of the community's less fortunate.



College of Business Administration Linda Lang

Linda Lang ('91, finance), board chairman and CEO of Jack in the Box Inc., has influenced the company's growth and philanthropic activities. A prominent San Diego business leader, she is a founding member of The Jack in the Box Foundation. Lang also serves on the board of directors of SDSU's College of Business Administration, supporting students preparing for careers in hospitality, marketing and food science.



College of Education Margaret Gaston

Margaret Gaston ('70, humanities) founded the Center for the Future of Teaching and Learning, a public policy organization focused on strengthening the teacher workforce statewide. A deep commitment to education reform took her beyond the classroom where she first worked as an elementary school teacher. She became a high school vice principal and, later, a consultant and administrator for the California Department of Education.



College of Engineering Ivan Fox, P.E.

Ivan Fox, ('85 civil engineering) is president of AirX Utility Surveyors Inc., president of San Dieguito Engineering Inc. and founder of Clearwater Solutions, Inc. A former member of the SDSU Alumni Association Board of Directors, he is a strong supporter of San Diego State University's civil and environmental engineering program and a role model for graduates aspiring to develop their own companies.



College of Health and Human Services Pamela J. Wayne, RN, M.P.H.

The late Pamela Wayne, ('87, health services administration) is remembered as a successful health care professional and businesswoman with a reputation for developing, managing and fostering pioneering concepts in surgical care. With a background in nursing, she went on to hold many key positions in the health care management field.



College of Professional Studies and Fine Arts Katherine Kennedy

Katherine Kennedy ('76, music/liberal arts) is founder and president of Relocation Coordinates Inc., a company that moves transferees and new hires throughout the United States and the world. An entrepreneur recognized for revolutionizing the relocation industry, she also lends her energy and expertise to a wide variety of cultural, arts and service organizations throughout the community.



College of Sciences Andre Creese, M.D., FACEP

Andre Creese ('90, psychology), is a nationally recognized leader in emergency medical treatment and care. As medical director and chief of the emergency department of Florence, South Carolina's McLeod Regional Medical Center, he has helped pioneer cost effective procedures that drastically reduce the number of patient deaths due to error and inadequate care.



1970s Class Notes

'76 **Janet Schechter Tiger** (comparative literature) was chosen as Swendenborg Hall's first playwright-in-residence. "The Third Party," written by Tiger, was a San Diego Drama Critics Circle nominee for best play. Her new work, "The End of Death" will premiere next summer.

'77 **Rick Gittings** (M.P.A.) retired after 24 years as city manager of San Marcos, Calif. He will continue to teach at SDSU's Department of Public Administration.

1980s

'80 **Dirk Sutro** (M.A., mass communication) has published "Jazz for Dummies, 2nd Edition." Formerly host of "The Lounge," a weekly arts and culture show on KPBS-FM, Sutro is now program promotion manager for the UC San Diego's Department of Music.

'81 **Christy L. Beaudin** ★ (social work) was appointed vice president and chief quality officer for Children's Hospital in Los Angeles.

'84 **Marsha Dodson** (journalism) has published "Empowering Parents: A Guide to Taking Control of Your Child's Educational Journey." She co-wrote the book with Darlene Willis, SDSU's dean of students and Dodson's co-host on the educational radio program that airs Tuesdays at 6 p.m. on KURS 1040AM.

'87 **Christopher Carlyle** (political science) of The Carlyle Appellate Law Firm was recently board certified in appellate practice by the Florida Bar.

'88 **Julie Weinstein Shapiro** (public administration) is a freelance writer and author whose stories have been published in many newspapers, journals and Web sites. Her short story collection, "Flashes of the Other World," is available from Pulp Bits.

'91 **Kimberly Hulbert** (music education; '95, M.A., music) and her three partners in A Cappella Gold won \$10,000 and the chance to record a modern radio version of the Oreo cookie jingle. American voters chose the group from five finalists who appeared on the Oreo Web site for several months. Hulbert is director of the award-winning San Diego chorus of Sweet Adelines Intl., a women's cappella music organization.

'93 **Brent A. Evans** ★ (international business) was promoted to vice president, Global Trade Insourcing at Wachovia. He works with foreign banks and corporations looking to outsource their trade services operations. **Rodney Johnson** (psychology) has published "Diary of a Social Worker: Inside Child Protective Services," a memoir of his work for the Department of Child Services in San Bernardino.

'94 **Neil Kendrick**s (studio art, journalism; '06, M.A., television, film & new media), a visual artist, photographer, filmmaker and writer, is also film curator for the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (MCASD). His photography and short-film projects have been exhibited in the San Diego Museum of Art, the African-American Museum of Fine Arts, MCASD; and screened at many international film festivals. **Ileana Ovalle** (public administration), in her new role as government and community relations manager for Cox Communications in San Diego, will serve as liaison between Cox and key constituents, community members, and educational partners in the South Bay and East County. **Eric Nedelman** (music education; '98, M.A., music) completed his Ph.D. from UC Santa Barbara in music theory. He works for DKW Musicworks as engineer, composer and arranger of instrumental pieces for music libraries.

Library and Information Access

David H. DeVorkin

David H. DeVorkin ('68, astronomy) is senior curator in the division of space history at the National Air and Space Museum, part of the Smithsonian Institution. An accomplished scholar and writer on the history of astronomy, he has published more than 100 scholarly works and written and edited nine books.

Imperial Valley Campus

Robertta Burns

Robertta Burns ('79, liberal studies, '93, public administration) is county executive officer for Imperial County, California, supervising day-to-day operations and coordinating county operations with local, state, federal and tribal agencies. A member of numerous community boards and committees, she is a leader in the transformation and economic advancement of the region.

Distinguished Alumni Service Award

Ash Hayes, Ed. D.

Ash Hayes ('49, physical education) serves as a past president of the Alumni Association and member of the Ambassadors for Higher Education. He is also on the CSU Alumni Council Board and the CSU systemwide budget advisory committee. Appointed by President Ronald Reagan, Hayes was executive director of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports. He also served as PCPFS director of sports administration for President Gerald Ford.

Distinguished University Service Award

Henry L. Janssen, Professor Emeritus, Political Science

Henry Janssen was instrumental in paving the way for San Diego State University's joint doctoral programs. He is a co-founder of the Honors Council and advisor to Mortar Board, whose members selected him for Faculty Achievement and National Achievement Awards. Now, in his 52nd year of service to SDSU, Janssen continues to enhance the SDSU experience for students, alumni and the community.



'94 **Dwayne Crenshaw** (liberal studies) was among *San Diego Metropolitan* magazine's 2006 "40 under Forty," considered the city's most promising young professionals. He is executive director of the Coalition of Neighborhood Councils. Crenshaw is currently on the board of directors for the SDSU Alumni Association

'96 **Will Beall** (English) is an LAPD officer who writes about the streets he patrols in his first novel, "L.A. Rex," published by Riverhead Books. Beall is a former managing editor of the *Daily Aztec*. **Daniel Cross** (philosophy) was elected a partner in the firm Ross, Dixon & Bell LLP. He practices in San Diego, specializing in corporate, business and real estate transactions. **Lynn Foster** (operations management) edited "Nanotechnology: Science, Innovation and Opportunity," a compilation of 36 essays by U.S. Sen. Joe Lieberman, Nobel Prize winner Richard Smalley and others. Foster is the emerging technologies director at Greenberg Traurig LLP. **Katy Gergurich** (M.A., accounting) was promoted to partner from senior manager of Ernst & Young. She leads the global tax services practice in the Pacific southwest area.

'98: **Ernie Barrera** ★ (English), a San Diego-based writer, won three San Diego Press Club awards for writing in 2006 – for general news, opinion/commentary and reviews. **Kara L. Gervais** (criminal justice) has formed the law firm of Gervais, Salmon & Watson LLP, located in Encinitas. The practice focuses on real estate matters, including land use, litigation and representation of homeowner associations. **Jay Easton** ('01 M.M., both in music performance) completed a D.M.A. in woodwind performance at the University of Washington. His dissertation, "Writing for Saxophones: A Guide to the Tonal Palette of the Saxophone Family for Composers, Arrangers and Performers," is being published in book form. **Juel Moore** ★ (Ph.D., education) was chosen by the women's auxiliary of the Salvation Army as a Woman of Dedication for 2007. A retired elementary school principal, she now works with SDSU's teacher education department supervising student teachers.

'99: **Marisela Sager** (music performance) has advanced from assistant principal flute with the Baltimore Symphony to assistant principal flute with the celebrated Cleveland Orchestra.

'00 **Jessica Calhoon** (dance), currently part of the New York City dance scene, has received praise for her work for choreographer Eva Dean.

'03 **Lindsay Toczyłowski** (American studies) was one of 50 law students nationwide to receive financial support from Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal to underwrite work at a public interest agency. She spent last summer in Masaya with Ixchen, a non-profit women's health and advancement institution servicing the women of Nicaragua.

'04: **LTJG Michael Stengel** (political science) received his United States Navy Wings of Gold after completing more than two years of flight school. Currently, he is learning to fly the Boeing F/A-18E/F Super Hornet from his base in Virginia.

'06: **Ryan Beattie Scrimger** ★ (MFA, theatre arts) has been instrumental in establishing the West Coast Musical Theatre archive at SDSU. She recently married Andrew Scrimger, a project manager at Seal Office Systems Inc. **Britt Toven** (M.A., education) was awarded a Fulbright scholarship to research ethnic minority students in Norway through June 2007.

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By Degrees

Erin Bala • Hometown: San Diego, California • **SDSU degree:** political science/marketing

Bala is immediate past president of the University Honors Program Student Council and a member of Mortar Board, the national honor society that recognizes college students for achievement in scholarship, leadership and service.

What brought you to San Diego State? I came to campus as a high school student to finish my senior class requirements. Meanwhile, I was accepted by Georgetown (University) and UC Berkeley. But I discovered the University Honors Program at SDSU and that clinched it for me. I felt I could make a difference here.

And are you making a difference? We are trying. We want to change the perception of the honors community on campus and to bring more of SDSU's amazing students together. We have an idea for an interdisciplinary honors class that would find links between seemingly unrelated fields and present viewpoints that students might not encounter in their major fields of study.

Who on campus has influenced you most? Professor Jung Choi, former director of the honors program, has been a mentor. He has a way of making you realize things about yourself. He helped me examine my basic values and think about what I want my life to mean.

Talk about your work with Aztec P.R.I.D.E. Aztec P.R.I.D.E. is a student organization. We convey the student story to alumni, donors, volunteers and friends of SDSU who attend the President's Breakfasts, the 360 Tours and other events.

You're involved in community service too, aren't you? I'm a junior advisor with the La Mesa Youth Advisory Commission, working with students and with seniors. It's a way for me to give back to my community.



Photo: Ion Moe

SDSU Alumna Dr. Clare Crane:

A Friend of the Classics

When Clare Crane looks back on her time as a history major at San Diego State College in the late 1950s, her fondest recollections are of the intellectual engagement with professors. One in particular, Kramer Rohlfleisch, taught ancient Greek history with a focus on the golden age of Pericles. He instilled in his young student an appreciation for the classics that has endured. Last year, at age 81, Crane decided to create a Charitable Gift Annuity supporting an endowed professorship in the classics at San Diego State.



I am gone, the university will put my investment to good use."

Crane currently serves as vice president of the Friends of Classics, a group of 200 committed to ensuring the survival of the discipline at SDSU. As one of only two classics departments in the California State University system, SDSU's Department of Classics & Humanities embraces all of ancient Greek and Roman civilization and culture.

Friends of Classics began gathering 25 years ago in the home of former SDSU professor Gail Burnett. "Every week during the academic year we met to share our love of the classics," Crane said. "The works of this historical period are the bedrock of the disciplines and values underlying western civilization. While Dr. Burnett is no longer with us, I know she'd love the fact that we still meet in her home to read together."

"As a student and also a former instructor at SDSU, I believe the faculty are its most precious asset. Their devotion to academic research and their willingness to reach out to students in a personal way is inspirational and rewarding," Crane said.

By establishing a gift annuity, Crane will contribute to a cause close to her heart while securing herself a fixed income for life. "We turned a mutual fund that wasn't making us money into an annual income stream," she said. "At the same time, we're benefiting from capital gains and estate tax advantages. And when

Rates of Return: Charitable Gift Annuities (through June 30, 2007)

AGE	RATE
60	5.7%
65	6.0
70	6.5
75	7.1
80	8.0
85	9.5
90	11.3

*As set by the National Committee on Gift Annuities

For more information on creating a gift annuity at SDSU, contact Patricia Moulton, director of planned giving, at (619) 594-7090 or pmoulton@mail.sdsu.edu, or visit our comprehensive Web site at www.sdsugift.org.

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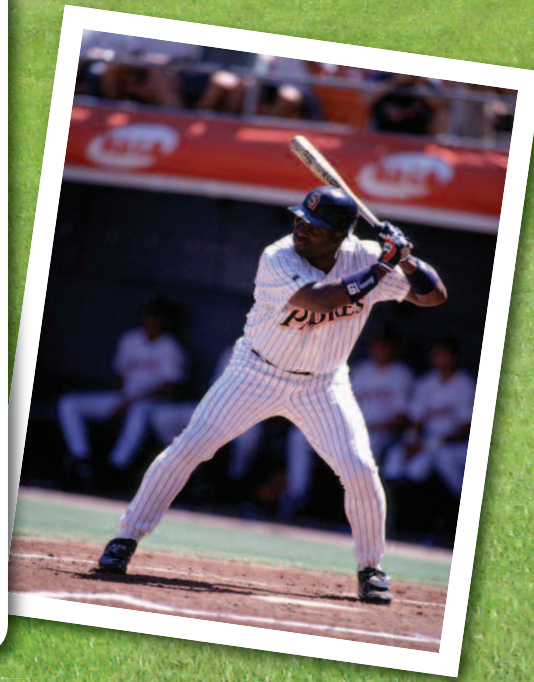
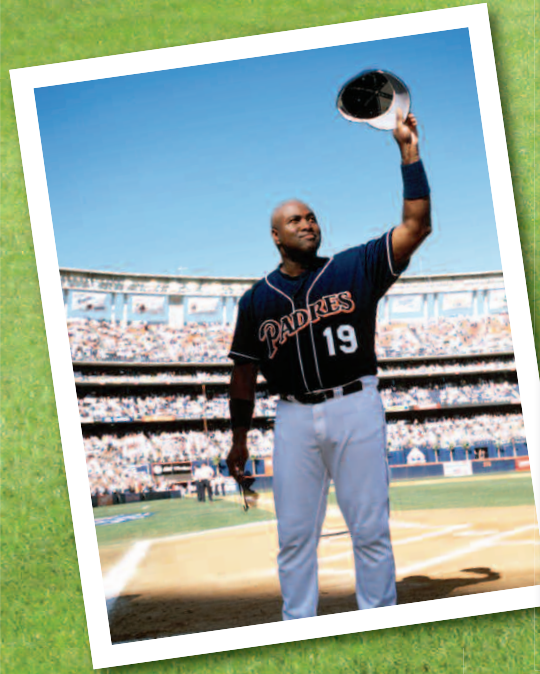
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