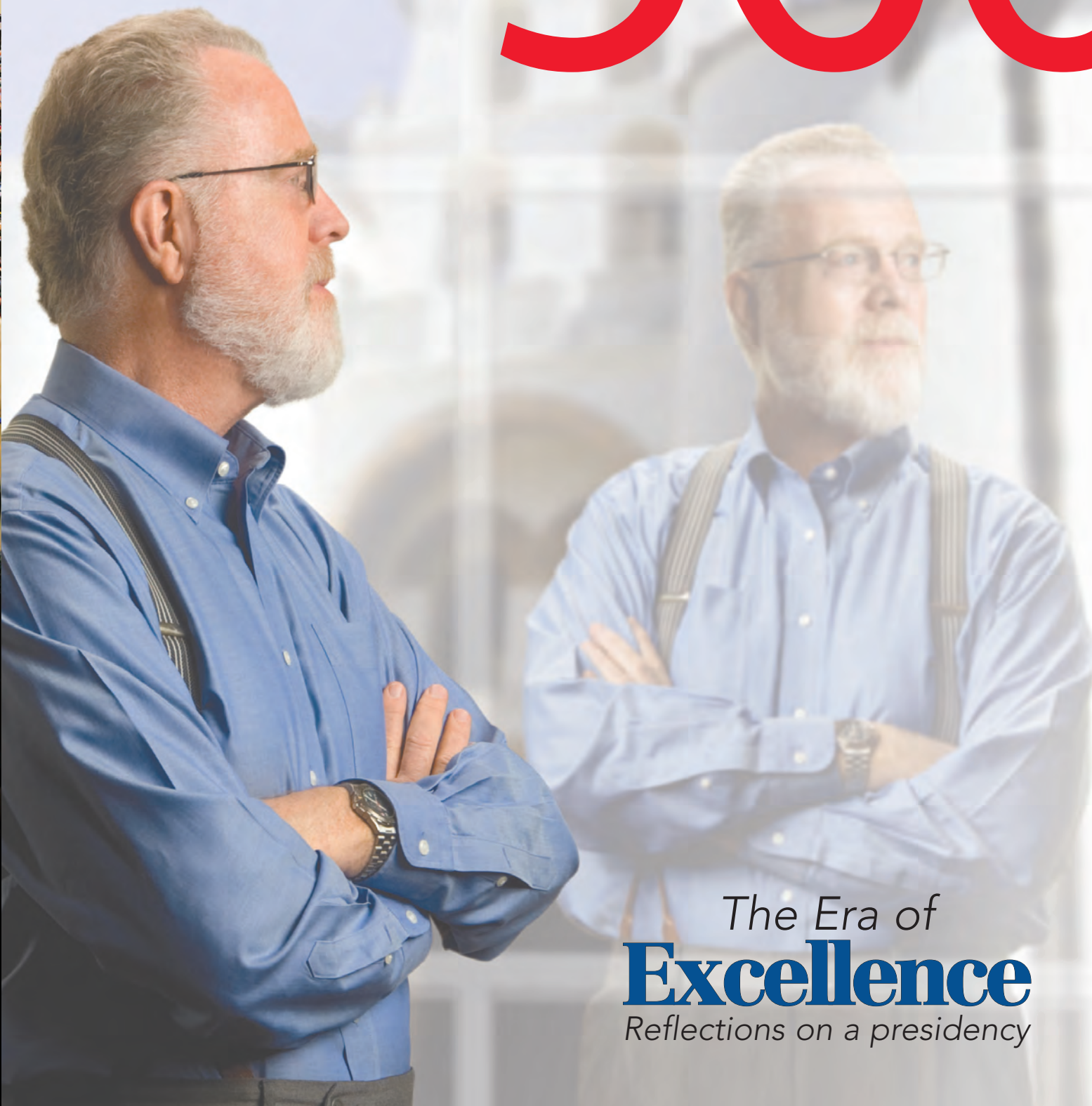


360



The Era of
Excellence
Reflections on a presidency

A hand is holding a circular compass. The compass face is white with black markings for degrees (0, 20, 40, 60, 80, 100, 120, 140, 160, 180, 200, 220, 240, 260, 280, 300, 320, 340) and cardinal directions (N, S, E, W). The needle is pointing towards the North. The word 'Direc' is overlaid in a large, white, sans-serif font across the center of the compass face. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light blue.

Direc

In January, the California State University Board of Trustees began the search for a new president of San Diego State University.

Five CSU trustees plus CSU Chancellor Charles B. Reed comprise the search committee. A second committee of SDSU alumni, faculty and staff members, a student, a community representative and a president of another CSU campus are advising the trustee search committee.

If the search is successful, the CSU trustees will name the new San Diego State president in May; he/she will start sometime after my last day in early July.

People have asked me about what to expect of SDSU's future. My response to them is straightforward: although I have had the privilege and joy of serving the development of SDSU over the last 15 years, I am not the university. You are the university.

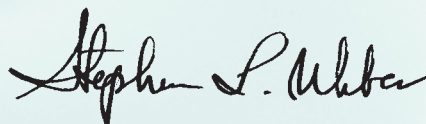
You—alumni, faculty, staff, students and supportive friends—are the ones who meet the challenges, identify the opportunities, set the goals and finally, determine the best way to take San Diego State to the next level of excellence. Most importantly, you are the ones who serve our students and our society.

During the last 15 years, it has been my pleasure to work with many generous people who have partnered with SDSU to accomplish excellent and important work. Your generosity helps counteract the increasing lack of support for higher education in California and has propelled SDSU to new heights. My successor will need your continued collaboration and support.

Presidential transitions, like the one San Diego State is about to experience, are good and salutary events. Universities, like all organizations, can benefit from new leadership, new questions and new challenges to the status quo. But most of all, the transition to a new president allows a time to pause, to recognize our gains, and then to step out in pursuit of new challenges.

It is your right and your responsibility to move San Diego State forward under new leadership. You must help the incoming president understand the unique character of SDSU, and you must demonstrate how this university is both the anchor and the sail of the San Diego region.

I know you will give our new president the same warm welcome you gave Susan and me 15 years ago. Working at San Diego State has been the high point of my life and career, but I have no doubt that San Diego State's best days still lie ahead.



Stephen L. Weber, President
San Diego State University

360

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Editor: Coleen L. Geraghty

Editorial Contributors: Sandra Millers Younger, Gina Jacobs '01, '10, Nicole K. Millett '94, Golda Akhgarnia, Chris Arechaederra, Michael J. Mahin

Guest Contributor: Ken Kramer '74

Additional Editing: Keith Benton, Patricia Alfano, Lorena Nava Ruggero '04

Art Director: Lori Padelford '83

Graphic Design: John Signer '82

Cover Photo: Dave Friend

Cover Photo Illustration: Pak Sing Chan

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

Stephen L. Weber, President

DIVISION OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS & DEVELOPMENT

Mary Ruth Carleton

Vice President - University Relations and Development

Jessie Brooks

Associate Vice President - Principal Gifts

Sarah Slaughter '78

Chief Financial Officer

The Campanile Foundation

Jack Beresford

Chief Communications Officer

Jim Herrick

Executive Director - Alumni Association

We welcome mail from our readers.

360 Magazine

Marketing & Communications

5500 Campanile Drive

San Diego CA 92182-8080

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alumnidata@sdsu.edu

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Gold medal winner, Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE)



SAN DIEGO STATE
UNIVERSITY

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Serving Special Needs

San Diego State is the only university in the nation to receive four grants from the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs to support the improvement of services and educational outcomes for children with disabilities.

Totaling \$4.8 million, the grants will fund programs to increase the number of fully credentialed professionals serving children with disabilities.

They will provide direct support for SDSU graduate students pursuing careers in special education, school psychology, school counseling and speech language pathology. Two of the grants specifically target educators training to serve students with autism spectrum disorders.

Additionally, the College of Education has received \$2.56 million for SDSU's graduate program in rehabilitation counseling, which consistently ranks in the top 10 of its kind nationally.

The California Department of Rehabilitation estimates a state-wide need for 500 new counselors in this field within the next five years. Persons with disabilities continue to have the highest unemployment rate of all underrepresented groups.

Degree of Success

San Diego State University is the fastest gainer nationally in student graduation rates, according to a new analysis by *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. The report shows SDSU atop the list of all public research universities in the nation for increased graduation rates with a rise of 17 percentage points in a six-year period. Four colleges tied for second place with 12-point increases.

SDSU's six-year graduation rates (the national reporting standard) improved from 44 percent in 2003 to 61 percent in 2008.

Even more impressive is the 28 percentage-point increase from 2002 to 2010. During that period, SDSU's graduation rates rose from 38 percent to 66 percent, far exceeding the national average of 55 percent. This occurred while approximately one-third of all four-year universities saw their graduation rates decrease.

At the same time, the graduation rates of SDSU's ethnically diverse students climbed from 33 percent in 2002 to 65 percent in 2010—exceeding the rate of increase by students as a whole.

"This accomplishment speaks volumes about our outstanding students," said SDSU President Stephen L. Weber. "Every aspect of

our university is in some way focused on this outcome—making sure students succeed and earn their degrees."

A watershed moment in SDSU's efforts to improve graduation rates was the campus-wide decision shortly after Weber's arrival to make significant changes to the admissions process. Beginning in 1999, the university applied more selective criteria to the admissions pool. Applicants meeting California State University minimum qualifications were no longer assured a spot in SDSU's freshman class.

"There isn't just one program that affected this change, but an entire culture shift university-wide that makes student achievement an imperative," said Geoff Chase, dean of the Division of Undergraduate Studies, who heads the university's committee to improve graduation rates.

He said the 28 percentage-point increase from 2002 to 2010 means an additional 1,018 students graduated in 2010 than would have at the previous rate.





Fatal Mistake

Fatalism may prevent women of Latin American descent from using cancer screening services, according to a study by SDSU psychologists.

Their research, published in *Springer's International Journal of Behavioral Medicine*, shows that women who are pessimistic about preventive health practices and disease outcomes are less likely to have been screened for cervical, breast and colorectal cancer.

"Latinas have some of the lowest cancer screening rates in the country," said Karla Espinosa de los Monteros, a doctoral student who conducted the research with professor Linda Gallo. "They are also more likely to believe that death is inevitable after diagnosis."

In several studies, women were asked to what extent they agreed or disagreed with statements such as:

- Cancer is like a death sentence
- Cancer is God's punishment
- There is little that I can do to prevent cancer

The researchers found that seven of the 11 studies they reviewed reported a statistically significant inverse association between fatalism and the use of cancer screening services, suggesting that fatalism may be a barrier to cancer screening.

Espinosa and Gallo said they hope that an understanding of the link between fatalism and underutilization of cancer screening services among Latinas will drive the development of more effective and culturally appropriate interventions to reduce ethnic disparities in cancer screening.

Power in Your Palm

Engineering students at SDSU now have 24/7 access to the campus computer labs' stable of software programs—right from their handheld devices.

Last year, the College of Engineering rebuilt its existing web server infrastructure, creating a virtual lab to support the delivery of engineering applications to student laptops

and other off-campus computers. An added benefit is the system's ability to work these applications on iPads and smart phones. In some cases, programs will perform complex calculations faster on the smart phones than on a laptop.

"I had two students ask homework questions regarding a problem with their data," said Ed Beighley, a civil engineering professor. "Within 10

seconds, I could see the problem and fix their project via their smart phones."

Beighley doesn't believe mobile devices will replace computers for all lab work. But with this enhanced technology, students can purchase a relatively modest computer, laptop, Netbook or iPad and still run intense software applications requiring significant computing resources.



Illustration: Cannon Design

Room to Grow

After serving four decades as the central meeting place for SDSU students, Aztec Center will be demolished in June to make way for a new student union with almost twice the space and a host of environmentally friendly amenities.

Built in 1968 to support approximately 14,000 students, the current building would have cost millions of dollars to repair and upgrade. Instead, Associated Students proposed a new structure to accommodate the projected growth in SDSU's population.

Construction of the new Aztec Center Student Union will take place over two years at a cost of \$101 million. Students approved

two referendums—the first in 2006 and another in March 2010—for a fee increase of \$94 per semester to cover the cost of construction and operation. The fee will be levied for 30+ years beginning in fall 2013.

Features of the new Aztec Center include quiet study lounges with wireless Internet accessibility, healthy dining options, a satellite fitness center, increased office and meeting space for student organizations, outdoor courtyards, a remodeled Montezuma Hall, a 300-seat multipurpose theater and a new bowling and games center. Designed in classic Mission Revival style, the new building pays tribute to the rich architectural history of the SDSU campus.

Associated Students is pursuing the highest possible standards in environmentally sustainable buildings for the

new facility: a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) platinum certification.

LEED is a green building rating system providing standards for environmentally sustainable construction with silver, gold or platinum levels of certification. Among the sustainable features of the new building are a vegetative roof, photovoltaic solar panels, a radiant floor system, and a ground heat exchanger.

A student committee will determine the best way to reuse or memorialize the existing tree in the courtyard of Aztec Center. Suggestions include using the wood in a themed area inside the building decorated with images of the tree.

- Chris Arechaederra

Compass

Fire in the Belly. Alumnus Christopher Lee stokes the flames of SDSU's historic art foundry.

One sunny Saturday morning last fall, a group of artists met in a cluttered courtyard behind the School of Art, Design and Art History. Not unlike a gallery opening, the event was part creative showcase, part social occasion.

But on this day, the promise of a fiery climax was what the crowd had come to see. They were waiting for the “pour,” when the molten bronze would turn their meticulously crafted moulds into sculpture.

Orchestrating the event, dressed in fireproof gear resembling a spacesuit, was Christopher Lee, '78, '81. About 35 years ago, Lee helped inaugurate SDSU's then-brand-new foundry.

“It was very exciting,” he recalled. “We were pouring hot metal into molds that we'd made. Everything we created was by our hand from dirt or from nothing, and it was very cool.”

Lee is now an accomplished sculptor with public art projects in Mission Beach, Hillcrest, three local libraries and Terminal 2 at San Diego International Airport. He still casts some of his pieces at the SDSU foundry, but it is no longer the vibrant place he remembers. Only a handful of sculptors remains among the art school faculty.

So Lee is back on campus, leading workshops to teach the process of casting original art-work in aluminum and bronze. The first session last fall brought together SDSU students and alumni with teachers and artists from all over San Diego, and the sculptures were as diverse as the participants.

During the pour, Lee cast a “flaming sphere”—a spherical shape with projectiles that will radiate heat when engulfed in the flames of a fire pit. Other pieces included a 24-by-12 inch bronze wall hanging created by Emeritus Professor Jess Dominguez; a menorah of twigs created by a former SDSU student; and from a student in the furniture department, clawfoot legs for a wooden dresser.

“It's a great opportunity for the students to learn from an artist of national stature who works in this community and has skills that are hard to find on campus,” said Arthur Ollman, director of the art school. “A lot of our sculptors have retired, so we try to find people in the community to lead workshops like this.”

Not only do Lee's workshops provide a service for SDSU and the art community, he and other Sculpture Co-Op volunteers work together to repair and maintain the foundry for future generations of sculptors.

At right, local sculptor Peter Mitten participates in the pour at SDSU's foundry.





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Book cover design: Mark A. Clements

Aztec Authors

A man travels back in time to prevent a Japanese attack on Southern California; an American reporter risks his life to enter Nazi Germany during World War II; a pair of ordinary citizens tries to return a rare crown jewel to its rightful owner in Austria after the Nuremberg War Crimes Tribunals.

These are the story lines in the novels of Roger Conlee, former Union-Tribune staffer and San Diego State alumnus. After a long career in newspaper writing and editing in San Diego and Chicago, Conlee turned his hand to fiction in the 1990s.

"I always thought I had a book or two in me," he said.

In fact, Conlee has published four novels. His most recent, "Souls on the Wind" (Pale Horse Books), was released in December, and continues his literary fascination with military fiction, a fascination he cultivated while majoring in journalism and minoring in history at SDSU during the early 1960s.

Conlee's previous three books are all prize winners. "The Hindenburg Letter" placed first in the action/thriller fiction category at the 2010 San Diego Book Awards. Three years earlier, "Counterclockwise" won the fantasy/science fiction prize from the same group. Conlee's first novel, "Every Shape, Every Shadow," was honored by the Military Writers Society of America in 2006.

Conlee considers "Counterclockwise," the story of a theoretical Japanese attack on San Diego and Los Angeles, his most imaginative novel, but "The Hindenburg Letter" is his favorite. The title refers to a letter written to German Chancellor Adolf Hitler by Paul von Hindenburg, the German president who facilitated Hitler's rise to power.

"Three of my uncles were involved in WWII. One was killed in the Battle of the Bulge and the other two survived. That war was a defining event in history. I wondered what it would be like for an American—with help from the White House—to sneak into Germany during that dangerous time."

Aztec Intelligence

Former SDSU running back and future NFL Hall of Famer Marshall Faulk; former editor of the San Diego Union-Tribune Karin Winner; and real estate investor Casey Brown have joined the Campanile Foundation board to help lead San Diego State's first-ever comprehensive fundraising campaign.

Faulk is an analyst for the NFL Network and runs The Marshall Faulk Foundation, which has provided more than \$1 million in financial assistance for inner-city youth and underprivileged children. Winner, a 33-year veteran of the U-T, was president of the California Society of Newspaper Editors and has served on several Pulitzer Prize juries. Brown is president of the commercial real estate investment firm of Brown Colarusso LeBeau Inc., an SDSU alumnus and former Aztec football player.

The Stephen Strasburg 5K Walk and Fun Run with Tony Gwynn raised more than \$15,000 in support of the SDSU baseball program. Upwards of 1,300 runners and walkers joined the Aztec baseball legends on Jan. 15 for a jaunt around campus. With hundreds more gathering to support the participants, attendance for the inaugural event was close to 2,000.

"It's awesome just having Stephen come back and put his name on this event," said Gwynn, SDSU's baseball coach.

Three-point Play

The madness of March is not far off, and with it comes the announcements of college basketball's top honors. For the first time ever, several players, as well as the SDSU men's coach, are candidates for national awards.

Steve Fisher, who has led the Aztec men since 1999-2000, coached the current team to a 20-game winning streak, the longest in SDSU's 90 seasons. At one point in January, SDSU was one of only two undefeated teams in the country. The Aztecs' Cinderella story—a never-ranked team climbing into the top four—has put Fisher in contention for The National Coach of the Year award.

Senior guard D.J. Gay is one of 10 finalists for the Bob Cousy Award, which recognizes college basketball's top point guard and is given by the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. Brigham Young's Jimmer Fredette joins Gay as the only other Mountain West Conference player on the short list for the Cousy Award.

Aztec forward Kawhi Leonard is also a possible national award winner. He was among 30 players named to the midseason list for the John R. Wooden Award, college basketball's most prestigious honor. BYU's Fredette also made the list from the Mountain West.



Photo: Ernie Anderson

Connecting the Dots. What happens halfway around the world affects Americans too.

By Gina Jacobs

In the next 40 years, the world's population will increase by approximately 2 billion people. That means a global population of 9 billion by 2050. Because most of the growth will take place in the cities of the world's developing countries, it won't affect Americans—will it?

It certainly will, says John Weeks, demographer and professor of geography at San Diego State University.

"Virtually every social, political and economic problem facing the world has demographic change as a root cause," said Weeks. "What happens in developing countries is not isolated; it will have an impact on our lives. And if economies in these countries improve, so will the political and economic stability of the region—something that will benefit the rest of the world."

Little is known about the population of many developing nations or how to help their communities grow without sinking deeper into poverty. But research by Weeks and others has shown that good health is one crucial element of an economically productive population.

"If you are not very healthy, you're simply not going to be very economically productive," Weeks explained. "We are trying to determine how to help people in these developing countries achieve a higher level of health, and in the process, a higher level of productivity that will lift them out of poverty."

Using GIS technology, Weeks' research examines health and fertility measures of developing cities from a spatial analysis perspective. His team's current work in the city of Accra, Ghana, uses satellite imagery, survey data and census data to identify the locations of good- and poor-health communities and then engages the people on the ground to confirm the findings.

Weeks' earlier work in Cairo, Egypt, uncovered an interesting correlation between two seemingly unrelated factors—the abundance of vegetation and the fertility levels in a particular neighborhood. He and his colleagues found that in areas with more vegetation, socio-economic levels were generally higher and fertility rates lower.

The Cairo study, funded by the Andrew Mellon Foundation and the National Science Foundation, led to two successive awards from the National Institutes of Health to test Weeks' theory in Accra. His discovery of the connection





between vegetation and fertility levels will help governments and international aid groups target health intervention programs for citizens of the region.

A proposal is already in the works to extend his field research to other sub-Saharan African cities, where future population growth is projected to be the highest of all continents.

This plays into Weeks' long-held belief that everything in the world is interconnected. At a young age, he resolved to figure out exactly how this interconnectedness played out. No easy task.

But he found an advocate in world-renowned sociologist and demographer Kingsley Davis, a mentor during Weeks' undergraduate and graduate studies at the University of California, Berkeley. Davis told his students that the seemingly undecipherable questions don't have to remain mysteries.

It's a lesson Weeks tries to teach his students every day.

"If you don't understand demographic change then you are not going to understand why the world is the way it is," he said. "Understanding the connections leads to a better knowledge of the world, and that helps you negotiate it."

John Weeks is San Diego State's 2011 Albert W. Johnson Lecturer. He will speak about his work at 3 p.m. on March 11 in the College of Arts and Letters, room 201. Admission is free. His new book, "Irresistible Forces: Latin American Migration to the United States and its Effects on the South," is co-authored with his son Gregory, a political science professor at the University of North Carolina, Charlotte.



Like many men,
Stuart Aitken
thought he knew
what it meant to
be a father until
he became one.

In 1990, the SDSU geography professor and first-time dad was researching his National Science Foundation-funded book “Family Fantasies and Community Space.” The narrative followed several dozen couples for four years, tracking how the birth of a first child altered their relationships, and how their environments fostered particular forms of childrearing.

Then unexpectedly, Aitken’s research took on a personal dimension. As he explored how childbearing changes family relationships, he was having serious misgivings about those changes in his own life.

“I do not know exactly why I became uneasy with my feelings about family life and my role as a father and husband, but I do know when. It was sometime between the birth of my first and second child, and it was after we found a home in which to raise our growing family.”

Another man might have buried his disquiet and moved on. But as a practitioner of human or social geography—the study of humanity’s impact on the world and the geographic contexts of social inequity—Aitken dug deeper to

locate the root of his apprehension. He realized he was dissatisfied with society’s notion of fathering as a poor cousin to the serious business of mothering. At a deep emotional level, Aitken decided, mothering and fathering are not opposites, but fundamentally different behaviors.

In time, Aitken zeroed in on more than a dozen fathers whose stories raised issues of equity and heroism, and assigned each one an alias to protect his privacy. There was Buddy, a young man for whom fatherhood was both an accident and an inevi-

tability; Andy, a father negotiating the bureaucratic quagmire of adoption; Rex, whose search for a better place to raise his kids was complicated by his battle with alcoholism; Stan, for whom home was everything; and Quixote, son of a migrant worker whose self-chosen moniker represented his fathering journey as a combination of tilting at windmills

and tilting at the image of his own father.

Fathering and Other Acts of Heroism

By Coleen L. Geraghty

In search of characters

From that embryonic notion, his book “The Awkward Spaces of Fathering” was born. Over the next 15 years, Aitken systematically examined how different men father and how different communities support fathering. He went in search of “characters” for the book, contacting several local Alcoholics Anonymous groups and a chapter of the ManKind Project, a global nonprofit that aims to “create a safer world by growing better men.”

He also joined a group of fathers who met on Saturday mornings at a local restaurant. At first they swapped anecdotes and parenting tips, but over weeks and months the group began to reveal intimate stories about themselves and their family lives.

The emotional self

Aitken also decided early on to include his personal experiences in the book. “I’m not the type of academic who can withdraw from the research. I talk about fathering my children and about my own father, who was always working. I’m very much a part of the story.”

“The Awkward Spaces of Fathering” does read like a story, despite its solid grounding in years of research. Aitken’s preference for combining qualitative and quantitative data is indicative of a larger movement within academia that acknowledges emotions as an important indicator of who we are.

Research often ignores the emotional work of fathering.

“Neuroscientists are doing amazing work on the relevance and importance of emotions,” Aitken said. “Statistics can’t capture this kind of information. Our emotional understanding of the world creates a support system for our decisions that is often far superior to our cognitive abilities.”

Human geographers like Aitken mine both the science and the emotions of the world around us. Their research considers the spatial relationships between people and the geographical context of human interaction, such as where people socialize and converse. In human geography, the scientific concepts of method and analysis work in tandem with the technique of storytelling to produce research that is powerful, nuanced and ultimately science-based.

Research as poetry

Aitken said the task of telling his characters’ stories was at once the most enjoyable and the most challenging component of “The Awkward Spaces of Fathering.”

He recalled one of many conversations with the character “Quixote,” a Mexican migrant laborer who crossed the border as a youth with his traditional, machismo father. “He sobbed as he told me about trying to make peace with his dying father. And I started crying, thinking about my father, who I never got to make peace with. These are the

kinds of powerful emotions that I had to convey in the book.”

In an attempt to stay true to the emotional as well as the factual content of the stories, Aitken employs a genre he calls ethnopoetry. Not for him the grey columns of text synonymous with published research. Instead, he worked to convey the gestures and facial expressions of the men who had become his friends.

“I wanted to get at the embodied power that resides within the words. It is about the language of looks, twitches, grimaces, tears, laughter.”

Here, Aitken captures and presents an emotional realization in “Buddy’s” fathering journey:

*Totally unready to be a father,
I had not beld down any steady job,
Arrogant,
Thought I knew everything,
no experience with children,
never even beld a baby,
no desire to be a father
at the time.*

*And...ah...something changed.
{...}*

The hidden story

As Aitken looked outside his community for further insight into fathering, he found stories to reinforce the emotional underpinnings of “The Awkward Spaces of Fathering.”

In one chapter of the book, he examines the life of British Prime Minister William Ewart Gladstone as an example of a “hidden story of fathering.” While Gladstone’s extraordinary public career and spirited rivalry with Benjamin Disraeli are well-documented, biographers generally downplay the year he left politics to care for his terminally ill infant daughter.

“It is an important comment on how men are constructed as public figures and how fathering as an emotional work is often ignored when we talk about men’s lives,” Aitken said. “If you want to understand fathering you can’t survey how many hours someone spends at home, at work, doing this or that task. You need to understand the emotional foundation for their actions. Surveys tell us great things, but they don’t help us understand what fathers are.”

A way forward

“The Awkward Spaces of Fathering” broaches the complicated issue of a man’s connection to his children by weaving together the global themes of fatherhood as an institution with the practice of fathering as a daily task. The book offers no neat conclusions about parenting, but it does suggest a way forward for fathers seeking stronger emotional ties to their families.

Aitken’s research found the most successful fathers were tightly connected to a community—be it the physical community of a neighborhood or the human community of a church or even an alcoholic recovery group.

“Our society has a destructive tendency to put the burden of

parental success directly on an individual,” Aitken said. “What I do in the book is talk about parenting as a collaborative effort, not only between a mother and a father, but also between families and their communities.”

In the years since he began work on “The Awkward Spaces of Fathering,” Aitken’s own children have become adults. His son is now 21; his daughter, 18. The close bond he has with both children “astonishes” him in its stark contrast to the relationship with his own father.

Hot topic

One of Aitken’s current works-in-progress—a departure from the subject of fathering—will expand his lengthy vitae in the field of children’s geographies. He is also co-author with SDSU colleagues Fernando Bosco, Thomas Herman and Kate Swanson of a forthcoming book examining how children revolutionize thought and practice by reimagining the boundaries and events of their daily lives.

The study of children, youth and families in the context of their environments is a hot topic among social scientists, and SDSU’s human geographers are international leaders in the field. In recognition of their prowess, the estate of June Burnett, which funded some of Aitken’s work on children’s geographies in the 1980s, will endow a chair in the Department of Geography for a distinguished professorship in the study of children, youth, families and communities.

Michael James Mabin contributed to this story.



A photograph of a grand theater interior. The stage is at the top, framed by ornate gold-colored architectural details. A large, deep red curtain hangs across the stage opening. The theater's seating is visible on the left and bottom, featuring red upholstered seats and balconies with gold railings. The lighting is warm and focused on the stage area.

A Tenacious Talent

Maria Lozano sings like an angel, but there's nothing miraculous about her success.



In the lively, occasionally chaotic home where Maria Esther Lozano grew up, Sundays were reserved for the opera.

Lozano's father, an oceanographer, worked six days a week to support his four sons and two daughters. When Sunday came, Lozano sat his rowdy bunch in front of the television in their Ensenada home to watch a weekly opera presentation. The boys and their baby sister squirmed and protested, but the performances fascinated young Maria.

As a pre-schooler, she knew the story of "The Valkyrie," the second of four operas in Richard Wagner's "The Ring of the Nibelung," based on Norse mythology.

"I remember sitting on my father's lap at 4 or 5 years old while he narrated the Wagner opera," Maria said. "I found it so entertaining. And that's how music came into my life. I always knew I would sing; it wasn't an ambition, it was just a part of me."

"I wanted the best"

But Lozano may never have found her voice without the guidance of veteran San Diego State University music teacher, Mary MacKenzie.

A faculty member since 1975, MacKenzie loved Mexican music and admired the discipline of her Mexican-born students. So when the Baja Conservatory of Music in Tijuana invited her to teach, she eagerly accepted. For years MacKenzie crossed the border once a week to train the conservatory's vocal talent. That's where she met Lozano.

"I wanted the best teacher there, and the best was Mary MacKenzie," Lozano recalled. "From the first day, I started noticing improvements in my voice."

MacKenzie immediately recognized Lozano's singular gift. "There is a spark you find occasionally, and Maria has it," she said. "Somehow she aligns her voice and her psyche with the music. It's intuitive to be able to sing with so much heart."

A powerhouse on stage

Their relationship deepened as the teacher discovered her student's genuine love for singing and eagerness to learn. For more than seven years, MacKenzie's rigorous training polished Lozano's voice while building her poise and confidence. Last year, at MacKenzie's urging, Lozano entered the nationwide "Next Star" competition sponsored by San Diego's Orchestra Nova, the first classical music competition in the country to use both Internet and audience voting to select the winners.

She made it to the finals and then—going up against two



Mary MacKenzie

Two voices, two paths

talented pianists—Lozano won first place. This season, she will perform as a guest artist with Orchestra Nova on Feb. 25, 26 and 28 in a program featuring the music of Villa-Lobos.

Orchestra Nova's conductor and artistic director, Jung-Ho Pak, said Lozano's obvious connection to the music mesmerizes audiences. "She is quite a powerhouse onstage. Her passion is palpable, and it's a great combination with her humble nature."

Humility is not typically associated with performers of any ilk, but in Lozano's case, it may be simply a consequence of the obstacles life has thrown in her path.

Surviving boot camp

Despite his love for opera, Lozano's father dissuaded her from pursuing a classical singing career. She studied engineering—as her older brothers had—but knew it wasn't right for her. Looking for a fresh start, Lozano left home for Mexico City. She joined the Mexican Navy, made it through boot camp and toured her country for 3 ½ years as a soloist with the Navy's Symphonic Band and Orchestra.

At the conclusion of her military service in 2003, Lozano returned home to a family that finally understood the intensity of her commitment to sing. She resumed voice lessons with MacKenzie, enrolled in the music program at Universidad Autonoma de Baja California, and graduated with honors. Recommended by MacKenzie, Lozano was offered a scholarship to continue her studies as a graduate student at SDSU.

Her best effort

Because she lacked money for room and board, Lozano lived with her parents and travelled nine hours back and forth each day from Ensenada to San Diego. Her life became a blur of commuting, studying and teaching music to young students. Then, just as she was about to move to San Diego, her father suffered a fatal stroke. Lozano decided to remain in Ensenada with her mother, but not to abandon her work toward a master's degree.

And she never stopped studying with MacKenzie. Even today, after tasting success with Orchestra Nova and winning lead roles in the Opera de Tijuana's performances of "La Boheme" and "Carmen," Lozano knows she still has much to learn.

"Mary is demanding, but she never belittles you. She knows how to get my best effort," Lozano said. She laughed aloud recalling a time she emailed MacKenzie to cancel a lesson. "Mary sent me an email in reply.

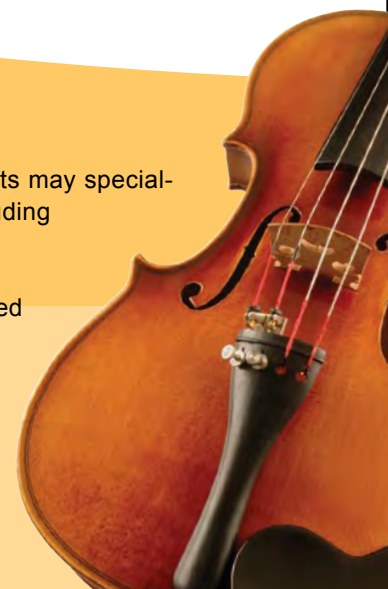
Music & Dance Celebrates 75th Year

Music has always been an integral area of study at SDSU. Among the first seven professors hired to teach at the Normal School in 1898, one was a music professor. All Normal School students were required to study music in their junior and senior years.

By 1907, San Diego State was offering graduate courses in three disciplines, including music. A major in music was approved in the 1930s, and the Department of Music

established. Today, SDSU music students may specialize in one of seven different areas, including music education and jazz studies.

In 1993, music and dance studies merged into one school after dance faculty had successfully obtained approval for the BA in dance, separating the degree from physical education.



to the operatic stage

Do you know that scene in Harry Potter when Ron's mother sends him a 'howler'—a magical letter that scolds him aloud? I felt Mary's email was like that, telling me I had far too much work to do to cancel the lesson. Of course, I went."

Road to the Met

Like Lozano, MacKenzie was drawn to music at a young age. But her path to the operatic stage was as different from Lozano's as her deep contralto is from her student's clear soprano.

MacKenzie had her sights set on The Juilliard School, but a high school counselor insisted she would never get in. MacKenzie believed him. Then a few months before she was to leave for Cornell University, an opera-loving neighbor persuaded her to enroll at Brooklyn College, take music classes for a year and then audition for Juilliard.

"So I did," MacKenzie said, "and the first time I sang for the choirmaster at Brooklyn College, he said to me, 'What are you doing here? You belong at Juilliard.' That taught me an important lesson about what I say to students."

After earning undergraduate and graduate degrees from Juilliard, she won numerous voice competitions, including a national contest that led to a position with the Metropolitan Opera. MacKenzie also sang with

the Lyric Opera of Chicago, and toured extensively as a guest artist with leading American companies. When she eventually decided to quit the tour circuit, Dayton Smith, director of SDSU's School of Music, persuaded her to join the faculty. In the 35 years since, hundreds of voice students have benefited from her tutelage.

"We are fortunate to have an artist of Mary's professional stature at the School of Music and Dance, said school director Donna Conaty. "Her deep love of music and genuine affection for the students manifest themselves in everything she does."

This May, MacKenzie will sit in the audience as Lozano graduates with a master's degree in music from SDSU. Now a permanent member of the Opera de Tijuana, Lozano looks forward to appearing in the company's upcoming presentations.

At the same time, she is director of the oldest community choral group in Baja, which has been invited to perform in Chicago this summer. "I love singing, but I also love to teach, and that's what I will continue to do," Lozano said. Inspired by her own teacher, Lozano is nurturing a new generation of young talent.



Maria Esther Lozano

Photos: David Friend

Graduates of the School of Music and Dance are leading performers, university faculty, composers, entrepreneurs and choreographers. Among them are: Marisela Sager, assistant principal flute with The Cleveland Orchestra; Michael Walk, trumpet with The Saint Louis Symphony; Joyce Eastlund Gromko, professor emeritus of music education at Bowling Green State University; David Gompper, professor of composition at the University of Iowa; Russ

Sperling, president-elect of the California Music Educators Association and the Cecilia String Quartet, winners of the 2010 Banff International String Quartet competition.

Students from the School of Music and Dance are active throughout the region, from music mentoring in the San Diego schools, to involvement in public outreach programs that bring music to at-risk audiences in the foster system, the juvenile justice system and drug and alcohol rehabilitation centers.

Poinsettia Bowl Victory!

**Football team bests Navy
35-14 to win first bowl in 41 years.**

The excitement was palpable in Qualcomm Stadium on Dec. 23 as San Diego State took the field to play its first bowl game since 1998. It was to be a sweet victory for the Aztecs and a satisfying end to SDSU's best season in several decades.

To many fans, the Poinsettia Bowl signaled the beginning of an Aztec resurgence. In the words of new football coach Rocky Long, "The foundation has been poured - it is not solid yet. There are teams in our league who go to BCS bowl games and win the BCS games. There is absolutely, absolutely no reason that cannot be us."



Photos: SDSU Athletics Media Relations – Ernie Anderson

Fourth Annual Student Research Symposium

March 4 & 5 • Aztec Center

Learn why SDSU is a true research powerhouse at the fourth annual Student Research Symposium. This two-day event provides a forum for hundreds of SDSU undergraduate and graduate students to present their laboratory, field and classroom research. Judges include SDSU faculty and staff, and community members. For more information, visit gra.sdsu.edu/research/studentresearch.



Aztec for Life

SDSU Month 2011

Men's Basketball vs. Colorado State

March 5, 7 p.m. • Viejas Arena

The Aztecs men's basketball team will tip off SDSU Month with its last home game of the season at Viejas Arena. Catch the exciting play of D.J. Gay, Kawhi Leonard and Billy White as they lead Coach Steve Fisher's talented team against conference rival Colorado State. For tickets and more information, visit goaztecs.com.



SDSU Month 2011 Benefit Partners



The New Children's Museum
During March, receive 50% off admission price for your group. Show SDSU student, faculty/staff or alumni ID.



Windmill Farms
Visit Windmill Farms during March and receive 10% off your purchase of \$20 or more. Must present SDSU ID card.



Aztec Recreation Center
Free admission for San Diego residents 18 and older to SDSU's fitness center and pool through March 18. Must submit an online request; qualified applicants will be contacted. First-time guests only. Visit arc.sdsu.edu/membership/sdsuamonth



Reading Cinemas
Mention SDSU Month and get a free 85 oz. popcorn with the purchase of a film ticket at any San Diego location. Visit ReadingCinemasUS.com.



Aztec Shops
Save 20% on SDSU apparel and gifts March 16-19 at the SDSU Bookstore, March 1-6 at the Fashion Valley store. Free shipping on online orders of \$50. Details at sdsubookstore.com/sdsuamonth.

SDSU MONTH



Explore SDSU: Open House 2011

March 19, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
SDSU Campus

SDSU welcomes thousands of visitors to the university's largest public showcase of the year. More than 100 interactive booths, performances and behind-the-scenes tours offer something for everyone at this free open house. Young Aztecs-to-be will enjoy the Family Village, featuring a bounce house, art activities and appearances by favorite KPBS characters. Visit sdsu.edu/exploresdsu for more information.



Peace Corps 50th Anniversary

March 16, 4 – 6 p.m.
Parma Payne Goodall Alumni Center

Join President Stephen L. Weber as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Peace Corps and SDSU's 2010 No. 1 ranking in the CSU for recruiting Peace Corps volunteers. This free event will feature panel perspectives from returned Peace Corps volunteers, SDSU alumni and the SDSU campus community.

Eurydice

March 11-20 • Experimental Theatre

The SDSU theatre department reimagines the classic myth of Orpheus through the eyes of its heroine Eurydice. Written by Tony Award nominee Sarah Ruhl, this timeless love story features a cast of contemporary characters and ingenious plot twists. For tickets and more information, call 619-594-6884 or visit theatre.sdsu.com.



More information at: sdsumonth.com



United States Karate Academy

During March, take five group martial arts classes for only \$50. Includes a free uniform, private lesson, evaluation and consultation. For more information, visit USKASanDiego.com.



SDSU Athletics

Mention SDSU Month at the Viejas Arena Box Office for 2-for-1 adult general admission tickets to the March 2 women's basketball game, or at the Tony Gwynn Stadium Box Office for March baseball/softball games. Schedules at goaztecs.com.



Sail Ho Golf Club

Present your SDSU ID card during March, Monday through Thursday, and receive 2-for-1 Green Fees. Visit sailhogolf.com for hours and more information.



SDSU College of Extended Studies

Save up to \$99 maximum on all non-credit course offerings beginning in March. Call 619-265-SDSU, use code AC005 and mention SDSU Month.



Zumwalt's Bicycle Center

Mention SDSU Month and receive 15% off bicycle parts and accessories or 10% off of any new bicycle.





The Era of Excellence

Reflections on a presidency

Shortly after becoming president of San Diego State University in 1996, Stephen L. Weber issued a challenge to the campus.

“The university is capable of great things,” he said. “Strive for excellence, which has its root in the Latin *excellere*, meaning to climb higher.”

Aztecs rose to Weber’s challenge. During his presidency—which will end in July—SDSU experienced an era of excellence unlike any other in its previous 99-year history. By all measures, San Diego State’s academic, research and community service credentials are stronger than ever.

- Sixty-six percent of students and 65 percent of ethnically diverse students now graduate in six years, well above the national standard. A decade ago, the rates were 38 percent and 33 percent respectively.
- Faculty and staff have been awarded more than \$1.1 billion in external funding since 2000, ranking SDSU among the top 150 colleges and universities in research and development expenditures.
- The nationally recognized Compact for Success between SDSU and the Sweetwater Union High School District has increased Sweetwater’s college-going population by 120 percent.

In the following pages, *360 Magazine* profiles Aztecs who represent the extraordinary achievements of San Diego State during Stephen Weber’s 15-year tenure. Each one has answered the president’s call to excel.

Behind their images, you will notice the outlines of campus landmarks constructed during the Weber years, including the BioScience Center, the Parma Payne Goodall Alumni Center, the SDSU Trolley Station and the Infodome, an addition to the SDSU Library and Information Services.

Of the \$733 million in new construction since 1996, only 23 percent has been funded by state dollars. It is another mark of Weber’s leadership that SDSU found ways to physically reshape the campus during a time of serious, often severe, budget cuts.

Weber, the philosopher-president, is quick to minimize his own role in SDSU’s rise to excellence, while crediting faculty, staff, students and alumni. But others have a different view.

“He has a unique combination of objectivity, leadership and vision,” said Ret. Major General Michael R. Lehnert, who has worked with Weber to make SDSU one of the nation’s most veteran-friendly campuses. “The things Steve Weber has done in this community and at this university are going to last for generations.”



Engine of California's Growth

Who better than the CEO of an industry leader to represent San Diego State University's billion-dollar economic impact on California?

"I'm a big believer that the education of our workforce is a huge contributor to a thriving economy," said Susan Salka, '89, president and CEO of San Diego-based AMN Healthcare, the nation's leading healthcare staffing and clinical workforce solutions firm.

An independent report commissioned by the California State University system found that SDSU's statewide economic impact of \$6.5 billion is due in large part to its legion of nearly 300,000 alumni, about 60 percent of whom live in San Diego.

"San Diego State's done a great job of creating programs to help develop the workforce of the future," Salka said. "Stephen Weber understands the importance of partnering with and listening to the needs of local businesses and professionals."

The benefits of a capable workforce ripple throughout the economy, Salka explained. As workers spend more in their communities, their dollars boost the profits and hiring capacity of regional businesses.

That economic activity in turn generates greater tax revenues, both personal and corporate, which contribute to public benefits and infrastructure improvements. Higher employment and salary levels also support the housing market and related industries.

"It's all quite interdependent," Salka said, "and San Diego State plays a critical role."



A Research Powerhouse

More than \$1.1 billion in research funding. That's the total awarded to SDSU faculty and staff in the last decade. During President Stephen Weber's tenure, research has come to define SDSU's mission in equal parts to teaching and community service.

In 2010 alone, San Diego State faculty received more than \$150 million in grants and contracts, ranking the university among the top 150 colleges and universities in research and development expenditures, according to the National Science Foundation.

In 2009, associate professor of psychology Linda Gallo was one of a select group of researchers nationwide to win a "grand opportunities" grant awarded by the National Institutes of Health with funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Her three-year, \$2.48 million study will assess cardiovascular risk in Hispanic populations living in four major U.S. cities, including San Diego.

Working with peers at Northwestern University, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, UNC/Chapel Hill and the University of Miami, Gallo will assess health disparities to determine how socio-cultural and psycho-social factors may guide future prevention efforts for Hispanic communities.

The breadth of Gallo's work and its focus on a growing but underserved population are representative of the research taking place every day at SDSU—research that makes a difference in the lives of all Americans.

Growing a Culture of Philanthropy

Colleges and universities have always shared three common denominators: education, research and community service. But 21st century economics dictate a fourth essential factor: philanthropy.

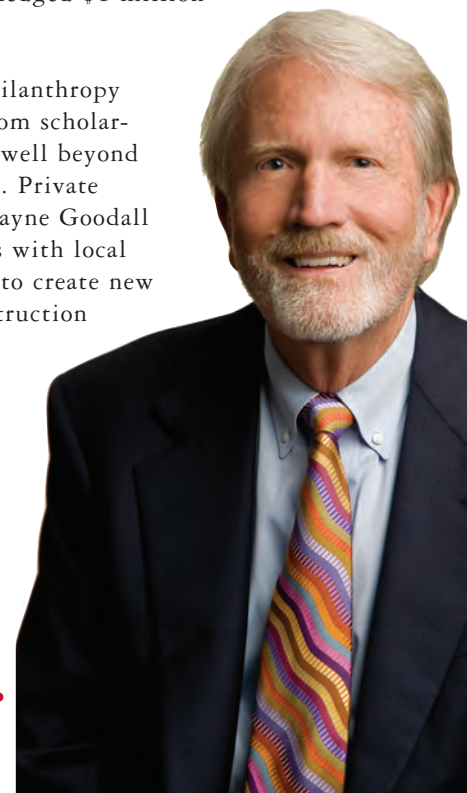
“It is no understatement to say that philanthropy has transformed SDSU under Stephen Weber’s leadership,” explained Kit Sickels, chair of SDSU’s philanthropic auxiliary, the Campanile Foundation. “Private giving is an increasingly critical source of revenue for the university as state support for higher education dwindles.”

Since the inception of the Campanile Foundation in 1999, San Diego State has raised nearly \$600 million in private support—250 percent more than the total raised during the university’s previous 102-year history. Sickels and his wife, Karen, both

SDSU alumni, have themselves pledged \$1 million to the university library.

SDSU’s increased emphasis on philanthropy means today’s students benefit from scholarships and learning opportunities well beyond what state funding could provide. Private giving also financed the Parma Payne Goodall Alumni Center. And partnerships with local industry have generated funding to create new academic initiatives such as construction engineering management.

The transformative effects of philanthropy in higher education underscore the importance of the Campanile Foundation’s next step under Sickels’ chairmanship—the first comprehensive fundraising campaign in SDSU’s history.



Ensuring College Readiness

San Diego State University has created a strong college-going culture among students in San Diego’s local area high schools. The award-winning Compact for Success and City Heights Educational Collaborative—both established through Stephen Weber’s leadership—partner SDSU with school districts and the diverse families of San Diego to improve college readiness.

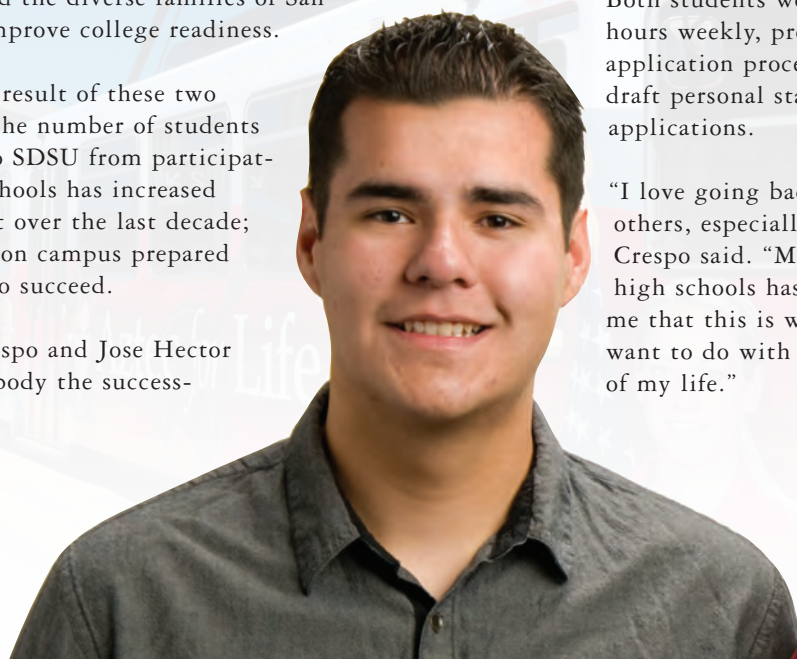
As a direct result of these two programs, the number of students admitted to SDSU from participating high schools has increased 120 percent over the last decade; they arrive on campus prepared and ready to succeed.

Belgica Crespo and Jose Hector Cadena embody the success-

oriented mindset of SDSU’s Compact and City Heights students. She is a psychology major, bound for a career in counseling; he has published short stories and poems in several journals while completing his degree in English with a minor in Chicana/o studies.

Both students work at local high schools up to 20 hours weekly, prepping aspiring Aztecs for the college application process. Cadena also helps students draft personal statements for their applications.

“I love going back and helping others, especially at Hoover,” Crespo said. “My work in the high schools has convinced me that this is what I want to do with the rest of my life.”



Embracing Diversity and Social Justice

If you want to know about SDSU's commitment to diversity and social justice, you can look at the numbers, reflecting a campus community as multicultural as San Diego itself. Or you can talk to Trimaine Davis, officer of outreach, recruitment and admissions for SDSU's Educational Opportunity Program. Diversity isn't tolerance, he says, but respect for individual differences.

Recruited to the Mesa by Aztec basketball coach Steve Fisher, Davis escaped a Northern California neighborhood plagued by drugs and gangs to earn the first college diploma in his family, graduating in 2006 with majors in education and Africana studies.

"I learned what I wanted to be by seeing what I didn't want to be," he said. "Education was definitely the way to go."

Davis now spends his days convincing eighth-graders to follow his lead. "We change by example. I'm fortunate to be able to go out there and not only be the example, but also give them the tools to do it."

He travels weekly to participating San Diego City middle schools in low-income communities to teach students the value of higher education, career options, necessary high school coursework, the college application and admissions process, and financial aid.

It's a job he relishes. "I have yet to feel like I've had a day's work," Davis said.



A Pioneer in Doctoral Education

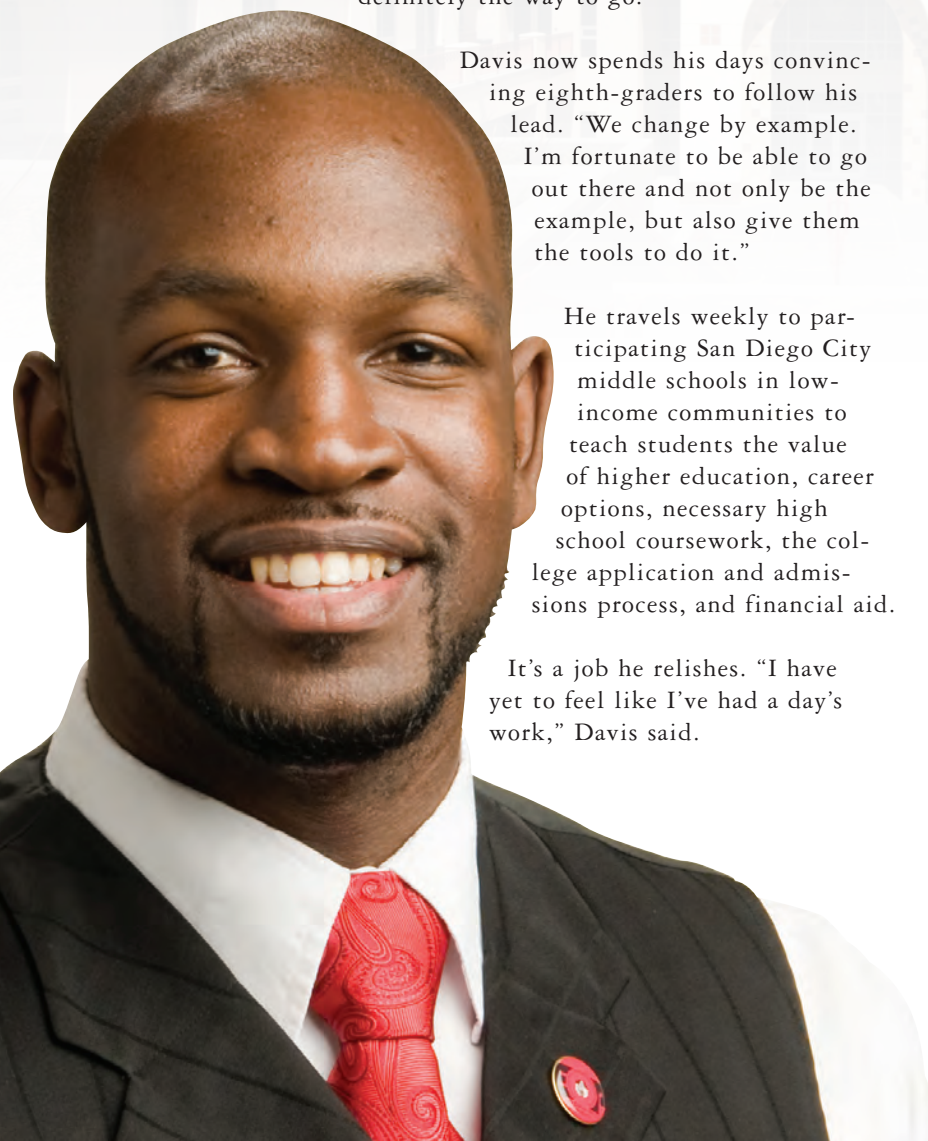
SDSU's May 2010 Commencement included a first—the inaugural cohort of California State University students to graduate with Ed.D. degrees in educational leadership. Among them was Sid Salazar, assistant superintendent for instructional support services for the San Diego Unified School District.

Previously, if Salazar had wanted a doctoral degree in education, he would have had to enroll in one of the CSU programs offered jointly with a private university or in partnership with the University of California.

But in 2005, President Stephen Weber and other CSU presidents successfully advocated for Senate Bill 724, which authorized the CSU to offer independent graduate level instruction leading to an Ed.D. degree. Of the 100-plus CSU students who received Ed.D. degrees in 2010, about a quarter studied at SDSU.

"The degree is a perfect vehicle to put theory into practice," said Salazar, who was a vice principal and principal in the Sweetwater Union High School District before moving to San Diego Unified. "We studied the whole gamut of education; not only curriculum and instruction, but also leadership and the kind of effective leadership needed in education."

Now, school district administrators throughout the country regularly consult Salazar on how to bring about collaborative change. "In these challenging budget times, leadership truly does matter," he said.



Seeding the Arts in San Diego

With the 2010 opening of the SDSU Downtown Art Gallery in the Electra Building at Broadway and Kettner Blvd., SDSU is even more firmly anchored at the nexus of San Diego's lively art community. The gallery is a changeable canvas for the work of SDSU's alumni, students and faculty.

Faculty like Gail Roberts, emeritus professor of art and recipient of the 2010 San Diego Art Prize. Roberts' work has been praised for depicting the "beauty, fragility and transitory nature of our environment." She has completed public art commissions at the Chicago Public Library, Lux Art Institute and the San Diego International Airport, and has been selected to paint President Stephen Weber's official portrait.

During 35 years teaching at SDSU, Roberts has worked to connect student artists to the larger art community. She organizes field trips to artists' studios; encourages students to attend museums and galleries; and urges them to show their work in regional exhibitions. She frequently invites artists, critics, curators and other arts professionals to lecture on campus.

"In my role as a professor, I emphasize the importance of being actively involved in the arts community. The SDSU Downtown Art Gallery established during Dr. Weber's tenure is another natural segue between campus and community."



A Top-choice University

San Diego State has always been a popular choice for college-bound students, but recent demand for undergraduate admission has soared, pushing SDSU into the ranks of the nation's most selective universities.

A reputation for academic excellence and top-notch professors, plus rich opportunities in research, international study and community service, helped draw more than 61,000 undergraduate applications for fall 2010.

Probably no family better represents Aztec admissions fever than Jack and Dee Dee Klunder's homegrown booster club.

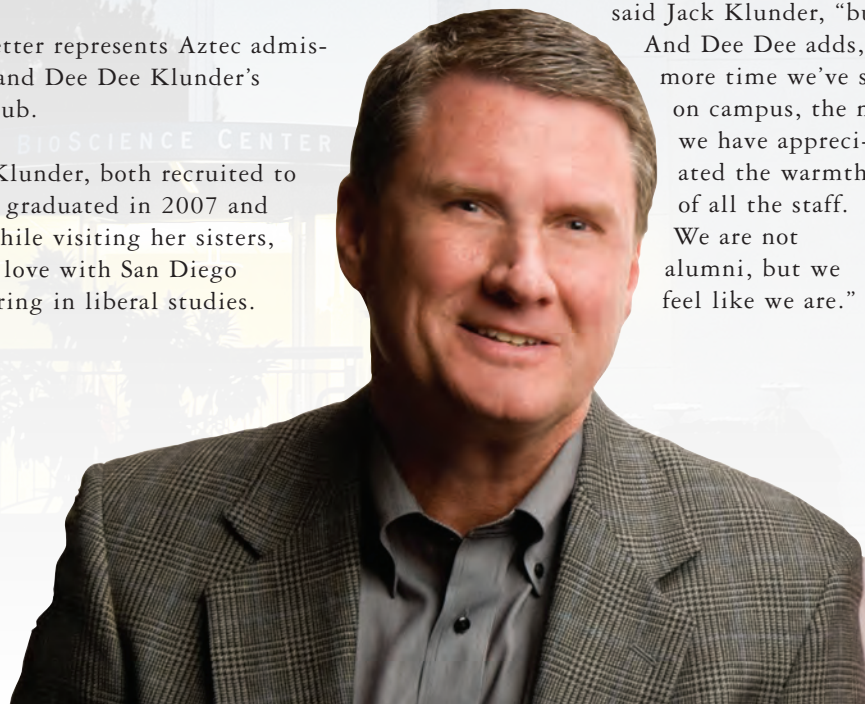
Jennifer and Kristin Klunder, both recruited to play soccer for SDSU, graduated in 2007 and 2008, respectively. While visiting her sisters, Kerry Klunder fell in love with San Diego State. She's now majoring in liberal studies.

Students like Kerry choose SDSU for its academic distinction, internship programs and rich student life opportunities.

Meanwhile, her parents' attachment to the university has grown out of their positive experiences as advisory board members of Aztec Parents, a group that supports university programs benefiting students.

"Most colleges want parents to be hands off," said Jack Klunder, "but not SDSU."

And Dee Dee adds, "The more time we've spent on campus, the more we have appreciated the warmth of all the staff. We are not alumni, but we feel like we are."



A National Model for Veterans

Former U.S. Marine Sgt. Nathaniel Donnelly is one of the 1,041 veterans and active-duty military currently enrolled at San Diego State University, and his story more than justifies SDSU's reputation as one of our nation's most veteran-friendly campuses.

Donnelly spent eight years in the Marines, culminating with a tour of duty in Iraq. When he came home, he decided to start college. After transferring to SDSU in 2006 to pursue a major in international security and conflict resolution, Donnelly plunged headfirst into veterans' issues, working at the campus Veterans Center, founding the SDSU Student Veterans Organization (SVO) and co-founding the Student Veterans of America. Since graduating, he's been pursuing an MBA in international business while also working fulltime as SDSU's veterans coordinator.

"SDSU definitely changed my life," Donnelly said.

San Diego State has drawn widespread recognition, even White House kudos, for its services for veterans, which include help in obtaining federal educational benefits, as well as psychological counseling, disabled students assistance, a Troops to College scholarship fund and the first student veterans residence in the country. SDSU is also one of three pilot campuses to host a Veterans Administration representative on site.

"We have a very robust and diversified veterans' support system," Donnelly said. "We pretty much do all we can to facilitate veterans' lives."



Gateway to the World

San Diego State is a leader in international education, ranking third in California and 22nd nationally in the number of students—1,835 at last count—studying abroad. An equal number of international students currently attend SDSU.

It wasn't always that way. SDSU's transformation into a global university began as one of five goals identified in the campus-wide Shared Vision process initiated by President Stephen Weber shortly after his arrival.

Weber entrusted the globalization of San Diego State to his new provost, Nancy Marlin, who had always seen study-abroad opportunities as fundamental.

"For the world in which our students will be living and working, we cannot provide a quality education without an international experience," she said.

Marlin took a faculty-first approach, establishing the Office of International Programs, directed by Alan Sweedler, and enlisting faculty to help develop a wide variety of study-abroad opportunities. To date, 26 degree programs require an international component.

"We've deeply embedded international experience within the academic fabric of the university," Marlin emphasized. "It's not just an added outside activity."

Students return from study-abroad experiences transformed, Marlin said, having gained understanding of another culture and new perspective on their own way of life. "They learn there's no one way."

A Destination for Talented Student-Athletes

Paris Johnson could have played basketball almost anywhere. A two-time San Diego County Prep Player of the Year, she was recruited by dozens of colleges. But Johnson wanted to stay at home and play for the Aztecs. Now a senior, she is among the top five scorers in program history.

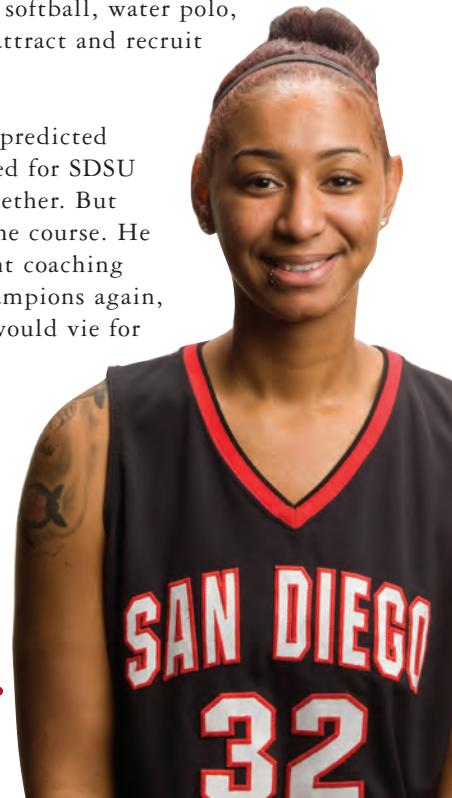
For Johnson and many other SDSU student-athletes, 2010 was a very good year. After an 8-4 season, the football team competed in a bowl game for the first time since 1998.

The men's basketball team broke into the AP top 25—and then the top four—for the first time ever. The women became Mountain West Champions and Sweet Sixteen contenders at the end of the 2009-2010 season.

New facilities have helped tennis, softball, water polo, swimming and diving coaches to attract and recruit better athletes for their teams.

Ten years ago, no one would have predicted this turn of events. Some had called for SDSU to abandon Division I sports altogether. But President Stephen Weber stayed the course. He knew that given time and the right coaching staff, the Aztecs could become champions again, and that aspiring young athletes would vie for the chance to wear red and black.

Paris Johnson is living proof of his conviction. "It's an honor to play for my hometown fans, and an honor seeing President Weber at so many of our games," Johnson said. "He is a big supporter."



Incubator for Student Research

Senior Stefanie Opdycke can tell you exactly what motivated her to join a university research team as an undergraduate student at SDSU.

It was assistant professor Ignatius Nip's analysis of the interaction between facial movements and speech/language development using the same "motion capture" technology that transfers actors' expressions to computer-generated film characters.

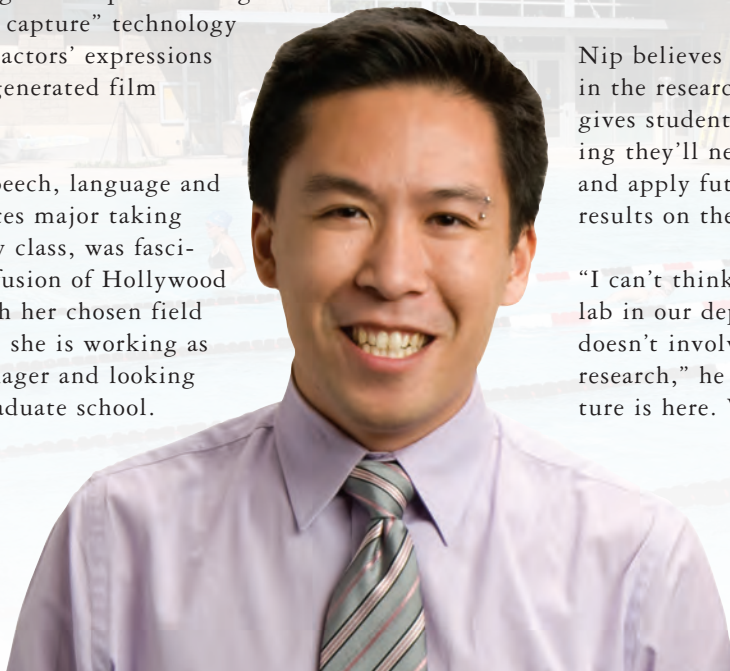
Opdycke, a speech, language and hearing sciences major taking Nip's anatomy class, was fascinated by the fusion of Hollywood high-tech with her chosen field of study. Now she is working as Nip's lab manager and looking forward to graduate school.

"I have to credit Dr. Nip's research lab," she said. "It's given me a taste of being a grad student and helped me see what options grad school can give me."

That early glimpse of career possibilities is a prime reason San Diego State emphasizes research experiences as fundamental to undergraduate education.

Nip believes first-hand involvement in the research process also gives students the understanding they'll need to evaluate and apply future study results on the job.

"I can't think of a single lab in our department that doesn't involve undergrads in research," he said. "That culture is here. We encourage it."



Record Graduation Rates

While hundreds of four-year institutions watched their graduation rates decline in recent years, San Diego State has seen its rate take off in an upward direction. A recent survey of nearly 1,400 four-year institutions by the Chronicle of Higher Education shows SDSU leading all other public research universities in graduation rate increases from 2002 to 2008 with a rise of 17 percentage points. Four universities tied for second with 12-point increases.

This achievement is no accident. In his first year as SDSU president, Stephen Weber initiated campus-wide discussions about student retention that resulted in new programs to support undergraduate success. Now standouts like Alexander Arena are helping to push graduation rates even higher.

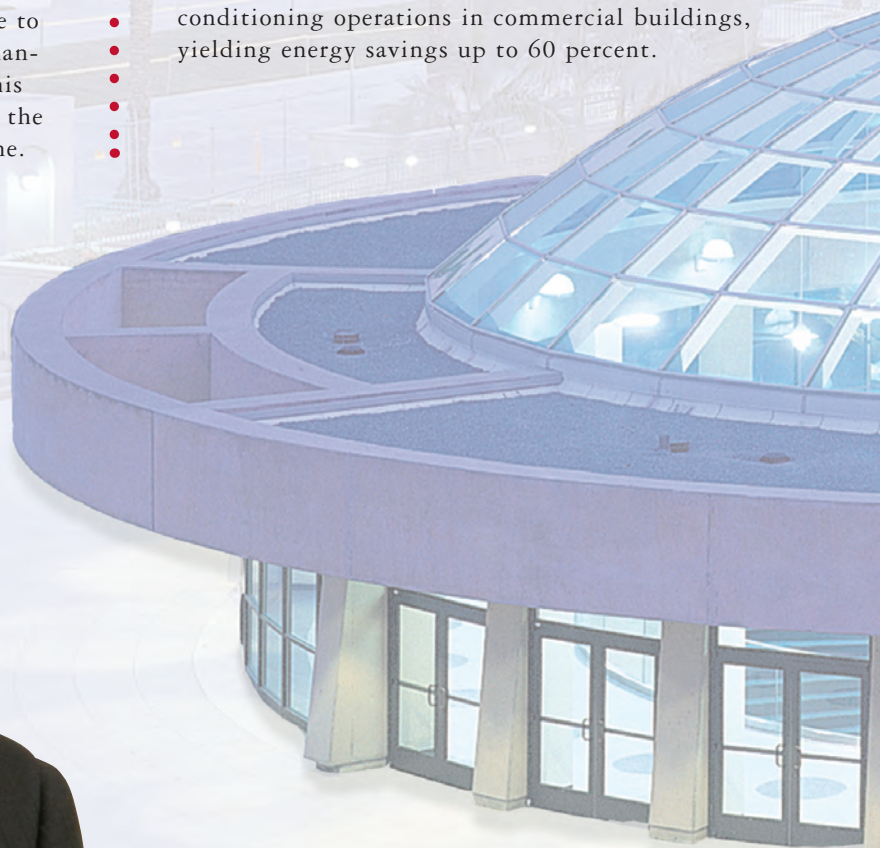
A sophomore in the Honors Program with a 3.68 GPA, Arena is on track to graduate in four years with a degree in biochemistry. And he's taking advantage of the many opportunities SDSU has to offer—such as study abroad at Oxford University and participation in undergraduate laboratory research.

How does the young Arena manage to do it all? With meticulous time management and the knowledge that his rigorous SDSU education is laying the groundwork for a future in medicine.



Putting Knowledge to Work

There's a reason San Diego State is so proud of its alumni. They are changing the world. Consider just one example. San Diego native Ben Erpelding is director of engineering for Optimum Energy, LLC, a start-up firm with a novel approach to energy efficiency. The company's software streamlines air conditioning operations in commercial buildings, yielding energy savings up to 60 percent.



Since 2007, Erpelding has helped grow Optimum Energy's staff by more than 300 percent. His innovative efficiency solutions have drawn industry kudos. *Consulting-Specifying Engineer* magazine named him among 40 top engineers under 40 for 2010.

Erpelding has also worked as engineering manager for the nonprofit San Diego Regional Energy Office, where he effected a 16 percent decrease in energy consumption in San Diego County-owned buildings—that's nearly \$2 million in annual savings.

Erpelding earned both bachelor's and master's degrees in mechanical engineering from SDSU, completing his studies in 2003. By that time, he'd conducted more than 100 energy audits of local companies as a student intern.

SDSU alumni like Erpelding aren't household names, but they are skilled at applying the practical and the theoretical knowledge they've gained on campus to improve the world we share.

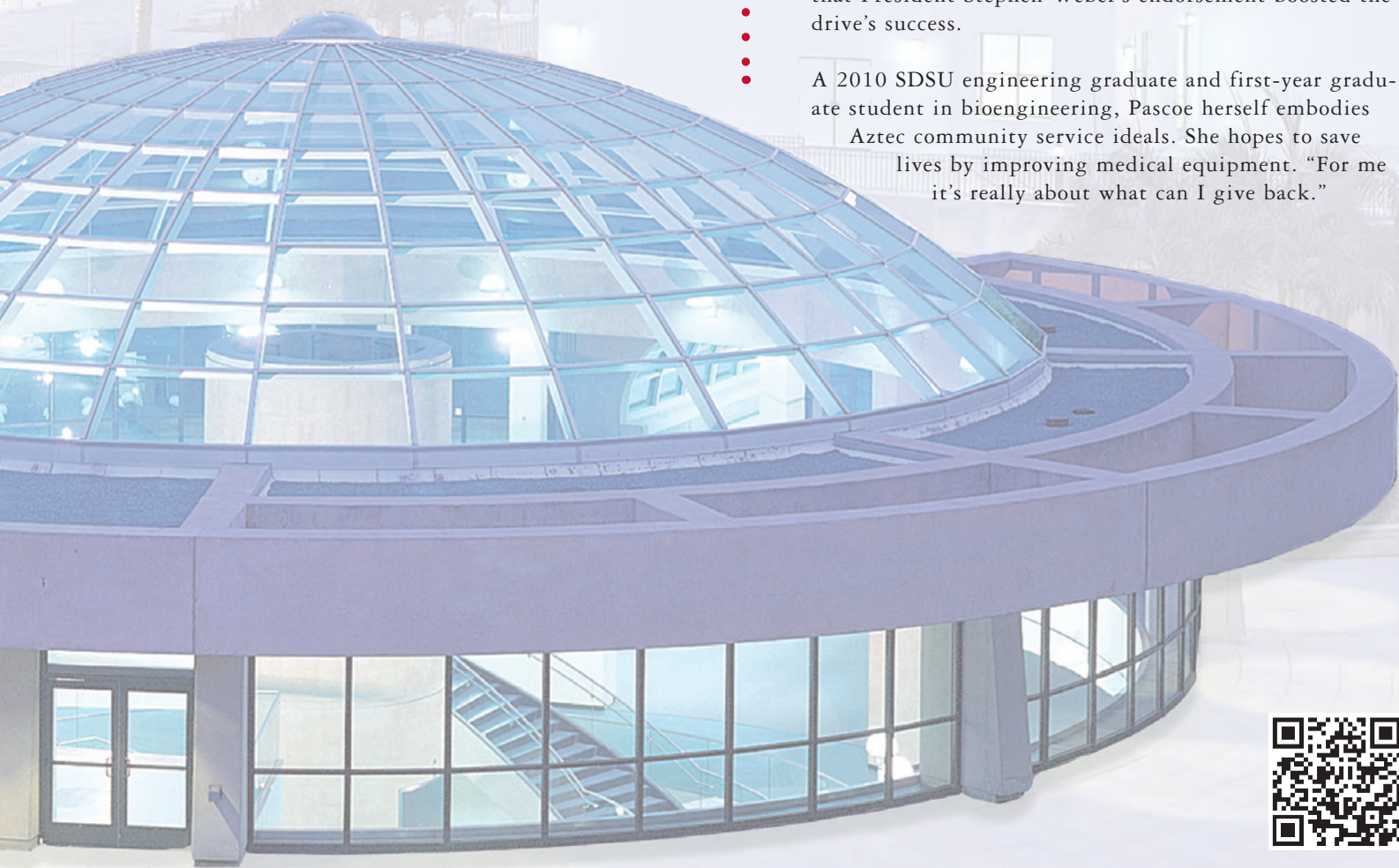
Supporting the Community

Community service is fundamental at San Diego State, a part of the university's mission since its inception in 1897, and never more evident than in the past decade and a half.

So it's not surprising that SDSU won the fall 2010 "Colleges Rock Hunger" food drive, a competition among the region's campuses designed to fill the San Diego Food Bank, which now serves 340,000 residents.

Led by Amanda Pascoe, Associated Students vice president of finance, SDSU contributed 18,841 pounds of food, easily eclipsing other universities. "I think it really says something about San Diego State that the campus rallied together as a whole to support the cause," said Pascoe, who added that President Stephen Weber's endorsement boosted the drive's success.

A 2010 SDSU engineering graduate and first-year graduate student in bioengineering, Pascoe herself embodies Aztec community service ideals. She hopes to save lives by improving medical equipment. "For me it's really about what can I give back."



Leading by Example. SDSU's president and first lady leave a powerful legacy.

By Nicole K. Millett

When President Stephen L. Weber speaks to alumni and friends about the importance of giving to San Diego State, his words carry the ring of authenticity. Likely that's because he is a donor himself.

Weber and his wife, Susan Keim Weber, have given more than \$1 million in private funding to SDSU during the 15 years they have served as first couple. Their gifts support students and faculty in many of the programs that rank San Diego State among the best teaching and research universities in the nation. The Webers' most recent contribution is a valuable Paul Cadmus painting they have owned for decades.

When the Webers came to San Diego in 1996, fundraising was a relatively new concept at SDSU. The University of California and California State University systems had long survived, even thrived, on funding from the state legislature.

But with expenditures rising and tax revenues shrinking, the California legislature began to reduce support for education. In the last 12 years, state funding for each CSU student has declined nearly 40 percent—from \$10,700 to \$6,700. In order to compensate, SDSU and its fellow CSUs have increasingly turned to private donors.

A CULTURE CHANGE

Building a case for philanthropy was challenging in a community accustomed to state-funded education. Shortly after his arrival, Weber spearheaded a concerted outreach effort to reconnect with SDSU alumni and explain the importance of investing in their alma mater.

In 1999, Weber worked with philanthropic-minded friends of SDSU to establish the Campanile Foundation and choose its board, a group of distinguished alumni and civic leaders charged with supervising the university's philanthropic assets and advocating for private giving among fellow alumni and friends of SDSU.

The Campanile Foundation's impact is remarkable. With 36 members (up from 16 at the outset), the board has led SDSU's fundraising efforts to \$65 million in fiscal 2010, more than double the \$32 million raised just 12 years earlier. Moreover, sound investment policies approved by the board have grown the university's endowment from \$42 million to \$109 million despite declining financial markets.





Photo: David Friend

With the the Campanile Foundation's assistance, SDSU has raised more than \$228 million since July 2007, when Weber announced the university's first-ever comprehensive fundraising campaign.

BRIDGE TO THE COMMUNITY

As SDSU's first lady, Susan Weber also worked to rally support for the university. She created BRIDGES, a dynamic group of volunteers, alumni and friends to whom she provided "front row seats" for events showcasing the excellence found throughout SDSU. This exposure gave members an insider's view of the university, which they have shared with others. By telling SDSU's story, the 31 BRIDGES members form an important link between the university and the San Diego community.

Although the group's original mission was not philanthropic, the more BRIDGES members learned about SDSU, the more committed they became. Impressed by the remarkable students in the Honors Program, they chose to support them by creating a scholarship endowment. And when SDSU built the Parma Payne Goodall Alumni Center—the university's first official gathering place for alumni—BRIDGES chose to honor the milestone with a donation to name the building's terrace.

"BRIDGES members have supported these causes because we were inspired by all the Webers have accomplished," said Jane Haskel, a close friend of the Webers and one of the original BRIDGES members.

INSTITUTIONALIZING EXCELLENCE

The Webers' hard work and dedication has helped transform San Diego State into an economic powerhouse whose people and programs move the region forward to contribute and compete in the global arena.

Since 1996, SDSU has raised more than \$684 million in private gifts; created new schools and programs such as the L. Robert Payne School of Hospitality & Tourism Management, the Charles W. Lamden School of Accountancy and the J.R. Filanc Construction Engineering and Management Program; and increased scholarship support to students by 200 percent.

According to Mary Ruth Carleton, vice president of University Relations and Development, the Webers are far too modest to take credit for these milestones.

"Steve and Susan have given so much—in every sense of the word—to San Diego State. Through philanthropy, they have institutionalized excellence. It's the most impactful thing they could have accomplished to ensure the university's future."

Giving Back

Fowlers Challenge SDSU to Greatness

Ron and Alexis Fowler see the potential on Montezuma Mesa. The potential of a successful football program to transform an athletic department. The potential of a top-ranked academic program to transform a university. And, the potential of San Diego State to transform lives.

Their vision of SDSU's potential has been the impetus for more than three decades of the time, talent and treasure they have dedicated to San Diego State.

Most recently, the couple pledged \$5 million over five years to SDSU's Athletics Excellence Fund. The pledge comes in the form of a challenge: to realize the gift, SDSU must raise a corresponding \$5 million from other supporters during those five years. The matching gifts can support any area of athletics, including scholarships for student-athletes.

As of Jan. 15, 2011, the Athletics Excellence Fund had raised more than \$1.7 million in challenge funds, a sure sign that the Fowlers' gift is unifying

the community in support of athletics and academic excellence at SDSU.

"It's a proven fact that a winning football team returns revenue to the university, not only in increased giving to athletics, but also in the form of academic and scholarship support," Ron Fowler said.

The Fowlers' philanthropic support of SDSU, including this latest gift, is close to \$10 million. In 1986, Ron founded SDSU's acclaimed Entrepreneurial Management Center, a program consistently ranked as among the best in the country by *U.S. News & World Report*. Other gifts from the couple have supported the L. Robert Payne School of Hospitality & Tourism Management, the Parma Payne Goodall Alumni Center and scholarships for student-athletes.

In 1999, SDSU President Stephen Weber asked Ron to become the first chair of the Campanile Foundation, SDSU's philanthropic auxiliary. Fowler helped shape the new board into an effective fundraising organization, which

has secured more than \$600 million in private gifts over the past decade.

Alexis is a successful CPA who earned a master's in accounting from SDSU in 1993. She has served as an adjunct faculty member in financial and managerial accounting and is a member of the Campanile Foundation board.

In 2006, the Alumni Association awarded the Fowlers "Montys" for their distinguished service to SDSU. Ron also received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters in 2005.

"Few people can say they have transformed a university," said Weber. "That is exactly what Ron and Alexis have accomplished here at SDSU. They have an uncanny ability to step forward at the perfect moment and make a gift where it will have the greatest impact. We are indebted to them."

To learn more about SDSU's Athletics Excellence Fund and other ways to support SDSU with a private gift, visit: www.sdsu.edu/giving



Photo: SDSU Athletics Media Relations – Ernie Anderson

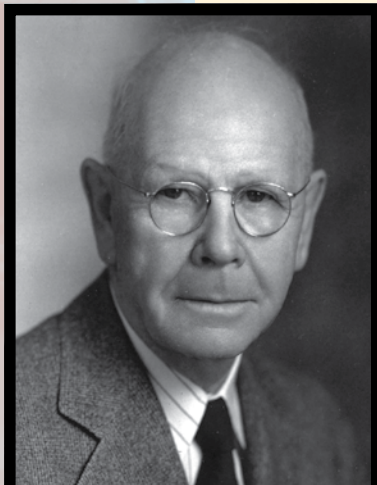
About San Diego State...

When Stephen Weber steps down as president of San Diego State University, he will have been only the seventh person since 1897 to hold the office. In those 114 years, Notre Dame has had 11 chief administrators; Harvard, eight; even venerable Stanford is on its 10th.

At San Diego State, the presidency seems to be a job best suited to those with a kind of inner calm.

Samuel T. Black retired as the first president in 1910 and received glowing reviews. "Not once," the Board of Trustees noted, "was there a particle of friction among his staff of instructors, or between himself and the board."

But looking back, I think it was Black's successor, Edward L. Hardy, who could have conducted an ongoing clinic in "cool." Hardy presided over a quarter century of tumultuous growth; a move to the current campus site; a world war and economic depression; along with salary and contract issues that might have bent a man half his age. But he kept a steady hand and, by all accounts, was revered for it.



President Edward L. Hardy

In 1927, San Diego voters rejected his plan to move from Park Boulevard to a new campus, but Hardy didn't give up. A year later, a bond issue making the move possible was overwhelmingly approved by the electorate. Hardy then oversaw the construction of buildings on what we now call Montezuma Mesa and the elimination of rattlesnakes, which seemed to be lurking everywhere.

When students approached him with the idea of painting a large "S" on the southwest side of Cowles Mountain, he dismissed classes for the day so 500 of them could make the climb and make their mark. For nearly 40 years thereafter, it was an annual tradition. Hardy quietly handled matters of discipline, everything from a couple of partying sophomores who stole alcohol from a chemistry lab, to a member of the faculty fired for a sexual impropriety, who later went on to become Professor of the Year...at Stanford.

In his excellent book, "San Diego State University: A History in Word and Image," historian Raymond Starr notes that Hardy was acclaimed by his students as "a very fatherly person" and "a wonderful man," who attended college functions into his 90s.

Edward Hardy had the ability, at the right time in San Diego State's history, to multitask in just the right way. It is an uncommon skill set. But by great fortune, each of the seven presidents, from Samuel Black to Stephen Weber, has in his own day been able to do it as well with remarkable "inner calm".



By Ken Kramer

Alumni Association 2010 - 2011

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Sherrill Amador '64

Immediate Past President: Brig Kline '01

President Elect: Jeff Marston '77

Vice President for Membership, Marketing and Communications: Tim Young '91

Vice President for Finance: Tom Karlo '75

Vice President for Revenue Enhancement:

Peggy Stephenson '84

Vice President for Constituencies: Marlene Ruiz '75, '79

Liaison to The Campanile Foundation: Bill Trumpfheller '87

Liaison to Athletics: Martha Beckman '73

Executive Director: Jim Herrick

Secretary: Kelley Suminski

Other Elected Directors:

Jerry Dunaway '99; R.D. Williams '87; Bill Earley '86; Robert Raines '68, '74; Bill Holmes '73, '97; Ken Kramer '74; Janine Pairs '01; Barbara Powels Bowen '05; Ernest Dronenburg '66; Joe Farrage '89; Katie Rogov '90; Deanna Shoop '97, '05; Kirk Walwick '81; Robert Garvin '76, '81; Dan Guevara '70; Kathleen Lang '05, '07; Steve Nelson '96; Perette Godwin '86, Matt Keipper '08; Stephanie Dathe '95; Elsa Romero '84

Past Presidents: (* denotes deceased)

2010 Brig Kline; 2009 Adrienne Finley; 2008 Bill Trumpfheller; 2007 Chuck Luby; 2006 Erica Opstad; 2005 Bruce Ives; 2004 Jerry Dressel; 2003 Matt Dathe; 2002 Tamara McLeod; 2001 Bill Trumpfheller; 2000 Ash Hayes; 1999 John McMullen; 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 Richard Scott; 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 Breitbard*; 1945 Barney Carman*; 1940 Sue Earnest*; 1939 Bert McLees, Jr.*; 1938 Donald Clarkson*; 1937 Robert Barbour*; 1936 Jefferson Stickney*; 1935 Terrence Geddis*; 1934 Richmond Barbour*; 1993 Helen C. Clark*; 1932 Earl Andreen*; 1931 Vesta Muehleisen*

Ex-officio/ Non-voting Directors:

President, Stephen L. Weber; Vice President for University Relations and Development, Mary Ruth Carleton; Senate Representative, William Snively; AS President, Grant Mack; Aztec Athletics, Mandy McKinley; Student Alumni Association President, Stacey Triche.

STAFF

Executive Director: Jim Herrick

Associate Director: Tammy Blackburn '94, '01

Parma Payne Goodall Alumni Center Facility Manager:

Mike Sweet '93

Administrative Assistant: Donna Buttner '91

Membership & Marketing Assistant: Kelley Suminski

Alumni Chapter Coordinator: Diane Barragan

Program Coordinator: Jen Ranallo

Communications Specialist: Tobin Vaughn

Data Control Technician: Robin Breen

Analyst/Programmer: Ed Tuley

Class Notes

1930s 1940s 1950s 1960s 1970s 1980s 1990s 2000s

1940s

'49: **Bruce Porteous** (social science; '53 education) celebrated his 95th birthday this year. He has created an endowed professorship in political science at San Diego State.

1950s

'58: **David Stine** ★ (English) was recognized for 21 years of service on the San Bernardino County Board of Education. He is a five-term board president.

1960s

'65: **Ronald Croatti** (public administration), president and CEO of UniFirst Corp., was featured on the CBS television series "Undercover Boss" in January.

'66: **David Sleet** (psychology; '68, M.A. kinesiology) received the 2010 Distinguished Fellow Award from the Society for Public Health Education, its highest honor.

'67: **Peter Hughes** ★ (mechanical engineering) was elected as a fellow of the American College of Construction Lawyers. He recently retired as vice president and chief counsel for CH2M HILL Constructors, Inc.

1970s

'72: **Nancy Leffert** (Masters in Social Work) was named president of Antioch University in Santa Barbara.

'73: **Pam Munoz Ryan** (child development; '91, M.A. education) won the Pura Belpre Author Award, which honors work that "best portrays, affirms and celebrates the Latino cultural experience," for her novel "The Dreamer."

'75: **Sandra Brower** (psychology) joined the San Diego office of Sullivan and Hill as an of counsel attorney. She specializes in eminent domain litigation.

'76: **Jane Bailey** (M.A. education) was appointed dean of the School of Education at Post University in Waterbury, Connecticut.

'77: **Devorah Lieberman** (M.A. speech communication) will take office in July as the first woman president in the 119-year history of the University of La Verne; **Jill Nash** ★ (journalism) was promoted to senior vice president of global corporate affairs for Levi Strauss and Co. **Leslie Wolf Robb** (music) was elected regional councillor for Region IX of the American Guild of Organists.

'78: **Bruce Urquhart** ★ (geography) deputy district director at Caltrans and a lecturer in civil engineering at SDSU, received the 2010 Pursuit of Excellence in Transportation award.

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

Angels in America

Enrique Morones, '79, didn't set out to advocate for the immigrant population. But with an international marketing background and a temperament inclined to serve the underrepresented, he could not have been better qualified to address human rights issues on a national stage.

As founder and primary voice for Border Angels, Morones has become a central figure in the hot-button debate over illegal immigration. Though his critics abound, Morones is a hero in some circles. In 2009, President Felipe Calderon awarded him Mexico's National Human Rights Award.



Enrique Morones

The San Diego native first became aware of his city's large immigrant population in 1986, when he joined a loosely organized, church-affiliated group taking food and clothing to the migrant workers in Carlsbad's strawberry fields and the North County canyons.

It wasn't until California voters approved Proposition 187—which denied undocumented workers access to health care, public education and other social services—that Morones and the group shifted focus. They began to protest the "criminalization" of migrants and take steps to prevent the deaths of people crossing the desert border between the U.S. and Mexico. For years, their work went largely unnoticed.

"Then, in 2001, everything changed," Morones recalled.

He was just ending a five-year stint as vice president for Hispanic and international marketing for the San Diego Padres when he was invited to appear on "Sabado Gigante," a popular national variety show aired on Univision. When promotions for the show called Morones a "border angel," the name stuck. Volunteer numbers grew "almost overnight" to reach 2,500. Since then, Morones has appeared on CNN and most major networks and "held my own" against conservative commentators Bill O'Reilly and Lou Dobbs.

In the unforgiving desert between the U.S. and Mexico, Border Angels' volunteers set out water stations in the summer and blankets, clothing and food in the winter. Morones said the group's role is largely preventive. "Our public service announcements urge people not to cross and include testimony from relatives of those who've died trying."

Morones is also a principal organizer of the annual *Marcha Migrante*, a multi-state odyssey that calls for immigration reform and publicizes border killings by police and self-styled border protection groups.

Participants in the 2011 *Marcha Migrante* traveled from Brownsville, Texas, to Montgomery, Alabama, in early February.

'82: **Col. John Nicholson**, USMC-Ret., (political science) was appointed military affairs advisor for North Carolina Governor Bev Perdue. He will lead efforts to develop jobs in the state's defense economy.

'83: **Bob Sullivan** (journalism), a.k.a. Sully, recently celebrated 15 years as the co-host of the Big Biz radio show, which debuted on KCEO radio in San Diego.

'84: **Kevin McElroy** (public administration) has joined Foothill-De Anza Community College as vice chancellor of business services.

'85: **Tammy Miller** (political science) was appointed to lead the consumer division for the Rhode Island Office of Attorney General.

'86: **Scott Gediman** ★ (journalism) was named assistant superintendent for public and legislative affairs at Yosemite National Park; **Kimberly Harris** (political science) was honored as a "2010 woman of influence" by the *Puget Sound Business Journal*.

1990s

'92: **Marvin Mizell** (sociology) was elected as president of the San Diego County Bar Association for 2012. He is the first African American male to hold the office in the association's history.

'95: **Jill Faucher** (public administration) was named vice president and marketing communications manager for California Bank & Trust.

'96: **Susan Ali** (vocal performance) is Gardner-Webb University's new assistant professor of voice and opera and director of the Opera Theatre.

Class Notes

1990s

'97: **David Tonelli** ★ (television, film & new media) is associate vice president for communications and public affairs at the California State University, Stanislaus.

'98: **Wendy Stewart** (M.S. counseling) is dean of counseling and enrollment services at Grossmont College; **Tanya Oesterreich** (accounting) was certified by the North Carolina State Bar as a specialist in estate planning and probate law.

'99: **Dwight Lomayesva III** (political science), a member of the Hopi Tribe, was a KPBS American Indian Heritage Month Honoree in 2010.

2000s

'03: **Katie Hansen** (political science, history) is the new chief of staff for San Diego Councilman Kevin Faulconer. **LaWana Richmond** ★ (business administration) was a 2010 Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action and Diversity Award winner at the University of California, San Diego.

'06: **Krystin Williamson** (communication, political science) is an account executive at Nuffer, Smith, Tucker.

'09: **Donald DeAngelo** (M.A. history) was inducted into the San Diego Hall of Champions as a "legend of coaching." He coached Cathedral Catholic High School's swimming and diving teams to league and conference titles; **Casey Vidovich** (biology), a first-year dental student at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, won \$123,000 in the Dr. Pepper Million Dollar Tuition Giveaway.

Cheryl Trtan ★ retired as director of programs for the SDSU Alumni Association after 36 years of service.

Out of Africa

Some people write stories about their toughest life experiences. Cy Kuckenbaker made a film about his.

As a Peace Corps volunteer, Kuckenbaker, '98, taught English to teenage students in Kupiskis, Lithuania, from 2000 to 2003.



Jake Wilson, Zolokere villager Mr. Zunda, Cy Kuckenbaker

"Being a post-Soviet country, Lithuania deals with a lot of issues: complex social problems, alcoholism and borderline poverty, to name a few. It's a very complicated place because it's been so traumatized."

Kuckenbaker captured those hardships in his first documentary, "The Potato Eater," made in 2003 and screened at several film festivals in Europe. Coincidentally, that experience led—in a roundabout way—to a second film.

In Lithuania, Kuckenbaker met Jake Wilson, a fellow Peace Corps volunteer assigned to a nearby village. After their assignments ended, Kuckenbaker went on to film school at the California Institute of the Arts, and Wilson eventually returned to the Peace Corps, this time in Malawi.

Kuckenbaker eventually visited his friend in Africa. Wilson was working in Zolokere, a remote village with no electricity, three long hours from the asphalt. After shooting some experimental footage during the trip, Kuckenbaker knew he wanted to return and make a feature film.

That vision turned into "Bush League," Kuckenbaker's first feature. Recently screened at the Vancouver Film Festival, the film follows four members of Zolokere's titled soccer team—Chatwa, a struggling farmer; Jacqueline, the head cheerleader; Mlawa, an expectant father; and Wilson himself.

Kuckenbaker credits his time at SDSU, majoring in film and minoring in sociology, for providing a solid foundation to analyze and document the Malawi culture. "I had really good sociology professors at San Diego State who taught me a whole new vocabulary and frames of view for how to understand society. Even now, that's a cornerstone of how I think and how my films function."

He recommends the Peace Corps experience to others, though cautions that it's not for everyone. "You need an attitude that's modest and realistic. Curiosity is a good motivation. It's also important to have people in your life who support your decision to enter the Peace Corps."

In Memoriam

1931	Kathleen Scales, Eugene Vacher	1973	Patricia Johnson, Laurence Morris, Richard Sage, Michael Wrightsman
1932	Virginia Roberts	1975	David Anderson, Walter Tashjian
1933	David G. Jessop Sr.	1976	William H. Morse II, Clifford Powell, Byron Weege
1937	Marion Lippitt	1977	James Evans
1939	Thelma Groff	1978	Michael Guarnotta, Barbara Hinek, Frank Schumacher, Christopher Tunis
1940	Roberta Hurlbut	1979	Janet Fairbanks, Barbara Kastan-Uriell, Thure R. Stedt II
1941	Jean Arrington, Helen Carr, Mary Childs, Chester De Vore, J.R. Helland, Eliene Kemp	1980	Richard Falda
1942	John Blackstock, Esther Mize	1981	David Urban
1946	Earl Allison	1982	Mark Haugland, Sherry Henson
1947	Jessie Burrows, Jeanne Gilbert, Ralph Skiles, Pat Smedley	1983	Karen Durst
1949	Elizabeth Cappos	1985	William Gex, Matense Kernoski, Donna Meissner
1950	Darlene Benton, Adele Terrill	1986	Joan Miller
1951	James Barr, William S. Cowling II, Kathleen, Matheny	1989	Salim Ghattas, Charles Mack, Michael Petersen
1952	Ralph E. Barber Jr., Virginia Hammer, Anthony Mimosa, James Steele	1992	Arnel Albano
1953	Barbara LaPrade	1993	Stacey Edgington, Lee Wagner
1955	Clarence Neill	1994	Amber Bryant-Webber, Elizabeth Richer, Candida Strauss
1956	William Lancaster	1996	Brandon Burja
1959	Frances Harrison, Byron Marshall	1997	Sharon Surles
1960	Sandra Allen, Thomas Intravaia	1998	David Schultz
1963	Stella Dickinson, Brian Sigler	2000	Robert Allen, Martha Silva Dillon, Sarah Jordan
1964	James Mugg	2002	Daniel Rhodes
1965	Janet Lauerman, Idell Neumann	2003	Shauna Bennett, Jennifer Lentz
1966	Marjorie Cook	2005	Robin Hennequin
1967	Marie Jacks, Charles Lauzon		
1968	Diane Carpenter		
1970	William Scheck		
1971	Virginia Briggs, Jack Hughes, Carol Rainville, Gregory Stress		
1972	Lenore McKirahan		

YEAR UNKNOWN:

Ed Byrne, Darlene Gevedon,
Barbara Gunning, Bobby Douglass
Highfill, Walter Houchen,
Virginia Lingren, Walter Prella

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- ID# (this can be found above your name on the mailing panel located on the back page of this magazine)
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3. Visit sdsualumni.org/affinitymail and follow the opt-out directions.

Important Note: Please remember to include your ID# when opting out. This number can be found above your name on the mailing panel located on the back page of this magazine. If you are not an alumni degree holder of SDSU please disregard this message.

By Degrees

Isidore Niyongabo | Country of Birth: Burundi | Field of study: Psychology

As a deaf person, what challenges have you faced? I became deaf from meningitis when I was 10. After attending a school for the deaf, I was mainstreamed into a private Catholic school because there are no secondary schools for the deaf in Burundi. I had no interpreters or note takers, but I worked hard and graduated at the top of my class. However, my government would not allow me to attend university. I came to America to get an education so I can be an advocate for deaf children in developing countries.

Who on campus has been the most influential person in your life? Dr. Estralita Martin, assistant dean for student affairs in the College of Sciences. We grew up in similar family environments, where hardworking parents with dreams of success for their children inspired us to think big and aim high. She always challenges me with ideas that make me think twice so that I can make well informed decisions.

How did you become Homecoming King?

I was nominated by members of the American Sign Language Club along with 26 other students from other campus clubs. All of us submitted lengthy applications and went through extensive interviews. From the final 14, I was selected king and Sadie Eisley, nominated by Mortar Board, was selected queen.

What is your favorite place on campus? The turtle pond is my favorite because of the trees, the shade and the peaceful setting. The ASL Club has meetings there so passersby can see us. It's important to keep the culture alive on campus. Sign language allows us to go anywhere in the world, and if you take that away, you are separating the hearing world from the deaf world.

Read more of Isidore's story at sdsu.edu/360





The bridge never built.

The masterpiece never painted. The cure never discovered. The book never written.

For our bright, promising students, a college education is a bridge to a better life. And once that bridge is crossed, they are closer to making their dreams come true.

The legacy of deep cuts to higher education comes at a high price. Many of our students, eager to embark on or continue their educational journey, have found that the promise of a college degree is no longer within their grasp.

Without the resources to attend San Diego State, their hopes for their future will never be realized. Their creativity will remain unsparked, their ingenuity untapped and their talents wasted.

Our students need your support—now, more than ever.

sdsu.edu/fuelpotential



SAN DIEGO STATE
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360 Magazine

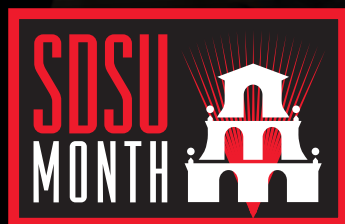
Address Corrections:

5500 Campanile Drive

San Diego, CA 92182-8045

alumnidata@mail.sdsu.edu

Aztec for Life



sdsumonth.com