

360



Distinctly Californian
SDSU President Adela de la Torre

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SAN DIEGO STATE
UNIVERSITY

Leadership Starts Here

FROM THE PRESIDENT

It's been a busy few months since I was announced as San Diego State University's ninth permanent president. I've been humbled and honored to meet with students, faculty, staff, donors, and leaders who are excited to support the new chapter and trajectory of San Diego State.

In the midst of a busy calendar, my husband, Steve, our three dogs, and I arrived in San Diego. While unpacking the precious Mexican art pieces and mementos I've collected over my years as a citizen and scholar, I was struck by the thought that new trajectories rarely take us far from our foundational roots.

I am still amazed that my Mexican heritage and my work as a binational economist have led me to San Diego State, home of the Aztecs. I look forward to working with the Aztec Culture Education Committee and echo Sally Roush's commitment: "We will ensure that appropriate recognition of and reverence for the greatness of the Aztec civilization is infused into the daily life of the university."

As we move forward, student success will continue to be a foundational force in what we do at San Diego State. This approach will yield global citizens, compassionate leaders, and ethical innovators. When that happens

everyone involved wins, including faculty, staff, and the community at large.

To that end, I encourage you to read about our vision for SDSU Mission Valley and the thoughtful process guiding our strategy moving forward. This is a time to build collaborative partnerships that will yield unprecedented impact for the next 121 years and beyond. My hope is that you will

become informed about our plan by the story in this issue.

I also hope that, as you examine your own trajectory as an alum and friend of San Diego State, you will be inspired by the stories highlighted in these pages—from the revolutionary cancer research taking place on our campus, to the stories of the influential women who shaped SDSU's

Photo: Lauren Radack

success over the last 121 years, to the remarkable individuals who will be honored at this year's Alumni Awards of Distinction.

This is indeed an exciting time to be part of San Diego State University. I look forward to getting to know many of you and to learn about YOUR trajectory that brought you to where you are today.

Here's to a year of great partnerships and fruitful collaboration!

Adela de la Torre

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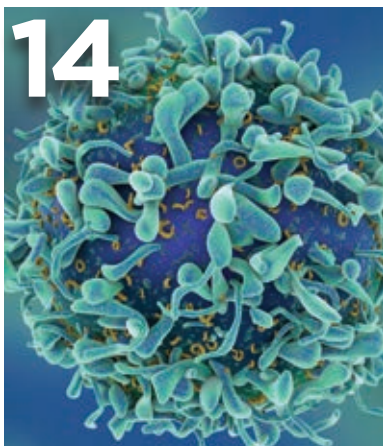
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A balanced approach



To understand and quantify what goes wrong when people suffer from balance disorders, researchers must first understand what normal balance looks like in healthy people. Taking a huge step in that direction, a team including San Diego State University neuromechanics researcher Harsimran “Sim” Baweja recently published the largest-ever comprehensive database of normative balance.

The massive study took a measurement called “postural sway” from more than 16,000 people in the United States and Canada, ages 5 to 100. The large swaths of data will determine an average sway score, which will assist in diagnosing abnormal balance. This information, Baweja said, could help identify who is most at risk for suffering a fall or a balance-related impairment.



Wings over California

The California condor is one of the most famous success stories in species conservation, having rebounded from such threats as lead poisoning and poaching that saw its known population in the wild drop as low as 27. But there's a new worrying trend: Condors living in coastal environments have fewer successful hatchlings than those living farther inland.

Two San Diego State researchers, environmental scientist Eunha Hoh and analytic chemist Nathan Dodder, are participating in a study of environmental toxicants that could be to blame for thinner condor eggshells.

Together with conservationists from the San Diego Zoo, they are scanning the chemical compositions of dead marine mammals—condor cuisine—that have washed up along the California and Baja California coasts. They'll compare those results to chemical analyses of blood sampled from condors, looking for eggshell-thinning chemicals.

Pines in peril

Pinyon pine trees thrive at dry, low elevations, forming enormous woodlands across the American Southwest. Yet climate change could prove too much for even these hardy trees to handle.

In a recent study, San Diego State University evolutionary ecologist Lluvia Flores-Rentería discovered that pinyon pine pollen found at lower elevations becomes unviable at temperatures just five degrees Celsius higher than average—a rise that's in line with many climate model predictions.

In some areas, that could mean local extinction of this ecologically important species.

Learning from Oaxaca

Old isn't always outdated: San Diego State University students lived and worked alongside Mixtec farmers in Oaxaca, Mexico, this summer to learn a traditional crop system used to grow corn, beans and squash for possible application here.

Led by Ramona Pérez, professor of anthropology and director of SDSU's Center for Latin American Studies, the eight students are part of a project to compare and contrast the *milpa* system with modern industrial agricultural practices, offering an opportunity to

validate indigenous knowledge and promote agricultural careers. The work was conducted under a U.S. Department of Agriculture grant.

After returning to San Diego, the students will enlist others to help plant corn, beans and squash—the “three sisters” of Native American agriculture—in the College Area Community Garden adjoining SDSU. Students will cultivate some plots using *milpa* methods, and others using modern farming practices, giving them a chance to learn about the advantages and disadvantages of each method for cultivating in the San Diego region.

Robot lie detector

A checkpoint system that can tell when you're curling your toes may someday provide robotic assistance for airport and border security screeners using a tool developed by a San Diego State University management information systems researcher.

Professor Aaron Elkins' lie-detecting kiosk, called AVATAR (Automated Virtual Agent for Truth Assessments in Real Time) is now being tested in labs and in Canada and Singapore. Using an animated character, the device poses questions such as “Are you carrying any weapons with you?” and then examines the response for subtle changes that suggests lying, including eye movement, vocal modulation and tell-tale shifts in posture.

World-class sports MBA

For a second consecutive year, San Diego State University's Sports Master of Business Administration program was recognized as one of the best in the world. Analysts at *SportBusiness International* ranked SDSU's program No. 7 globally and at the top among universities in the western United States. In addition, SDSU's program ranked No. 1 in the world for student/alumni satisfaction, as well as for providing students with the “most useful” education.

Alumni have been key to the program's success. Graduates regularly mentor current students, return to campus to lecture about real-world scenarios, and occasionally invite students to work on proposals for their organizations.

Proof Positive That Leadership Starts Here

Adam Day ('91) was elected chair of the California State University Board of Trustees for 2018-19 and officially took the gavel at its July 24-25 meeting in Long Beach. He had served as vice chair for the two previous years.

The 23-campus CSU system, which includes San Diego State University, is the largest four-year public university system in the United States.

Day is the son of Thomas B. Day, SDSU's sixth president from 1978 to 1996. He is chief administrative officer for the Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation, helping to oversee the management and operation of more than 12 tribal government departments including police, fire, medical, education and community development. He also directs government, public and community relations on behalf of the Sycuan Tribe.



The CSU is well positioned for continued growth and success.

Several significant issues face the CSU board in the next few years, among them working with the state to achieve long-term stable funding; addressing a backlog of more than \$2 billion in deferred maintenance; closing student achievement gaps; and improving tenure density.

In addition, Day plans to place special emphasis on the mental and behavioral health needs of students, faculty and staff.

"It is a tremendous honor to serve as the chair of such an esteemed institution, and I am humbled by the vote of confidence of my colleagues," Day said.

"I look forward to continuing our collective progress on graduation rates, affordability and access to a high quality education, resulting in an impactful degree. The CSU is well positioned for continued growth and success."

Chase Whittaker's

study abroad experience in southern Africa last year was a transformative one for him

(It) impacted me in a way I can hardly describe.

and for hundreds of other lives as well. San Diego State University recognized this determination to make a difference by awarding Whittaker its 2018 Zahn Spirit of Innovation Award, given to a graduating senior for exceptional entrepreneurial achievement.

Whittaker, ('18), traveled to Zambia last summer and taught kindergarten for a month in Livingstone. On his last day, the kids sang him a goodbye song. Several burst into tears.

And Whittaker felt changed. "Seeing a country full of people in need, yet with the brightest, warmest and most welcoming personalities I've ever encountered... impacted me in a way I can hardly describe."

After returning home, Whittaker launched an international charity organization, SanD/Stone Initiative, to provide education and public health interventions and aid for vulnerable populations in Zambia, the United States and Mexico.



Its intentionally broad mission has funded education and children's play equipment in Zambia and installed windows at an extreme low-income school. It has delivered hygiene and self-care items to the San Diego homeless population and clothing to Crisis House, an emergency resource center in East County. It also provided clothing, cleaning supplies and other goods to a Tijuana orphanage.

Whittaker will enter the Accelerated Paralegal Program at the University of California, San Diego. He hopes to attend law school and specialize in international human rights law, civil rights/liberties, or immigration.

High-Stakes Virus Hunters. Virologists at SDSU are changing the way scientists seek out new therapeutic microbes.

By Michael Price

Viruses are the most abundant microbes on earth. These parasites infect all known types of life, replicating inside the cells of their hosts by hijacking their genetic machinery to spit out new versions of themselves.


Despite their ubiquity, viruses are incredibly difficult for scientists to locate and positively identify. But biocomputational techniques being pioneered at San Diego State University could usher in a new era of virus hunting, spotlighting these elusive microbes and harnessing their power to improve human health.

One promising new technique is known as “cross-assembly,” and it’s the brainchild of SDSU bioinformatics professor Rob Edwards. Traditionally, virologists have tried to isolate and cultivate viruses in the lab in order to identify them. But that works only if you can grow their hosts in a lab setting. Viruses known as bacteriophages replicate solely inside bacteria, and many bacteria are incredibly difficult to grow in a petri dish.

SKIP THE PETRI DISH

Edwards devised a possible solution—skip the petri dish and go directly to the source: the viruses’ DNA and RNA. He partnered with microbe experts from SDSU virology virtuoso Forest Rohwer’s lab to teach computer software to sift through the millions of permutations of guanine, cytosine, adenine and thymine—the nucleic acids that bond to form our genetic code—and sort out the known microbes from the unknown ones.

They hit pay dirt in 2014 when they ran fecal samples from a dozen individuals through their cross-assembly program and noticed what looked like a novel virus buried in the DNA, about 97,000 base pairs of nucleic acid. Intrigued, they screened a worldwide dataset of fecal samples and found this newly discovered virus—which they named crAssphage, after the cross-assembly software—in more than three-quarters of the human population.



“It’s not unusual to go looking for a novel virus and find one,” Edwards said. “But it’s very unusual to find one that so many people have in common.”

Last summer, Edwards’ colleague Anca Segall, a microbiologist at SDSU and a co-founder of the university’s Viral Information Institute (VII), took a sabbatical to work in the lab of Eugene Koonin, a renowned genetics researcher at the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) in Bethesda, Md.

Koonin’s lab focuses on the evolution of protein families, mostly looking at viruses that have already been discovered. When Segall described Edwards’ technique for hunting new viruses, Koonin was surprised and intrigued.

“These guys all go to meetings, but not the same meetings,” Segall said. “They are steeped in their own approaches. So this kind of matchmaking is extremely important to get people to compare notes.”

MATCHMAKING IN THE LAB

Koonin invited Edwards to come to the NCBI and give a seminar on crAssphage and the cross-assembly technique. His lab took Edwards’ findings and ran with them. They pinned down crAssphage’s protein fingerprints and sifted through microbial samples, not just in human guts, but from environmental samples around the world. Last year, they announced in a *Nature Microbiology* paper that crAssphage and viruses a lot like it are incredibly abundant in nature.

“The discovery of crAssphage ... is arguably one of the most striking feats of metagenomics to date,” wrote Koonin in a companion article to the paper.

Yet for all that, nobody is sure exactly what crAssphage does in the human gut or elsewhere, whether it’s helpful, harmful or completely benign. While finding viruses has become easier thanks to cross-assembly, ultimately the goal for researchers in the VII is to find ways to harness viruses to fight off deadly bacteria—a kind of backup to traditional antibiotics and a safeguard against antibiotic resistance.

To that end, they are training a whole new generation of virus hunters to seek out new viruses. Last year Edwards debuted a new course at SDSU, “Biology 499: Microbial Metagenomics Discovery Challenge,” to teach students cross-assembly and other viral discovery techniques and to look for signs of therapeutic potential in new microbes.

“It was probably my favorite class of my entire undergraduate career,” said recent graduate Melissa Giluso, who took the course. “It teaches you to refine your questions and to troubleshoot your own problems.”



The 121-year synergy between San Diego and San Diego State University has been strong and fruitful. Since its earliest days as a college founded to prepare the region's educators, the institution took on the mantle of San Diego's university.

Today, SDSU's low- and no-cost clinical services, community outreach, internship programs, alumni hiring networks and joint artistic endeavors continue to underscore that connection. Not to mention the 200,000-plus alumni who live in the region.

SDSU's plan for a Mission Valley campus would intensify the university's solid relationships with San Diego and greatly expand its capacity to address today's critical problems. The plan would also cement SDSU's role as an innovator in promoting entrepreneurship on campus and working with private and government partners to develop new avenues of research and technology.

SDSU has several objectives for a Mission Valley campus, should it have the opportunity to purchase the city-owned site where SDCCU stadium now stands. The university would pay fair market value for the land; build a world-class innovation and research campus; build and maintain a river park; build a multiuse stadium for NCAA football, professional soccer and community events; and partner in the construction of affordable and market-rate housing for students, faculty, staff and the general public.

Additionally, an SDSU campus in Mission Valley would have public-private and public-public partnerships built into its DNA, brewing up a potent mix of intellectual expertise, technical know-how, community engagement, and entrepreneurial boldness, said Stephen Welter, vice president for research and dean of Graduate Affairs.

"Partnering outside the university gives students and faculty access to San Diego's best minds, who are focused on problem-solving, and whose work powers the region," he said.

From the ground up, SDSU would join with local companies and agencies to develop the new campus, which would connect to the main campus via a quick trolley ride. With financially secure partners helping to capitalize the development, the university will not rely on taxpayer

A VISION for the VALLEY

By partnering outside the university, SDSU will have even more to offer the region.

By Michael Price

completed campus extensions that enhanced its ties to the community and private industry.

Georgia Tech's Technology Square is a multi-block development in Atlanta's Midtown neighborhood. Anchored by university-owned buildings and leased to carefully selected companies—mostly from the tech and entrepreneurial sectors—Technology Square reinvigorated the community when it was built in 2003.

There, partners and tenants like Home Depot, Delta Airlines and Panasonic benefit from working next door to world-class scientists and engineers. In turn, they offer internships and hiring opportunities to Georgia Tech students, and collaborate with researchers on projects co-funded by private and public grants.

In Mission Valley, SDSU hopes to build a similar entrepreneurial ecosystem. San Diego is home to countless innovative companies and non-profits not only in the tech sphere, but also in manufacturing, clinical services, environmental planning and biomedical diagnostics. With these companies as development partners, SDSU students would benefit from expanded internships and career opportunities. In turn, businesses, non-profits and government agencies would get to plug into the university's knowledge base.

"The co-location of SDSU's intellectual capital with their enterprise allows for the direct flow of ideas, which benefits both sides of the relationship," Welter said.

The San Diego region is hungry to team up with intellectual partners, he said, and to that end, the university is committed to fostering a sense of entrepreneurship, engagement, and adventure in its faculty and students.

"We are creating a culture of openness to these kinds of partnerships," Welter said. "We're training our students to think differently, and encouraging our faculty to think entrepreneurially."

dollars to build out SDSU Mission Valley, but instead on strategic private partners eager to work with SDSU's students and researchers.

It's a vision SDSU officials witnessed firsthand during a recent field trip to Atlanta, where Georgia Tech has



One sure harbinger of the fall semester at San Diego State University is the build-up to Templo del Sol, an annual rite of passage for new students. This symbolic event takes its name from ceremonies associated with the Aztec Pyramid of the Sun.

Orchestrated by SDSU Alumni, Student Affairs and student leaders, Templo del Sol introduces new freshman and transfer students to campus traditions and marks their first official day as Aztecs.

This year's new students will be better prepared than ever to honor the Aztec identity. From the moment they step foot on campus for orientation, they'll begin to learn about the indigenous culture whose name SDSU has carried for decades.

Information provided throughout new student orientation to students and their parents includes historically based knowledge about the Aztec civilization, including its language, compulsory education system, calendars, engineering skills and literary prowess.

Aztec for Life:

What it Means Now

By the time these students graduate, their Aztec pride will be grounded in respect and knowledge of a mighty Mesoamerican culture.

Foundation of respect

Leading the education initiative is a group of students, faculty, staff and alumni known as the Aztec Culture Education Committee (ACEC). Former SDSU president Sally Roush reconvened the committee as part of her May 17 decision to retain both the Aztec name and the Aztec Warrior as SDSU's spirit leader.

Roush's decision followed three months of work by the ad hoc Aztec Identity Task Force. Their deliberations were informed by a deep dive into the history of Aztec culture and the results of a survey sent to more than 200,000 constituents, who advocated overwhelmingly for retaining the Aztec identity.

"One consistent, overarching message was conveyed in a loud and clear voice: Respect, genuinely intended and executed, must be the foundation of our actions going forward," Roush said at a meeting of the University Senate, during which she shared the task force's recommendations and her decisions.

It's a commitment the ACEC takes to heart, said co-chairs Ramona Pérez and Christy Samarkos. Pérez is a

professor of anthropology and director of SDSU's Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS). Samarkos is an associate vice president for Student Affairs.

Educational moments

The 17-member committee is moving forward on two parallel paths. The first honors the Aztec legacy by giving students multiple avenues to learn about its history, culture and language. SDSU now offers instruction in Náhuatl, the language of the Aztecs that is the most spoken language in Mexico after Spanish, as well as instruction in the indigenous languages of Mixteco and Zapoteco.

The ACEC's second path deliberately aims to include local indigenous people in SDSU's significant events, such as commencement and convocation. Pérez and Samarkos noted that this is not intended to conflate the identities of local tribes with Aztecs, but rather to underscore SDSU's commitment to inclusivity of the many indigenous people who impact SDSU.

"There will be many, many educational moments available in online education programs, podcasts, live lectures, arts events, and leadership skills training relevant to the Aztecs and the Náhuatl people," Pérez said. "Incorporating Aztec history and Náhuatl culture into the academic

curriculum will be the prerogative of individual faculty members."

SDSU Athletics and SDSU Alumni are partners in educational efforts, and season ticket-holders will find "did you know" facts about the Aztec culture included with their tickets.

For example, "Did you know that the combination of red and black in Aztec culture signified literacy and education?" and "Did you know that the three pillars of the Aztec Empire were knowledge, strength and prowess, and giving back to the community?"

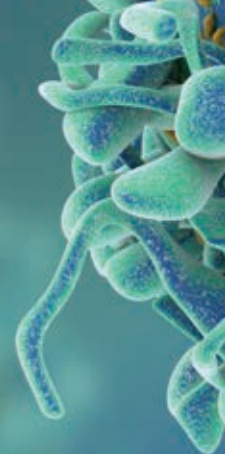
Serious issue

Roush's charge—to embrace the Aztec identity with respect—is a responsibility ACEC members take seriously, and none more so than the students.

Committee member Michael Wiafe, who is also vice president of external relations for Associated Students (AS), believes the university is in a unique position at this moment to educate the SDSU community about Aztec culture.

"Associated Students understands the seriousness of this issue," he said. "As the decision has been made to retain the identity, there has to be respect and education."

—Coleen L. Geraghty



Zooming Out on Cancer

By Michael Price

For anyone touched by cancer—whether it’s their own illness or that of a loved one—the disease can feel intimately personal and private. Yet there’s an impersonal side to the sickness that extends beyond the walls of any single doctor’s office. There are statistics dictating which communities are at risk for developing certain types of cancers, and ethnic and socioeconomic disparities that play into who is likely to get screened, access care and stick with treatment plans.

Merging population-level risks and outcomes with the highly individual experience of the disease is the job of several researchers within San Diego State University’s School of Public Health. Here, we highlight three such scientists looking at cancer through a public health lens.

“Eventually I realized I wanted to know more about what causes people to get cancer in the first place, so I moved to public health.”

- Caroline Thompson

“We know that screening rates and treatment for Latinos and other underserved groups are suboptimal.”

- Elva Arredondo



Populations at Risk

► The desire to look at cancer from all angles drove SDSU epidemiologist Caroline Thompson into the public health field. Before she was trained as a cancer epidemiologist, she managed and analyzed data for oncology clinical trials in the pharmaceutical industry.

“We were basically asking, ‘Is this medicine working?’” recalled Thompson. “Eventually I realized I wanted to know more about what causes people to get cancer in the first place, so I moved to public health.”

At SDSU, Thompson studies demographic disparities in cancer diagnoses. She specializes in understanding cancer risk in Asian Americans, who make up more than 10 percent of San Diego County’s population.

For many years, health officials tended to treat “Asian” as a single race, neglecting the fact that Asian ethnicities have several distinct, diverse origins, she explained. As a result, we’re just beginning to understand the risk factors that could explain why different Asian communities are more prone to certain types of cancer.

One prong of Thompson’s work looks at infectious causes for cancer. For example, hepatitis B and C viruses are a known risk factor for developing liver cancer, and the bacterium *Helicobacter pylori* is known to increase risk for stomach cancer. Both diseases are disproportionately common in some Asian countries, and understanding why those risks persist in Asian American communities is an active area of research.



“More and more people are dealing with cancer alone.”

- Melody Schiaffino



Screening Saves Lives

- ▶ Compared to other groups, Latino populations are at a heightened risk of dying from colorectal cancer—though they aren’t necessarily any more likely to be diagnosed with the disease, explained SDSU clinical behavioral scientist Elva Arredondo. Instead, Latinos are less likely to receive regular colorectal cancer screenings, as well as basic care and follow-up treatments compared to other groups.

“We know that screening rates and treatment for Latinos and other underserved groups are suboptimal,” she said.

To target problems related to cancer risk and treatment disparities,

in 2015 SDSU teamed up with UCSD to form the SDSU-UCSD Moores Cancer Center Partnership, funded by a multimillion dollar grant from the National Cancer Institute.

Arredondo serves as SDSU’s lead principal investigator on the project. The partnership involves many faculty and staff at SDSU and dozens of SDSU undergraduate and graduate students who work in labs at both universities.

The program is designed to boost the diversity of cancer researchers and expose young scientists to a variety of cancer research careers.

In addition, partnership researchers take what they learn out into the communities of San Diego and the Imperial Valley, focusing not just on awareness of cancer risks for Latinos, but also establishing programs that guide people to screening services and giving clinics the extra support they need to interact more effectively with their communities.



Big Data Means Better Outcomes

- ▶ Understanding big-picture trends in clinical outcomes for cancer is as important as any medical intervention, said SDSU health services researcher and epidemiologist Melody Schiaffino. Her work examines the factors that affect disease outcomes in vulnerable populations, such as older adults, those with dementia and people with language barriers.

For example, she has found that if a diagnosing doctor and primary treatment doctor share patients, those patients begin treatment more quickly, usually resulting in better clinical outcomes. And when it comes to accessing treatment, public health researchers can help link community services with people who might otherwise be on their own when it comes to dealing with the disease, Schiaffino added.

“More and more people are dealing with cancer alone,” she said. “Public health has a major role to play in making all the necessary connections between patients, doctors and their communities.”



➤ Distinctly Californian

SDSU's new president is intimately familiar with the state's higher education system.

By Coleen L. Geraghty

For as long as Adela de la Torre can remember, her grandmother's home in Northern California was open to friends, neighbors and relatives who wanted to visit or needed a helping hand. The family shared everything they had—meals, funny stories, strong opinions and sometimes, a bed.

It's a lesson that stuck as de la Torre navigated through a career notable for academic collaboration, interdisciplinary research and, most recently, shared governance during six years as vice chancellor of Student Affairs and Campus Diversity at the University of California, Davis.

The word "collaborative" arises when friends and colleagues describe de la Torre. Also "compassionate," "strategic," visionary" and "energetic"—qualities highly prized by the selection committee of educators, faculty, students and community members whose recommendation led to her appointment as San Diego State University's ninth permanent president.

"From the beginning of the selection process Adela stood out head and shoulders," recalled Adam Day ('91), the committee chair and currently chair of the California State University Board of Trustees. "She blew us away."

➤ Core values

De la Torre's personal story is distinctly Californian. Her grandparents emigrated from Zacatecas, Mexico, to California's Central Valley, where de la Torre's mother grew up. By the time Adela was born in 1956,

the family had moved to the Oakland/Berkeley area.

De la Torre's mother—a single parent—earned a degree from the University of California, Berkeley. While she supported the family as a public school teacher, de la Torre's grandmother reinforced "the value of our Mexican heritage" and the power of education.

"One of the things that's important to understand about me is that I was raised in a single-head-of-household family," de la Torre said. "It was a journey for (my mother), as well as for me, to achieve the success we have had, and I was very fortunate to have a mother and grandmother who instilled those core values in me. They prepared me to appreciate the bicultural, bilingual environment we live in."

De la Torre's own nuclear family reflects the multiracial diversity of both California and her new campus. Her husband Stephen Bartlett, a retired public health nutritionist, is Anglo. They raised two daughters, Gabriela de la Torre and Adela Hart, whose husband is African-American. And there's grandson Javier, 3, who de la Torre describes as "the love of my life."

➤ Endless energy

Not only is de la Torre well versed in California's rich cultural heritage, she is also intimately familiar with the state's higher education system. A product of UC Berkeley, she earned a bachelor's degree in the political economy of natural resources, and a master's degree and Ph.D. in agricultural and resource economics. After eight years at California State University Long Beach, where she was a professor of health care

➤ An economist and an advocate

administration and chair of the Chicano/Latino studies department, she joined the University of Arizona. She became director of its Mexican American Studies and Research Center and founded the College of Medicine's first federally funded Hispanic Center of Excellence.

De la Torre returned to California in 2002 in the Chicana/Chicano studies department at UC Davis. She became department chair and director of the UC Davis Center for Transnational Health. For 14 years, de la Torre led the center's research and intervention efforts to address education and health disparities.

She was the principal investigator for a five-year, \$5 million National Science Foundation grant aimed at reducing childhood obesity through nutrition instruction, physical education and direct aid to families for the purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables. De la Torre shared her expertise with a team of 15-20 graduate students, doctoral candidates and postdoctoral researchers plus 70-80 undergraduate student volunteers. Together, their work touched 800 children from 600 families in California's Central Valley.

"That experience was the foundation of my skills," said Rosa Gomez-Camacho, a postdoc at the time and now associate director for institutional research at Florida Gulf Coast University.

"Adela was highly successful as a researcher and at winning grants. I learned so much from watching her interact with different stakeholders and create networks with enormous vision and respect for people. She has endless energy, generosity and humanity."

De la Torre generated more than \$19 million in external funding to support educational outreach, recruitment, health education and training programs during her time at UC Davis. In recognition of her contributions, the university awarded her the title of distinguished professor, the first Latina in the university's history to receive that honor.



Adela de la Torre meeting with faculty and staff on her first official day as SDSU president.

➤ "We felt her commitment"

As vice chancellor, de la Torre also found new ways to connect longtime and future Aggies. Enrollment of Mexican American students increased at UC Davis after the campus ramped up outreach efforts to high schoolers of Mexican heritage. Eager to support these first-generation college students both academically and culturally, de la Torre helped to resurrect the Chicana Latinx Alumni chapter. Caroline Cabias was one of her partners in the effort.

"Adela helped articulate what an alumni association can do to support students with mentoring and scholarships," said Cabias, the chapter leader. "She had a vision of how to move forward and a strategy to bring people together. Her support and guidance motivated our chapter to raise funds and award six scholarships—all in the space of three months."

De la Torre's ability to engage all UC Davis constituents was key to her popularity as vice chancellor. She earned a reputation for minimizing campus

What people are saying

“Adela has a great capacity for truly listening and engaging with people. She is able to articulate not only her understanding of this campus, but also her vision for deepening roots with Imperial County and partnering with universities across the border.”

- Adam Day ('91)
CSU Board of Trustees chair

Chief administrative officer
Sycuan Band of the
Kumeyaay Nation

about Adela de la Torre:

“Adela is an energetic leader who cares deeply about students, their academic success and their well-being. She will bring a collaborative spirit, warmth and humor to her role as president of San Diego State University.”

- Gary S. May, UC Davis chancellor

“Dr. de la Torre is a fantastic leader with enormous vision, generosity and humanity. She is respectful, and she inspires people to work together.”

- Rosa Gomez-Camacho,
associate director for institutional
research at Florida Gulf Coast
University

“What impressed me most is how focused and strategic she is. She identifies the long-term goal and then determines how to put short-term plans in place to get there. Her passion and compassion will make her a great proponent for the (SDSU) campus.”

- Caroline Cabias, UC Davis
alumna and donor

tensions, particularly during student protests triggered by incidents of violence against African Americans across the country. UC Davis staff said de la Torre is equally as adept at finding partners to defuse conflict as she is at collaborating on research projects.

“The SDSU community should know that she has no reservations about reaching out and asking for help. She doesn’t see that as a negative,” Cabias said. “Adela looks for broad input from a variety of audiences, because she understands that a person cannot get things done alone.”

➤ Looking ahead

De la Torre is settling into the President’s Office at a time of transition for SDSU. Her predecessor, Sally Roush, resolved several important issues before she left, including an impassioned debate about the university’s Aztec identity. In deciding to retain both the Aztec name and the Aztec Warrior as spirit leader, Roush declared the Aztec identity will be portrayed with greater respect going forward. She called for the creation of a governing body to be chaired by the new president and address issues related to the ethical and fiduciary responsibility of carrying the Aztec name.

Roush also reconvened the Aztec Culture Education Committee and charged its members with implementing co-curricular programming related to Aztec history and culture. In addition, members will be tasked with recommending ways to meaningfully include local Native

American tribes in SDSU’s significant functions and annual ceremonial events, such as All-University Convocation and Commencement (See story on page 12.)

On the budgetary front, SDSU’s financial stability has been reinforced by the success of its first comprehensive fundraising campaign, which raised \$815 million to support students, faculty and programming. De la Torre will be expected to launch a second campaign within the next few years and involve even greater numbers of alumni in the shared effort.

The new president has emphatically supported Roush’s plan to address the university’s long-term expansion goals. SDSU Mission Valley is a detailed plan and vision for the land including and immediately surrounding SDCCU Stadium. (See story on page 10.)

If allowed to purchase the land at fair market value, SDSU will build a world-class research and innovation campus and a 35,000-seat stadium for football, professional soccer and other events. The university will also create and maintain a 75-acre river park and construct affordable and market-rate housing for students, faculty, staff and the public.

Championing this sweeping agenda, de la Torre officially became the ninth permanent president of SDSU on June 28, a typically sunny San Diego summer day. Squeezed into her first-day agenda were meetings with Mayor Kevin Faulconer, San Diego Padres executive chair and co-owner Ron Fowler, university faculty and staff representatives, athletics coaches, Associated Students executives and members of The Campanile Foundation, SDSU’s volunteer fundraisers.

Her message to the community was direct and collaborative: “I am determined to be really inclusive and transparent and honest as we go forward seeking shared solutions.”



The president meeting with high school students visiting SDSU from Mt. San Jacinto’s Upward Bound program.

WOMEN WHO

The transition from Sally Roush to Adela de la Torre as the president of San Diego State University underscores the crucial role that women have played in the university's history and evolution.

In the earliest days of San Diego Normal School, women formed the majority of the student population. Through the decades, individual women created new areas of study, led SDSU's colleges as academic deans and managed the university's research and operational budgets. Of the thousands of women who have shaped SDSU over 12 decades, these are among the most influential.

JANE K. SMITH

Jane K. Smith served for 40 years as assistant vice president for Academic Services, re-established the Mortar Board chapter on campus and co-created the SDSU Honors Council.

Sally Roush

Sally Roush was president of San Diego State University for just under 12 months, but her decisions will influence the university for years to come. A universally popular choice for president and a familiar face on campus, Roush served in the Division of Business and Financial Affairs for 31 years, including nearly two decades as senior vice president. She oversaw the university budget and inter-collegiate athletics, had a hand in every new building and capital project, and co-chaired the steering committee that guided development of the strategic plan, "Building on Excellence." As president for the 2017-18 academic year, Roush began the planning process for a campus expansion in Mission Valley and—taking student, faculty, alumni and community opinion into account—determined that the university will retain its 93-year-old Aztec identity.

"We will ensure that appropriate recognition of and reverence for the greatness of the Aztec civilization is infused into the daily life of the university," Roush promised.

Nancy Marlin

President Emeritus Stephen L. Weber recruited Nancy Marlin as SDSU's first woman provost in 1998.

Together, they charted a course to transform SDSU into a global university by increasing academic partnerships with non-U.S. universities and encouraging students to have international experiences. Marlin's target of 30 percent of undergraduates studying abroad, which once seemed

SUE EARNEST

Sue Earnest co-founded San Diego State's speech and hearing clinic in 1950 and created the program that evolved into SDSU's top-ranked School of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences.

unreachable, is now a reality. SDSU currently ranks No. 8 in the country for the number of students who study abroad annually. Marlin also deserves credit for SDSU's success in significantly reducing not only the time to graduation for all students, but also the achievement gap for underrepresented minority students. Before she stepped down to rejoin the faculty in 2014, Marlin worked to establish SDSU Georgia, which offers internationally accredited undergraduate degrees in the STEM disciplines.

N SHAPED SDSU

By Jeff Ristine

Mary Ruth Carleton

Mary Ruth Carleton led The Campaign for SDSU, the university's first comprehensive campaign, which exceeded its goal with a record \$815 million raised over 10 years. As vice president for University Relations and Development, Carleton supervises SDSU's government and community relations efforts, marketing and communications, public affairs and alumni relations while serving in the SDSU President's Cabinet.

She is also president and CEO of The Campanile Foundation, the board of influential community leaders with responsibility for guiding campaigns and fundraising. Carleton's significant personal donations to SDSU benefit academics, athletics and student programming. Her leadership has created a "culture of philanthropy" that unites alumni, students, faculty, staff and the San Diego community in support of the university.

ALVENA STORM

An early authority on the geography of the American West, Alvena Storm joined San Diego State in 1926 and taught for 40 years. The west wing of the social sciences building is named in her honor.

Vesta C. Muehleisen

An elementary school teacher trained at San Diego Normal School, Vesta C. Muehleisen remained active with her alma mater in ways that resonate for students and alumni today.

She earned her undergraduate degree in 1907 with the school's eighth graduating class. In 1927, San Diego State Teachers College President Edward L. Hardy appointed her to a citizens advisory council charged with helping to find a new site for the institution, then located in Normal Heights. Two previous site selections had fizzled, and the issue was becoming

urgent. Muehleisen supported the selection of a then-distant location on a mesa overlooking the east end of Mission Valley and in May 1931, she attended the dedication ceremony for the new campus. In that same year, she founded the San Diego State Alumni Association and became its first president.

SHIRLEY WEBER

Shirley Weber helped to establish the Department of Africana Studies in 1972 and taught at SDSU for 50 years. Now a California State Assembly member, she is a passionate advocate for closing the achievement gap.

Women's Studies Founders

In 1970, San Diego State created the first Women's Studies program in higher education in the United States. Student Carol Rowell was determined to do something about the discrimination that she saw pervading "every area of society." Her discussions with Joyce Nower, an English professor, grew into much larger consciousness-raising meetings with participants on and off campus. A committee targeted female faculty members to build support for a new set of women-centered classes. They were an immediate success, and a Women's Studies Program followed in fall

1970 with 10 classes marked by student participation in planning and decision-making.

Sexism and pushback against unconventional teaching and governance were opposing forces from day one. Additionally, the new program was rocked by internal conflict and in 1974, the entire faculty and staff resigned. Without a break, the university tapped Marilyn Baxter, who had been hired to teach women's history, to chair a revamped and more conventional program. It expanded to a full academic

department in 1983 and added a master's program 13 years later.

It's All About Heart. Ashley Henderson found the confidence to win as an SDSU student-athlete.

It took Ashley Henderson more than a decade to come to terms with her exceptional talent. She never really believed the family members and coaches who said she could excel as a sprinter. In fact, 7-year-old Ashley dreaded track meets, and even her teenage self slacked off at school, hoping low grades would make her ineligible to compete. (The plan backfired when her mom caught on.)

"I was the kid who had track meets every weekend and traveled all summer...to compete at championships. I never got a chance to go to Disney World, and hardly hung out with my friends," she wrote in a disarmingly honest blog post published earlier this year. "I tried to force myself to believe I didn't really hate track."

Sometime between Henderson's enrollment at San Diego State University and her graduation in May 2018, the athlete



who dreaded competitive running began to relish it. The turnaround began as early as Henderson's freshman year, when she earned second place in the 200-meter sprint at the Mountain West Indoor Championships and a spot among SDSU's all-time fastest women.

"It was clear when we recruited Ashley to SDSU that she had untapped talent," said Shelia Burrell, Aztec track and field head coach. "It was also clear that she wasn't a 'track kid,' meaning that she didn't really study the sport. My assistant coach, Michelle Freeman, spent a lot of time with Ashley and coached her to a second place finish at the 2016 NCAA championships. I think that's when Ashley finally began to understand what everyone around her had seen all along."

National spotlight

As a sophomore, Henderson enjoyed one of the best sprinting seasons in program history, qualifying for the U.S. Olympic Trials in both the 100-and 200-meter races; finishing a close second in the 100 at the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships; and earning the title of Mountain West Outdoor Track & Field female Student-Athlete of the Year.

Henderson capped off her collegiate career with another outstanding year in 2017-18. She became the first Aztec to break the 11-second barrier in the women's 100-meter dash and ran a personal best of 22.49 in the 200-meter semi-final at the NCAA Outdoor Championships. Although she underperformed in the finals, she achieved another school record and personal best just weeks later—in the 100-meter sprint at the U.S. Track and Field Championships in Des Moines, Iowa.

"The physical has always been there for me, but not always the mental, the



Photo: SDSU Athletics

Most Outstanding Performer

2016, 2017, 2018 Mountain West Outdoor Championships

2nd Place 200-Meter Dash

Career Best & School Record
2018 NCAA Indoor Championships

2nd Place 100-Meter Dash

Career Best & School Record
2018 U.S. Track & Field Championships

Broke 11 seconds (10.98) 100-Meter Dash

2018 Desert Heat Classic

12-time All-American

Nine-time 1st team
Three-time 2nd team

belief that I could do it," Henderson admitted. "Everybody (at this level) is fast. It's all about who has the heart."

SaBrina (Bre) White, Henderson's academic advisor at SDSU, said she noticed gradual changes as the sprinter moved into the national spotlight. Henderson buckled down; she avoided serious relationships and social distractions.

"Ashley hasn't let anything get in the way of her goals," White said. "She has a big personality, good friends and good relationships with her professors, but she doesn't have time for drama."

On to Tokyo 2020

What Henderson did make time for is building an Aztec network. She speaks at donor events and works to form relationships with SDSU alumni, who, she said, "are passionate about helping young scholars like myself succeed."

Burrell confirmed White's assessment of Henderson as a team leader. "Like many other athletes who have come through our track and field program, Ashley has grown and matured, and I think her teammates are motivated to achieve similar success," Burrell said. "I like to tell the team that this is a legacy program. Leave your legacy as an Aztec and make people 'say your name.'"

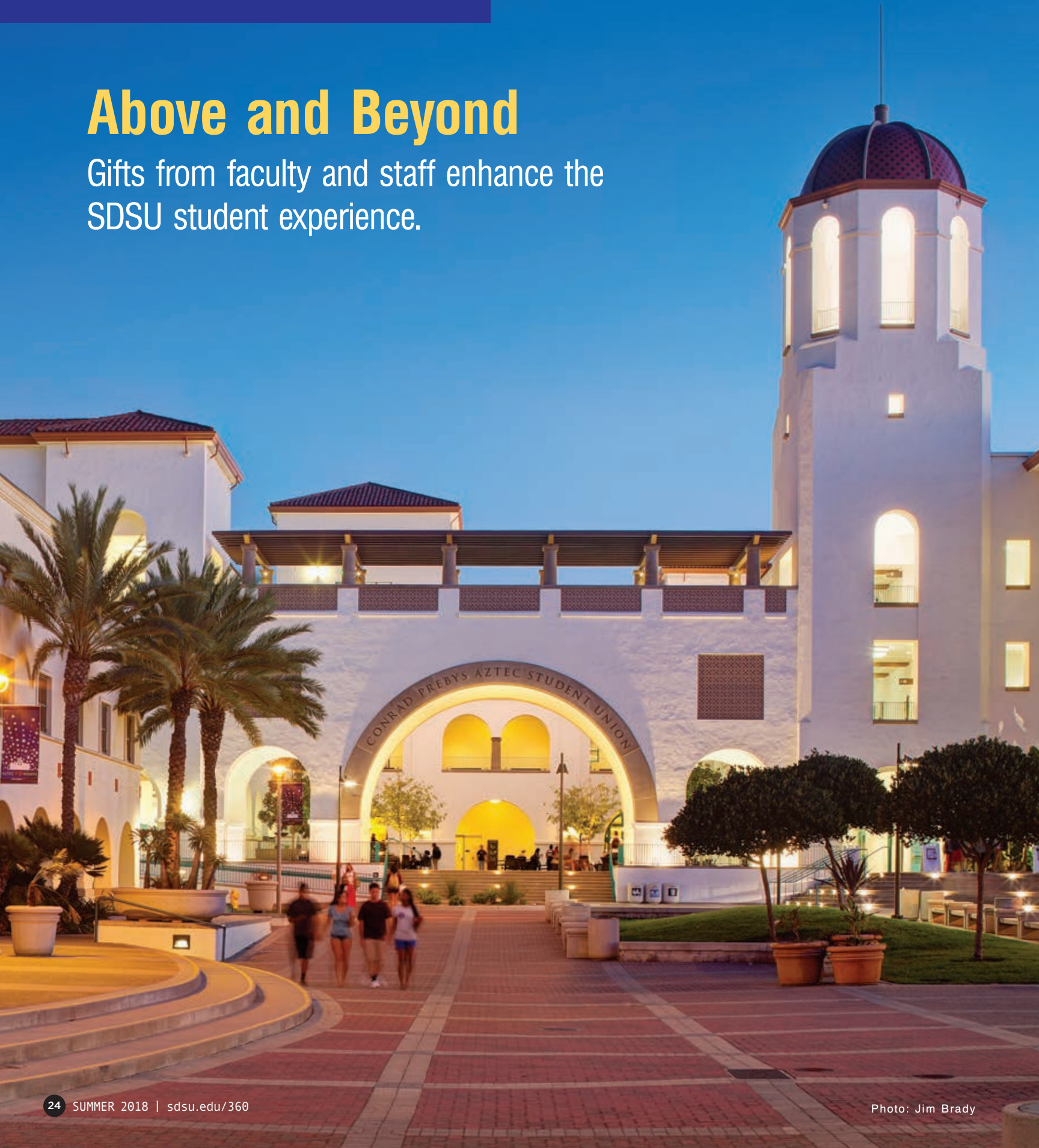
Henderson plans to continue training with Burrell as she prepares for the grueling road to the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo. She had a great start in July with a victory in the 100-meter race at the Athletic World Cup in London. In her international pro debut, the once reluctant runner beat Olympic title-holder Elaine Thompson of Jamaica to become the reigning world champion.

—Coleen L. Geraghty

Giving Back

Above and Beyond

Gifts from faculty and staff enhance the SDSU student experience.



The Campaign for SDSU finished with a bang in 2018, but faculty and staff continue to support San Diego State University with significant and generous gifts.

Over 10 percent of the \$815 million raised during The Campaign for SDSU came from university faculty and staff. Not surprisingly, most give to support the students and programs they work with every day.

Transformational experiences

Joyce Gattas is one of SDSU's most generous donors among faculty and staff. She has served as dean of the College of Professional Studies and Fine Arts (PSFA) for nearly three decades after several years in Faculty Advancement.

Her giving affords students the kinds of transformational experiences—such as study abroad and internships—that enrich their education.

"I love this university. I've devoted my life to it, and I see the value of the education students get at SDSU," Gattas said. "I want to provide them with those extraordinary kinds of experiences that add value to their education and their own growth."

As dean, Gattas has connected SDSU to the community through her involvement with San Diego institutions. She has served on numerous boards and committees, including the San Diego Public Library Foundation Board of Trustees, the San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture Advocacy Committee, the Balboa Park Conservancy and the San Diego Women's Foundation.

She has also worked with alumni and friends of SDSU to raise scholarship support for students whose professional internships are not funded.

"I believe one of the pillars of PSFA is internships," Gattas said. "They really get to the core of these professional disciplines."

Scholarships for athletes

Ryan Donovan understands the importance of athletic scholarships. Before he was head coach for the SDSU men's golf team, Donovan played for the Aztecs.

He was recruited on scholarship, but some of his teammates weren't so lucky. Donovan's planned gift will make it possible for SDSU to offer more golf scholarships and recruit better players.

"We want to be competing against the best programs in the country, to say we had a piece of it," said Donovan. "Scholarships are an important part of winning national championships."

With Donovan as coach, the Aztecs have advanced to the NCAA regionals every season with an active streak of 20 straight postseason bids. Two of his players—J.J. Spaun and Xander Schauffele—are currently on the PGA Tour.

Donovan is the type of coach who knows his players well and keeps in touch with them long after they leave SDSU. He attends their weddings, writes them professional references and even hires some of them to be his assistant coaches.

"The most important thing to remember is where you came from and the opportunities you were given," Donovan said. "If you can return the favor by giving back, that's the best."

Honoring family

Norah Shultz is a newcomer to SDSU. She joined in 2016 as associate vice president for the Division of Academic Engagement and Student Achievement.

From the beginning, Shultz resolved to support high-impact practices such as service learning and international experiences for SDSU students. The resolve became a plan when her husband Jeff, who had accompanied her to San Diego, passed away from side effects related to Parkinson's disease shortly after they arrived.

Jeff Shultz was an educational anthropologist and former dean of international programs at Arcadia University. He focused his research and publications on sociolinguistics, multiculturalism, diversity and internationalization in higher education.

"Jeff was student-centered. He was deeply involved in social justice and worked to promote multiculturalism at Arcadia, where he was recognized as a professor emeritus," Shultz said. "I know that creating the Jeff Shultz Endowed Scholarship is a good way to honor him."

“
If you can return
the favor by
giving back,
that's the best.”

SDSU ALUMNI

2018 - 2019

ALUMNI BOARD of ADVISORS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Aron Getty, '95

President-elect: Angie Robert, '04

The Campanile Foundation Alumni Representative:

Alan Dulgeroff, '92

Vice President of Professional Development:

Chiloh Baty, '08

Vice President of Development: Chris Parks, '92

Vice President of Finance: Brad Adams, '99

Vice President of Partnerships: Cody Barbo '12

Vice President of Innovation: Jason Farran, '00

Vice President of Marketing: Duke Stewart, '96

Administrator: Andres Olivas

OTHER ELECTED ADVISORS:

Wade Aschbrenner, '91; Risa Baron, '91;

Kelly Batten, '98; Monica Berenter, '80; Daniel Gomes, '01;

Hass Ibrahim, '09; Sean Kilkenny, '10; Martin Lang, '97;

Mark Mays, '69; Charlotte Ochiqui, '00; Allen Sliwa, '04;

Brian Slye, '12; Justin Schlaefli, '05; Stacey Wolfson, '10

PAST PRESIDENTS:

Liaison to Past Presidents: Leo Morales '09

First President: 1931 Vesta Muehleisen

For a full listing of past presidents, visit:

sdsualumni.org/pastpresidents

NON-ELECTED ADVISORS:

President: Adela de la Torre; Vice President, University

Relations and Development: Mary Ruth Carleton;

University Senate Chair: Marcie Bober-Michel;

Associated Students President: Chris Thomas;

Aztec Athletics: Morgan McSweeney

SDSU ALUMNI STAFF

Assistant Vice President, SDSU Alumni:

Dan Montoya, '04

Assistant Director, Alumni Engagement:

Travis P. McCauley, '07

SDSU Alumni Coordinator: Christy Andrade

SDSU Alumni Coordinator: Andres Olivas

Assistant Director, Affinity Groups: Dion Akers, '08

SDSU Fund Supervisor: Renee Baldo

Assistant Director, Annual Fund, Stewardship &

Membership: Cheryl Lemox

Career Development Liaison: Diane Barragan Marin

Communications Specialist: Tobin Vaughn

Data Control Technician: Robin Breen Rust

Director Development Technology:

Tammy Blackburn, '94, '01

Electronic Solicitation Assistant: TBD

Electronic Solicitation Manager: Dan Majors, '03

Parma Payne Goodall Alumni Center Coordinator:

Adam Armolea, '17, Armando Chavez, '17

Program Coordinator: Jen Ranallo

1950s

'52 **The Honorable Clifford J. Wallace** ★ (economics) received the National Medal of Honor from the Daughters of the American Revolution.

'56 **Ruth Schneider** (management) was inducted into the USA National Shuffleboard Association Hall of Fame following the induction of her husband, **Roland Schneider** ('56), last year. They are the third married couple to accomplish this feat in the 60-year history of the association.

1960s

'68 **Nancy Fitch** ('71, MA history) is the 2018 recipient of California State University Fullerton's Faculty Leadership in Collegial Governance Award.

1970s

'76 **Martin McAllister** (anthropology) received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Society for American Archaeology for his contributions to the protection of cultural resources.

'78 **Karen (Pieroni) McPartland** (graphic arts) is president and CEO of TSAC Engineering, which was named one of the 50 fastest-growing, women-owned companies by the Women Presidents' Organization.

1980s

'80 **Gayle Mestel** (journalism), CEO of CCS/PR, received the "Anthony Vigil Award for Staying Power," recognizing her agency's 50 years in business.

'83 **Melissa Aliotti** (political science) joined dispute resolution services provider Judicate West as a neutral in Sacramento.

'84 **Michael Neal** ★ ('96, MS real estate) was inducted into the Homebuilding Hall of Fame. He is president and CEO of H.G. Fenton Company.

'89 **Keith Flitner** ★ (aerospace engineering) is senior vice president of sales and market development at Buy It Installed in Irvine, California.

1990s

'91 **Jennifer Smith Cohen** (physical education) received the Carolyn Helman Lichtenberg Crest Award from the Pi Beta Phi Fraternity for Women. She is the University of Washington's athletic director and one of only three women in that role for the Power Five Conferences.

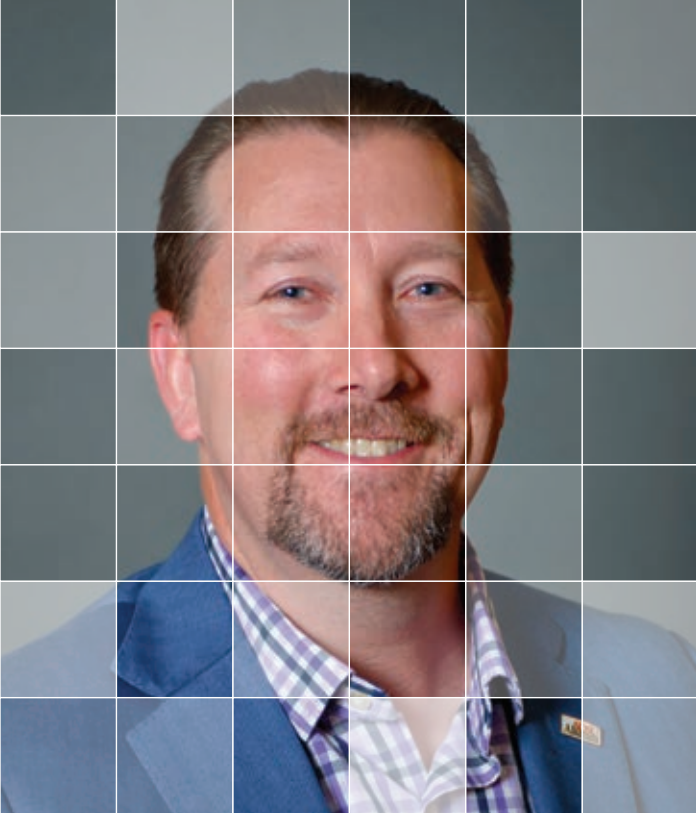
'94 **Elise Sanguinetti** (political science), a founding partner at Arias Sanguinetti Wang & Torrijos, LLP, is president of the American Association for Justice.

2000s

'05 **Patricia Loughrey** (theatre arts) and **Thomas Hodges** '12 (performance theatre) partnered to create the LGBTQA musical "Sonata 1962," an official selection of the 2018 New York Musical Festival in New York.

'06 **Lani Longacre** (communication; '17 EMBA) is chief mission delivery officer for Girl Scouts San Diego.

Please send your news to the SDSU Alumni Association, aluminfo@mail.sdsu.edu. | ★ = life member



Fewer Hang-ups These Days

Aron Getty ('95), the new leader of SDSU Alumni, was once a caller for the Annual Fund.

Aschbrenner ('91), Hassan Ibrahim ('09), and Brian Slye ('12) were elected as new members who, like Getty, assumed their terms July 1.

A partner with the accounting firm Considine & Considine, Getty, 44, has served on the board the past six years. He and his wife, Secorra ('94), are SDSU Alumni lifetime members.

couple of months. He completed it in a couple of days.

"I understood it intuitively," Getty recalled. "The numbers aspect of it kind of spoke to me as a language."

But the real joy he derives from his career is helping and getting to know his clients—the same thing he likes about working with the alumni board and serving the university. Getty said his goals for the coming year include adopting "something from a career services standpoint for alumni" and working toward helping alumni better understand SDSU's Mission Valley plan.

"I think the university is probably in the best position it has been in since I have been around it," said the onetime phone solicitor. "It continues to grow; it's recognized more from a national perspective; it's tougher to get in and just keeps getting better."

"When people see the numbers, there's more pride in being an Aztec, which makes it easier for us to reach out to our alumni and interest them in having that conversation with us."

“San Diego State helped me grow a group of friends I am still in contact with today.”

All of which brings a welcome change to those donor calls as well.

"As a student I did have a lot of hang-ups," he said, "but they're not hanging up on us so much anymore."

—Tobin Vaughn

Thousands of Aztec alumni may already have spoken with new SDSU Alumni president Aron Getty ('95) long before he became their official leader. As a student, Getty was a caller for San Diego State University's Annual Fund, soliciting gifts to enhance the quality of education for students to come.

Although the appeals often were rejected and hang-ups were frequent, Getty described the job as "a great learning experience." He said he enjoyed listening to alumni share stories of their days on campus, which he knew would make them smile.

"It sounds funny, but you can actually hear somebody smiling on the phone," he said. "If you get them to that point, the rest of the conversation becomes a lot easier."

Through that role, Getty made connections that eventually would help him land his first professional position. He's been devoted to expanding his Aztec network ever since.

In a ceremony at the June 6 SDSU Alumni Advisory Board meeting, Getty was symbolically handed the president's gavel by Leo Morales ('09), the immediate past president. Additionally, Wade

The couple met when both were students. They have two daughters, Isabella, 15, and Madelyn, 12, who enjoy attending SDSU athletics events with their parents.

Getty said SDSU helped him learn to be responsible and taught him invaluable career skills, which is part of the reason why he remains actively involved with the university. "I grew up here and I learned so much," he explained. "San Diego State helped me grow a group of friends I am still in contact with today; it helped me meet my wife, and now I have my kids, so SDSU has given me everything."

The new president describes himself as a "silent leader," who prefers coalition-building to spotlight-grabbing. "I have an idea of what I want to do, and I will be very collaborative working with the people around me to make sure we are all on the same page," he said.

That's in line with Getty's analytical, CPA-style approach to challenges. He said he first suspected he had a true gift for numbers in a high school bookkeeping class, where the teacher assigned a project intended to last a

2018 SDSU ALUMNI Awards of Distinction

The 45th SDSU Alumni Awards of Distinction, the signature event of SDSU Alumni, will honor 11 distinguished alumni and friends of the university at 6:00 p.m. Friday, September 14, at Coastera on Harbor Island. A post-ceremony reception will follow.

SDSU Alumni Awards of Distinction are given to those who have made significant contributions to the university, the San Diego community or California, nationally or internationally. Distinguished service awards are presented to an exceptional alumni volunteer and an outstanding university employee.

College of Arts and Letters

VICTOR BIANCHINI

Victor Bianchini ('60, political science), retired Superior Court judge and U.S. Magistrate judge currently recalled to the U.S. District Court in Los Angeles, is also a private mediator, arbitrator and discovery referee. Retired as a colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps with 24 military decorations, he has gained acclaim as a national fencing champion and now volunteers for numerous civic and veterans organizations while serving on the College of Arts and Letters Alumni Chapter Board.



College of Education

JULIANNA BARNES

Julianna Barnes, ('91 M.A. educational counseling; '10, Ed.D. leadership) is president of Cuyamaca College and was a member of the inaugural student cohort of the College of Education's Educational Leadership doctoral program. Holder of a black belt in karate, she is known as a tireless advocate of student success and as a positive role model of thoughtful and inclusive leadership who offers mentorship to SDSU students and graduates through her involvement with Ed.D. Alumni.



College of Engineering

ALAN DULGEROFF

Alan Dulgeroff ('92, electrical engineering), director of Electric System Planning for San Diego Gas and Electric, is known for his passion for education and community service. Currently a Campanile Foundation Board member and an executive committee member and past president of the SDSU Alumni Board of Advisors, he is a mentor to both students and professionals, serving on the National Leadership Council and Electrical and Computer Engineering and Career Services Advisory Boards.



College of Health and Human Services

DIANE TAKVORIAN

Diane Takvorian, ('74, psychology; '76, M.A. social work), California Air Resources Board member and co-founder and executive director of the San Diego/Tijuana Region's Environmental Health Coalition (EHC), has significantly impacted the areas of social and environmental justice across California. Her commitment, leadership and vision have influenced public policy, municipal ordinances and state laws reducing health risks to positively affect the environment and improve the quality of life throughout the state.



College of Professional Studies and Fine Arts

DIANE GAGE LOFGREN

Diane Gage Lofgren ('76, journalism; '81, M.S. pre-major journalism), a journalist, author and public relations professional, recently retired as chief marketing officer and senior vice president for Sharp HealthCare. A fellow of the Public Relations Society of America and member of the Arthur W. Page Society, she has served for many years as a guest lecturer at SDSU, where she has established an endowed scholarship to benefit students in the School of Journalism and Media Studies.



College of Sciences

JO ANN LANE



Jo Ann Lane, Ph.D. ('74, mathematics; '77, M.A. computer science) spent more than 20 years at government contractor SAIC before becoming an instructor at SDSU where she has shared her knowledge and experience with students. Now a professor emerita and a member of the Computer Science Advisory Board at SDSU, she created an endowed scholarship for computer science majors and supports international students from Africa and the Caribbean studying in the colleges of Sciences, Engineering and Health and Human Services.

SDSU Imperial Valley

HELINA HOYT



Helina Hoyt ('01 community health nursing) pioneered the Imperial Valley Campus RN-BS program that offers community college nursing students the unique opportunity to concurrently pursue and finish a bachelor's degree. Additionally, Hoyt has been instrumental in bringing the SDSU master of science in nursing program to Imperial Valley as a means of helping to meet the need for master's-trained nurses in Imperial County and enhance the professional development of local nurses.

Fowler College of Business

GREG FOWLER



Greg Fowler ('83, business administration, finance) is managing partner and founder of the real estate investment firm FPA Multifamily, where he is responsible for the overall direction of the firm and leads the acquisitions and investor relations teams. A member of The Campanile Foundation Board Executive Committee, he also serves on the board of directors of the National Multifamily Housing Council and the Investment Committee of the Santa Barbara Museum of Art.

Distinguished Alumni Service Award

MARY CURRAN



Mary Curran ('82, business administration) is a financial services industry executive and an independent director with Hunter Industries and Banc of California as well as a longtime volunteer in the San Diego community. Currently the chair of The Campanile Foundation Board and Executive Committee who helped bring the university's historic Campaign for SDSU to a record-setting \$815-million conclusion, she is a past chair of the California Bankers Association and the San Diego Sports Commission.

Library and Information Access

JACKIE ESTRADA



Jackie Estrada ('68, journalism) has divided her career between textbook editing and working for San Diego's Comic-Con International. One of a handful of people who has attended every Comic-Con, she served as publications editor and, since 1990, as administrator of the Will Eisner Comic Industry Awards, the "Oscars" of comics. She also taught copyediting at UCSD Extension for many years and co-founded the San Diego Professional Editors' Network (SD/PEN).

Distinguished University Service Award

JAMES KITCHEN



James Kitchen, Ed.D., is an emeritus vice president, having led SDSU's Division of Student Affairs from 2000-2014. A Vietnam War combat veteran, he has served as a mentor and an inspiration to students and staff. He continues to advise committees, staff members and campus leaders as a volunteer while remaining a tireless advocate for students and a philanthropic supporter of several different areas of the university including student success, scholarship, athletics and veterans.

In Memoriam

1941 Julia Loudermilk; **1943** James Dall, Marjorie Reid; **1945** Charlotte Albrecht; **1946** Frank Bonham; **1948** George Claspill, Elizabeth Hamlin, Daniel Lewis, Karl Marshall, William McAllister; **1949** Macy Abrams, Audrey Elliott, Donald Madison, Tricia Martin.

1950 Thomas Ables, Julia Bain, Louis Black, Francis Williamson; **1951** Betty Birdsell, Charles Marsden, Benjamin McCann, David Noe; **1952** Gretchen Evans, Kenneth Larson, Robert Olson; **1953** Thelma Hankins, Maureen Nicholason, Gene Sieben, Edmund Thile; **1954** Roy Wayne; **1955** Roy Fields, Alfred Walker; **1956** Adelbart Banks, Howard Berg; **1957** James Cherry, Tommy Duncan, Philip Pittman; **1958** Walter Stump, Roy Woodward; **1959** Janet Hart, Chuck Luby, June Peskan, Kenneth Shier.

1960 Sheila DeWoskin, Robert Hanna, Robert Marikle, Brock Robertson; **1961** Donald Brown; **1963** Robert Gardner, Robert Shields; **1964** Louis Butler, Arnold Kloven Jr.; **1965** Ric Bethel, Charles Bradshaw, Alane Howarth, Durmot Killian, Emma Leisure, Patrick Long, Geraldine Macintyre, Mary Margaret Owen, Edward Robinson, Ann Ukena, Jerry Wellnitz; **1966** Gary Bransetter, David Belzer, Don Jackson, Mary Margaret Jackson, Patricia Kaiser, Elisa Merino, Michael Roehm, Walter Scales, Michael Skiles, John Yamamoto; **1967** Thomas Ault, Douglas Darnall, Glenn Embree, Catherine Evers, James Finch, Donald Franks, Jon Guthrie, Karen Hedrick, Joseph Koski, Gene Layser, Diana Medina, Clifford Phillips, Philip Taylor; **1968** Ronald Downing, Watson Fowler, Michael McLaughlin, Dorothy Norman, Rollie Wisbrock; **1969** Nancy Brandt, Vernon Cooper, Candace Dickard, Donald Ferrell, Elizabeth Lusk, Forrest McQuillen, Joseph Pinto, Melvin Ramsay Jr., Diane Riehl.

1970 Robert Canzoneri, Robert Slaughter, Bryan Smith, Thomas Valerius; **1971** Don Fago, Gloria Hammond, A. Powell Harrison, Eldredge Johnson, Gerald Lipscomb, Audrey Siler, Jane Sterett; **1972** Mary Blankemeier, Margaret Clerkin, William Dickens, Anthony Spillane, Sharon Stewart; **1973** Hoyl Belt, Marilyn Hamilton, Kenneth Hoag, John P. Johnson, Billy Lawrence, Byron Maki, Julie Reno, Alfredo Santiago, Chris Work; **1974** Michael Curren, Philip Freestone, Augustus Owens, Rosemarie Raifsnider, Peggy Rudnick, Phyllis Smith, William Starr, Rita Stender; **1975** David Denton, John Glasheen, Virginia Hill, George Karpati, Caroline Murguia, Rance Olison, Nancy Parker, William Rhyne, Francis Slater, Henry Washington, Stephen Zegler; **1976** Richard Bent, Marilyn Connolly, Patrick Conroy, Charles Crow, Lance Mirkin, Jeffrey Ritchie, Charles Sankey, Katherine Stocker, Mary Thibodo; **1977** Marion Barrera, Stephen Baxley, Cheryl Murdock, Douglas Raines, Lenora Rhodes, Gary Self, Thomas Suiter; **1978** Barbara Brautigam, Donald Campbell, Ronald Gorence, David Hollowell, Michael Landon, Jeffery Nicolaysen, Nancy Rhodes, Fred Stremmler, Robin Zarider; **1979** Cristy Johnson, Steve Lion, Stephen Morris, Mark Putnam, Joseph Schwalbach, Alan Worthington.

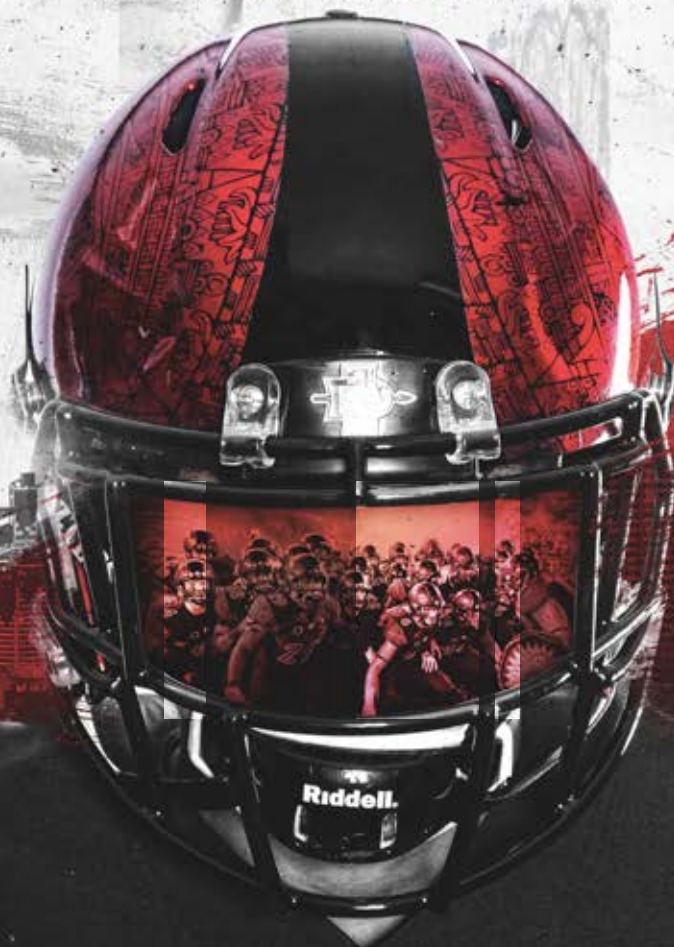
1980 Carlene Befort, Jacques Brandais, Betty Carter, Mary Wolfe Hewitt, John Monsees; **1981** Amanda Dubois, Sharon Freeman, Nicholas Hernandez, Francis McCoy, Matthew Richardson, Elizabeth Smith, Juli Reed Woodson; **1982** Julie Larimore, Susan Medeiros, Anthony Smith, Faye Walsh; **1983** Paul Fuelling III, Jeanne Quenga, Stephen Simeone, Paula Tupper; **1984** Wayne Fisher; **1985** James Grier Jr.; **1986** Jeffrey Frederick, Michael Grossblatt, Cynthia Kronquist, Thomas Phillips II; **1987** J. Scott Schaller; **1988** Kevin Fellenzer, Lorraine Robinson, Kevin Woods; **1989** Donna Burr, Barbara Granger, Helen Leathlean.

1990 Joyce Dunne, Frances Espinoza, Layne Kulwin; **1991** Joel Montemayor; **1992** Barbara Cooper, Carol Redding; **1993** Harold Jennings Jr., Amy Kaufman, Kevin Murray; **1994** John Pecoraro, Cari Price-Cook, Dwayne Selman; **1995** Debra Thompson; **1996** Marcia Fahlen; **1997** Brian Jennings; **1998** Charles Ham, Adrienne Wood; **1999** Larry Emerson.

2000 Tori Carroll, Carole Larson; **2001** Sabrina Chase; **2002** Amy Wollensak; **2004** John Fox II; **2006** Blair Berkley; **2007** Erin Andrews, Emma Newman; **2009** Stephen Johnson, Amy Soos; **2014** Brian Caveney; **2016** Alanna McLeod.

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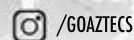
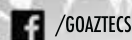
2018 AZTEC FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

AUG. 31	SEP. 8	SEP. 15	SEP. 22	OCT. 6	OCT. 12	OCT. 20	OCT. 27	NOV. 3	NOV. 10	NOV. 17	NOV. 24
											
@ STANFORD	VS. SACRAMENTO STATE	VS. ARIZONA STATE	VS. EASTERN MICHIGAN	@ BOISE STATE	VS. AIR FORCE	VS. SAN JOSE STATE	@ NEVADA	@ NEW MEXICO	VS. UNLV	@ FRESNO STATE	VS. HAWAII



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