

Sacred Heart Celebrates 200th Anniversary

As USD wraps up its 50th anniversary celebration, the order of nuns who helped found the university are celebrating a significant anniversary of their own.

The Society of the Sacred Heart, which has more than 5,000 members worldwide, marks its 200th anniversary this year with an international celebration focusing on women and children, particularly those in poverty.

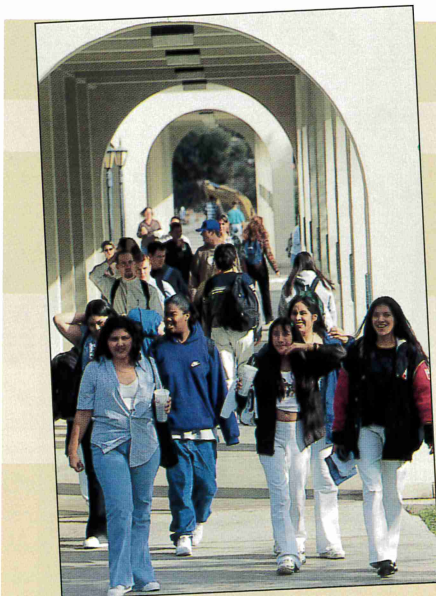
In the San Diego area, the 40 members of the order will mark the bicentennial with a year of lectures, retreats and prayer groups designed to increase collaboration among nuns in Southern California.

"There are sisters here who are child-advocacy lawyers, who work with immigrants and the disabled, and we felt we could use the anniversary to get to know what each of us do and collaborate on projects in the future," explains Sister Virginia Rodee, assistant to USD's vice president of mission and ministry.

Highlighting the year will be a series of lectures by theologian Sister Barbara Bowe, who will speak in February on women and spirituality. For information on this and other events, contact Sister Rodee at (619) 260-7431.



The sisters of the Society of the Sacred Heart were a key component of USD's success, helping to found the university in 1949. They will celebrate the bicentennial of the founding of their religious order this year.



Source: Office of Student Affairs annual freshman interest survey.

USD by the Numbers

That was then...

Percentage of USD freshmen in 1974 who rated career planning and development as very important or extremely important:**46%**

Percentage of USD freshmen in 1974 who rated attending lectures on political, social and cultural topics as very important or extremely important:**62%**

Percentage of USD freshmen in 1974 who rated attending formal or informal dances as very important or extremely important:**49%**

This is now...

Percentage of USD freshmen in 1999 who rated career planning and development as very important or extremely important:**58%**

Percentage of USD freshmen in 1999 who rated attending lectures on political, social and cultural topics as very important or extremely important:**14%**

Percentage of USD freshmen in 1999 who rated attending formal or informal dances as very important or extremely important:**28%**