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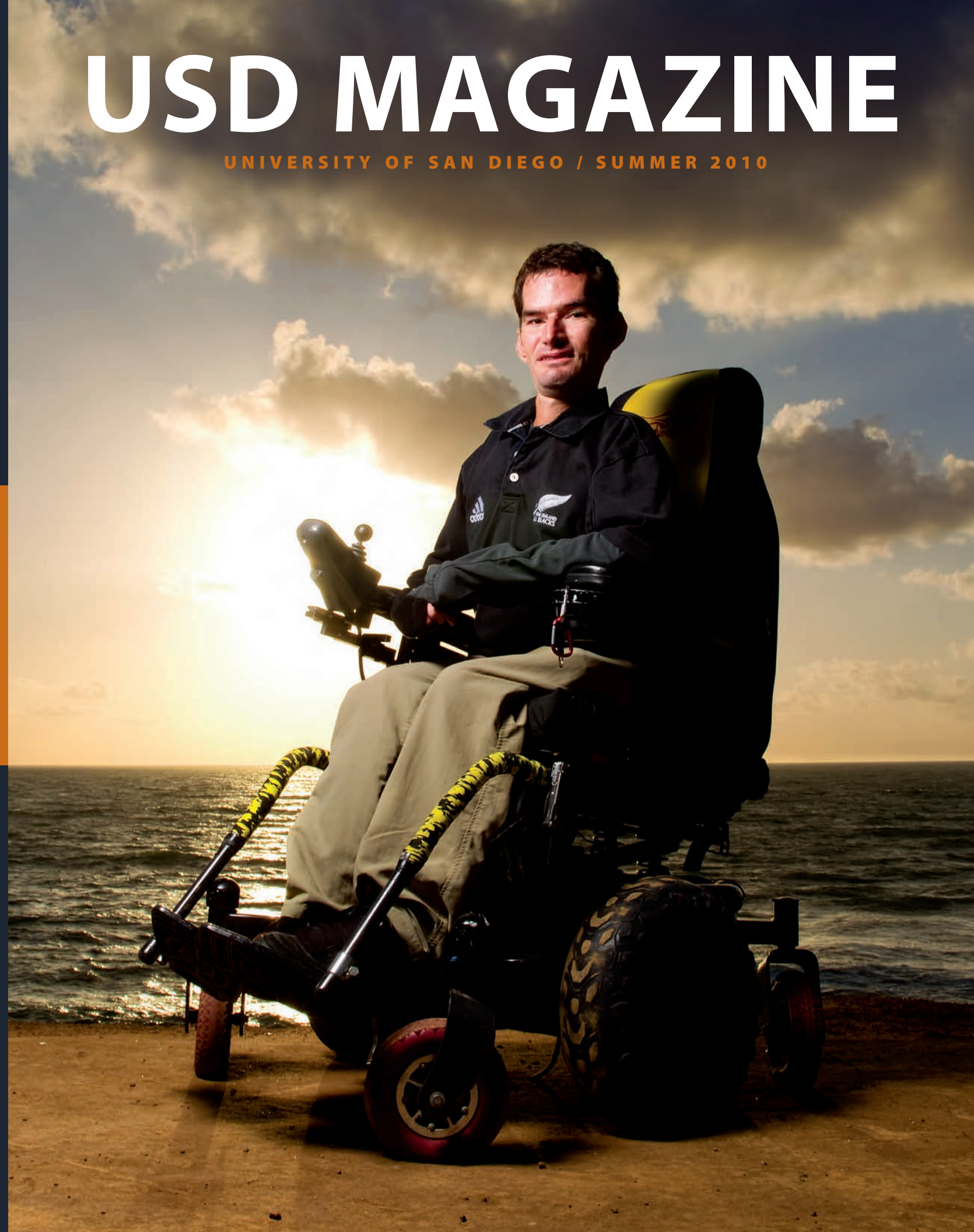
USD MAGAZINE

UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO / SUMMER 2010

ANDREW SHELLEY

THE EXTRAORDINARY JOURNEY OF

BEGAN WITH A TURN DOWN A NEW PATH.



[foresight]

THE GIFT OF HOPE

President Lyons reflects on the future of USD



What do you think are USD's greatest challenges today and in the near future? What do you see as the most pressing opportunities for the future of the institution?

If I were being cavalier, I would fall back upon a glib response to this answer: Most problems can be solved, most challenges can be met, most opportunities can be seized if you have enough money! While this is somewhat true, it actually misses the mark.

Rather, our greatest challenge has more to do with having and promoting a great vision for our university and, subsequently, generating a culture within our vast community — students and their families, faculty, staff, administrators, trustees, alumni and friends — shaped by that vision.

If we truly embrace the mission and vision of USD, have the will to work for the goals that derive from these, and commit ourselves to lead others in that direction, the university will continue to flourish.

What do you think are the greatest challenges facing Catholic education today? What have been USD's responses to these challenges?

USD is an academy founded and sustained by a belief in the essential goodness of creation and the worthiness of a life-long commitment to understanding and working on behalf of the human condition. In this pursuit, our Catholic character opens to us the riches of the Church's intellectual, spiritual, cultural and moral traditions. Its social teachings provide a foundation and an inspiration for our important efforts to teach and work for peace and justice. Above all,

this Catholic university is an institution of hope. And what a gift this is during an era marked by economic uncertainty, pessimism, and polarization.

USD's strategic goals have led to the creation of a number of centers, such as the Center for Catholic Thought and Culture and the Center for Educational Excellence. What can you tell our readers about the new Center for Inclusion and Diversity?

The most effective and sustainable achievements at USD have been those that are conceived, initiated, developed and implemented by representatives from the entire community. The Center for Inclusion and Diversity is the most recent example of this.

One of the strategic priorities we defined in 2004 was to become a more "culturally diverse and culturally competent community." We also recognize our obligation to provide special outreach to those who have been traditionally underserved in higher education. A follow-up action to our 2004 plan was the creation of the Committee on Inclusion and Diversity, a campus-wide group of students, faculty, staff and administrators who explored what options would best help us achieve our goals. A result of their work was the creation of the President's Advisory Board on Inclusion and Diversity in 2008.

Alberto Pulido, chair of the Ethnic Studies Department, and Stephen Pultz, director of Undergraduate Admissions, co-chaired this effort, which defined five strategic directions, recommended the creation of a permanent Center for Inclusion and Diversity and adopted a statement capturing the goals of this initiative.

In March of this year, I announced the appointment of the




co-directors of the Center: Carlton Floyd, assistant professor of English, and Mayté Pérez-Franco, director of the United Front Multicultural Center. Professor Floyd was also appointed Associate Provost for Inclusion and Diversity. The Center is now under development and will focus on these strategic directions: Diversity of Place, of People, of Pedagogy, of Life Experience and of Culture and Community.

The University of San Diego has come a long way physically, academically and socially since your arrival in 2003. What further progress do you anticipate for USD in the next several years?

I hope that our readers will take a leisurely tour of our website — www.sandiego.edu — and discover the many, many ambitions of our College of Arts and Sciences, our professional schools and the School of Law.

A dynamic university like ours requires that our students absorb both the wisdom of the past and participate in the discovery of new knowledge. To that end, each of our divisions has plans for developing programs, supporting faculty and student research, and, in some cases, renovating and expanding spaces to accommodate their creative work.

Over the next five to seven years, this trajectory toward greater academic excellence will continue, with corresponding development of programs that enhance student life, including expanding the fruitful collaborations between academic affairs and student affairs that has resulted in superb programs for first and second year students. Related initiatives that are directed toward moving from "good to great" include achieving the goals of our Sports and Recreation Master Plan and increasing our network of alumni whose involvement is so critical to the future growth and development of their alma mater. 

USD MAGAZINE

UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO

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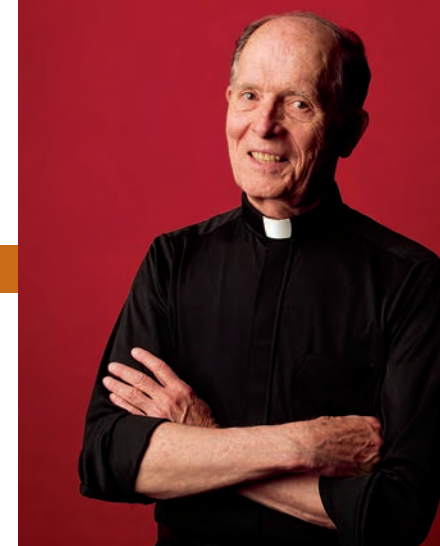
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Find our pages online at
www.sandiego.edu/usdmag



FRED GREAVES

[grateful]

NOT JUST FREE MONEY

Cal Grants help USD undergraduates — and vice versa

by Tom Cleary

All you really need to know about advocacy you learned in kindergarten: Play fair. Respect each other. Say “please” and “thank you.”

Those themes resonated in the halls of the State Capitol in early March when USD undergraduates Michael Mireles and Mya Keaton (pictured) joined a multitude of other students from independent colleges and universities throughout California to knock on doors and visit with officials. The purpose? To ex-

press their gratitude to legislators and legislative staff members for the Cal Grant awards they receive, and to advocate for the program’s continued funding.

Mireles is known across campus for both his enthusiastic personality and his spiked Mohawk hairstyle. The latter attracted numerous questions, compliments and comments in Sacramento; even Senator Dave Cox ‘66 joked with him about his hair, as well as praising the pair for their advocacy work for

Cal Grants. Students delivered a strong, personal message about the difference that Cal Grants have made in their education.

“My experience in supporting the Cal Grant goes deeper than free money,” says Mireles. “It’s my gateway to a better future. Without it, I would never have been able to attain the education I am pursuing (at USD).”

Cal Grants are awards made through the California Student Aid Commission to eligible students from low- and middle-

income families so they can attend college. There are two primary Cal Grant programs: one for undergraduate students attending a California State University or University of California campus who can qualify (up to \$3,354 and \$7,788 respectively) to cover full system-wide fees; and another for those attending private and non-profit colleges and universities such as USD, who are eligible to receive up to \$9,708 toward the cost of tuition. The Cal Grant entitlement awards are guaranteed for four years of college, while competitive Cal Grant awards are year-to-year and not guaranteed.

Officials were also presented with certificates of appreciation

listing the total number of Cal Grant recipients in each Assembly or Senate district.

Last year, Governor Schwarzenegger proposed eliminating Cal Grants altogether. The state legislature disagreed and looked elsewhere to try and balance the budget.

This year, the governor has proposed completely eliminating the competitive Cal Grants, which would impact 37,726 students at all public and private colleges statewide. The final state budget, and the fate of Cal Grants, will likely not be resolved until later this summer.

“It was my pleasure to fight for the Cal Grant,” says Mireles. “I pray that it continues to be funded for future generations.”

[eye-opener]

A REAL EDUCATION

Creative Collaborations showcases student/faculty projects

by Ryan T. Blystone

Justin Hall ‘10 admits he’s not the best surfer. But for the last seven months, the Industrial and Systems Engineering major has teamed up with I&SE assistant professor Truc Ngo and Ocean Green, a Nicaragua-based manufacturer, to explore the eco-friendliness of an innovative surfboard Hall says he hopes to use someday to catch a perfect wave.

Encounters like these have helped students such as Hall and Katie Nobel ‘10 to experience eye-opening moments that will shape their lives forever.

Participating in USD’s fifth annual Creative Collaborations event — which showcases more than 150 undergraduate student-faculty projects through art, social and hard scientific research and internships — has broadened horizons for both. Hall has gained a bigger appreciation for sustainability through surfing. Nobel’s internship at a non-profit organization only strengthens her desire to be an advocate for women’s issues.

Hall is passionate about what he’s learned: “Traditional surfboards use polyurethane, which is basically foam, for the core,” he explains. “They want to see if [these] boards are biodegradable. They sent us samples, we accelerated the composting environment and monitored them to detect biodegradability, weight change, material hardness and surface micro images.”

Company representatives thought so much of Hall’s project that they flew him to Nicaragua in March. “I stayed with a host family. I not only learned how they made surfboards, but

I also learned about the history and culture.”

The research project heightens Hall’s desire to be more conscious about the environment.

“I’ve become very interested in this and I feel I want to go to grad school for sustainability or environmental engineering. I feel sustainability is key if people want to continue to live the very fortunate lives that we do. We can’t live the way we do now forever.”

Nobel’s perspective expanded while working at Vista Hill, a non-profit organization providing programs to rehabilitate mothers who have struggled with a combination of drug, alcohol and domestic abuse. And, of course, their children have also been impacted. She was introduced to the organization through a family member who works in child protection services.

“I got my feet wet very fast. It’s been an extremely interesting experience.” Her internship began in October and she continues to visit the center twice a week.

“If you want to represent a group of people, you have to know who they are, find out where they came from and how they got in the situation they’re in.”

Nobel says Vista Hill is a god-send for the mothers. “They provide them with so many resources like counseling, they’ll pick them up to go to rehab and they teach them parenting skills.”

While realistic about the world around her, Nobel says she plans to use the experience she’s gained as an opportunity to enlighten others. “I think (some of us) live in a bubble. There are a lot of people who don’t realize how the real world is.”

[education]

CULTURE COMES ALIVE

Immersion trips leave students with indelible impressions

by Ryan T. Blystone

Education never takes a holiday. Just ask Aleksandra Wojtalewicz. She knew her world had changed when a routine stop at the store left the international relations graduate student shaken. She'd just returned from an Intersession immersion trip to El Salvador.

"I went with my mom to Costco, and I didn't know what to do," she recounts. "The amount of food in the store would have fed the whole village for a month."

Residents of Guarjila, a remote village near the Honduras border, hosted Wojtalewicz and nearly a dozen USD students and staff for part of their trip in January 2010.

"It was one of the villages that suffered greatly during their civil war," she says. Thirty years later, the community still makes an indelible impression on visitors. "The village was everything in one. We learned the history of the country and the culture, learned about the war and its effect on the people. Staying with the families and gaining insight into their lives was very powerful."

First-year SOLES doctoral student Alan Yu, 33, prides himself on preparedness, but he stepped way out of his comfort zone during an Intersession Nonprofits in Civil Society course. He wound up falling in love with Guatemala.

"There's definitely a little apprehension going to another country for the first time," Yu says. "You don't know the culture, you don't



MARK CEDER

know what the norms are. The idea is you have to go into a culture and have an open mind. I fell in love with the people and the history."

Elaine Elliott, departing director of the Center for Community Service-Learning, and Elena McCollim, a Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice program officer, taught the class. Elliott, who's worked and lived in Guatemala, says students learn how to make positive social change. She says Guatemala offers much: "The students are exposed to a rich culture, but also high poverty and

people who have suffered incredibly due to the conflicts they've been through. Yet they have a lot of courage and hope; the students are always transformed seeing that."

"Pura vida" (pure life), is how Mark Ceder, outreach coordinator of the Experiential Learning and Adventure Center, describes the center's spring break eco-adventure trip to Costa Rica. Among activities like a ride on a canopy zip-line and a volcano tour, they also explored the jungle of the Cabecar Trail, home to

Arianna Jesanis '11 rappels down a 200 foot waterfall in Costa Rica's Lost Canyon during a spring break eco-adventure trip to Costa Rica.

the Cabecar Indians, considered among the most remote indigenous people in Central America. That's where the USD group, accompanied by tour guides with a strong relationship with the tribe, set up an eco-camp and made a lasting connection.

"A soccer match was played in camp with the USD students, our guides and the Cabecar kids," Ceder says. "Three languages were spoken and lots of laughter was heard."

Oh in between? Lessons that will last a lifetime. 🍷

[unforgettable]

NOBLE GRAPES

Wine tasting to benefit Student Scholarship Fund

by Ryan T. Blystone

When Kristen Leonardini fills the bowl of a wine glass with her family's Whitehall Lane signature Reserve Cabernet, it's not uncommon for her to flash back to the Sunday gatherings of her youth.

"We grew up appreciating wine and food," she recalls. "Even when we were younger, we'd smell the wine. Everything kind of evolved from there."

So it's no surprise that Leonardini — who earned her degree from USD in 1987 — is eagerly looking ahead to July 25. That's the day that she'll reconnect with fellow alumni and close friends at the second annual USD Wine Classic.

Wine enthusiasts will gather to taste more than 50 wines from 25 wineries throughout California and Mexico. The event, open to the public, takes place from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice's scenic Garden of the Sea. Proceeds from the \$75 ticket benefit the USD Alumni

Endowed Scholarship Fund.

"It's a fun event to be part of," says Alumni Association Board Member Kevin Dooley '93. "You get to sample wine in a great venue, meet winemakers, eat great food and make an impact by giving back to students."

Nearly all of the participating wineries have an alumni connection; in fact, many alumni will be present to serve their wines.

"We're honored to be asked, and we're happy to give back and support the school," says Leonardini, who will pour five different Whitehall Lane wines. "Last year's event was one of the nicest I've been part of. People definitely got their money's worth."

New this year is a pre-event meeting with Kimmel winemaker consultant Bruce Regalia, in which attendees can enjoy a wine barrel tasting. A limited number of \$50 tickets are available. 🍷

For more information, go to www.usdwineclassic.com.



RYAN BRENNAN

[gifts at work]

Alumna pairs contribution with retirement benefits

Maureen Partynski (BBA '82) took advantage of a unique opportunity to give back to her alma mater while securing additional income during retirement. Partynski completed a gift arrangement that serves as a "charitable" supplemental retirement plan using a deferred payment gift annuity. The plan, administered by USD, is funded by Partynski and will begin making guaranteed fixed income payments to her for life at a future date of her choosing. The longer she waits, the bigger the payment.

Gift to SOLES supports local Catholic faculty and leaders

The Caster Family recently made a \$100,000 contribution to the Scholarship Fund for Catholic Educators in the School of Leadership and Education Sciences (SOLES). The fund supports Catholic faculty and leaders serving in Catholic schools, primarily within the Diocese of San Diego. The gift joins a lead gift in 2009 by USD Trustee Sandra Brue and her husband, Christopher Carstens, a member of the SOLES Advisory Board.

School of Business donation benefits summer internships

Albert P. Carey, president and CEO of Frito-Lay North America, made a \$75,000 gift to the School of Business Administration to establish a fund to support business student internships over the next three summers. The program provides 10 students with internship funding each summer — up to \$2,000 for undergraduates and \$3,000 for MBA students.

Foundation funds School of Nursing's MEPN program

The Donald C. and Elizabeth M. Dickinson Foundation has supported USD's unique Master's Entry Program in Nursing (MEPN) degree program since 1999. The foundation provided a \$100,000 challenge grant that is matched by the Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science through a separate grant. All funds give scholarship support for MEPN students who enter with a bachelor's degree or higher in a non-nursing field and gain an MSN education.

Undergrads to take part in simulated U.N. competitions

An anonymous gift of \$100,000 has been made to support the Model United Nations Program in the College of Arts and Sciences' Political Science and International Relations program. The funding will support up to 20 undergraduate students annually over the next 10 years to participate in simulated United Nations competitions across the United States, as they assume the roles of U.N. ambassadors to debate current issues affecting countries all over the world.

[hybrid]

BANKING ON CREATIVITY

New Law School center takes on intellectual property rights

by Trisha J. Ratledge

Once a classic manufacturing system — steel, rubber and cars — the United States economy has undergone a sea change over the last half-century, morphing into an ever-evolving, enterprising marketplace of ideas. Need examples? That prescription in your medicine cabinet is thanks to a new compound developed by a team of scientists. The new song on your iPod offers up an artist's unique take on heartbreak. Your smart phone embodies a multitude of patented ideas, expertly packaged into one cool device.

In this knowledge-based economy, ideas are bankable and innovation is to be protected. That's good for the bottom line, so it's no wonder that intellectual property law — which protects patents, copyrights, trademarks and trade secrets — is a rapidly growing field.

The School of Law's new Center for Intellectual Property Law & Markets trains law students to help their clients use intellectual property rights to compete economically in today's markets.

"The point of the center is to focus on how people turn ideas into money," says David McGowan, the center's director and Lyle L. Jones Professor of Competition and Innovation Law. "There are a lot of centers around the country that are focused on the policy-oriented approach to intellectual property law. We're

trying to create a niche in which we focus on how people actually take concepts and use different legal regimes to turn them into businesses."

Launched in 2009, the new center is taking a three-pronged approach to intellectual law education and outreach. The first is an expanded curriculum that includes bringing practitioners from businesses such as Qualcomm and Warner Home Video directly to the students to talk about how IP law

and economics interact in business and industry.

"Most students don't realize that money in businesses doesn't come from exercising rights in the usual way of filing a lawsuit," McGowan says. "That's the last stand. Most revenue streams triangulate off the threat of litigation ... that's 90 percent of it. You have these rights, but what are your clients doing with them? It's almost a hybrid business school/law

Qualcomm patent agent and USD School of Law student Espartaco Diaz Hildalgo stands in front of an entire wall of the firm's patents. Patents like these are at the heart of intellectual property law.

school model."

Students, especially those who can apply what they've learned the next day on the job, appreciate that real-world approach. "I'm very fortunate to have gotten the IP education I have at USD," says Espartaco Diaz Hildalgo, a patent agent at Qualcomm who's in his last semester at the law school. "I feel like my rate of development is accelerated compared to someone who doesn't have the combination of both



FRED GREAVES

school and work experience."

The second element of the Intellectual Property Law Center — the conference component — brings businesspeople, lawyers and academicians together for roundtable discussions and public lectures. A recent conference drew professionals from Harvard, the University of Chicago, Stanford, Hewlett Packard, Qualcomm and Yahoo! to debate a patent law issue.

"We want people to think of us as a hub where they can learn things that are useful and also to be aware of the fact that we are producing people they might want to hire," McGowan says.

The final component of the center is a planned website that will feature streaming videos of the public lectures, information for prospective IP law students, and a student-produced blog to showcase their research and analysis on relevant topics. Replacing a traditional law review, the blog will make student analyses timely, easy to digest and easier to find, says McGowan.

The Center for Intellectual Property Law & Markets creates momentum on several levels, says Ted Sichelman, USD assistant professor of law and one of the center's organizers.

"It provides a lot more visibility for the IP program at the school," Sichelman says of the center, which will attract the involvement of more IP attorneys, and, in turn, more students and courses. "You get more intensity in terms of the IP curriculum and extracurricular activities. By having the center, we are able to bring in more funding, have more programs, etc. It plays an important coordinating function."

"We're trying to do something a little different because we are trying to be a bridge between industry and law firms and academe," adds McGowan. "I couldn't be happier with the reception we've had from our alumni and from the community."

[edification]

CHANGING THE RULES

Legal Clinic wins major battle for California renters facing foreclosure

by Anthony Shallat

Paying your rent on time is no guarantee that you won't be evicted: just ask Liz Gilmore. Even though she'd done everything right, she was still faced with the very real possibility of being tossed out on the street. She'd had the bad luck to sign a lease for an apartment in a building that was in default.

But from now on, that scenario should be a lot less likely: Students and faculty of USD's School of Law have won a major battle for California renters fighting eviction. This past winter, the Landlord Tenant Clinic succeeded in protecting Gilmore while making legal precedent.

The case involved the Protecting Tenants at Foreclosure Act of 2009 (PTFA), a bill that keeps tenants from having to break their lease due to a property's foreclosure. Often tenants enter into a lease without knowing that the property they're leasing is in danger of being repossessed by the bank. If the property being rented is foreclosed upon, the lending bank may try to force out the tenants before their lease ends. But under PTFA, tenants are entitled to finish their lease regardless of foreclosure.

"It's important to realize that this act protects tenants, not owners. This law was designed to save renters from an unlawful eviction," says Jason Saad, a law clerk who worked on the case.

In August 2009, the clinic took on Gilmore's case. Upon review, law clerk Adam Blanks noticed a discrepancy between PTFA as applied in California and the client's case. Blanks realized that in California a notice of default and a notice of foreclosure are different:

The notice of default acts as a warning to the property owner; only 90 days after the default has been served can a foreclosure be filed. It was during this warning period that the Gilmore entered into her lease. Blanks used the ambiguity in the law to argue that Gilmore was still entitled to finish out her lease.

"The default provision of the California law was a key component in our case," explains Saad. Over the next few months, Saad and Blanks worked along with law intern Josiah Reid to prove that Gilmore was still protected by PTFA. The legal team sifted through complex property law while working under the supervision of law professor Allen Gruber, who advises the clinic. On Feb. 2, Saad successfully argued Gilmore's case in front of San Diego Superior Court.

Saad '09 (JD) is ecstatic about his court victory. "Many attorneys wait years to go to trial. To argue and win a case right after I graduated is amazing." He's quick to share credit with everyone involved in the case: "Josiah, Adam and Professor Gruber did a great job. It was a real team effort."

For Gilmore, the victory vindicated her own family's struggle. "This has been a very stressful experience, but we won because we were right," she says. "These guys are fantastic; they're patient, kind and caring."

Reid also shares Gilmore's enthusiasm. "I've gotten to experience aspects of litigation that I would never have been able to see if it not for the clinic. The most rewarding part of the case was seeing [Gilmore's] relief after winning the trial," he says, smiling.

[etc.]

The School of Business

Administration's undergraduate business school was ranked among the top 30 nationally for the second consecutive year by BusinessWeek magazine, moving to 28th, one spot up from last year's ranking. The magazine ranked 111 schools using nine different criteria. USD received A+ grades for teaching quality, facilities and service and job placement based on surveys of students. The program's ranking for student satisfaction rose significantly, going from No. 40 last year to ninth this year. Its academic quality score rose to No. 31 from 40. The overall program ranking puts USD among the top three undergraduate business schools in the West Coast.

USD students can now earn

a four-year Bachelor of Arts degree in architecture. Housed in the university's College of Arts and Sciences, it is the only architecture program offered at a major university south of Los Angeles. USD has offered a minor in architecture since 2004. Following the USD Board of Trustees' approval of the major in March, 11 students have already enrolled in the program. About 20 students are expected to enroll by next fall and the program could grow to as many as 40 students in the next few years.

USD's School of Law received its highest-ever ranking by U.S. News & World Report in mid-April, moving up five spots from the previous year. In a tie for 56th place, the school has moved up 26 spots in a two-year period. The tax law faculty was ranked sixth in the nation, ahead of such luminaries as Harvard. USD's part-time law program received a ranking of 10th out of 84 other schools with part-time programs.

[driven]

HIS CONFIDENCE IS CONTAGIOUS

Ky Snyder aims for excellence

by Nathan Dinsdale

If décor says anything about a person, Ky Snyder's framed copy of Vince Lombardi's "What it takes to be number one" speaks volumes: "Winning is not a sometime thing; it's an all the time thing. You don't win once in a while; you don't do things right once in a while; you do them right all of the time. Winning is a habit."

And USD's Executive Director of Athletics is certainly a man of habit. Most days he arrives at work well before sunrise. While the campus sleeps, he's at Jenny Craig Pavilion burning through his morning workout. When most people are hitting their snooze buttons, he's at least an hour into his workday. But unlike Lombardi, for Snyder, winning is not the only thing.

"We have some very driven people here, and that's what makes us successful," Snyder says. "But then you overlap onto that the academic mission and social mission of this campus, well, that's our athletic department."

In a way, Snyder was born for college athletics: One of his earliest memories is attending a football game at the University of Michigan while his father, Les, was earning a doctorate there. Snyder spent most of his childhood in Tempe, Ariz., where Les — a former president of the United States Tennis Association

— worked as a professor at Arizona State University.

Snyder himself played football for San Diego State University before knee problems ended his formal athletic career. Undeterred, Snyder channeled his competitive energy first in the classroom — graduating with a marketing degree — and then in the business world, working for companies like Beecham Products and Capital Analysts, Inc.

Then, in 1990, Snyder got the opportunity to become USD's Director of Athletic Development. He jumped at the chance. "I literally grew up on a college campus," Snyder says. "So the opportunity to put my avocation and vocation together was a natural fit."

Snyder helped coordinate fundraising efforts, secure corporate sponsors and launch a campaign to reconnect former USD student-athletes with the university. He left the position in 1996, eventually becoming president of the San Diego International Sports Council. While there, he helped lure a number of high-profile sporting events to the region, ranging from the ESPN Summer X Games to Super Bowl XXXVII.

"That was an eye-opening experience, and a formative piece of my management style," Snyder says. "There were 65 board members at the Sports Council — all very successful



businessmen — and I learned that if I gave them a project I would find 65 different ways to get something done successfully. That taught me to not force my own style onto others."

Snyder's style is direct but diplomatic. He's a cut-to-the-chase kind of guy who also understands the nuances of college athletics, thanks in part to his wife, Sue, a former U.S. National Team volleyball player and one-time USD head volleyball coach.

"With my wife being a former coach and a great athlete, I get that perspective and the drive that's behind it," Snyder says. "It's given me a good background for understanding the kind of issues that coaches face."

He's not afraid to challenge his staff to express their ideas and voice their opinions, especially as he continues to build a

senior leadership team to take the USD athletic program to greater heights.

"I want people who think differently from me, whose strengths are different from mine, and where they've come from is different, because it's going to give them a perspective that's different from mine," says Snyder. "If I can have a whole bunch of people like that, we're going to come at things in a different way."

Snyder is responsible for overseeing more than 450 student-athletes, 17 NCAA Division I teams, coaching, training and administrative staffs, fundraising efforts, long-range planning, budgets, facilities, sponsors, promotions, ticket sales, public relations and everything else involved with running an athletic department. It's a challenge he relishes.

"I'm a light sleeper and work is going through my mind quite often," Snyder says. "Public Safety has driven by the JCP's workout room more than a few times and seen me in there between 2:30 and 3:30 in the morning already doing my workout to start the day."

In his seven years at the helm, Snyder has helped build the USD athletic program into a formidable presence, exemplified by the university having won the WCC Commissioner's Cup for two years running.

"That's something we want to win every single year," Snyder says. "It basically tells everybody that this is the strongest all-around athletic program in the conference."

Snyder's mission is to not only lay a foundation for success on the field but also in the locker

room, in the classroom and in the community.

"I want our athletic program to have the same reputation that academics do at this university," Snyder says. "We want to be a Top 100 athletic program that wins conference championships on a regular basis while maintaining academic integrity."

Shortly after Snyder signed a contract extension this spring, he mused about why he was first drawn to USD in 1990, and what convinced him to return in 2003.

"I've always loved the people and what this place stands for," Snyder says. "I tell recruits and their families all the time that this is a campus where people care about people. The beauty of the campus is secondary to the beauty of the people. It may sound cheesy, but when you live it and feel it, you can say it."

[teamwork]

SHOULDER TO SHOULDER

Crew teams embrace demanding sport

by Anthony Shallat

On Saturday mornings, most students grabbing a bite at the Student Life Pavilion tend to resemble extras from Night of the Living Dead, shuffling around in sweat pants and hoodies. But for members of men and women's crew, Saturday brunch is about refueling. By 11 a.m. they've already spent four hours rowing 20 kilometers.

It takes a special type of student athlete to commit to crew: How about waking up before dawn for team workouts every other day? But crew members find the experience well worth any personal sacrifice.

"It's hard to balance school with the demands of a year-round Division I sport," senior Katharine Petrich admits. "Going to class sweaty, tired, and smelling like Mission Bay isn't generally considered a high point. But the benefits far outweigh the other stuff."

Beyond perks like full access to training facilities and help with schoolwork, Petrich enjoys the bonding that comes with being a member of crew. "I get to spend 20 hours a week with

30 of my closest friends," she says. Junior James Arndt agrees. He says that crew helps keep his life balanced. "Having a precise practice schedule gives my life a pattern."

The level of dedication that athletes like Petrich and Arndt have put forth has allowed USD to be a perennial threat among top-25 crew teams. Men's Crew competed against the best teams in the nation in the San Diego Crew Classic this past March, and Men's Rowing raced in the prestigious Copley Cup against national powerhouses Stanford and Cal. The women dominated in the Crew Classic, winning the Cal Cup and recently racing to within a boat length of 12th ranked UCLA.

"What it comes down to on race day is how much work your team has done to prepare, and how much pain your boat is willing to endure," explains Petrich.

That, and being ready to demonstrate an answer to the question that Arndt says he and his teammates continually ask one another: "What have you done today?"



[bighearted]

THE CAMPUS CONNECTION

Bert Degheri '61 believes that along with opportunity comes a moral responsibility

by Ryan T. Blystone

He walks with purpose through the courtyard, gray hair brushed back, smiling a greeting. As pleasantries are exchanged, so too is an immediate sense of trust.

Of course, that sense of dependability is no surprise. The man returning to campus on this glorious, sun-drenched morning embodies the epitome of what the Degheri Alumni Center does best: strengthen the connection between people.

Bert Degheri, a 1961 history graduate of the San Diego College for Men, has certainly bonded with his alma mater. Though he may resemble a favorite uncle, Degheri is also a no-nonsense person who chooses his words carefully. But a recent visit to campus demonstrated two things: he enjoys spending time at USD and he cares deeply about preserving what the university means to him.

"I had a wonderful time at the school," he says, alternating between perching on a leather couch and pacing in the center's living room area.

Degheri spent just the last year and a half of his undergraduate years attending San Diego's College for Men. He began his higher education at Santa Clara University and played tennis against Bay Area notables Arthur Kono, Chris Crawford and Whitney Reed. He later provided a generous gift to Santa Clara, which, in turn, named a facility the Degheri Tennis Center.

San Diego didn't have a tennis team but Degheri formed lasting

friendships at the college, then located across the street from USD's current main entrance.

"I think there were 80 men [enrolled] when I attended, but I knew everyone and we all got along," Degheri says. "The camaraderie was special."

He fondly recalls watching USD's football team pull off a 21-20 upset of a San Diego-area team comprised of Marines in 1960. Memories of his college experience and the ensuing friendships are especially resonant when he sees old classmates at Torero men's basketball home games.

Degheri sits courtside for games alongside Vice President for Mission and Ministry Monsignor Daniel J. Dillabough '70 and President Mary E. Lyons. He enjoys seeing longtime history professor Iris Engstrand, who is the advisor for Travis Degheri — one of Bert's two sons to graduate from USD — as he prepares to finish a master's degree in history and then start a PhD program this fall.

Degheri has never forgotten the sense of belonging he felt from the first day at USD: "Everyone was always so nice to me down here."

In 1999, he became co-trustee of the Theresa and Edward O'Toole Foundation, named after his late aunt and uncle who ran a church-goods business, the largest of its kind in the United States. While most of the foundation's philanthropy was centered on the East Coast, Degheri expanded its reach to include West Coast Cath-

olic institutions, including USD.

"This is where I went to school. This is where I got my degree. There's a kinship here," he says. His wife, Patti, says that when her husband visits USD, "It's like going home."

Through the foundation, Bert Degheri has been very generous taking care of this particular "home."

The Degheri Alumni Center is the campus living room and social center for all of USD's alumni. The 28,000 square foot edifice replaced Harmon Hall in February 2004. Along with housing several University Relations department offices, the center also features numerous personal touches. Spectacular vistas can be viewed from the curve of "Danny's Arches" — named for Bert's son — as well as from "Travis' Vista." The courtyard area is a frequent setting for celebrations and special engagements, and also serves to welcome prospective and new students to campus.

Two of Degheri's other highly visible contributions on campus are Bert's Bistro in Mother Rosalie Hill Hall — a gift that he says was a thank you to teachers who, like his Aunt Theresa, "are so important in all our lives" — and O'Toole's, a popular lounge within the new Student Life Pavilion's La Gran Terraza. O'Toole's features sumptuous wines, hand-crafted beers and tapas, including, of course, Degheri's favorite food, onion rings. And perhaps most important, the foundation also provides significant student scholarship support to assist

with educational aspirations.

"The Degheris have been, and are, in a close relationship with USD, one that spans many, many years," Lyons says. "They love the students, and the students love them. This relationship has been marked by the outpouring and exchange of love, respect and goodness; a relationship that has yielded an abundance of generosity from Bert and Patti, and an abundance of gratitude on our part."

In recognition of his philanthropy, Degheri received the inaugural Order of the Alcalá award at 2008's Alumni Honors event.

For his part, Degheri gets satisfaction in knowing the campus community and alumni have gathering places to enjoy the University of San Diego, which he calls a "one of a kind place." For example, when Travis asked his father what he considered to be the university's defining characteristics, two of Bert's top answers were the consistency of the Spanish Renaissance architecture — "it just makes everything flow" — and the campus facilities expansion that began in the late 1990s: "The last 11-12 years, it's just been unbelievable."

He knows he's not alone in his dedication to USD, but expresses a desire to see more people sharing his passion for giving back. "Even a small donation, even if it's \$100 a year, it adds up — and it gives the university a better view." 🏡

To find out how you can give to USD, go to www.sandiego.edu/giving.

ALLAN BURCH





At the age of 27, the idea of becoming partially reliant on a wheelchair terrified Andrew Shelley, who has lived with progressive muscle

deterioration since birth. Everything changed when he discovered the Frontier XS, an all-terrain, off-road power wheelchair that

could help him live out his yearning to travel the world as a thrill seeker. Follow as he undertakes an incredible expedition to go beyond his body's limit to pursue the higher calling of adventure that he feels destined to fulfill. The voyage turns

into a quest to find his place in the world, no matter the cost. On this trip where extreme danger and challenges befall Andrew's every

step, he risks everything to live out his dream.

GOING MOBILE

Photos courtesy of Dusty Duprel and Rachel Pandza

Andrew Shelley wasn't happy with life. His nine-to-five job as an electrical engineer was more cage than career, one he'd fallen into only because it was what his dad and grandfather had done. Ever since he'd taken a job at Lockheed Martin after graduating from USD in 2003, he felt as if he was losing a part of himself with each passing year. He simply wasn't living the life he wanted.

by Justin McLachlan

So perhaps it shouldn't have come as a shock when, in 2007, Shelley announced suddenly that he was quitting to travel the world. He wanted to meet new people, see new places, maybe even fall in love. He wasn't interested in hitting the usual European tourist destinations. He'd set his sights on more exotic locale: Thailand, Cambodia, India, the United Arab Emirates — places a little more National Geographic Explorer than Condé Nast Traveler. For Shelley, the itinerary was

more than a bit of a gamble.

He has muscular degenerative disease, a genetic disorder that put him in a wheelchair not long after he finished college. That meant at best, the trip would be difficult. At worst, it would be life threatening. But he pushed that concern far to the back of his mind. After all, he reasoned, even the shower can be a dangerous place for someone with a disability.

Dusty Duprel's first glimpse of just who Andrew Shelley was came in the Craigslist ad he'd posted looking for a roommate in 2006. It was a fairly typical post, he recalls, except for one thing.

"Instead of showing pictures of the room, he showed pictures of his Jeep," Duprel says. "I thought that was sort of — odd."

Shelley described himself as a backpacker, someone who loves wilderness and the outdoors and adventure. The Jeep, he said, represented a small part of who he was and who he wanted to be. He was proud of it. He couldn't think of a better way to communicate that to a potential roommate.

Duprel was intrigued, and the two arranged to meet at Shelley's house to talk about living together.

When Duprel rang the bell, Shelley, whose gaunt frame betrays his medical problems, came to the door without his chair. His walk, hampered by weakened muscles, is an uneasy lumber. At first it caught Duprel off guard, but after they sat down and started talking, all that faded away.

"You really see past the chair and everything else fairly quickly," Duprel says.

Muscular degenerative disease attacks the body's muscles, causing them to waste away. Shelly was diagnosed as a baby but has been able to walk, albeit not well, for most of his life. While a student at USD, he'd occasionally use a small scooter to help him get around campus, but he always

preferred the freedom of using his own legs.

But soon after graduation, walking grew harder. He started falling and injuring himself so often that it eventually became clear he needed a wheel chair, if for nothing else than his own protection.

He wasn't happy about the idea. "My thoughts were, 'This is terrible. I don't want a chair. I'm not going to be able to do anything; I won't be able to go anywhere.' It was kind of a depressing thought," Shelley says.

Then, in early 2006, he came across a type of chair he'd never seen before. It was made by an Australian company and was specially designed for all-terrain, off-road travel. It had six wheels, two in the back and two in the front for balance, plus two large knobby ones in the center connected to a high-intensity, high torque motor. At top speed it could keep up with an average person running on two legs and could even tackle street curbs, small steps and rough trails without trouble.

Shelly was ecstatic. It seemed like the chair was made just for him.

"I saw this chair and said, 'Whoa, this is a cool chair. It's got ATV tires. It'll take me anywhere. I can go to the beach, go hiking, mountain climbing.'"

Duprel moved in not long after the two first met, just a few months after Shelley had gotten his new chair. Until he asked Duprel and his girlfriend, Rachel Pandza, to join him on his annual trip to Lake Tahoe, neither had really seen Shelley do much more than go to and from work. The trip turned out to be another glimpse of the real Andrew Shelley, one that surprised them both when they saw him take to the wilderness around the lake. Duprel describes it: "He's just going on these trails, literally climbing mountains with his chair," he said.

He and Pandza were both film students at San Diego State: They sensed a story.

"There was just something

interesting about the kind of character that was trying to escape the body and the chair. It was interesting to actually see that spirit of adventure," Duprel said.

They didn't know it at the time, but that zest for new experiences was goading Shelley to make a big life change. He knew there were things he wanted to do and he thought it made sense for him to do them while he still had the strength.

"I wanted more out of life. I wanted to meet more girls; I wanted to see the world while I could ... Mainly, I just wasn't happy with where I was in life. I wasn't happy with my life where it was," Shelley recalls.

The chair had a lot to do with it. What he first thought would impose restriction and limitation had turned into something liberating. It was a type of freedom he hadn't experienced before, one that convinced him he could make a life change, that he could not just travel the world, but go places most able-bodied people would think twice about.

Not everyone was as sure as he was. His parents were absolutely against the idea. They were certain it was too dangerous and that if he went, he would be hurt or even killed. But he'd grown up overseas — only moving to San Diego for college — and he'd already traveled most of Europe with his parents. Shelley wasn't really that interested in visiting countries he'd already been to or that might be more accessible to someone in a wheelchair. So, despite the potential for problems, he opted for the exotic.

"The last thing it seems like Drew considers when he does anything is his disability. It's not factored into anything he does. It's commendable, but at the same time, he puts himself into — what's the word? — predicaments," Duprel says.

Meanwhile, Duprel and Pandza had decided to pursue the story they'd first sensed back at Lake

Tahoe. They wanted to produce a feature-length documentary about Shelley's trip. That meant putting together a film crew and traveling with him. This appeased Shelley's parents somewhat, because they thought — wrongly — that Pandza and Duprel were going along to help Shelley and keep him safe. The reality was they planned to be nothing more than detached observers.

So, in 2007, after months of fundraising to finance the pro-

"As time goes by, the disease progresses and my muscles start to waste away. By waking up in the morning and saying to myself, 'Where am I going to go today?' I want to prove that I'm better than what I'm perceived to be."

duction, Shelley quit his job and Duprel and Pandza took a semester off school. They left the United States a few days after Thanksgiving with little idea what to expect.

In New Zealand, still on the first leg of his trip, the Zorb wrangler asked Shelley to change his shirt. (A Zorb is an inflatable globe big enough for a person to fit inside and roll down a hill — the latest thing overseas, Duprel

explains.) Because the inner shell is filled with water, Zorb employees — called wranglers — give riders clothes to wear so they don't get their own wet.

Changing a shirt, though, isn't always a simple task for Shelley.

He doesn't have enough strength in his arms to lift them high enough to pull a shirt over his head. Instead, he swings his arm and uses momentum to reach his collar. On tape, the wrangler, standing tall at a good

foot over Shelley, watches in surprise as Shelley starts to swing his arm. The scene unfolds awkwardly as confusion crawls across his face. It's clear he doesn't quite understand what Shelley is doing or how he should respond.

The look on that wrangler's face is one small moment in thousands of hours of footage that Duprel and Pandza captured during the trip. But like so many others in the film, that one moment delivers a visceral

impact that could only have been captured as it happened. Duprel credits the scene with a decision they made early on — somewhat naively, he concedes now — to film Shelley nearly all day, every day. While that made editing a monumental task, the vast amount of footage allowed them to pull together a documentary that feels honest and real.

"I think if a larger company did it, they might try and film select things, and they wouldn't get the



DAY 27

DAY 45

DAY 39

DAY 48

DAY 52

"I have a lot of limitations.

The backpacker lifestyle doesn't have any limitations."

whole emotional experience," Pandza says.

There are plenty of other moments. Shelley talks fondly of the professional rugby player he met in New Zealand, Lucas Gibson. After giving him a place to stay in his home for the night, Gibson took Shelly out on his boat with a group of friends the next day and introduced him to one of the country's native shellfish, the Greenshell muscle.

The encounter was caught on tape and will likely be in the final cut of the film. "Do you want to eat it Drew, or ... ?" Gibson trails off; they stand on the deck of his boat. He shows Shelley the mussel, still in its shell, fresh out of the water — and very raw.

He'd just taken a bite of one himself, but Shelley was hesitant.

"Uh, I'll eat a cooked one," he said. "But I don't know about a raw

one ... What do they taste like?" Gibson laughed.

Finally, Shelley acquiesced. He took the mussel and bit down. It tasted awful. A moment later, his face showed it.

"Aww, nice," Gibson said, laughing.

"Chew it!" one of his friends shouted.

When he planned the trip, Shelley never thought he'd end up eating raw fish just pulled out of the water by a rising New Zealand rugby star, but it was the kind of experience he'd hoped for — a sort of instant kinship with people who viewed the world the way he did. It was, wrapped up in just that small moment, one of the big reasons he decided go in the first place. Duprel and Pandza say that was something they didn't fully understand until they saw it for themselves.

And despite what they led Shelley's parents to believe, they intended to be nothing more than neutral observers on Shelley's journey, there to document but not interfere or help. It was a role they took seriously. Unless Shelley's life was in danger, they resolved to stay back and out of his way, even to the point that they made the decision mid-trip to start staying in separate hotels and eating meals apart to keep physical and emotional distance between them.

"It allowed him to have his own personal journey without even relying on us simply as friends," Pandza says.

In the end, the trip lasted about two months. He traveled the entire length of New Zealand, with short layovers in Australia and China on the way to Cambodia, then Thailand, all the way from the

north of India to the south and a last minute stop in Dubai. Then Shelley made the heart wrenching decision to cut the trip short: the physical toll on his body was becoming apparent. He'd lost five pounds in two months, weighing just 95 on a good day.

"He was progressively going to harder and harder countries to navigate. I think he still thought he could go on, but the way things were, physically, it wasn't going to end well," Duprel said. It almost didn't.

Late one night in Cambodia, Duprel and Pandza were in a rickshaw heading back to their hostel, ahead of Shelley and moving fast. They kept looking back, but in the dark and with the distance between them, they couldn't see Shelley.

He was still there, keeping up, right up until the moment that

the brakes on his chair locked.

"I just went flying out of the chair head first. I woke up in a pool of blood with all these people around me," Shelley says.

At first, Duprel and Pandza thought that someone had attacked him. All they could see from a distance was the yellow neoprene sleeve that Shelley kept over the back of his chair. When he saw that flash of color, it was a sure sign Shelley wasn't in the chair; Duprel's stomach tightened into knots. They doubled-back, found Shelley and took him to a hospital. He was treated and released, but the fall rattled him. He grew despondent and stayed in bed for days.

In the film, Pandza and Duprel call Shelley's mom to tell her about the accident.

"Can I talk to him? Is he okay, is he conscious?" she asks.

"He's conscious," Duprel tells

her. "He's awake, he's just not getting out of bed. He's not doing anything."

"He can't go on," his mom tells them. "He's just in way over his head. Way over his head and you know, I was afraid this was going to happen."

Shelley, though, had already made up his mind. This was something he had to do. In his bed, lit by a small lamp and in between the mechanical sounds of the respirator he uses for help to breathe while he sleeps, he told the camera: "I have to prove that people in wheel chairs can do this. That they can do anything." Still, the fall was a bit of a wake-up call.

"He has a seatbelt," Pandza says. "But he was not wearing it. He wore it after that."

"For about a week," Shelley says, with a smile.

"Of course the first thing that happens when I got here was a flat tire. Nail. I had some slime in my bag so got a guy at a motorbike shop to put it in."

Shelley's been back in the United States now for about two years, and life has changed.

He's given up his career in electrical engineering entirely and now wants to be a motivational speaker. His last-minute stop in the United Arab Emirates at the end of the trip was so he could talk to students at the American School of Dubai, where he went to high school. He told them that if he could travel the world in a wheelchair, that they could do anything. He told them that there is no adversity they couldn't overcome, and no dream they couldn't follow.

It's a message he hopes Duprel and Pandza's documentary of his trip, "Beyond the Chair," can carry for him when the time comes that he can't. So far it hasn't been an entirely smooth road. After returning home, the pair worked furiously to complete a rough cut of the film to meet a submission deadline for the 2010 Sundance Film Festival. They'd mentioned it in passing to Shelley, who was more excited by the prospect than they'd expect-

ed. Later, Duprel realized why.

There is no cure for muscular degenerative disease, and Shelley wanted nothing more than to be able to present his film to an audience while he still had some ability, however meager, to walk on his own legs.

But time wasn't on their side. The massive amount of footage that made for such a telling and honest story made editing an almost impossible task. The deadline for Sundance passed without a finished product, and Duprel watched tears form in Shelley's eyes when he told him the film was too incomplete to be accepted.

But the story, of course, isn't over quite yet. After reading an open letter that Duprel posted on the documentary's website about Sundance, the International Documentary Association put them in touch with Tina Imahara, an Academy Award-nominated editor who's managed to rework films to the point that they were not only accepted into Sundance after first being rejected, but have gone on to win awards. She's agreed to finish the final cut of "Beyond the Chair." Now they're looking toward distribution in theaters as early as August.

The prospect brings a smile to Shelley's face.

"I've learned a lot," he says. "And I want to share my experiences with others."

He went across the world to find what he thought he was missing from his life, and to escape what he didn't like. He went looking for friends, for like-minded individuals, for love, for adventure.

By all accounts, he got it all. "How many times did you fall in love on the trip, Drew?" Duprel asks Shelley. "I'd say at least twice."

"At least," Shelley answers.

For more information on "Beyond the Chair," or to pre-order a DVD copy of the film, visit btcmovie.com.

[The Kids Aren't All Right]

For three decades, the Children's Advocacy Institute has been fighting for the rights of our youngest citizens

by Carol Cujec

photography by Tim Mantoani

Not all superheroes wear capes. Some sport professorial tweed and brown leather loafers. Professor Robert Fellmeth appears mild-mannered enough with his white Sean Connery beard, but for more than 20 years he and his colleagues at the USD School of Law's Children's Advocacy Institute (CAI) have fought mighty battles to improve — even save — the lives of countless children.

Working in such diverse arenas as health and safety, education, poverty, abuse, delinquency and disability, the team at CAI regularly assembles child advocates from throughout the state to share information and bring about legislative reform.

Nothing less than protecting society's weakest members is their lofty goal.

"I always thought even when I was young that this was the group I would want to represent," says Fellmeth, "because they're not powerful. They do not have campaign money. They're not articulate. They're not organized. But they're our future."

With the help of Kriste Draper '06 (JD) — a Children's Advocacy Institute attorney — former foster child LaQuita is attending community college. It's not an easy proposition for LaQuita, who is homeless and lives in a tent in a riverbed.

Fellmeth, the founder and executive director of USD's Center for Public Interest Law as well as CAI, began his career working with Ralph Nader as one of the original "Nader's Raiders." He speaks with great urgency, his right hand slicing through the air for emphasis. As he sees it, a pervasive selfishness in society has led to dire consequences for children today.

"I'm looking at the greatest generation and their record. I'm looking at the infrastructure they put together. I'm looking at everything from water projects to national parks to major investments that went beyond their tenure. And I look at the baby boomers and I ask, 'How are you measuring up?' And the answer is, it's pathetic. It's probably the worst performing generation in American history in terms of investment in children, in terms of infrastructure investment in children, in terms of the debt obligation we're imposing on them, in terms of environmental degradations," he details in rapid fire.

"I'm interested in having the Children's Advocacy Institute be one group that says, 'Hey, it was passed down the line to you. Why are you not passing it down?'"

Desks are buried beneath papers in the cramped quarters of CAI, located on the ground level of the Pardee Legal Research Center. Here, the dedicated staff of 11 lawyers and administrators have passed up executive compensation and marble-floored lobbies in favor of cubicles and hallways lined with file boxes. CAI also has a small Sacramento office, where it employs the state's only full-time lobbyist on child issues. Although USD's School of Law funds CAI's academic program, the \$500,000 in advocacy funding needed each year must be raised through donations, grants and legal fees awarded for cases won.

CAI has a long list of accomplishments in the past 20 years — from helping pass California's bicycle helmet law to childcare licensing reform to creating "Kids' Plates" license plates, which fund health and safety programs. Not that Fellmeth is patting himself on the back. "I don't like self-congratulations," he says. "We have no basis to congratulate ourselves. We're proud of the things we've done, but if you look at the glass, it's about one-inch full."

A prime example of the work that remains to be done is the predicament faced by kids who age out of foster care. "When foster kids hit eighteen, they fall off a cliff," says Fellmeth, citing the group's staggering rates of mental illness, suicide, incarceration and homelessness. "Down the road, over 30 percent of the current homeless are former foster youth," he explains.

KIDS ON THE STREETS Twenty-two-year-old LaQuita embodies this problem. Removed from her home at age 11 because of an alcoholic mother and abusive stepfather, LaQuita was bounced around five or six group homes for the next seven years. At age 18, she found herself out on the streets two months before her high school graduation. With the help of Kriste Draper '06 (JD), a CAI attorney and head of CAI's Homeless Youth Outreach Project (HYOP), LaQuita enrolled in an alternative high school to complete her final few classes. At night, she slept behind an Office Depot near downtown San Diego with just a few blankets to keep warm.

"I had nothing when I came out here, and every time I came to Kriste I was in tears," LaQuita recalls. "I told myself, 'OK, this is only for a short time.'" In December 2006, LaQuita graduated high school. Draper was there to cheer her on, even though LaQuita's parents were not. After high school, LaQuita wanted to go to college, but participation in a transitional housing program would require her to work full-time. LaQuita's goal is to become a social worker and she's deter-

mined to do it on her own terms. So for now, she lives in a tent in a riverbed and attends Miramar Community College in San Diego.

"I know it's not safe. I know that I have to find something better," she says. "That's what keeps me motivated to keep going."

Setbacks occur, like the day she returned to her tent after heavy rains to find that her possessions, including textbooks, had been washed away. But there are also triumphs, like last semester when she got her first 'A' on an exam. Draper gets LaQuita trolley passes and food cards, helps her acquire student loans and writes reference letters for scholarships. (One scholarship earned LaQuita a laptop computer, but it was stolen after just a few months.)

"I fight every day," says LaQuita. "It's a battle to find a spot to lay your head, to find a spot to eat, to find a spot to shower, to find a spot to study. Every day is a fighting battle."

One cool winter evening, LaQuita treks to the Stand Up For Kids Outreach Center in downtown San Diego. She and scads of other homeless youths know they can find Draper here every Monday night. Draper spearheaded HYOP — the only program in San Diego that offers legal assistance for homeless youth — in 2006. She helps kids get documentation (many of them have no ID or birth certificate), benefits like food stamps or Medi-Cal and assistance in handling tickets for minor offenses. She also hooks kids up with about 15 other agencies — outreach centers, shelters and social services — to help them get off the streets. "Whatever the kids need me to do, I do. And it keeps my job fun," she remarks with a laugh.

Draper herself looks young, with shiny shoulder-length hair and dangling earrings. She knows most of these kids by name and spends time building relationships and trust. When she arranges follow-up meetings with the kids, she makes an effort to meet them where it's convenient for them: in a Starbucks, on a street corner, in an outreach center.

"At their core, these are kids, and they're so full of adventure and hope and innocence," Draper says. "As an adult, I make a lot of choices, and I have to face the consequences. These kids didn't make any choices that landed them on the streets. But that's where they ended up — and that's not okay. They deserve to have a chance at a life."

FIGHTING FOR JUSTICE Improving the plight of foster children in California has been an ongoing mission for the Children's Advocacy Institute. Though Federal law requires that foster families be paid for the basic living expenses of a child, in reality, California rates are "pitifully low," says Elisa Weichel '90 (JD), CAI's administrative director.

In its lawsuit against the state of California, CAI proved that the state never properly evaluated the cost to families of raising a foster child. (One parent participating in the lawsuit reported that her daughter's daycare expenses alone were \$200 more a month than the family's total reimbursement.) As a result, the number of foster families has dropped dramatically in the past decade. Though CAI won its case at the district court level to increase rates paid to foster families, the state has appealed.

Lending a hand to foster kids like LaQuita who age out of the system is another pressing goal. Fellmeth says that on average, a young person achieves self-sufficiency at age 26 in this country. Between the ages of 18 and 26, kids of private parents rely on support from their families to establish themselves. Many still live at home; parents give

At the Stand Up For Kids Outreach Center, homeless youth know they can find not just services like food stamps and Medi-Cal, but, just as important, camaraderie and an empathetic ear.





them an average of \$45,000 during these years. Foster youth, on the other hand, have nowhere to crash and get an average of just \$7,000-\$8,000 — most of which is directed at the three percent who manage to get some sort of college degree.

CAI's innovative solution is called TLC, which stands for Transition Life Coach. The idea is to create a trust for foster kids and have the kids appoint a reliable adult as their trustee. "Now you say to the kid, 'We want you to achieve self-sufficiency. How are you going to do it? What kind of job do you want? Where do you want to live?'" You work out a plan, customized by the kid. The kid buys into it. It goes on until the kid achieves self-sufficiency like every other kid of private parents does," explains Fellmeth.

The first battle has been won: California has authorized the program. Now CAI is seeking to fund it through Proposition 63, the Mental Health Services Act. Though the proposition specifies that the transition-age youth population is a priority for funding, right now they get almost nothing, says Fellmeth. A recent CAI report surveyed how all counties in California spend Prop. 63 money, and then graded them on how well they serve transition-age foster youth. The 26 counties that are home to almost 80 percent of California's foster youth received an F. "These are their own children and they're ignoring them," says Fellmeth in disbelief.

Much of CAI's advocacy involves forcing legislators (or "shaming" them, as Fellmeth says) into simply obeying the law. "It's very easy for legislators, federal and state, to hold a press conference and enact a bill. And then it ends," says Fellmeth. "A perfect example is the Supreme Court's own [California] Blue Ribbon Commission on Children. One of their reports concluded that attorneys for a kid in dependency court should not have more than 188 kids as clients, and a lawsuit we filed in Sacramento documents caseloads of 380. The attorneys can't do what needs to be done. They don't know enough about the kids. Decisions are made in the dark. It's a scandal. But it doesn't get any publicity because it's all confidential." CAI's litigation challenging excessive caseloads is still pending.

"What we're all about is trying to leverage change," says Fellmeth. "The emphasis is not on representing an individual kid but on how can we change the rules so that more of these kids are represented effectively. Every once in awhile we win one, and when we do it can have an impact."

SOWING SEEDS OF CHANGE At noon on a sunny February day, nine law students gather around a table and grab a slice of pizza. They've all taken Fellmeth's class, "Child Rights and Remedies" (for which he also wrote a textbook that's used nationwide) and are participating in CAI's legal and policy clinics. The legal clinics offer students hands-on experience working within the Public Defender's Office representing children. This program started through a collaboration with one of Fellmeth's former students, Ana España '82 (JD), previously a deputy public defender who now serves as a judge for San Diego Superior Court.

"Students meet with children in foster care, and if they are certified, they appear in court, make calls on cases and prepare cases for hearings and trials. They have a lot of involvement in the actual practice of dependency law," explains España.

Young adults like Suamhirs Rivera (center), who age out of foster care, need help in overcoming the obstacles they face. Many programs aimed at assisting them are in danger of being cut due to California's budget crisis.

At their weekly meetings, students discuss progress and brainstorm solutions to problems. Fellmeth calls it his "firm" meeting; however, at this firm, most of the lawyers wear jeans and carry backpacks. On this day though, one exception is a student dressed in a suit, having just returned from court. He discusses his client, a boy charged with kicking his friend in the leg. Even though there was no serious injury and his client has no prior convictions, the judge detained the boy to Juvenile Hall for the duration of the case (which could take weeks or months) rather than letting him go home. In fact, this judge has detained all but one out of 44 kids, reports the student (who prefers not to be identified for this story).

"How about challenging her?" suggests Fellmeth. "What I would do is ask the judge, 'Has your kid ever gotten into a fight?' These are *children*. You want to make an impression on them, but you don't want to overburden the system." He then advises the student to collect a letter from the school along with proof that there has been no injury and return to the judge with this new evidence.

Student Breeanna Fujio has just returned from a meeting with a client. "The clinic has been the best experience I've had in law school," she says. Nonetheless, interviewing kids in abuse cases has been a sobering experience. "It's horrible to think that parents could abuse their babies," she says. "When some babies are born, they test positive for meth or other drugs and they're taken away at the hospital. Sometimes it just feels like it's not going to get better for these kids."

For student Grace Pineda, working with child prostitution cases has been an eye-opening experience. "Some district attorneys choose to prosecute these minors, but it's not like children choose to be prostitutes." Currently Pineda is helping CAI research novel legislation in other states in order to create a model statute that would treat minor prostitutes as victims instead of criminals.

In fact, that's the chief goal of CAI's collaboration with the Public Defender's Office and its outreach to homeless youths: to identify problems that can be addressed through advocacy. In her own work as a lawyer, España brought numerous advocacy issues to the attention of CAI — problems with foster kids not getting annual physical exams or not having their education records transferred from school to school, for example — and CAI worked to bring about legislative fixes.

"Before the Children's Advocacy Institute existed, it was very easy to basically ignore child issues. They're not old enough to vote," says España. "But CAI has absolutely put on the table for discussion with policy makers the needs of all children across California."

Another former student, Kirsten Widner '07 (JD), is currently director of policy and advocacy for the Barton Child Law and Policy Center at Emory Law School in Atlanta, where she's helping to rewrite the juvenile code of Georgia. She credits her success to CAI and the opportunities she had for hands-on advocacy. In particular, she commends Fellmeth for inspiring her to work with passion and creativity. "I aspire to do half the good work that he's done in his career," she says.

Despite accolades, Fellmeth confesses that any pride he feels is immediately washed away by guilt. "We've had 20 years, and every year something has happened that we're happy about. But what you don't see are the losses, the bills that died in suspense without even a vote, the people who won't pay any attention to us, and the media who ignore our issues. So am I proud? I really can't afford to be proud of what we've done. The glass is 80 percent empty."

Meanwhile, it's approaching dusk. LaQuita munches on a cupful of Chex cereal at the outreach center. It's getting dark, and she doesn't feel safe in this part of town. She gives Draper a hug, squares her shoulders and heads back home, to her tent. ☘



photography concept by Tim Mantoani

At the Intersection of Combat & Compassion

by Nathan Dinsdale

The chill of a February morning lingers over Alcalá Park as a small army quietly assembles in the fading night. It's 5:30 a.m., a time of day most college students know only as a vicious rumor, yet dozens of uniformed figures are emerging from the shadows all across campus. The dusky apparitions move quickly, purposefully, through the hazy glow cast by sidewalk lampposts before disappearing down the long staircase leading to Valley Field.

In the darkness, they cluster into small groups that form a giant rectangle of humanity whose physical presence is confirmed less by sight than by the chattering buzz of some 300 young men and women standing in close quarters.

Then, abrupt silence. For a brief moment, the only sound is the wind rustling softly. Suddenly, the voice of Johnny Cushing '10 thunders through the morning abyss.

"Battalion, uhhh-tennnnnnn-shun!" Cushing bellows.

In one fluid motion, a few hundred pairs of shoulders straighten, arms tighten and feet snap to position with an audible pop.

"Re-port!"

The commanders of Alpha, Bravo and Charlie Company offer their curt "present and accounted for" replies in turn. Moments later, the inspection is complete. The San Diego Naval Reserve Officers Corps (NROTC) student battalion is dismissed to a training presentation at the Hahn University Center. When they emerge nearly two hours later, the first of their bleary-eyed "civilian" classmates are just starting to arrive on campus, coffee cups in hand.

For some, it's a jarring juxtaposition. USD's core academic and altruistic values reflect its billing as a "university of peace," but it's also an institution with extensive military ties that effectively make it, as one NROTC student noted, a "university of justice."

In fact, it's both. USD is not only home to the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice, but also one of the largest NROTC programs in the nation. Beneath the surface of this seemingly incongruous union, USD is fostering a far more complex dynamic in which warriors and humanitarians are increasingly intertwined as they rethink and reshape conventional ideas about war and peace.

Things were different in 1980 when Capt. Mark Woolley — the outgoing commanding officer of the San Diego NROTC — was commissioned into the Navy after graduating from Villanova University on an NROTC scholarship. Woolley entered an environment in which the Iron Curtain hung heavy on military consciousness and “cultural awareness” meant memorizing the radar frequencies, missile capabilities and organizational structure of the Red Fleet.

“It was all about bombs, bullets, on-target,” he says. “That was my Navy. The Soviet Union was the bad guys, and we were the good guys. It was very black and white.”

Amid that simmering political climate, the USD NROTC program was established in 1982 as a fledgling collaboration with San Diego State University. What began with 28 students has since mushroomed into a program of more than 300 midshipmen (most straight from high school), officer-candidates (active duty Navy personnel) and active duty

Marines participating in the Marine Enlisted Commissioning Education Program (MECEP) in a five-university consortium hosted by USD. The mission is simple: develop students mentally, morally and physically to become commissioned military officers.

“We don’t accept perfect people,” Woolley says. “You have to let them fail. This is where they need to fail. This is where they need to see that things don’t always go according to plan.”

It’s a lesson born from experience. Before taking charge of the NROTC unit, Woolley

spent years aboard vessels deployed around the world, worked as an aide to a three-star general, commanded the destroyer USS Kinkaid and served as operations officer for the Navy’s Third Fleet. Before transferring his NROTC command to Capt. William Ault this April, Woolley helped transform the unit with improvements like developing a high-tech classroom where students can simulate everything from steering ships to monitoring radar to flying airplanes to piloting submarines. But the most substantive changes have been more philosophical in nature.

Woolley actively sought to raise the NROTC profile on campus, in part by engaging faculty and students with a nuanced understanding — evidenced by the “kindness matters” sign sitting in his office on a shelf filled with books about warfare — for the seeming paradox of a “university of peace” with extensive military connections.

“We’re really after the same goal,” Woolley says. “Our mission and USD’s mission, when you look at the Judeo-Christian ethic principle, they really do mesh. We are trying to imbue our students with core values of honor, courage and commitment. What better place than USD?”

While the NROTC is the most visible symbol of USD’s relationship with the military, it’s hardly the only connection. For starters, look to the top. Before arriving on campus in 2003, USD President Mary E. Lyons spent 25 years as an officer in the U.S. Naval Reserve (retiring with the rank of captain) and was commissioned as a rear admiral in the U.S. Maritime Service, while serving as president of the California Maritime Academy.



Capt. Mark Woolley

USD also hosts a small Army ROTC program, and in the last decade has expanded its reputation as an educational epicenter for military leaders the world over. That commitment is most readily apparent in the School of Leadership and Education Sciences (SOLES), which hosts the undergraduate Naval Sciences Department, along with master’s and doctoral leadership programs that draw high-ranking officers from every branch of the military.

“We absolutely love having our military students,” SOLES Dean Paula Cordeiro says. “It’s a mutually beneficial relationship. I think the military students are enriched by being in a classroom with non-military students, and vice versa.”

In addition to scores of alumni who’ve served in the military, USD has also attracted several high-profile military minds to its academic and administrative ranks, including Rear Adm. Leendert “Len” Hering, who became vice president for business services and administration in 2009 after a highly decorated Navy career.

“What is the purpose of the military but to maintain peace?” Hering says. “For we who have spent our lives protecting others, a true day of reckoning comes when you haven’t had to fire a shot. That, in my mind, is exactly what the university is teaching.”

Even the campus ministry has ties to the military. Father Owen Mullen, a retired Army colonel chaplain, joined the National

Guard in 1968, served in the U.S. Army Reserve and, between stints at USD, was posted on active duty in Hawaii and at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

“I think we’re both in the same business, believe it or not,” Mullen, chaplain of the NROTC unit, says. “I’ve always thought of the military as being peacekeepers and peacemakers. After all, the mission of the military in general is to protect people.”

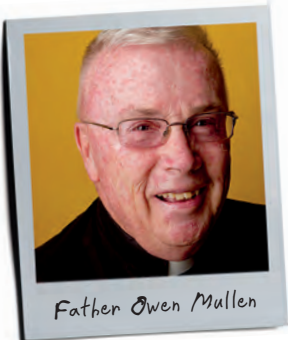
Father William Headley has spent a lifetime pursuing that same mission by helping needy populations in more than 70 countries with a variety of international aid organizations. Headley was working for Catholic Relief Services as executive director of policy and strategic issues when he was approached to become the founding dean of USD’s Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies.

“It seems paradoxical that a school of peace studies would be working together with the military,” Headley says. “But when all you have is a hammer, you’re looking everywhere for a nail. If you’re into peace-building, you’re looking for an opportunity to do it everywhere, even in unlikely places.”

Even on an aesthetic level, there’s a clear distinction between the relatively Spartan environs of the NROTC offices inside Sacred Heart Hall and the IPJ’s serene surroundings. The walls of NROTC headquarters are lined with award plaques, photos of perfectly postured soldiers in uniform and inspirational messages like, “Freedom is not free, but the Marine Corps will pay most of your share.” Over at the IPJ, wall decorations prominently fea-



Vice President Len Hering



Father Owen Mullen

ture doves and olive branches, along with photographs of humanitarian scenes in Uganda, Nepal and Côte d’Ivoire.

“Maybe you start out thinking that we have such diverse interests there’s no sense talking to each other,” Headley says. “Then you begin to have casual conversations, relationships begin to develop from that, and then from those relationships emerges the possibility of helping each other do something you’re both interested in.”

Of course, that isn’t always the case. While he’s spent his life advocating peace, Headley — who’s studied at both Harvard Divinity School and the Gandhi Peace Institute in India — has routinely found himself surrounded by war. In addition to his work in conflict-ridden regions, closer to home he has two brothers who served in the military; one returned from Vietnam 100 percent disabled, a broken man.

“That has always (kind of) been with me,” Headley says. “Over the years, I’ve come to appreciate how war and the scars of war remain with you, because every time I see him, it’s brought home to me in a graphic sort of way.”

For decades, Headley witnessed firsthand the ravages of conflict during his work with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) around the world. But in 2004, his perception of the military underwent a subtle but significant change.

“I probably held the same bias of a typical International Non-governmental Organization worker that might say ‘the military is over there and we’re over here, they’re about war and we’re about peace,’” Headley says. “But then you get moments of insight — if you’re open to experience them — and that moment, for me, was the tsunami.”

After the devastating 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, Headley was sent to the Indonesian island of Sumatra to help coordinate recovery efforts for Catholic Relief Services. What he heard and saw about the U.S. military’s rapid response — and timely withdrawal — made an impact.

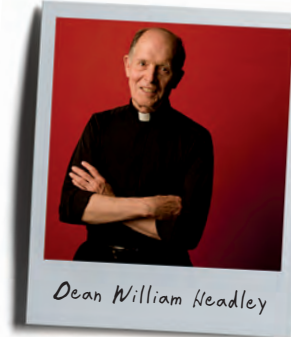
“That was very striking to me,” Headley says. “At that moment, I really said, ‘Wow, you have to give the devil his due,’ so to speak. I was really struck by that experience and it began to kind of turn my mind a bit to look at things a little differently.”

The knowledge he took away from the tsunami was instrumental in his decision to not only help create the School of Peace Studies at USD but to craft a curriculum — particularly a “human security” graduate program — that would draw interest from civilians and military personnel alike.

“From very early on, we were looking for what I consider windows of opportunity,” Headley says. “I think we’re all interested in building peace on some level, and this was a large constituency that had been relatively neglected until that time.”

The NROTC and IPJ have collaborated since the institute’s inception. Headley found a particularly willing counterpart in Woolley, though the Navy captain admits having his own initial misgivings when he arrived in 2007 just as the School of Peace Studies was opening its doors.

“My first thought was ‘Are they all a bunch of tree-huggers?’” Woolley chuckles. “They’re not, of course. They are very knowledgeable over there and they understand the security issues. I think



Dean William Headley

sometimes the impression is that we’re just shoot-shoot-shoot. That’s not the case, and I think they understand that it’s a much more complex environment that we operate in.”

Erik Nagel ’02 knows about complex environments. He joined the Navy in 2002 in order to pay for medical school. Even so, by July 2007, he still had virtually no military experience after spending four years studying orthopedics at Touro University in the Bay Area followed by a yearlong surgical internship at a Navy hospital in Virginia.

Nagel figured his services would then be put to use aboard a ship or in humanitarian operations. Instead, he found himself standing in sweltering heat on a sand-swept tarmac in Iraq, covered in Kevlar from head to toe, waiting for an armored Humvee to take him to his new home at Camp Ramadi.

“To be honest, I was not expecting that at all,” Nagel says. “It was quite a shock.”

The fact that he was even in the military — let alone serving in Iraq — was stunning enough. By his own admission, Nagel wasn’t really the type.

“I was never one to take orders too well,” he says with a laugh. “If you had told anyone who knew me that I would be in the military ... they would have been very surprised.”

Nagel opted to serve with a Marine Corps infantry battalion stationed in Ramadi, figuring the baptism-by-fire assignment would help expedite his goal of becoming an orthopedic surgeon.

“You see stuff there that you don’t see anywhere else,” Nagel says. “But it’s great training, and there’s nowhere in this country where I could have been given that level of responsibility with the limited experience I had.”

During two tours in Iraq — first as an assistant battalion surgeon, then as battalion surgeon (or chief medical officer) — Nagel was part of a tiny staff responsible for the medical needs of some 1,200 soldiers, plus civilian casualties, and even injured enemy combatants. He treated everything from sprained ankles to traumatic combat injuries, mostly working triage cases in an unrelenting environment.

“Looking back, it’s a positive thing,” Nagel says. “I won’t lie and say it was fun while I was doing it, but it was definitely a positive overall experience. I feel proud to have served with the Marines doing whatever I could to help.”

With his initial commitment set to expire, Nagel recently opted to sign on for another six years. In July, he’ll begin a residency at the San Diego Naval Medical Center.

“My original goal was to get out as soon as possible,” Nagel says. “When my commitment was done, I was going to go out into the ‘real world.’ But my attitude, my goals and what is important to me have all completely changed.”

It’s an outcome Nagel never would have foreseen as a USD student. While he understands any lingering misgivings about the university’s connections to the military, his experience has allowed him to reconcile the disparity.



General Medical Officer Erik Nagel '02

"I can see on the surface how it would seem counterintuitive," Nagel says. "But, especially in my case, USD helped me become a doctor, and as a doctor I joined the military to help people. Whether it's in combat or not, it's still helping people."

Sophomore Alice Klarkowski joined the Marines at age 17. After serving more than eight years — specializing as an electrician and rising to the rank of staff sergeant — she recently finished her first year at USD as a MECEP student in the NROTC program.

"It's like a deployment, only I don't get a half-day off on Sundays," Klarkowski says wryly. "Actually, I think I do more work in college than I did on deployment. I definitely have more homework than I ever dreamed I would."

Then again, midterm exams can't really compare to setting up mobile generators, wiring and rewiring buildings for electricity or establishing a power grid in tortuous heat, blinding sandstorms and the omnipresent threat posed by working in the crackling delirium of a war zone.

"Training definitely helps, but I don't think there's anything that can prepare you for the fog of everything that goes on, the disorder, the fact that nothing ever goes to plan," Klarkowski says. "You don't really know until you're out there and doing it."

Of course, she notes, a primary byproduct of having an NROTC unit in a civilian environment is to show that combat isn't the only thing that the military is good at.

"As much as we are about combat, we're also about peace," she says. "There's no doubt we're trained to fight, but we're not preparing people just for combat. We are in a time of war, but it's not the bottom line. It's bigger than that."

Klarkowski is a self-proclaimed optimist when it comes to achieving peace, but her pragmatic experience suggests it's nothing but a pipe-dream aspiration without adequate protections in place.

"The security aspect is extremely important, and I think sometimes that is underappreciated. But that's probably because I've been there and done that," Klarkowski says. "Sometimes people get a little wrapped up in 'their side,' but I think if the shoe was on the other foot they would understand."

Kyle Leese '94 definitely understands. He had no real inclination to join the military when he graduated from USD with degrees in history and anthropology before heading to graduate school at Texas A&M to study nautical archaeology. That was before the day he found himself walking into a Navy recruiting office to eventually become a Navy intelligence officer working in places like Iraq, Afghanistan and the Horn of Africa.

Soon after joining, Leese began aligning his career so that he might someday be considered for a Naval attaché position. The rigorous selection process culminated in 2007 when he was designated for assignment to the U.S. embassy in Beijing, China, with wide-ranging responsibilities like hosting diplomatic delegations, assisting in treaty negotiations and helping coordinate humanitarian efforts.

"It's one of the most challenging places in the world for doing this kind of work," Leese says. "But I really think that my USD education

has played a big part in me being able to go into a situation like this feeling totally prepared."

After more than two years of intensive training — including 14 months of Mandarin lessons — Leese will be promoted to the rank of commander and leave for Beijing in May. While he understands some may be confused about connection between USD and the military, he suggests the relationship is much more auspicious than it might seem.

"I can tell you as a combat veteran that nobody in the military wants war, and I think there's no better place to help people understand that than at a university of peace," Leese says. "USD understands that not everybody is going to be a priest or a nun. The university still engrains in its students a philosophy that it's better to help someone else before you help yourself, and I think I'm doing that through the military."

There's no easy solution for decades of mutual distrust between those who wage war and those who promote peace. Despite progress, lingering wariness and uncertainty remain.

"If you went back a few years, people on either side would probably be uncomfortable, and maybe even antagonistic of this kind of thinking," Headley says. "This is a relatively new détente, if you will, between these two areas. It's a new level of thinking — bringing together military and NGO people and looking for ways they can relate — but it's really come on strong and I think that's really quite encouraging."

At the heart of the collaboration is a shift in the way the military conducts its business. In a rapidly evolving geopolitical landscape, dexterity is required to meet the demands of modern warfare.

"This is a new military," SOLES Dean Cordeiro says. "They train warriors first and foremost, but this is a changing world. I think the military recognizes how understanding things like culture, language and customs can play a role in preventing conflict."

At USD, that recognition has manifested itself in partnerships between the IPJ, the NROTC and SOLES on a slew of events like the "Crafting Human Security in an Insecure World" conference held in 2008, panel discussions such as "Serving Your Country, Serving the Global Community" and the annual James B. Stockdale Symposium, held this year in conjunction with a four-day gathering of the International Society for Military Ethics.

The 2010 featured Stockdale speaker was Army Brigadier General H.R. McMaster, a decorated soldier, military scholar and USD parent who spoke about an evolving military in which officers must be culturally sensitive and ethically cognizant. It's a message that's already filtering through the San Diego NROTC.

"The balance that the [IPJ] brings to the equation is something that we leverage in training our personnel," says Major Jason Reudi, a Naval science pro-



Cmdr. Kyle Leese '94



Major Jason Reudi

fessor and Marine Corps officer instructor. "From our perspective, those pieces really build a savvy into our officer corps that we're going to need to deal with a complex environment moving forward."

That aim is perhaps best exemplified by the "3D" approach, in which defense, development and diplomacy are all seen as integral components to achieving and maintaining stability in volatile regions of the world. It's an area that IPJ Deputy Director Dee Aker has used to help design and implement peace-building programs around the world.

"There is no post-conflict situation that is going to stay post-conflict without answering the security question," Aker says. "The reality on the ground is that when it comes to conflict resolution and peace-building, there needs to be participation not only between political leadership and civil society, but from the security side as well."

In 2009, Aker traveled to Nepal as part of a team that facilitated workshops on community policing and moderated negotiations on how to integrate former Maoist rebels into the Nepali military. The task presented an opportunity to put into action the kind of cooperation that has been incubated at USD.

"We ultimately have different jobs on one level — but not on another level," Aker says. "We try to focus on where we have some commonality and the role the military can play in a positive sense."

Aker enlisted the help of Reudi, whose experience as a military police officer with a background in conflict resolution, military ethics and nonviolent policing proved to be, Aker says, "a perfect fit." Reudi also called upon his experience building partnerships with international security forces in places like Iraq, Egypt, Jordan and East Timor.

"The same thing happens here on this campus," Reudi says. "We have this great environment where we can build relationships and then project them out to do good things."

Spurred both by war and catastrophes like 9/11, Hurricane Katrina, the Indonesian tsunami and the earthquake in Haiti, the military has increasingly taken on a substantial humanitarian role that includes helping with rescue operations, disaster relief and critical infrastructure projects.

"Call it nation-building, call it what you will, but at the core it really is worrying about the humanitarian concerns on the ground," Headley says. "And one thing that the military has Lt. — and nobody in the NGO community would deny it — is capacity."

As a Naval public affairs officer, Lt. Lara Bollinger '02 helps highlight that capacity — and capability — to show that "we're not just one big war machine." It's not necessarily a message that resonates with everyone.

"Feel-good stories don't always make the news," Bollinger says.



Lt. Lara Bollinger '02

"The focus is usually on terrorists burning down schools, not us helping to rebuild them. Or the devastation of a typhoon, not the disaster relief that follows. Recognition aside, knowing that we're doing that is important to me. It happens all the time, all over the world, and I'm very proud to be a part of that."

Bollinger was deployed in March 2009 to the southern Philippines for mostly humanitarian operations, including rebuilding schools destroyed by extremists, teaching a photojournalism class for local students and aiding rescue operations and relief efforts after a typhoon devastated the country.

"That's probably the single most important thing I've done in my life," Bollinger says. "One of the biggest things about military service for me is the feeling that I'm doing something important and having a direct impact on the world."

Both sides of the equation aim to have an impact, albeit with different means to the same end, and that mutual desire has played out in USD classrooms.

"Our students are able to listen to a different point of view," Capt. Woolley says. "Maybe they don't always agree with it, but they can respect it and they can learn why that argument is being made. By doing that, I think there's a better understanding on both parts."

Woolley has put the dynamic to work himself. He was recently asked to be a guest speaker for a theology class taught by religion professor Emily Reimer-Barry discussing how someone can be Catholic and in the military.

"Both require you to follow your conscience first and foremost," Woolley says. "But the way I handle that specific question is with 'just war' theory, which is itself a Catholic tradition. You can have peace often without justice. That's not peace and justice."

It's that aim that ultimately bridges the divide at USD. In many university environments, the mere presence of an ROTC unit is enough to spark controversy and protest. But according to Michael Sass '10, USD's culture of acceptance allows the paradigm to flourish.

"In my entire time here, I've never felt strange in uniform," says Sass, the commanding officer of the NROTC student battalion. "I've never felt like I wasn't accepted by the campus community. I've never felt like I can't speak my mind, even when I'm in uniform."

After his commissioning, Sass will be assigned to Naval Reactors, the Washington, D.C., headquarters that oversees the Navy's nuclear propulsion program. His NROTC classmates will enter basic school to complete their Marine Corps training and flight school to become Navy pilots, while others will join the crew of submarines and surface ships.

They will all be part of a new generation in a new military that aims to put into action the same concepts that are being practiced and preached at USD.

"It's really a symbiotic relationship," Bollinger says. "There would be imbalance without one or the other. I think it's a blessing that we have both of those aspects at the university." 🇺🇸



Ensign Michael Sass '10

IT'S ALL ABOUT DIGNITY

by Amy Keyishian

"America wants beautiful products; these people want a way to support themselves," Dorsey says. "We bring those two groups together to create a dignified path out of poverty. There's too much news about Africa as a place of corruption or AIDS or child soldiers. There's not enough about the strength and beauty that is Africa. Keza means 'beautiful' in the native language of Africa. That's what we want to bring to the world."

1950s

[1958]
JAMES MARINOS (JD) was allowed by the state bar to take the bar exam while still a student at USD’s School of Law. He passed in 1957 and was sworn in as a lawyer. James then graduated with the first law class in 1958 and received his law degree. He has practiced for 53 years and currently has a solo practice in downtown San Diego. James is a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates, past president of the San Diego chapter, a Diplomat- and AV-rated attorney and “a very lucky guy,” he says. “When I grow up, I plan to retire and stay right here where I live in La Jolla.”

1960s

[1962]
HERLINDA RODRIGUEZ BELCHER (BA) serves on the Imperial County Board of Education, the Carnegie Technology Committee and the board of a New Education Foundation. Her daughter, Catherine, earned a doctorate at the University of Pennsylvania and teaches in the education department at Loyola Marymount. Herlinda’s son, Roland, earned a master’s degree at St. Mary’s College in Moraga, Calif. Herlinda has three grandchildren: Aitana, 9; Nathan, 4; and Alfonso, 2.

JIM DELANEY (BA) retired in January 2010 after 48 years of service in the U.S. Air Force, half on active duty followed by 24 years as the chief operating officer of the Air Force Aid Society in Arlington, Va. “Barbara and I plan to remain in our Springfield, Va., home,” he says.

DICK WILBUR (BA) retired after spending almost 40 years in the printing industry. He retired again after three years as the dean of students at a small Catholic school in Concord, Calif. “Keeping busy traveling and being a very active member of the Knights of Columbus,” he says. “I’d like to hear from my old friends from USD.”

[1963]
VICTOR BIANCHINI (JD) is a retired San Diego County Superior Court judge, a retired U.S. magistrate judge and a retired colonel of the U.S. Marine Corps. Recalled to work, today he serves the western and northern dis-

tricts of New York as a U.S. magistrate judge and the central district of California on a special settlement project. During his 31 years of service in the Marine Corps, Victor earned 24 military decorations. His judicial honors included Judge of the Year by the San Diego Trial Lawyers. Victor is the vice chair of the Veterans Village of San Diego, and he has served in numerous adjunct professor positions.

ART WICAL (BBA) and his wife, Carol, have traveled to 58 countries so far. Last year, they revisited mainland Greece, then visited five Greek islands and also Turkey. They still hope to visit southern Africa and Antarctica soon. “Geography has always been a pet subject, and my studies at the University of San Diego further fueled my desire to travel,” he says.

[1964]
LARRY CAMPBELL (JD) is a published poet, with his poem, “Appetizers,” included in the “2009 Osher Learning Institute Journal.” He also is proofreading his personal/family memoir, “G-Man’s Journey,” a legacy to his children and grandchildren.

ATILANA RAMBAYON (BA) raised three kids, worked as a teacher and volunteered with the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Habitat for Humanity in Guam and Gawad Kalinga (which means “giving care”) in the Philippines. She retired from Guam Community College in 1989. In 2006, she donated one hectare of land in Moncada, Tarlac, Philippines, to Gawad Kalinga to honor her late son-in-law, Cmdr. Willie McCool, who perished with his crewmembers in the Space Shuttle Columbia accident on Feb. 1, 2003. The GK McCool village is for the poorest of the poor in Moncada, Tarlac.

[1965]
JO ANN FRITSCHER (BA) retired from San Diego City Schools in 2003 after 38 years. She still teaches on request at the American Language Institute at San Diego State University, volunteers in the visitor center gift shop at Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, and has been on the board of the park’s interpretive association, which furthers the mission of the park. Jo Ann plans to move to Descanso, in San Diego County’s backcountry, this year.

[1966]
BENTON BECKLEY (BA, JD ’76) spends summers at his house at Lake

Arrowhead, Calif., where he sails. He’s also been active in the local Corvette Club and has been showing his V-8 Boss Hoss Cycle at statewide shows. “Everything is great,” he says.

RICARDO GRAY (BA) and his wife, Marli, returned to La Quinta, Calif., in January. “The Foreign Service still mandates retirement at 65, so we will begin our new life looking for new things to do: politics, home business, teaching, maybe even golf,” he says. “After 11 years living overseas, it will be a challenge and a lot of fun to live again in sunny Southern California. And we’ll finally have time to get to know our grandchildren!”

[1968]
DONALD CLINE (JD) has a law practice in San Diego, where he represents injured parties in workers’ compensation, personal injury and Social Security disability appeals.

MIKE STRADA (BA) sailed his 50-foot trimaran from Lake Ontario, Canada, through the Erie Canal (with 30 locks), down the Hudson River and into the Atlantic to Fort Lauderdale, Fla. During one storm, he was surfing down waves at 20-plus knots. He planned a stop in St. Lucia, West Indies, after hurricane season. Mike lives in Kailua, Hawaii; he is a senior vice president with Morgan Stanley Smith Barney.

[1969]
MARY ERIN WALSHE HERRON (BA) is finishing her last year as a special education teacher for the Orange County Department of Education. She plans to retire in October. She lives in Dana Point with her husband of 40 years, J.R. Their oldest son, Tom, is a fourth-year medical student at George Washington University in Washington, D.C.; their middle son, Taylor, is a photographer and graphic artist; and their youngest son, John, just graduated from USD and is preparing for the LSAT.

EDWARD MILLER (JD) writes, “After recently selling most of our businesses, I’m beginning a partial retirement and enjoying spending more time with my wife, three daughters and grandchildren.”

LAUREEN GRAY REID (JD) retired in 2001 after 29 years as a senior attorney with the Orange County Public Defender’s Office. “A wonderful

career where I helped many people improve their lives,” she says. Her husband, Ron Reid, is a retired Santa Ana homicide detective. They have 10 grandchildren, with two more on the way and all are “gifted, witty and beautiful,” she says. “I do miss friends who have passed away, but I know they are happy on the other side.”

1970s

[1970]
MARY SEARCY BIXBY (BA, MA ’86) received the 2009 Women Who Mean Business Award from the “San Diego Business Journal.” Mary was chosen from 167 nominees for their outstanding contributions to business, government and the San Diego community. Mary was recognized for her commitment to education reform and for the design and implementation of education programs for disengaged students and students at risk. Mary is the founder, president and chief executive officer of The Charter School of San Diego, which earned a California Award for Performance Excellence in 2005 and 2007. She is also chair of the board of Audeo Charter School, 2009 CAPE recipient.

EDWARD SMITH (BBA) is retired and “enjoying the slow, quiet moments and company of acquaintances, along with senior moments that I call fun times.” He recently had open-heart surgery to replace a valve and reports that he has a new lease on life.

[1971]
MARIAN KELLY DONOVAN (BA) lives in Hartford, Conn. Her husband, John ’71, is deceased, and Marian raised two children by herself. Her son, John, lives in the San Francisco Bay Area and is a computer engineer. Her daughter, Frances, is an information technology professional for Partners Health in Boston.

[1972]
MYRON CAGAN (BA) has spent most of his career in the microelectronics industry. Between 2002 and 2008, he taught chemistry part time at Foothill College. Myron now works at a microelectronics start-up in Goleta, Calif. In 2010, Myron’s daughter expects to graduate from Macalester College and his son from high school. Myron and his wife hope to do some traveling soon.



MARIA KELLY

[v o y a g e r]

FIELD NOTES
Reality TV’s got nothing on Maria Kelly

by Mikki Halpin

Sometimes I see the people on ‘Survivor’ and I think, ‘They’re not really roughing it,’” says Maria Kelly ’03, laughing. “They might be getting bitten by bugs and freaking out, but they’ve still got it pretty good.”

Kelly, 29, knows what she’s taking about. She’s traveled repeatedly to the Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, Equatorial New Guinea and South Africa, often to destinations so remote that they aren’t even on most maps.

“In New Guinea, we had to hike in to the camp,” she says. “You could bring 25 pounds of stuff. That’s two changes of clothing and raingear, not much more.” These expeditions aren’t fancy safaris or stays at cushy resorts — they’re working trips to pursue Kelly’s interest in physical and biological anthropology.

At each destination, she’s participated in a research project, doing everything from underwater archeology to helping count mammals for a biodiversity census. She usually stays in makeshift accommodations, without electricity or most creature comforts.

“There are very tough conditions,” she admits. “Everyone is out of their comfort zone, and some are better suited to it than others. I just happen to really like it.”

Kelly went on her first expedition as an undergraduate, when she traveled to the north coast of the Dominican Republic to work with Professor Jerome Hall of the USD Anthropology Department on his excavation of the Monte Cristi Pipe Wreck. (The site gets its name because the ship had a large cargo of clay pipes, and is located in Monte Cristi Bay.)

This silver vervet monkey was photographed in South Africa, where Maria Kelly was pursuing her interest in anthropology.

“I had taken Professor Hall’s Nautical Archeology and Caribbean Cultures classes and I was hooked,” she says. “Learning about other cultures is endlessly interesting.” It was Kelly’s first trip out of the country on her own, and despite an experience she describes as “manual labor on a deserted island,” she promptly switched her major to anthropology.

“I found the experience of underwater archeology fascinating,” she says. “You are retrieving artifacts from a very unstable and unfamiliar environment, and then categorizing, assessing and preserving them on shore. It’s very difficult and puzzling.”

Since graduating, Kelly has worked at the Community Coaching Center in San Diego, an after-school skills development program for children on the autism spectrum. “We take the kids out into the community and work with them on behavior, communication, and independence,” she

says. “They go shopping, or go to museums, and volunteer and food banks. It’s a totally innovative program, the only one of its kind in San Diego.”

The job has allowed her to stay near USD, where she’s working towards a master’s degree, and provides flexible time off for her increasing interest in fieldwork. “I knew I wanted to go back to school for biological anthropology, but I needed more experience, so I’ve been volunteering or interning on these expeditions.”

Turns out, she’s a natural. “I’ve always been an animal person,” she says. “I find watching monkeys in the wild all day to be a peaceful experience.”

This year, she’s be applying to PhD programs, following in the footsteps of her hero, primatologist Diane Fossey. “She was a bit radical but she did great things,” says Kelly. “And her hair was always a mess in the field, just like mine.”

Now *that’s* reality. 🐒



NICK ARADILLA

[irresistible]

LOVE, ACTUALLY

When Curtis met Ayda, sparks didn't just fly, they burst into an open flame

By Nathan Dinsdale

Like most people, the idea of “love at first sight” existed for Curtis Dadian somewhere between threadbare cliché and stark improbability.

That is, right up until the moment he met Ayda.

After graduating from the University of San Diego with a business degree in 1989, the

college tennis star “bounced around for a couple years,” working mostly in sales. Unfulfilled, he backpacked through Europe and played in a few professional tournaments before a back injury ended his tennis career, after which he began studying to become a physical therapist. Then his life took an abrupt turn.

Dadian was leaving church one day in March of 1993 when the cleric's wife, Araxie Tatoulian, asked if he'd like to meet a young woman visiting from Syria. He agreed, albeit with some reluctance.

“I had very low expectations,” Dadian recalls. “I walked in, looked around and thought ‘Man, what am I doing here?’”

He turned to leave — just as Ayda stepped through the door.

“I was immediately captivated,” Dadian says.

He credits Tatoulian as matchmaker and facilitator for the whirlwind courtship that ensued. Eleven days after their first encounter, he floated the pros-

pect of marriage. Soon after, the couple was engaged.

“It sounds crazy — and maybe it was crazy — but it didn't seem crazy at the time,” Dadian says. “I thought that was it. She'd go home, come back, we'd get married and ride off into the sunset, right?”

Not quite. Ayda returned to Syria, only to call a week later to report that her family had no intention of allowing her to marry a man they didn't know and she'd just met.

“The only thing I had going for me was my Armenian background,” Dadian says, “but I couldn't have been more

American. I was a long-haired tennis player from L.A.”

Realizing he wasn't making headway waiting for something to happen in San Diego, Dadian decided to jump on a plane to Syria so that he could meet his would-be in-laws in person. He flew to Damascus before taking a rickety five-hour bus ride to Aleppo, an ancient city with roots dating back to 5000 B.C. When he stepped off the bus, it was like entering a whole other world.

“It was complete culture shock,” Dadian says, “but I was young and stupid enough to think, ‘Wow, this is exciting.’”

Ayda's family welcomed him graciously, but it soon became clear that Dadian — who had wistfully packed a tuxedo and wedding dress for the journey — faced an uphill battle earning their trust. After several days, they arranged for him to play a local pro who turned out to be Dawood Dawoodian, one of Syria's most prodigious tennis stars. It wasn't easy, but Dadian prevailed.

“Of all the tennis matches in my life, I look at that as one of my most critical wins,” he laughs. “My friends joke about me playing for the hand of my wife — it wasn't that literal — but it was part of the process that validated I was who I said I was.”

Dadian eventually began to gain acceptance, if not approval, from Ayda's family, only to discover there were a lot more hurdles standing in his way.

“I went there thinking that I needed to sell myself to her mom and dad and be accepted by them,” Dadian says. “That was true, but it was also her brother, sister, aunt, uncle, neighbor and priest. It was very much a community decision.”

In addition to gaining family and community approval, the couple faced a dizzying array of bureaucratic red tape. But despite the glaring differences between their two cultures, the relation-

ship continued to blossom.

“Things seemed so easy for the two of us,” Dadian says. “It was the storm around us that was difficult.”

After four weeks in Aleppo, it was decided Dadian would return to San Diego to make wedding preparations — with or without universal consent. Everything finally seemed to be going their way.

But, the day before Ayda's scheduled arrival, the wedding was called off again. Weeks went by before the union was finally sanctioned. They were married on Sept. 25, 1993, six long months — and four wedding cancelations — after they had first met.

“We had to move a mountain to make it happen,” Dadian says. “But I was so drawn to this person. For us to click the way we did despite all odds was really amazing.”

Time passed, as it tends to do. After earning a master's degree in executive leadership from USD in 2001, Dadian became owner and president of Filefax, a company that provides filing services for storing everything from athletic equipment at the Jenny Craig Pavilion to whale bones at the San Diego Natural History Museum to M-16 machine guns at Camp Pendleton.

Now, 16 years after they first met, Curtis and Ayda are still happily married and living on a large estate in Poway with their three children. And when it comes time for his two daughters to wed, Dadian knows precisely how he'll handle the courtship.

“We look forward to impressing a similar level of pain and discomfort on anyone interested in marrying our daughters,” he says with a slight chuckle. “While it drove me crazy at the time, in hindsight it's something we understand and appreciate. It helped define us. I wouldn't change a thing.” 🍷

MARGARET CARDWELL retired in 2007 from Christian Brothers University in Memphis, where she was the director of the library. Still active in the community, she works with the Memphis Literary Council and various other projects. Her husband, Craig, is the president of Allen & O'Hara Education Services, a student-housing corporation. Both of their daughters work in education: one teaches seventh-graders in Memphis City Schools and the other is the associate dean of students at Connecticut College.

GARY GRAMLING (JD) is chairman of the board of trustees for Meals on Wheels in Greater San Diego, and he is a commissioner on the city of San Diego's Housing Commission.

[1973]

JIM BOSTWICK (JD) was certified as a specialist in appellate law by the California State Bar in 2004. He has been representing defendants in criminal appeals for more than 20 years. His wife, Yoko, is a ceramic artist and has exhibited pieces at the L.A. County Fair, at the Japanese Museum of Art in Los Angeles during Nisei Week and at the American Museum of Ceramic Art. Jim became a grandfather with the birth of his grandson, Matthew Bostwick II, on June 10, 2009.

TIMOTHY HERMSEN (BA) and his wife, Mary Deirdre (Kennedy) '72, live in Kennewick, Wash., where she works for Washington State University and Timothy is retired from private practice as a licensed mental health counselor.

TERESA MAHER (BA) has been a Sister of the Precious Blood since 1980. She ministers as associate manager of the spiritual care department at St. Bernardine Medical Center in San Bernardino, Calif.

THOMAS STUBBS (BA, MBA '75) is retired from the U.S. Navy, Secondary Education. He is an adjunct professor at National University and volunteers as an administrative assistant in the Phoenix V.A. Health Care System. Thomas also is enjoying his grandchildren and creative hobbies.

[1974]

DONALD STARCHMAN (JD) practices real property and estate planning law half-time with his daughter, Anita Starchman Bryant. Anita received her JD degree from the University of California, Berkeley, in 2001.

JOSEPH VECCHIO (MA) retired from the oil industry at age 55, about six years ago. “Love it, don't miss it,” he writes.

[1975] 🍷

JACK DOHERTY (JD) is the police lieutenant in charge of field operations for the San Diego Community College District Police Department. He also was recently named the president of the Supervisory and Professional Administrator's Association, representing 165 college administrators in the district.

BRUCE GINSBURG (JD) writes, “It has been an amazing year for me. I became a grandfather recently to a great little baby boy, Jacob. What could be better than this?” Bruce continues to represent injured plaintiffs in Pennsylvania and New Jersey courts. He visits Los Angeles, where his son manages actors, writers and directors. Bruce's daughter is completing her senior year in the business school at George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

[1976]

DAVID ROSSI (BA) and his wife, Penny (Dingman) '76, have two grandsons from their eldest daughter.

RUSSELL WATTS (BA) is an accredited sign language interpreter and works with deaf students in Melbourne, Australia. He also recently coached the Australian deaf tennis team in the Deaf Olympics in Taipei. “I have wonderful memories of my days in San Diego on a tennis scholarship, and I am always happy to hear from my ex-classmates,” he writes.

[1977]

KATHERINE FORTINASH (BSN, MSN '80) left teaching about three years ago to write and update two psychiatric nursing textbooks. She is now consulting with colleagues and lecturing on tapes regarding mental health. Last year, Katherine delivered lectures to a national insurance women's group on empowerment and stress reduction during a cruise to the Mexican Riviera. She recently had knee surgery and plans to travel with her husband now that her knee has improved.

VIRGINIA GRIMES KINZER (MA) and her husband, John, were married in 1978. They have three children: Nicole, who is married and enrolled in the doctor of pharmacy program



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at Shenandoah University; Catherine, a doctoral candidate at West Virginia University; and John, who is married and a graduate of Virginia Tech. Virginia and John also have a grandson, Johnny, born on Oct. 31, 1999. Virginia has a master's degree in nursing and a post-master's degree as an adult nurse practitioner. She works at Kaiser Permanente in the internal medicine and nephrology department.

MARY PATRICIA (DOUGAN) SHINSKY (Med) retired from the Vista Unified School District in 2003. She writes, "Life is good! Fourteen grandchildren, one great grandson and one more on the way. We have just returned from a wonderful trip to Greece, Croatia, Turkey and an unexpected overnight in Munich. Lots more traveling in our future."

[1978] VIRGINIA (AUSTIN) FELLOWS (BBA) recently celebrated 31 years of marriage to her husband, Jeffrey, whom she met when he was a USD campus policeman. Jeffrey retired from the San Diego Police Department in June 2009, after nearly 35 years in law enforcement. Their daughter, Jessica, is a biology major at Stonybrook University in Long Island, N.Y. Virginia and Jeffrey live in Alpine, in San Diego County, with their sons, Jeffrey Jr. and Christopher. "Other good news is that Christopher (diagnosed with cancer at 3 1/2 years old) has passed his 10-year survival mark," she writes.

FRANCES GALLIANI (JD) has served in Los Angeles as an assembly fellow, deputy city attorney, criminal defense attorney and executive director of alternative defense counsel. She returned to San Diego briefly to start up a conflict dependency panel and then back to Los Angeles in 1996 to commence private practice in criminal defense and family law.

DAVID NEWLON (BS) moved to Palm Springs after selling his Hollywood Hills home. He starts his days with three hours of tennis before work.

BERNADETTE PROBUS (JD) is the lead housing attorney for the Legal Aid Society of San Diego. She assists homeowners and tenants facing foreclosure, and tenants facing eviction, utility shut-offs or the loss or transfer of subsidized housing. "I'm at it over 20 years now and no nearer retirement, although my husband is

retired from the county now," she says. "Enjoying our 10-year-old granddaughter very much."

[1979] FLORENCE LUTZ (Med) is a middle school teacher in Rialto, Calif., for a special day class with 24 students in the sixth, seventh and eighth grades.

1980s

[1980] ROBERT GALLARDO (Med) retired from the San Diego Unified School District. His assignments included teacher, vice principal and principal. He also has served as an adjunct professor at the University of California, San Diego. Robert is an ESL instructor for integrative studies at San Diego State University. He also recently met the qualifications to be an ESL adjunct faculty member in the San Diego Community College District.

SUSAN MITCHELL (BSN) became a school nurse in October 2008 at a Title I elementary school with a multi-racial population of 350 students in grades one through five. "I thoroughly enjoy giving first aid and teaching the children good health habits," she says.

[1982] LAWRENCE CAMPBELL (LLM) retired on Jan. 1, 2010, after more than 25 years at Solar Turbines.

[1984] TAS PANOS (JD) is general counsel of Affiliated Computer Services in Dallas. ACS provides business process outsourcing and information technology services to businesses and governments worldwide. As executive vice president and general counsel, Tas leads the 100-member legal department and is responsible for the company's global legal affairs.

THERESA PHILLIPS-THOMPSON (BA) has been teaching in Temecula for 12 of her 25 years in education. Her daughter, Natalie, is a graduate of Biola and was recently married. Theresa is enjoying golfing, going to the lake, reading and being with family and friends. She and her husband continue to visit San Diego as much as possible and recently drove through the USD campus. "It has really changed from 1984!" she says. "I always enjoy my memories of attending USD."

ELIZABETH SKELDING (BSN) reports that the eldest of her seven grandsons, Kyle Mueller, graduated from high school in 2008 and is now on full scholarship at Miramar College. Her nephew, John Marfield, has been called to Iraq for a second tour of duty with the U.S. Army.

[1986] RICK PADRNOS (MBA) is a mergers and acquisitions specialist with Business Acquisitions. He packages, markets and sells businesses with valuations between \$200,000 and \$5 million. He is also a director for First Colorado National Bank.

[1987] SUE (BURKHALTER) BALDWIN (MA) sums up her 22 years after USD: She worked with handicapped residents of San Diego and Annapolis, Md.; stayed home with her children, homeschooling them through the eighth grade; worked and volunteered at their high school until both graduated; and is now a substitute teacher. "By the time this is printed, my husband, J.D., and I will have traveled to South Africa," she says. "Our first big adventure as empty-nesters!"

[1988] ROBERT ROCHELLE (JD) recently joined the American Board of Trial Advocates. He reports that his four children have all graduated from college, each in less than four years.

JOSIE GABLE RODRIGUEZ (MA) and her husband, Al, plan to teach a workshop, "The Open Book and the Moving Pen," in Cortona, Italy. The session will help participants "make a variety of journals in the morning, then fill them with your own poetry in the afternoon." Details on the June 19-26, 2010 workshop can be found online at <http://toscanaamericana.com/openbookmovingpen.html>.

[1989] MONICA (FOLTZ) PARSONS (BBA, MBA '03) has been busy with her newest bundle of joy, Dillon Slater, born on Jan. 11, 2008. Dillon joins big brother Devon, and big sister Savannah. Monica is an information technology project manager at Solar Turbines and recently celebrated 20 years with the company. She volunteers at her children's school and serves on the PTA executive board. The family is looking forward to traveling to China soon and to

opening their new business, Parsons' Palace of Memories.

CLAUDIA SLUIS STEVENS (MA) is retired and living in a very active senior citizen mobile park. She plays cards two days a week, bingo four times a month and serves on the board of the recreation committee for the park. She and her husband, Ken Powers, have a dog named Maggie who has been in several ads for Petco.

1990s

[1990] CONN FLANIGAN (BA) lives in Denver with his wife, Monica, and children: Delaney, 8; Eleri, 6; and Lachlan, 2. Conn is general counsel for eBanker USA, an investment and management firm. Conn still rows competitively, having raced in the alumni boat at several recent San Diego Crew Classics and at last year's U.S. Masters.

JOYCE LAMB (JD) was elected to the board of trustees of her undergraduate alma mater, Ashland University in Ashland, Ohio.


[1993] BRENT HODGES (BAcc) is assistant head of schools for Rancho Solano Private Schools, the largest private K-12 school system in Arizona. Brent received his master's degree in education from Northern Arizona University. He lives in Phoenix with T.J., his 14-year-old son. Brent and T.J. love to spend weekends in San Diego and visit their friends from USD.

[1994] ROB BARDIN (BA), his wife, Joanne Pasternack-Bardin, and their daughter, Kira, 2, are thrilled to announce the arrival of Reid Oliver Bardin. Reid was born on Nov. 17, 2009, at 9 pounds, 5 ounces, and 21.5 inches, with red hair and blue eyes. The family lives in Sunnyvale, Calif., where Joanne and Rob both work in sports. Joanne is the community relations director for the San Francisco 49ers, and Rob is the corporate partnership director for FC Gold Pride of the Women's Professional Soccer League.

SHAWNA (GARBERICH) SUCH (BBA) was named by "San Diego Metropolitan Magazine" as one of the "40 Under 40" deemed the brightest and most enterprising young people

in San Diego County. A wealth management adviser at Merrill Lynch, Shawna is a certified financial planner and a certified financial manager; she manages a Merrill Lynch branch in Del Mar. She also made the list of 2008 five-star advisers in “San Diego Magazine.” Shawna and her husband co-founded the No More AIDS Foundation, and she is a founding member of the Carlsbad Charitable Foundation.

PATRICIA VELEZ-FRANKLIN (MSN) has worked for UCSD Medical Center for more than 30 years and has been a nurse practitioner for 15 years, specializing in HIV/AIDS.

[1995]  **CHRISTINA (THEISS) KNIGHT (BBA)** and her husband, Mike, welcomed their third child, Tanner, born on May 15, 2009. Christina is an office manager for their architecture firm, Calhoun and Associations, in Escondido.

[1996] **EDWARD BRYANT (BAcc)** has been admitted into the partnership of KPMG, the audit, tax and advisory firm. Edward joined KPMG in 1996, after graduating from USD. He also earned an MBA from the University of Southern California and is a certified public accountant. He is on rotation in New York City at KPMG’s Department of Professional Practice, specializing in consumer markets and information, communication and entertainment practices.

[1997] **LISA (BERESFORD) BRIDGMAN (BA, JD ’01)** and her husband, Dan, welcomed their second child, Chase Alexander, on June 18, 2009. Their first child, Dylan, is 4. Lisa continues to work as an attorney at a San Diego law firm.

LORI (SUTHERLAND) DEMIRDJIAN (BA) and her husband, Ryan, were married on April 18, 2009, at an oceanfront location in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. Members of the wedding party included alumnae Kathryn (Britt) Kuechle, Chrissy (Measley) Pillier, Nikki Graves and Stephanie (Mascott) Mansolino. Lori and Ryan live in San Diego, where Lori is a Realtor with Keller Williams. Ryan is a firefighter for the city of Santa Monica.

STEPHANIE (MASCOTT) MANSOLINO (BBA) married Ray Mansolino on Aug. 1, 2009, in La Jolla. Many of the guests were USD and

Gamma Phi Beta alumni, so it was not only a celebration, but also a reunion. Guests included Lauren (Boaz) Jones, Andrea (Callen) Porter, Colleen (Henley) Rodriguez, Sarah (Skibba) Burchetta, Chris Skibba, Jeana (Allen) Jorde, Kacky (Britt) Kuechle, Lori (Sutherland) Demirdjian, Nikki Graves, Amanda Lomont and bridesmaid Kate (Zaia) Sinclair.


[1998] **STACY (MILAZZO) CAMPBELL (BAcc)** and her husband, Christopher, welcomed their first child, Emily, on April 23, 2009. Chris, Stacy and Emily live in San Diego.

[1999] **KEITH ALEXIS (MA)** is vice president of sales — Americas, SMB and enterprise markets — at SMC Networks in Irvine. He was named a CRN Channel Chief for 2009 and 2008. Channel Chiefs are recognized as influential executives who consistently defend, promote and execute effective partner programs and strategies.

JOHN CU (JD) was elevated to partner at Hanson Bridgett. His practice focuses on business litigation, commercial transactions, intellectual property and product liability in the firm’s San Francisco office.

CARLY (NAEVE) REICH (BA) and her husband, Reuben ’99, welcomed their second child, Brigitta, into the world on March 12, 2009. She joins big brother Liam, 3. Reuben is a third-year medical student at New York Medical College in Valhalla, N.Y., where the family lives. He expects to graduate in 2011.

2000s

[2000]  **ERIN ELEXIS (BA)** graduated in March 2009 with a PhD in psychology from Alliant International University in San Diego. She is a child psychologist for the Center of Autism Research, Evaluation and Service in San Diego.

DEVER LAMKIN (BAC) and Kelly Murphy were married on Oct. 3, 2009, at the Dana Hotel on Mission Bay in San Diego. Attendees included fellow alumni Chris Bradish, Zack Olmstead, Paulo Elias, Blake Stockstad, Mike Reid, Tyler and Erica (Klein) Huebner, Matt Moye, Ben Schafer, Chad Iafrate,

Cordell Hansen and Bobby Donnelly. Dever and Kelly live in San Diego and are in the process of buying a home.

TOM TARANTINO (BA) married Summer Sassen, his high school sweetheart, on April 25, 2009, at the historic Rancho Camulos in Piru, Calif. Among the 16 attendants were alumni Dara Greaney, Dave Lazo and Ronnie Zucaro. Tom and Summer got a special dispensation from the bishop to have a Catholic ceremony at the chapel on the ranch grounds. They live in Camarillo with a puppy named Pete. Summer completed her teaching credential at California Lutheran University, and Tom continues to manage at Emergent Game Technologies, where they are developing software engines for next-generation gaming consoles.

[2001] **BRIANNA BARR (BA)** is in her second year of dental school at the University of Missouri, Kansas City. Brianna and her husband, Troy, were married recently. Troy is an engineer at Black and Veatch.

JIM BRITT (BA) and his wife, Cari, celebrated the birth of their son, Colin, on July 24, 2009, just two days after their three-year anniversary. The family lives in Seattle, where Jim recently became a gang detective with the Seattle Police Department after seven years of patrol work.

ELISA (WIECH) CADWELL (BA, Med ’03) is the training manager at the regional office of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Mission Valley. In her spare time, she volunteers as an English language instructor for the Van Hahn Temple in Santee. Elisa presented a paper and slideshow at the 11th annual Sakyadhita Conference in Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam.

ELIZABETH (COTTER) DONAHUE (BSN, MSN ’02) is the mother of “two beautiful boys” and a nurse practitioner in a busy primary care office in Reading, Mass.

PAULA (CHAPMAN) ISHAM (BA) and her husband, Jeff, joyfully welcomed their first son, Eli, on Jan. 21, 2009. “Eli loves playing with all of his USD aunties,” Paula says.

LISA PETERSON (BBA) married Matthew Willmon on May 16, 2009, at The Culinary Institute of America at Greystone in Napa Valley. Serving

as bridesmaids were fellow USD graduates and Gamma Phi Beta sorority sisters Denise (Ryan) Peek, Heather (Cole) Brinkley, Liza (Osburn) Pinard, Paige (Patterson) Kratz and Colleen (Martin) McGuinness. Lisa and Matthew live in Carlsbad and both work at Life Technologies, the biotechnology company where they met three years ago.

MICHELLE (RICHMAN) SU (BA) and her husband, Kevin, welcomed a baby boy, Sean, on May 27, 2009. He weighed 8 pounds, 1 ounce, and was 20 inches long. The Su family lives in the Washington, D.C., area.

[2002] **REBECCA VARD A CONDON (BA)** and her husband, Matt, were married on July 3, 2009, in Chicago. In the wedding party were fellow USD alumnae and Alpha Phi members Meghan Kain and Sara Ford. Also in the bridal party were USD alumni Marissa Ontiveros and Victor Ramos. Rebecca and Matt moved back to Chicago and will be teaching middle school in the city.

ILEA DORSEY (BBA) has been living in East Africa since 2006. She started in Uganda with Restore International, serving vulnerable youth in Kampala and the war-torn northern towns of Gulu and Atiak. In January 2008, she moved to Rwanda to work for Keza, a luxury fashion label in the Unites States representing African-made products. “We are a business consulting and development firm, developing the small locally owned businesses that create our products,” Ilea says. More information is available at www.keza.com. (See story on page 32.)

MALTE FARNAES (JD) opened his own firm, The Law Office of Malte L.L. Farnaes, in Solana Beach on Jan. 1, 2010. His practice focuses on trademark and trade secret management and protection for medium and small businesses. His secondary focus is commercial litigation and commercial landlord/tenant disputes.

DANIEL LICKEL (JD) and Clinton Rooney started a San Diego law practice in January 2009 focusing on bankruptcy, auto fraud and consumer finance litigation.

ERIK NAGEL (BA) recently returned from his second combat tour of duty in Iraq as the battalion surgeon for

the 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines, based in Twentynine Palms, Calif. Erik moved back to California to begin a new job as general medical officer for the Maritime Expeditionary Security Group One in Imperial Beach.

NATASHA (RADWAN) RAHEL (BBA) became a real estate broker in California and Florida after graduating from USD. She then attended Whittier Law School, became an attorney in 2007 and started her own practice in real estate and business law. Natasha and her husband, Akbar, were recently married, after reuniting at their 10-year high school reunion. Natasha is also active in the community working with Muslim youth.

ANNA SALUSKY (JD) and her husband, Kevin, welcomed their daughter, Leah, into the world on June 3, 2009. She weighed 6 pounds, 3 ounces, and measured 18.5 inches long. Anna is an associate attorney in the litigation department at Woodruff Spradlin & Smart in Costa Mesa, Calif.

KELLY (GLASER) SCHREINER (BBA) and her husband, Mark, were married on Oct. 11, 2008, in Portland, Ore. The wedding party included USD alumni Jen (Nelson) Nichols, Samantha (Cannon) Burton and Anjelica Durazo.

MARVIN SERHAN (MSGL) has more than 40 years of leadership and management experience in the military and private sector. He left active duty as a Naval flight officer in 1997 and has since worked in the utility, telematics and security industries at such firms as Motorola and IBM. In addition to his master’s degree from USD, Marv holds two other post-graduate degrees. Marv and his family live in Camas, Wash.

KAYE STAMBAUGH (MSEL) and her team from HD Supply Facilities Maintenance captured the gold award at the 24th International Team Excellence Awards competition held at the 2009 American Society for Quality Conference on Quality and Improvement. The competition featured 27 companies from around the world.

AUBREANNE (SPEAR) VALENTINO (BBA) and her husband, Scott, were married on May 2, 2009, at Founders Chapel.

[2003] **ELISABETH BIEBL (BA)** lives in Vail, Colo., where she is the commu-

nications manager for Vail Mountain. In her free time, she enjoys skiing Vail’s 5,289 acres of terrain, mountain biking and traveling. She went to Machu Picchu in June 2009. “As always, can’t wait for my next adventure!” she says.

ROBERT BITONTE (LLMG) was elected president of the Los Angeles County Medical Association, with his term beginning on July 1, 2009.

CRISTINA CHIRIBOGA-HAHN (Med) retired as interim president of Cuyamaca College, part of the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District, in August 2009. This position culminated a 35-year career in teaching and administration in California community colleges. Today, Cristina teaches at National University and continues to volunteer on projects for the Association of California Community College Administrations.

CORRIE (VAN DEN AKKER) COLEMAN (BA) is attending The Drucker School of Management at Claremont Graduate School. She is working toward an MBA with a marketing emphasis and continues to work full time for an advertising agency.

JOSE DALPRAT (BA) and his wife welcomed their first child, Ilan Alcalá, on Nov. 3, 2009. Ilan weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces, and was 20.5 inches long. Jose expected to graduate from medical school in May 2010.

JESSE FARRIS (BBA) and Patricia Hafner were married on June 13, 2009. Jesse recently accepted a position at Haskins and Associates practicing real estate law and litigation. Jesse and Patricia, who is from Bayville, N.Y., plan to move to Panama in the next few years.

CAROLINE (TAYLOR) FLOREA (BA) and her husband, Colby ’03, were married in October 2007 in Malibu. They live in Charlotte, N.C., where Caroline works in event management. Caroline and Colby and have a Cavalier King Charles spaniel.

CHRISTINA (MUSCARELLA) GOOCH (BA) earned a JD degree from the University of New Mexico in 2008 and practices law with the firm of Keleher & McLeod in Albuquerque, N.M.

DANIELLE HARWAY (BBA) writes, “Nov. 16, 2008, was the happi-

est day of my life! I married my soul mate, Rick Harway, at the Grand Del Mar. There were many USD alumni in attendance at the wedding, which made the day even better!” Danielle’s best friend and fellow alumna, Marissa (Martin) Holdorf, was the matron of honor. Danielle says she has the two most beautiful stepdaughters — Ashley, 10, and Hailee, 7 — who loved attending homecoming at USD. Ashley is now looking forward to attending USD herself, Danielle reports.

DEBRA JOHNSON (Med) is a PhD student at USD’s School of Leadership and Education Sciences. She defended her proposal and received approval to move forward on her dissertation. Debra traveled to Mondragon, Spain, with SOLES Global in July 2009, teaches part time for Southwestern College and works one day a week in clinical practice.

MARIA KELLY (BA) works at the Community Coaching Center, a community-based socialization program for children with autism. During the summers and winters, Maria conducts research and observes nonhuman primates. Most recently, she conducted research on the island of Ometepe, Nicaragua, and on Broken Island, Equatorial Guinea. Maria is also enrolled in a master’s program at USD for teaching history and social sciences. (See story on page 34.)

ASHLEY KILLIN (BA) graduated from the University of Louisville School of Dentistry in May and has entered a two-year residency in pediatric dentistry at Riley Children’s Hospital in Indianapolis.

DAVID LEATHERBERRY (JD) is counsel for the San Diego Psychological Association. He is a regular contributor to the “California Psychologist Magazine” and this year published the “2009 California Laws for Counselors and Psychotherapists.”

ANTONIO LOPEZ (BA) manages \$65 million in clients’ assets at Merrill Lynch. He and his wife, Elizabeth, were married on Sept. 27, 2009, and they honeymooned in Venice, Croatia and on the Greek Islands. They live in Santa Fe, N.M., which he says is “an optimal place to live and grow.” Antonio has run in seven marathons in the past five years with times ranging from 2:32 to 3:04. Antonio and Elizabeth have run in five marathons

together, including the Boston Marathon in 2009. Antonio won the New Mexico Marathon in 2009.

WILLIAM MONCHER (BBA) married Raluca Chiriac in November 2008, and they celebrated the arrival of a son, Timothy, in April 2009.

JULIA (SMITH) RICE (MA) graduated from Willamette University College of Law with a JD degree in 2007. She and her husband, Daniel, were married on Nov. 23, 2008, and they welcomed a daughter, Autumn, on April 1, 2009.

ELIZABETH RUNYEN (BA) and Colin Gilbert ’03 were married on May 10, 2008, in Lake Arrowhead, Calif. They met during a USD study abroad program at St. Clare’s, Oxford. The couple lives in Laguna Niguel, Calif.

CATHRYN (BRUEN) SANTAMBROGIO (BA) and her husband, Michael, were married on June 20, 2009, in Vail, Colo., where they live. She also completed a master’s degree in nonprofit management from Regis University.

DEAN SHORT (JD) and Kathleen Jean Clancy were married on Nov. 7, 2009, in Indian Wells, Calif.

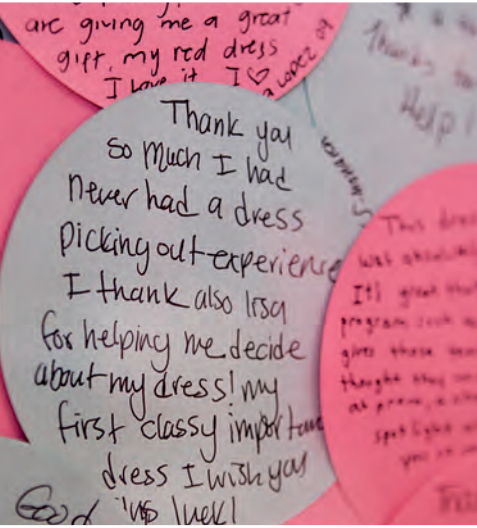
JAMES SMEDLEY (JD) opened his own law firm, Law Offices of James J. Smedley, Esq., in Las Vegas. His areas of practice include criminal defense, personal injury and family law. More information is available at www.smedlaw.com.

KRISTIE SOARES (BA) has been a fourth-grade teacher for five years in the Solana Beach School District.

ANTHONY SOLINA (Med) and his wife, DeAnna, celebrated the birth of their son, Ricky, on March 21, 2009.

FRANK TODDRE (BA, BA) graduated from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, with a JD and MBA in December 2008. He passed the Nevada bar exam and is working as the judicial clerk for the chief criminal judge in Las Vegas until September.

[2004] **LEA PARVEEN ARCE (Med)** is a high school biology teacher on the Kapalama campus of Kamehameha Schools on the island of Oahu. She also coaches girls cross country and girls



[magic wand]

HAPPILY EVER AFTER

Satin, tulle and just a shimmer of fairy dust: That's the promise made to girls served by the Princess Project

by Trisha J. Ratledge

Apparently, Cinderella was an amateur. One ball, one dress, one pair of glass slippers? Piece of cake. The process becomes a lot more complicated each spring, when Angela Pierce turns the whimsical tatters-to-taffeta tale on end, recruiting a platoon of hip and resourceful fairy godmothers to outfit San Diego teen girls for their prom, free of charge. No pumpkin required and, most important, no clock striking midnight to turn their fabulous gowns back into ragged threads.

As contemporary quests do, this all started with the click of a mouse. Two years ago, Pierce, who earned her JD from USD in 2003, had settled into her law career as a prosecutor for the San Diego City Attorney's Office. She wanted to give back in some way, but how? She'd developed a taste for service as a law student when she volunteered with the debate team at Monarch School for homeless and at-risk children.

"It made me more aware of the fact that when I wasn't studying for the bar, doing all of those things we have to do when we are focusing on our career, I wanted to somehow give back to the community," Pierce says.

She fired up her computer in search of a cause — her cause — and found the Princess Project, based in San Francisco, which provides prom dresses to girls who can't otherwise afford one.

"They promote individual beauty and confidence in women, and that's important to me," Pierce says. "I really took hold of their values and their principles."

After meeting with the San

Francisco board, Pierce got the green light to start a chapter in San Diego. She invited everyone she knew to an open house and before long had 150 volunteers.

"It's a concept that women can relate to," says Pierce, who was named a KGTV 10 News Leadership Award recipient in March 2010 for her work with the Princess Project.

"We all have dresses in our closet that we don't use a second or a third time. And it's helping young girls. I got an overwhelming response."

That's how a coterie of accomplished women began spending their evenings and weekends gathering donations of dresses and accessories, creating partnerships with businesses and fashioning a couture boutique in a commercial space downtown that would exist for only two weekends a year, but for a lifetime in the memories of 150 girls. Teens made appointments and were met by personal shoppers who helped them find the perfect dress and accessory.

Wrapped up in the logistics of ensuring that each girl's experience was exceptional, Pierce was caught off guard when a parent reached out to thank her.

"She grabbed me and she hugged me. I started to cry because it was really emotional," Pierce remembers. "She said, 'I never could have gotten this dress for my daughter. Thank you so much. You have no idea how much this means to me.'"

A stack of round pink and green notes left behind by clients echo similar sentiments, ranging from enthusiastic ("You guys

rock!") to touching ("I'm going to feel beautiful.").

All this, from an organization that is run 100 percent by volunteers who have careers, families and other responsibilities, yet see a need they can fill.

"It's not just me doing all of this work," Pierce points out. "It wouldn't be so successful without the commitment of everyone else working on this board and donating their time, expertise and creative abilities."

Pierce also has partnered with several businesses, such as Margaret's Cleaners, which provides a year-round drop-off and storage site for dresses, and Charlotte Russe and Mary Kay cosmetics, which have donated products. In addition, the boutique space is donated each year. Fundraisers enable Pierce to purchase dresses in sizes that aren't typically donated, so every girl has a selection to choose from.

For the 2010 event, Princess Project organizers expected to help 500 girls from San Diego area high schools. They hope to eventually turn their hundreds of clients into thousands, while still making that experience unforgettable for each girl.

"This means something to someone's family, and to a mother and a daughter," says Pierce, remembering the mom who thanked her so exuberantly that first night. "That moment in which it became real and emotional and personal really struck me. That's why I want to keep doing this."

For more information, go to <http://princessproject.org>.

MARSHALL WILLIAMS

track and field for Kamehameha. In 2008, the girls track and field program won its first state title. Lea established the KS Surfers Give Back Club in September 2008, and she is establishing the school's first competitive surf team in the hopes of competing for the national title in Dana Point, Calif.

GEORGE CHAMMAS is the divisional vice president of the San Diego branch of AXA Advisors, a financial services firm with offices in 60 countries. George oversees employees in San Diego and helps clients build and protect their wealth through estate planning tools. "I often recruit associates from USD and continue to be involved when time permits," he says. "I look forward to greater things to come for USD graduates and love being involved."

ALICIA (GETCHELL) DEARN (JD) and her husband, Simon, were married on Dec. 20, 2008, and they quickly started two businesses. GoodSharks.com is a Web site that helps match clients with attorneys; it has a resource center, articles and a blog. Dearn Law Group opened its doors on June 15, 2009, specializing in business and employment law.

JIM ELLIS (EdD) and his wife, Julie, recently returned from a year in Hanoi, Vietnam, where they served as humanitarian missionaries. During the year, they provided 1,750 wheelchairs to needy individuals, upgraded two hospitals that serve patients with eye maladies, and arranged for an eye surgeon from Salt Lake City to come demonstrate the most current eye surgical procedures. The doctor also performed more than 40 eye surgeries on patients who had been previously screened out.

BROOKE MARADA (BA) was married in March 2009.

SEAN McCLINTON (BBA) and his wife, Yuri, announced the birth of their first daughter, Mia Lily, on March 19, 2009. Sean works for a small business in Seattle that sells Aloe Cure, an aloe vera juice. The family lives in Kirkland, Wash.

KELLY (BLAGOF) MEINECKE (BA) and her husband, David Meinecke '03, were married in August 2005. They live in Dana Point, Calif., and have a son, Wyatt, who is 2.

DAVID ORTIZ (MSEL) was recently promoted to senior vice president,

sales and marketing, for Orange County Container Group. He has been with the company for 10 years and now has sales and marketing responsibilities for nine corrugated and packaging plants in Southern California and Mexico. OCCG produces 100 percent recycled linerboard, industrial and retail packaging for many industries.

KARA RICKS (BA, BA) is in an accelerated bachelor of nursing science program at Queens University in Charlotte, N.C. Kara and her husband, Jason, have a child, Jakar.

SALVADOR RIVAS (MA) is the director of the Office of Industry and Outreach Relations in the electrical engineering department at the University of California, Los Angeles. His position includes marketing, creating industry research partnerships, alumni outreach, faculty support and strengthening industry relations. He received an EdD in college administration from the University of Southern California in 2008.

MASASHI YAMAZAKI (MA) is on a three-year overseas assignment with a U.S. government agency.

[2005]  **MERIDITH MILLER (BA)** graduated from the University of San Francisco Law School in 2008 and passed the California bar exam on her first try. She is an attorney with the Morgan Lewis law firm in San Francisco, specializing in corporate litigation.

CHAD MURPHY (BA) spent a year teaching English in Thailand and then graduated from Gonzaga University in May 2009 with a master's degree in organizational leadership. He joined the Army ROTC at Gonzaga and is now a second lieutenant in the Army.

DEREK WATTENBARGER (BBA) started Surfside Developers Inc., a full-service construction company that focuses on new construction, home remodels, room additions, commercial tenant improvements, and more. He is a third-generation contractor and comes from a legacy of homebuilders in central and Southern California for more than 75 years.

[2006] **ERIC BENSON (BBA)** passed the Colorado bar exam in July 2009 and will begin practicing law in the Denver metropolitan area.

SHANNON (SULLIVAN) BROWN (BA) is working toward a master's degree at San Diego State University and will begin work on a PhD soon after graduating.

LINDSAY RHINE (BA) and Adam Petersen were married in San Diego on Aug. 9, 2009. They honeymooned in Hawaii and are living happily in Pacific Beach.

[2007] **MELANIE (McFARLAND) ALL-RED (BA)** married her high school sweetheart, Tyler, on June 15, 2008, in Fullerton, Calif. They both work in campus ministry: Melanie at USD and Tyler at California State University, San Marcos, Intervarsity. Melanie is still involved with her sorority and is an adviser to the USD chapter.

BRANDON HANCOCK (MSRE) founded GreenShoots Real Estate in October 2009. As president, Brandon oversees development, acquisition and consulting activities for the Texas-based company. The firm offers such services as consulting, financial analysis, market studies and due diligence for developers, investors and property owners. More information is available at www.greenshootsrealestate.com.

KENDRA QUINTANA (BA) and Dave Galante '05 were married on July 31, 2009, at Balboa Park. They live in the Washington, D.C., area.

[2008] **JULIA BECHERER (BA)** is a dental student at the University of California, Los Angeles, School of Dentistry.

LAUREN (GYLLENBORG) GOLD-EN (BA) and her husband, Justin, were married on Aug. 1, 2009, in Prairie Village, Kan. Justin is a financial adviser for Edward Jones, and Lauren is an event planner for "The Kansas City Star." They live in Leawood, Kan.

MELISSA MIRANDA (BA) is a second-year law student at McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento.

In Memoriam

HILARY (SCHMIT) CEJKA '82 (BA, MA '89) died on Sept. 20, 2009.

JERRY DOMINELLI '69 (BA) passed away on August 2, 2009. His

youngest daughter, Jennifer Dominnelli '98, says he "absolutely loved USD and remained proud his entire life long to have studied here." She says he gave generously to USD when he could, and laments that "the inner man who was my dad was nothing like the outer image portrayed to the public." In the end, she says, he "understood deeply what life was really all about."

WILLIAM McCARTY '64 (JD) has passed away.

GAIL (GIULIANI) ZADOW '87 (BA) passed away December 27, 2009 after battling cancer. After graduating from USD, Gail moved to Alta, Utah to teach skiing. She and Jeff Zadow then moved to Montana and had two children, Ellie, 10 and Hayden, 8. After attending the Waldorf teacher-training program in Hawaii, they moved to Boulder, Colo., where she joined the Shining Mountain Waldorf School. Gail will be remembered as an amazingly beautiful and loving person who loved life.

Send Class Notes

Send class notes to one of the following addresses and we'll do our best to get them in USD Magazine as soon as possible. Class notes may be edited for length and clarity. Engagements, pregnancies, personal e-mail addresses and telephone numbers cannot be published.

*E-mail: classnotes@sandiego.edu
Web site: www.sandiego.edu/usdmag
U.S. Mail: USD Magazine Class Notes, University of San Diego, Department of University Communications, 5998 Alcalá Park, San Diego, CA 92110*

Please note that Class Notes submitted after May 1, 2010, will be considered for publication in the Spring 2011 issue of USD Magazine.

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