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USD MAGAZINE

UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO / FALL 2017

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To Boldly Go ...

A most excellent adventure awaits NASA ASTRONAUT CANDIDATES

Matthew Dominick '05 and Jonathan Kim '12.

[connection]

SHOW YOUR PRIDE

Dear Toreros,

It is my great privilege to serve as the new president of the USD Alumni Association, working with our dynamic board of directors, more than 1,000 alumni volunteers and USD staff to involve alumni, parents and friends in the life of the University of San Diego.

We work to connect all the members of our Torero family to the university and to each other by creating a wide variety of programs and activities. For alumni, upon graduation, your relationship was just at its beginning stages; your continued involvement is more important than ever. For parents, that relationship likely began with your child's acceptance to USD, ideally growing stronger over the course of their years on campus. Our Torero family is an integral part of our community, serving in a variety of roles and representing the very foundation of our institution.

As my term begins, I am especially grateful to Heather Dooley '02 '05 (MEd) for the leadership she provided during her term as president. Her commitment to USD has been extensive, including service as our representative on President Harris' Strategic Planning Committee. She has also chaired USD's Homecoming and Family Weekend Committee as well as the USD Wine Classic, to name just a few of her commitments. Thanks, Heather, for all you have done for USD and our alumni.

Since my graduation from the School of Business in 1997, USD has been a constant part of my life. I moved back to Los Angeles and got involved in regional activities, which led to my first term on the Alumni Board. My professional network has flourished through USD connections. And on a personal note, I was fortunate to meet my wife, Sarah (Wolf) Rodrigues '99, here at USD.

Looking ahead, this is an exciting time to be a Torero, and I encourage you to play a part in our future. Get involved!

There are many ways to show your support:

- Volunteer: Help with events, read scholarship applications or get involved with your local Torero Club.
- Attend: Check out some of the many events on campus, in San Diego and in our 22 Torero Clubs around the country.
- Refer: Do you know outstanding high school students? Encourage them to consider applying to USD.
- Hire: Participate in our #HireUSD program by hiring USD alumni and offering internships to USD students.
- Cheer: Show off your pride by proudly wearing your blue and white gear and rooting for your favorite Torero team!
- Give: Consider making a gift to support USD student scholars and join thousands of alumni, parents and friends who are taking part in *Leading Change: The Campaign for USD*.
- Connect: Like us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/usdalumni) and follow us on Twitter and Instagram (@GoUSDAlumni).

Please join me in working to create an even stronger Alumni Association in support of our alma mater. Your involvement is critical to our success!



With Torero pride,
Gerry Rodrigues '97

President, USD Alumni Association

[president]
James T. Harris III, DEd

[vice president, university relations]
Timothy L. O'Malley, PhD

[associate vice president, university communications]
Peter Marlow
petermarlow@sandiego.edu

[editor/senior director]
Julene Snyder
julene@sandiego.edu

[editorial advisory board]
Esteban del Rio '95 (BA), '96 (MEd), PhD
Lynn Hjar '98 (BBA), '06 (MSGL)
Minh-Ha Hoang '96 (BBA), '01 (MA)
Michael Lovette-Colyer '13 (PhD)
Chris Nayve '98 (BA), '06 (JD), '07 (MBA)
Rich Yousko '87 (BBA)

[senior creative director]
Barbara Ferguson
barbaraf@sandiego.edu

[writers]
Ryan T. Blystone
Karen Gross
Timothy McKernan
Allyson Meyer '16
Taylor Milam
Pamela Grey Payton '16 (MSEL)
Krystn Shrieve

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[torero notes]
Torero Notes may be edited for length and clarity. Photos must be high resolution, so adjust camera settings accordingly. Engagements, pregnancies, personal email addresses and telephone numbers cannot be published.

Please note that content for *USD Magazine* has a long lead time. Our current publishing schedule is as follows: Torero Notes received between Feb. 1-May 30 appear in the Fall edition; those received June 1-Sept. 30 appear in the Spring edition; those received between Oct. 1-Jan. 31 appear in the Summer edition.

Email Torero Notes to classnotes@sandiego.edu or mail them to the address below.

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BE A PART OF USD'S
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JOIN US ON THE NATIONAL DAY OF GIVING



Last year, more than 450 Toreros came together to raise more than \$190,000 for student scholarships, academic programs, and athletics on Torero Tuesday. Let's make 2017 even more successful. Mark your calendar and make your gift on Torero Tuesday, November 28.

Learn more at sandiego.edu/ToreroTuesday

#ToreroTuesday

NOVEMBER 28, 2017

USD MAGAZINE

UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO / FALL 2017

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HELPING ONE ANOTHER BY RAISING AWARENESS AND SUPPORT.



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Close-up of cosmic clouds and stellar winds features the young star LL Orionis interacting with the Orion Nebula flow. Image courtesy of NASA, ESA and the Hubble Heritage Team.

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[alliance]

ANCHORED IN COMMUNITY

USD collaborates with neighbors toward a shared vision

by Pamela Gray Payton '16 (MSEL)

Throughout much of the Linda Vista community, the 180-acre USD campus can be seen from virtually any vantage point. Whether it be one of five monument signs greeting motorists from all directions: "Welcome to Linda Vista. Home of the University of San Diego," or Torres banners hanging high above Linda Vista Road, the town-gown relationship is evident.

Far less visible is the intangible work USD is doing as it works across and with the community to engage in deep, democratic

and meaningful partnerships with a shared vision and collaborative effort: the anchor institution approach.

President James T. Harris III, DEd, is a founding member of the Anchor Institutions Task Force (AITF), a growing network of leaders promoting the engagement of anchor institutions including colleges, universities, hospitals, community foundations, libraries, arts institutions, and other anchors in community and economic development.

The AITF was formed in 2009

by Dr. Ira Harkavy, associate vice president and director of the Netter Center for Community Partnership at the University of Pennsylvania and Dr. David Maurrasse, founder and president of MARGA Inc., a consulting firm providing strategic advisory services and research to philanthropic initiatives and community partnerships. Today the AITF has more than 700 leader members.

At the behest of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Harkavy and Maurrasse convened a meeting

with a core group of individuals: leaders of higher education and medical institutions who were at the forefront of town-gown partnerships. President Harris, an early adopter of AITF's work, became one of the co-authors of the task force's report, *Anchor Institutions as Partners in Building Successful Communities and Local Economies*.

On a sunny Friday morning in June 2017, Linda Vista community members joined local elected officials and members of the USD community for a unique celebration at the Bayside Community Center. Bayside is a Linda Vista landmark that has been empowering the community's diverse residents to improve their quality of life through services, education and advocacy for more than 50 years.


"The partnership with Thrive Public School ensures Bayside

will not only continue to serve the community, but opens the door for Bayside to lead Linda Vista's transformation from one of the region's most challenged communities to one of the region's thriving communities that celebrates its residents' diverse cultures," said Chris Nayve, USD's associate vice president for community engagement and the director of the Karen and Tom Mulvaney Center for Community, Awareness and Social Action.

"The area surrounding the Bayside Community Center is reportedly one of the six most distressed blocks in San Diego, with under-resourced housing and educational facilities," said Nicole Assisi, PhD, '04, CEO of Thrive Public Schools. "By purchasing the Bayside property and building our Thrive Linda Vista K-8 campus here, we will effectively address the educational inequity that exists in this community."

“Supporting the Bayside and Thrive partnership is an excellent example of what it means for USD to be an anchor institution,” explains Nayve.

"For more than 25 years, USD has led curricular and co-curricular partnerships throughout Linda Vista. Students and faculty have engaged in meaningful projects with community partners, including the area's public and private schools, as well as community-based nonprofits such as Bayside. As we look ahead to USD's future, we want to deepen and strengthen USD's collective impact by aligning campus with community-identified goals and priorities."

When it opens in August 2018, the new Thrive site, the fourth Thrive public school campus in San Diego, will serve 500 K-8 grade students, with the goal of setting the standard for preparing a diverse student population to become community-minded, college-prepared and career-inspired. 

 sandiego.edu/anchor

[AROUND THE PARK]

Welcome Provost Baker

Gail Baker, PhD, a distinguished leader with more than 30 years of experience in higher education, joined USD as provost and vice president of academic affairs in July 2017. "I am extremely blessed to have found a campus of kindred spirits," says Baker. "I look forward to being a part of a team that helps bring the *Envisioning 2024* strategic plan to fruition and further develop USD's strong liberal arts curriculum and outstanding graduate, law and professional programs."



New Athletic Director

Bill McGillis came on board as USD's new associate vice president and executive director for athletics in January 2017, taking over for Ky Snyder, who was promoted to vice president for operations and chief operating officer. McGillis comes to USD from the University of Southern Mississippi, where he served as director of athletics since July 2013. "All of the natural resources are in place at the University of San Diego for greatness," McGillis says. "There's no ceiling at USD."



Interim Nursing Dean

Associate Professor Jane Georges has been named interim dean of the Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science effective July 1, 2017, following Dean Sally Brosz Hardin stepping down earlier this year. Georges joined the School of Nursing in 1996 as a faculty member and has filled numerous leadership roles over the years, including more than a decade as chair of USD's Institutional Review Board. The search for the next dean of the School of Nursing continues this fall.



Keep Up With the Latest News

Our website, *USD Magazine* +, can be found online at www.sandiego.edu/usdmag. There you'll find videos, expanded Q&As, past issues and much more. Also, check out the USD News Center at www.sandiego.edu/news. Updated frequently, there, visitors will find stories about campus, faculty and student achievements. On social media, keep up with USD President James Harris by following him on Twitter (@USDPres) and Instagram (@USDPres). And finally, please consider following USD's Facebook page: facebook.com/usandiego.



The study and performance of plays written during the reign of Henry VIII (pictured below) are among the interdisciplinary projects that place USD's Digital Humanities Center at center stage.

[rigor]

TECHNICALLY ADVANCED

Digital Humanities is a game-changer for scholars and students



by Ryan T. Blystone

New Torero alumna Emily Bezold has fond memories of her undergraduate student experience, but one decision she made early on at USD will forever be a personal “aha” moment.

Bezold was a student assistant dramaturg for the Tudor Plays Project, an ongoing interdisciplinary Digital Humanities project run

by USD Assistant Professor of English Maura Giles-Watson. The project develops and publishes new digital resources for the study and performance of early and mid-Tudor plays, chiefly those written and performed in noble households and at the court during the reign of Henry VIII. The resources, according to Giles-Watson, are to

provide students, historians, theater practitioners and scholars of literature and drama with free web-based tools for the study of pre-Elizabethan secular drama in England.

Bezold's exposure to the project was a tremendous growing experience. “Working on the Tudor Plays Project with Maura

gave me a lot of confidence in myself,” says Bezold '17, an Honors Program student. “It really got me out of my comfort zone, got me into a place to meet new people, engage with them, gain confidence in my intellectual abilities and to be part of a team.”

Serving as a Medieval and Renaissance Studies Fellow and

learning multiple computer programming methods under the tutelage of Paul Evans (pictured at left, below), the USD Humanities Center's first postdoctoral fellow in Digital Humanities, all led to Bezold's newest step — beginning an English literature master's degree program at Georgetown University this fall. “The field of Digital Humanities is rapidly changing the way scholars and students in the humanities perform and present their research,” Giles-Watson stated when the Tudor Plays Project used USD student researchers in 2014.

“DH offers new opportunities for students to participate meaningfully in humanities research projects, to collaborate with faculty members, and to work with peers from a range of disciplines. It allows students to practice and master skills that are transferable to careers in high-tech and humanistic fields as well as in business. DH itself is a growing area of employment in universities, where computer programmers and humanists work together to create new projects.”

Evans says undergraduate students' Digital Humanities opportunities will only grow.

“People typically encounter DH at the graduate level for the first time, but we've had considerable success teaching undergrads. We've had two students get into graduate schools based on their

Digital Humanities experiences [Bezold and Yasmine Hachimi '14].” A valuable new asset is the DH Studio space in the USD Humanities Center, which opened in Serra Hall in October 2016.

“The center balances traditional and new approaches to the humanities. We don't elevate one above the other; we foster the growth of both,” says College of Arts and Science Dean Noelle Norton, PhD.

Funding for the center's creation came by way of a generous donation by Carol Vassiliadis. A recent \$250,000 funding award from the W.M. Keck Foundation will launch the Keck Undergraduate Humanities Research Fellows Program and develop new collaborations between humanities and other USD academic areas. There's funding that will help to support a full-time DH postdoctoral scholar to teach DH courses and build DH capacity on campus.

“Work in Digital Humanities is an integral part of USD's Humanities Center and, under the dedicated leadership of Maura Giles-Watson and Paul Evans, it's already engaged the keen interest of students and faculty,” says Director Brian Clack. “We're all delighted that the DH element of the Humanities Center is so very vibrant, and are hugely excited to see how its influence and reputation will grow, on campus and nationwide.”



[generosity]

STUDENTS FIRST

Employee giving hits an all-time high



by Krystn Shrieve

Michelle Rohde, USD's employee relations coordinator, began working on campus nine years ago. Six years later, she was followed by her husband, Luke, who joined the university as a plumber in the building maintenance department. They're also parents to USD student Hunter Rohde '18.

The Rohdes' Torero spirit runs deep, both at work and at home.

“USD is so prestigious. I'm proud to work here and proud that my daughter goes here,” Michelle says.

Given their pride as USD employees and parents, it was a natural fit for both Luke and Michelle to step up as team captains for their respective departments when USD launched this year's Student's First! Employee Giving Campaign, which ran for four weeks during the spring semester. The Rohdes' monthly gift supports scholarships.

Nearly every employee on Michelle's team participated in the campaign and, for the second year in a row, every single em-

ployee on Luke's team contributed to the campaign.

“I was just amazed at their generosity,” says Luke of his team, made up of building maintenance, grounds and general maintenance.

Senior Director of Planned Giving John Phillips helps rally the employee teams. He says this team has been generous from the start.

“These employees — and all others who give — demonstrate commitment and generosity to the university and, fortunately for our students, more and more give each year.”

During this year's Employee Giving Campaign, 102 out of 189 departments had 100 percent participation. All told, 1,339 employees — a whopping 73 percent — gave gifts that added up to more than \$424,000.

“Students realize how lucky we are to attend a university with such caring and generous employees,” says Associated Students President Will Tate '18. “We are grateful to be a part of this wonderful community.”

[peripatetic]

ROAM IF YOU WANT TO

Toreros are on the move across the globe

During a stint studying abroad at USD's Madrid Center, students enjoyed the Las Fallas de Valencia festival. At far left is Tess Robeson '18 and Melinda Sevilla '18, accompanied by four Spanish students from Comillas, Spain.



COURTESY OF MELINDA SEVILLA '18

When you move out of a space where you're comfortable and know all of the answers, and move into a space where you don't know all the answers and aren't sure what the questions even are, something magical happens," Pierson explains.

"The students are there to engage in an environment that they couldn't be a part of in San Diego. There's an energy and a pace that you get drawn into. They get caught up in the energy and the excitement. It's something you can't duplicate in the classroom. During Sundance, it's about the films, the people, the weather. All of those things contribute to the overall student experience."

For the Sundance Film Festival class, there's only one prerequisite: a genuine interest in film. In fact, most study abroad programs at USD don't require special advance courses or requirements. Instead, students

are encouraged to pick programs that truly appeal to them. And often, the ability to complete a study abroad program in just three to four weeks makes it possible for students to complete multiple trips during their time at USD.

Director of International Studies Abroad Kira Espiritu sees these sorts of opportunities as invaluable. "Studying abroad provides students the opportunity

to travel together and experience many different aspects of culture in the host location in a very short amount of time," she explains. "Our Intercession programs are three weeks long and our summer programs are between three and four weeks long. Taking a class abroad, and then being able to actually go and experience pieces of the academic content in person, is a fantastic learning experience and, often, the most impactful part of the program."

One of the most popular ways for students to study abroad at USD is through the Second Year Experience Abroad program.

"It's a special opportunity for sophomore students to study abroad together with their class cohort. It's a great introduction to studying abroad," Espiritu says. "Students enroll during their freshman year and participate in seminars to prepare for the experience during the fall of their sophomore year. The large majority of sophomore students who participate in the program participate in a second or third study abroad experience before graduating."

But students aren't the only Toreros involved in studying abroad. Alumni are regularly asked to participate as local guides or mentors. "We're always looking to connect with our alumni abroad," Espiritu explains. "They serve as great sources of information for our students on the city, region or country and are often very generous with their time. They meet with students and faculty, organize guest speakers and help provide contacts for company visits or other activities in the region."

With more than 80 different cities to explore through study abroad programs at USD, there's no limit to the growth and discovery that can occur when students step outside of their comfort zone and explore the world. 🌍



BARBARA FERGUSON

[homegrown]

KUMEYAAY GARDEN is the new name of the University of San Diego's Tecolote Memorial Garden, celebrating that our campus is located upon the traditional territory of the Kumeyaay people, a Native American nation that still exists today in the San Diego area. A renaming ceremony is planned for Sept. 22, 2017, as part of California Native-American Day. The space honors indigenous plants as well as the Kumeyaay people's connections to this land. The ceremony, hosted by the university's Office of the Tribal Liaison, will include bird songs, storytelling, ethnobotany tours, Kumeyaay cultural activities and an art exhibition.

by Taylor Milam

With stunning gardens, carefully maintained fountains and views of Mission Bay, the University of San Diego's physical beauty makes it difficult to imagine that more idyllic vistas exist. But in truth, the opportunity for students to leave campus and venture out into the world is one of the greatest gifts USD's

students are given, one that more than 70 percent of undergraduate students enjoy.

Whether it's a program in Madrid, Spain that occurs during Intercession or a film class that makes an annual pilgrimage to the Sundance Film Festival, opportunities are varied, but the experiences are similar: students grow in unexpected ways.

For Professor Eric Pierson, PhD, co-creator of the Sundance Film Festival class, the opportunity to study off campus — whether it's in another state or to another continent — is important, because it gives students a high-impact learning experience.

"You're dropping them into a space that's unfamiliar to them.

GIFTS AT WORK

Jack McGrory '81 (JD) committed his support to USD with a blended gift that will benefit the Veterans Legal Clinic, as well as law school scholarships, which will be awarded to students who are either active or retired members of the U.S. military. McGrory, a *Leading Change* campaign committee member, is a Marine veteran and frequently speaks out on behalf of veterans' issues. "Jack's show of confidence has enabled the clinic to gain the trust of veterans throughout the San Diego area," says Bob Muth, academic director of the School of Law's legal clinics and managing attorney of the Veterans Legal Clinic.

Thanks to the Carrie Estelle Doheny Foundation, Genentech Inc. and Beckman Coulter, more than \$68,000 is available this summer for science students' research-intensive programs. Funds are available for both PURE (Pre-Undergraduate Research Experience) students and SURE (Summer Undergraduate Research Experience) students. These programs run through the summer months and involve one-on-one mentorship with USD professors.

Dustin Jones '07 (JD) came to fall interviews at USD's School of Law looking for qualified candidates to hire at Finch, Thornton & Baird LLP and wound up joining USD's Law Firm Challenge, working with the firm's partners to set up a \$5,000 named scholarship for students pursuing legal careers specializing in construction, engineering, architecture or the building industry. After meeting their scholarship recipient at the Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon, the firm not only renewed its support, but also extended their commitment with a \$25,000 five-year pledge.

[winner]

GOOOOAL ORIENTED

Seamus McFadden's incredible run as men's soccer coach comes to a close

After 39 years at the helm of USD's men's soccer, Seamus McFadden (left) is passing the torch to Brian Quinn (at right).



by Timothy McKernan

Seamus McFadden came to USD in 1979 with a prodigious task before him: create a Division I soccer program from scratch. When McFadden steps down as head coach, effective Jan. 1, 2018, he'll rank eighth in all-time career wins among active D-1 coaches in the nation, and 22nd all-time.

Not bad for a coach who was given a \$2,500 salary, a recruiting budget of a hundred bucks

and told to launch a program. McFadden laughs when he reflects on those early years.

"I didn't walk in with a blindfold," he recalls. "USD was a very small school — much smaller than it is now. It had just become a D-1 athletic program, and the focus was on basketball. I was putting ads in *The Vista*, looking for students that had any soccer experience at all."

From those humble origins,

McFadden built one of the more successful soccer programs in the nation and contributed mightily to the collection of hardware in the trophy case of Torero Athletics. In addition to nine West Coast Conference titles, under his leadership the Toreros made 14 NCAA Tournament appearances that included an NCAA championship game appearance in 1992 and an Elite Eight run in 2012.

McFadden is also a nine-time WCC Coach of the Year.

That success doesn't come as much of a surprise, given McFadden's passion for the sport. An All-American at San Diego State University who played professionally with the San Diego Jaws of the North American Soccer League, McFadden is also a passionate supporter of youth soccer. When he looks back over 39 years of coaching, in the same breath as the Torero championships he talks about taking his youth soccer teams to the state cup championship.

"It's a beautiful game, a wonderful game," he says. "I've been blessed to be around it most of my life. I can't imagine being as happy doing anything else."

McFadden passes the baton to longtime assistant and associate head coach Brian Quinn, who joked he'd have to coach until he was in his 90s to match his predecessor's amazing 39-year tenure. In something of a role-reversal, McFadden will remain at USD on Quinn's coaching staff.

"Many good friends have asked me why not go to 40 years," McFadden said at the news conference announcing his retirement and Quinn's appointment. "And the simple truth is I just don't want to. I'm ready to hand it over and I think Brian is an outstanding coach."

"It's been a great run." 📷

GETTING TO KNOW ...



CHRIS RILEY

AGE: 43 **HOMETOWN:** San Diego, Calif.

CREDENTIALS: As a professional golfer, Riley competed in more than 330 PGA Tour events in 13 seasons, winning twice. As USD's new men's golf coach, that kind of résumé earns him instant credibility. "That I've been successful at the highest level in the sport helps in a lot of ways; I know exactly what they're going through on the course, and how they can maximize their talent. I hope that having a coach who played the game and understands what it takes to win can help us land some top-level talent." **PRESSURE COOKER:** Winning a regular PGA tour event requires a great deal of intestinal fortitude, but competing in the Ryder Cup — the sport's premier team event — as Riley did in 2004, is something else entirely. "In a regular tour event, it's all about competing for yourself; for Chris Riley. In the Ryder Cup, it's about competing for the USA. The pressure to perform is just intense." **RYDER CUP, REDUX:** When asked to identify his career highlight, Riley returns to the 2004 Ryder Cup, his first, where he hit "the shot of his life," and drew a priceless reaction from a fairly famous playing partner. "They wanted to put me with a veteran, so they put me with Tiger Woods. It was the 12th hole, and I hit it within two feet or so of the flag. The crowd was going absolutely crazy. But the best part was when I picked up my tee and looked over, Tiger had this huge smile on his face. You don't get that kind of reaction from him very often, so that was really cool. I think you can still see it on YouTube, actually!"

SPORTS BRIEFS

Seven Torero baseball players were selected in the 2017 Major League Baseball Draft: catcher Riley Adams (Toronto, 3rd round), first baseman Roman Garcia (Houston Astros, 19th round), right-handed pitcher Jonathan Teaney (Cleveland Indians, 20th round), outfielder/catcher Colton Waltner (Minnesota Twins, 21st round), right-handed pitcher Sean Barry (Chicago Cubs, 21st round), left-handed pitcher Troy Conyers (Atlanta Braves, 23rd round) and outfielder Hunter Mercado-Hood (Los Angeles Dodgers, 31st round). Additionally, junior left-handed pitcher Nick Sprengel earned a spot on the USA Collegiate National Team and played against China and Cuba.

Kailey Hill, a senior on USD's softball team, earned a spot on the Philippines Women's National Softball Team. From Ramona, California, Hill played against the world's elite in two different tournaments over the summer. The RP Blu Girls, as they're known, competed in the World Cup of Softball XI, in Oklahoma City and the World Women's Softball Championship in Surrey, Canada.

Brian Fogarty retired on August 31 after serving the university with amazing distinction for the past 35 years: 13 as head football coach and more than 21 years as an athletics administrator in development. He served as a values-centered role model and mentor for coaches and administrators alike. Most importantly, he made an everlasting impact on thousands of USD student-athletes during his time here.

To BOLDLY Go...

*A most excellent adventure awaits NASA Astronaut Candidates
Matthew Dominick and Jonathan Kim*

by Karen Gross

What does it say about a relatively small liberal arts university that one sixth of NASA's 2017 astronaut class — two out of just 12 candidates — are alumni? And, to put an even finer point on this astounding accomplishment, that those 12 were culled from a record number of more than 18,000 applicants?

"These two young men are the living embodiment of the value of a liberal arts education," says USD President James Harris, adding that he was thrilled and humbled when he heard the news, but not surprised. "I think it shows the maturity of our graduates, our excellent programs, the quality of the instruction and the incredible faculty we have here."

*USD President James T. Harris
says that Matthew Dominick '05
(below, left) and Jonathan Kim
'12 (below, right) are "the living
embodiment of why a liberal
arts education is important."*



It's also a testament to the wide range of students that USD attracts and the scholars it produces. At first glance, these two astronaut candidates — Matthew Dominick '05 (BS/BA) and Jonathan "Jonny" Kim '12 (BA) — couldn't seem more different.

A Colorado native, Dominick graduated with a degree in electrical engineering and minors in physics and math. As a Naval aviator, he flew 61 combat missions during two deployments to the North Arabian Sea, then earned a master's degree in systems engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School and graduated from the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School as part of a cooperative program. A decorated test pilot with nearly 200 flight test carrier landings, Dominick was at sea, serving as a lieutenant commander aboard the *USS Ronald Reagan*, when he learned he'd been selected by NASA.

"It was rather surreal. I was running around the ship that night. NASA couldn't really call

me, I had to call them," he recalls. "I tried to make the phone call right at 2 a.m. I was trying to be professional; I spent about 15 minutes trying to patch through, sending emails to them, but the phone system wasn't working."

When he finally did get through, Dominick's good news was amplified by an unexpected bonus; a fellow University of San Diego alumnus would also be joining this rarefied astronaut class. "I was super shocked when I found out," he says. Although he and Kim didn't attend USD at the same time, they did discover some mutual friends and acquaintances.

"Jonny and I met via What's App. It's pretty awesome."

While Dominick learned of his selection out at sea, Kim got the call as he shopped for groceries with his wife in Boston, where he was training as a first-year resident in emergency medicine.

"I was expecting a phone call that day, but I didn't know what the result would be," he says. "It was just one of the greatest feelings I've ever had. A lot of emotion that I had to control because I didn't want to embarrass myself in the grocery store or on the phone."

Kim's route to NASA was as divergent from Dominick's as their locations were when they each heard the news. After graduating high school in Santa Monica, he enlisted in the Navy. He trained as a Navy SEAL, serving as a combat medic, sniper,

navigator and point man as a member of SEAL Team Three during two deployments and more than 100 combat operations in the Middle East, where his decorations included a Silver Star and a Bronze Star.

Kim enrolled at USD through the Navy's commissioning program, majored in math and graduated summa cum laude. His admission to Harvard Medical School made him a celebrity in the math department, well before he was chosen by NASA.

"We've been bragging about him ever since he went to Harvard," says Diane Hoffoss, an associate professor of Kim's who taught a Real Analysis I class during his senior year. "At first, I was surprised, then I thought, 'Well, why not? He went from Navy SEAL to math student to med

school. Why not astronaut?"

Hoffoss remembers Kim as a “dream student,” hardworking and humble, willing to put in the time and effort to understand and excel, despite having a young family at home and a job outside of school. “He’s incredibly honorable and earnest,” she says. “I’m pretty sure that of all the students I’ve ever had, I got a sense of honor from him the most. He takes being a good person very seriously.”

If Kim had thoughts of eventually applying to NASA, he didn't share them with his classmates or teachers. He says that although as a kid he had pictures on his bedroom wall of Neil Armstrong and his Apollo crew, he didn't seriously consider becoming an astronaut until he got to medical school.

"For various reasons, I didn't

have the greatest confidence growing up," he says. "I didn't have big dreams, like being an astronaut or a lot of dreams that I feel kids should have."

Matthew Dominick was one of those kids who dared to dream.

"I remember my room in the basement of my parents' house had the famous picture from the moon of the earth rising," he said. "It was a wallpaper mural. I'd wake up in the morning and on one whole wall was that picture."

As if personally absorbing the picture's sense of boundless opportunity and limitless possibility, Dominick developed a blueprint for the life he hoped to live. "There were

three big things I came up with," he says. "I wanted to work with people who were passionate and love what they do. I wanted to do things I love. And I really wanted to contribute to the world. Every time, I would evaluate a new job against those three criteria."

As an electrical engineering student, Dominick's professors remember him as a natural leader who wasn't afraid to think outside of the box. "He's the sort of person that would have great ideas and go do them," says Electrical Engineering Professor Kathleen Kramer. She recalls that as a student in her Senior Design class, he led a team that

devised a method of mapping the strength of cell phone signals across campus. "I remem-

ber very clearly that it was his idea," she said.

Dominick's imagination was already venturing beyond campus and toward space. During his senior year, he and some fellow USD students formed a team selected by NASA's Reduced Gravity Student Flight Opportunities Program, which brought them to Houston for a week to meet astronauts and included a stint on the so-called "Vomit Comet," a hollowed-out KC-135 aircraft that mimicked the conditions of space flight. The students designed experiments and conducted them aboard the aircraft while in zero gravity freefall.

Dominick was already hoping to become an astronaut then, according to Professor Daniel



Sheehan, who taught him physics and was a faculty mentor for the NASA program. The two formed an enduring friendship.

Sheehan says that Dominick really does have the right stuff: The perfect blend of confidence and competence that evoke the characters played by Tom Cruise in *Top Gun*, or Jeremy Renner in *The Bourne Legacy*.

"If anything goes south on these flights, they want people who not only have the technical skills to get them out of a jam, they want somebody who has the temperament and integrity and the self-confidence," he says. "He's the guy that will get the job done, regardless what it takes. And he will not fold."



In a small lounge used by faculty and students in the math department, pinned on a bulletin board, is a well-worn article about Jonny Kim from when he was admitted to Harvard medical school five years ago.

"He's the example we bring up when we talk to students about med school," said Hoffoss. "Also, when we talk about other things you can do with math. And when we talk about students we miss. His name comes up a lot."

That draws a surprised chuckle from Kim, who obviously made a big impression in his own quiet way, whether he knew it or not.

"I didn't realize they still had an article about me on the wall," he says. "That's embarrassing." He's not very eager to talk about himself or his own

accomplishments, including his distinguished and decorated service as a SEAL. Two deployments "is really not that many," Kim says. Yes, he won some awards, "but so did a lot of other people."

But clearly, Kim is not like other people. "He was super humble," said Erin Williams '13 (BS) who was his classmate and study partner in Real Analysis I. "We knew he was in the military, but we didn't know that he'd gotten honors or awards there. All the rest of us worked hard to keep our grades up. But he was one of the most hardworking people in our program."

For most overachievers, serving as a Navy SEAL, earning a math degree from USD and an MD from Harvard would suffice. But Kim — most recent-

ly a resident physician in emergency medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital — was still searching.

"I would like my short time on this earth to leave something positive for the rest of humanity," he said. "I got the idea planted during medical school that the NASA mission is one of the most high-yield ways to inspire our next generation to want to build a better world tomorrow. Although I didn't dream about being an astronaut as a kid, when I thought about the possibility early in medical school, it just resonated with every part of my being."

While Kim and Dominick may have taken very different paths to their common destination, what motivates them at heart is the same: A bold idealism,

innate sense of duty and a deeply rooted determination to leave the world somehow better than they found it. And though they didn't arrive at NASA directly from USD, both men agree that the years they spent at the university were instrumental in getting them there.

"I would go to engineering conferences at other universities and they'd look at us kind of funny," Dominick remembers. "But we'd beat their pants because we had a liberal arts background. We could go up there, do the technical work, and communicate exactly what we were doing. That's just as important as the technical side."

In retrospect, that's a big part of the reason that their former professors weren't really surprised when they learned of the

two men's latest achievements. "To me, it makes even more sense," says Kramer. "We are unique in a number of ways, and I see Matt as being just an example of that."

As Dominick and Kim embark on their amazing adventure, neither would speculate on what role he might play as part of a future space mission. Both say they are just looking forward to working on collaborative teams and embracing any challenges that NASA presents. Both are married with young children, and know that they may spend months or years away from their families.

"I hope I can inspire young kids — especially kids who may not have the most confidence growing up — that they can do anything with a lot of

hard work and commitment," says Kim, adding that his son is ecstatic about dad becoming an astronaut. "And that the best trait they can have to attain their goals is to really embrace failures and learn from them."

Dominick's family is already accustomed to his prolonged absences, but life as an astronaut is very different from life as an aviator — and space travel can't really compare to deployment on an aircraft carrier.

"My wife and I understand the sacrifice of being away. It's not easy. It's very difficult," he says. "It's trying to see your daughters growing up and maybe you're not there. But we understand the importance of service, and one day hopefully my kids will understand that as well."

Whatever the distant future holds, both men will spend the next two years training in Houston, where they'll learn how to walk in space, operate instruments on the International Space Station and develop general survival skills. They'll also study Russian. As newly minted astronauts, they'll be eligible for selection to fly in active space missions or to support ongoing missions from the ground.

Back at USD, their loyal fan base will be watching every move. "I'm looking forward to when they go into space and they take a USD banner with them," says President Harris. "I hope one of them is the first man on Mars."

 sandiego.edu/astro



On a Mission from God

Connecting Catholic social thought with USD's academic mission

by Timothy McKernan

When the University of San Diego celebrates its 75th anniversary in 2024, it hopes to do so as the institution that “set the standard for an engaged, contemporary Catholic university where innovative Changemakers confront humanity’s urgent challenges.”

That sentiment, from *Envisioning 2024*: the strategic plan for the University of San Diego, is for most in the campus community an aspirational goal. For Jeffrey Burns, PhD, it’s a to-do list.

Burns heads the Frances G. Harpst Center for Catholic Thought and Culture (CCTC), the intellectual engine that drives USD to answer just what that lofty goal entails. Founded in 2008, the CCTC works to explore the connection between USD’s Catholic identity and its academic mission.

“Pope Francis encourages us to encounter with Jesus and Catholicism, not just hear it,” Burns explains. “Catholic tradition is not just about who we are; it is about who we will become.”

Deserved or not, Burns says that the church had acquired a reputation for being an austere, even somber institution; an echo chamber of thou shalt not. He says one of the most fundamental elements of the CCTC is promoting an understanding that, while rooted in tradition, the Catholic Church is vibrant and relevant for people today.

“We want to remind people of the joy of the Gospel,” he says, that joy easily detected in his voice. “This tradition, this faith, this way of living is perfectly suited to address today’s challenges.”

The CCTC engages the spiritual

and intellectual life of campus community with a variety of activities. “Lessons and Carols” combines biblical readings and traditional music performed by USD’s Choral Scholars and has become a cherished campus tradition. The Switgall Lecture series is the anchor of on-campus presentations from leading Catholic scholars. Off campus — far off campus — during the center’s annual Faculty Travel Immersion seminars, faculty of every faith tradition engage in an exploration of issues affecting the church.

The faculty dimension, Burns says, is especially crucial.

“We talk about ‘Catholic education,’ and that really begins with the people doing the teaching,” he says. “Not all of our faculty are Catholic — in fact, most aren’t. But we think it’s crucial they have an understanding of what we’re about and how USD is different from other universities.”

The immersion trips have taken faculty members to Rome and Assisi to explore “Catholic Peacemaking and Diplomacy in a Time of Endless War,” and to Ireland to examine “Celtic Christianity in the Land of Saints and Scholars.” This year’s excursion took faculty to Guatemala and El Salvador to examine “Catholic Social Teaching Along the Trail of Martyrs.” In 2018, a trip to get a deeper understanding of art, architecture, engineering and politics in the Holy Land is planned.

New Faculty Catholic Identity seminars are designed to help those new to the USD community get a handle on some basic questions, including what it truly means to be a Catholic university. Burns says those sessions can be

especially rewarding.

“We get a lot of questions about academic freedom,” Burns says with a smile. “Some people have their guard up, but those guards come down pretty quickly. We’re not telling anyone what to teach or how to teach it. We try to orient them to the culture they are joining, and have them feel welcomed.”

“Some come here with questions about how ‘Catholic’ they need to be in their teaching,” Burns says. “We do our best to make it clear that you absolutely do not need to be Catholic to teach here, but our academic tradition is based on the Catholic faith, so a thorough understanding of what that means is essential.”

Catholic social thought in contemporary issues is also examined through a historical lens. As immigration continues to be a contentious issue nationwide, the CCTC leaned into the roots of the immigration rights movement spearheaded by Cesar Chavez, the labor leader and civil rights activist who co-founded what is now the United Farm Workers union.

The center launched “Cesar Chavez and Voices from the Farmworkers’ Movement,” a speaker series held in conjunction with “Cesar Chavez and Catholicism,” an Honors course team-taught by Burns and Ethnic Studies Professor Alberto Pulido. Exploring the roots of the farmworkers’ rights movement easily led to consideration of the most recent iteration of hot-button issues.

“Our purpose isn’t primarily political,” Burns says. “We don’t focus all that much on this policy or that one; the only judgements

we’re making is how Chavez’s work manifested his Catholic principles. If, in the process of that examination, students gain Catholic insight into issues that are in today’s headlines, that’s a good thing.”

The CCTC works hard, he adds, to present as many dimensions of those issues as possible, so that students can develop informed opinions. Burns pointed to this fall’s “The Church Moves Toward Nonviolence? Just Peace, Just War in Dialogue” as an example. The conference features Cardinal Peter Turkson, Bishop Robert McElroy and Marie Dennis of Pax Christi International to discuss the church’s stance on nonviolence, and representatives of the Naval Academy, Air Force Academy and West Point will discuss — from opposite poles — war and peace in the contemporary world.

Burns earned his doctorate at Notre Dame and came to USD after more than 30 years as the archivist of the San Francisco Archdiocese. In his Serra Hall office, he ticks off the myriad ways the center works to connect USD’s Catholic mission and academic goals. He stops himself.

“In the end, everything we do is created to answer this: Where do we see God’s work in the world, and what can we do to be a part of it and support it?”

Ghanaian Cardinal Peter Turkson (pictured) will be visiting campus as part of an Oct. 6-7 conference, “The Church Moves Toward Nonviolence? Just Peace, Just War in Dialogue.” For more, go to www.sandiego.edu/cctc.

SAINT ANTHONY READING, ALBRECHT DÜRRER



[relationships]

KEEPING THE FAITH

USD's Alumni Veteran Network keeps Toreros connected



by Kara Marsh Proffitt '04

While deployed to Afghanistan in 2004 as a Navy SEAL, Colin Supko's teammate received word that his wife had been robbed at gunpoint while selling a car through an online classifieds site. A seed was planted that day, and germinated for more than 10 years.

"The last thing deployed service members should have to worry about is loved ones at home being robbed or scammed," says Supko, a 2012 graduate of USD's Masters in Global Leadership program.

Armed with knowledge gained while attending the

School of Business, he created www.patriotlist.us, a social marketplace in which every member has been verified through the Department of Defense. The result is a peer-to-peer network built specifically for military and veteran families.

The University of San Diego has

nearly 3,000 veterans in its alumni ranks. They live throughout the U.S. and around the world, but they have more in common than service to the armed forces; they're also proud Toreros.

In 2015, the Alumni Association launched the Alumni Veteran Network (AVN), an organization

Alumni veterans like Colin Supko '12 (MSGL), pictured below, keep connected to one another through USD's Alumni Veteran Network, which was established in 2015.

created by and for veteran graduates. Its leadership includes a former Navy SEAL who's now an entrepreneur, a former Marine officer who's now a financial advisor and a former surface warfare officer who's now a management consultant.

Networking for and among veterans is crucial for those in job-search mode or for those looking to make a career transition. The AVN serves as a vehicle to connect alumni veterans with one another, regardless of where they are in their careers. The group also aims to connect alumni veterans back to USD in a way that's meaningful to them: by supporting current USD veteran students and USD's Veterans Center. In partnership with the Alumni Association, the AVN offers a number of events throughout the year, including networking socials and an entrepreneurship series.

"Military and veteran families already keep faith with one another and prefer to do business with each other. We're just making that easier," Supko says about PatriotList. That sentiment rings true with the AVN, but the group also enables alumni to connect with the tens of thousands of fellow Toreros around the world who can help to support their transition into the civilian workforce.

In recent years, the university has rallied around its veteran students and alumni more than ever. Proceeds from this year's Founders Gala, which takes place over Veterans Day weekend, will establish a new, endowed scholarship fund dedicated to student veterans. Operation Hat Trick, an effort to raise awareness and support for wounded service members and veterans, adds to that effort. These are just a few of the ways that USD continues to show its appreciation for its service members. [f](#)

Go to toreronetwork.sandiego.edu/veterans.



[collaborative]

MEETING OF MINDS

Partnership aims to turn career dreams into reality

by Allyson Meyer '16

Toreros helping Toreros. As the University of San Diego approaches its 75th anniversary in 2024, the focus is on student success. Professional development is at the heart of this mission, evidenced by a renewed commitment to connect alumni with campus career resources.

The creation of a new position focused solely on alumni career engagement is one immediate outcome of a joint initiative between USD's Career Development Center and the Office of Alumni Relations.

"Our new assistant director of alumni career engagement, Amy Brierley, will be charged with bringing fresh ideas and new ways to connect students to alumni, as well as supporting alumni in their professional development," says Career Development Center Direc-

tor Robin Darmon. "Lifetime support of our students and alumni is what USD is all about. It's the heart of our mission. It's the heart of all that we do in our culture of care. That's what sets USD apart."

Over the past few years, alumni engagement with programs such as Torero Treks and the Torero Connections Mentorship has increased. In addition, more alumni have sought out campus resources for personal development, evidenced by an increase in alumni appointments with career staff and the growth in their use of the USD online career platform.

"I've seen extremely engaged alumni," says Darmon. "We partner with the Alumni Relations team to host networking events that bring students and alumni together. And our alumni are loyal; they hire our students."

For Adobe's Jeff Vijungco '95,

vice president of employee experience and talent, remaining connected to USD includes being involved in the professional development of Toreros.

"The primary reason for obtaining an undergraduate degree is for 'readiness' for the next phase of life," says Vijungco (pictured at far left, above). He has personally driven the scouting effort for 30 USD student hires at Adobe over the past three years. "There's an emotional and visceral connection to helping a fellow Torero, even if you haven't met formally."

For Darmon and Vijungco, it's this unique Torero relationship that ensures alumni success in ever-changing professional environments. Through this community, career dreams are becoming attainable, and opportunities continue to grow for USD Toreros. [f](#)

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fuehrer, graduated from USD in 2011 and is in a family practice physician residency in Santa Maria, California. My son, Joel Brodfuehrer, graduated from USD in 2016 and is in law school at the University of Arizona in Tucson."

JOHN KELLY (BA) has worked as a Silicon Valley executive with companies such as Oracle and SAP — along with some half-dozen startup companies — since graduating with the second class of computer science majors at USD. Over the years, he has held positions as chief operating officer, chief risk officer and chief executive officer, managing teams of over 5,000 people, raising more than \$150 million in venture capital, managing initial public offerings and selling companies. His son, Karston, started his freshman year at USD in the fall of 2016.

[1986]
SHARIE (JOHNSON) ALTOMARE (BA), '92 (MA) has been the executive assistant to the San Diego County library director since September 2016. She also contributes DIY landscape projects to the annual water-wise landscape contest hosted by the San Diego County Water Authority.

WILLIAM BOTHAMLEY (JD) expected to retire from the California Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District, in September 2017 after 20 years as a senior appellate court attorney.

GENEVIEVE MARIE KNYCH-ROHAN (BA) has been a volunteer court-appointed special advocate for foster children through Voices for Children for 12 years. In her free time, she is the district director for 13 of the San Diego and Inland Empire Soroptimist Clubs. "We are a group of businesswomen who gather together to support education for women and girls here in the community and abroad. My day job is still as an executive recruiter for Vistage Worldwide, a company which forms peer groups for CEOs," she says.

[1987] 🎓
ROBERT WISE (BA) and several fellow crew alumni hosted a pancake breakfast for the men's and women's crew programs on March 18, 2017.

[1988]
SHARIE ALTOMARE (BA), '92 (MA) is executive assistant to the county library director and a San

Diego County employee for four years.

[1989]
SALAH ALKHAMEES (BA) reports that she has worked in an oil and gas company for 27 years and she has four children who will graduate from college soon. "USD is the best experience of my life still to this day," she says. "I hope to visit campus again soon."

RICH HIRASUNA (BBA) retired from the United States Navy. His final transition was from E-2C mission commander to anesthesiologist. He says his wife, Cherie, expected to retire from the Navy in August 2017 and that they look forward to a civilian life free from deployments!

1990s

[1990]
CHRISTOPHE ROSENSTIEL (MBA) has invented a new innovative tricycle. Learn about it at www.kiffy.fr.

ERIC SCHUMACHER (BA) lives in Santa Barbara, California, with his wife, Marie, and two children, Aidan and Lily. He completed his second historical fiction novel, *Raven's Feast*, and is the founder of Neology, a public relations and marketing communications agency.

JIM WESTLUND (BA), '05 (MA) is in his 25th year as a teacher and head basketball coach at Chula Vista High School in San Diego.

[1991]
GREGORY DePASQUALE (BA) was promoted to senior vice president, general counsel and secretary of Copart Inc., a global leader in online vehicle auctions. Based in Dallas, the company has operations in the United States, Canada, Brazil, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Germany, Spain, India, the United Arab Emirates, Oman and Bahrain, and buyers in more than 170 countries.

KACEY SMITH (BA) retired in 2015 after 25 years as a Catholic educator and assistant principal to pursue a career in real estate. "I currently work for Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices California Properties in Del Mar and love my new adventure. My husband, Ray Smith '90, and I live in

Carlsbad and have four children: Ray and Courtney attend Boston College, Isabella is a sophomore at Cathedral Catholic High School and Colman is at St. John in Encinitas."

[1992] 🎓
MICHAEL BROWER (MBA) is building the skin care brand MDRejuvena, sold primarily through the physician channel. "And I also attended the first five games of the World Series, so I got my fair share of Kris B. Go Cubs go!!" Michael says.

JUDITH FORD (IMBA) defended her PhD in environmental communication in Amsterdam in 2016 and she has been teaching intermittently at Sonoma State University.

STACEY McCARTY (BA) moved from Seattle 10 years ago to Nashville, Tennessee, where she works for Vanderbilt Leadership Academy at Vanderbilt University. "Our kids are 17, 14, 13 and 12; college is nearing! Started back rowing in February after our oldest son took to the sport and now rows competitively. Loving the South and missing the beaches!"

ELIZABETH WARD (BA) adopted a daughter on Jan. 25, 2016, and completed the administrative services credential in May 2017 at USD's Educational Leadership Development Academy in the School of Leadership and Education Sciences. Elizabeth was named San Diego Unified High School Teacher of the Year in 2008.

[1993]
KIM (HOLT) BRAUN (BA) continues to teach computer science at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado, and says she longs to return to San Diego someday. She and her husband, Steve, have a 16-year-old son, Parker. They enjoy skiing and Kim has a passion for the outdoors and community involvement. She has advanced degrees in computer science and management and is a master nutrition therapist.

[1995]
GREG HARKLESS (BA), '03 (Med) returned to San Diego after seven years in Fredericksburg, Virginia, where he helped open and manage a state-of-the-art "green" martial arts school. He is the executive director of a nonprofit organization focused on embodied peacemaking and trauma recovery. A certified assistant instructor in aikido (a nonviolent, traditional Japanese martial art), Greg is working toward his fourth-degree black belt.

BRENT HODGES (BA) is the superintendent of schools at Scottsdale Christian Academy in Phoenix. He was named Most Influential in Valley Education and the academy was honored as the Best Private and Charter School by *Arizona Foothills Magazine*. His son, TJ Hodges, finished his term as president of USD's Associated Students and graduated in May 2017. Brent and his wife, Pattie, both graduated from

USD with accounting degrees and they are also former Beta Alpha Psi accounting fraternity presidents at USD. "There's a lot of Torero in TJ's blood-line!" Brent says.

SUSAN (HOSKING) PAYMENT (Med), '03 (EdD) reports that after 27 years in higher education administration, she retired in April 2017. "My spouse and I look forward to enjoying life in Charleston, South Carolina, as well as engaging with agencies and organizations we support," Susan says. In March 2017, she was awarded honorary lifetime membership in the Association of College Unions International and she completed a two-year volunteer appointment as chair of the 2017 annual conference program team.

[1994]
ANDREW ISAKSEN (BS/BA), '05 (IMBA) completed a two-year rotation on the Supplier Management Finance Compliance, Tools and Processes team of Boeing Commercial Airplanes, where he implemented process improvements related to the procurement process and financial SOX controls in support of airplane production programs. He also serves on the USD Employer Advisory Board Committee and sponsors students on Torero Treks to visit Boeing. Andrew's kids are 8 and 3 and they are having a great time in the Pacific Northwest snow skiing, biking, playing sports and sightseeing with his wife, Arlene.

DEREK KRANIG (BS/BA) was promoted to electrical engineering manager at Innovative Laser Technologies in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He and his wife, Brie, welcomed their first child, Kendall, in January 2016.

[1995]
GREG HARKLESS (BA), '03 (Med) returned to San Diego after seven years in Fredericksburg, Virginia, where he helped open and manage a state-of-the-art "green" martial arts school. He is the executive director of a nonprofit organization focused on embodied peacemaking and trauma recovery. A certified assistant instructor in aikido (a nonviolent, traditional Japanese martial art), Greg is working toward his fourth-degree black belt.

PORT MARTIN (EdD) published four books in 2016: *Roar Like a Lion ... Again* (male health), *Get Back in*

the Hunt (female health), *The Key* (murder mystery novel) and *Sunrise, Sunset* (poetry).

PAULINE (HAMELEHLE) PFOHL (BA) moved to Seattle in 2013 with her family for a position as a teacher for English-language learners in elementary school with Seattle Public Schools. In 2014, she received an MED in curriculum and instruction with a minor in teaching English for speakers of other languages from Concordia University in Portland, Oregon.

[1996]
MIKE BATTIN (JD) is a partner in the business law firm Navigato & Battin LLP, and treasurer for the Legal Aid Society of San Diego. Mike lives in Carlsbad, California, with his wife, Brenna, and children: Riley, Cassidy and Cole.

RANDY BEARD (BA), '99 (MBA) returned from nearly a year of travel in Mexico and throughout the United States, and reports that he is looking forward to relocating in Los Angeles.

ROGER HIGGINS (JD) published his first novel, *Billy Gogan, American*, about a young man who is forced to leave Ireland on the eve of the Great Hunger in 1844 and seeks fortune in the infamous Five Points neighborhood, which was New York's — and America's — first notorious slum.

ANN SOMMERS (JD) is an attorney with the San Diego Public Defender's Office.

[1997] 🎓
JENNIFER CAREY (BA) writes that she and fellow alumna Anna Chimowicz went from roommates to the board of directors for their nonprofit, Fun 4 Good. Their flagship event is a bicycle ride from Irvine to Solana Beach, California, which raises money for breast cancer research. Both of Anna and Jennifer's moms are breast cancer survivors.

LAURA (CLARK) FEE (BA) reports that she and Joseph Fee were married on June 11, 2016.

ERIC GARFIELD (MBA) was promoted to valuation and advisory regional manager for the Los Angeles, El Segundo and Inland Empire offices of Cushman & Wakefield in California. Eric is the point person for bidding and assigning work, handling quality

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control, human resources and operations-related questions.

LUIS MASSIEU (BBA) reports that he and his wife, Marta, welcomed their third daughter, Valentina, in February 2017. He says that big sisters Matilda and Flavia are excited to have their new sister home.

ALICIA MEJIA (BA), '03 (MA) is a management consultant with a firm specializing in the life sciences. She works in project management and process improvement for biopharmaceutical and medical device companies in the San Francisco Bay Area.

JAMES PERKINS (BBA) has a new position with Stanford's Graduate School of Business and relocated to the Bay Area after 12 years in New York. "I look forward to meeting new USD alumni in the Bay Area and reconnecting with old friends!"

[1998]
BRIAN MURPHY (BA) reports that he and his wife, Kellie '00, welcomed a son, Eóin (Owen) Cuinn, in November 2016. Brian and Kellie live in Northport, Long Island, New York. Brian is in sales for a medical device company in the New York City metro area.

[1999]
BRIAN CONVERSE (BA) self-published his first science fiction novel, *Rajani Chronicles I: Stone Soldiers*, on March 24, 2017. As an independent author, Brian wrote the novel, formatted it for various editions (softcover, hardcover, e-book, NOOK) and worked with an artist on the cover. As a student at USD, Brian was the student director of the USD publication *Asylum*. He lives in Colorado with his wife, Lisa (Rundquist) '00, and their four children: Andrew, 11; Zachary, 9; Daniella, 7; and Ethan, 21 months. The novel is available as an e-book on Amazon, Kindle and NOOK, and will be available in independent bookstores soon.

JOHN CROSSEN (BA) writes that he "started a Big Data consulting company."

2000s

[2000]
EDWARD KAEN (BS/BA) reports that he and his wife, Deborah,

welcomed their first child, Grace, in April 2016.

TIARE MARTIN (BS/BA) was invited to speak at the Hawaii Executive Conference, an invitation-only forum for senior executives to engage in meaningful dialogue and initiate positive change. Conference panels included frank discussions on worldwide economic, political, cultural and environmental changes and how Hawaii-based businesses can navigate through this evolution. Tiare spoke on disruptive innovation and the role it should play in Hawaii's future. In addition, Tiare was also recognized by the *Pacific Business News* as one of Hawaii's 40 Under 40.

NATHAN SCHNEIDER (BS/BA) was promoted to commander in the U.S. Navy. He reports that he and his wife, Miriah, have two children: Tess, 2, and Grant, born in August 2016. The family lives in Hawaii.

RICARDO VALERDI (BS/BA) was recently inducted into the Mexican Academy of Engineering and plans to take a year-long sabbatical at the Technical University of Madrid and United States Military Academy at West Point. He developed a virtual reality concussion simulator for football that was funded by the National Collegiate Athletic Association and the Department of Defense.

[2001]
LISA DUVAL (BS/BA) accepted a position with Honeywell Sensing and Internet of Things as a strategic account manager for medical accounts in Southern California. She lives in Escondido, California, with her daughters, ages 7 and 5.

MARK HEFFERNAN (BS/BA) accepted a senior program manager role at Tactical Lighting Systems, a small defense startup in Chicago. TLS develops contingency airfield lighting solutions for military applications. Prior to that, Mark worked for 14 years on the Global Hawk and LITENING programs at Northrop Grumman.

SALLY (MAHDAVIL) HERR (BS/BA) reports that she married Matthew Herr in 2016. She began a new job as senior program manager at Trellisware in 2017. She also taught a systems engineering course as an adjunct professor at USD.

AMANDA (SCARBERRY) HUPPERT (BA) reports that she earned a Master of Public Administration in June 2016 and was married on Feb. 5, 2017.

LYNNAE LEE (JD) writes, "2017 has me taking on more volunteer responsibilities: 1) as president of the Friends of the Library of Hawaii; and 2) as chair of the Family Law Section of the Hawaii State Bar Association. I continue to serve in the Children's Ark at my church and as a volunteer staff member with the Honolulu Marathon Clinic."

RODD MILLER (BBA) is the owner of Miller Wealth Management, an independent financial planning firm in Carlsbad, California. He is married to Mary (Wheeler) Miller '01 and they have three children, ages 10, 8 and 1.


ANDREW PUTNAM (BS/BA) co-founded the Microsoft Catapult FPGA project, which won the GeekWire Innovation of the Year award. The nomination noted that the company demonstrated "the first AI supercomputer" during Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella's closing keynote address at the company's Ignite technology conference in Atlanta. Catapult is deployed across 15 countries and five continents, and is being used for applications in machine learning, artificial intelligence, accelerated networking and more.

TYLER QUAN (BS/BA) has taken on a new position at KAB Labs in San Diego helping to lead a team performing systems engineering for the Navy's Ship Self Defense System (SSDS). Tyler and his wife, Lindsay, welcomed their first child, Koa Elliot, to the family in March 2016.

MICHAEL SPENCER (BS/BA) reports that he and his wife, Jennifer, have been busy raising their year-old daughter, Caroline Maria. Michael is a network designer for the U.S. Navy Network Design Facility at the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center Pacific. He is a subject-matter expert on a DARPA project and the test director for the project's system connectivity demonstration. Michael traveled to Denmark to provide training to the Joint Data Link Operations Center and to Fort Bragg to provide a brief to the Worldwide Interoperability Working Group and Joint Interface Control Officer Symposium.

In his free time, he volunteers with Scripps Mesa Fireworks Inc., the nonprofit organization that provides funding and coordination for the 4th of July fireworks show in Mira Mesa, California.

JESSICA (TORRES) THORNBURGH (BA) reports that she and her husband, Greg, celebrated the arrival of a son, Prince Thornburgh, on May 18, 2017.

[2002] 
JUSTIN ALMEIDA (BA) attends the seminary at Seattle University's School of Theology and Ministry.

OLGA ÁLVAREZ (JD) was named to the Top 50 San Diego Super Lawyers list for 2017. Olga is a certified legal specialist in estate planning, trust and probate law by the State Bar of California. Her practice focuses on preserving and protecting assets for individuals and families. She also represents financial institutions, private fiduciaries, business owners and beneficiaries.

JOSH BACCA (BA) was promoted to the level of commander in the Navy. He reports that he and his wife, Courtney, welcomed their second son, Oliver, into their family at the end of April 2017. Asher, age 2, is excited to be a big brother. The family expected to move from Memphis, Tennessee, back to Norfolk, Virginia, in August 2017.

BARBARA BRENKUS (BA) is general counsel for Baker Electric Inc. and Baker Electric Solar, based in Escondido, California.

RAUL de LEON (MA) reports that he retired early. "I teach one class a year and try to travel once a year," he says. "Last trip, I visited Albania, Kosovo and Montenegro."

TONI HOMBERG (BA) continues clinical research in immunology. "Having fun with my 6-month-old," Toni reports.

JEREMY SNYDER (BA) started a new business called Code Ninja, a coding education boot camp that prepares students to pursue a career in software development. "We also recently welcomed a new baby boy, Jacques, on Oct. 6, 2016," Jeremy says. "We are thrilled to have him, as is his 2-year-old sister, Lila."

[2003]
BASIL CONSIDINE (BA) wrote the music, book and lyrics for *Game of Thrones: The Musical*, which was the best-selling show of the 2017 Tampa International Fringe Festival. This parody of the HBO series examines the world of Westeros from the perspective of its women, commenting on issues in contemporary society such as women's rights, discrimination and immigration. The musical received Best of Fringe and Critic's Pick awards at the 2016 Minnesota Fringe Festival and was one of the bestselling shows at the 2017 O'ahu and Maui Fringe Festivals.

REMY DE LA PLAZA (BA) moved from her hometown of Pasadena, California, to Auckland, New Zealand, in January 2017 to pursue a new personal and professional adventure. After practicing law in the nonprofit and community development sector for nearly 10 years in Los Angeles, Remy now serves as the manager of the Land Advisory Services Team in the Community Facilities Department of Auckland Council.

KRISTEN (SANDSTROM) FERREIRA (BA) lives on a mini-homestead on the central coast of California with her husband, Dan, and their five kids: Kaia, 10; Elijah, 8; Obadiah, 7; Zoey, 3; and baby Ezra. They own a design-build construction company and a window company.

STEPHEN HOULAHAN (MBA) was elected to the Santee City Council in California.

CAITLIN (CURRAN) KAVANAGH (BA), '04 (MA) reports she and her husband, Niall, welcomed their third child, August Patrick. "He is adored by his older sisters Camilla Mae and Clementine June!" Caitlin writes.

JENNI (EAGAN) MASSMAN (BBA) reports that she married Brody Massman in August 2016.

ANNIE SCHOTT (BA) finished her 13th year of teaching elementary school in the Hillsboro School District in Oregon. She earned a Master of Education degree in curriculum and instruction with a concentration in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) from Concordia University.

[2004]
MELODY ABLOLA (BS/BA) relocated to Arup's San Francisco office and was promoted to associate in the firm. She leads the logistics consulting practice for the Americas region and advocates industrial and systems engineering design that is focused on sustainable materials and energy consumption. She reports that she and her wife, Anna, miss London, but are enjoying the California sunshine.

BRENDAN INGLIS (BBA) was promoted to senior project manager for Allied Builders System. Brendan joined the firm in 2009 and he has 11 years of construction experience. Notable projects include PBS Hawaii, Clinical Labs of Hawaii and numerous retail renovation projects. Brendan is an avid surfer and does rough water swims in Waikiki and the North Shore on Oahu.

LISA JOHANSEN (BA) began a new role as senior development manager at Zillow Group in Seattle, Washington, recently.

DIMITRIS MAGEMENEAS (MBA) founded San Marcos Mega GamePlex in 2016, a nonprofit organization focused on youth sports. "My team's vision is to create a world-class sports complex and community center to benefit youth sports," he says. "Our motto is 'Youth Development, Healthy Living, Building Community.' Like-minded Toreros are welcome to join our effort!"

VERONICA MORA (BS/BA) is a product development engineer at Breg. She's focusing on textile and 3D-knitting design applications to orthopedic devices. She recently returned from Cuba and expects to travel to Japan and England later in 2017.

MICHELLE MULHAIR (BA) celebrated 10 years of working in student affairs at Concordia University in Portland, Oregon. She is an academic adviser for undergraduate students and develops curricula for — and teaches in — the university's First-Year Experience program.

CHIKE OUTLAW (BA) is an account manager for Waste Management, handling environmental, sustainability and recycling services for commercial and government accounts, including USD.

[2005]
MARITZA JOHNSON (BA) was recently promoted to senior user experience researcher at Google, where she's been a member of the identity team since 2014. She reports that she and her husband, David, welcomed Graham Harmon to the family in October 2016.

MICHELLE (ESTEBAN) KREMEN (BS/BA) recently joined Splunk Inc. as patent counsel. In February 2017, she reports that she married her husband, Alex.

WHITNEY (FISHER) ROGERS (BA) was promoted to senior engineering manager at Twitter in Boulder, Colorado. She says that she and her husband, Neal, welcomed their first child into their family in July 2016 and are loving every minute of parenthood. They are delighted with their daughter, Grace.

MILES ROMNEY (MAcc) completed a PhD in accountancy at Michigan State University in May 2016 and then moved his family to Tallahassee, Florida, for a tenure-track faculty position at Florida State University.

[2006]
BENJAMIN FIEMAN (BS/BA) recently switched to a career in real estate in Honolulu. He specializes in residential real estate and sold more than \$7 million in his first year with 16 transactions. He still helps out with his family's swimwear business, Loco Boutique.

LORI (LILLY) HEDANI (BBA) returned home to Honolulu in 2007 and has been working in health care. In 2014, the year she was married, she was diagnosed with and successfully treated for acute myeloid leukemia. Today, she is in remission and reports that she and her husband welcomed their first child in 2016: a girl named Ava James.

MARK KONDRAT (BS/BA) completed his active-duty Naval service after finishing a tour on the aircraft carrier *USS Nimitz* as a "shooter" or arresting gear and catapult officer. He recently joined General Atomics Aeronautical, where he is managing programs and projects for the company-owned fleet of unmanned aerial vehicles. He and his wife, Brittney, are busy with a new home they purchased in

Rancho Bernardo, California, and taking their son Finn (15 months) to the beach.

MARIA (YODER) SWITZER (BA) reports that she was married on March 13, 2017. She has three children, born on Feb. 6, 2013, June 26, 2015, and May 3, 2017.

[2007] 
ALI ALMATROUK (BS/BA) was appointed managing director at Jadeite Group, a family-owned business focusing on real estate ownership and development in addition to investments. He still runs Makers Inc., which represents Portuguese brands such as Wicanders and JNF in Kuwait in addition to its existing education technology business. Makers Inc. holds a minority stake in Studio Toggle, a Kuwait-based design studio, which recently won the Middle East Architect Award 2016 for the Residential Project of the Year. Ali is moving into a new house with his wife, Maiss, and daughter, Sheikha, age 5.

RICARDO ARREDONDO (BA) has entered a career in business finance as vice president in the business banking department for JP Morgan Chase.

ELIAZER AYALA-AUSTIN (EdD) was granted tenure as counseling faculty at City College of San Francisco (CCSF) in December 2015. She was recruited as interim dean of counseling and matriculation at San Jose City College in January 2016 and offered the permanent position in September 2016. She still serves on the counseling faculty at CCSF.

TAMMY DePETRO (MS) relocated from Phoenix to Colorado Springs, Colorado, for one year as supply chain manager in specialty seating with UTC Aerospace Systems.

BRITTANY HALL (BBA, BA) began a new role in January 2017 with Marriott Hotels International as a recruiting manager for the Midwestern region on the university relations team. She recruits for internships with Marriott (freshmen-juniors) and for management development programs (graduating seniors).

DANA HERNANDEZ (BS/BA) was recently hired as Salt Lake City's public art program manager where she manages a multimillion-dollar

public art collection and acts as the liaison between the mayor, city departments, independent artists, fabricators and the general public. In 2016, Dana married Will Tuddenham in Park City, Utah. She was featured in the Summer 2017 issue of *USD Magazine*.

MATTHEW PARR (BA, MA '11) reports he married his dream girl, Amy, in a ceremony overlooking the Pacific Ocean on Feb. 17, 2017.

MATT PETRUCCI (BS/BA) earned a Master of Science in mechanical engineering and a PhD in neuroscience from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Last fall, he was awarded an MnDRIVE postdoctoral fellowship in neuromodulation from the University of Minnesota to study deep brain stimulation treatments for Parkinson's disease. He reports that he and his wife, Samantha '07, are happily settled in Minnesota's Twin Cities.

COLIN PORTERFIELD (BS/BA) welcomed his son, Carson, into the world in December 2016. He continues to work as a product engineer for decoking systems at Flowserve.

[2008]
AMY ENGLISH (BA) is a congressional liaison for the Foreign and Security Policy Group at the British Embassy in Washington, D.C. Previously, Amy managed communications and public affairs for a nonprofit organization fighting sex trafficking, traveling throughout the United States and the Caribbean to raise the level of response among citizens, governments and legislators.

KRISTEN FORD (BA) is a licensed marriage and family therapist. She works with children, teens and adults in a group practice in Carlsbad, California. Her husband, Greg, is a real estate agent with Redfin. The couple enjoys hiking and walking their dog, Scotland, and they love being foster parents to dogs and cats.

JOHN HAMMERSTRAND (JD) is a first officer and professional standards mediator at SkyWest Airlines. He is also an attorney with Chihak and Martel.

JULIA HOWLAND (BA) is a relief veterinarian in the San Diego area.

JESSICA (WOLFE) NOLAN (BA) reports she was married in November 2016. She recently accepted a position as grants coordinator for Voices for Children, a local nonprofit that recruits, trains and supervises court appointed special advocates, volunteers who advocate for the best interests of foster children in San Diego County.

WILL PHELPS (BBA) reports that he and his wife, Amanda, have two daughters, Emma and Lily.

SHANNON REID (BA) began a boutique architecture and interior design firm in New York City.

DAVID VESEY (BA) is a software developer and entrepreneur. His positions include senior programmer analyst at the University of San Diego as well as cofounder and chief technical officer of MyHerbPharm, a compounding pharmacy and online tool for herbal medicine. David also is starting a new company called The Safe Water Project, which creates a device to monitor the quality of drinking water, and finishing a master's degree in healthcare informatics.

TOM YACKO (BBA) joined the Peace Corps and served more than two years as a volunteer in Kazakhstan. Upon returning, he graduated from law school and is working as an attorney, focusing primarily on civil litigation.

[2009]
KEEGAN FONG (BBA) handles marketing for the Vissla surf brand and D'Blanc eyewear. He is about to open a fast-casual Chinese restaurant in Los Angeles.

GRECIA GARCIA (BBA) moved back to San Diego after she was hired at Sullivan Solar Power in Mira Mesa, California. As a community developer, she establishes and maintains effective working relationships with clients, government officials, media representatives, businesses and organizations and develops new business opportunities. Sullivan Solar Power has been ranked an *Inc. Magazine* 5,000 Fast-



LUCAS TURNBLOOM

[Leadership]

A JOYFUL SPIRIT

Pope Francis names John Dolan '85 auxiliary bishop

This spring, His Holiness Pope Francis appointed Fr. John P. Dolan '85 (BA) as auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of San Diego; he took up his duties in June 2017. In this role, he will assist in diocese operation and management and in the performance of sacramental duties, such as confirmations.

Bishop Robert McElroy noted two central characteristics of Bishop Dolan's priesthood: the great love which he has for the priests and the people of God, and the intensely joyful spirit that permeates his life and mission. "Our local church will be deeply blessed by these gifts in his new episcopal role of leadership, sacrifice and prayerful service," McElroy said.


Dolan begins his new duties at a time when the diocese is

implementing innovative initiatives to strengthen local Catholic families and their communities. One of these grew out of a historic synod held in fall 2016 to develop ways to strengthen marriage and families and to welcome and support youth and young adults. Another offers leadership development opportunities for local Catholic school administrators, in partnership with the University of San Diego. And still another is providing vital resources to immigrants and refugees in light of changes at the federal level.

Dolan, 54, grew up in San Diego and was ordained on July 1, 1989 by Bishop Leo T. Maher. He was educated in local Catholic schools before attending St. Francis Seminary and USD, where he received an under-

graduate degree in philosophy. He continued his studies at St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park, California, where he earned a Master of Divinity degree and a Master of Arts in theology.

"I am profoundly grateful to his Holiness Pope Francis for this honor," said Dolan. "I look forward to accompanying Bishop McElroy in his ministry to this beautiful diocese in which I have witnessed the presence of God's love continually for the whole of my life."

Dolan has served as a priest in the Diocese of San Diego for 27 years. Most recently, he has served as vicar for clergy at the Pastoral Center, and as pastor at St. John the Evangelist and St. Vincent De Paul in Mission Hills/Hillcrest. — *Roman Catholic Diocese of San Diego.* 

est Growing Company for seven years in a row.

SHERMAN GILLUMS (MSGL) was recognized as one of 2016's HillVets 100, an honor that highlights the most influential and impactful veterans, service members and supporters from 2016. He was also featured in *Savoy Magazine's Power 300* in the spring 2016 issue.

DAVID TURNER HOFF (BBA) moved to Washington, D.C., after graduate school to take a job in finance. "After two years in the corporate world, I decided to venture into the entrepreneurial space," he says. "I am one of the co-founders of Vegetables and Butcher, an effortless meal subscription service that delivers chef-designed, dietician-approved, thoughtfully prepared meals directly to your doorstep. We launched our business in October 2016 and have been growing ever since. Lots of work, but lots of fun too!"

BEN HUNTER (BS/BA) finished a Master of Science in ocean engineering at Oregon State University in December 2016 and is nearing eight years of active duty in the Navy Civil Engineer Corps.

CARLOS JAUREGUI (LLM) moved from practicing banking and real estate law to owning and developing a Mexican craft beer, Acapulco Golden. He also is developing a digital literature app for Spain and Latin America.

BYRCE KNUDSON (BS/BA) completed a Master of Science in engineering management.

JESSIE LAMUG (BA, BBA '09) works at the ABC-affiliate TV station in Honolulu. Jessie also works independently as a studio representative, facilitating advanced screenings and events for a variety of movie studios.

SANGITA NIROLA (MAPJ) began working for Adam Smith International after graduation as a team leader for a project funded by Asian Development Bank and the Japanese Fund for Poverty Reduction. She subsequently worked in the areas of international relief and development, women's economic empowerment in post-conflict situations, and advocating for the rights of senior citizens and social protection. "Currently, I am back to my NGO, Swati, for women's empower-

ment that I established in 2002," Sangita says. "As a chairperson, I am in the process of restructuring, planning and writing a project proposal to make Swati self-sustaining."

TYLER PINKOS (BA) launched his own footwear design and development company for other brands to hire. He is handling a lot of business development and says he hopes to attend some USD events in San Diego, since he moved from Orange County, California.

LAURA SHEPPARD (JD) hired the first full-time associate for her law office. She has been in a solo criminal defense practice since graduating from USD's School of Law in 2009. Her firm now focuses on post-conviction work, including parole law, writs and appeals. Since 2011, Laura has helped more than 60 individuals with life sentences gain release from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

JENSEN SHIRLEY (EdD) completed a master's degree in mental health counseling with emphasis in military and family services. He is an intern at Palomar Family Counseling Services in Escondido, California.

MELISSA (CARRADE) SMITH (BAcc) reports that she was married to Patrick Smith on July 23, 2016, at Saints Peter and Paul Church in San Francisco.

SARAH TIRA (BA) says that she and her husband, Patrick '04, are enjoying their new baby boy, Patrick Robert, born on Sept. 29, 2016. His nickname is Patch.

SERGIO VALDEZ (BS/BA) was promoted to engineering manager at Troy-CSL Lighting Inc.

2010s

[2010]
EDNALEN ACENAS (BA) joined General Atomics as a software project engineer. She works with software programmers through the design, implementation and test phases, while managing the earned value of the project. She also ventures outdoors as much as she can; recent travels included hiking Half Dome in Yosemite and Angel's Rest

in Portland, Oregon, where she was proposed to at the top of the mountain.

ELVIS BABILA (BS/BA) was promoted to area contracts manager, northern region, for Solar Turbines. He also graduated from Columbia University with a Master of Science in material science and engineering. In January 2017, he enrolled at Columbia Business School to pursue an MBA. He lives with his fiancée, Jackie, on the upper east side of Manhattan, New York City.

LAUREN CRONIN (BS/BA) was recently promoted from systems engineering to project manager integrator for a software development team of 80 people at BAE Systems in San Diego. She is currently working toward obtaining a project management professional certificate.

RYLAND GILL (BS/BA) was recently promoted to value stream manager at Parker Hannifin. He and his wife, Angie, have two boys, Connor and Landon.

JUSTIN HALL (BS/BA) is a field instructor for Northwest Outward Bound, guiding backpacking trips in Chilean Patagonia since 2012. This fall, he expected to begin studying for a Master of Science in sports and recreation administration at Eastern Washington University.

JACLYN KURTELA (BA) finished her fifth year at Oracle and her first year as varsity assistant soccer coach at Saint Ignatius in San Francisco.

MATT LEIGH (BS/BA) was nominated for two Grammys for audio engineering work performed on Natalie Grant's 2015 release, *Be One*. Matt is producing projects for Nashville-based country artist Sheridan Gates and Los Angeles-based pop artist Dani King, among others.

JOHN-PAUL MARTIN (BA) closed a funding round for his agricultural technology startup, GrowX (www.growx.io). GrowX builds aeroponics systems powered by artificial intelligence for commercial indoor farms. John-Paul lives in Oakland, California, with his best friend from high school.

ABIGAIL STEPHENSON (JD) leads the new northern Nevada office of Blanchard, Krasner & French. Abigail, a

partner in the firm, practices primarily in the areas of business law, estate planning and trademark prosecution.

[2011]
DENISE ALFARO (BBA) writes "I've been working as a data analyst in the San Diego and Los Angeles areas. Living the dream. I'm so proud to be a Torero!"

DEEP BEDI (BS/BA) moved to Hong Kong to join HSBC banking and financial services as product lead for HSBC's Digital Wallet.

TIARA CHAPEL (BS/BA) relocated to Wiesbaden, Germany (near Frankfurt). She continues to work as a systems engineer for the MITRE Corporation.

MATT GIGLI (BS/BA) is in his second year as an embedded Linux software engineer at TrellisWare Technologies. He reports that he was married in July 2016 and that his wife, Danielle, finished her third year of law school at USD. In the Fall 2016 semester, Matt returned to USD to teach a course called Digital Design Lab.

BRITTANY (BERG) HARRISON (BA), '15 (MS) reports she and Jim Harrison '11 were married in Founders Chapel in November 2016 and then celebrated their nuptials with family and friends at Loews Resort in Coronado, California.

ALLYSON KENNETT (BA) earned a master's degree in English in the United Kingdom and is now an adjunct English professor. She reports that she got married in 2014 and has two children.


VERONICA KUHN (MA) has earned a PhD in marriage and family therapy, published three articles, two book chapters and presented her research nationally and internationally. She reports that she got married, has two daughters (ages 3 and 1) and moved from Southern California to Texas for a faculty position in family therapy at Texas Woman's University.

DAVID LEYVA (BS/BA) concluded his volunteer service with the Peace Corps in July 2016 in Cameroon, where he was working as a physics and mathematics teacher. After spending some time traveling and visiting family, he moved to Nicaragua and is now teaching at the Amer-

ican Nicaraguan School in Managua.

ANNE MALINOSKI (BA) has been writing for *San Diego Family Magazine*, covering baby and toddler topics. She says her sons, Jack and Jimmy, provide endless inspiration.

JENNA ROHRBACKER (BS/BA) celebrated two years with Northrop Grumman and moved to the firm's Azusa facility in March 2017. She is a mechanical engineer in charge of designing space-based hardware, such as payloads and spacecraft, for military and civil space programs.

[2012] 
GLEN EVANS (BAcc, MAcc) lives in Phoenix with his wife, Allyn DeLozier Evans '11, and son, Davis.

KYLE NAGEOTTE (JD) was appointed chair of the California Young Lawyers Association (CYLA). Kyle is an associate in the San Diego office of Littler, an employment and labor law practice representing management. In his new role at CYLA, Kyle works with the board of directors to establish priorities for the year, maintain member programs and services, and act as liaison with various state bar sections.

MICHAEL NICHOLS (BA) spent four years at Source Intelligence after graduation, developing a platform to help customers simplify their regulatory compliance processes by allowing customers and suppliers to share data through their supplier network. He is now lead developer on a new project at Snaptactix, where he is building web applications using Java, PHP and JavaScript frameworks.

MARIA SILVA (BA) served as an AmeriCorps member after graduation at Bayside Community Center in San Diego's Linda Vista neighborhood. She also worked for LISC, a national nonprofit serving San Diego neighborhoods, and then returned to USD as assistant director for community engagement in 2013. She is currently working toward a master's degree in migration studies.

PHU DUC TRAN (MSN) moved back to California after living in Atlanta. Phu is a public health nurse working in an infectious disease clinic.

[2013]
JESSICA BUCKLEY (BS/BA) joined Jay Dee Contractors



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as a mechanical engineer after collaborating with them for her master's research at the Colorado School of Mines. She earned her Master of Engineering degree in 2015. Following some time off enjoying projects and adventures, she is working at the firm's Livonia, Michigan, headquarters to prepare and modify equipment for use in tunnel construction at Jay Dee's job sites nationwide.

DANIELLE (RUSSELL) CALAHAN (BA) reports that she was married in July 2016. She also graduated from chiropractic school in April 2016.

LAUREN COMBS (BA) is working in finance recruiting at Amazon.

McKINLEIGH CORDOVA (BA), '15 (MSN) works on the surgical unit at Rady Children's Hospital.

LISA HAWTHORNE (PhD) was promoted to dean of the School of Nursing and Graduate Nursing Studies at National American University.

JAMESON JOHNSON (BA) writes, "Living the dream working for an Encinitas-based (California) commercial real estate acquisition company as a property manager. Providing great service with a smile and learning as much as possible."

SARAH JORGENSEN (BA) is an associate producer at CNN's New York bureau, where she covers domestic news for television and the web. She was also involved in CNN's 2016 presidential election coverage. In the past year, Sarah has covered the Flint, Michigan, water crisis; the Ghost Ship warehouse fire in Oakland, California; and the bombing in New York City's Chelsea neighborhood, among many other stories.

DAYNIA MacARTNEY (BBA) reports that she got married last month and is now a proud military wife. She is the senior operations supervisor at SpotLink, an information technology firm.

EMILY MICKLE (BA) graduated with a Doctor of Chiropractic degree from New York Chiropractic College. She moved back to Carlsbad, California, and opened her own chiropractic and wellness clinic.

LEA PARK-KIM (BA) is the district communications director for state Sen. Joel Anderson, who represents the 38th senatorial district in California.

WILL PARTRIDGE (BS/BA) completed five years with General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, where he worked as a mechanical engineer in the composite manufacturing and urgent field support groups directly supporting USAF and U.S. Army-deployed UAV (Unmanned Air Vehicle) units. He expects to relocate with his fiancée to Los Angeles, where he will join Smith-Emery Company, a firm providing geotechnical engineering, engineering geology, environmental sciences and more for the large-scale construction industry.

KYLE RYAN (JD) is in a new position as a special assistant United States attorney.

ROMYN SABATCHI (BBA) graduated in 2017 with master's degree in higher education and student affairs from the University of San Francisco.

JOSH SCHROEDER (BS/BA) was promoted to associate project engineer at SB&O Inc., a civil engineering firm in San Diego. He currently manages the design of a subdivision for 200+ residential units at Quarry Creek in Carlsbad, California, as well as two separate 150 and 200+ residential unit developments at Otay Ranch in Chula Vista, California. Additionally, he and his wife, Holly, welcomed their first child, Derek, in September 2016.

[2014] DRAMANE COULIBALY (MAPJ) has served as a coordination officer/international United Nations volunteer in Haiti since November 2016.

DEREK FLOYD (MA) launched a grant-writing consulting practice, Writing for Good (www.writingforgood.org), and raises money for organizations in areas such as performing arts, human trafficking, museums, child abuse prevention, food banks and juvenile justice arts education.

JIMMY FRANCO (JD/LLM) is in his second year in Ernst & Young's Indirect Tax/Controversy Group.

PHILIP HOSKINSON (BS/BA) grew a six-inch beard and surfs regularly in addition to publishing his

work on concentrated solar power for the National Science Foundation.

HARMONIE (EDELSON) JACOBSON (BS/BA) joined Illumina Inc. as an industrial engineer in August 2016. She reports that she married her high school sweetheart, Andrew Jacobson, on April 8, 2017, at Avensole Winery in Temecula, California.

ERIN KRAFT (BA) has worked for several well-known companies within the pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors. After working in the biotherapeutics department at Celgene, she transitioned to a smaller medical device company, where she is a project manager responsible for production of one of its clinical diagnostic assays.

JULIAN RINGHOF (BS/BA) was a professional soccer player for two years with the United Soccer League. He recently moved to Berlin and is opening a Maker Space combined with a coworking office in the heart of the city.

CHRISTINA TELESKO (BA) writes, "I'm licensed in the state of California as an insurance agent and am passionately committed to helping young people plan for the future by providing complimentary wealth seminars — both one-on-one and in groups — with a focus on high-yield savings accounts, building legacies and creating tax-free retirements. The key is starting now! I love what I do and I have faith that the millennial generation will change the world in a momentous way!"

VINCENT TON (BBA) writes, "Going outdoors a lot to get some rock climbing in. Happily employed at Thermo Fisher Scientific as a business analyst!"

SANDRINE URIAS (BA) attended Mt. Sac after graduation to fulfill the prerequisites for a Doctorate of Physical Therapy program. During this time, she ran cross country and track and field, where she was a conference finalist. She plans to attend the University of South Florida in the fall of 2017 as part of the Doctorate of Physical Therapy graduating class of 2020.

LESLIE WILSON (BBA) graduated from Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies with a

Master of Arts in international relations. She is now at the Department of Commerce International Trade Administration handling trade and investment policy work concerning Mexico and Canada.

[2015] EBTESAM ALTENEIJI (MA) is pursuing graduate studies through a PhD program in leadership studies.

ALYSSA BLACK (BS/BA) was promoted to owner advisor at Tesla, where she has worked for almost one year. She is also a full-time graduate student at UCSD, pursuing a Master of Science in mechanical engineering, specializing in controls and robotics with a planned graduation date of December 2017.

TYLER BOYCE (BA) moved from Sacramento, California, to Los Angeles County. His first job was part of a nonpartisan voter registration drive organized by Method Campaign Services. Since then, he has worked at Warner Bros., Cartoon Network and other studios in the entertainment industry. In his spare time, he takes voice-acting classes and has appeared on Project Alpha as the host of Political Science Fiction, his own public access show.

FILIPE CALIXTO (BS/BA) was hired by General Atomics-ASI, where he works with the Safety/RAM team.

COURTNEY CORNIUK (BA) is a full-time case manager for homeless women and children and a part-time graduate student in clinical psychology.

EMILY DeROSS (MSN) writes, "I'm so thankful to be an RN and to have graduated with these wonderful people. It's exciting to know we are touching lives in so many different hospitals and units."

CARA FRATIANNE-LAUBHAN (MSN) completed the New Grad RN DEU program at Scripps and has been working on the Neuro/Ortho/Surgical/Trauma Progressive Care Unit at Scripps Memorial Hospital in La Jolla, California. She continues to plan medical mission trips to Haiti with The Rosemilla Project, a nutrition, education and empowerment program serving more than 200 students and 30 orphans, ages 6 months to 19 years old, in Gonaives, Haiti. Their newest contributions include a

sustainable garden, chicken coop and a sewing workshop, which gives single mothers the tools to pay their children's school tuition.

JOSHUA GREENE (BA) works for Hilton Grand Vacations in Washington, D.C., where he has the opportunity to explore the city, tasting dishes at various restaurants. He says he is also growing into fellowship with other young adults at St. Matthew's Cathedral and the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception.

BRANDON HUANG (BS/BA) is the director of manufacturing at Durabag Co. Inc. in Tustin, California. He has started investing in real estate on the side and is launching a startup selling almond butter.

HENRY HUANG (BS/BA) expected to be a summer associate at Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP in 2017, working in the patent litigation department. He seeks to continue working in the direction of intellectual property law.

ROBERTA MARCOS (BAcc) became a certified public accountant and left Ernst & Young to join Verb Surgical, a startup in Mountain View, California.

RAJ MOONESINGHE (BBA) continues to grow EquityEats, a crowdfunding platform for restaurants that won the venture capitalist competition at USD.

TAWNIE PARADISE (BS/BA) was accepted into the PhD program at Virginia Tech for engineering education. She expected to leave her job as a high school math and engineering teacher at the O'Farrell Charter School to start the PhD program in Fall 2017.

ANNIE POWERS (BA) lives and works in San Francisco as a sales representative at Salesforce. "Definitely miss USD and the beach, but very happy to be in such a thriving city at this point of my life," Annie says.

EMILY REID (MSN) is a nurse practitioner at a community clinic in one of San Diego's underserved neighborhoods.

ANYA SOLOVIOV (BS/BA) continues working at Amazon as a startup project manager. She launched a



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[delectable]

HAIL TO THE CHEF

Jennifer Cavellier takes the heat on TV reality show

by Julene Snyder

When watching competitive cooking shows on TV, there's one burning question that viewers want answered: Isn't the food cold by the time the judges taste it?

There's a pregnant pause before

Jennifer Cavellier '13 bursts out laughing. "Cold might be overstating it, but it's tepid, for sure."

A contestant on season eight of TV's *MasterChef*, she was one of just 20 selected to put on the coveted white apron — along with a chance at a \$250,000 grand prize

— out of tens of thousands of applicants. So obviously, she's been cooking since she was a wee tot, right?

Wrong.

"I started cooking in college," Cavellier recalls. "Like most students, money was an issue. I

loved to eat fancy meals but couldn't necessarily afford fancy restaurants. So, I started trying to replicate everything at home."

The 26-year-old, who majored in psychology at USD, has made a career out of working with adults with special needs as a learning disability specialist. But in late 2016, her job was to join fellow *MasterChef* contestants in an airplane hangar-sized space in Los Angeles where much of the show is filmed.

"The set is out of this world," Cavellier says. "The tools and resources, the pantry and the food, it's unbelievable."

The premise of the show is simple: Home cooks compete in timed individual and team challenges, and are eliminated until just one remains. Along the way, their culinary efforts are evaluated by a trio of judges, led by celebrity chef Gordon Ramsay, who has a reputation for bluntness.

"He's even more intimidating in person than he appears on TV," Cavellier admits. "But even though he puts on the pressure and can be harsh, he was always very fair and constructive."

What viewers see is pretty darn close to reality, she says. "The time constraints are very real. They hold you to a clock and you really have to think on your feet."

The whole experience definitely made Cavellier step out of her comfort zone. "I've always had anxiety about public speaking, and to try and articulate what my food was about in that setting was hugely stressful." But bit by bit, she gained confidence.

Now, she's back to her real life in San Diego, but the dream she had when she decided to audition for *MasterChef* lives on. "My ultimate goal is to open a restaurant that employs adults with special needs," she says. "I'm hopeful that I can incorporate both of my passions into a career. *MasterChef* gave me a lot of things that I had no idea I was going to gain from it. For that, I'm more than grateful." 🍴

303,000-square-foot sort center building in Portland, Oregon, where she now lives, while traveling to Las Vegas for the launch of an 816,000-square-foot fulfillment center in July.

ALLYSON WARD (BS/BA) has been a project engineer for General Atomics, Aeronautical Systems Inc., in Poway, California, since October 2016. She also is pursuing an online master's degree at Johns Hopkins University: Engineering for Professionals in Technical Management with a focus in project management.

MICHELLE WINTERSTEEN (BA) started her own graphic design, business branding and custom artwork business: @mkwgraphics.

KIMBERLY WOODBURY (BS/BA) has worked in the operations rotation program at Thermo Fisher Scientific, based in Carlsbad, California, since July 2015. Her favorite experience so far has been moving to the Midwest for her second rotation, working in Rockford, Illinois, and Milwaukee, Wisconsin, from February to July in 2016 and exploring Chicago frequently. There, she used a multitude of industrial/systems engineering skills and her Rockford Space and Optimization Warehouse project became fully implemented in early 2017. She is still active in the Society of Women Engineers, working as member services coordinator for the San Diego Professional Section.

TROY ZAWLACKI (BS/BA) is a test engineer for Apple Inc.

[2016] KHALIFA AL DHAEN (BS/BA) completed his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering with a leadership studies minor and he is now an engineer at Strata Manufacturing in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, building composite aerostructures for customers such as Boeing and Airbus.

HECTOR BARBOZA (BS/BA) is a manufacturing engineer at Palomar Technologies in Carlsbad, California.

SARAH BOOHER (MA) writes, "I am so grateful for the education I received from USD's nonprofit program. I graduated in August and already got a new job in the development department at the Museum of

Man! I am so happy here. I am so grateful for my education. I am already in a place where I can apply my learning and help the sector."

JORDAN COLSON (BS/BA) joined SpaceX right after graduation as a materials planner and production scheduler, where he is directly contributing to the upcoming Mars colonization missions. He currently manages all Avionics assemblies.

KAYLA DENNIS (MSN) is an RN in the emergency room at Sharp Chula Vista Medical Center. "It can be very challenging at times, but I love it!" she says. "This department was where I completed my preceptorship during my last two semesters of nursing school. It has been such a blessing to begin my nursing career in an underserved area of San Diego. Thank you to all of my professors and classmates for being a part of my journey. I appreciate each and every one of you!"

AMANDA GATES (BS/BA) works for Idaho National Laboratory and enjoys the great outdoors whenever possible.

DIAMOND INNABI (BA) was offered a full-time position as an analyst at Software Equity Group (SEG) upon graduating from USD, becoming one of only three interns in SEG's 25-year history to do so. She writes, "Early in my career at SEG, I worked on one of the firm's most successful transactions from prospecting the company to closing the transaction. I also have taken ownership of publishing SEG's Software Industry Valuation and M&A Reports that are read by over 15,000 software industry professionals worldwide." Diamond has worked in seven software industry sectors and was recently offered a promotion.

SASHA LUECKE (MEPN) finished new graduate orientation in the surgical ICU at Sharp Grossmont Hospital. She writes, "I love being a registered nurse!"

DAN NELSON (BS/BA) moved to Seattle in April 2017 and is handling golf course maintenance at the Inglewood Golf Club.

BRIANNE SPARKMAN (JD) is an attorney at Brierton, Jones & Jones, LLP.

CE'SJONNAE "CEEJAY" TAYLOR (BA) reports that she is the mother of 3-month-old Rezhonne Lemmons-Taylor.

VALERIE TEANO (BA) was working and enjoying time off during her gap year until her planned start of medical school in the fall of 2017.

MERLYNN YURIKA TULEN (MAPJ) has a new job with Think Dignity.

BRENDAN WALLACE (Med) is the newly appointed science department chair at The Grauer School in Encinitas, California.

[2017] KIEFER GRINDLE (BS/BA) is an associate manufacturing engineer at the UTC Aerospace Systems facility in Chula Vista, California.

PAULA HOANG (MA) is the orientation family program coordinator at the University of California, Davis.

RYAN KELLY (JD) expected to begin studies in an LLM in taxation at NYU School of Law in August 2017.

KATE LEE (MAPJ) is in Kazakhstan and partnering with Soros Foundation as a research fellow to work on public policy research for the improvement of national human rights. She is also consulting with a local crisis center for children and women who had been trafficked or are transitioning from extreme poverty, the sex trade or domestic abuse.

MADLINE VORENKAMP (BS/BA) is an associate engineer in the propulsion group at SpaceX. In September 2017, she expects to be in graduate school at Princeton University, where she was admitted with a fellowship to the mechanical aerospace engineering PhD program.

HAYLEY WALCZER (MAPJ) is the outreach specialist and volunteer coordinator with The Center for Sexual Assault Survivors in Newport News, Virginia, the prime location responsible for responding to sexual assault and human trafficking cases in the area. She is responsible for the human trafficking cases and well as outreach, management of volunteers and programs, fundraising and grant writing.

In Memoriam

GRANT CARL BAUER '85 (BA) passed away on April 28, 2017, in his home. Born in Arizona, Grant grew up in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where he played soccer and basketball and ran track for Albuquerque Academy. At USD, he was a proud member of the Phi Kappa Theta fraternity. As a drummer, he played professionally with artists like Lydia Van Huston. He started a successful private investigation firm that eventually merged with Claims Verification. Grant loved life and music, but above all else, he adored his wife, Karroll, and treasured his children, Gabriella and Mitchell.

ARCHBISHOP JOHN RAPHAEL QUINN passed away in June 2017. He touched many lives at USD, especially through his role of provost for the San Diego College of Men in the 1960s. In that role, he was tasked with fostering the merger with the San Diego College for Women. In his various capacities, Archbishop Quinn offered great counsel, support and love. In addition to his work on our campus, Archbishop Quinn served as president of the National Conference of Catholic bishops from 1977 to 1980. He was the sixth archbishop of San Francisco, serving there from 1977 until his retirement in 1995.

SISTER SARAH ELIZABETH "BETSY" WALSH, RSCJ, passed away in June 2017. She joined the USD faculty in 1975 and taught a number of courses in the English department for 42 years. In addition to teaching, Sister Walsh was involved with many campus activities including serving as department chair, and very active in student affairs through her position as faculty-in-residence on campus. Given her commitment to social justice, she initiated and supervised for five years the Southeast San Diego Tutoring Project, an ongoing endeavor to assist at-risk children in local elementary and middle schools. Sister Walsh sang in the choir and was an active member of The Immaculata parish.



BARBARA FERGUSON

“BEAUTY, GOODNESS AND TRUTH” is at the heart of the famous quote from University of San Diego co-founder Mother Rosalie Clifton Hill, RSCJ. The superior vicar of the Society of the Sacred Heart said in 1949 that there are three things that are significant in education: “Beauty will attract them; goodness will lead them; but the truth will hold them.” For Mother Hill, the search for truth was the purpose of the university. In August 2017, the esteemed *Princeton Review* named USD as “the most beautiful campus in the nation” in their 2018 edition of *The Best 382 Colleges*. Additionally, USD is one of only 24 universities in the country to earn a perfect score on *The Princeton Review’s* Green Rating, placing the university on the prestigious Green Honor Roll.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



Homecoming and Family Weekend
October 12-15
USD campus
www.sandiego.edu/hfw



Women’s Volleyball
Thursday, October 12
USD v. Gonzaga
Jenny Craig Pavilion
[USD Toreros.com](http://USD.Toreros.com)



Homecoming and Family Weekend Football Game
Saturday, October 14
USD v. Morehead States
USDToreros.com



Fall Choral Concert
Saturday, October 28
Scripps Research Institute Auditorium
www.sandiego.edu/cas/music



Lessons and Carols
Saturday, December 9
and Sunday, December 10
www.sandiego.edu/cctc



Alumni Christmas Mass
Saturday, December 16
Founders Chapel
alumni.sandiego.edu



All Faith Service
Thursday, February 1
Shiley Theatre
www.sandiego.edu/um



Coming Soon!
There are many Torero alumni events happening around the globe!
Check them out at
alumni.sandiego.edu

Check out more USD events at www.sandiego.edu/events.