

USD Climbs to Fourth in U.S. News Survey

For the second consecutive year, *U.S. News and World Report* included USD on its list of the top regional colleges in the West.

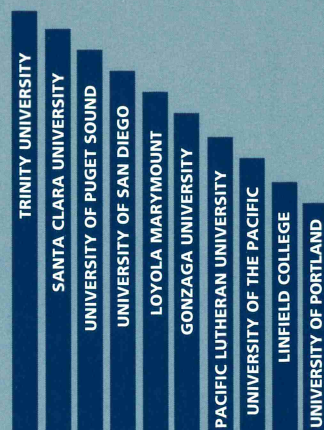
The magazine's annual rankings, published in its Oct. 15 issue, placed USD fourth in the West — up one notch from a year ago.

The university trailed only Trinity University in Texas, Santa Clara University and the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Wash. USD was listed ahead of such institutions as Loyola Marymount, Gonzaga University and University of the Pacific.

Colleges were rated on the basis of academic reputation, student selectivity, faculty resources, financial resources and

student satisfaction. USD ranked sixth in the West in student selectivity, ninth in academic reputation, 11th in both faculty resources and financial resources, and 13th in student satisfaction.

The rankings were compiled from the results of questionnaires sent to presidents, deans and admissions directors at the nation's 1,374 four-year colleges and universities.



TOP TEN REGIONAL COLLEGES IN THE WEST



*According to U.S. News and World Report, Oct. 15, 1990

Trio Brought USD Character to Life

Sr. Mariella Bremner, RSCJ, Dr. Joanne Dempsey and Robert Austin brought some of USD's best attributes to life, their colleagues agree.

Each was thorough yet compassionate, demanding yet generous, knowledgeable yet inquisitive.

Those shared qualities were called to mind following the deaths of the trio in autumn — deaths which bruised some of the essence of USD's identity.

Dr. Dempsey's death on Nov. 29 at the age of 44 particularly saddened the university community. A much respected and loved member of the English department who taught English literature at USD for a decade, Dr. Dempsey died of heart failure at her Mission Hills home.

Faculty, students and staff crowded Founders Chapel during a Dec. 4 memorial Mass at which several professors shared memories of their colleague.

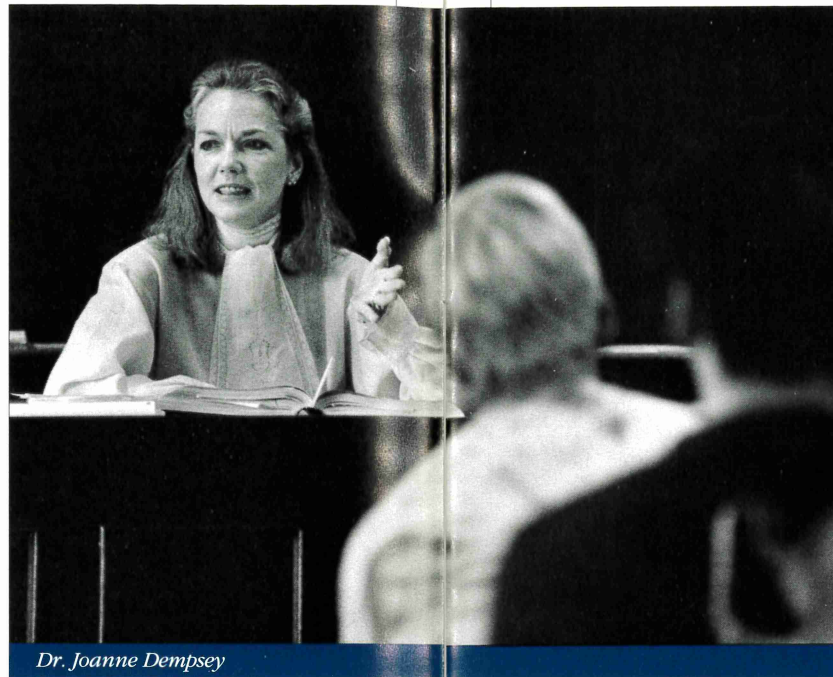
Said Dr. Virginia Muller in her eulogy: "Joanne was a pilgrim soul (she loved that metaphor). She was from another time, another place, yet here. She was of the Renaissance: she loved its manners and its art and theater, and made them real for us here. She was from another time:

"While the academy deconstructed authority, she wrote about obedience.

"During the liberalism's supernova, she was a classic conservative.

"In an age of indulgence, she was chaste.

"In a time of spiritual uncertainty, she was a



Dr. Joanne Dempsey

devout Catholic, full of faith.

"And she was proud to stand for these things."

A native of Mineola, N.Y., Dr. Dempsey joined the USD faculty in 1980, the year before she was awarded her doctorate in English from Harvard University. She previously taught at Harvard, Boston University and Vassar College.

Fluent in four languages, Dr. Dempsey was devoted to the dramatic arts and was a patron of San Diego's Old



Sr. Mariella Bremner

Globe Theatre.

University alumni from the '50s and '60s will remember Sr. Bremner, one of the pioneers who helped launch the San Diego College for Women in 1952. Sr. Bremner died Nov. 15 at the Religious of the Sacred Heart Oakwood Infirmary in Atherton, Calif., where she was recovering from a stroke she

suffered last April. She was 85.

Sr. Bremner arrived on campus after Christmas in 1951, just six weeks before the San Diego College for Women's first classes began. She served as registrar of the College for Women and taught the history of art and speech. Later she was named chair of the modern language department.

"We used to call her a 'walking encyclopedia' of contingent facts," recalls USD Provost and Vice President Sr. Sally Furay, RSCJ. "She always knew something about almost everything, whether it was geographical locations, a phrase in French (the field of her doctorate), how to get a bat out of one of the halls at Barat College in Lake Forest, Ill., or an opossum out of the snack bar at the College for Women."

Sr. Bremner helped consolidate the registrar's offices of the College for Women and the College for Men in the late 1960s in preparation for the merger of the two institutions in 1972.

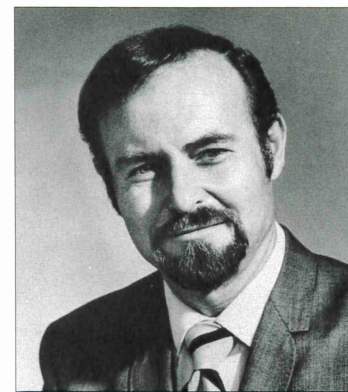
She also served as the alumni executive secretary and adviser to the Children of Mary, the Sacred Heart

Alumnae, Friends of the Library and the USD Auxiliary. She was the first chair of the Sisters' Senate and later was named associate vicar for religious for the San Diego diocese.

Professor Austin taught voice and theory at USD for 19 years before retiring in August. The distinguished baritone, who wrote the official song for San Diego's 200th anniversary celebration, died Oct. 19 of complications from AIDS, according to his daughter, Paula Austin Reeser of El Cajon. He was 68.

Known by friends and relatives as "Mr. Music," Professor Austin's background included the New York stage, where he performed as a singer and actor in operas and musicals.

After serving in the Navy during World War II, Professor Austin appeared in musical productions and operas throughout the country. On Broadway he had a role in Cole Porter's "Kiss Me Kate," and also was in the original road company for "Oklahoma!" He had roles in the operas "Carmen," "Faust" and "The Marriage of Figaro."



Robert Austin

While lecturing at USD, Professor Austin also became involved with myriad musical productions on campus, including noontime concert series, the Opera Workshop, the University Chorus and student musicals.

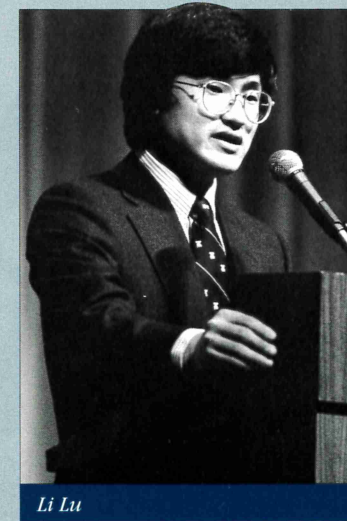
"Over the years we did various kinds of collaborations and my association with him was always tremendously pleasant," says Dr. Henry Kolar, longtime professor of music. "He was a fine man and a very dedicated musician who was always willing to go the extra mile to help a student."

Chinese Student Keeps Flame of Democracy Burning

A student leader in China's democratic movement told a USD audience in October that he's looking for answers to questions about his country's future.

Li Lu, who was deputy commander of the hunger strike committee when the Tiananmen Square massacre occurred June 4, 1989, said he hopes to help bring peaceful change to China.

"I view myself as a missionary," said the serious 24-year-old, who has served as spokesman for the Chinese students' cause since his



Li Lu

escape to the United States last July. "I'm here to tell the story that would be left untold because the actors and

actresses are dead or powerless. I'm here to keep the candlelight burning in the cold, dark winter days in China."

Despite the current repression in China, students in his country will not give up their fight for democracy, Lu said.

"There will be a second wave of democratic movement...Forty years of Communism has been a total disappointment. China is on the edge of historical change, and I ask Americans to help us make sure it happens."

The weapon to bring about change, said Lu, now a student at Columbia University, is to "open China. China

must join the civilized international community that respects human rights...We want an open government. Only democracy can guarantee freedom."

Lu spoke at USD at the invitation of the university's Social Issues Committee and the Associated Students Speakers Bureau. He has delivered his message to Amnesty International, the United Nations Committee on Human Rights and several U.S. universities.

Lu has authored a book on his experiences titled *Moving the Mountain: My Life in China*.