

# USD MAGAZINE

UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO / SPRING 2012



WHICH CAN LEAD TO A BETTER WORLD.

TRANSFORMATION

LIFE ITSELF IS ABOUT THE QUEST FOR

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[ rally round ]

# IT TAKES A COMMUNITY

## USD students rely on legions of allies and fans



In 1996, then-First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton famously referenced the proverbial, “It takes a village to raise a child.” She suggested that the American spirit of independence and self-reliance notwithstanding, our children are, in fact, encouraged and molded and nurtured and educated (or not) by the people they encounter on their journey to adulthood.

So, too, are today’s students at the University of San Diego dependent upon the influences, guidance and assistance of an entire university community in their pursuit of their goals. They slowly come to the realization of the legions of allies and fans who have helped them get to USD and of those already here waiting to assist them, directly and indirectly, to succeed in college, graduate school or law school and to fulfill their dreams in a highly competitive and changing world.

New USD students and their parents and families are greeted in their first days on campus by their faculty preceptors, their resident assistants, their preceptor assistants, residence hall ministry staff, their peer counselors, their tutors and administrators and staff throughout the institution. Their faculty mentors, their coaches and teammates, club advisors and student government representatives sustain them. Eventually, their newfound USD friends, influences and choices shape them.

Whether they are enrolled in a four- or five-year baccalaureate program, a one- or two-year master’s degree program or a three-year law degree regimen, USD students journey to the next stage of their lives surrounded by others whose personal and professional investments in their success are important, meaningful and profound. But the academic, athletic, social and spiritual support that our students receive is only part of the story. Year after year, an increasing number of students seek essential financial aid and assistance to meet the rising cost of a baccalaureate or graduate degree. They place themselves squarely at the heart of one of the greatest challenges currently facing USD and hundreds of other campuses nationwide.

The nonprofit enterprise of higher education is not immune to the impact of a distressed economy and rising inflation. Faculty and staff salaries, campus infrastructure and utilities, necessary academic and administrative services for students, and the panoply of athletic, social, community service, cultural and recreational activities that are a part of the “total student experience” all add to the costs of keeping USD valued and viable in a highly competitive environment.

As the cumulative cost of post-secondary education in America continues to increase, so too does the need for student assistance from a wider variety of sources. Tuition and fee revenues alone underwrite about 80 percent of the average cost of educating today’s student at USD. The remaining 20 percent must be covered by auxiliary income, endowment earnings, limited and ever-shrinking state and federal grants and appropriations, student loans and philanthropy.

The availability of financial aid is a leading factor in most students’ decision to attend USD and a chief determiner of USD’s competitiveness for top-quality students. The vast majority of students at USD — 70 percent of our undergraduates, 75 percent of our graduate students and 88 percent of our law students — are flanked by a cadre of benefactors whose investments of time, expertise, service, and yes, financial support contribute to their success at the university and beyond. These are the faculty, staff, alumni, parents and grandparents, campus neighbors, individual donors, corporate sponsors, vendors and other friends whose contributions combine to help keep USD affordable for the nation’s best and brightest.

And, indeed, USD attracts the best and brightest. Today, less than half of our freshman applicants are accepted for admission. Their average GPA is 3.92. Their average basic SAT score is 1250. They are bright, talented and determined. But without our help, their success at USD is far from assured. It takes all of us — our entire university community — to assist the next generation of business men and women, entrepreneurs, civic leaders, health care professionals, educators, attorneys and peacemakers to achieve their goals and succeed us in shaping the world they will inherit.

— Timothy L. O'Malley, PhD, Vice President of University Relations

HELLO!

# IT'S FOR YOU!



Students on the University of San Diego's telefunding team will be calling soon. They're calling to help raise money for **scholarships, faculty enrichment, new buildings, technological updates** and other campus projects.



When the phone rings from USD's Telefunding Center, it's a student calling, and no matter what the initiative — it's for you!

To learn more, go to [www.sandiego.edu/giving](http://www.sandiego.edu/giving) or call (619) 260-4724.



Bob and Pat Whalen with granddaughter Erica Whalen '12. The Whalens helped launch Grandparents Weekend in 2005.

## Share the **TORERO** spirit during Grandparents' Weekend, February 24-25!

For more information and to register for the weekend go to [www.sandiego.edu/parents](http://www.sandiego.edu/parents).

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- Cheer on the Toreros basketball team
- Enjoy a special Culinary Demonstration
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## [back and forth]



### Impact Continues

I really enjoyed reading the article about the Community Service-Learning, titled, "A World of Difference" (Fall 2011). USD does an exemplary job at promoting the importance of community service, not only in San Diego, but also on a global level. Having participated in one of the Tijuana service trips as well as service learning through my classes, I have been able to experience this firsthand.

— Devin Ludwig '11

### Credit Where It's Due

I was delighted to see the extensive feature story about USD's School of Business and School of Peace Studies' Center for Peace and Commerce ("Making Doors Out of Walls") in the Fall 2011 issue of *USD Magazine*. I wanted to make sure readers know that the inaugural Social Innovation Challenge that was held in January 2011 would not have been possible without the generous philanthropy of John and Nancy Jo Cappetta. John is a 1983 graduate of the School of Business Administration.

Their gift is the reason the program exists, a happy outcome that will continue to bene-

fit both USD students and society as a whole.

— Elizabeth Mueller  
Director of Development  
School of Business Administration

### Feeling the Love

Loved, loved, loved your article about the MEPNs ("Unconditional Love," Fall 2011)! Thank you so much for putting such a positive spotlight on this group of awesome students.

— Kathy K. Marsh, MSN, RN, CNS  
Assistant Professor  
Clinical Placement Coordinator,  
MSN and CNS Programs

## [etc.]

### A Personal Relationship

I have a comment about the list of strategic directions that were printed in the "Etc." section of the Fall 2011 issue of *USD Magazine*.

I continue to be surprised that when the university reports on strategic planning or mission, it tends to be a long list, among which is somewhere placed "Catholic character and outreach," or words to that effect. I am well aware that most students are not Catholic, come from other faith traditions, or no particular faith tradition at all. Clearly, all of these diverse religious backgrounds should be welcomed and accommodated. That is part of Catholic character.

At the same time, Catholic character should not be fourth on a general list of strategic directions for the university to help President Lyons "chart a path" for its future. Catholic character is the most important aspect of a

Catholic institution. This means that all Christian students, whether Catholic or not, should be encouraged and provided opportunities to develop a deeper relationship with Jesus. Those who believe in God, but not in Jesus as the Christ, should also be given opportunities and encouragement to deepen their relationship with God. And those who see no place for religion in their lives should be respected, but will hopefully be affected by the atmosphere at USD.

Values and altruism are, of course, important. *USD Magazine* is full of those examples. All values, and the desire to serve others, ultimately come from gratitude to God, flowing from a personal relationship with Him.

Catholic character and outreach is the purpose of a Catholic university. In my case, my personal relationship with Jesus deepened tremendously while I was at USD, and this has served me my whole life.

— Paul Freter '77

*USD's new strategic directions are not intended to be listed in any sort of ranked order. Rather, all six of these are seen as essential to the continued vitality of the University of San Diego, and most would agree that Catholic character is among the most important aspects of USD. The full text of the strategic direction in question is as follows: "The university will promote its Catholic character by drawing upon the Church's intellectual, spiritual, cultural and social traditions to engage critical issues about the role of religion in society, to foster interreligious dialogue and understanding, and to promote peace and social justice." By articulating this statement among the strategic directions that guide the university's planning, top administrators*

*and trustees of the University of San Diego reiterate their dedication to USD's mission: "The University of San Diego is a Roman Catholic institution committed to advancing academic excellence, expanding liberal and professional knowledge, creating a diverse and inclusive community, and preparing leaders dedicated to ethical conduct and compassionate service." — Editor*



### Correction

I really enjoyed your *USD Magazine* article about Fanny Maizel ("Closer to Fine," Fall 2011). However, her master's degree was mistakenly identified as Counseling. She received a Master of Arts in Marital and Family Therapy.

— Todd Edwards, PhD  
Associate Professor and Director  
Marital and Family Therapy Program

### Write us ...

**We welcome letters to the editor about articles in the magazine. Letters may be edited for length and clarity, and must include a daytime phone number. Write: Editor, *USD Magazine*, 5998 Alcalá Park, San Diego, CA 92110. E-mail: [letters@sandiego.edu](mailto:letters@sandiego.edu).**

# USD MAGAZINE

UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO / SPRING 2012

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KINDNESS IS ALWAYS POSSIBLE.

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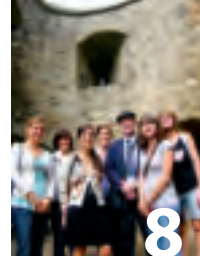
Delve into the stories of ten remarkable members of the university community — energetic students, dedicated faculty and fulfilled alumni — as we celebrate their extraordinary life journeys to date. Each of them inspires, educates and ultimately elevates. Best of all, their accomplishments thus far make us certain that their very best work is yet to come.

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OPEN YOUR ARMS TO CHANGE.

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THE SUFFERING OF ONE PERSON OR ONE NATION IS THE SUFFERING OF HUMANITY.



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Thousands of Toreros came home to USD for Homecoming and Family Weekend last fall; the 2012 event is scheduled for Oct. 12-14.



[ s a v v y ]

## FORWARD MOVEMENT

**New deans bring an entrepreneurial spirit to USD**

by *Trisha J. Ratledge*

**O**n a Sunday afternoon last March, sandwiched between a family vacation and a week of meetings in Boston for his law firm, Stephen Ferruolo interviewed with the search committee for the new dean of USD's School of Law. His expectations were ... well, let's call them realistic.

"I said to my wife, 'This is great. I can meet with the search committee and lay the groundwork for someday being an adjunct at the law school,'" he recalls with a chuckle.

Ferruolo's unique background as an accomplished scholar, academic and attorney, however, put him at the top of the list to become the 10th dean at the School of Law. He's certainly got an exceptional résumé. With degrees from Wesleyan, Princeton and Oxford universities — the last as a Rhodes Scholar — Ferruolo taught history on the faculties of Bennington College and Stanford University. One more degree — a JD with honors from Stanford — led to a successful 20-year practice,

most recently as the founding partner and chair of the San Diego office of international law firm Goodwin Procter LLP.

While there is always a learning curve for a new dean, Ferruolo (at right, above) is undaunted, nimbly citing the many new programs and directions under way at the law school, including increasing the faculty and expanding clinics, collaborations and outreach efforts. Long-term goals include advancing the intellectual property program and the LLM in taxation into top posi-





MARSHALL WILLIAMS


had an almost homespun appeal. But what sealed the deal was the opportunity to become USD's founding dean of professional and continuing education (PCE) and to expand the division into a full partner for all of the university's academic units.

An academic entrepreneur who started his own software publishing company as an undergraduate, Lemon has made a career of establishing partnerships and programs in distance learning and extension education across the country.

"One of the touchstones of my career has always been strengthening, expanding and growing projects, programs and departments," says Lemon, whose most recent position was associate dean of extension at the University of California, Berkeley.

"It was exciting to think about what it would mean to come to USD, which has a strong foundation in continuing education, and build upon that success."

Already known for its English language academy and for K-12 professional development, USD's PCE division is ideal for those who seek education outside of the typical degree program through certificate programs, individual courses for career advancement, or online learning. Lemon sees great potential in these alternative pathways. From a development standpoint, the PCE division removes barriers by providing professors with the instructional design and technology resources they need to administer successful online and extension learning programs.

"The professors focus on information, learning outcomes and assessment, and our folks make sure we are using the technologies, formats and systems that are most accessible for the students," Lemon says. "There are brilliant and exciting things happening here in terms of academic achievement, teaching and learning opportunities. Finding ways to share that in a wider way is the role of continuing education." 

tions nationally, and continuing to build core academic areas such as constitutional law.

The directives are all geared toward providing a preeminent contemporary legal education for tomorrow's practitioners. No small task, since as a practitioner himself, Ferruolo regards USD graduates as "some of the finest lawyers I have worked with." With that in mind, he doesn't mind the long days.

"My wife said, 'You're working as many hours as you used to work as a partner,'" Ferruolo shares. "But the difference is, when you get home at night, you are smiling."

For Jason Lemon, the move to USD was a bit like coming home. With degrees from Brigham Young and Emory universities, returning to a private, faith-based campus

[driven]

# GENERATION NEXT

## The future is now for Millennials

by Karen Gross

She just might be the quintessential millennial. Perfectly poised, impeccably groomed and remarkably self-assured, 21-year-old Jennifer Scharre looks like the poster child for what's sometimes been called Generation Next; the crop of kids born between 1985 and 1998, many of whom began to come of age around the turn of the millennium.

According to an extensive report by the Pew Research Center, this group largely describes itself as confident, liberal, upbeat and open to change. But Scharre, who recently graduated from USD with a bachelor's in business administration, has made her own observations. And her picture is not quite so rosy.

That's why she decided to undergo a research project to study millennials' hopes, goals and expectations for the future.

And as it turns out, yes, millennials are a confident, can-do bunch; hard working and self-motivated to be sure. But they're also determined; they want to be challenged and aren't into punching a clock. And because they have a lot to contribute, they don't think they should have to do entry-level, routine work along the path to that big career break.

"We're not there to be receptionists or interns," Scharre argues. "There are real positions, real jobs and real tasks that we could have a huge impact on."

That honest approach hasn't always gone over well with the people in charge — many of whom, Scharre contends, believe millennials are selfish and entitled. That's not accurate, she says, and it's leaving her

generation underestimated and underutilized.

"I think we are very overconfident," she agrees. "But I think that can be used in the workplace to increase efficiency."


As part of her self-initiated research, Scharre has distributed surveys to 1500 business students across San Diego, probing their backgrounds and is conducting an extensive review of the existing literature about generational conflict in the workplace, with the help of Tara Ceranic, an assistant professor of business ethics at USD.

"There hasn't been a legitimate look at what these kids are actually doing," Ceranic says. "There are a lot of ways to do things, and boomers were raised very differently than these millennials were."

Ironically, both Scharre and Ceranic speculate that the source of the struggle may lie with the people who parented the millennials — the very same baby boomers now blindsided by the generation they brought up. Hovering over their children, they pushed them relentlessly; packing their days with advanced academics and extracurricular activities, and setting them up to believe they couldn't fail.

"The rules have changed," Scharre says. "I think as parents they had every intention of creating successful people, but I don't think they had a good idea of what those people would look like."

With the kids growing up and wanting to work on their own terms, their parents — and managers — will need to adjust.

"The more willing these workplaces are to adapt to these new employees, the better off they're going to be." 

Undergraduate study abroad participation has long been a hallmark of the USD education experience. The Institute for International Education's *Open Doors Report* has recognized USD as No. 1 in undergraduate study abroad participation.

[exploration]

# GOING GLOBAL

USD best in the nation for undergraduate participation in study abroad programs

by Ryan T. Blystone

Whether studying the origin of USD campus buildings in Alcalá de Henares, Spain, immersing themselves in the vibrant culture of Florence, Italy or exploring the storied sights of London, England, Toreros are expanding their horizons and traveling the world in record numbers.

According to the most recent data from the Institute for International Education (IIE) publication, *Open Doors Report*, which examined institutions and study abroad undergraduate student participation for the 2009-2010 academic year, USD ranks No. 1 with 71.4 percent participation among doctorate institutions. Data indicates that 825 students of the 1,156 total undergraduate degrees conferred at USD in 2009-2010 studied abroad for at least one semester, summer or during the January Interession.

"We're thrilled with this outside recognition. It validates the commitment across campus to provide a globally relevant education for our students," Associate Provost for International Affairs Denise Dimon, PhD, says.

Dimon, an economics professor at USD since 1982, is well-acquainted with the value of international education for undergraduate and graduate students, due to her long-time role as director of the Ahlers Center for International Business. All colleges and schools on campus — the College of Arts and Sciences, Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science, School of Busi-



BARBARA FERGUSON

ness Administration, School of Law, School of Leadership and Education Sciences and Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies — have extensive global opportunities for students. Additionally, University Ministry and the Center for Community Service-Learning have immersion programs.

The rise in participation shows that USD's renewed emphasis on internationalization over the past five years is working. "The creation of the International Center in 2007 was the culmination of one of the strategic initiatives of the University and all our stakeholders," says Dimon, who was named as the center's director last fall.

So now that USD ranks first in participation, what's next? "It definitely motivates us and keeps us thinking creatively," says Kira Espiritu, director of USD's undergraduate study abroad program. "More than 70 percent of our undergraduate students are studying abroad, but it makes us think harder about the nearly 30 percent we're missing and how we can reach them."

The Second-Year Experience Study Abroad for sophomores, a collaborative effort between Espiritu's office and the Office of Student Affairs, is one way. More than 180 Class of 2013 students took the inaugural Intersession trip in 2011, choosing between Barcelona, Spain; Florence, Italy; and Oxford/London, England. Students took a college course, but also took in local culture such as attending a soccer game, taking part in a cultural cooking experience, and visiting museums and nearby cities on weekends. Staff members went along and led frequent student reflections.

"It's ironic that a trip abroad has actually made me feel closer to my USD community," says Remi Dalton, a double major in chemistry and visual arts, who went to Florence, Italy. "Being in a foreign country made me realize that, whether we are Italian or a USD student, we each have a global responsibility to be open to friendship and new experiences." 🌐



## [ play ball ]

**THE UNVEILING OF FOWLER PARK, USD's state-of-the-art baseball facility named in honor of Ron and Alexis Fowler's generosity, was announced on Jan. 28 by President Mary E. Lyons, PhD, and Executive Director of Athletics Ky Snyder. The facility will be included in the first phase of plans to upgrade the university's athletics and recreational infrastructure, and is part of the Department of Athletics' \$30 million fundraising effort, "The Drive for Torero Success."**

**Slated for completion in 2013, Fowler Park will house a 1,700-seat baseball stadium (which can expand to more than 3,000 for special events), along with field lighting, a team clubhouse, coaches' office space, and press and suite levels. The new playing field will continue to be known as Cunningham Field, in recognition of former USD Baseball Coach John Cunningham.**

**A longtime supporter of the university and its athletic programs, Ron Fowler currently serves as chair of the USD Board of Trustees. Additional initial-phase athletics and recreation improvements include a new golf/softball/club sports facility, and the renovation of the Skip and Cindy Hogan Tennis Facility.**

# GIFTS AT WORK

**A unique partnership agreement** between USD and community foundations on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border has been reached, effectively allowing Mexican donors to make a financial contribution to USD in a secure and advantageous manner. The agreement allows for funds to be transferred between the Tijuana-based Fundación Internacional de la Comunidad and its U.S. sister foundation, the International Community Foundation in National City, Calif.

**Dr. Manuel Barba recently** made a \$50,000 gift to USD to enhance the Dr. and Mrs. Manuel Barba Endowed Scholarship. Student recipients of the Barba Scholarship must demonstrate leadership skills in their community, Catholic Church and bilingual speech. Dr. Barba, who is a Trustee Emeritus, served on USD's Board of Trustees for 31 years, leaving the board in June of 2010.

**The Mulvaney Challenge** was highlighted in the Fall 2010 issue of *USD Magazine*; Tom '77 and Karen Mulvaney have challenged USD to raise \$400,000 by June 30, 2012 to benefit the Center for Community Service-Learning. In turn, the Mulvaneys will match every dollar. To date, \$175,000 has been raised.

**The Donald and Elizabeth Dickinson Foundation** gave \$100,000 to the Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science's Master's Entry Program in Nursing (MEPN) last November. Initiated in 2002, MEPN is an innovative approach for transitioning men and women with a bachelor's or higher non-nursing degree into a career in nursing at the graduate level. Last December, the Dickinson Foundation gave a \$300,000 Challenge Grant (over three years) to the MEPN program, which has become a model for other nursing schools in the United States.

Being immersed in a different culture helps USD students better understand the world around them.

[global view]

## COMPARE AND CONTRAST

### Counseling methods vary wildly between Verona and San Diego

by Diane Callahan '07 (MA)

**F**air Verona, an ancient town renowned as the fictional setting of tragic teenage love, is approximately 6,141 miles from the University of San Diego.

Though half a world apart, common ground is blossoming: USD is helping to launch Italy's first master's level degree in school counseling. Last November, the University of Verona hosted an international conference titled, "School Counseling: Italian and American Experience in Comparison." There, School of Leadership and Education Sciences (SOLES) faculty joined with consultants and faculty from six

other American universities in presenting foundational work to help develop the new program.

There's great need for guidance, as Italy has no established school counseling programs. "I compare the process there to martial arts training here in the United States," says SOLES Assistant Professor Ian Martin. "There's often a 'master' or wise person who attracts apprentices. They train, and then move on to their own practice. But things are starting to change, especially with this emerging program." The first Italian students will begin their studies this fall.

While Verona appears little

changed from the time of Romeo and Juliet, the city of 700,000 has all the issues of modern life: a weak economy, changing social roles, growth of immigrant populations, increased need for social services and so on. Now, Italian education and psychology leaders are looking to the success of American school counseling programs in order to help students and their families respond to these shifting stresses within the context of Italian society.

Lonnie Rowell, Ian Martin, and Erica Nash represented USD at the conference, presenting lectures on best practices

for elementary school counselors, professional development and action research. The event featured 20 practitioners and professors and more than 150 participants. Nine second-year SOLES students also attended, gaining insight into international counseling practices.

"Nothing compares to being in a different culture," said Meghan Keller, a student in the school counseling specialization program. "This is my fourth international trip with SOLES. Each time the lessons tie directly back to my coursework. Counselors work in multicultural schools. I help kids adjust to cul-




JOY BRUNETTI

ture. My experience of being the 'other' is so important to understanding their world."

Of course, opportunities like this aren't accidental; they happen by design. In 2005, SOLES made an unprecedented commitment to internationalization by requiring students to take part in an international component, which began with the 2008 entering class. "As we develop school leaders, that multicultural, multilingual world view is vital," says Rowell, USD's counseling program director. "Most schools in the San Diego area have about 22 languages spoken in their populations. Training must include a global-centric view."

"International travel gives you a different context," says leadership studies student Irma Venegas. "You learn not to put people in boxes, but to see them as individuals, to see them as who they really are. You open new lenses, look at knowledge in a new way and realize that what happens in other countries affects us here. Coming home, you interact differently with that experience in your mind."

For the students in Verona, the trip began in Vienna, Austria, where they attended the Collaborative Action Research Network Conference. "Asking questions to better understand the presentations made me think more critically, which led to internal reflection. I had to learn by asking the right questions," recalls counseling student Mica Nereu.

This kind of insight is exactly what Rowell hopes every student will achieve, and emphasizes that international, multicultural learning is particularly important for counseling students. "We need more reflection in our society, in our work. In the United States we tend toward outside observation and action; this inner reflection is just as important. Our students pursue jobs in international settings as well as national. They work in a changing world, yet the problems they confront remain much the same." 

## [ t r a n s c e n d e n t ]

### **DESCRIBED AS "A CREATOR OF ELEGANT BEAUTY WHOSE ARTISTRY CROSSES MANY GENRES OF PERFORMING ARTS,"**

**2011 Kyoto Prize arts and philosophy laureate Tamasaburo Bando V is one of Japan's most revered artists. A master of the theatrical dance-drama genre known as Kabuki, Bando has devoted much of his life to theater productions, and has also contributed to other genres of performing arts with great distinction, both as an actor and director.**

**Known for his acclaimed performances in "onnagata" (Kabuki female roles), Bando has established himself as a "tate oyama" (leading actor of female roles) in the contemporary Kabuki scene. Onnagata is a discipline that requires a lifetime of training, and the greatest onnagata, throughout Kabuki's centuries-long history, have been among the most adored celebrities in Japan. Tamasaburo is unique in that he has consistently applied his onnagata techniques to classical Western theatrical roles, such as Shakespearian characters Desdemona and Lady Macbeth.**

**On March 22, Bando will discuss his artistry and lifetime contributions to a variety of performance genres at USD's Shiley Theatre. The event, which will be held in conjunction with the 2012 San Diego Kyoto Prize Symposium, will take place from 10:30 a.m. – noon and is open to the public. Admission is free, though pre-event registration is required. For more information, go to <http://kyotoprize-us.org>.**



TAKASHI OKAMOTO

## [ etc. ]

**The stirring call** to "move women from success to significance" is the vision of Leadership California, which strives to increase the representation and influence of women leaders. The organization honored USD President Mary E. Lyons, PhD, as well as trustee/major donor Darlene Shiley, at a luncheon celebrating San Diego's women leaders in November 2011.

**Emeritus Professor Robert Infantino** of USD's School of Leadership and Education Sciences received the prestigious California Council on Teacher Education Distinguished Teacher Educator Award in October 2011. The council seeks to recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to the preparation and professional development of educators for California schools.

**USD President Mary E. Lyons, PhD**, traveled to Rwanda and Burundi in mid-January 2012 with a delegation that included top officials of Catholic Relief Services (CRS). The agenda for the visit focused on ongoing projects such as CRS' Community Healing and Reconciliation Project in Kigali, Rwanda and a meeting with those working on preventing mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS in Bujumbura, Burundi.

**His Holiness the XIV Dalai Lama** will visit San Diego April 18-19, 2012. As part of a two-day symposium, which is hosted by the University of San Diego, San Diego State University and UC San Diego, he will speak at USD at 1:30 p.m. on Wed., April 18 in the Jenny Craig Pavilion. For further information or to purchase tickets for his public talk, "Cultivating Peace and Justice," go to [www.dalailamasandiego.org](http://www.dalailamasandiego.org).

[effortless]

# EVEN KEELED

**Alex Ching likes to play it cool, both on and off the golf course**

by Mike Sauer

**G**rowing up in a tropical paradise like the South Shore of Oahu, Hawaii, certainly doesn't earn Alex Ching any sympathy points from his Torero teammates. In fact, the senior captain of the USD golf squad gets the business every time he even hints at feeling a chill during the team's morning practice sessions.

"I get all kinds of grief for being from Hawaii, especially if I ever complain about the weather," the amiable 21-year-old admits.

After reviewing his stellar competitive résumé, you get the sneaking suspicion that the only real complaints about Ching come from his opponents on the course. As the reigning West Coast Conference Player of the Year and four-year starter for the Toreros, he's amassed some impressive individual statistics while helping propel his team to national prominence. Just this past November, he played a major role in helping the squad overcome a 13-stroke deficit to win the Kauai Collegiate Invitational for the fourth consecutive year. He's also one of 26 golfers nationally to be listed on the 2011 Ben Hogan Award Watch List, which, for comparison purposes, is akin to being recognized as a potential Heisman Trophy candidate and future first-round NFL draft pick.

Oh, and then there was that time back at the 2010 NCAA

Division I Men's Golf Championships in Ooltewah, Tenn., where he set course and tournament records for both individual round (he shot a 6-under-par 66), and 36-hole scoring (135). The previous holder of both of those records goes by the name of Tiger.

"Yeah, it's pretty cool to be mentioned with (Tiger Woods) as a golfer, but I've got a long way to go to even make it to the PGA tour," Ching says.

What's even cooler is Ching's relaxed approach to a game that can turn saints into sinners with just one swing of the club. Those who have played with and against him marvel at his innate ability to keep his emotions in check come crunch time. He asserts his authority by hitting the right shot when it matters most.

Folks from the islands call it "mana," a spiritual power that, when harnessed correctly, helps a person reach their full potential. Whether you buy into that bit of Polynesian mysticism or not, what's irrefutable is Ching's development as a player, and a person.

"When I was a freshman, I was kind of a baby," he recalls, somewhat sheepishly. "I was in a new place with new teammates and it took a bit of time to acclimate, but I got a lot of support from the older guys on the team. They showed me the ropes and it really helped.

"This year, I'm the only senior



on the team, and there's definitely responsibility that comes with that. I do some things that I hope will set the standard for other guys, like motivating them to stay focused, which can be hard when you're young."

In addition to the on- and off-course responsibilities that come with being the team's elder statesman, Ching definitely enjoys keeping some of the time-honored team traditions alive — to the dismay of the

[achievement]

# GOAL ORIENTED

**Women's soccer captures first West Coast Conference title**

by Ryan T. Blystone

**N**atalie Garcia's soccer résumé is something to behold. She excelled in one of the nation's preeminent youth soccer organizations, the San Diego Surf Soccer Club, was a decorated four-year varsity letterman at San Pasqual High School, and even had the opportunity to compete in the Women's World Cup last summer as a member of Mexico's national team.

Yet, when Garcia allows herself to take stock of her on-field accomplishments through the years, none are likely to leave a more lasting impression than the four years (2008-2011) she spent as a defender/midfielder for the University of San Diego Women's Soccer Program.

"Being a Torero, to me, isn't just about the name of the school or location; it's the family I know I have here," she says. "There's a bond, a connection, with this group. We're basically like sisters. I know I'll be keeping the relationships I've built here for the rest of my life."

And the Lady Toreros' 2011 campaign will likely be an especially endearing memory for Garcia, her teammates, Coach Ada Greenwood and his staff. They're the first team in the program's history to win the West Coast Conference (WCC) championship.

"We saw so much potential from the start, even before our preseason camp started," Garcia says. "It wasn't just us, either. It was parents, coaches, even close friends who are some of our better fans who saw it. We knew the ability was there to accomplish a lot, and it drove us to achieve what we did this season."

Contributions came from everywhere. Senior striker

Stephanie Ochs, the first USD player to win the WCC Player of the Year award, scored eight goals and assisted on 14 more. Garcia, WCC defensive player of the year, anchored the back line and chipped in five goals and 11 assists. Senior goalkeeper Courtney Hawkins had six shut-outs and a 0.86 goals-against average. Juniors Lexi Deol and Dani Russell, sophomore Taylor Housley and freshmen Mariah Butera, who led USD with two NCAA playoff goals, all performed well.

Yet, with all their individual successes, the team's watershed moment came in the wake of a painful loss. The Toreros had just dropped a tough decision to conference rival Pepperdine, their fifth consecutive defeat at the time, and were a disappointing 5-7-0 for the season. A family meeting was warranted, and it happened right there on Pepperdine's home field.

"We'd hit rock bottom," Garcia

says. "For us seniors, we knew that if we lost any more games it would literally be our last chance to get a top seed (through the conference) or even into the NCAA Tournament, which we'd been to every year I've been here."

Road victories against Portland, a longtime USD nemesis, and WCC newcomer Brigham Young University followed. It set the stage for the 3-0 WCC title-clincher over Santa Clara, and a playoff run that culminated in the team advancing to the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Women's Soccer Tournament for the first time in program history.

"This season shows us what we have to do to accomplish what we all strive for," says Butera, a WCC All-Freshman Team selection. "We can look at that banner, 'WCC champions,' and know it's going to take a lot of hard work to get there, but I know we have the motivation to do it again." 🏆



BROCK SCOTT

BROCK SCOTT

freshman on the squad.

"Oh yeah, you have to keep the young guys in line," he says with a sly grin. "They have to do the little freshmen things, like carry our bags for us. Gotta teach them the ropes, right?" 🏆

# Gazing Skyward

[FACETS OF THE SAME JEWEL]

There are people who transform those around them by simply being themselves. They're not necessarily famous, nor do they want to be. They don't make a big fuss about their successes, and they always seem to learn something from their mistakes. If you watch and listen closely enough, an example is being drawn, simply by the graceful way they go about their work, their play, their lives.

Each of those whose stories we bring you were singled out due to their profound impact on the people around them. Whether students determined to carve a niche in the global community, faculty members who inspire and elevate, or alumni quietly working to make the world a better place, we celebrate their journeys, their accomplishments and our certainty that their best work is yet to come.

Inspiration is precious, and with each flash of brilliance, of humility, of ebullience, of abiding curiosity and lifelong love of learning, we are all just a little richer, a little wiser, a little bit closer to becoming the best possible version of our best possible self.

*Photography by Fred Greaves,  
Soobum Im, Jenna Isaacson and Kim White*







# The Big Thinker

**Bringing a different kind of unity to campus is Gabe Adibe's current mission critical.**

*by Trisha J. Ratledge*

Following the unimaginable devastation of the 2004 Indonesian tsunami, Gabe Adibe helped deliver nearly a half million pounds of food, water, clothing and other supplies to the survivors. A logistician for the Marines who made sure cargo and aircraft for the mission were swiftly stocked and precisely packed, those numbers astounded even him. But what made the massive humanitarian effort possible, he says, was simple: synergy and teamwork.

*"It was a joint effort between different countries," he says. "There were all these people who didn't know each other 24 hours prior and they were planning, sharing meals, working through the night, providing aid."*

Fast forward eight years, and Adibe, a senior sociology major at USD, is still the logistics manager for a larger cause. As the founder of USD Think, Adibe brings students, faculty and local community members from all backgrounds together for free-form discussions on social issues to promote positive change and action, much like he experienced off the coast of Indonesia.

"I've traveled the world a bit and have seen what happens as a result of war, and I've seen what happens when people work together," says Adibe, an active-duty Marine with 10 years of service. "I'm trying to get people to come together because it's so positive."

Adibe's mission to get people to think began with a Contemporary Social Issues class, which led to a leadership course and thought-provoking group exchanges. Looking around campus, Adibe saw a number of



discrete groups working on individual social issues; he wanted to bring all of that creative energy into one room.

As Adibe spreads the word, USD Thinkers are squeezing in a little closer at each meeting while they explore such issues as racism, gender or class inequality. On a campus charged with possibility — USD was recently designated an AshokaU Change-

"IF YOU BELIEVE IN SOMETHING AND YOU WANT IT TO CHANGE AND YOU TAKE ACTION, THE REST FOLLOWS."

maker Campus in recognition of its extensive social innovation efforts — Adibe and his fellow organizers have big plans, such as a USD Think jamboree for social action groups campuswide. He emphasizes that he's not alone in his dream, and that USD Think is growing with the hard work and support of many people at USD.

Creating change in the local community, or, in fact, the world, is quite possible, says Adibe, who hopes to encourage innovation in city planning in his post-military career. "If you believe in something and you want it to change and you take action, the rest follows," he explains.

This February, Adibe takes his message to a national audience as he leads a three-hour workshop at TEDxAshokaU, a conference at Arizona State University designed to inspire deep dialogues among change-makers. Originally in a wildcard runoff for a 10-minute student speaking slot,

Adibe garnered 3,034 votes on the conference's website, a close second-place finish. Impressed by his spirited campaign, the conference organizers invited him to run a workshop, and, in the process, provide more exposure for USD Think. Perfect, says Adibe, since he envisions expanding the USD Think concept to other college campuses, even to the military, where he will return to service as an officer after graduation.

Embracing each new challenge with a singular work ethic, Adibe has the tranquility of one whose direction in

life is guided by faith.

"I feel like God has put me here for a specific reason," he says. "One day you start drawing something and the next day you add onto it and you don't really know why you are doing it and then all of the sudden you look and you say, 'Whoa, I drew this crazy masterpiece.' That's how I feel God is working in my life." 🙏

# The Altruist

“I HAD AN EXCELLENT EXPERIENCE AT USD.  
IT REALLY BROADENED MY PERSPECTIVE  
ON THE FUTURE OF NURSING.”

**When Julie Novak set out to reinvent herself, the benefits far outweighed the challenges.**

by Mike Sauer

The life of an NFL kicker is downright terrifying. Imagine the crushing weight of expectation from 52 teammates — not to mention the legions of fans poised on the edge of their stadium seats, sofas and barstools — as you line up a potential game-winning field goal. Maintaining poise under that type of pressure requires a level of focus that few of us regular folk can muster. Luckily for San Diego Chargers kicker Nick Novak, there’s an ample supply of it in his DNA.

“My mom has been such an inspiration to me for a variety of reasons,” he says. “I hope I’ve inherited some of her focus. She’s committed to helping people, and can handle anything you throw at her.”

Judging by her extensive contributions to the field of health care, both as an educator and an administrator, Julie Novak, DNSc, RN, CPNP, FAANP is at her best when her workload is at its heaviest.

“I certainly wanted to be in a profession where I could help people, and nursing was a very diverse profession where you could sort of reinvent yourself,” says Novak ‘89, who was the Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science’s first doctoral candidate.

For more than three decades, the award-winning matriarch of the Novak clan has made it her mission to provide resources, care and support for those who need it most. A few career highlights include developing a nurse practitioner program in rural Southwest Virginia that remains the backbone of the region’s primary care system; procuring a \$2.5 million research grant for the Purdue University Doctor of Nursing Practice program; coordinating child and family health promotion programs in far-flung locales like Cape Town, South Africa and San Luis, Xochimilco in Central Mexico; and even lobbying then-presidential

candidate Barack Obama on the value and importance of nurse-managed clinics.

While her career path has led Novak and her family far afield from San Diego, the value and impact of her educational experience at the University of San Diego still resonates. “I had an excellent experience at USD. It really broadened my perspective on the future of nursing,

people have to deal with those types of situations in life. I’ll put it this way: With 3-year-old twins and a 7-year-old, I definitely learned how to best utilize each minute of each day,” she recalls, laughing.

Some 22 years later, Novak is still applying her storied focus to the challenges of providing systems of care to underserved children and

their families. As associate dean for practice and engagement at the University of Texas’ School of Nursing, she’s spearheaded the expansion of the university’s student health clinic, orchestrated the opening of the first employee health and wellness clinic, and, in an attempt to foster family development, integrated a program that educates parents as their children move through developmental milestones.

Those accomplishments, along with myriad others, earned her the Henry K. Silver Memorial Award, which honors the achievements of individuals who have contributed to the



and health care in general,” she says. “It was the mid-’80s, I was a nurse practitioner at the time, and realized for the next step in my career, I needed to pursue my doctorate.”

That seemingly straightforward objective was complicated by the demands of her career and growing family, but Novak is nothing if not focused, and failure was simply not an option. “Sure it was difficult, but plenty of

expansion or improvement of pediatric health care and the advancement of the profession of pediatric nurse practitioners.

“It’s really a tremendous honor to receive this award, as the man who it was named for sought to improve care for, and empower children and families,” she says. “It’s at the heart of what we do, and something I have always strived for.”

"I ALWAYS BELIEVED THAT IF YOU GIVE KIDS SOME DIFFERENT INFORMATION, THEY'D MAKE DIFFERENT CHOICES."

# The Motivator

**Bruce Mims wants to give high-risk students what they need: attention, role models and hope.**

*by Karen Gross*

When Rosaura Rodriguez was 16 and living in foster care for the second time, Bruce Mims gave her a reason to get up every morning. The daughter of two parents who dealt drugs while raising her in southeast San Diego, Rodriguez spent her junior year in the county's Juvenile Court and Community Schools system, accumulating high school credit so that she could graduate. Bruce Mims was her teacher.

"I looked forward to going to his classroom every day," recalls Rodriguez, now 23 and an undergraduate at California State University San Marcos. "He was the one who inspired me to take on the career I want to take on, and try to move forward in life." She hopes to eventually earn a law degree and work at the U.S. State Department.

Ever since he entered the world of education — topped off with his 2001 master's degree at USD's School of Leadership and Education Sciences, which was funded by a grant from the Irvine Foundation — Mims has directed his passion and commitment at kids like Rodriguez, who've had to struggle simply to survive. Many found themselves on the wrong side of the law. Some, like her, were victims of circumstances beyond their control. All of them were in desperate need of attention, positive role models and hope.

"I never looked at high-risk youth as bad kids," says Mims, who grew up in a middle-class home outside Pasadena, Calif. "I looked at them as kids who made bad choices based on bad information. I always believed



that if you give kids some different information, they'd make different choices. And in most cases, that's been true."

That core belief is what led Mims on a career-long hunt for under-performing schools and the students who populate

them. He spent much of the past decade in the Los Angeles area, where he earned his doctorate at the University of Southern California, and served as assistant principal and principal in a series of beleaguered high schools that responded to his special touch. As part of his unique motivational approach, Mims — an avid runner — challenged a group of students to join him in the L.A. Marathon.

"I was able to reach them on a different level," he says.

It's that student-centered and unrelenting approach that make Mims so good at what he does, according to Kevin Riley, who taught Mims at USD and initially recruited him into the Juvenile Court school system. Mims' infectious positivity and love of learning seems to rub off on even the most resistant kids.

"They see that optimism, that can-do attitude," says Riley. "He gives them no excuses. He sees an unlimited capacity for life's success."

Now a high school principal and director of student services in Sonoma County, Calif., Mims is taking his passion in a different direction. Unlike the gritty, urban settings he is accustomed to, his new home is rural and low-key. His current school, on the campus of Sonoma State University, is one of the highest performing in California.

"The pace agrees with me," he says, sounding almost surprised by the revelation. "Even with high achieving kids, there's room for inspiration. There are endless possibilities, and some don't realize how big the world of opportunity is for them." 🌟

# The Transformer

“I SEE JAWS DROPPING AS THEY UNDERSTAND THE TRUTH, BEAUTY AND POWER OF LITERATURE.”

**For Barton Thurber, USD has proven the perfect place to satisfy his abiding curiosity.**

by Sandra Millers Younger

The last thing Barton Thurber expected when he arrived at Stanford as a freshman engineering major was to be ambushed by a dead poet. But that’s what happened when the self-described “math and science kid” tackled a tough English assignment: *The Notebooks of Malte Laurid Brigge* by German writer Rainer Maria Rilke.

“I started reading at seven o’clock one night, and by eight o’clock the next morning I was an English major,” Thurber recalls. “It was a true conversion experience to a whole other way of encountering life than I’d ever dreamed existed. Suddenly, the one thing in the world I believed in and wanted to be a part of was literature.”

For the past 31 years, Thurber has conveyed that love of literature to his appreciative students at USD, where he’s taught poetry, Romanticism and 19th century British lit; served as English department chair; and attracted numerous grants, honors and awards.

Thurber came to USD in 1979, fresh from his doctoral work at Harvard. He never imagined he’d stay his entire career. But the young, evolving campus suited him, offering opportunities to explore his abiding curiosity about how things work, a hold-over perhaps from his pre-engineering days. Thurber’s scholarly work addresses not only 19th century novels, but also the 21st century intersection of literature and technology — how the Internet affects narrative, for instance.

Sit in on one of his poetry classes, and you’ll see Thurber has also re-engineered the classroom for the millennial generation. No boring lectures, and no tolerance for apathy either, even at 7:45 a.m.



“You don’t get to be a fly on the wall,” he says. “This is because there are no flies, and, if I ever have anything to say about it, no walls.” Instead, Thurber enables his students to

experience a poet’s process, and even the birth of a new literary era.

“We’re going to invent American poetry in three steps,” he announces, and 20 sleepy students wake up and begin to puzzle out step one: listing the differences between merry olde England and the 75-year-old American nation in 1850.

“America was an idea before it was a nation,” Thurber hints. “America had a frontier, an escape from law and order. So what is American poetry going to be like?”

Gradually, they get it. American poetry should be new and different, unfettered from meter, rhyme and stuffy language. It should express freedom from outdated social structures. It should celebrate opportunity and individualism. It should, in fact, sound a lot like Walt Whitman’s groundbreaking “Song of Myself.”

Thurber reads a chunk of Whitman, points out its rhyme-free verse and everyday language. He recounts the vicious criticism Whitman initially encountered — charges of egomania and lack of craftsmanship — and asks the class if the critics were right.

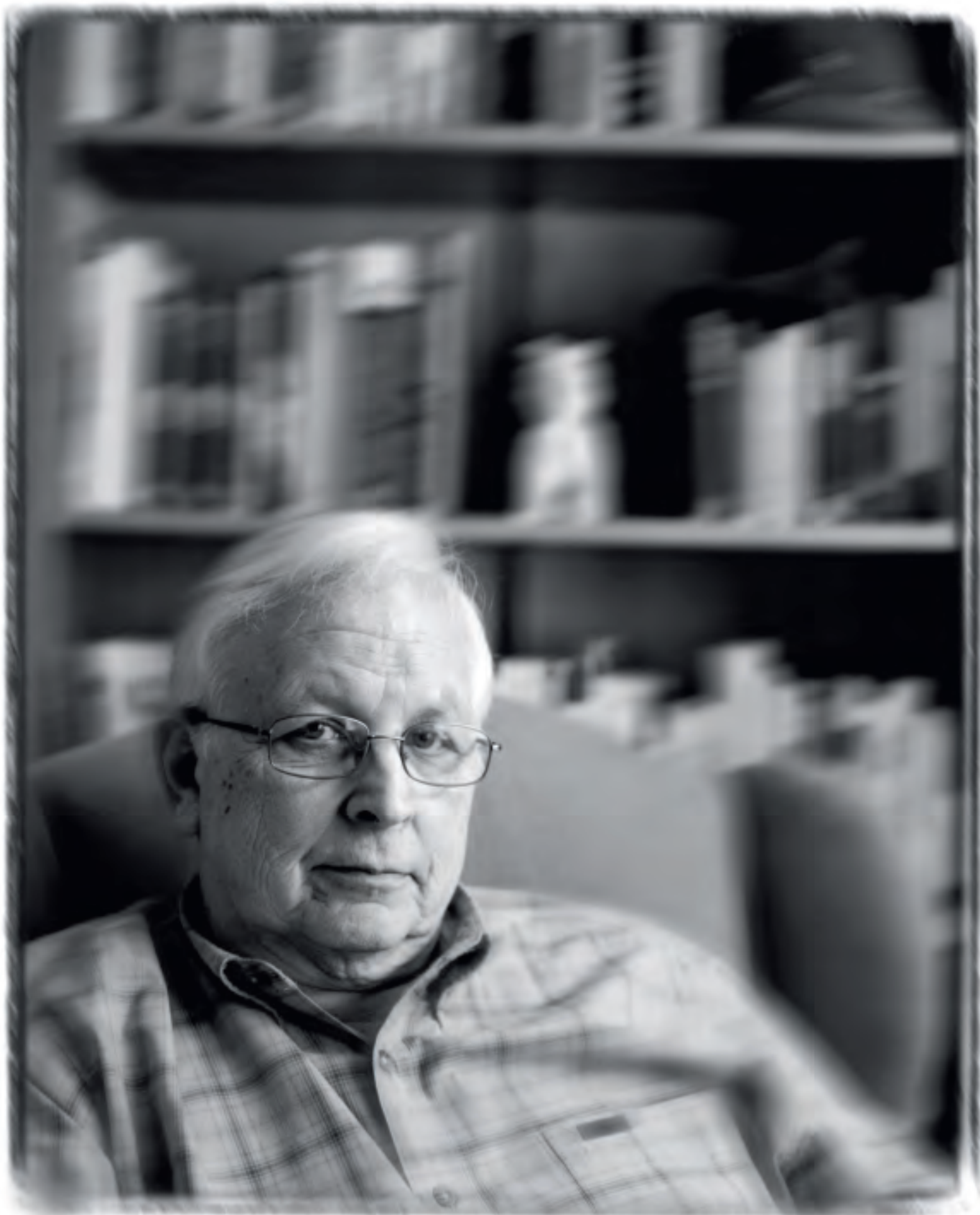
Students confer and decide Whitman’s first-person voice is more plural than singular, his song not really of himself but of a cocky, adolescent nation working out its identity and direction.

“OK,” Thurber concludes, “now that you’ve got an idea of what American poetry is, write some.”

Ten minutes later, the hour ends in a flurry of freshborn verse read aloud, each poem, however unpolished, a reasonable facsimile of Whitman’s sassy authenticity. Thurber leaves the room satisfied.

“I see jaws dropping as they understand the truth, beauty and power of literature,” he says. “Some students are staggered by what literature can do, because

they’ve never seen it before. Once you get someone like that in the classroom, it’s a privilege to be there.”



# The Adventurer

“VISITING SO MANY COUNTRIES IN SUCH A SHORT AMOUNT OF TIME IS AN AMAZING AND OVERWHELMING EXPERIENCE.”

## Junior James Wykowski’s epic journey left him feeling truly at peace with the world.

by Ryan T. Blystone

An unsettling 12-hour bus ride between the Moroccan cities of Casablanca and Zagora was a definite learning experience for James Wykowski. “Our first trek into the desert was supposed to take place at sunset, but as the sun continued to go down, we began wondering what the camels’ night vision was going to be like,” he recalls about that journey, which was meant to culminate with a stay in a desert camp.

Fear and doubt consumed many of his fellow students — along with motion sickness brought on by the bus weaving up and down hair-raising twists through the mountains. “As the sun went down, concerns began to rise. Pretty soon talk of never getting off, getting scammed — or worse — began to sprout up.”

But the bus did reach its promised destination at last, and Wykowski’s worries disappeared, replaced by relief and calm.

“We trekked through the desert at night on the camels. Our way was lit entirely by the moon,” he wrote on his blog. “The sky was bursting with stars and I had this incredible feeling of being so far away from home, in a strange and unfamiliar place, but still totally at peace with the world.”

Consider it a lesson learned, one of several memorable adventures from the USD junior’s Semester at Sea (SAS) fall excursion, which spanned 111 days, 12 countries and five college classes aboard the passenger ship MV Explorer.

It’s the sort of journey that a person can’t fully prepare for, says Wykowski, a theatre arts and theology and religious studies double major. “Visiting so many countries in such a short amount of time is an amazing and overwhelming experience.”

The voyage began in Montreal, moved on to Casablanca and then to Ghana, South Africa, Mauritius, India, Vietnam, Malaysia, China, Japan, Hawaii, Costa Rica and Cuba, before

finally docking in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Wykowski was one of 63 USD students aboard the ship, alongside hundreds of college students from all over the nation. The nonprofit Institute for Shipboard Education (ISE), runs student education trips year-round.

Performance and History of Musical Theatre. Kira Espiritu, director of International Study Abroad programs, says USD sends more students on SAS than any other school in the country.

Wykowski is the first USD student to be an ISE Presidential Scholar, an honor which, among other benefits, covered the cost of his semester’s tuition. His selection brought with it a responsibility to adhere to the SAS’ mission “to educate individuals with the global understanding necessary to address the challenges of our interdependent world.”

To answer that challenge, he embarked on a research project delving into the Catholic Social Thought principle of solidarity.

He credits his two-year participation in USD’s University Ministry’s Tijuana Spring Break-through immersion as the main

impetus for his decision to apply for SAS. “My Tijuana experience changed my perspective on everything,” he says, “It made me more globally aware, more aware of myself, how I relate to others and what my idea of service is.”



Of course, it’s not all about clocking travel miles and hopping from one international adventure to the next. There is actually studying involved. Wykowski took five courses: Global Studies, World Literature, Conversational Spanish, World Theatre and



“MY DEGREE LED TO ME WORKING ON ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS OF THE DECADE.”

# The Crusader

## Jeff McAtee leaves no stone unturned in his pursuit of environmental criminals.

by Mike Sauer

For someone who spends his days documenting the nefarious activities of some of the world’s most notorious environmental criminals, Jeff McAtee sure seems to have a chipper outlook on things. “There are some bad people out there doing some bad things to our planet, but I really feel like the work I’m doing is making a difference,” the communications director for the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Office of Criminal Enforcement says with typical good cheer. “How can that not make you smile?”

Once dubbed “the nicest man in news” during his 34-year broadcasting career, McAtee’s endearing geniality and aw shucks selflessness seem atypical of someone whose job it is to doggedly pursue those who have run afoul of federal environmental laws, and help bring them to justice.

However, closer investigation reveals McAtee to be more pit bull than pacifist when it comes to bringing the truth about environmental negligence to light, and he’ll leave no stone unturned in his attempt to inform and educate his audience — as the five Emmy awards he’s won for excellence in television journalism can attest.

“It’s really important that people know what the criminal enforcement division of the EPA is all about, and that’s what I was brought here to do, to help get the word out,” McAtee explains. “People think we’re just tree huggers — which we are — but our

division is focused on going out and getting the bad guys. Trust me, there are plenty of them out there.”

Among his many talents — rumor has it he’s a wizard with a ukulele and possesses a singing voice that earned him an invitation to study with the nationally acclaimed Lyric Opera of Chicago —

McAtee seems to have an innate ability to understand when he’s arrived at a crossroads in his career. He actively seeks out “new and interesting ways to better myself, which, in part, was what led me to the MSGL program at USD back in 2002.”

The Master of Science in Global Leadership program is an intensive and challenging educational experience at the best of times, but trying to balance a demanding course load with a full-time television anchor job in Seattle was bordering on impossible. And if that wasn’t enough, there was also his side gig as a commanding officer in the Naval reserve, a position he stepped away from last November after 23 years of service.

To say it was a frenetically paced existence would be an understatement, but, always the optimist, McAtee sees his USD experience as an essential part of his current career path.

“It had to be one of the toughest times in my life, but I’ll tell you what, it was also one of the best decisions of my life. I know my MSGL degree appealed to

my employers in the Navy, and it led to me working on one of the Navy’s most important environmental projects of the last decade, which was called the Naples Public Health Evaluation. It also helped me land my current job with the EPA, and I couldn’t be happier with the way things have turned out.”





# The Dynamo

“HE RESPECTS US AND ALWAYS GIVES US A THOUGHTFUL RESPONSE. THAT’S WHAT A UNIVERSITY IS ALL ABOUT, RIGHT?”

## Getting students fired up about their field is what Professor Erik Fritsvold is all about.

by Julene Snyder

Erik Fritsvold is psyched, as usual. And judging by the way he stokes the classroom discussion from a spark to an ember to a blazing bonfire, apparently it’s contagious. Just 10 minutes into class, all two dozen of the students in Sociology 368 (Social Deviance), are listening intently, responsive, fired up. Fritsvold manages the neat trick of seeming simultaneously in constant motion and preternaturally still. The term “catlike” comes to mind.

“For our purposes right now, could someone define subjectivity?” At least half the hands in the room go up. “If you’re subjective, you’re not objective. What does that mean to you? Are we objective social scientists or are we MSNBC vs. Fox News, low-level political hacks?”

In response to his nod, sociology major Stesha Moore-Pavich ’12 confidently responds: “I don’t think we’re objective in the sense that we can find empirical evidence to support our theory in any way. So it’s about how you want to see the theory itself sometimes, rather than how it really plays out.”

“Very well argued.” Both teacher and student look absolutely delighted.

It’s a good thing that the 33-year-old assistant professor of sociology has an abundance of energy, because his plate isn’t just full, it’s overflowing: He teaches courses related to his department’s crime, justice, law and society concentration, conducts research on and writes about affluent drug crime, the radical environmental movement and nontraditional street gangs, serves as faculty advisor of USD’s surf team, and juggles his schedule to make sure that his wife and young daughter always come first.

“In my life, it’s child, then family, then

job, in that order,” he says. A quick smile flashes. “Then surfing.”

The only son of working-class parents, Fritsvold went to public schools until he came to USD in the mid-’90s. Though he started off as an engineering major — “I always liked math and science,” he admits, almost sheepish, as if confessing

professor/mentor, A. Rafik Mohamed, as being instrumental in getting him on the USD faculty. While the pair was collaborating on the book they co-wrote, *Dorm Room Dealers: Drugs and the Privileges of Race and Class*, every time Fritsvold was on campus, Mohamed would urge him to bring a résumé. “The morning that he told me there was an

opening that would be perfect for me, I’d just come from surfing,” Fritsvold recalls. “I was in board shorts and flip-flops, and must have met with eight different faculty members.” Obviously, none of them held his attire against him, or his background in the local music scene.

“I played in a number of different bands,” he recalls. “I’d always audition for lead guitar, but as it turns out, every band already has a lead guitarist. What they all really need is a mediocre bass player.”

He is equally as self-deprecating about his teaching style: “All I did was pay attention

when I was student teaching and learn from the people around me,” he says. “Frankly, I just stole their moves.”

Maybe. But according to Mark Imada ’12, there’s something about Fritsvold: “He respects us, and always gives us a thoughtful response. I mean, that’s what a university is all about, right? Helping students think for themselves?”



his own deviant behavior — his first sociology course led him to change his major within six weeks. “Once I started studying social issues scientifically, it was empowering and exciting,” he recalls. “I didn’t think thoroughly about the career implications.”

Luckily, it’s all worked out pretty well for Fritsvold ’00 (BA), who completed his doctoral work at UC Irvine in 2006. He credits his former

# The Enthusiast

## Making difficult concepts relatable is all in a day's work for Political Science Professor Del Dickson.

by Karen Gross

Step into Professor Del Dickson's office, and you immediately get a sense of what makes him happy. A bicycle balances on the wall behind his desk, accompanied by several signed, framed photographs of world-famous cyclists. Cluttering tabletops and shelf space — along with the requisite stack after stack of books — is an impressive collection of autographed baseballs, a testament to his years growing up in idyllic Lake Arrowhead, Calif., as a diehard fan of the Los Angeles Dodgers. But beyond the baseballs and bicycles, the warm smile and welcoming face, sits a very serious teacher. Dickson's family tree is heavy with educators, and he's devoted his career to living that legacy as passionately and purposefully as he can.

**W**hat I want students to do, is learn how to learn," he says. "And learn how to enjoy learning. To be excited by new ideas. To be excited by new things."

By any measure, Dickson is succeeding. An award-winning legal scholar and writer, as well as a nationally recognized teacher, he's been a professor at USD since 1987, focusing much of his attention on an introductory honors political science course and a handful of law-related undergraduate classes.

Often described as funny, kind and accessible, Dickson is also known



for subjecting his students to a grueling academic pace. Remarkably, he also inspires a deep-seated sense of devotion and unwavering loyalty among them.

"I've never heard one bad thing about him," enthuses Rachel Black, a 19-year-old sophomore who made it through Dickson's introductory class last year,

"I LOVE MY STUDENTS. I JUST FEEL VERY POSSESSIVE AND PROTECTIVE OVER THEM. THEY KNOW THEY CAN ALWAYS COME TO ME."

and subsequently chose to declare political science as her major, thanks to the deep impression that class made on her. "If you don't know something, he'll work with you and help you get the answer. He's able to make certain things funny. He makes difficult concepts relatable."

His impact spans generations. One former student, Professor Mike Williams — now chair of Dickson's own Department of Political Science and International Relations — still describes him as one of only two great teachers in his life. The men first met in 1988, when Williams signed up for his introductory class. They became professional colleagues and close friends, with Dickson often guiding Williams along the academic route he chose to follow.

"He has an ability to make you think critically about material and make arguments in ways you didn't know you could," he says. "The students who take his class know they're in for a tough time. But with that being said, it's remarkable how his classes fill up."

His secret? Dickson would tell you there isn't one. He simply aims to engage each and every participant, and he does that by insisting they all be involved. His classes are ongoing discussions. Students know they need to be prepared, or risk

having nothing to say when he calls on them. That requires a great deal of commitment on their part, but not a shred more than Dickson offers himself.

"I love my students," he says simply. "I just feel very possessive and protective over them. We talk all the time and they know they can always come to me." 🗨️

“I REALLY LISTEN TO WHAT FINANCE EXECUTIVES ARE THINKING ABOUT, AND I BRING THAT TO MY STUDENTS.”

# The Elucidator

School of Business Professor Shreesh Deshpande is a master of step-by-step precision.

by Sandra Millers Younger

Mergers and acquisitions, capital budgeting, bond and stock valuation, leverage. The vocabulary of corporate finance is enough to confound the average person. But University of San Diego business students must become well versed in the nuances of these complex topics. Fortunately for them, Corporate Finance Professor Shreesh Deshpande is there to illuminate the path and lead them to understanding and even enlightenment.

A key faculty member at USD's acclaimed School of Business Administration since 1988, Deshpande teaches multiple sections of corporate finance, a required course at both the undergraduate and MBA levels. He's often one of the first instructors business majors meet. And, as it turns out, one they're most unlikely to forget.

Why? One reason is that students consistently give Deshpande high marks for his expertise in demystifying accounting terms and formulas. In class lectures and generous office hours, he presents each concept with step-by-step precision, and patiently answers every question raised.

“We have to make some assumptions when forecasting future cash flows,” Deshpande tells first-semester MBA candidates learning how to evaluate potential business opportunities. “I'm going to give you guidelines on how to make reasonable assumptions.”

He turns to the whiteboard and divides the cash-flow question into three components, each expressed by a formula and each presented clearly enough for non-business majors to understand.

Deshpande's characteristic clarity is a big reason he's won numerous teaching

awards over the years. His repertoire also includes MBA courses in investments and advanced corporate finance, plus an undergraduate class in personal finance that covers such useful topics as consumer credit, tax planning and investing for retirement.

derivatives and international finance. He's currently completing a three-year study on employee ownership in private companies, funded by a major grant from the San Diego-based Foundation for Enterprise Development.



Deshpande didn't set out to become an expert in corporate finance. As an undergraduate in India, he studied mechanical engineering, and he relished his first job in the field. But while pursuing an MBA at Clarkson University in Potsdam, N.Y., the young engineer fell in love with finance.

“It was very logical,” he explains. “It made a lot of sense to me.”

So much sense that Deshpande went on to earn a PhD in the subject at Penn State. He took an initial teaching position at Concordia University in Montreal before moving to San Diego, where both he and his wife, an environmental scientist, saw better career opportunities. The position at USD fit Deshpande well, and still does.

“I like it here,” he says. “I've always had good students, and over my 23 years, the quality has continued to grow by leaps and bounds. Word is getting out that USD is a good great place to get an education.”

To keep his lectures fresh, Deshpande makes a point of maintaining connections with San Diego's business leaders.

“I really listen to what finance executives in San Diego are thinking about, and I bring that to my students,” he says. “They appreciate it. It's interesting for a lot of them to hear real-world examples.”

Deshpande's research agenda, like his teaching, focuses on corporate finance, with additional attention devoted to

# The Idealist

## Rosy Mancillas Lopez wants to help others navigate through immigration's intricacies.

by Trisha J. Ratledge

At the age of six, Rosy Mancillas Lopez began a journey that would take nearly a decade to complete. When her family emigrated from Tijuana, Mexico, to San Diego in 1993 — legally sponsored by her mom, who held a permanent resident card — they had no way of knowing it would take years for Mancillas Lopez, her two older brothers and her dad to gain final approval.

“As kids, we would get picked up from elementary school and we went to lawyer after lawyer until we found one that would actually be helpful,” says Mancillas Lopez ‘09, whose family

secured a legal waiver to remain in the United States during the process. “It took eight or 10 years for all of us to get our documents. It wasn’t until we finally got the response saying we’d been approved that I realized how much of a struggle it had been.”

Mancillas Lopez says one hero in their struggle was the attorney who guided her family through immigration; in fact, he inspired her to do the same with her life.

Ever the realist, she did not expect it to be easy. Rising at 2:30 every morning with her brothers to help her mom with a newspaper route, working full time at USD during the day and attending school at night, Mancillas Lopez earned

a bachelor’s degree in political science. Now a third-year USD law student focusing on international and immigration law and an advocate for justice and immigration reform, the humble Mancillas Lopez is already making a name for herself.

“I’VE HAD SUCH HUGE SUPPORT FROM SO MANY PEOPLE; I HAVE NO IDEA HOW I DESERVE ALL OF THIS.”

In November 2011, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development honored her with the Cardinal Bernardin New Leadership Award, given annually at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops to a single national recipient for leadership and commitment to the poor.

While she works full time in USD’s University Ministry office and attends law school in the evening, Mancillas Lopez’s advocacy has included University Ministry day trips to Tijuana’s La Morita community, legal assistance and

immigration education at a local parish through the San Diego Organizing Project, immersion trips to Chiapas, Mexico, and immigration casework at the Legal Aid Society of San Diego. She is also a Big Sister to a local 15-year-old girl and a resident minister in USD’s San Buenaventura apartments.

Those who work with her have long expected great things, such as her high school Spanish teacher, Luis Castro, who has always called her “attorney Mancillas Lopez” and applauds her upcoming graduation. Her nomination for the Cardinal

Bernardin Award was submitted by Director of University Ministry Michael Lovette-Colyer, who admires her ambition to help people navigate the immigration system and shape immigration policy.

Mancillas Lopez, however, doesn’t understand the attention. Now 24, she says her work is simply a way to carry forward the kindness she has received since she first stepped into her new country.

“I’ve had such huge support from so many people; I have no idea how I deserve all of this,” she says with characteristic humility. “I’ve been blessed with so many privileges in my life, and I really hope that someday I’m able to bless another person’s life in the same way.”





[come together]

# CELEBRATE GOOD TIMES

Homecoming and Family Weekend a new tradition at USD





Thousands of Toreros came back to USD for Homecoming and Family Weekend 2011. Alumni, parents and families came together and reminisced while creating new memories. Be sure to save the date for the 2012 event, which takes place Oct. 12-14.



ALAN DECKER

[connection]

# PLUGGED IN

**Torero Network proves invaluable**

by Mike Sauer

**D**espite signs of an economic upturn, the U.S. job market remains a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma. For every measured step forward, there seems to be an accompanying stumble that sends the Dow Jones plummeting, and economic pundits scratching their heads as to the reasons why.

And while the employment forecast for the immediate future remains uncertain, it's a relief to know that USD alumni can find solid footing in the form of the Torero Network, an online nexus of connection for graduates of all ages looking to increase their chances at landing the perfect job.

Take, for example, the story of Stuart Clark '85. Back in December of 2010, Clark was forced to wade back into the job market after his position of 17 years was eliminated. Never one to dwell on the negative, Clark surveyed his options and decided that the best opportunity for solidifying his professional future would come through reconnecting with his past.

"I was living in Colorado, but decided to head out to San Diego for a few days to explore some job opportunities," he recalls. "While I was out there, I connected with some friends from my USD days. We had dinner and they helped me brainstorm about what my best course of action might be. One thing led to another, and I continued to contact old fraternity brothers and people I knew in town, which led me to Linda Scales (director of career services at USD)."

A friendly chat with Scales resulted in additional conversations with Director of Parent Relations (and classmate) Renda Quinn '86, and, ultimately, Director of Alumni Relations Charles Bass, who pointed Clark in the direction of the Torero Network.

And that's when things really got rolling.

"I looked up alumni back in Colorado, established some connections, and got a call from a fellow Torero in regards to an available position," Stuart says. "He then put me in contact with the company's owner. We chatted over the phone, and the next thing I knew, I was headed out to Denver for a job interview. We had lunch on a Monday, and I was offered a position shortly thereafter. It all really happened quickly."

Now firmly ensconced in his position as vice president of accounting for a Denver-area law firm, Clark has had time to reflect on his job-hunting experience, and feels that the Torero Network can prove an invaluable tool for anyone in the USD community looking to find their niche in the working world.

"A lot of times, in the job networking process, you're seven or eight people away from an opportunity," he explains. "But when people sign up for the Torero Network, there's an instant connection. It's hard to explain, but there's a unique bond that develops at USD that extends well past the time you're a student. I think that's something our community should be really proud of." 📧

## ALUMNI BRIEFS

**Volunteers are needed** to help out as Class Reunion Ambassadors for Homecoming and Family Weekend 2012. If your graduation year ends in a 2 or a 7, help plan your milestone anniversary by contacting Associate Director of Alumni Relations David Stephens at [dstephens@sandiego.edu](mailto:dstephens@sandiego.edu).

**The USD Wine Classic** is one of USD's most popular fund-raising events, and the 2012 edition promises to be the biggest and best yet. Last year, over 600 attendees sampled vintages from 30 wineries, with proceeds going directly to the Alumni Endowed Scholarship Fund. Those interested in attending the fourth annual USD Wine Classic on Sunday, July 22 are encouraged to register online and take advantage of the \$65 "early bird" ticket discount. Go to <http://usdwineclassic.com>; registration for discounted tickets begins March 1, and is scheduled to end March 30.

**The Torero network** is an interactive one-stop shop for all members of the USD alumni community. Alumni can get plugged into the network at [alumni.sandiego.edu](http://alumni.sandiego.edu).

**Toreros near and far** are sharing their stories, life experiences and adventures with fellow alumni by submitting class notes to [www.sandiego.edu/publications/classnotes](http://www.sandiego.edu/publications/classnotes). Submit your class note today for inclusion in the Fall 2012 issue either through the above link or via email ([classnotes@sandiego.edu](mailto:classnotes@sandiego.edu)). Come on, what's your story?



# FROM THE HEART

## Patricia Dixon embodies change

by Ryan T. Blystone

Patricia Dixon knows many ways to say hello. Among them are, “*Suláaqaxam! Súlulyexem! Páxam! Haáwka!*” Those greetings in four Native American languages — Luiseño, Cupiño, Cahuilla and Kumeyaay — welcome visitors to her office at the American Indian Studies Department at Palomar College.

Forty-one years ago, when Dixon was a San Diego College for Women student, it was a decidedly different world.

“Sister (Alicia) Saare tutored us,” she recalls, speaking of the Spanish class she took to satisfy a foreign language requirement to enter a master’s program in history. “She was very stern and had high expectations. She worked us hard so we could pass the exams. Some of the male students, veterans who’d been to Vietnam, laughed. They thought we wouldn’t pass.”

Not only did Dixon pass, but that same determination, preparation and respect helped the 1971 and ’75 (MA) alumna build and strengthen American Indian Studies (AIS) at the San Marcos, Calif.-based community college.

“When I began working here, there was skepticism about what American Indian Studies could really offer,” says Dixon, a Luiseño from the Pauma Band of Indians. “My colleagues and I made an important decision to teach in our original disciplines (history, sociology and anthropology) and evolve the courses with AIS as a foundation.”

Offerings included History of the Southwest, History of the Plains and American Indian History of the Frontier. “We didn’t go off on victimization,” she says. “It caught the attention of our colleagues because we taught from a discipline they

understood and they saw how we evolved it. Showing we didn’t come here to create a division made a big difference.”

*Aylekwi* — Luiseño for knowledge-power, or giftedness within a person — is what she recalls of the advice her grandfather gave her when she was considering a teaching career. “You have to give back.”

Dixon, among the first American Indian graduates in the College for Women, embodies that notion. When she’s not teaching AIS or serving as department chair on campus, she coordinates satellite AIS courses at Camp Pendleton and the Pauma reservation. Last spring she assisted Joely Proudfit, a professor at California State University San Marcos, in landing a \$50,000 grant from the Pauma Band of Luiseño Indians for the creation of video game cartridges to help younger tribe members learn the Luiseño language. The grant covers language workshops run by Palomar’s AIS faculty.

“We’re very passionate about this project and its potential for finding a practical way to preserve the Luiseño language for future generations,” Dixon says.

These contributions made it easy for Ethnic Studies Assistant Professor and All Nations Institute for Community Achievement (ANICA) Coordinator May Fu, PhD, alumna Perse Hooper ’09 (MA) and others to honor Dixon for USD’s California American Indian Day celebration last September. Family, friends, tribal members and members of the USD community, including USD Ethnic Studies Professor Michelle Jacob — an American Indian who Dixon encouraged to apply — attended.

“I was overwhelmed,” Dixon says. “It was very touching, very humbling.” 🙏

## 1960s

[1968]

**ROBERT WOHL (JD)** is the co-author of *Navigating Organizations Through the 21st Century — A Metaphor for Leadership* with Louis J. Wolter, a former Drake University professor. In addition to significant leadership roles in San Diego and New York, he led a team in Montreal, Canada, in the development of the Canadair Regional Jet, the first jet aircraft for regional airlines. Robert retired in 1993 as president of Bombardier Regional Aircraft.

[1969]

**JACKSON MUECKE (BA)** retired on Dec. 31, 2011, after more than 10 years as a USD administrator followed by 28 years as a Merrill Lynch vice president. Jackson plans to volunteer even more time at USD, and to travel and play golf with his wife of 32 years, Christine '76.

## 1970s

[1979]

**JERRY PLUMMER (BBA)** moved to Missouri in 1986 to be near family and settled east of Kansas City on a few acres where she keeps horses. She and her husband, Roger, have two grown sons, Erik, 28, and Ryan, 26. Jerry is a board member of the Jackson County 4-H Foundation.

## 1980s

[1981]

**JAMES POOLE (JD)** James sent in some memories for the 30th anniversary of USD's Law School Class of 1981. "Our criminal law professor was the Honorable Edwin Meese, an excellent lecturer. Despite being heavily involved in political planning with Ronald Reagan at the time, requiring frequent commutes to L.A., he was the only prof I can remember who not only gave a midterm exam, but invited each student to his office to review the results. He was the speaker at our graduation. For part of the years I worked in D.C. (1984-1989), Professor Meese was the attorney general, and we had at least one law alumni gathering in his office at the Justice Department, a huge space with a high ceiling and fireplace."

[1982]

**MARLA (MERHAB) ROBINSON (BA)** was named a top attorney in Orange County, Calif., by AVVO in the practice areas of corporate law and mergers and acquisitions.

[1985]

**MATT MCGOWAN (BA)** is in his 11th year of teaching elementary school in inner city Los Angeles. He and his wife, Jacinta, have a 6-year-old daughter.

[1986]

**CARLA (HOFFMAN) MIRAMONTES (BA)** reports that she is a student at the Phoenix School of Law in Arizona.

[1987]

**ELLEN IRVINE (MA)** retired from the foreign service on Aug. 31, 2011. Her 22-year career in public diplomacy took her to Mexico City; Paris; Brazzaville, Congo; Algiers, Algeria; Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire; Lomé, Togo; Antananarivo, Madagascar; Moroni, Union of the Comoros; Brussels, Belgium; and Accra, Ghana.

**MARK VEALS (BBA)** is controller for Shields, a specialty contractor in Winston-Salem, N.C. Since 2005, he has been living in North Carolina with his wife, Maureen, and daughter, Haley.

[1988]

**JOSIE RODRIGUEZ (MA)** retired from a long career as a hospital chaplain and began painting. Her main medium is encaustic painting; she has shown her work in many galleries throughout the United States. Josie also teaches art classes from her home in Mission Hills. In September 2011, Josie opened a solo exhibition of encaustic works at the San Diego International Airport. The exhibition, titled "Luminous Layers," will be open until March 2012.

[1988]

**HOLLY (COONRAD) WILLIAMS (BA)** and her husband, Larry, were married on June 4, 2011.

## 1990s

[1990]

**REAGAN ROMALI (MBA)** was named president of Truman College, one of the City Colleges of Chicago, effective July 18, 2011. Reagan has

served as chief operating officer in charge of launching the Houston Community College System's Community College of Qatar and also led finance and operations at several California colleges, including Moreno Valley College, Compton Community College, Los Angeles City College and Santa Monica College. Reagan writes: "I want to say thanks to USD for providing me such a wonderful educational foundation that has served me well in my career."

[1992]

**PETER "CHRIS" HOVE (MBA)** was promoted to president and chief executive officer of Nebraska Bank of Commerce in Lincoln, Neb.

**JOSEPH ULAN (BBA)** and his wife, Maryanne, were married in 2007. They have a newborn daughter, Rebecah.

[1994]

**KYLE LEESE (BA)** is the assistant naval attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing, China.

[1994]

**SUSAN (WOODS) NATTRASS (JD)** joined Pacific Ridge School in Carlsbad, Calif., as an economics teacher. For 16 years, Susan had her own law office, where she practiced employment law and, more recently, estate planning. "So excited to join the faculty at Pacific Ridge School and begin my transition from lawyering to teaching," she says. "Such a great opportunity!"

[1996]

**ANNE (DOLD) GIBSON (BA)** and her husband, Erik, were married on April 9, 2011. In attendance were fellow alumnae Katie (Lively) Swartz, Nicole (Messineo) Anthony and Liz Fraim. Anne is a meeting planner for a health-care corporation in San Francisco. She and Eric live in Pleasant Hill, Calif.

[1996]

**KYLIE (GLENN) JENKINS (BA)** and her husband, Patrick, are proud to announce the birth of a daughter, Megan Elizabeth, on April 27, 2011. She weighed 4 pounds, 5 ounces. "Megan was a huge surprise, but such a welcome addition to our family," Kylie says. "Due to complications, she was born 5.5 weeks early, but she is perfect. You would never know she was a premie other than by her 'petite' size. Our son, Glenn (9 years old), is an amazing big brother and is very helpful and attentive." Kylie planned to return to work at *Sports Illustrated/Golf Magazine* and her favorite event of the year, Will Farrell's "Cancer for

College." She writes that she and her family continue to enjoy their "quiet (but packed) lives with great family and friends in 'Life is Good' Carlsbad."

[1997]

**RICARDO ARAIZA (BA)** graduated with an EdD in organizational leadership from the University of La Verne in May 2011.

**CURT HARRINGTON (LLM)** was appointed an at-large member of the California Board of Legal Specialization with the State Bar of California for a three-year term. He also completed five years on the Tax Law Advisory Committee, the most recent year as chair. Curt continues his practice of taxation, patent and trademark law. He is also a registered patent attorney and has master's degrees in electrical and chemical engineering, and in business.

[1997]

**NOELLE (GRANICH) STEELMAN (BA)** and her husband, Wade, were married at Founders Chapel on July 9, 2011. The wedding party included fellow alumni Shannon Artmann as maid of honor and Shane Brown. Other alumni who attended were Paige Swope, Shawn Bengston and Jon McMullen. Noelle is the lead first-grade teacher for the Carlsbad Unified School District, and Wade is a senior chief in the U.S. Navy and is on the USS Sterett. The Steelmans live in Carlsbad, Calif.

[1999]

**JAMILIA (EL-FARRA) BAUER (BA)** and her husband, Paul, moved to Irvine, Calif., with their 2-year-old son, Austin Jack. Paul is the executive chef at the Hotel Laguna in Laguna Beach, Calif. and Jamilia has been a lease analyst for a real estate investment firm in San Juan Capistrano, Calif. for the past four years.

[1999]

**HEATHER DIEROLF (MA, PhD '09)** is the executive director of Springall Academy, a nonprofit school in San Diego for individuals with emotional disturbances, behavioral disorders and autism. Heather continues to give back to USD by providing internships and practicum experience.

## 2000s

[2000]

**AIMEE (VADNAIS) COCHRANE (MA)** her husband, Steve, and 4-year-old son, Christopher, all are



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**When Sarah Moga '04 submitted a class note, she just wanted to let her fellow alumni** know she had a new job. What Moga didn't know is that a lot of the story ideas for *USD Magazine* come from class notes submitted by our alumni. Just a few months later, she was on the cover of the magazine.

**Now a producer for Anderson Cooper's talk show at Warner Brothers Television,** Moga is still madly in love with her alma mater, and she continues to revel in the joy of firing on all cylinders.

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TIM MANTOANI

[exemplary]

# ABOVE AND BEYOND

On the front line of critical surgical care

by Mike Sauer

If you were to take a stroll across Alcalá Park and ask students about their role models, you'd likely get answers as eclectic as the people who provided them. And likely it wouldn't surprise you if they listed a collection of musicians, athletes and activists; it is, after all, a college campus.

But Jonathan Kim '12 has an answer that doesn't really fit the conventional mold. Then again, neither does he. "Well, it may not be the most popular type of role model, but I am really inspired by the work

that orthopedic surgeons do with injured soldiers," admits the 27-year-old corpsman, Navy SEAL, math major and soon-to-be medical school student. He aspires to join that select group of men and women who, among other duties, serve as critical care responders to injured members of the U.S. Armed Forces. "They were the ones that had the ability to save the men and women on the front line, and I thought that was really amazing, being able to help in that way."

The more time you spend with


the humble, yet highly motivated Kim, the more you realize the front line is exactly where he wants to be. During his two combat tours of Iraq in 2006 and 2008 with the Coronado, Calif.-based SEAL Team 3, Corpsman Kim witnessed firsthand the brutal price that ally and enemy alike pay during battle. Yet, to be successful at his assigned duty of treating injured Americans and Iraqi insurgents, Kim had to equip himself with an ample supply of something not often found in war zones: humanity.

"Is it difficult to treat people who would kill you if they had a chance?" Kim asks rhetorically. "On a personal level, obviously. But it comes down to the Hippocratic Oath — refuse treatment to no one. It doesn't change during times of conflict. Enemy combatants, civilians . . . we provided care to everyone who needed it, and once someone is no longer a threat, you treat them like everyone else."

That respect for the sanctity of human life is coupled with a desire to support the brave men and women who sacrificed so much in the name of service to their country. Kim's journey has let him from the conflict-ravaged streets of Ramadi, Iraq, to the more sedate confines of USD classrooms in order to pursue his undergraduate degree in mathematics. He approaches his studies with the same laser-like focus and attention to detail he developed during his time in the Navy. In the process, he's earned a spot at the top of his class (he has a 3.99 GPA, received First Honors and has been on the Dean's List every semester since his enrollment in the fall of 2009), along with the admiration of those whose lectures and office hours he never seems to miss.

"He's an outstanding student. One of the top students that I've had the pleasure of knowing in 15 years of teaching," says Assistant Professor of Physics David Devine. "Jonathan makes me absolutely proud to be an American."

Kim has submitted medical school applications far and wide, and while the waiting may be the hardest part, he can take solace in the fact that his dream of becoming an orthopedic surgeon will be supported by scholarships awarded to him from the Department of Defense, Cox Communications and USD.

"I've really enjoyed my time here at USD, and the close relationships I've developed with the faculty have really been beneficial in keeping me focused on my end goal." 



VIVIEN FRANCIS

they weave a tale of the ravages of injustice — and the budding awareness among Dalits that they have the power to create change.

“The problem is that they believe they are born into a certain place because of a past karma,” Francis explains. “They accept the maltreatment because they think they deserve it and that if they serve well, they will reincarnate into a better place in the next lifetime.”

But with the help of organizations like Navsarjan, Dalits are beginning to redefine their lives through education and vocational training.

As a documentarian, Francis connected with the Dalits, drawing parallels from her own life. Born and raised in war-torn Guatemala by a Lebanese father and a Palestinian mother, Francis experienced first-hand the destruction of human rights amid conflict.

“I was able to identify with many things I had seen in Guatemala,” says Francis, who is in the second phase of her photography project, a book of her images for which she hopes to raise the necessary funds to print; she plans to use the sale proceeds to benefit Navsarjan. “By showing these pictures, I feel I am restoring the dignity of these people.”

A second organization has contacted Francis to document the lowest of the four recognized Indian castes, the Shudras, representing 50 percent of the country’s population, or up to 600 million people. Such numbers are paralyzing and humbling, Francis says, but she embraces her responsibility.

“I was hoping for someone to come and save us,” says Francis, when she began to question social inequities years ago. “But I realized that the power was with me. I can’t wait for a savior, or that perfect leader. It’s work we all have to engage in if we want to create a better world for our children. It’s our responsibility to be that change.” 🗣️

To learn more, go online to [www.VivienFrancis.com](http://www.VivienFrancis.com).

[changemaker]

# BORN AGAIN

## Redefining a way of life in India

by Trisha J. Ratledge

The images are haunting: a young boy bent over pictures of his sister who had been brutally assaulted; a man, head swathed in bandages from a beating he endured. His crime? Accidentally brushing against someone in a higher caste. Photos like these portray the India that Vivien Francis witnessed for three months as an in-

tern with Navsarjan, a grassroots organization founded by, and serving members of, the Dalit community, once known as Untouchables. Dalits hold the lowest social standing in Indian society, so low they are outside of the caste system. Representing 16 percent of the population, the 167 million Dalits in India face discrimination at every level, from lack of education

and medical care to physical abuse and work restricted to such “impure” labors as working with animal hides and cleaning sewers.

“(For the internship,) I was asked to be creative,” says Francis, a 2010 graduate of USD’s master’s program in peace and justice studies. “I had the idea that I was going to take as many images as I could and later see what I could do with them.”

Francis’ photographs have become tools for advocacy, starting with an exhibition at USD, “Untouchables of India: A Photo Documentary of Caste Issues and Human Rights Abuses,” sponsored by the Center for Inclusion and Diversity. The 47 images are just a fraction of the 5,000 she took, but



pleased to announce the arrival of Nicholas Stephen on April 18, 2011. He weighed 9 pounds, 3 ounces, and was 20.5 inches long.


**CHRIS COOK (MBA)** and his wife, Kristina, proudly welcomed their first child, Peter Ellis, on Jan. 20, 2011. Chris reports that baby and family are doing well.

**HARRY HARRISON (JD)** recently formed Harrison & Bodell LLP, with offices in San Diego and Orange County, Calif. The firm will focus on personal injury, employment, business and class action litigation.

**KELLY (CHANG) RICKERT (JD)** is a certified family law specialist and owner of the Law Offices of Kelly Chang. She was selected by Super Lawyers as a rising star for the past five years, and was named one of the top women lawyers in Los Angeles. Kelly and her husband, Scott, live in Los Angeles with their daughter, Adia, 2, who inspires Kelly's law practice with her "perfect sense of negotiation skills."

**CHARLES SCHEIN (BBA)** and his wife Monica (Escobedo) '00 have a 2-year-old son. The family has moved back to Visalia, Calif.

**[2001]**  
**JAVIER MARIN (BA)** is a high school social studies teacher and his wife, Celena, is an elementary school teacher, both in Woodland, Calif. "We are blessed with four beautiful children: Lourdes, 11; Javier, 6; Amali, 2; and Santiago, 1," Javier says. For more about the family, go to [hellakids.blogspot.com](http://hellakids.blogspot.com).

**[2002]**   
**MICHAEL CORNER (BA)** was promoted to lead admissions counselor at Ashford University in San Diego.

**KODY DIAZ (JD)** was appointed national legal department manager and managing counsel for Toyota Material Handling USA (TMHU). He served on the company's legal counsel team for six years. Prior to that, he practiced litigation defense for various law firms across Southern California. Kody is also a faculty member at Taft Law School. He lives in San Clemente, Calif., with his wife, Kelly, and two sons, Lucas and Dillon.

**[2003]**  
**Navy Cmdr. NICOLE MAVERSHUE (MS)** was promoted to her

current rank while serving at Surface Warfare Officer School in Newport, R.I. Her promotion was based on sustained superior job performance and proficiency in her designated specialty.

**[2004]**  
**EMILY COONFIELD (Med)** is working toward a PhD in educational leadership and policy studies at the University of Kansas.

**[2005]**  
**DANIEL CARRILLO-GUNNING (BA)** joined Wilson Turner Kosmo as an attorney in the employment law and business litigation group.


**JESSICA (JEBERJAHN) JONES (BA)** and her husband, Brandon, welcomed a daughter, Peyton Whitten, on July 8, 2011.

**ROSANNE (AMARO) VALENZUELA (BA)** and her husband, Brian, welcomed their first baby, Andres Amaro, on May 22, 2011.

**MICHELLE WILKERSON-JERDE (BA, BA '05)** earned a PhD in learning sciences from Northwestern University and joined Tufts University in the fall of 2011 as an assistant professor in the Department of Education.

**[2006]**  
**KALANI CREUTZBURG (BA, MS '10)** writes: "Since my graduation in 2006, I've been putting my leadership skills to the test. I joined the Marine Corps as an officer to lead the toughest group our nation has to offer. I've traveled all over the country and visited many others, like Saudi Arabia, Dubai, Bahrain, Israel, Italy, Iceland, Kuwait and even Egypt. My greatest accomplishment thus far is being hand-selected to be one of the 12 company commanders of a recruit training company aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. I also teach upper-division accounting classes at Park University."

**CHRISTINA (WHITTENBURY) RANDHAWA (BA)** was a Spanish teacher at a New York City public school for four years while earning a master's degree in education at Pace University. She and her husband, Ravinder, were married on Oct. 8, 2010, and they moved to Princeton, N.J., where he has a new job. "I quit my job and we decided to start a family," Christina says.

**[2007]**   
**BRITTANY CALDWELL (BA)** graduated with a doctorate in physical therapy from Loma Linda University on June 12, 2011. She planned to relocate to Ventura, Calif., to work as a doctor of physical therapy in an outpatient orthopedic clinic.

**CLINTON CURTRIGHT (MBA)** is business development director for Callan Capital, an independent wealth management firm. Previously, he was responsible for distressed debt acquisitions at Kelly Capital, a private equity firm. Clinton has volunteered with homebuilding organizations Amor Ministries and Un Techo Para Mi Pais, and also became fluent in Spanish while living for a year in South America.

**VANESSA (SANCHEZ) LOKAN (BAcc)** and her husband, Carl, were married on July 24, 2010, in the town of Ka'anapali, Maui. They took a honeymoon cruise to Italy, Croatia, Greece and Turkey, and now live in Honolulu.

**LYNN ROMBI (BA)** graduated with a master's degree in theology from the University of San Francisco in 2010. She is the director of youth ministry at the Carmel Mission Basilica in Carmel, Calif.

**[2008]**  
**STACI JANUSZ (BA)** completed a master's degree in clinical psychology and is a third-year doctor of psychology student with Argosy University.

**ALEXANDRA KRASOVEC (BA)** graduated magna cum laude from Chapman University School of Law in May 2011.

**Navy Lt. j.g. JONATHAN LEWIS (BA)** recently completed a 10-month shipyard availability aboard the USS Mobile Bay, the second guided missile cruiser to undergo the most comprehensive upgrade and modernization program in Navy history, including the modernization of weapons and combat systems. Following the yard period, the crew charged through a series of sea trials and qualification in preparation for deployment.

**[2009]**  
**CECILIA ZAVALA (BBA)** was promoted to senior marketing associate for the Americas at Symtrax.

**[2010]**  
**JACK GENNUSO (BA)** is studying graphic design at Art Center College of Design.

**NICHOLAS LERCHE-GREDAL (LLM)** joined the Copenhagen, Denmark, office of Hannes Snellman Attorneys, a Pan-Nordic law firm that employs more than 300 people delivering transaction and conflict-management services from its offices in Copenhagen, Denmark; Helsinki, Finland; Stockholm, Sweden; and St. Petersburg and Moscow, Russia.

**[2011]**  
**ANNE-MARIE (SLAGILL) MALINOSKI (BA)** and her husband, Steven, were married at Founders Chapel on June 11, 2011. They moved to South Carolina, where Steven is stationed as a naval submarine officer and Anne is a freelance writer for USD.

## In Memoriam

**JOSEPH COLOMBO, MA, PhD**, died on Jan. 2, 2012. A passionate and inspiring professor, he joined the Department of Theology and Religious Studies in 1984, and served as department chair from 1998-2004. His extensive service to the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) as well as university included multiple terms on the University Senate, as well as serving on, and chairing, the CAS Appointment, Reappointment Rank and Tenure Committee.

**ANGELA (PALERMO) ELLIS '63 (BA)** reports that her husband, John (Jay) Ellis, passed away on June 3, 2011. He is survived by wife Angela, daughter Lisa (Ellis) Marr and son-in-law Brendan Marr, son John Ellis, daughter Dr. Julie Ellis, and grandchildren Andrew and Erica.

**HELEN MCHUGH, RSCJ, PhD**, passed away on Dec. 30, 2011 at the age of 95. An award-winning educator who developed academic programs for low-income children, Sister McHugh had over six decades of teaching and research experience. She spent nearly four decades at USD, and served as the chair of both the English department and the fine arts department. Named professor emerita in 1988, she continued to direct a tutoring program and conduct research until 2003.



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**Sandra Chew Phillips '68 (BA)**  
Staff Technical Writer, Qualcomm, Inc.

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COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES  
**Timothy Lynch '95 (BA)**  
Executive Producer, Woodshed Films & Farm League

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

**J. Scott Di Valerio '85 (BBA)**  
Chief Financial Officer, Coinstar, Inc.

HAHN SCHOOL OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCE

**Captain Jacqueline D. Rychnovsky '04 (PhD)**  
Executive Officer, United States Naval Hospital Yokosuka, Japan

**Bishop Charles Francis Buddy Award**

**The Honorable Dr. Joseph Ghougassian '77 (MA) '80 (JD)**  
United States Ambassador to Qatar (Ret.)

JOAN B. KROC SCHOOL OF PEACE STUDIES

**Susi Menazza '03 (MA)**  
Senior Policy Advisor, The Nature Conservancy

SCHOOL OF LAW

**Theodore J. Boutrous, Jr. '87 (JD)**  
Partner, Gibson Dunn

SCHOOL OF LEADERSHIP AND EDUCATION SCIENCES

**Arnulfo Manriquez '05 (MA)**  
President and CEO, Chicano Federation of San Diego County

**Chet and Marguerite Pagni Family Athletic Hall of Fame**

**Kevin Herde '93 (BBA)**  
Men's Baseball 1990-1993

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