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USD MAGAZINE
UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO / FALL 2008
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Visit our new International Center in Serra Hall 315, or visit us online at www.sandiego.edu/international.
24 / STIR IT UP
For three weeks this June, USD students were immersed in the history and culture of Jamaica. They didn't just study the region, they lived it: From pickup basketball games to service-learning to shopping at local markets, students dove into the local community life as much as possible. What they learned will last a lifetime.

DEPARTMENTS

AROUND THE WORLD
6 / South of the Border
USD’s programs in Mexico include partnerships with universities, microlending workshops, interdisciplinary workshops and much more.

7 / For the Children
The School of Nursing’s Uganda hospital project is coming along. Anita Hunter gives us a progress report.

8 / Roam If You Want To
The International Center is square one for present and prospective USD students looking for memorable moments around the world.

10 / Thinking Globally
More than 300 students and seven faculty members from 64 countries joined the campus community last year. Meet some of the people who make that diversity happen.

12 / El Juego del Mundo
The USD men and women’s soccer coaches are bridging continents and bringing an international flavor to the “world’s game.”

ON THE COVER:
Collage design by Tim Mantoani

GO online for exclusive Web content: www.sandiego.edu/usdmag

POINT OF VIEW
36 / The World on a String
A trip to Ireland gets Associate Provost for Internationalization Carl Jubran thinking about how far we’ve come — and how very far we have to go.
CONTENTS

14 / LONDON CALLING
What, exactly, did 79 students and five faculty members do this summer in London? Plenty. Course offerings on the media, churches, politics and theater kept them hopping on and off the underground. No surprise there: When you’re using London as your classroom, you’ve got to keep moving.

30 / BIENVENIDOS A GUADALAJARA
For 45 years, we’ve been sending students to Guadalajara in the summer, making it the oldest study abroad program USD offers. Their time includes not just coursework but life with a host family, cultural immersion and, of course, community service.

ALUMNI UPDATE
38 / Change the World, Transform Yourself
Alumni and friends like Joanna Cole ’07, Jason Doherty ’98 and parent Michael Harris are making a difference on a global scale.

CLASS NOTES
40 / Rising Above
Follow Georgina Miranda’s quest to climb the “Seven Summits,” the highest mountains of each of the continents.

46 / O Captain! My Captain!
The successful leadership of Milan-based CEO Ali Reza Arabnia is due, he says, to creating a healthy and kind environment.

53 / Is it Hot in Here?
With menopause truly out of the closet, the market for Anita Mahaffey’s hot-flash pajamas is heating up. The relationships she forged in Turkey have led to her success.

60 / Reflection
Danya Alhamrani ’00 (M.A.) won a chance to serve as on-camera tour guide in Saudi Arabia for Tony Bourdain’s No Reservations.
The Accidental Adventurer

Sometimes it’s the mistakes that make the journey memorable

The water was a mysterious effervescence of cerulean and aquamarine and indigo and turquoise, the air was dappled gold. A sheer cliff rose from a white sand beach; from far above, a tiny landslide of pebbles cascaded down. No one else seemed to notice. A slow scan of the hillside revealed first one, then two sets of tiny hooves picking their zig-zag path toward the ocean. I was sure that the angle was impossibly steep; no matter how sure-footed, these baby goats would certainly plummet to a premature death. I didn’t realize I was holding my breath until I exhaled in relief. They bleated and turned tail, trotting down the beach in unison, in search of what, I couldn’t imagine.

The cook — who’d also doubled as captain of the tiny boat that had brought a small group of us to this paradise — presented my cheese and tomato omelet with a flourish. I took a huge bite of buttery goodness, closed my eyes, and sighed. This was the life.

Without a perfectly timed mistake, I’d never have made it to that sublime moment in Sfakia. More than a decade later, I can recall that jewel of a day as clearly as if it were yesterday. But at the time, the comedy of errors that led me to that nearly deserted beach (save a few intrepid souls and a pair of baby goats) felt like one disaster after another.

I’d been traveling for weeks with an old friend, and frankly, we were getting on each other’s nerves. She was a frantic adherent of guidebooks. I was in the let’s-see-what-happens camp. She’d promised we would be free to split up whenever we liked on our month-long jaunt to Europe, but in truth, she never wanted to be alone. It seemed easiest to just submit to her iron will.

Next thing I knew, I’d been talked into buying a ticket to Sfakia, since that was where she wanted to go next. It was all fraught, especially because I had no real interest in schlepping all over Crete so that we could visit some obscure friend I’d never even met. Nonetheless, back then I preferred to avoid making waves at any cost, so there we were, cranky and tired, trying to decipher the Greek map and figure out when the next bus left.

Finally, through a series of notes, hand gestures and the annoying American habit of shouting English extremely loudly, we received assurance that our bus would be the next along. Hours of steep rutted roads later, we pulled into a tiny town with just one main street. She found a pay phone to call her friend to come collect us. It took a long time. While I waited, I watched the sun sink toward the horizon, while ridiculously charming fishing boats bobbed alongside a tiny dock. Maybe this wouldn’t be so bad after all.

When she finally returned, she had a face that said bad news. “It’s a disaster,” she said, her voice funereal. “It turns out she lives in Sfakia.”

“So? That’s where we’re at, right?”
“No. This is Sfakia.”

Turns out that one little letter made a big difference. Since we never actually made it there, I’ll have to rely on the Internet, which tells me that Sfakia is a little mountain village between Agios Nikolaos and Sitia. The good news is, as it turns out, that Sfakia — the place where I ate the best omelet of my life and watched those sure-footed goatlings — is paradise on earth. That’s where I said a relieved farewell to my traveling companion, electing to stay right where I was, in a little town of 400 inhabitants, a place where you could wake up and decide to hop on a boat and wind up on a beach with water so blue you think that it surely must be a dream.

It’s a memory that sometimes comes to mind on restless nights; a reminder that possibilities come to life when you finally give up the illusion that you’re in control of what happens next.

Whether by design or by accident, all of the intrepid travelers in this issue have tales to tell about their journeys. I hope you enjoy their stories as much as I have.

— Julene Snyder, Editor
[correspondence]  

USD MAGAZINE  

Feather Ruffler  
I wanted to pass along my thanks for your recent article in USD Magazine about my former high school English teacher, and now fellow USD alum, John Bowman (“Never a Dull Moment,” Spring 2008). I had the good fortune to sit in Mr. Bowman’s classrooms during two of my years at Ramona High School in the mid-80s (1983-84 and 1985-86, if my memory serves correctly). I can say without exaggeration that he continues to be one of the strongest, most enduring influences in my life to this day.

His lessons were absolutely unparalleled, and he instilled in me a love of reading as well as the motivation to do the work that it takes to become a great writer. While I’d say I’m still on the latter journey, the influences of his character and his values reached well beyond the classroom and even beyond the times when our paths last crossed. It was a pleasure to hear that he is still doing well, and still ruffling feathers with his gruff demeanor. Someone in my class had coined this bit of advice for the new arrivals to his class each year: “When in Rome, do as the Bowmans do.”

— Paul Bain ‘01 (MBA)

Bemused Again, Naturally  
I just received my copy of the USD Magazine. As usual, it is excellent. I find the little dispute about the use of flora quite interesting (“Letters,” Summer 2008). Each side has a point, but the reader is left bemused, since no convincing linguistic argument is adduced for either position.

Perhaps I can shed a little light on the matter. Both flora and fauna are neo-Latin terms, created in relatively recent time for the use of biology. The two terms have classical roots, but have undergone some interesting metamorphoses. The root of fauna is Faunus, a forest deity. When biologists de-personalized this masculine proper noun to simply mean animals, the gender of the word went from masculine to neuter. Hence, the nominative plural is fauna. Similarly, the root of flora is Flora, a goddess. When de-personalized, this feminine proper noun becomes neuter, and the neuter plural nominative is flora.

Thus, both terms, from the point of view of Latin grammar, are plural. However, in common English usage, they are collective nouns, and are treated as grammatical singulars. So there you have it. You should have asked the classicist on your faculty instead of a biologist. Professor Utech’s comment, in addition to being dogmatic, is bad Latin. Oh, yes, I forgot. I have taught Latin for 25 years.

As for my teaching, I am still at it, now in my 46th year at Maryville University in St. Louis. I have many fond memories of my days at “Charlie’s Diploma Mill” (as we used to call the Men’s College) and also of the “Foods” (as we called the Women’s College).

Ah, Time, you destroyer!

— John Wickersham, ’62

More Than Decent  
Over the intervening months since the publication of your bio of me as the new USD Board Chair (“Meet Madam Chair,” Spring 2008), I have received numerous comments, on- and off-campus, about the warmth of the piece. Of course, I’d like to think it’s because I’m a fairly decent person, but I’m afraid it has a great deal to do with the writer’s ability to capture the “human” touch, if you will. With our President Mary Lyons, I attended an AGB Institute for Presidents and Board Chairs recently, and was pleased to hear that so many people had seen the piece. USD Magazine is clearly on the radar screen with our peers; I even received kudos for the very “real” photo of yours truly. I thank you for the representation in the article and will try to live up to the standard which exists for our volunteer leadership. Brava!

— Darlene Marcos Shiley Chair, Board of Trustees

Most Satisfying  
I was privileged to have taught Jason and Amy Orlando (“Budgets Without Borders,” Summer 2008) when they were high school students. In my 36 years as a high school instructor, no two youngsters provided me more satisfaction than did these two. Both are lovely individuals, kind, considerate, honest and loyal. I could not love them more if they were my own offspring.

I rejoice in their success.

— John J. Bowman ’60  

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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.
Elise Vaughan whispers under her breath as the Toyota 4-Runner speeds toward the Los Alamos section of Tijuana. To the casual listener, her repetitive oration — quietly delivered in Spanish — sounds like a recitation of the rosary. And, in a way, she is asking for strength.

In a few minutes, Vaughan ’08 will address a roomful of promotores — volunteer neighborhood leaders who help initiate and organize community development — to explain the reason for her visit.

Vaughan, under the guidance of David Shirk and alongside classmates Analisa Franklin and Emily Lawrence, is administering a survey about a micro-lending program the promotores (literally “promoters”) run with the non-profit organization Los Niños International.

But the situation is delicate. With help from Los Niños, the students have gained entrée into a cultural sphere where interlopers are regarded with wary circumspection. Shirk pilots the SUV up a steep hill as Vaughan repeats her summation aloud. “Perfect,” Shirk assures her. “That sounds perfect.”

When Shirk became director of USD’s Trans-Border Institute, (TBI) in 2003, the organization’s aspirations were loftier than its reality. “It didn’t have much prominence or prestige,” Shirk recalls. “I don’t know how much prestige we have now, but we’re certainly more prominent.”

In addition to its flagship Justice in Mexico Project, TBI now plays a substantial role in efforts to
service-oriented trips for students, faculty and professionals while University Ministry organizes visits to Tijuana. In 2003, the Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science began offering health care programs in Mexico and now conducts regular health clinics in La Morita while also offering students a two-week immersion program at an orphanage and school in Cuernavaca.

Offerings within the School of Leadership and Education Sciences are even more expansive, with USD faculty spearheading collaborative projects with Tijuana’s Universidad IberoAmericana. In addition, a partnership with Instituto Thomas Jefferson allows USD teacher-candidates to student-teach at ITJ’s Guadalajara, Queré-taro and Mexico City campuses.

One of the grounding principles for all USD programs in Mexico is active engagement with local communities. Rigoberto Reyes, border projects coordinator for Los Niños, drives this point home to Shirk and his students outside the home where the promodores are meeting.

Reyes explains that the micro-lending program — an organic community service that offers small loans to those who don’t have access to conventional lending institutions — is built on social trust that isn’t easily gained.

He leads the group into a room where about 20 people are sitting around plastic tables. The promodores eye their visitors with guarded curiosity. The mood thaws as Vaughan explains how the survey could help both parties better understand and improve upon the micro-lending program. After the students collect the surveys and offer their gratitude, the room erupts with applause.

Their survey is expected to result in an academic paper — co-authored by Vaughan and Shirk — to be presented at conferences. For now, the group basks in the experience as they silently join the long procession of cars headed back into the United States.

**[uganda]**

FOR THE CHILDREN
NURSING LEADS HOSPITAL EFFORTS

Anita Hunter is a lifesaver. The veteran certified nurse practitioner and director of USD’s master’s and international nursing program provides healthcare services around the world. Her résumé includes traveling twice a year for nine years to Ghana to run a clinic in the village of Sekond. By her estimation, those trips helped more than 60,000 people. Her most recent international project is putting forth the School of Nursing as a consultant for the development of a children’s hospital in Mbarara, Uganda.

**SO, WHAT’S THE PROGRESS REPORT?**

The hospital’s groundbreaking was on April 5. It looks like the first phase will be completed by the end of October with 60 beds, an outpatient department and a lab. People need to be hired and trained to do the work. I'm taking our 15 students in the Master’s Entry Nursing Program there in September as their community health project. They know it’s not going to be a walk in the park. I’ll be back (in Uganda) in January; then, it’ll be a collaborative effort with science, peace studies and business students and faculty.

**ON HOW WE GOT HERE FROM THERE:**

Tom Thomas, a member of San Rafael Church in Rancho Bernardo and chair of the Holy Innocents Children’s Malaria Hospital NGO, and Father Bonaventure, a visiting priest at San Rafael Church who is from Mbarara, came to my office in 2006 and asked us to help them in a place where thousands of children die each year. Father Bonaventure said, “It’s like having a jumbo jet filled with children crashing every week for a year.” When you consider that, there’s a moral and ethical obligation to help.

**WHAT’S THE SCHOOL OF NURSING’S ROLE?**

We can reach far more people serving as consultants. We’re able to help develop training workshops for doctors and nurses who will eventually be hired to staff the hospital so they know what to do to take care of children. We’re far more effective if we can develop a community health education model. It’s about training the trainers.

**ON MAKING AN IMPACT:**

If I’m going to have students and faculty go, I want to make sure it changes their lives forever. I’ve noticed that in all the work I’ve done. You become a different person, you serve people differently, you respond to people differently and you know you’ve made a difference. Then you continue to make that difference every day of your life.

**[AS TOLD TO RYAN T. BLYSTONE]**
September 2007, is a one-stop shop for undergraduate students interested in international education opportunities. Nearly 20 percent, or about 1,200 students, will participate in an international program this year, far more than the national average of 7-10 percent, Mendez says.

USD undergraduate students travel to more than 20 countries — including England, China, Spain, Mexico, Italy, Australia, Jamaica and South Africa — for semester, summer and intersession courses taught by USD faculty. Currently, classes are offered to undergraduate business, engineering and College of Arts and Sciences students. Mendez hopes to add cross-collaboration opportunities, enabling more students to go on the same trip, even if they’re taking different courses.

All of this activity is directly related to a strategic initiative introduced by President Mary E. Lyons in 2003 that stresses internationalization as a major component. As a result, the International Studies Abroad Committee and International Center Advisory Council were formed. Thanks in large part to Provost Julie Sullivan’s leadership, the International Center is making an impact on students’ education as global citizens.

“We’ve tried to get to the students sooner,” Mendez says. “I had four freshmen come in together to the center and they were thinking about studying abroad, but not until their junior year; and they wanted our help.”

The center will raise awareness by hosting its second annual International Education Week Nov. 17-21. The event is expected
to include student workshops, an international fair and guest speakers. New this year is a curriculum for USD faculty to hear from colleagues who received USD International Opportunity grants to conduct international-based projects.

Mendez's main job is to promote and organize trips, including USD's most popular and longest-running international program in Guadalajara, Mexico. “Guadalajara is the hook that gets students interested in going abroad,” she says. “It's a safe place, it’s close, there are a variety of courses and everyone from a freshman to a senior can go. It's a great price — one of our least expensive programs — it's well organized and students are well taken care of.”

Some of the newest destinations for students to choose from are Morocco; Beijing and Shanghai, China; Bangalore, India; and a semester program for math students in Budapest, Hungary. The center is setting up foreign exchange programs with universities abroad to allow students to attend classes on each other’s campus.

While the International Center focuses only on undergraduate students, USD's graduate students in law, business, nursing, and leadership and education have ample international opportunities available. In fact, all incoming SOLES graduate students are now required to complete an international component to earn a degree.

All of these developments are signs that the university encourages its students to experience the planet to the utmost, much like Osborn did in India.

“When a country gets a hold on you, from all your senses to your mind, you cannot shake it off,” she says. “I never want to shake India off of me. I want to visit it until I have experienced all of it to the best that a foreigner can.”

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**GIMME SHELTER**

USD employee delivers the goods after Cyclone Nargis

by Kelly Knufken

Leilei Thein was unprepared for her aid mission to Myanmar following Cyclone Nargis. But she turned out to be the one person who could carry it out. Thein, a native of Myanmar who is now an American citizen, managed to not only get into the country just days after the May 2 cyclone, but to arrange for a DC-10 to deliver international aid, a nearly impossible feat.

“This was a very big test I’d never done before in my life,” Thein says. “I was working nonstop.”

With no training in international relief work and in a country that's beset by shortages even in good times, Thein maneuvered the bureaucracy and coordinated the delivery of nearly 1,700 “ShelterBoxes,” containers weighing 120 pounds apiece and holding a collective total of $1.5 million in tents, blankets, water filtration equipment and other supplies. Each ShelterBox is designed to sustain a family of 10 for up to a year.

“The media attention was on no aid getting in, but she was able to facilitate us getting aid to about 25,000 people initially,” says David Eby, a ShelterBox Response Team volunteer.

None of it was easy for Thein, USD’s environmental health and safety manager. In fact, she encountered obstacle after obstacle: The DC-10 set to carry the ShelterBoxes needed permission to land before it could even take off; American volunteers aboard that plane, including Eby, needed visas on arrival; and the plane unexpectedly showed up without enough fuel to get back to Kuala Lumpur. Thein maneuvered the bureaucracy in each instance — navigating four or five ministries just to get permission for the charter flight — to make the proper arrangements.

Thein, who became an American citizen after coming to the U.S. in 1983 because she wanted to travel freely, wears a sarong when in Yangon and blends in easily since she’s a native speaker.

But there’s another reason she was able to make things happen in Myanmar: Her husband’s father is a national hero, General Aung San, who was assassinated at age 32.

Thein, who met her husband after moving to the United States, says that the way they’ve conducted themselves by not making waves over the years when traveling back and forth to Myanmar has helped to smooth the way this time.

“When I said, ‘I want to donate directly to the people,’ they didn’t stop it. They trusted me,” she says. “That’s a miracle. They let me do it. It’s a win-win situation.”
Some come for a semester or a year, some stay for four years and a degree. Some teach, most study, and the whole campus learns.

Over 300 students and seven faculty from 64 countries joined the USD community last year; more arrive this fall. That growing body of international students reflects the university’s goal of becoming “a more culturally diverse and culturally competent community.”

Yvette Fontaine, Liv Olsen, Leini Santos and Maria Malloy are some of the people who make that diversity happen. The growing international presence is a win-win for everyone, says Fontaine, director of USD’s Office of International Students and Scholars. “It’s directly tied to the principles that make USD what it is. International students really like a small university that offers personalized attention and a core of religious values.”

Fontaine, whose office is part of the International Center, is the first contact for international students when they arrive. Her office oversees compliance with the complex web of rules for visas.

Olsen, from Norway, and Santos, from the Philippines, both seniors, are among USD’s 114 international undergraduates studying for degrees: Olsen in international business and Santos in communications. Malloy, assistant director of international admissions, logs 100,000 miles a year traversing the globe — to countries including Japan, South Korea, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Bolivia and Argentina — to recruit next year’s students. She keeps in touch with candidates by e-mail and a Facebook page for those who’ve been admitted.

Prospective students tell Malloy what appeals to them about USD. “They really like the small student body and smaller class size; these are powerful draws,” she says. “Our commitment to Catholic values is very important, especially to students from Muslim countries. Our values of faith, ethical conduct and respect for other traditions reassures Muslim students and their parents that at USD they and their religion will be treated with respect.”

Once here, international students find a warm welcome in Fontaine’s office, and they talk with her throughout the year about much more than visas: the beauty of the campus delights them, and the personalized attention from faculty and staff amazes them, especially the commitment to help them fit in. They realize that in this place, people truly live the values of compassion and caring spelled out in USD’s mission statement.

The students’ first semester is the most difficult, and throughout the fall, Fontaine and her staff help the students decipher what baffles them, including
American informalities like professors encouraging the use of first names (“call me Steve”), and their peers’ casual friendliness.

“Students from more traditional cultures don’t know how to respond at first to something like, ‘How’s it going?’” Fontaine says. “A lot of our students come from cultures where education isn’t at all flexible. They’ve never had the intellectual freedom they do here, and it’s hard to get used to. By the end of the year they love it. They go home as advocates for USD and for the United States.”

Liv Olsen came to USD from Oslo, Norway via Borrego Springs, where she was doing an internship in hotel management and loved Southern California’s climate, even the desert. She wanted a school with small classes and close contact with faculty. Olsen has been thrilled by her experience. “USD has such a breadth of courses, and so many ways to meet people,” she says. Olsen joined the student business council, got to know American families, and in 2007 she helped deliver food to fire victims.

Leini Santos, whose hometown is Manila in the Philippines, learned about USD from a magazine story about influential U.S. universities. Like many international students, she was surprised her professors did not require memorization of material, and instead expected much more analysis and interpretation. “I was worried all my freshman year,” she says, “but I learned to do it.”

International Center staff also help with living arrangements, transportation and child care, and they plan hikes, dances, dinners and trips aimed at helping international and domestic students get to know each other.

“We want our students to be well integrated into the campus,” Fontaine says. “It’s those relationships that build a deeper understanding of another culture.”

By taking students to Hong Kong, USD associate business professor Alan Gin has become enlightened about his own cultural heritage.

“Hong Kong is like a second home to me,” says Gin. Although his mother is from the region, he had never been there before taking graduate students in 1995. “It has helped me a lot because prior to that, I really didn’t have a lot of connection with my Chinese heritage. I developed expertise as I made many trips there.”

After first taking graduate students through the Ahlers Center for International Business, Gin realized undergraduate students would also benefit from the experience, and has been taking them yearly during intersession. Students take three-week courses at Hong Kong Baptist University, with hours in the classroom as well as company visits and guest speakers. Gin also helps students learn to navigate the cultural issues that will inevitably come with their career pursuits in a foreign country.

“It’s a culture shock to some, but it’s positive,” Gin says. “I think they get a greater appreciation for a different culture. Many are business students, so they’ve been reading about companies setting up businesses in China, and this gives them a chance to experience it.”

Gin usually surveys students before the Hong Kong trips, asking about dietary restrictions and the like. He remembers that one student wrote that he was adventurous and willing to try anything. “Toward the end of that trip, I asked how it went and he said, ‘I’ve eaten at McDonald’s more on this trip than I have in my entire life.’”

Nonetheless, the program provides a deep view into the global nature of today’s business world.

“You can read about it. You can watch videos about it,” Gin says. “But once you get there and see the culture, you learn a lot more.”

In the 2008-2009 academic year, intersession trips to Hong Kong and Beijing are planned as well as summer programs to Beijing and Shanghai. To learn more, call (619) 260-4598.
It’s been called the world’s game. Soccer — widely known outside the United States as futbol — enjoys a passionate following all over the globe. The sport quenches its fans’ thirst for competition, instills pride when there may be little else to cheer about and, in particularly avid locations, causes businesses to close during big games.

None of this is new to Seamus McFadden and Ada Greenwood, USD’s men and women’s soccer head coaches. A native of Donegal, Ireland, McFadden had developed a passion for soccer by age 15. Greenwood came of age in Essex County’s Southend, near London. “I grew up around soccer because there wasn’t much else,” Greenwood says. “It was my life for five or six hours a day, in school and after school.”

A lifetime of experience has played a role in their approach to coaching soccer players.

“Men’s soccer coach Seamus McFadden (below left) and women’s coach Ada Greenwood have brought an international spin to the game of players like Amy Epstein (at right).”

Men’s soccer coach Seamus McFadden (below left) and women’s coach Ada Greenwood have brought an international spin to the game of players like Amy Epstein (at right).
nament appearances and led USD to the 1992 national title game. He's also a seven-time WCC coach of the year, thanks to the talents he's recruited to USD.

McFadden's success has had much to do with having the right players. "It's about putting players in the right situations, limiting their touches on the ball and trying to pass their way out of it. There are two kinds of teams — one that plays soccer and one that tries to stop you from playing soccer. We try to play soccer.

Greenwood was a USD women's soccer assistant coach for five seasons before becoming head coach in 2003. He has a 54-39-10 record, one WCC coach of the year honor and three NCAA playoff appearances. "We try to play a very good possession game and have a lot of creativity. It's a high-level style of play and we want really strong decision-makers on and off the ball. We want our players to be resilient and have a relentless mentality."

To carry out the coaches' systems, both like to infuse their roster with international players. "I'm a big advocate of bringing players from overseas because I believe it brings a lot of flavor, bridges continents and brings everyone together," says McFadden, who's had as many as six international players on his team at one time.

Greenwood has had players from Canada, England, Sweden, Norway, Ireland and Australia. "I definitely love having international players. They bring a lot of different elements to the team."

One of USD's top international male players was defender Roger Lindqvist, from Halmstad, Sweden, who played from 1992 to 1994. He led the Toreros to three consecutive NCAA postseason appearances. And American-born Ryan Guy (who played at USD from 2002 to 2006) competed for St. Patrick's Athletic in the League of Ireland. McFadden saw Guy play recently just a few miles from where the coach grew up. "It was very gratifying."

The women's team currently has four players seeking experience in an international setting: seniors Amy Epsten and Jennifer Mello (Portugal national team invitees) and juniors Natalie Vinti and Jackie Garcia (Mexico national team invitees).

McFadden took his 1997 and 2002 teams to Ireland and England, respectively, to play exhibitions, bond and pick up a life lesson or two. He hopes to take another team trip soon.

McFadden says that such travel helps develop the whole student. "We go over there, go to a (Premier League) game and the players see how the other half lives and count their blessings for where they are and what they have."

USD has been hailed as one of 20 national "up-and–coming schools" by U.S. News & World Report in their most recent rankings list. The university was listed ninth among the top 20 for making "promising and innovative changes in academics, faculty, students, campus or facilities." USD also jumped to 102 from 107 on the overall list of national university rankings; our engineering programs jumped to 21st from 25th in the nation for schools whose highest degree is a bachelor's or master's.

Construction is underway on the 50,000-square-foot Student Life Pavilion, a facility designed to become the hub of campus life. The building will feature the outdoor Plaza Mayor, connected to new dining spaces as well as an expanded mercado, spaces for student government, student organizations, Greek life and student centers. Additionally, as the first LEED-certified building on campus, the SLV will have natural ventilation, a "green" roof and many other features that contribute to making a positive impact on its environment.

The building's completion is set for the fall of 2009. Go to www.sandiego.edu/studentlife pavilion or call (619) 260-7514.

A flurry of media activity put the university in the national spotlight late in the summer, including an invitation to USD president Mary E. Lyons to appear on the Dr. Phil Show to discuss her views opposing the Amethyst Initiative, a proposal by university presidents urging legislators to consider lowering the drinking age from 21 to 18 years of age. The show was taped the last week of August, and is slated to air later this fall. Additionally, in early September, USD was featured on the NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams as part of a story about a nationwide 16 percent increase in financial aid applications this year over last year. Senior Rosibel Mancillas Lopez and Director of Financial Aid Services Judith Lewis Logue were prominently featured in the piece.

The Athletics Department announced that the National Collegiate Scouting Association (NCSA) has ranked the Toreros 44th for all NCAA Division I universities and colleges in the 6th Annual NCSA Collegiate Power Rankings, and 92nd overall for all NCAA four-year programs. NCSA's 2008 Collegiate Power Rankings rate colleges and universities comprehensively based on student-athlete graduation rates, academic strength and athletic prowess of the university. The institutions posted in the 2008 Power Rankings are in an elite group of less than six percent of colleges and universities across the nation.

Former USD All-American pitcher Brian Matusz and the Baltimore Orioles agreed to terms on a Major League Baseball contract on Aug. 15, more than two months after the left-hander was the team's fourth overall pick in the draft. Matusz, USD's highest first-round selection ever, received a $3.2 million bonus — payable through 2009 — and a four-year major-league deal with the Orioles. Matusz, who is on the Orioles' 40-man roster, will go to spring training in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., in February.

Find more stories online, including a piece about alumni peace builders, coverage of the 30th anniversary of University of the Third Age, profiles of more USD graduates making a difference all over the globe and a look at the good work that's been conducted by members of the Peace Corps. Go to www.sandiego.edu/usdmag.
When it comes to opening eyes and minds, the LONDON Summer Program gives students a front row seat.

photography by Barbara Ferguson
History is everywhere you look, it’s church spires and hidden gardens, it’s unexpected graveyards and ornate gates, it’s just the way life is here, and it makes you realize how very young we are back home.
YOU EXPECT FOG AND DRIZZLE, GLOOM and sodden streets, but when you emerge from the Paddington tube station, you find yourself blinded by the noonday sun. You're deliriously tired, but it's exhilarating to be off the plane at last, to be able to walk with long strides, to exhale out the last vestige of recycled airline air, to be alerted by the painted words on the asphalt at your feet.

"Look left," cautions the one just beneath you. "Look right," urges the one on the opposite side of the street. Good thing too, since even though you know "they" drive on the "wrong side" of the road, you'll spend your entire time here looking exactly the wrong direction every time you enter a crosswalk.

You find a taxi queue and take your place, and before long you're comfortably ensconced inside one of those legendary roomy black cabs, gawking out the window at all that history. It's everywhere, it's church spires and hidden gardens, it's impossibly charming doorways and unexpected graveyards, it's ornate gates and chalked pub menus, it's just history and it makes you realize all at once just how very young we are back home, where a building that's 200 years old is historic with a capital "H," but here, 200 years ago is just the other day.

When you finally get to the East Side, to the University of London's Queen Mary College, to the blue gate where the guard sits and nods as you walk by, you're getting used to the idea that home is here now, at least for this little while, and when you get your room assignment and walk into your dorm room, you set down your bags, set up your iPod, hit "play" and smile.

Because you're here, you made it, and now all you have to do is figure out what, exactly, 79 students and five faculty members are doing here, and how, exactly, to describe it in a way that makes it more than just words on a page, but makes it just as real as it is at this exact moment.

THIS YEAR MARKS FIVE YEARS since the inception of USD's London Summer Program, which was founded in 2003 by David Hay, USD's director of undergraduate theater and associate professor of English and theater, in conjunction with English professor Cynthia Caywood.

"It originally started with a focus in just English and theatre, as these are our disciplines," recalls Hay. "Over the years, we've expanded, in part due to (former Arts and Sciences) Dean Drinan's strong interest in the program."

While the choice of housing for the students in London's East End is pragmatic — the Queen Mary campus offers affordable housing, classrooms, food services and other essentials — in truth, the purpose is to broaden students' horizons even more. "We want students to have consciousness of parts of London beyond where they might see plays and go to museums," explains Hay. "Being here helps them understand cultural complexity and diversity, and helps them understand how other people in the world live."

While earning three units in three weeks sounds intense, when the mandate is to "use London as your classroom," even the hardest work feels a lot like adventure. Case in point? The day that associate professor Eric Pierson's British Media Systems class went to Hyde Park to take in the massive concert celebrating Nelson Mandela's 90th birthday. There, his students were surrounded by flag-hoisting revelers from around the world who seemed personally invested in marking the momentousness of the occasion. The historic tribute to Mandela included performances by stars like Annie Lennox, Joan Baez and Amy Winehouse.

"The whole point of bringing students there was the lesson that this event wasn't about them," Pierson recalls. "Students were exposed to something outside themselves; they were immersed in celebrating the potential of what could be." The event was clearly moving for Pierson: "Just the idea that he could be imprisoned for 27 years and not come out of jail bitter is amazing to me," he says.

But by the first Monday, June 23, participants were expected to jump headlong into their studies. Alongside Pierson's class, academic offerings included Ethics in Theatre/London Plays in Production — co-taught in the classroom by professors Larry Hinman and David Hay — British Political Culture, led by professor Virginia Lewis, and a course on the Medieval Church, helmed by long-time USD professor of religious studies Gary Macy, who now teaches at Santa Clara University.

Using London as their classroom, students gather across from the Houses of Parliament at the gates of Westminster Abbey while immersing themselves in the study of medieval churches.
A typical weekday began with breakfast at an eatery informally referred to as “The Curve” on campus at the University of London. There, visitors could opt for the full English breakfast (eggs, grilled tomatoes, baked beans, sautéed mushrooms, alarmingly overstuffed sausage), or opt for the more familiar tea and toast. It was a safe bet that by 8:30 a.m. or so, program site director Caywood would be settled at a table, ready to hold “office hours” and answer any and all questions, ranging from inquiries about the logistics of working the machines at the on-campus launderette to the intricacies involved in obtaining a password to gain Internet access at the computer lab.

Most mornings were devoted to class work followed by afternoon and evening outings to cathedrals, museums, landmarks and theatres. From St. Paul’s Cathedral to a tour of the BBC, from the Tower of London to 10 Downing Street, King Lear at Shakespeare’s Globe to the British Library, students were immersed in their studies in most memorable ways.

“It’s been really fun and really busy,” said Megan Lenahan ’08. Her vibrant fashion sense has a hint of punk rock bravado, allowing her to blend in with locals without being immediately marked as a Yank. There’s a tinge of nostalgia for her college days in her wistful delivery; British Media Systems marks her last class at USD. “Everything we’ve done with this class is really interesting, and there’s more than enough time to go out and explore on your own.”

“Part of the value of diving into the culture is there’s all of this stuff that you’re not going to be quizzed on,” explains Pierson over lunch. “It can be hard, because you’re trying to balance class work with all of the other distractions competing for students’ attention.” And while there’s no denying the allure of nightlife, the reality of essays, quizzes and demonstrable gained knowledge tames after-dark revelry to a manageable level.

**HOWEVER THEY SPENT THE PREVIOUS EVENING**, on this particular morning, students and faculty from all four classes are up and about early, scattered from one end of Mile End to the other. This being a USD program, what they’re doing is giving back to their (temporary) community.

The ethics group is heading to Whitechapel Mission — “created in 1876 to help the homeless and rootless of London, specifically street sleepers” — to cook breakfast and sort clothing. Walking past high-rise housing projects, shuttered pubs and not-yet-open shops, a dozen or so students cluster together at a bus stop. A roadblock quickly arises when a trio admits to having left their “Oyster Card” bus pass back at their rooms. A brief discussion about the moral consequences of riding the bus without paying ends predictably: Professor Hinman walks those students back to campus to fetch them. (“I am the ethics professor, after all.”) The rest hop on the next bus; the others will catch up later.

(A few stops later, a group of police are milling about at the curb when the bus pulls over. No one gives it a second thought. Later, word trickles down that the bus that the Oyster Card group subsequently caught was stopped by those officers and a group of ticketless riders was detained, maybe even arrested. Seldom has an ethics lesson had quite such a vivid, well-timed payoff.)

Once assembled, the group gets a quick introduction to Whitechapel by manager Sue Miller before taking over from students in Hays’ class, who’ve been on-site since 6 a.m. One pair is selected to go into a separate room and work with clients in need of “life skills.” Seniors Angela Tremolada and Kyle Madison listen intently as coordinator Sunya Scott peppers them, scattershot, with information: “People come into this room because they need something. Maybe to use the phone, maybe they lost their kids. You never know what’s coming through the door.”

The students exchange an alarmed glance. “Look, they come here to get breakfast and showers, but some people are on the streets because they want to be on the streets,” she tells them. “We don’t mind. We’ll take you back no matter what.”

Less than 30 minutes later, Kyle is deep in conversation with a client. “OK, so where did you stay last night? Got it. On the bus in and around Tower Hamlet.” Angela is helping Jolanta from Lithuania. “I think she just wanted someone to talk to,” she says later. “I think she was just lonely.”

Senior Kelly Dreyer takes a break from washing dishes long enough to reflect on the experience of providing hands-on assistance to street-dwellers. “My sorority does a lot of community service, like raising money for the armed forces. I like this because it’s a much more direct form of making a difference.”
For some students, experiences like these can actually change their entire world view. “This day has helped me realize that I can do a lot more than I think I can,” Tremolada subsequently wrote in an essay about that day. “I can overcome things I am afraid of. I went into the project thinking, ‘How can I help them? I don’t know how to do this!’ and I left feeling very accomplished.”

Translating their hard work to those kind of big-picture life lessons proves a bit more of a stretch for the crew clad in protective suits scrubbing graffiti off the brick wall alongside the Regent’s Canal. Eric Pierson’s communications students are scattered along the bike-path — which runs parallel to the university campus — working to eradicate spray-painted blurts. Pierson’s right in the thick of things, flinging sudsy water with abandon. When asked whether he’d considered taking on a more supervisory role, he laughs. “That’s not the way I work,” he says, bending over to inspect his progress. “I just wouldn’t feel very good about not being right here with them.” Junior Ashley Rather has resigned herself to a day spent getting down and dirty, and her co-worker, sophomore Willa Croll, nods assent when asked if she’s making progress. “I keep thinking that some of the brick is graffiti,” she says, frowning at her bruised knuckles. “I think I’m actually scrubbing through to the brick itself.”

A few miles away, Virginia Lewis’ group has been on the job all morning, and there’s no end in sight. They’ve been prepping and painting the interior walls of the Tower Hamlet Carers Center, an organization that “provides advice, information and support services to all carers within the borough.” These carers — known as “caregivers” in the U.S. — are defined as “someone who, without payment, provides regular and substantial help and support to a friend, neighbor or relative who could not manage without their help.”

The students just know that they’ve got a whole lot of work to do. Luckily, identical twins Matt and Mike Chitlow are on the job; since their family owns a paint company, they’re able to give useful advice about how best to get the job done right. While the students work, center director Lynn Middleton talks about the work that’s done there. “We have a number of carers who’ve very clearly said that until they came here, they were suicidal. I’m a carer myself for my father, and I know how hard it is to get things into place for him. Everything’s a constant battle. You’re constantly trying to sort things out.”

Nearby students keep working, but clearly they’re straining to listen in. “This area, the east end of London in particular, is the poorest area in the country,” Middleton says. “But when someone walks in the door, very often we can provide some tangible, on-the-spot relief for them. Just listening makes a big difference. They’re not coping,” Middleton says, jaw set. “People say they’re fine, but we look at their eyes and we can tell whether they’re telling the truth. Sometimes they just dissolve in tears.”

GARY MACY IS A FAST WALKER. His students try, unsuccessfully, to match his long strides as he whisks through the streets of Oxford, where each block manages to be more charming than the last. “This is known as the Bridge of Sighs,” he says, pausing for a brief moment. A dozen pairs of eyes drink in the graceful, windowed arch above.

“It’s one of three in the world; besides this one, there’s one in Cambridge, where I went to school, and the original one in Venice. When we used to walk across it at Cambridge, we would always let out a little sigh.” Dutifully, everyone sighs, then it’s back into high gear in hopes of keeping up with Macy’s breakneck pace.

After spending a convivial time at the Eagle and Child — the pub where C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien discussed their writing with each other and other members of their writing group, the Inklings — the plan for the afternoon is to make the rounds of Oxford’s medieval colleges. On the agenda are New College, Magdalen College and Christ Church; at least a dozen other interesting possibilities are options for those with stamina. As engaged as his students are, Macy knows it doesn’t hurt to toss a little pop culture into the mix: “Christ Church has the Harry Potter dining hall,” he says. “I believe it also has the ‘whomping willow,’ whatever that is.” The students all but flutter with excitement.

Meanwhile, a good percentage of the other students in the program are off at a barbecue a mile or so down the road at St. Clare’s, Oxford, a school that has an arrangement with USD which allows about 30 students a semester to study abroad and earn 15-18 transferable credits. For a few top honors students, there’s an opportunity to undertake tutorial courses at one of Oxford’s venerable colleges,
Blackfriars Hall. Later, this summer’s visiting USD students will be treated to their own tour of the city by one of St. Clare’s professors. But for now, a few dozen of them are enjoying basking in the sun while being treated to an outdoor feast, complete with barbecue chicken and lemony cake. In truth, what with all the lounging, flip-flops and laughter, the gathering resembles a weekend afternoon on an outdoor patio in San Diego.

A few miles away, Macy’s group is about as far from USD as one can get, standing in the portrait-laden dining hall of New College. The school, a constituent college of the University of Oxford, was founded in 1379. “There was a shortage of educated clergy after the Black Death,” Macy explains. “The site of the school had, at one time, been a burial place. The legend is that the mound on the grounds was a burial mound of plague victims. It’s not true, but it makes a good story.”

Macy’s students actually do what most professors doubtless wish their students would do: They hang on his every word. New graduate Anne Hoolihan’s entire face lights up when she talks about this class. “It’s a good mix of classroom learning and firsthand experience,” she says. “He’ll do a 20-minute lecture and then we’ll get out and see what that particular class is all about. My favorite was the Tower of London. It’s amazing to realize just how many have lived and died there.”

Senior Karlie LaRue is just as enthusiastic about the group’s trip to Westminster Abbey. “It was phenomenal. There’s just so much there. You know, Elizabeth I was buried there. All sorts of historical figures. As grotesque as it is, you can’t help but be fascinated.”

Out of the corner of her eye, she notices that Macy has moved on, and is just about out of sight. With an apologetic shrug, LaRue takes off in pursuit, determined not to miss a single syllable of whatever knowledge her professor might impart next.

**While All the Students** in the London Plays in Production class aren’t theatre majors, a majority of them definitely have a bent toward the dramatic. At a showing of the acclaimed comedy *The 39 Steps*, one frets with much gesticulation that she might not be able to see the whole stage if she gets stuck with her assigned seat on the aisle. Another, senior Kyle Beck, casts himself in the role of keeping everyone within earshot entertained with constant patter, horrific puns and an infectious *joie de vivre*.

While this event is an “all program” evening (meaning students from all four classes are in attendance), the night before, the theater/ethics group attended a showing of Bernard Shaw’s *Major Barbara* at the National Theatre. The play, a dense thicket of big ideas about poverty, war and government, pits idealism versus pragmatism and shines a bright, hard spotlight on the notion that poverty itself is a crime.

At two hours and 40 minutes, it’s a long but exhilarating evening: while students scatter the moment the applause subsides, they’re assembled bright and early the next morning in a classroom, ready to launch into a spirited discussion of the brainstorm they’d witnessed the night before.

“So? What’d you think?” asks Hay. He quickly scribbles choices on the white board: Exceptional/Very Good/Good/Weak/I Slept Through It.

Junior Camille Monroe confesses that she found herself dozing well before final curtain: “I didn’t get the full experience, and I feel really bad because it’s happened with almost every single play.” But it was just the opposite for Beck, who was on the edge of his seat up to and including the final bows. “I thought it was so good and so engaging,” he says. “I know some people thought it was slow and that there were all these giant pauses. I thought just the opposite. I was most interested in those pauses. There was so much being said without being said, so much going on underneath.” Beck’s personality seems to be permanently set on “exuberant,” but he truly does want to get across how moved he was by the production.

“It sounds like you’re saying that the choices were really good,” Hay remarks. “In theater terms, choices mean, ‘How are you going to get what you want?’ Last night, sometimes what I was watching was the actor’s evaluation of which way to go to get from here to there. It’s like poker. Are you bluffing the straight? Or do you really have it?”

Eventually, Hinman finds enough of a pause in the back-and-forth between Hays and the students to get a word in. “Sometimes they say in music that the most important thing is the space between the...
notes. And that’s what’s coming out here; Shaw’s use of language is so supple, but often what’s important is what’s being shown beyond the words.”

But, being an ethicist, of course he steers the conversation to one of the play’s big questions: Which produces more good? Selfishness or altruism?

“For example, how do we, as a country, help others’ economies? Outsourcing may be one of our most effective forms of foreign aid. If you do something for selfish reasons and it results in good, does that make you a good person?”

He leans back in his chair, enjoying himself. “I mean, I love technology, but it’s an ethical quandary, because the military drives development. War drives development of prosthetics, brain technology. Shaw is pointing out that it’s impossible to keep our hands clean.”

Hay can’t help but jump back into it. “It’s the lifeboat analogy: There’s only food for six and there are eight on board. Two have to go. If you don’t like the moral choice, jump overboard.”

NOBODY’S BEEN THROWN TO THE SHARKS just yet, but the students in Lewis’ British Political Culture class are on the move — sink or swim time — jostling alongside business-suited Londoners down the endless stairs, double-checking that they’ve got the correct platform, half-listening to the melodious female voice cautioning them to “mind the gap,” before hopping on the Tube to Charing Cross station and finding a seat on the train to Canterbury. There, the group settles into a cozy sort of collective doze, watching the countryside — thatched cottages, laundry on the line, thick hedgerows, ducks floating on ponds and flower-dotted meadows — zip by, clickity clack, clickity clack, clickity clack.

As we clatter along, Virginia Lewis provides a thumbnail history of Canterbury, touching on William the Conqueror, the murder of Thomas Becket, Chaucer, Henry VIII and the Church of England. “I seek a political angle for my students to view the Reformation,” she says.

When the train pulls into the station, the group decamps and walks, raggle-taggle, through charming narrow streets before assembling in the courtyard of the awe-inspiring cathedral. After a bit of discussion at the ticket window, Lewis announces the plan: meet back here after lunch for a pre-arranged guided tour. At the word “lunch,” the students scatter, spirited away like so many dust motes floating on a passing sunbeam.

When they return — sated from a combination of sustenance, souvenirs and socializing — Lewis has hammered out details for a private tour. First, the group enters the breathtaking, soaring nave of the cathedral. Next, it gasps in unison. Then, impeccably dressed docent Bill Charleton impresses with his breadth of knowledge and wry delivery. “You will have noticed that many of the windows have plain glass, and you might wonder why. In the 1600s — you have heard of the Puritans? — then you will know that they were not very fond of icons and images. So during the period around 1640, they smashed the medieval glass.”

Again, a gasp, this time of disbelief. How could anyone deliberately destroy such beauty? “Another reason is that between 1939 and 1945, the Germans had a go,” Charleton continues. “Although no bombs dropped on the cathedral, the bombs blasting nearby blasted out the windows. Fortunately, some of the medieval glass remains, because the authorities had taken out of the windows and stored it nearby.”

We wend through the cathedral, fingers trailing across ancient walls, voices hushed, murmuring from chapel to crypt, chills up the spine, as if we are somehow touching history itself. Saxons and saints, martyrs and monks, a rich pageant veering on the overwhelming, medieval heraldry above our heads, while back in the nave, a choir raises voices together with such unearthly beauty that centuries pile up and soar into the cathedral heights, flown there by the sheer beauty of the music.

It’s quiet on the train back to London, again the reverie out the window — clickity clack, clickity clack — as we pass towns dappled with swans, meadows punctuated with sheep, cottages covered in flowering vines, fields carpeted in goldenrod and we periodically stop in towns with names like Wye and Paddock Wood and Hildenborough and Orpington, and we realize to our very bones that home is very far away.

Students in Professor Virginia Lewis’ British Political Culture class find themselves riveted by a docent’s articulate tales of long-ago intrigue related on a private tour of Canterbury Cathedral.
Excerpts from student essays about three life changing experiences.
Duncans is a small community just outside of Falmouth, Jamaica. It’s also where a group of USD students became immersed in the local culture for several weeks this June. Most signed up for the trip to earn three units over summer break by studying “The Black Atlantic” or “Afro-Caribbean Literature.”

But what they ultimately learned went far beyond the coursework assigned by professors Rafik Mohamed and Carlton Floyd:

To hear some of the participants tell it, a lifetime of experiences were crammed into just 21 days.

Throughout Jamaica, painted on the side of buildings, even homes, are the words, “Welcome to Jamaica.” The message is simple and clear. The Jamaican people rely so heavily on the tourist industry and precious foreign dollars that they are willing to paint their home in black, yellow and green. They will contort their lives to extreme measures, all at the will of the tourist.

— Emily Mignogna

We were told that if we were ever lost or in trouble, to find an older woman and ask her for help because almost everybody respects the older women in the community. Trust and respect for an older generation from a people who society has historically tagged as “savages”? Damn right.

— Shane Farmer
Walking through the Great Houses, slave history was portrayed as no big thing. The black tour guides would throw in a fact here or there, but were these black women really okay with sweeping their history under the rug for some white tourists on vacation?

— Erica Falkner

As I was riding my bike today, I read the bumper sticker, “Freedom is not Free.” When I returned home, I read the sticker on my bedroom door: “No One is Free When Others are Oppressed.” These quotes eat at me from the inside.

— Rachel Freeman

I am not white, but I am light-skinned, educated and have an economically decent background. If I were to fall into a category in Jamaica, in a strict sense of dichotomy, I realize that I would be white, or indulging in a lot of white privileges. It wasn’t the best feeling to realize this, because though I would consider myself a person of color in the U.S., it’s not happy to recognize that one can unintentionally be an active oppressor.

— Jennifer Suh
I was in a taxi driving up to the front gate at Silver Sands. We were questioned for a few minutes because the taxi driver was Jamaican and I am black. They had to make sure I was a resident staying there, otherwise they were not going to let me in. I cannot imagine not being able to go somewhere in my own city where I was raised. That is something that just blows my mind. These places are set apart for the tourist, in order to keep them in and the natives out.

—Gyno Pomare

In Jamaica, I was privileged. Privileged because what I brought as “spending money,” was enough to pay rent for six months at one of the houses I visited. I was privileged because the average college education in Jamaica is at trade school learning a craft or skill, whereas my education allows me to use not just my skills, but my brain. It dawned on me that I was in a place where I was in a position to help others.

—Terisha Taylor
SPECIAL SUMMER

SOME SMILED, SOME CRIED - FOR A MOMENT THEY WERE FREE.

HOME COOKING

GRANVILLE “PLACE OF SAFETY” GIRLS INSTITUTION - SPENT THE

Montego Bay - the friendly city

3-DAY FORECAST

TODAY
29°C
Partly cloudy
30% light showers

WEDNESDAY
29°C
Partly cloudy
20% showers

THURSDAY
30°C
Partly cloudy to cloudy, and wind.
My first encounter with invisible servitude was when I observed the manner in which my house ladies refused to sit in our living room with me. They were constantly running back and forth from the kitchen to their small, cramped, humid side-room, which was constructed in such a way so as to ensure the guests would never have to interact with the ladies.

— Kelly Gillespie

While our class spent a day (at the Place of Safety), the girls were ecstatic, as they were able to go out and play with us. Even though our time there seemed happy and carefree, there were disturbing times where this image was shattered. From time to time physical fights were on the verge of breaking out. When we did leave it was depressing, as many of the girls stood near the fence looking sadly at us. Some even begged us not to go.

— Kyle Ferrell

I (now) find myself entering conversations I had never considered before. Exploring terrain of debate I would have been scared to approach before. Talking to a black man who has lived all over the world about the insanely frustrating beliefs and actions of most Americans and our footprint wherever we go seemed natural to me, like it was something I had been discussing my whole life. This has been happening a lot lately. Naturally, without thinking, it comes in to the forefront, and I relate it all back to where I have just returned from: Jamaica.

— Shane Farmer
BIENVENIDA
a GUADA

by Nathan Dinsdale

USD’S FLAGSHIP STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM CELEBRATES 45TH YEAR
VENIDOS
DALAJARA

Program celebrates 45th year

photography by Luis Garcia
If one was prone to turning airline terminals into metaphors, the Don Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla International Airport — equal parts sleek modernity and weathered practicality — neatly juxtaposes the lofty aspirations and humble realities of Mexico.

Then again, maybe it’s just an airport. Besides, there’s a more fitting homage to Hidalgo — a Catholic priest credited with fathering Mexican independence before being dispatched by a Spanish firing squad — found in a stairwell, of all places.

The artist José Clemente Orozco — peer to Diego Rivera, David Siqueiros and Frida Kahlo — immortalized the birth of his nation in a vast mural that adorns the walls and ceiling above a staircase in the Palacio de Gobierno in central Guadalajara.

The portrait is epic, both in size and scope. It depicts Hidalgo — left hand thrust upwards in a fist, right hand swinging a flaming torch — rising above a chaotic, clustered menagerie of defiant and agonizing images.

This mural is one of the first enduring sights taken in by the University of San Diego students who arrive in Guadalajara each summer for six weeks of study and cultural immersion. Orozco’s artistry also garnishes the official 2008 USD Guadalajara Summer Program information pamphlet — the program’s program, if you will — with “Man of Fire” on the back cover and “The People and Its Leaders” on the front.

Like Orozco’s murals, the Guadalajara program represents a series of overarching themes, but each individual component — every intricate detail and determined brushstroke — also tells its own story.

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“Then’s this rumor that USD students have more money than God,” Carl Jubran says with a wry smile. “In reality, most of the kids are just normal college students who can’t spend a ton of money on study abroad programs — but they still want the experience.”

Accessibility was what first drew Jubran to Guadalajara in 1991. Back then, he was entering his junior year at USD as a triple-major in Spanish, French and philosophy. Now he’s
the associate provost for internationalization, discussing the Guadalajara program over cervezas in the lobby bar of the Hotel Sevilla Palace in Mexico City.

“I want the student who never even considered spending a summer studying abroad,” Jubran says. “We try to make the program as accessible as we can to as many students as possible. I guarantee, if we can get them here, they’ll be a changed person when they go back.”

The late professor Gilbert Oddo made the first 1,200-mile trek to Guadalajara with a small group of USD political science students in 1963. But the choice of locale wasn’t only about academia and altruism; in part, Jubran says, the location came about because Oddo wanted to spend time with his daughter, who lived there.

What began with a delicate thread has since inextricably bound the two cities together for thousands of USD students and faculty over the last 45 years, making Guadalajara the university’s first — and now largest — study abroad program in addition to being the blueprint for all USD international studies that have followed.

“It began very small,” Jubran says. “Dr. Oddo brought seven students that first trip. The following summer there were something like 30 kids. The program just grew from there.”

More than 200 students now participate every year. Add faculty, administrative staff and Mexican students taking USD classes and the numbers swell above 300. Most students live with host families and are bused to the Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Occidente (ITESO) from the surrounding neighborhoods. In addition, there are planned excursions to different parts of the country every weekend, making the coordination of the entire experience a Herculean task.

“It’s taking a piece of USD and transplanting it in a different country. In order to do that, you need to have a rather sophisticated infrastructure,” Jubran says. “I’d love to take credit for everything, but there are a lot of great people who make it happen.”

Still, Jubran has definitely been a key architect of the program’s evolution: One of the first significant changes he made when he took over as director of the Guadalajara program in 1997 was to move operations from a rented commercial building to ITESO’s leafy suburban campus.

“We needed to be at a real university with a real university feel,” Jubran says. “I wanted students to feel like they weren’t just coming to a USD enclave, but to a campus that’s alive, where they could be as immersed as possible.”

That first summer, Oddo taught one political science class for seven students in a rented house. Now, the program boasts more than 40 different courses taught by more than 30 professors in more than two dozen classrooms.

One of the first to kick off the 2008 session is the international relations course taught by USD professor David Shirk. The class is, naturally, an international mixture of U.S. and Mexican students, but it’s not hard to pick out which is which. The standard fashion accoutrement — baggy shorts, band/brand/ironic T-shirt, flip-flops — at USD applies to our students in Guadalajara as well. The Mexican students, in contrast, tend to dress in business casual.

Shirk begins by asking Ryan Harbour, a 19-year-old sophomore from Hinsdale, Ill., to draw a map of Central America on the chalkboard. Harbour does a serviceable job, even if his rough outline looks more like a tuba than a geographic region.

“Good,” Shirk says. “Now can you draw each of the countries?”

Harbour looks stricken. “I have no idea.”

Shirk delineates the eight countries from Mexico to Panama and then initiates a lecture from the first assigned textbook reading from chapter — whoops. Not everyone has the text. Apparently the “book store” (a converted classroom operated by the administrative staff) has run out of hard copies. As Shirk ponders the conundrum, International Studies Abroad executive assistant Rebecca Deedman appears at the door.

“Speak of the devil and you shall hear the rattle of his tail,” Shirk quips.

Deedman has brought photocopies of the text in question and the students line up, clutching their pesos to purchase one of their own.

“That’s one of the great lessons of the Guadalajara program,” Shirk tells his students. “You have to be able to adapt to ever-changing circumstance.”

The biggest hurdle for most students is the logistics of linguistics. Prior academic experience in Spanish is recommended, but not required for the Guadalajara program, so as to accommodate more students. For the novices, the trial by fuego starts in John Fendrick’s “Elementary Spanish I” class where a phonetic walk through the ABCs is in progress.

Ah ... Beh ... Cey ... Deh ... Effa ...

Fendrick — who also oversees the program’s University Ministry and Community Service-Learning components — has taught in Guadalajara for 13 consecutive summers. He laments that he hasn’t spent a Fourth of July in the United States since 1995, but says, “every time I come back here, I never regret it.”

It’s unseasonably cool outside the second-floor classroom as Fendrick explains the difference between the tilde and the eñe, the pronunciation of gato (got-oh) and general (hen-uh-ral) and the proper way to roll a double “r” off the tongue.

Perrrrrrrrrrro, the students trill in unison. Fendrick tells the class about how he first learned Spanish (his specialties are Greek and Latin) while studying at a Catholic seminary. He also relays how, during a previous summer session, an otherwise innocuous night at a Mexico City pub earned him the name “Dr. Lager.”

“You have to have at least one vice,” Fendrick grins, “otherwise you’re not a believer.”

The man who bestowed “Dr. Lager” upon Fendrick has a nickname — and legend — of his own. Manuel Aguilar is affectionately known as “The Jaguar,” but the reason the moniker isn’t readily apparent until the program’s first official weekend excursion. Like Jubran and professor Ruben Arroyo, Aguilar serves as a semi-official tour guide during field trips. Soon after the caravan of buses pulls away from ITESO on its way to Mexico City, Aguilar grabs his tour guide microphone.

“Roaaarrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr
Not everyone in room 215 can dance. Then again, that’s kind of the point. “Latin Dance: Salsa and Merengue” is one of three single-unit recreational courses offered in the Guadalajara program (the others being “Mexican Guitar” and “Introduction to Mexican Dance”). But the instructor, Mariana Olmedo Flores, isn’t shy about shoving her students — including Shirk — onto the dance floor.

“Uno, dos, tres, cuatro, cinco, seis,” Flores says, shouting out the cadence to her fledgling dancer. “Otra vez!”

The gender balance is decidedly tipped, but the disparity doesn’t seem to cause any grievances among the happily outnumbered male students who were bold — and perhaps shrewd — enough to join the class. Flores hits the pause button on the iPod stereo fueling this maestros’ wriggling hips, arms and legs with caliente salsa music. If Crayola made a color called “embarrassed,” it would shade the cheeks of graduating senior Gabe DeAnda as Flores instructs the former USD football player on how to best avoid crushing the toes of his dancing partner. Flores offers a few more pointers then returns to the stereo and presses “play.”

“Uno, dos, tres, cuatro, cinco, seis ...”

The rhythm of the “Latin American Poetry” class down the hall is less a sizzling nightclub scene from Dirty Dancing: Havana Nights and more a Norman Rockwell portrait of a grandfather telling stories beside a cracking fireplace.

Victor Cuellar — a diminutive, gentle man with a warm smile — has taught USD students (Jubran among them) in the Guadalajara program for 39 years. It quickly becomes clear that he has his delivery down to a science as he reads from Rubén Darío’s “Sonatina.”

The poem revolves around a princess pinning inside her castle, waiting for a prince to rescue her from despair and/or boredom. But it sounds much better when Cuellar says it.

“La princesa está triste — ¿Qué tendrá la princesa?” he begins, peering over his glasses to engage his audience. “Los suspiros se escapan de su boca de fresa ...”

The room is silent except for Cuellar’s voice rising to a passionate tremor and falling just as suddenly to a soft whisper, as the students listen intently, waiting to learn what will become of the princess.

Patricia Plovanich needs another 38 years to catch up to Cuellar’s tenure in the Guadalajara program. But she does hold claim to the most intriguing course title of the 2008 summer session with her theology and religious studies class, called “The Problem of God.” Judging by the sizable number of students in attendance, it appears that her creative syntax has sparked the desired interest.

“They take the class for the provocative title,” Plovanich says with a devilish twinkle, “but they learn to regret it.”

The class is challenging on multiple levels. For starters, it’s a three-week seminar, necessitating three-hour classes. But any course that begins with a discussion of theism, deism, atheism, polytheism, monotheism, panagism and secular humanism isn’t going to be a cakewalk.

“I happen to be Catholic, and I’m happy to be one,” Plovanich tells the class, “but if you don’t explore new ideas about how we think about and understand religion, religion will simply become a religion of the elders.”

Guadalajara isn’t exactly her natural academic habitat. Plovanich, who’s fluent in German but speaks little Spanish, would be more likely found conducting research at the University of Tübingen near Stuttgart than discussing the “cosmological ontological era” in Central Mexico.

But, as Jubran explains, the Guadalajara program has as much to do with invigorating students as it does stimulating students.

“I think a lot of professors don’t have many opportunities to connect with students on a different level,” Jubran says. “But being with students abroad allows the faculty to share a unique experience with students. That has an impact on everything from their syllabi to their classroom presentations to how they connect with students once they return to USD.”

Plavonich was initially reluctant when the opportunity to teach in Guadalajara first arose, but that wariness had washed away by the time she joined the excursion to Mexico City after the first week of classes.

Her eyes well with joyful tears upon entering the vast complex housing the Basilica de Guadalupe, one of the most important religious sites in all of Catholicism, where it’s believed the peasant Juan Diego was visited on multiple occasions by an apparition of the Virgin of Guadalupe in 1531.

“If you come to Mexico City and you do not visit the Basilica you did not come to Mexico City,” Aguilar explained earlier. “It is an icon at the heart of the country that helped to unite the Mexican people as a nation. Whether or not you believe there was an apparition, the real miracle was this unification of many different people under the same idea.”

José Clemente Orozco is used to the quizzical looks and double-take glances. It comes with the territory when you teach an “Art in Public Spaces” class where several of the works in question bear your name. In fact, he is the grandson of the other José Clemente Orozco.

“When the students begin to learn about who Orozco was they get taken by surprise sometimes,” the professor smiles. “But I think it just increases the experience for them.”

A genial man sporting a scruffy beard, Orozco does his best to expand the horizons of his U.S. students, frequently taking them on field trips to places like El Palacio de Las Vacas (“Palace of the Cows”) a 19th century mansion that fell into disrepair for decades, until a former University of Alabama professor named John Davis purchased the building and began painstakingly restoring its former glory.

“I try to keep the students out of the classroom as much as possible,” Orozco says. “I think it’s of great benefit for them to get immersed in the culture and see a different aspect of Mexico other than what they might find on the border.”

“When I first heard about the program, I didn’t know what to expect,” Ryan Harbour, the sophomore from Shirk’s class, says. “But it’s been really interesting. I’ve been to Tijuana and Cancun, but I’ve never really had a chance to be active in the culture. This is nothing like what I’ve experienced before.”

“If you had seen what is was like before,” Dr. Fendrick says, shaking his head. “This is just amazing.”

Fendrick is standing in the courtyard of the Casa Hogar Nacidos Para Triunfar (or “Born to Triumph”) orphanage. This is the ninth summer that USD has been involved at the orphanage but it’s the first time Fendrick has been to the new facility, which was built, in part, with funds raised by USD students.

The former site was a two-story house where more than 100 children were crammed into a few rooms. There were only two showers (one for boys, one for girls), the children slept on mattresses on the floor and they ate in shifts because the dining area was too small to accommodate them all at once.

“It was very primitive compared to what you see now,” Fendrick says.

The new orphanage is sprawling, with a central courtyard, a large playground area, dorms with bunk beds, an infirmary, library, laundry room, cafeteria and dozens of showers. The altar of the orphanage’s “chapel” is still...
and or "Snow White"), knows the names of

I

piggy-back rides. There are smiles everywhere.

laugh, kick balls, jump rope, color and give
coloring books, jump rope and plastic beach
computers for the library.

donations like toys, clothing, food and

faculty volleyball games — that tally around

including organizing events like student/
programs were concerned, USD was talking the
talk but we weren't walking the walk."

Each year, students hold fundraisers —
faculty volleyball games — that tally around
$2,000 each summer in addition to other
donnations like toys, clothing, food and

Upon arriving for the first visit of 2008, the
USD students stand in the courtyard holding
coloring books, jump rope and plastic beach
balls. Then the door to one of the dorms opens
and the orphans stream out. Pandemonium
ensues as the children and students run and
laugh, kick balls, jump rope, color and give
piggy-back rides. There are smiles everywhere.

"The effort of our students is just so touch-
ing," Fendrick says. "As a teacher, you see a dif-
cerent side to them, different behavior in dif-
cerent contexts, than you might in the class-
room. Watching them interact with the chil-
dren and seeing certain qualities that come
out is very gratifying."

A light rain doesn't seem to dampen the
collective spirit. And, even when it starts rain-
ing *gatos y perros*, the students and children
happily splash about in the rain. Gabe DeAn-
da — former USD football player and fledg-
ing salsa dancer — catches his breath
beneath an overhang. For an hour straight,
the offensive lineman has been a one-man
jungle gym with at least one or two kids
hanging on him at any given moment.

"Yeah, they’ve been crawling all over
me," DeAnda grins. "But it’s the least I can
do." Solemnity only returns when it’s time
for the students to leave.

"It can be hard on the students, but it’s also
good for them — this is life," Fendrick says.
"And they can’t come here and not be
touched in some way."

located in a large walk-in closet in the cafe-
teria. But it’s a big improvement.

"It’s gratifying to know that we’ve had an
effect on peoples’ lives," Fendrick says. "It’s amaz-
ing to think how far this has come in the last nine
years. Our efforts helped make it a reality."

Incorporating a service-learning facet to the
program was another addition initiated by
Jubran that further distinguishes Guadalajara as
the university’s flagship study abroad experience.

"It’s something that I thought was lacking,"
Jubran says. "There is a lot of service-learning on

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A trip abroad gets Associate Provost Carl Jubran thinking about how far we’ve come — and how very far we still have to go

It was mid-May, always a busy time at USD. We were closing out the academic year, wrapping up final exams and orchestrating the Herculean task of preparing more than 400 students to study abroad during the summer. We were also welcoming several new international students to campus.

And still, a sense of work left undone nagged at me.

I remembered the words of Provost Julie Sullivan earlier that fall when she inaugurated our International Center. She laid out our mission with clarity: “To develop international programs that would meet the diverse curricular and professional needs of each and every faculty and student on campus.” We’d certainly been working on it. Much of the year had been spent fine-tuning existing programs and developing new affiliations in underrepresented areas of the world.

Earlier in the spring, I’d received an invitation from the University of Ulster in Northern Ireland to discuss possible collaborative efforts. The timing was excellent, as Dean William Headley was exploring various new options for both graduate and undergraduate students to participate in Peace Studies programs in “cooled-off places of the world.” Northern Ireland might be the perfect place for our students to get first-hand experience of conflict resolution and mediation.

Arriving in Belfast, Northern Ireland reminded me of previous visits to Israel and the Palestinian territories. While the region is much calmer, the residue of previous clashes remains. The charged and complicated history between Catholics and Protestants was immediately present in the discourse of the local people.

As a linguist, I always pay particular attention to accents, intonation and speech patterns, and the driver assigned to take us from Belfast to Port Rush had one of the most charming — yet difficult — Irish accents I had ever heard. As we discussed the itinerary for the campus visits in the coming days, the driver was quick to correct me when I told him I was going to London/Derry to visit the Magee campus. He explained that only the Brits called it LondonDerry. No God-fearing Catholic would ever refer to the town as anything but Derry.

While at Derry’s Magee campus, we were greeted by Nobel Peace Prize winner John Hume (who currently holds the Tip O’Neill Chair of Peace Studies) and Professor Paul Arthur, as well as many others interested in helping to develop one of the most unique programs in the world.

Driving around, the vestiges of the conflict between Catholics and Protestants were still visible in the many murals around the inner city and the different colored roadside curbs that indicated territoriality and demarcation of one side or the other. Depictions of the “Bloody Sunday Massacre of 1972” were juxtaposed by another to respecting one another. Transition from tolerating one another to respecting one another.

Still, in many ways, the conflict that’s plagued Catholics and Protestants for the past 35 years was over. Political struggles are almost always ethnically or religiously motivated, and Northern Ireland is no exception. But disentangling the political from the personal is how sustainable peace is accomplished. Their experiences now lead them to other parts of the world to serve as models for sustainable peace in the Sudan, Rwanda, Kenya, parts of Latin America and Israel and Palestine.

And we’ll be helping them build this model for peace. Soon USD will sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Ulster. We’ll be developing undergraduate programs in Peace Studies and International Relations, as well as internships for graduate students studying mediation and conflict resolution. A small cohort of Irish exchange students will come to USD, and we’ll be looking at developing programs for faculty research grants and exchanges.

Of course there are many challenges ahead of us, but this trip has left me even more confident that we will continue to expand our international offerings at a rapid pace. And as we do so, USD will become a recognized world leader in international education.

Looking ahead, I still feel a nagging sense of work left undone. But that’s OK. Nobody said it would be easy. 

Associate Provost for Internationalization Carl Jubran clocks over 36,000 miles a year spreading the word about USD’s efforts worldwide. Reach him via e-mail at cjubran@sandiego.edu.
When Jason Doherty ’98 came to USD, visions of great athletic feats and ecstatic fans danced in his head. But long before he began his collegiate football career, Doherty had found his true calling, and it wasn’t on the gridiron.

At age 13, his family visited Tanzania. “Within 24 hours of being on the ground, I knew — even at that age — that my life would play out on that side of the world,” he says. “From then on I have been consumed with Africa. In fact I majored in international relations because I saw it as the best route back to East Africa.” In January 2009, he and his wife, Jennilyn, will open Dara-ja Academy, a free secondary boarding school for girls.

Doheny’s not alone. USD is renowned for creating graduates who are passionate about changing the world.

After graduating from USD, Joanna Cole ’07 spent 10 months with Mercy Ships International providing medical care in Liberia, a country on the west coast of Africa. Living aboard her Mercy Ship, Cole shared a cabin with five others. While lightning flashed and flooding was common during the rainy season, Cole was witness to surgeries ranging from tumor removal to bone grafts.

“I think my time at USD was a large force in drawing me into volunteer work,” Cole said via e-mail. “Through the honors program, I took courses on American culture and the culture of South-east Asia, which both expanded my world view and challenged my ethnocentrism. My time studying abroad in Cork, Ireland, and working in the Study Abroad Office also increased my desire to get out of San Diego and my comfort zone. Now that I’m home again, I hope that I’ll continue to make medical missions a priority in my life, but also be more aware of the needs within my own community.”

Michael Harris, father of Kelsey ’10, is CEO of Faribault Mills in Minnesota, and founder of the Blanket the World organization. Faribault makes fine woolen blankets, and Harris’ goal is to distribute one million blankets to needy children.

“It is our corporate belief that every company should give back in some way to the community,
the environment and/or a worldly cause," Harris says. "We approached Feed The Children about (our company) donating a few blankets." By the time Harris launched his effort — which aims to ultimately raise $10 million in funding — the goal had ballooned into a promise to provide a million blankets. Meanwhile, daughter Kelsey is following dad’s example. She helped organize a powder puff football challenge through her Alpha Phi sorority that raised $6,000 for Ronald McDonald House to help needy families.

Just after his graduation from USD, Doherty taught for a year at Makambako Secondary School in Tanzania. He fell in love not just with education, but with his African students’ passion for learning. While public schools are generally in short supply in the region, Doherty saw that teenage girls had an especially difficult time. When he returned to the United States in 1999 to earn his teaching credential, he met his wife, Jennilyn, and infused her with his enthusiasm for bringing education to Africa.

Nearly a decade later, the Dohertys’ Daraja Academy will open in January near Nanyuki, Kenya, roughly 200 miles north of Nairobi. The school will launch with 25 students and eventually be able to accommodate as many as 200. A modest budget goes a long way. Doherty figures Daraja can serve 100 students for the price of sending nine through the university.

"I now understand the value of a liberal arts curriculum and plan to incorporate it into the Daraja Academy experience," Doherty explains. "This is why USD grads are so successful once they leave campus. Rather than being specialized cogs that fit into the world like replaceable parts, they graduate as well-rounded, balanced people who are mindful of the world and how they fit into it.

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**ALL-ASIA**

**REACHING ACROSS THE GREAT DIVIDE**

by Ryan T. Blystone

Ken Koo ’83 lives in Hong Kong, but USD is never far from his thoughts. "I was in Taiwan when the basketball team played (in the NCAA Tournament in March). I stayed up all night and watched it online," says Koo. He admits that USD’s recent success brings back his own memories of being a student.

"Basketball led me to one of my passions while I was at USD, covering athletics. One of my classmates, Marc Yaffe, encouraged me to join The Vista. I eventually took over as the sports editor of the campus newspaper."

This fall, he’s attending his third USD reception dinner in Tokyo (to be held Nov. 13 at the International House of Japan), which is tied to President Mary Lyons’ trip for the annual Kyoto Laureate awards ceremony. Koo — chairman and CEO of the family-owned and Hong Kong-based Tai Chong Cheang Group which owns, manages and leases ships worldwide — is building key relationships with other USD graduates in the Asian-Pacific region. He’s also taken the lead in organizing an all-Asia USD alumni reunion as part of the university’s 60th anniversary celebration in November 2009.

Koo credits Lyons for taking a proactive stance when it comes to extending USD’s international reach. "Historically, USD has focused stateside, but she’s clearly more engaged," he says. "I think President Lyons will make it easier to get these people going (to these events)."

Koo is embracing Lyons’ internationalization initiative by conducting mini-reunions as he travels throughout Asia. He wants to establish an Asian-Pacific alumni resource network and have undergraduate and graduate students and USD alumni in the U.S. go overseas.

"USD has done well in Japan, but what I’m here to do is to raise it to the next level," he says. "I’m really excited to give back to the school. It’s very fulfilling for me to be in touch with my alma mater again."
Miranda was casually leafing through the August 2007 issue — looking for haircut tips, no less — when a story written by playwright Eve Ensler stopped her cold. The article offered a horrifying description of women who’d been scarred by gruesome violence in war-torn Congo.

Miranda was deeply shaken by the graphic accounts and spent hours researching the crisis while looking for ways she could help. She found the International Medical Corps, a humanitarian organization that provides relief and training to distressed populations, and decided to use her climbing skills to aide the IMC mission.

“This wouldn’t be what it is if there wasn’t a cause behind it,” Miranda says. “Now climbing the Seven Summits has a whole different meaning.

While still working full-time for a Los Angeles real-estate developer, Miranda has worked tirelessly to secure sponsors while operating a Web site and training up to seven days a week. But she says her biggest uphill climb isn’t an actual uphill climb. “The hardest part isn’t the training,” Miranda says. “It’s getting people to care.”

Miranda hopes to raise $50 for every meter she climbs. If she manages to hit that goal while scaling all Seven Summits, she will have trekked 43,324 meters while raising more than $2 million. But her success ultimately won’t be calculated in metric or monetary gains.

“I’m not going to solve the world’s problems by climbing a mountain,” Miranda says. “But if I can impact one life, that’s huge, because that’s one person who might not have had a chance otherwise.”

Go to www.climbtakeaction.com.

Some people sell raffle tickets. Others hold bake sales and car washes. Some race for cures and circulate petitions. Others host benefit concerts and black-tie banquets.

Georgina Miranda climbs mountains.

In July, Miranda ’03 journeyed to the Caucasus range in southwestern Russia to climb Mt. Elbrus. But she wasn’t tackling Europe’s highest summit (18,510 feet) just because it’s there. The ascent initiated her quest to climb the tallest peaks on all seven continents in an effort to raise money and awareness for imperiled women in Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Miranda readily acknowledges that a petite 27-year-old who loves ABBA (“Dancing Queen” in particular) and Sense & Sensibility doesn’t exactly fit the typical profile for someone attempting one of the world’s most difficult mountaineering feats. “I always got the ‘Most Improved’ award for every [sports] team I was on,” she says with a self-deprecating laugh. “I was never known for being an athlete.”

But what started as a hobby — with family trips to Yosemite and hikes around Torrey Pines while studying business administration at USD — became a passion when she entered the MBA program at Loyola Marymount.

“It was literally just to keep my sanity,” Miranda says. “Working full-time and going to school full-time was tough, and it was a great mental break to get outdoors.”

She toyed with climbing the “Seven Summits” as much for the globe-trotting adventure as the grueling physical challenge. But she found her ultimate source of inspiration in an unlikely place — the glossy pages of Glamour magazine.
1950s

[1958] Alice (Oechsli) Chumrau (B.A.) is academic vice president of Salish Kootenai College in Pablo, Mont. She enjoys downhill skiing in the winter and golfing in the summer, and travels to New York City and Eden, Texas, to visit her children and grandchildren. "Very fond memories of USD," she reports.

[1959] Thomas Sharkey (J.D.) was a trial lawyer for 40 years with McNees, Fitzgerald, Rees & Sharkey. He is now a mediator and arbitrator in litigated matters. Thomas is also active in the American Board of Trial Advocates and the American College of Trial Lawyers, and he serves on the Board of Visitors at USD's Law School.

[1960] John Bowman (B.A., MAT ’73) is a member of USD’s national alumni board. He enjoys playing senior softball, writing his memoirs and spreading the word about his alma mater.

Barbara (Tamulonis) Miller (B.A.) enjoys boating on Prince William Sound during the summer and in Seattle during the winter.

Simone (Gennette) Ostrander (B.A., M.A. ’66) retired from her 40-year teaching career in June 2004. She taught a number of subjects in high school and college, including English literature, speech, forensics, drama, art, composition and research skills. She also was a counselor, specializing in re-entry students and career preparation. Since retiring, she has been involved in the San Joaquin River Trust, teaching children about wildlife and conservation along the river and foothills in Fresno County, Calif. As a member of Fresno Wildlife Rehabilitation, she specializes in saving injured and orphaned wild animals. Simone is a master gardener, presenting at area libraries, schools and on local TV; a reading tutor at elementary schools; and visits high schools to teach about healthy relationships and honoring marriage.

[1961] Mary Jane Tiernan (B.A., M.A. ’72) retired from her career in higher education in 2002. She enjoys traveling the world and is a substitute teacher at the College of English Language in San Diego. She represents the alumnae of the Sacred Heart on the USD national alumni board.

[1962] Jane (Dey) Davis (B.A.) retired in May 2006 and lives in Prairie Village, Kan., a suburb of Kansas City, Mo. "My beautiful, witty daughter, very nice son-in-law and three grandchildren — Tommy, 9; Janie, 7; Patrick, 3 — live right down the block," she says. "I bought a lovely little house — three bedrooms — in 2006. Fond memories of USD, especially Mother Danz."

Karen (Reemelin) Smith (B.A.) retired on Christmas day in 2005 after 35 years at Grossmont Hospital. Karen and her husband, Ronald, have six children and four grandchildren. Their youngest child, Alicia, graduated from Northern Arizona University in 2007.

[1963] Donna (Brower) Canedo (B.A.) is an assistant principal at two elementary schools in Severna Park, Md. Her husband, Joseph ’63, passed away on Dec. 21, 2007. Two of their four children are graduates of USD.

[1965] Larry Moyer (B.S.) is the owner of Moyer Insurance Services in Nova-to, Calif. "No plans to retire," he writes. "Eight grandchildren. There is a direct correlation! Still healthy enough to torment the grandkids, referee a lot of high school and AGA basketball, and get the majority of my honey-dos done! Life is good. I am blessed."

[1966] Arthur Wical (BBA) and his wife, Carol, recently traveled to Eastern Europe (Czech Republic, Slovakia, Serbia, Croatia, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria), while on a cruise on the Blue Danube River from Budapest, Hungary, to Constanta, Romania, on the Black Sea. In 2006, they visited Egypt and Israel. "So far, we have visited 56 countries in Europe, Asia, South America, Australia, etc.," he says. "This year, we plan on visiting the Greek Islands and Turkey (especially Istanbul). We have been to every state and major city in the U.S. Obviously, we like to travel and enjoy different cultures."


[1967] Judy Giacinto (B.S.) is an employee assistance program consultant for Kaiser Permanente. She spent a month in Germany working with U.S. Army soldiers and their families. She also works with the peace and justice committee at her church to get the city of Anaheim to build affordable housing. Judy enjoys visiting with her five grandchildren in Mission Viejo, San Francisco and Coeur d’Alene, Idaho. She recently vacationed in Lake Tahoe.

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[1967] Jody Turner (J.D.) reports that he is “retired, and loving every minute of it.” Joe and his wife, Anne, live in Yucca Valley, Calif.

Cecile Sisco (B.A.) and her husband, George, live in Upland, Calif. “USD Magazine is outstanding” she writes. “We really enjoy all the well-written articles.”

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James Hodges (J.D.) has practiced commercial law and creditor rights law for 40 years. He was senior partner, shareholder and president of the San Diego law firm of Hinchy, Witte, Wood, Anderson & Hodges from 1971 to 2004, and then he opened his own office in Pacific Beach.

December 2007 by the University of South Carolina Press. Co-authored with her husband, Martin, it took nearly 14 years of research, writing and editing. The book is a Civil War memoir based on a large collection of letters found in the University of South Carolina’s Carolinian Library. “Marty and I are now in the midst of book promotion,” she says. “We do a dramatic reading of select letters, and we wear authentic period dress. It’s a lot of fun to do, and we have been well-received. In between, we enjoy taking cruises, traveling and playing with our three grandchildren. The whole family went to Disney World last year. We had a wonderful time, but Marty and I agree that we like Disneyland better.”

Shirlee Hicks (BSN) spent the first seven years of her retirement from the Navy Nurse Corps assisting disabled veterans in getting back to the game of golf. Most recently, she has been teaching young adults beginning golf and chairing The Smile Foundation (www.thesmilefoundation.org), which provides surgical repairs for children with severe cleft and palate deformities. (See story online at www.sandiego.edu/usdmag.)
[1968] DANIEL WILSON (B.A.) planned to celebrate his 40th year of teaching at USD High School/Cathedral Catholic High School in June 2008. "I've enjoyed it and plan to go for 50 ... maybe more," he says.

[1969] TOM BRIGGS (B.S.) and his wife, Margie, are enjoying retirement, spending their winters in southwest Florida and the rest of the year split between Lancaster, Pa., and Ocean City, Md. Tom says they are traveling, doing volunteer work and enjoying their grandchildren. "We feel quite blessed," he says.

MARTHA (BLOUGH) CRAWFORD (B.A.) retired from UCSD's pathology chemistry lab after 33 years.

JACKSON MUECKE (B.A.), his wife, Chris '78, and their three daughters visited their son, Josh, at the Houston Astros major-league spring training camp in Florida last spring. "Drafted in the fifth round out of Loyola Marymount in 2003, Josh is a phone call away from the big leagues," Jackson says. Their daughters are: Alexis, a graduate of the University of California, Davis; Meredith at the University of California, Davis; and Lauren at Northern Arizona University. Jackson just celebrated his 25th year at Merrill Lynch in La Jolla.

JOSEPH PETERSON (J.D.) retired in 2003 after serving as a probate investigator for Superior Court in both Los Angeles and San Luis Obispo counties. "My career is rewarding in many ways, as has the opportunity to live on the central coast. My wife is also retired, and we have enjoyed the freedom to travel and entertain friends who visit us."

DENISE (DAILY) SPRAGUE (B.A.) founded Small Changes Design in 2003. In her interior design business, she stages and restyles homes for those in the last stages of revision. His two novels, The Gold Buckle and Murder on the Cocktail Circuit, can be found on Amazon.com.

MARK MURPHY (B.S.) is a full-time member of the orthopedic staff at the VA Medical Center in La Jolla and an associate clinical professor at the UCSD School of Medicine. He is also active in biomedical research at the VA Hospital as the director of the Core Electron Microscopy/Confocal Laboratory.

STEPHEN NASMAN (B.S.) is a physician in the mortgage and consumer lending divisions at Kinecta Federal Credit Union in Manhattan Beach, Calif. He and his wife, Victoria (Westervelt) '74, are the Orange County representatives for the Orange County chapter of the USD Alumni Association. Their daughter, Kate, a USD graduate, was married recently. Stephen was able to travel with his son through Europe before his son started an assignment in London.

LAWRENCE WHITTET (B.A.) is the owner and chief executive officer of American Relocation and Logistics in Santa Fe Springs, Calif. He and his wife, Patricia, have three children: Heather, who is married, has two young children and is a senior at California State University, San Marcos; Scott, a sophomore at San Diego Christian College on a baseball scholarship; and Kelli, a sophomore and a cheerleader at Whittier Christian High School.

[1972] THOMAS BRYAN JR. (J.D.) lives with his girlfriend, Julie, in San Clemente, where they spend a lot of time playing tennis. Thomas also took up piano in the last year, which he enjoys very much.

DONALD RUBIN (J.D.) retired recently from the practice of law, after 34 years as a deputy county counsel, then senior deputy, and finally as chief assistant county counsel for the County of Orange from 2004 to 2007.

SANDEE (WALTON) RUGG (B.A.) is director of human resources for Cavignac & Associates, a risk-management insurance brokerage in San Diego. She recently added the California certification designation to the certification that she already holds as a senior professional in human resources.

HOWARD WAYNE (J.D.) is treasurer of the San Diego County Bar Association for 2008.

[1973] CHRISTINE JENSEN (B.A.) lives in Northern California, where she is working and raising her 4-year-old granddaughter, Faith. "Loving every minute of it," she says.

PAMELA (LEIGHTON) VOLKER (B.A., M.Ed. '76) and her husband, Ray '83, are headmistress and headmaster of Warren-Walker Schools in San Diego County. The two lower schools — the original campus in Point Loma and a new campus in La Mesa — serve pre-kindergarten through fifth-grade students; and the middle school campus in Mission Valley serves students in the sixth through eighth grades. Warren-Walker recently celebrated its 75th anniversary.

[1974] BARBARA (ALLGOOD) BERRY (BSN) is a physician in Phoenix. She recently celebrated her 65th birthday and works one day a week.

DON KRAMER (B.A.) and his wife, Kimberly '87, live in Ligonier, Pa., about 60 miles from Pittsburgh. Kim is vice president and client adviser for the private client group at National City Bank. Don is managing broker at Glenn Cook Real Estate, a boutique firm dealing with large estates and high-end homes. They have two daughters: Kelyn, 17, and Taryn, 13.

DEBORAH CUYLER LAMBERT (B.A.) retired in June 2007 after 32 years as a public high school teacher. She now teaches at Nevada State College. Deborah is still singing and directing music at Christ the King Catholic Community Church in Las Vegas.

WILLIAM VARNEY (B.S.) is a self-employed engineer of avionics and consumer electronic devices.

[1975] FELIZA CAUGHLIN (B.A.) finished reading a three-volume work on spirituality and plans to visit the USD library for more books on religious matters.

DONALD ERNST (J.D.) was named president of Consumer Attorneys of California for 2008.

LORRAINE PETERSON (B.A.) is a psychiatric nurse at Alvarado Parkway Institute in La Mesa. She is still a single mom, and her sons are 22 and 24.

ALAN BRUBAKER (J.D.) was inducted as a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers in the spring of 2007.

WILLIAM FERRANTE (J.D.) and his son, Christopher Ferrante, a 1997 graduate of USD Law School, practice together in Vista. William's wife, Karen '76, retired from the Vista Unified School District.

THOMAS GILEVICH (J.D.) is a senior counsel in the field of prison health care for the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. He lives near Sacramento with his wife and their 5-year-old daughter.

MAX HANSEN (J.D.) is finishing his term with the standing committee on the Federal Judiciary for the American Bar Association. He is a member of the ABA Section on Taxation and is active in the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, state and local bar associations, and "all kinds of family events."

CAROL (BUCK) JUDKINS (BSN, MSN '82) retired as San Diego County's Chief Public Health Nurse in February 2007. She spends her time traveling, including to the Caribbean and a month in Italy in 2008. She continues to work with San Diego's Public Health Nursing Administration on the implementation and evaluation of projects.

MARY (LORKE) READEL (B.A.) and her husband, John, spend most of the year in the Florida Keys since John's retirement two years ago.
RUTH (ARMSTRONG) SEWELL (M.Ed.) enjoyed visiting USD for the master gardeners program. “Thank you for opening up to the community,” she writes. “Strongly urge classes in ethics, and greater language and communication skills.”

ROSANNE (STEHLY) WALSWICK (B.A.) and her husband, Gary ’76, celebrated 30 years of marriage in July 2007. They have three children: one in high school, one in college and one in management. Rosanne is a high school teacher in the Orange (Calif.) Unified School District, and Gary is a commercial real estate broker.

[1977] MADALENE BACHE-LUNDE (M.Ed.) is vice president of Texas GraphoAnalysts, an organization of practitioners who scientifically assess personality through handwriting. She is retired from her position as executive director of the Rodeo Institute for Teacher Excellence.

BRANDON BECKER (J.D.) is the group leader for the Broker-Dealer Practice Group in the Securities Department of Wilmer Hale in Washington, D.C.

KATHERINE FORTINASH (BSN, MSN ’80) recently published with co-author Patricia Holoday Worr et the fourth edition of a nursing textbook, Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing, and the fifth edition of Psychiatric Nursing Care Plans. The books are used in nursing institutions across the United States, in Canada and Japan. Katherine has been an educator since 1978, an author since 1986, and she is also a speaker and consultant.

RITA KELLEY (M.Ed.) earned her master’s degree in social work in 2001. Her son, Chris, was married in 2001. His city council seat is up for re-election! My degree has helped me grow as a retail executive for many years. I’ve experienced travel, living in central California (where I met my husband, Richard, of 25 years), Los Angeles, Chicago, Napa Valley, Benicia, Calif., and my favorite place, living and getting married in Vienna, Austria! What fun!” Wanda and Richard have a daughter, Renata, who recently graduated from high school. In the last eight years, Wanda changed careers, moved back to Southern California and now works as a financial adviser for Ameriprise.

JOYCE TISCHLER (J.D.) co-founded the Animal Legal Defense Fund, a national nonprofit organization with more than 110,000 members. Known as the “mother of animal law,” Joyce has handled such topics as enforcement of the federal Animal Welfare Act, challenges to hunting and trapping using the National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act, and damages and recovery for injury to or death of an animal. She was executive director of the Animal Legal Defense Fund for 25 years and now serves as general counsel.

DONALD WILLIAMS (M.Ed.) recently retired from teaching after 32 years in the profession. He now spends his time traveling and volunteering for community projects.

[1978] JOAN BALDWIN (MSN) has been the vice chair of the Utah County Board of Health for the past five years. She retired from nursing education in May 2004 and is now professor emeritus at Brigham Young University. “I am happily enjoying the gorgeous Utah mountains where we live,” she writes. Joan is still occasionally involved in nursing research and has published many articles and a chapter in the Manual of Community Health Nursing for Little, Brown.

SCOTT COLE (J.D.) has been married to his high school sweetheart, Linda, for 35 years, and they have three children. Their daughter, Michelle Kolker, graduated from USD Law School in 2005. She and her husband welcomed their first child and Scott and Linda’s first grandchild, Ethan, on Nov. 16, 2006. Michelle works part time at the City Attorney’s Office. Scott and Linda’s older son, Adam, graduated from Hastings Law School in May 2007, and he learned that he passed the bar on Ethan’s first birthday. Their younger son, Ryan, is in his second year at the University of California, Berkeley, and he “swears that he will not become a lawyer,” Scott writes.

WENDY (TOLL) GREENE (B.S.) and her husband, John ’77, celebrated 30 years of marriage in 2008. They still enjoy living in San Diego since moving here nearly 35 years ago to attend USD. They have two children: a daughter in her third year at Scripps College and a son at the University of California, Berkeley.

ANDREW HOLCOMBE (J.D.) closed his eviction defense law practice and now works as a clients’ rights advocate for the Office of Clients’ Rights Advocacy, a statewide disability rights nonprofit organization. He was elected to the Chico City Council in 2004 and selected as mayor from the city council in 2006. His city council seat is up for re-election in November 2008.

BARBARA KENDALL (BSN) has been a volunteer reader at her grandson’s elementary school for four years. “This has been a most rewarding experience and I plan to keep on doing it for several more years at least,” she says.

GIESELA (WIERE) MUCCILLO (B.A.) shares the sad news that her husband, Vincent ’78, was killed in an auto accident on March 28, 2006, one week after his 50th birthday.

BARBARA ODOM (BSN) is an independent healthcare consultant in San Diego and also volunteers as a diabetic nurse specialist since retiring on June 1, 2001. She enjoys spending time with her family, including her grandchildren, ages 18, 5, 2 and 1.

SHERYL (McALLISTER) PEDERSEN (B.A.) taught special education for 25 years and recently earned an administrative credential and became a program specialist. Sheryl married her husband, John, a professional musician, on July 5, 2005. Between the two of them, they have seven children and one grandchild. A niece, Rachel Mednick, graduated from USD in 2007.

[1979] PATRICK BARRY (B.A.) is a community college instructor for all new hires at NASSCO in San Diego wishing to enter the electrical trade. He teaches math, blueprint reading, marine outfitting for the electrical trade and electrical theory.

JERRY DELCORE (J.D.) has been in private practice since graduation and in his current business location for 27 years. He is a court commissioner in Racine County, Wis., and performs many weddings and other duties.

ALOMA “COOKIE” (SHRIBER) GENDER (BSN) is director of nursing at Christus St. Michael Rehabilitation Hospital in Texarkana, Texas. She presented a paper at the October 2007 conference of the Association of Rehabilitation Nurses in Washington, D.C. Aloma also wrote two chapters and served as unit manager over five chapters for the fourth edition of S. Hoeman’s textbook titled Rehabilitation Nursing: Prevention, Intervention and Outcomes. In September 2007, Aloma gave a presentation titled “The Future of Rehabilitation Nursing” for a rehabilitation conference at the University of North Carolina.

PAMELA (JOHNSON) HARPER (BSN) is in clinical research working on a vaccine for lung cancer.

PATRICIA JARRETT (BBA) and her fellow alumna and sorority sister, Jeannie (Gonzalez) Oliva, were invited to speak at a tea hosted by Alpha Delta Pi’s Zeta Pi chapter at USD to commemorate that it was the first sorority installed at USD. “We had a great time,” Patricia reports. “Zeta Pi is thirty, frilty and fabulous.”

MARTHA (SMELTZ) KINSLER (B.A.) lives in Yorba Linda, Calif., with her husband, Bill, and they are celebrating their 20th anniversary this year. Their son graduated from high school in June, and their daughter is heading into the 11th grade.

PAUL LEEHEY (J.D.) lives in Fallbrook, Calif., with his wife, Gail, and their children, ages 10, 14 and 16, who keep him busy. He is the past president of his Rotary Club, active in church and “trying to play basketball.” Paul’s law practice includes a significant number of civil rights cases involving Child Protective Services and the violation of children’s and parents’ constitutional rights. “Life is busy, but good!” he says.
ANASTASIA LOTT (B.A.) writes, "After 15 years in Africa (Kenya and Namibia), I am now in my fifth year as a planning giving officer for Maryknoll Sisters … with at least another year to go!"

KRISS SORENSON (B.A., B.A., ’81) was ordained to the transitional deaconate on June 16, 2007, at St. Ann’s in Ridgecrest, Calif. In 2008, he finished his last year of seminary formation at St. John’s Seminary in Camarillo, Calif., and completed master’s degrees in divinity and in moral theology. On May 24, 2008, he was ordained into the priesthood at St. John’s Cathedral in Fresno. “It was a beautiful and joyous celebration,” he says. “By the way, I was with the priests of San Diego at the San Diego ordination of Father Manuel Villarreal in Escondido. It was wonderful to see my old friends I studied with in the 1970s at the seminary. After 33 years, I was finally able to process with them as a priest. It was a wonderful moment.”

SUSAN SWANDER (J.D.) writes, “I’m still living on the Oregon coast and still love it. Although I haven’t practiced law in a number of years, I’m grateful for the legal background I have.”

1980s

[K 1980] KAREN (DARNAUER) HIRAKAWA (B.A.) completed a master’s degree in education at Cambridge College in 2006. She works for the U.S. Department of State in Washington, D.C., and her oldest son is a 2008 Posse Scholar at Grinnell College in Iowa.

SUSAN (BEATTY) HITES (B.A.) recently moved to Coramado for her daughter, Brittany, to attend the Coronado School of the Arts. Susan also teaches tennis at the DoubleTree Hotel in Rancho Peñasquitos and the Coronado Marriott Hotel. As a sales director with Mary Kay Cosmetics, Susan teaches skin care and color cosmetics. “Having a great time raising my teenage girls: Brittany, 17, and Jackie, 13,” she says.

ANITA GEMPERLE MAHAFIY (BBA) founded Cool-jams Inc. in September 2006, a line of microfiber sleepwear designed to provide relief for night sweats. Anita’s Web site is www.cool-jams.com. (See story on page 53.)

MICHAEL McMATHON (B.A.) lives in Alameda, Calif., with his wife of 23 years, Karen, and sons Nick, 17, and Tim, 15. He has been a stock analyst focused on the bank and mortgage industry for the last 12 years at Sandler O’Neill + Partners, and with UBS Securities before that. After graduating from USD, he spent 16 years at First Interstate Bank in Los Angeles.

WILLIAM NEWSOME (J.D.) writes, “Enjoying retirement, more or less.” He lives in the San Diego area.

FRANK PAGANO (B.A.) sold his factory, ASC Inc., and trade labels to his executive team in 2006 and then entered into a partnership to create Vandlwear Inc. with the first product being the SafeKnee Utility Pant. Frank still teaches and lectures in the fashion industry. In another venture, Frank is starting a corporation with three doctors in the field of mobile thermography. They have three sales associates, two certified technicians, and one technician in these clinics. Frank is also involved with two local nonprofit organizations. He and his wife, Candace, live in Ramona, Calif., and their middle daughter, Angela, is in college.

CLETA (ROMERO) Sweeney (B.A.) writes, “Summers, we spend enjoying and teaching scuba diving in our dive service on Bull Shoals Lake. Winters, I am busy volunteering at our daughter’s school, sponsoring the honor society and as a 4-H leader.” Her missions club planned a trip to the Grand Canyon to study creationism. Cleta also helps her husband, Sean, with his mining and precast concrete business on their farm in the Ozarks.

DAVID WEST (J.D.) is a pro-tem judge for the Clark County District Court in Vancouver, Wash.


GEORGE FARRS (B.A.) leads the George Farres Group in San Diego, which provides music for all occasions, including benefits and fundraiser concerts.

LISA HERVATIN (J.D.) lives in Irvine, Calif., with her husband, Miroslav Andric, and daughter, Natalie, 10. Lisa has a private practice in Santa Ana specializing in workers’ compensation and family law.

DAVID LEAHY (BBA) has been in real estate for 25 years: 11 years as a property manager working for large developers and 14 years as a business broker “helping Main Street mom and pop shops sell,” he says. “I have to give USD credit for laying down a great foundation for my career choice, especially in my senior year.”

[C 1982] CRAIG DINGWALL (J.D., MBA ’82) is president and chief executive officer of Dingwall & Associates, a commercial real estate investment company in McLean, Va. Craig recently retired from Sprint as director of state regulatory affairs. He was with the company for 24 years.

MARY DURNIN FIRTH (BBA, MBA ’89) produced and directed The Giving, a documentary about the difficult journey six women take from the time they learn they are pregnant until they sign adoption papers. More information is available at www.thegiving.info.

JUDY (ALTMAHNSOFER) GRAVEN (BBA) celebrated her 25th wedding anniversary with her husband, Steve, in 2008. Judy and Steve have five sons: Ryan graduated from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, in 2005 and is a Western liaison for an American textile importer in Shanghai, China; Andrew is a 2007 graduate of Appalachian State University, “the little football team that beat Michigan,” and lives in Boone, N.C.; Garrett is a senior at Appalachian State University majoring in economics; and twins Jake and Patrick, 15, enjoy playing high school and Amateur Athletic Union sports and driving with a permit.

PAMELA (SEMATONES) KLEINKAUF (M.A.) manages her own law firm in Rancho Bernardo, specializing in bankruptcy, real estate, business law and civil litigation. She is also active in her daughter’s class.

ROBERT O’CONNELL (B.A.) is president of O’Connell International Arts Inc., which handles fine art insurance claim investigations for museums, galleries and private collections involving thefts, forgeries, damages and mysterious disappearances. He frequently publishes and lectures to the insurance industry as well as the fine art world. His companies, OIA Productions and Skipping Stone Entertainment, have produced television programs and documentary films on fine art related subjects, such as The Farnsworth House, The Art Detectives and Monumental Myths. He is also the co-founder and partner, with his wife, Darci, of The Architrouve, a Chicago-based fine art space dedicated to exhibiting, collecting and supporting the work of Chicago artists. Bob and Darci live in Chicago with their identical twins, William and Matthew, 13.

ANN (DAVIS) SCHRYER (J.D.) is a retired Superior Court commissioner and she now spends her time traveling, gardening, making quilts and enjoying photography.

REV. CARMEN WARNER-ROBBINS (MSN) is the founder and executive director of Welcome Home/Prison Re-entry Ministries in Oceanside, Calif. Welcome Home Ministries has been replicated in five states and Costa Rica. The organization’s re-entry research was presented at a November 2007 faith-based conference at the White House. Welcome Home also was chosen to present a workshop on pre-release for women.

CHRISTOPHER GUALTIERI (B.A.) recently celebrated 12 years as an eye doctor and opening a second office in Vista, Calif. In January 2008, Christopher gave a lecture to the USD health staff on red eye.

MARY (KOVAC) O’CONNOR (B.A.) is a pediatric dentist in San Diego. She writes, “Looking forward to our 25th reunion this fall. Hope to see many of our classmates.”

JOHN SWEETEN (J.D.) is retired. From 1983 to 1996, he was director of legislative affairs for the County of San Diego; from 1996 to 2001, he was assistant county administrator for the County of Marin; and from 2001 to 2006, he was county administrator for the County of Contra Costa.
A native of Iran, Ali Reza Arabnia was already a successful businessman at an Italian company when he applied to a number of MBA programs. Though he was accepted at all of them, he liked the fact that USD was the only school emphasizing social responsibility. Once he visited the campus, the decision became very simple.

“When you see the university, you can’t think anymore,” he says via video conference from his sun-drenched office near Milan, Italy. “I fell in love and decided to come to San Diego instead of one of those maybe more famous universities.” His company sponsored his studies, but gave him a near-impossible goal: to complete the 2-year program in just one year, which he did in 1987.

Upon his return to Italy, Arabnia was given charge of a failing automotive paint company (now called Fast and Fluid Management). “I hated the idea,” he admits. “It was far away from my home, an ugly workshop, and the company was almost bankrupt.”

However, the small company proved to be his first real challenge as a CEO. “My big head started to become smaller and smaller as I realized that a small company doesn’t always mean less difficulty in handling the business.” After three years of hard work, the business turned around and today is the biggest company in the world in its field. “Strangely enough,” says Arabnia, “the company that I hated is my lost love.”

Arabnia’s values were severely tested after Sept. 11, 2001, when his company’s Chicago branch suddenly lost profitability. At a corporate meeting in December 2001, he was pressured to lay off 60 people. “I couldn’t believe my ears, because the country was in mourning. Just think about sacking people 12 days before Christmas.” He refused and instead gave up his own salary, bonus and stock options. By February, the business was back on track.

Today, Arabnia is group president and CEO of Geico S.p.A., whose innovations in automobile and industrial painting have revolutionized the industry. But even from his lofty perch, he still fondly recalls USD’s caring environment.

“How can I express my love for these people?” he says. “They’re beautiful people, such open people. When I arrived everybody was assisting me. I didn’t even have to ask.”

It is this environment that he tries to create in his own company. “We have every year an award for the nicest smile,” he says. “Of course, it doesn’t mean the smile physically, but the person helping the environment to be healthy and kind. This is very much based on the environment I had in San Diego.”

That sort of we’re-all-in-this-together philosophy prompted Arabnia to design a meeting room in the shape of a boat. “It’s not very beautiful,” he laughs, “but it brings the message that we’re all in the same boat. Don’t look for who has made a mistake, because that’s an effect. I want to see the cause, so as not to repeat the problem. Then people trust and try new things because they’re not frightened of making mistakes.”

On his desk, Arabnia displays a wooden boat made for him by the workers at Fast and Fluid. They gave it to him the day he left, when they told him that whatever happens, he is always their captain.

[ at the helm ]

O CAPTAIN! MY CAPTAIN!

Kindness is key when it comes to the successful leadership of Milan-based CEO Ali Reza Arabnia

by Carol Cujec
DEBBIE TIPTON WINTERS (MSN) is business manager with Winters Patent Law Offices in Clarksville, Tenn. She has served in many nursing positions, including as a flight nurse, community health nurse, school nurse and consultant in medicine and surgery case management. Debbie also has been a research assistant at Vanderbilt University, and an adjunct faculty member and assistant professor in the School of Nursing at Austin Peay State University.

[1984] NANCY (CRUMP) CAMPMAN (B.A.) received her master's degree in organizational leadership from Gonzaga University in Spokane, Wash. Nancy was named to the future leadership team of Dahlin Engineering, which is quite a challenge, "Linda says. "I miss being at USD."

BRUCE OGNIBENE (BBA) reports that his father passed away in November 2006 and he is taking his father’s family to expand his business. Bruce is single and was inducted into the Cathedral High School Hall of Fame for football in 2003.

LYNN (MORGAN) SCHULMAN (B.A.) has been teaching special education in the San Diego Unified School District for 19 years. She and her husband, Richard ’87, have a daughter, Olivia, 2. Lynn reports that traveling, skiing and swimming are a part of their lives.

PATRICIA SMITH (B.A., M.A. ’87) has been teaching for 15 years at an international school in San Jose, Costa Rica.

SIOBHAN RHEA SURRACO (B.A.) has been married for 18 years to her husband, Guadierito. They live in Redwood City, Calif., and have three children: Francesca, 14; Sebastian, 10; and Sofi, 9. Francesca attends Sacred Heart Preparatory School, which is also home to many retired USD religious.

SUZANNE (WELCH) TINSLEY (B.A.) teaches health and physical education at Amador High School in Sutter Creek, Calif. “I teach all incoming freshmen,” Suzanne reports. “It is so much fun!”

PAMELA (WILEY) YOUNES (B.A.) is an assistant professor at Baylor College of Medicine, Department of Pathology, in Houston. Pamela, her husband, Mamoun, and their daughter, Mareah, 10, recently spent some time in Syria with her husband’s family.

[1985] STEVEN ANDY (MBA) was promoted to excess casualty manager, western region, for Argonaut Speciality in Los Angeles.

DOMINICK LANE (B.A.) is a supervising attorney at the Law Offices of Richardson & Fair in Long Beach, Calif. He has been temporally assigned to coordinate the Katrina litigation in New Orleans.

LINDA LINSTROM RICE (M.Ed.) continues to work as an executive coach for the Center for Creative Leadership. She and her husband, Edward, travel frequently. “We enjoy the Middle East, so I’m learning Arabic, which is quite a challenge,” Linda says. “I miss being at USD.”

[1986] COL. GEORGE AUCOIN (M.A.) served in Iraq in 2005 as chief of staff for the Naval Construction Force, a major subordinate command to the Marine Expeditionary Force. He graduated from the U.S. Army War College in 2007 with a master’s degree in strategic studies.

ANNETTE CARLSON (B.A.) moved back to her hometown of Portland, Ore., four years ago. She teaches at a Jewish day school and is raising her two children, ages 10 and 11.

STEPHEN CASCIOPPO (B.A., B.A. ’88) and his wife, Rachelle Agatha, returned to San Diego, where Stephen is the assistant court executive officer for the San Diego County Superior Court. Previously, he was the court executive officer for the El Dorado County Superior Court.

CHRIS DIAMOND (J.D.) and her husband, Michael Hartney ’84, had an incredible year. “Our firm celebrated its 10th anniversary, we celebrated our 20th wedding anniversary, and we sent our oldest child off to George Washington University,” she writes. “However, the year ended on a sad note when we lost our home in the Witch Creek Fire. As an attorney, you can sometimes lose faith in humanity because we oftentimes see people at their worst, but any questions I ever considered to that end were vanquished by everyone’s incredible generous support after the fires.”

THERESA de la TORRE (B.A.) is a bioscience tech for the Agricultural Research Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. She also is a CPR instructor for Eagle Medical Services in Fresno, Calif.

VIRGINIA AWENDER HUFFMAN (B.A.) and her husband, Scott, adopted two children: Caleb from the United States and Chloe from China. In her spare time, Virginia designs jewelry and teaches jewelry design. She also started a compassion and justice learning community for her church that equips the congregation to reach out to the poor and disenfranchised. Virginia has a Web site for her jewelry: www.vine-design.com; and a blog about her learning community: http://compassionandjustice.blogspot.com.

CARLOS JUAREZ (M.A.) is dean of the College of International Studies and a professor of political science at Hawaii Pacific University. He has been a Fulbright Scholar to Mexico and the Czech Republic, and in 2006 was a visiting fellow at Oxford University in the United Kingdom.

DIANA (KING) SPERR (B.A.) organized a USD foreign student alumni reunion for the Class of 1986 on April 12, 2008. Some came from as far as Poland and Peru.

DENNIS WRIGHT (MBA) retired from the U.S. Navy in 1997 as a commander. He has been working as city engineer for the city of West Linn, Ore. since retiring. Dennis and his wife, Dawn, have nine children, and they home-school all of them.

Their oldest child, Alex, graduated in the spring and expected to start at the Air Force Academy in the summer.

ALFREDO ANDERE (MCL) reports that during the last 10 years, his practice has expanded to include offices in Mexico and cross-border communities; and on real estate litigation in Mexico. His San Diego office has include offices in Mexico City and Tijuana, Mexico.

BARBARA BEELER (BBA, MAFM ’06) recently gave a presentation for work at a national conference. She is a staff accountant at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar.

LORI (MORGAN) BENNETT (B.A.) and her husband, Eric ’87, have been married since 1989, and they have four children: Easton, 14; Katie, 12; Matthew, 10; and Michael, 8. “It has been great fun and a lot of work!” Lori writes. “Eric is a teacher and from 2003 to 2005, he took a teaching job in Germany. It was an incredible experience for our family, traveling to Greece, Italy, Belgium, France, Holland, Spain, Portugal, Austria and Slovenia.” The family lives in Portland, Ore., once again.

TODD CONOVER (LL.M.T.) practices law and has been teaching business law for 13 years at Indiana University.

ANNE (DOYLE) GREY (B.A.) is the national manager of major donor relations for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. She travels throughout the United States to bring research information to investors who are interested in finding a cure for Type 1 diabetes and its complications. Anne lives in Rancho Mirage, Calif., with her husband, David, and their two English springer spaniels, Jack and Jill.

CYNTHIA (DURYEA) Hibbert (B.A.) and her husband, John, live in upstate New York with their daughters Jessica, 13, and Amanda, 10. They both work for the Liverpool Public Library. John in computer support and Cynthia in community relations where she primarily plans programs for the adult community.
ANDREW Liska (J.D.) formed a new law firm, Abbene, Alcock & Liska in San Diego.

MICHAEL MINNEY (BBA) and Julie (Mascari) ’87 have been married for 19 years and have six children. The family lives in Vista, Calif, where Julie is a homemaker and Michael is a partner and publisher of Investment Quality Trends, an investment newsletter based in Carlsbad.

THE REV. JOHN PEJZA (Ed.D.) retired after 15 years as president of Villanova Prep School in Ojai, Calif., and has moved to San Diego, where he is the director of the Augustinian Guild, the fundraising arm of the western province of Augustinian priests and brothers.

MAUREEN (NUESCA) POLMADEI (B.A.) is director of community and volunteer resources at the San Diego Food Bank. Her son, Dominic, is 12.

BEN STOEGBER (B.A.) and his wife, Carolyn (Cautchie) ’90, live in Redmond, Wash., with their 8-year-old son, Marcus. Ben is an optometric physician and a partner in Edmonds EyeCare Associates, where they provide routine, medical and surgical eye care. In the summer, Ben participates in local triathlons and in the winter, the family all snowboards and swims. He also coaches his son’s baseball and football teams. The family belongs to St. Jude Catholic Church in Redmond. “We are blessed and life is good!” says Ben.

HELENE WASSERMAN (J.D.) is the host of a podcast series at www.employerhelpcast.blip.tv, providing information to employers of all sizes and in all industries. Helene also launched a new Web site: www.employerhelpcast.com.

PATRICIA (GILL) WOOD (BBA) and her husband, Peter ’87, have a busy tax and accounting business, Wood and Wood Inc., in Park City, Utah. They have three active children, ages 17, 15 and 11. Patricia also opened Patty Cakes Baking Co., a subscription mail order cookie company specializing in gourmet cookies sent as monthly care packages to college students, friends, parents, and others.

[1988] JAMES BUTLER (BBA) celebrates 16 years with State Farm Insurance, currently as an analyst supporting field claim handlers. His son, Jimmy, is 17.

CONNI (CAMPBELL) CINTAS (B.A., M.Ed. ’89) is a professor of education at Point Loma Nazarene University. She lives in San Diego with her children: Brady, 17; Kelli, 16; and Cole, 9.

SUSAN (GLEEVE) ELIZABETH (M.A.) has run a small but successful consulting business for six years, working with school districts and social service agencies. “I have a 6-year-old grandson and look forward to retirement in April 2011!” she says.

ROBERT MacKAY (BBA) and his wife, Aida ’89, live in Greenwich, Conn., with their two sons, Robby, 14, and Chris, 9. Rob is the chief audit executive at PepsiCo.

LISA (MITCHELL) MADSON (B.A., M.Ed. ’90) is a school psychologist two days a week in Maple Valley, Wash., and with her husband, Tim, is raising two busy boys, ages 10 and 6.

BONNIE MARBLESTONE (MSN) expected to graduate in 2008 with a Ph.D. in nursing. She also is teaching in the School of Nursing at National University.

THERESA (MARIO) MILLER (B.A.) is a single mom raising her children: Zach, 12; Samantha, 11; and Isaiah, 9. She works at a local elementary school for special education pre-kindergarten students.

GREGORY MOLL (B.A.) and his wife, Lori, are having fun with their five children, ages 5 to 13. Lori opened a kids’ hair salon called Dooz in Mercer Island, Wash. “We hang out with Mark and Kelly Panelli and Doug and Ann Skrobot in the Great North-West,” Gregory reports.

RICHARD REED (M.A.) retired from FedEx in December 2007 and is applying to the Ph.D. program at Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia, Canada.

KENNETH WHALEN (BBA) is the president and owner of Whalen Furniture Manufacturing in San Diego. Other companies include Whalen Storage, VAS and Whalen Packaging.

[1989] ELLA KOVALCHECK (BSN) is a case manager at Sharp Memorial Rehabilitation Center in San Diego. Her husband, Dick, still owns the Pennant Bar in South Mission Beach. Son Richard, 23, graduated from Vanderbilt University in May 2008 with an MBA and daughter CeCe, 21, is a communications major at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.

CLAUDIA (HORNIG) LAINE (B.A.) and her husband, Edward, own a real estate and mortgage company in Bellevue, Wash. They have two sons: Tanner, 11, and Rowan, 7. “Between baseball tournaments and football, we are always on the go!” she says. “We love to go to San Diego every chance we get! We met up with Debbie Panattoni Anderson and her family in Arizona in March for spring training.”

LOREN LASCHE (MBA) works mainly in China for Kyoceca and travels a lot. He and his wife, Bianca ’79, live in Carlsbad with their 16-year-old daughter and 7-year-old son. They have visited many sites in China, including the Great Wall.

LORI (SLUSS) MIDSON (B.A.) is a professor of the Rocky Mountain News, one of Denver’s two major daily newspapers. Between penning reviews, she also covers Colorado’s food and travel scene for Sunset Magazine, CITY Magazine, Zagat Survey, Colorado Avid Golfer, Denver Magazine and Go, the in-flight publication for AirTran Airways. Lori lives in Denver with her husband, Stephen, and their son, Elliott, 8.

KAREN (PARKER) PAPE (BBA) lives in Oakland, Calif., with her husband, Rob, and two dogs. She owns a healthcare service company called Chiroligness, which specializes in providing chiropractic and personal training services.

SANDRA (SEABURG) ROWLEY (BBA) lives in San Diego with her husband, Howard, and two beautiful daughters, Paige and Laina. Sandra is a full-time mom.

JUDITH SCHNACK (MSN) is retired and working part time in San Diego.

ANNA (BOTACCHI) VANDERWALLE (B.A.) reports that she is a happy wife and mother of three children: McKenna, 14; Lauren, 11; and Patrick, 7. “I feel blessed to be a stay-at-home mom living in beautiful Julian, married to my wonderful Steve,” she says.

LISA WIETHORN (MBA) has been married for 12 years and has a healthy and happy son in the fourth grade. She works full time in the Detroit area and celebrated her 25th anniversary as a registered nurse. “Surviving Michigan’s economic slump, but sure miss the warm and sunny California days,” she says.

1990s

VICKY BOWDEN (DNS) is a professor in the School of Nursing and director of the honors program at Azusa Pacific University. In 2008, she published a book, Pediatric Nursing Procedures, with co-author Cindy Greenberg, a fellow USD alumna.

JUDY PEREZ COMPTON (BBA) and her husband, Charles, live in Carlsbad and are celebrating the two-year anniversary of their store, Aesthetix, in Encinitas. The store features home decor and accessories hand-crafted by artisans from Mexico and around the world. In the first extension of their business, Judy and Charles are beginning to take small groups of their customers to central Mexico for authentic artisan experiences. They are also busy traveling around the world for Charles’ retail consulting business, Mars Solutions, which helps high-end resorts, hotels and spas maximize retail profits. Judy and Charles enjoy time at home with their three boys, Harry, Sam and Matt, and their chocolate Lab, “Bear.”

MICHAEL di MURO (B.A.) is in his ninth season as a major-league umpire. He lives in Denver and has three children: Megan, 17; Ryan, 9; and Michael Jr., 7.

THOMAS EDELBBLUTE (B.A.) continues to manage the computer systems at the Anaheim Public Library, which in the past year included opening a new branch in East Anaheim and a newly renovated children’s room at the central library.
RICHARD HELL (B.A.) and his wife, Kimberly Jimenez-Hell ’90, welcomed their second child, Lukas Wolfgang, on Aug. 1, 2007. Their first son is 8 years old. Kim is a full-time mom and soccer coach. Rich is part of an eight-person gastroenterology group in Monterey, Calif., and he golfs, skis and rides mountain bikes as much as possible.

LOREN KLEIER (J.D.) has a solo private practice in Bakersfield, Calif., specializing in personal injury, criminal and family law. He and his wife, Collette, have six kids, ages 14 to 1.

STEVEN KOENIG (B.A.) left the Navy in 2000 and is now a project manager for Global Hawk Unmanned Air Systems at Spawar Systems Center in San Diego. Steven and his wife, Dana, have two boys, Jack, 7, and Sam, 4. Steven says they are “living the American dream in Rancho Peñasquitos.”

JAY KOPELOWITZ (J.D.) and his wife, Sheila, have a son, Matthew, 7. Jay was promoted to executive vice president of ODM, a graphic-design apparel company based in Poway that sells shirts and sweatshirts to most major retailers in the United States and Canada.

KATHLEEN LAVIN (B.A.) has had her own business as a personal fitness trainer for the last 15 years in Dana Point and San Clemente, Calif. She works both in gyms and in private homes.

HOWARD NELSON (B.A.) lives in West Linn, Ore., with his wife, Michelle, and three sons: Alex, 15; Zach, 13; and Andrew, 11. Howard is a radiologist at the Vancouver Clinic and is work- ing with a literary agent to get his first book published.

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MARY (VAN DER ZIEL) LUNDREGAN (B.A.) and her husband, Tom, are the proud parents of three beautiful boys: Will, 7; Connor, 4; and Aidan, 2. They live in Alexandria, Va., where Mary works for Strategic Management Systems.

SUSAN NAVARRO (M.A.) retired as a commander from the Navy Reserve in May 2001. Her husband, Robert, retired from active duty as a Navy captain. They’ve settled in Anne Arundel County, Maryland, where their daughter is in high school. Their son graduated from high school last spring.

KRISTIN (INGRAO) RUDGE (B.A.) welcomed a son, Connor Gerald, on Feb. 28, 2008, at Scripps Memorial Hospital in La Jolla. Connor Gerald weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces, and was 20 inches long. His middle name honors his grandfather.

HARRY RYAN (B.A.) is creating a sustainable coffee and tea program for USD at Aromas. “Stop in and say ‘Hi,’” he says.

WILLIAM SextON (J.D.) earned an MBA in finance from the University of Southern California, and he was on the dean’s list six semesters. He and his wife, Peri, have two children: Trey, 6, and Theia, 4.

THOMAS SHEA (BBA) and his wife, Juliet, have two beautiful daughters: Kate, 6, and Halli, 3. Thomas enjoys farming, golfing, skiing and raising his family.

MARY (HANDBERG) SORENSEN (B.A.) and her husband, Tim, welcomed their second daughter, Anni- ka Elise, 7-1/2 weeks early on Feb. 28, 2008. She was born by emergency Caesarean section after a baby with HELLP syndrome. “She is healing well,” says her mother. “We still have seven days to go,” she says.” She provides business legal services at USD’s School of Business Administration.

STEFANI (STRATEGOS) TURNER (BBA) and her husband, Stuart, welcomed a daughter, Audrey Marie, on Oct. 31, 2007. The family lives in Playa del Rey, Calif., with their two dogs. Zoe and Scout. Stefani is a vice president of finance for Hilton Hotels.

LINDA BARKACS (J.D.) published her first textbook, Dynamic Business Law, through McGraw-Hill. She and her husband, Craig (’81, ’87), traveled to Brazil in January 2008 to teach a combined USD/Coppell MBA class in international business negotiation. Linda is an adjunct instructor and Craig is a professor, both at USD’s School of Business Administration.

CHRISTINE (THOMPSON) BLAKE (B.A.) published her first novel, Woman Redeemed, a story that celebrates the women who traveled with Jesus, as told through the life of Mary Magdalene. Christine lives in Colorado with her husband and two sons, ages 11 and 2. The Web site for her novel is www.womanredeemednovel.com.

LAURA CHAPMAN-GRABNER (B.A.) lives in Redondo Beach, Calif., with her husband, Jerimaya, and their two-year-old daughter, Sophia. Laura is a Realtor specializing in residential real estate in the South Bay beach cities, including Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, Redondo Beach and Palos Verdes.

RAQUEL HICKS CRAVEN (B.A.) is director of organizational effectiveness for Hawaii Pacific Health in Honolulu. Raquel, her husband and their son, Cody, 16 months, visited family in Peru last Christmas. She is still bodysurfing and won the 2007 world championships in handboarding in Honolulu.

MIKE DALY (B.A.) and his wife, Gretchen, welcomed a daughter, Shane Elizabeth, on Sept. 17, 2007. Shane has three older brothers: Carter, MacGregor and Jameson. Mike and his family moved to Augusta, Ga., from San Francisco in 2006. He is still vice president of travel services at Rearden Commerce. Mike just finished a children’s book, What’s the Buzz About San Francisco?, and is in a search for a literary agent and publisher.

THOMAS GAMBON (BBA) joined Colorado vNet as chief financial officer in August 2007. He lives in Erie, Colo., with his wife, Angi, and daughters, Madison, 4, and Samantha, 2.

LISA (TOOLE) GREER (B.A., MBA ’01) and her husband, Neil ’92, are blessed with two wonderful children: Robbie, 5, and Megan, 3.

NELLIE (CORRENZI) HARRIS (B.A.) and her husband, Dwight flitter, welcomed their third son, Derick Michael, on June 30, 2007. “He is an absolute delight and, of course, his brothers (Patrick, 8, and Casey, 6) love having him around,” she says. “We still live in Coronado and I am still a stay-at-home mom. Life is good.”

ALENA HERRANEN (MBA, LL.M.T. ’95) has been practicing law solo for most of the last 15 years. She provides business legal services, including entity formations and dissolutions, contracts, trademarks, copyright and tax. She and her husband, Frederik ter Veer ’94, have three daughters, ages 12, 10 and 7. The girls keep them busy with ballet, music and school activities. Frederik is a supply chain manager for Kyocera, where he has worked for 14 years.

SHANNON (GIFFORD) KAPLAN (B.A.) and her husband, Greg, welcomed their second child, Joshua Simon, on Feb. 4, 2007. Big sister Alyssa is 3.

SHEILA (KUNTZ) MOHAN (J.D.) is a senior deputy legislative counsel in Sacramento. She and her husband, Jay, celebrated their 10th wedding anniversary in 2008 and they have a daughter, Mira, and a son, Kieran.

ANDREA MYERS (B.A., B.A. ’93) started a career in law enforcement with the city of San Diego in April 2006. Her oldest daughter, Ariel, is a student at Mater Dei Catholic High School in San Diego. Daughters Hannah, 11, and Erica, 9, attend St. John of the Cross Catholic School in Lemon Grove.

ANTHONY PALMER (J.D.) writes, “In 2003, I was injured in a motorcycle accident and was forced to close my office. I am now a partial amputee. I hope to reopen my practice in 2008.”

NANCY URNER (B.A.) competed in the Ironman Arizona triathlon on April 13, 2008. She lives in Seattle, where she is an account director for a creative services placement firm, and she also coaches a tri-team.

KURT VARRICCHIO (B.S., M.Ed. ’95, J.D. ’02) launched Nitschke & Varricchio in Lake Forest, Calif., after a year and a half of solo practice. Areas of focus are business law and litigation, entertainment law and athlete representation/sports law. He also serves as managing partner of the Southern California Sports Management Group, an athlete representation firm. He moved to Orange County in August 2003.

DONA WILLOUGHBY (MSN) is the co-founder of a La’akea, a permaculture intentional community on the big island of Hawaii. She writes, “My healing practices now include living sustainably with the land, and using and propagating herbal medicines. You are welcome to come visit!”

STEFANIE (DERINGTON) ABBOTT (BBA) and her husband, Jim ’93, have been married for nine years and live in Encinitas. Stefanie stays home with their two sons, Cole, 3, and Gavin, 3. Jim is a money manager and partner with Context Capital Management.

ERIN (DeSALES) BAUER (B.A.) and her husband, Jonathan, are elated to announce the birth of their twins, Madison Sinclair and Hank Carter, on April 11, 2007. The twins have brought true joy to their lives, Erin says.

MAJ. THOMAS CAMPBELL (B.A.) and his wife, Connie (Vankirk) ’93, welcomed Thomas Campbell IV on Jan. 23, 2008. Thomas joins older brothers Brendan, 7; Sean, 5; and Ryan, 2. Tom teaches forward air controllers at Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron in Yuma, Ariz. Connie manages the family and runs her military scrapbooking store and distribution business from home. Her Web site is www.combatcreations.com.

RYAN di FEDE (B.A.) moved to public education four years ago after 12 years working in the private sector as a special education teacher. He is now a teacher for California Virtual Academics, a charter home school, and is think-
and his wife, RYAN GARCIA (B.A.) has an appellate practice in San Diego in which she handles indigent appeals in the area of juvenile dependency. She represents both appeals in the area of juvenile law.

JULIA HOUSTON (J.D.) is an elementary school teacher in my seventh grade at Christian Junior High and is involved in band and softball.

KRISTEN (McPherson) EVANS (BBA) is completing a master’s degree in human resource administration. She and her husband, Kevin, celebrated the arrival of a daughter, Kayla, on Sept. 17, 2007. She joins a big brother, Kyle, born on Nov. 30, 2005.

SUZANNE EVANS (J.D.) has an appellate practice in San Diego in which she handles indigent appeals in the area of juvenile dependency. She represents both appeals in the area of juvenile law.

JENNIFER (RAKERS) NINO (BBA, B.A. ’94, J.D. ’98) is a personal injury attorney in Austin.

SUZANNE (WILLIS) KRAFT (BBA) and her husband, Steve ’92, welcomed a son, Brady Patrick, in April 2007. He joins big sister, Reagan, 5. The family lives in Tucson, Ariz., where Suzanne is a stay-at-home mom, and Steve works in finance at Raytheon Missile Systems.

JOHN LAMBERT (BBA) and his wife, Maynil (Ramos) ’94, continue to call northern Virginia home. Maynil works for Cerberus Capital Management, a private equity firm, and travels extensively, including working onsite at a portfolio company in Vienna, Austria. John is the managing partner of a family-based investment partnership. “Our beloved ‘kids’ are our full-of-personality Labradors,” John says. “A year-end holiday trip to New Zealand and Australia was a terrific conclusion to 2007.”

SHELBY (DePriest) MOISO (BBA) and her husband, Vincent ’95, live in San Clemente, Calif., and they have two daughters: Isabella, 10, and Viviana, 16.

KRISTIN (LEAFER) MULLIN (B.A.) and her husband, Brennan ’93, live in San Diego with their two children: Aidan, 5, and Ashley, 3. Brennan is a vice president with Sony and Kristin is an at-home mom, involved with both children’s schools and their after-school activities.

KATHERINE (ALESSIO) MUNCEY (B.A.) lives in Las Vegas with her husband, Edward, and their two sons: Dominic, 5, and Michael, 3.

SUZAN (WOODS) NATTRASS (J.D.) has a growing practice in estate planning and business planning, and she just moved into a new office in Encinitas. She and her husband, Dan, live in Cardiff with their three children: Seiah, 6; Olivia, 8; and Levi, 10.

JENNIFER (Rakers) NINO (BBA, B.A. ’94, J.D. ’98) is an attorney with Brandon & Associates, practicing in the field of health-care defense. She and her husband, Randy, were married in August 2003. Randy is a psychology professor at Mesa and Grossmont colleges. Both Jen and Randy work part time and alternate caring for their sons, Andrew, born in February 2005, and David, born in November 2007. The family lives in San Diego.

SANDRA PIETREWICK (B.A.) opened Dynamic Physical Therapy in New Jersey in October 2005. Her future career goals include expanding the business to a second office. “I took an amazing sailing vacation in Greece with fellow USD alumnae Tara Proses and Donna Gorman,” Sandra reports.

AMBER GUNN WESTLAND (B.A.) and her husband, Max, welcomed a son, Gunnar Maxwell, on July 8, 2007.

AMY (BECK) ALDRICH (B.A., MBA ’98) and Mark Aldrich ’97 were married on Sept. 29, 2007, at Founders Chapel, with Monsignor Daniel Dillabough officiating. Amy and Mark met through John Trifiletti 10 years ago while in graduate school and law school, respectively. Bridesmaids included alumnae Amanda Beck (Amy’s sister), Terra (Waters) Jones and Vickie (Minardi) DeArmey. Groomsmen included Brooks and Brendan Aldrich (Mark’s brothers) and alumnus Matthew DeArmey. Other USD alumni in attendance included Jeff Jones, Charles and Lisa (Upson) Stone, Amy (Sepkowitz) Varas, Aimee (Kisow) Hake, Gina (Petelin) Axelson, Jim Drimmer, Ann Maulhardt, Jen Hayner and Dan Tealdi. Amy and Mark live in the San Francisco Bay area, where Amy is a medical center executive sales associate with Sanofi-Aventis Pharmaceutical and Market serves as outside general counsel for privately owned companies through Aldrich Law Group.

GINA (PETELIN) AXELSON (B.A.) and her husband, Vincent, celebrated the birth of their first baby, Nicholas Tyler, on Jan. 27, 2007.

ANNE CHOI (BBA, MIB ’97) and her husband, Eric Yocam ’97, published Corporate Governance: A Board Director’s Pocket Guide. The book is available through online retailers such as Amazon, Barnes & Noble and iUniverse.

BRENDA GEIGER (B.A., J.D. ’04) has practiced in the areas of trusts and estates, business succession planning and trust administration since 2004. She moved her practice to Carlsbad in 2007 and is also involved in many social and charitable organizations, such as Casa de Amparo, the Tri-City Planned Giving Advisory Council and the North County Estate Planning Council.

Brenda and her husband, Len, welcomed a daughter, Taylor Alexis, on March 14, 2008. She weighed 6 pounds, 12 ounces, and was 19 inches long at birth. Brenda also published What Every San Diego Parent Needs to Know to Protect Their Family, which was recently released on Amazon.com.

FELICITY BANSCON (BBA) is branch leader of the Women’s Global Network (www.wgn-global.com), leader of Fashion Group International’s focus group (www.fgifocus.org) and developer of San Diego’s Passport to Style event (www.passport-tostyle.org).

MARK MAYNARD (B.A.) received a master of fine arts in creative writing (fiction) from Antioch University in Los Angeles on Dec. 16, 2007.

KELLY McPhee (B.A.) was promoted to coordinator of enrollment services at Gateway Community College in Phoenix. In her new position, Kelly oversees the advisement and assessment departments at the college. “I enjoy the challenges that management presents and still enjoy working with a diverse group of students,” Kelly says.

STELLA (MELLOS) STEHLY (B.A., J.D. ’03) and her husband, Noel ’92, celebrated the arrival of Amalia Claire on June 13, 2007. Amalia joins big sister Eleni.

STEPHANIE (BECKORD) VIDERO (B.A.) and her husband, Cyril ’94, are moving from the mountain town of Granby, Colo., to Highlands Ranch. Cyril has started a new job at a boutique law firm and Stephanie will continue her freelance graphic and Web design business. They have a 2-year-old daughter, Amelia. The family welcomed new baby Nora Esther on May 31.

JOHN VISCONS! (J.D.) was elected partner in the Los Angeles office of the law firm McGuireWoods. John’s practice focuses on commercial leas-
ing and commercial real property purchase and sale transactions, serving Fortune 500 companies, local landlords and national retailers.

CHAD WETMORE (BBA) and his wife, Kathy, welcomed a handsome baby boy, Hayden Starr, on June 27, 2007. "We are blessed and having the time of our life enjoying every minute of our family," Chad says.

[1996]
AILLEEN ALVAREZ (B.A., J.D. ’00) and Vincent Whittaker ’96 were married in November 2002 and they both practice law in the Palm Springs area. "We have a beautiful daughter, Layne Whittaker, who is now 19 months old," Aileen says.

RYAN AZLEIN (B.A.) and his wife, Nicole, welcomed their first child, Ava Zoe, 5, and Peyton, 1.

KRAUSE KALFAYAN BENIK & SLAVENS. He represents consumers and investors in class action lawsuits at his firm, and his wife, Rosanna, are also busy in Los Angeles.

ERIC BENINK (J.D., MBA ’96) represents consumers and investors in class action lawsuits at his firm, Benink, Benik & Markiles, a corporate, securities and technology law firm in Los Angeles.

LISA KENNY CAREY (J.D.) has been in private practice for 12 years, handling divorce and child custody litigation cases as well as mediation. "My husband is great," she says. "We’ve been married for seven years and we have a wonderful little boy named Spencer. Life’s great. I’m very grateful for my law school education from USD.

CRAIG CHERNEY (J.D.) was promoted to western director of operations of American Land Fund, a private equity land acquisition and entitlement firm. Craig and his wife, Aubree (Green) ’05, have lived in Las Vegas for four years.

CHERYL (MURPHY) DURZY (BBA) and her husband, Hani, welcomed a daughter, Lila, on April 22, 2007, who joins big brother, A.J., 4. The family lives in the Willow Glen neighborhood of San Jose. Cheryl is vice president of sales and marketing at her family’s winery, Clos LaChance.

JASON EBERL (B.A., M.A., ’98, Ph.D., ’03) continues to teach and conduct research in the Department of Philosophy at Indiana University-Purdue University in Indianapolis, where he lives with his wife, Jennifer, and daughter, August. Jason has edited two books on philosophy and popular culture: Star Wars and Philosophy and Battletear Galactica and Philosophy. He is also the author of Thomistic Principles and Bioethics.

RUSSELL EDGE (MFA) recently appeared in Charlie Wilson’s War opposite Philip Seymour Hoffman and he filmed a few days on Clint Eastwood’s upcoming project, The Changeling. Apollo, a theater piece he has helped develop over the past few years, is expected to be performed at Portland Center Stage in 2009. To supplement his acting income, Russell runs a bookkeeping company in Los Angeles.

DEBORAH (NICHOLS) EDWARDS (M.A.) and her husband, Ben, are in private practice together as licensed marriage and family therapists in Encinitas.

KATHRYN GRYBOSKI (B.A.) teaches seventh-grade math part time in Westminster, Colo., and spends the rest of her time with her son, Sam, 18 months old. Her husband, Daniel, teaches math at Front Range Community College and spends his mornings with Sam. "We don’t need day care!" says Kathryn.

STEPHANIE RIES HOIE (B.A.) and her husband, William ’07, welcomed their second child, Michael lan. "His sister, Mackenzie, is a wonderful big sister at the age of 4 and she attends Manchester Child Development Center at USD," says Stephanie, who works in undergraduate admissions at USD.

JAMIE HOWSLEY (B.A.) practices law in Portland, Ore., and was named partner at Miller Nash in 2008. He practices in the areas of land use and natural resource permitting.

RICHARD MacDONOUGH (LL.M.G.) was appointed to the board of directors of the Homebuilders Care Foundation, the charitable arm of the Washington, D.C., area’s builders association. Richard and his wife, Julia, are receiving the annual award for historic home restoration in Rockville, Md.

CHRISTINE LABAGH MANTUA (B.A.) moved to Seattle and was married in August 2006. She is an elementary school teacher.

MICHELE (NOWICKI) NEWTON (B.A., M.Ed., ’98) and her husband, Dexter (Adam) ’95, have two children: Zoe, 5, and Taylor, 3. Michelle has started a new career as a fitness instructor and her husband is a lieutenant commander in the Navy, working in meteorology/oceanography. "Enjoying Virginia and all that life has to offer!" Michele says.

TYLER SIMPSON (B.A., J.D. ’00) is an attorney specializing in commercial and residential real estate finance. He owns and operates a branch of AmeriFund Lending Group in Los Angeles. In his spare time, he enjoys competing in marathons and triathlons and traveling as much as possible.

KYLE WEHNER (B.A.) and his wife, Laura, are enjoying life in Orange County, Calif. Kyle finished his medical training and is working at a hospital in Fullerton. "Our kids (Ryan, 5, and Connor, 3) continue to grow and explore new experiences," Kyle says.

[1997]
KATHRYN BRITT (B.A.) works for St. Paul Public Schools in St. Paul, Minn.

LARRY CAMPBELL (B.Acc.) was named partner at Lavine, Loefgren, Morris & Engelberg, an independent accounting firm in San Diego. Larry has been with the firm since 1997 and he is a member of the California State Society of Certified Public Accountants. He and his wife, Tina, live in Rancho Bernardo.

LAURA CLARK (B.A.) teaches first grade at Hill Creek School in Santee.

NICHOLAS COSTANTINO (B.A.) shot a film in Kauai for DreamWorks and a science-fiction thriller for Disney in Boston. His wife, Rebecca, returned to work as a designer for Hirsch Bedner Associates in Santa Monica and is working on the new Wynn Casino in Las Vegas. Their daughter, Lila Rose, is 2.

KEVIN DARR (B.A.) and his wife, Micaela, were married in Founders Chapel in June 2002. They have two children: Gianna, born on Oct. 7, 2005; and Aliya, born on March 9, 2007. Kevin is a middle school and high school counselor in Arcadia, Calif., and Micaela is a middle school Spanish teacher.

CAROL FULLER (MIB) joined Quantum Corporation in Colorado Springs shortly after graduation. She had been with Hewlett Packard for nearly 17 years. In April 2001, Carol moved back to San Diego to open a high-tech company with a business partner. They produced sophisticated software control systems for communications lasers. After 25 years in high tech, Carol left her company in the hands of a new chief executive officer and opened a yarn boutique, Yarn & Thread Expressions. "I’m now able to combine my lifelong passion for the fiber arts and my business-building expertise," she says. "Stop by my shop and say ‘Hi’ the next time you are in Lemon Grove."

ROBYN (KENYON) KAMMERER (B.A.) was promoted to vice president of communications of Halstead Property, a residential real estate brokerage firm headquartered in New York City.

ANDY KERR (B.A.) and his wife, Whitney, were married in September 2004. They welcomed a son, Colton, in May 2007. Andy is director of sales for a manufacturer in the golf industry and lives in Orange County, Calif.

EDWARD LARIOS (BBA) completed his MBA in May 2006.

BETH (KNISELY) MARINO (J.D.) became a partner in the law firm of Andre, Morris and Buttery, where she has been practicing in the business and real estate transactions group for the past five years. Her husband, Jesse ’97, is a deputy district attorney with the San Luis Obispo District Attorney’s Office and completed his term as the president of the San Luis Obispo Bar Association. Beth and Jesse live in San Luis Obispo with their sons, Nicolas, 6, and Luca, 4.

JENNIFER McMAHON (BBA) is an event manager, handling domestic and international seminars for a motivational speaker in San Diego.
hat's better than coming up with a product that hits the market right as millions of potential customers are reaching the age when they're likely to need it? For Anita (Gemperle) Mahaffey '80, the bonus was the fact that she herself was experiencing the menopausal night sweats for which her pajamas could provide relief.

“Many of my passions,” Mahaffey says. “I love to market products — I love that creativity. I love to design products.”

Mahaffey built on her decades of experience importing robes and other items from Turkey when she started her Cool-jams line of moisture-wicking, quick-drying pajamas in 2005. When she traveled to Turkey as an exchange student in 1976 just before starting her freshman year at USD, she had no idea that the relationships she forged in that Muslim country would help pave the way to a career as an international businesswoman.

“It's kind of serendipity ... because if I didn't have this (exchange) program in Turkey, I probably never would have come back to connect with these people;” she reflects. “It’s funny how your life works, that synchronicity.”

After receiving her undergraduate business degree from USD, Mahaffey pursued a career in the corporate world. But as her family grew, she craved an entrepreneurial business that would let her be at home with her children.

She helped found Funika in 1987, supplying robes, towels and sleepwear to Macy's, LL Bean and other stores.

When a number of factors converged — international air travel became more fraught after 9/11, she dealt with some serious health issues and her mother died — Mahaffey knew it was time to go in a new direction.

Mahaffey now runs the online business Cool-jams out of her San Diego home, using the same factory as Funika and continuing the business relationships she's been building for decades.

“The men that I work with in Turkey are far more progressive than any male bosses or partners that I've had here in the United States,” she says, smiling at the sheer irony of that revelation.

Her timing with Cool-jams couldn't have been better. The niche she's found is aimed straight at the baby boomer generation that now has 2 million women turning 50 every year.

“It's really helpful for a lot of people;” she says. “It's really encouraging when you have a product that solves a problem.”

Mahaffey loves to mentor USD students and alumni in the ways of the international business world. She can be reached at anitam@cool-jams.com.
CHRISTIE (LAURITZEN) MESSINA (B.A., M.A. ’03) and her husband, Brian, welcomed a son, Gino Patric, on July 21, 2007. The family lives in Seattle.

DON MORTON (BBA) writes, “I would gladly speak with anyone interested in a career as a paralegal or about working at the (San Diego County) District Attorney’s Office.” Don graduated from USD’s paralegal/lawyer assistant program in 1982.

CHAMBIERELLE PHAM (B.A., M.S. ’99) is a student in the depth psychotherapy Ph.D. program at the Pacifica Graduate Institute. She also is a practicing psychotherapist in private practice in Orange County.

MARIA SMITH (B.A.) earned a master’s degree in educational leadership and administration/ supervision from San Jose State University. She is a teacher adviser in the Ber- rysa Union School District in San Jose, Calif., and a consultant for many districts in the Silicon Valley. “Professional development has always been a passion of mine,” she says.

JILL (DIMONACO) STEWART (BBA) and her husband, Matt, celebrated their 10-year anniversary. They have two children: Jacob, 6, and Kennedy, 3, and the family lives in Laguna Niguel, Calif.

MING TOM (BBA) started his own company in 2006 in which he and his father manage a small real estate portfolio of commercial retail investments.

ROBERT WOODS (B.A., MSBA ’04) and his wife, Jennifer, were married on Dec. 9, 2006. He is a consulting manager at J.P. Morgan Chase and lives in Phoenix.

DOUGLAS YEE (J.D.) has been the in-house counsel with Progressive Insurance since 1999. He and his wife, Michelle, have two children: Matthew, 5, and Malia, 16 months. Douglas is a deacon at Harvest South Bay Church in Torrance, Calif., and he helps with youth ministries. Michelle serves in the children’s ministries.

[1998] ≥

GERALDINE (DIMAANO) CAL- HOUN (BBA) married her husband, Jeremy, on March 12, 2005. She has been teaching for seven years in Ari- zona and is currently a third-grade teacher. Geraldine and Jeremy have a son, Joel Rex, who was born on Dec. 9, 2006.


GIANNI COLAMUSSI (BBA) moved to Chicago in 2005 and was married. She works for Burnet Title Company in Des Plaines, Ill.

ANNE (QUITANIA) COSTIN (B.Acc.) and her husband, Virgilio, celebrated a sunset wedding at Coronado Beach in August 2007.

SHAWN DRAGONAIRE (M.A.) works for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and travels frequently to visit family in his native Trinidad and Tobago in the southern Caribbean.

ALI (BERGERON) DURBIN (B.A.) and husband Joel celebrated the arrival of their first child, Robert Charles, on July 25, 2007. “I am now a stay-at-home mother with Robbie and loving every minute of it!” Ali says. “After close to a decade of working at Adidas, it was time to leave the shoe industry and focus on raising my son, who was born 10 weeks premature (3 pounds, 6 ounces at birth). He is now 16 pounds and doing remarkably well!”

KIMBERLY FARRIS-BERG (B.A.) and her husband, Brian, welcome a son, Mitchell James, on Sept. 9, 2007. They also have a daughter, Ruby Lorraine, who turned 2 on Oct. 11, 2007. Kimberly will continue to operate her independent consulting practice as a public policy professional on a part-time basis.

CAROLE FRALEY (MSN) spent more than two years on active duty at Fort Hood, Texas, serving in the chief nurse emergency department. She is now in the U.S. Army Reserve and a nurse practitioner in emergency medicine at the trauma center at Methodist Hospital of Indiana in Indianapolis.

BRIDGET FOGARTY GRAMME (B.A.) and her husband, Jeff, announce the birth of their daughter, Victoria Marlene, on Sept. 30, 2007.

ALBERTO GUARDADO (BBA) was promoted to director of operations improvement for Waste Management’s Western Group. He and his wife, Vicky, welcomed a daughter, Alyssa, on Sept. 19, 2007. Alyssa joins older brother Joseph, 5.

SHEILA (BOWMAN) KAMEN (B.A.) is a clinical psychologist specializing in couples therapy. She and her husband, Charley, welcomed a son, Ben Elijah, on Dec. 20, 2007. The family lives in Los Angeles.

KRISTEN LINDELMAN (B.A.) moved to San Sebastian, Spain, after graduating from USD. While living there for nine years, she earned an MBA and a Ph.D. in organizational psychology. Kristen recently returned to Denver, where she lives with her husband, Ricardo Lasa, and their 19-month-old daughter.

DIANA (QUINONES) LORASCHI (B.A.) is married to a French chocolatier, Frédéric, who owns his own premium chocolate company, chocolatFrédéricLoraschi (www.chocolatfl.com). Diana works for The Hershey Co. and is at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania to earn a human resources certificate. Diana and Frédéric have a son, Julian, 5, and they live outside of Hershey, Pa. “Surrounded by chocolate!” she writes.

VIRGIL LORENZO (M.A., Ed.D., ’98) is writing syllabus/curriculum materials, incorporating GLOBE/science-based subject areas, to help educate the poor and the homeless. Virgil also helps build villages for slum dwellers in third world countries through Gawad Kalinga (Giving Care), the social ministry of a Vatican-approved lay organization called Couples for Christ.

TITO MARQUEZ (B.A.) works at 10th & M Seafoods in Anchorage. The company is working toward increasing sales to the European Union.

ALEXIS (FLOREA) MOBLEY (B.A.) and her husband, Dan, were married on Aug. 4, 2007, in Cannon Beach, Ore., and they live in Portland. Alumnae Debbie (Reule) Farringer and Abby Parta Gossman were bridesmaids. Alexis and Dan honeymooned in Queenstown, New Zealand, and Qamea, Fiji.

VERENA MORRELL (MBA) writes, “I am not currently employed, but I am busier than ever. I spend a lot of time volunteering and am particularly engaged with wildlife conservation. I coordinate, edit and publish a statewide newsletter and work as a fundraiser for numerous events.”

VANESSA (CRANDALL) MOSELEY (B.A.) married her husband, Chris, on June 17, 2006, at Brophy Chapel in Phoenix. Vanessa is a K-8 teacher for the Arizona Virtual Academy.

RUDY PERRINO (J.D.) has been in charge of litigation worldwide for Dole Food Company in Thousand Oaks, Calif. Rudy’s job requires travel around the world.

ANNETTE REITER (M.A.) co-authored and published Blast Off! Launching Your Child to College Beyond with business partner Barbara Rhode. Her Web site is www.transitionsandyou.com. Annette and her husband, Frank, have been married for 14 years and their daughter, Emily, is 8.

JENNY (SAUER) SHEPARD (BBA) writes, “Having fun with my two sons, Cole, 3, and Dane, 8 months, and husband, Tim, in Los Angeles.”

MICHELLE (ABARIENTOS) TILLMAN (BBA, M.A. ’06) is director of outreach and recruitment at the School of Leadership and Education Sciences at USD. She will celebrate her ninth wedding anniversary with her husband, Percy this fall. They both enjoy being parents to Janea, 5.

PAUL TONTZ (B.A.) expected to graduate in August 2008 with a Ph.D. in higher education administration at the University of Denver. Paul lives in San Diego.

STEPHANIE (SIRVENT) WALLACE (B.A.) and her husband, Eric, welcomed the arrival of their first son, Jackson James, on June 1, 2007.

STEPHANIE (RIESENMAN) ZELAZNY (B.A.) and her husband, Daniel, were married in June 2007. Stephanie is an assistant to the health-care analysts team for a hedge fund, CR Intrinsic Investors, in Stamford, Conn.

[1999] ≥

MARISSOL (MACIAS) ARIETTA (B.A.) teaches first grade in Pasadena-
BLYTHE (B.A.) graduated from Creighton University School of Dentistry in May 2006 and married her husband, Nick, in November 2006. She is a dentist at Westwood Dental in Westwood, Kan.

SCOTT GRUESER (BBA) and Kristin (Soroka) ’99 met as undergraduates at USD and were married in Founders Chapel on Oct. 21, 2001. On Feb. 25, 2008, they welcomed their first child, Oliver. In January 2008, Kristin passed her comprehensive exams for a Ph.D. in international history at Temple University. Scott received his MBA from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania in May 2008. The family now lives in London, where Scott works for McKinsey & Co.

ADRIANE (PRADO) HONERLAW (B.A.) and her husband, John, moved further into the interior of Alaska and they built a new home. Adriane started her own business taking photographs of local/historical landmarks and using them to create sepia-toned vintage-style greeting cards. They are in the process of adopting two Yupik Eskimo children. “I decided to take time off from teaching to stay at home,” Adriane says. “However, my teaching experience has been nothing but an asset in parenting.”

LAURA LAGREN (B.A.) lives on the central California coast with her husband and their daughter. She works in the schools as a marriage and family therapist and enjoys summers off with her family. Laura’s husband works for an oil company in Wyoming and travels for two weeks, then is home for two weeks.

JEN (WRIGHT) MARAVILLAS (B.A.) is a police officer in San Mateo, Calif. and her husband, Aram, is a firefighter in San Francisco. They are also real estate agents with Prudential Realty. Jen and Aram have a daughter, Sydney Lynn, 2.

ANNE (MAAS) McGOVERN (B.A.) finished her first year of teaching second grade at a small charter school in Fort Worth, Texas. She and her husband, Terry, welcomed their third child, Baylie Grace, on April 16.

ANDREA MUNOZ (B.A.) is working on an administrative credential in the Educational Leadership Program at San Diego State University.

ANDREANNA SHARP MURPHY (B.A., M.A. ’02) and her husband, Michael ’99, welcomed their first child, Olivia Christine, on Sept. 11, 2007. Michael is a police officer in El Cajon and a lieutenant in the Navy Reserve. Andreanna is head counselor at the School of Science and Technology in San Diego. “BenPow ers and Erika Sharp Powers are enjoying their roles as aunt and uncle to their niece, Olivia,” Andreanna writes.

TIFFaney (WArren) MYLOTT (BBA) and her husband, Nathanael, moved back to her hometown of Jackson Hole, Wyo., to build a house and start a family. Tiffaney teaches yoga and hopes to open her own studio. “Peace to all of my friends I have lost touch with!” she says.

ARIANNA (DAGOSTINO) PLEAT (MBA) is now manager of commercial contracts generation at Bayer Healthcare Pharmaceuticals. Her husband, Bruce ’98, is a sales engineer at Asset Control and a licensed private pilot. They report that their son, Elkan Simone, is a happy, healthy, intelligent, energetic 2-year-old. The family lives in South Orange, N.J., near New York City.

MISTY POSEY (B.A.) is a captain in the U.S. Marine Corps. MOLLIE WOLF (B.A., MSBA ’03) has been working for John Deere for eight years. “I’ve traveled all over the world and made lots of good friends in Germany and across the U.S.!” she says. Mollie competes in triathlons and completed her second marathon in San Francisco. She is also a certified level I triathlon coach, volunteers for Junior Achievement and “living life to its fullest!”

ANGEla (HuACK) CARR (B.A.) has worked for Robert Half Management Resources, placing senior-level finance and accounting professionals on a project basis. She recently was married in Cancun, Mexico, and Angela and her husband live and work in Seattle. They just purchased a home that they are in the process of remodeling.

LISA (RUNDQUIST) CONVERSE (B.A.) and her husband, Brian ’99, welcomed their second son, Zachary, in August 2007. “Big brother, Andrew, 3, can’t wait to teach him how to play ball!” Lisa writes. “We love living in Colorado, where I am working part time at the library (in addition to being a full-time mom!), and Brian is enjoying his job as proposal coordinator for an engineering firm in Denver.”

ANNELISE (WEISS) DAVIS (B.A.) and her husband, Dan, welcomed with joy their first child, Ainsley Elizabeth, on May 27, 2007. “Our hearts are filled to overflowing with love for our little miss!” says Annelise, who works part time from home in order to be with Ainsley. “Life has never been so good!”

DAVID FELL (BBA) teaches Chi Kung (Qigong) meditation in seminar format in San Diego. He is looking to conduct these seminars in other cities. More information is available at www.flyingphoenix.us.

RANee (RhODEs) Fisher (BBA) and her husband, Paul ’01, were married in July 2006. The bridal party included alumni Miguel Suazo, Brian O’Connor, Danny Blake, Lauren Lant- gen, and Amy Gossman. Ranee and Paul live in San Diego.

BARRETT FOERSTER (LL.M.G.) was selected to the executive board of the California Judges Association.
GIFTS

Several grants toward the Summer Undergraduate Research Experience/Pre-Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE/PURE) allowed 15 students to immerse themselves in applied science at USD. Contributions were made by The Beckman Coulter Foundation ($10,000), U.S. Bank ($5,000), Biogen Idec ($10,000) and the Carrie Estelle Doheny Foundation ($50,000). Two of the grants exceeded the amount requested, underscoring the value that grant makers place on science education today.

In recognition of his late wife, Phyllis McArdle Clause, her devoted husband Melvin has established a scholarship endowment in her name. The Phyllis McArdle Clause Scholarship Endowment will provide scholarships in perpetuity to deserving students studying for a master's degree in school counseling. As a school counselor herself, Mrs. Clause's memory is honored by the gift, a fitting tribute to the success she enjoyed in her career in improving the lives of countless students and their families.

The Duda Family Foundation generously contributed $100,000 to the Duda Family Scholarship Endowment, which was established in 1999 to assist students who are challenged by the rising cost of higher education.

Jane Goodall's spring 2008 appearance on campus was multifaceted; in addition to a public lecture, the planting of a tree and classroom activity, her visit resulted in a $30,000 gift to the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice’s WorldLink Program. An intimate “Dinner with Jane” fundraiser made WorldLink a co-beneficiary of the event. WorldLink brings global awareness to the area’s emerging leaders, allowing high school students to interact with dignitaries from around the world and discuss such major issues as global warming and human trafficking.

He also is the author of “Bringing Civil Actions for Damages” (chapter 5) of Domestic Violence Remedies, a book published in 2007 by California Continuing Education of the Bar.

OLUN Graves (M.A.) is a special agent with the State of California Department of Justice, and is assigned to the Medi-Cal Fraud/Elder Abuse unit in San Diego. He formerly worked for 12 years in the San Diego Police Department.

Elizabeth (Jablecki) Johnson (J.D.) and her husband, Jason, were married on Sept. 15, 2007, in Lake Havasu City, Ariz.

Nicole Matthews (M.A.) launched The Henley Company in 2007, an event management and concierge firm based in San Diego. “It’s very exciting to be a part of the forefront of the personal concierge industry,” Nicole says. “I help clients bring order to their lives by managing their to-do lists. This takes the form of travel coordination, personal shopping, errand running, event planning, concert/theater tickets, etc. Live the life you want! Delegate the rest!”

Christine Owens (B.A.) moved back to San Diego from the big island of Hawaii. “I was a dolphin trainer for Dolphin Quest, doing interaction programs with the public,” she writes. “Although Hawaii is beautiful, I missed San Diego.” She is an instructor at the Birch Aquarium, teaching kids about marine science. She also is a CPR instructor for Scripps Mercy Hospital. Christine is working on a master’s degree in education and a teaching credential in early childhood education. “I really enjoy teaching young minds about the world around them.”

Seth Perkins (BBA) has two sons, Jackson and Jude. He is currently coaching soccer and returned to school to earn his teaching credentials.

Sara (Machtolf) Wagenblast (B.A.) and her husband, David, welcomed a daughter, Jocelyn, on May 21, 2007. Sara teaches high school history in Spokane, Wash.

[2001] Kristina (Lukomski) Casola (M.A.) and her husband, Brian, welcomed a second daughter, Madden Faith, to the family. Big sister Emer- son Grace is almost 4. Kristina reports that she is slowing down a bit in her work life to enjoy the family moments.

Karen (Banks) Child (M.A.) recently contributed to the first children’s book to tackle the issue of Internet pornography and its effects on children. The book, Temptation of a Generation, illustrates the risks today’s teens face living in the information age. Karen is a licensed marriage and family therapist in Orange County, Calif. She has a private practice and works in the LifeSTAR program to treat sexually compulsive behaviors.

Chris Falconi (B.A.) and his wife, Stacey, welcomed their second daughter, Mia Roa, on Nov. 2, 2007. She weighed 6 pounds, 3 ounces, and was 19 inches long. Mia joins older sister, Kai, 2. Chris works in auto finance and Stacey stays home with the two girls. The family lives in Brea, Calif.

Navy Cmdr. Patrick Foege (M.S.) received a certificate of achievement while serving as a military strategic transportation planner assigned to United States Transportation Command at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois. Patrick was recognized as Field Grade Officer of the Year for outstanding performance, self improvement and community involvement.

James Foley (BBA) married Kristen Owen ‘01 on Sept. 15, 2007, at a beautiful private estate on the west shore of Lake Tahoe. They live in Los Gatos, Calif. Jim is in real estate development and Kristen is a kindergarten teacher. Alumni who attended their wedding included Jen Basile, Lisa Juco, Kristin (Mallow) Gazzano, Ben Gazzano, Brendan Horgan, Michael Giachetti, Peter Hamann, Joey McCarthy, Jamie Booth, Brandon Riggs, Kiley (Jarrett) Riggs, Kris Riggs, Cara (Zamora) Riggs, Scott Wicken, Chris Bourne, Brent Ball, Joey Bertocchini, April (Stephens) Bertocchini, Chris Mayon, Heidi (Peterson) Mayon, James Davis, Brian Sappington, Jed Greene, Rodney Tompkins, Danielle (Capala) Tompkins, Jenni Roshak, Jen Schultz, and Jenay Lewellyn.

Juan Carlos Garcia (BBA, B.A. ’01) has worked as a senior account executive for Mortgage I.T., a national wholesale mortgage lender, for the past four years. For the past three years, he has been in the top 20 representatives nationwide. He finished at No. 7 in the country in 2006. Juan and his fiancée, Breanne Herring, live in San Diego.

Nick Gontmaher (BBA) earned an MBA from the University of Southern California Marshall School of Business. He is an associate at Alvarez and Marsal in the Restructure and Turnaround Management Division.

Mark Heffernan (B.A.) was an adjunct engineering professor for USD’s Department of Engineering in the fall of 2007. He recently accepted a position in Chicago with Northrop Grumman Electronic Systems as the research and development program manager for the Litening targeting system. Mark planned to move to Chicago in late June to live with his fiancée, Jennifer Boston.

Kristoffer Kalmbach (B.A.) and his wife, Kimberly ‘01, live in Sacramento. Kris is a commercial real estate agent with Cornish & Carey Commercial and Kimberly is an event coordinator at Jesuit High School.

Meredith (Gavlick) Kemper (BBA) and her husband, Daniel, were married at the Hyatt in Huntington Beach, Calif. Classmates Stephanie (King) Greco, Kerry (Williams) Elmore, Gina (Romano) Horton and Lisa Juco were attendants in the wedding. Meredith is in medical sales in Los Angeles, and she and her husband enjoy living in Redondo Beach.

Tammy Lu (MBA) transferred to Philadelphia with Miller Brewing Company, where she is the marketing manager for Philadelphia, South Jersey and Delaware. “It’s a long way from home,” she says, “but Philadelphia provides an exciting array of activities, culture and history.”

Meredith (Elwell) Miller (B.A.) and her husband, Michael ’00, celebrated the arrival of a son, Marek Lawrence, on May 16, 2007. He weighed 9 pounds, 4 ounces, and was 21-1/2 inches long at birth. “Marek is the happiest social baby we know, so it has been a joy!” says Meredith.

Antonio Mireles (B.A.) and his wife, Robin, moved to Fort Wayne, Ind., and they have two wonderful...
children: Christian, 4, and Gabrielle, 1. Tony is a senior electrical engineer with Raytheon. He says he spends his weekends fishing and with family.

KORIE (NORRIS) NORTON (B.A.) and her husband, Leo, welcomed a baby boy on Sept. 17, 2007. Luke Michael weighed 7 pounds, 8 ounces, and was 20 inches long. "I now work from home so I can care for him and continue working," Korie says.

DOMENICA (CIMARUSTI) PEARL (B.A.) and her husband, Joey, are proud to announce the birth of their second daughter, Audrey Joseph, on Dec. 7, 2007.

JODI (WANG) PIEPKORN (B.B.A.) and her husband, Lucas ’01, were married on May 26, 2007, on the island of Maui, and they honeymooned on Nevis in the Caribbean. Fellow Toreros Stacey (Sweeney) Clifton and Bennie Pham were members of the wedding party. Jodi and Luke live in Northern Virginia, where they recently purchased their first home. Luke is an analyst with Systems Planning and Analysis and Jodi is a program manager for AOL Shopping.

TRICIA (GORDON) RING (B.A., M.Ed. ’04) and her husband, Royce, were married on Nov. 11, 2007, in San Diego. Tricia teaches second grade in Point Loma and Royce plays baseball for the Atlanta Braves.

AMY (HARRIS) RIVIERE (J.D.) and her husband, Russell, were married on May 20, 2006, and they welcomed a daughter, Gabrielle, on Oct. 3, 2007. “Payton Marie is a delight and we enjoy spending time with her,” Patricia says.

SUFIA WALI (B.A.) and her husband, Brent Palluck, were married on Oct. 20, 2007, at Lake Las Vegas in Las Vegas. Sufia and Brent honeymooned in Brazil and Argentina. Brent is a controller and a CPA for Las Vegas Athletic Clubs.

JEFFREY WHITTY (B.A.) moved to Perth, Australia, to pursue a master’s degree in marine science. For his project, he is looking at migration patterns and habitat utilization of the freshwater sawfish and northern river shark in Northern and Western Australia.

[2002] KAREN CLAYTON (MSN), a pediatric nurse practitioner, writes, “This is the start of my fifth year having the privilege to take care of the adorable children of our fighting Marines.”

KIARA RIVIERE (B.A.) graduated from medical school at the University of Nevada, Reno, in May 2007. She is in her residency in psychiatry at the University of Utah.

PEARL (B.A.) DOMENICA (CIMARUSTI) PEARDON (B.A.) and her husband, Lucas ’01, were married in May 2007. Annamaria is a manager at Vista High School.

[2003] JENNIFER ALLEN (M.A.) and her family live in San Jose, Costa Rica. Her husband, Matthew, is the operational director of an online seminary and Jennifer stays home with their three boys: Joshua, 8; Samuel, 3; and Simon, 6 months.

ELISABETH BIEBL (B.A.) writes, “After a few stints in public relations and flip-flopping between California and Colorado, I’m back in Vail, Colo., enjoying the mountains, skiing with friends and other outdoor activities while I figure out ‘plan B.’ A recent trip to Cartagena, Colombia, has left me with another itch to travel again, so we’ll see what I can manage!”

EMMA (SCOTT) BIGGS (B.A.) and her husband, John, were married in Manhattan Beach, Calif., on April 14, 2007. Classmates Suzanne Merlo and Annie Schott were part of the wedding party. On Jan. 30, 2008, Emma and John welcomed a son, John “Jack” Lawrence. Emma teaches algebra at her alma mater, Notre Dame Academy in Los Angeles.

SACHA BOUTROS (B.A.) is a singer/songwriter/producer. “I have opened for people like Julio Iglesias, Marvin Hamlisch, James Moody, etc.,” she writes. “I sing jazz and Latin jazz.”

Sacha has a new CD coming out in 2008 and then she plans to tour. She also owns SB Entertainment in La Jolla, an entertainment company for event music.

JOHNATHAN BUMA (B.A.) has been working as a biochemist at Johnson & Johnson in San Diego for the past five years.

CANDACE COMER (B.B.A.) has lived in Nashville for three years. She was an assistant at Creative Artists Agency and just accepted a position at Echo, a marketing company that is now part of Ticketmaster. “I’ll continue working in the music industry, just on the marketing/fan club level, but having a great time!” she says.

CANDACE ECKERT (MSGL) returned to Phoenix from 16 months in Mosul, Fallujah and Ramadi, Iraq, where she was working with Iraqi judges and establishing terrorism courts in the Ninewa and Anbar provinces.

MELANIE (WHITTINGTON) HILL (B.Acc.) and her husband, Mark ’02, were married in July 2004. Melanie is an accountant with a commercial real estate developer in Irvine, Calif. Mark is a broker with CB Richard Ellis, specializing in industrial land and development. Melanie and Mark live in San Clemente, Calif.

PATRICIA LEDEZMA (BBA) has been the manager of St. Vincent de Paul Church for the past three years. She is also a freelance Web designer and she completed four certificates in graphic, Web and print design. Patricia is currently working toward a basic certificate in catechesis. “When I’m not at church, work or school, I enjoy spending time with my parents, siblings and their children,” she says.

BRIAN LEGENZA (B.Acc.) is now in employee benefit insurance sales in Overland Park, Kan.
NATALIA LUGLIANI (BBA) has been living in Italy for three years. She received her master’s degree in Italian from Middlebury College in Vermont and the University of Florence.

KIMBERLEY MANN (B.A.) operates a mobile dog-playing day service and in-home pet sitting business in Smyrna, Tenn. “This business venture is a true labor of love,” Kimberley says. “I am excited about what each new day brings. I still have my Pekingese, Taylor, that I brought to Bart Thurber’s poetry class when he was a puppy. He turned 7 in January. Hello to Irene Williams, Bart Thurber, Mary Quinn and Fred Robinson.”

BRAD MILLER (B.A.) and Gina (Gordon) ‘03 were married in Dana Point on Oct. 6, 2007. They honeymooned in Australia for two weeks and are planning a trip to Tavaru in Fiji in the fall of 2008.

TUI MUNDAY (B.A.) sells commercial real estate in Miami and Miami Beach, Fla.

SHAUNA (NORBRYHN) NICHOLS (B.S., B.A.) and her husband, Ryan, were married on April 22, 2006. Shauna works for a large aerospace company and she expected to start work on her master’s degree in 2008. She and Ryan live in Fullerton, Calif.

JACOB RASMUSON (BBA, MSRE ’05) is a Realtor at Coldwell Banker in Bishop, Calif., and is spending as much time as possible on Mammoth Mountain.

NICOLE SCHWARZ (B.A., J.D. ’06) worked at Lincoln, Gustafson and Cercos in San Diego after receiving her J.D. degree, and she is currently at New York University earning an LL.M. degree specializing in taxation. She says she hopes to return to the West Coast.

PHAEDRA COORTIS (M.A.) lives in San Diego with her partner, Kristin Kwiatkowski. Phaedra has a full-time private practice as a marriage and family therapist in Mission Valley. She treats adults, families and children, and she specializes in attachment disorders, foster youth needs, adolescent behavioral issues, and gay and lesbian issues.

ELLIE (REENDERS) SERVAIS (B.A.) and her husband, Elliott ‘02, are living happily in San Clemente, Calif., with their English bulldog, Boogie.

ALEXANDER STEFANOVICH (B.A.) was recruited by the U.S. Army for their Special Forces pipeline after graduating from USD. After many military schools, he was assigned to his first reconnaissance unit in Alaska. In July 2006, Alexander entered the Military Intelligence Branch as a second lieutenant and he is currently stationed at Fort Lewis, Wash., where he is the intelligence officer for 5th Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment. Alexander married Sabrina Mahaffey from Fairbanks, Alaska.

AARON TUBBS (BBA) lives in Manhattan Beach, Calif., and sells pharmaceuticals to dermatologists. He writes, “No more travels ... for now.”

VERONICA TUCKER (M.A.) is a guidance counselor at her high school alma mater, Nolan Catholic High School in Fort Worth, Texas. She and her husband, Aaron, are busy with their two children: Abigail Grace, 3, and Luke Geyer, 1.

CHELLY TYLER (BBA) loves her career in real estate development in Prescott, Ariz. She is active in the Arizona chapter of USD’s Alumni Association.

GREGORY URUBURU (B.A.) continues to work for the City of Solana Beach as a full-time ocean lifeguard. He enjoys days spent working at the beach and taking surfing trips into Central America. He went to Panama in 2007 and to Nicaragua in 2008. “Go Toreros!” Gregory says.

CARLOS WILLIAMS (B.S., B.A.) attended the U.S. Navy’s Department Head School in Newport, R.I., after graduation from USD. He was assigned chief engineer on the USS Momsen, a guided missile destroyer. During his two-year tour, the crew commissioned the ship and sailed it from Bath, Maine, to Everett, Wash., via the Panama Canal. In 2006, he was assigned to the brigade staff of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team of the 101st Airborne Division in Tikrit, Iraq. Carlos supervised the Army’s counter radio-controlled IED mission. He retired from the Navy in November 2007 and in December 2007 he was hired as a product systems engineer at Thales Avionics in Seattle, where he oversees the in-flight entertainment system product line.

ADRIENNE YOUNG (B.A.) graduated as valedictorian from Palmer College of Chiropractic West in San Jose, Calif. In 2007, she returned to San Diego and is now practicing as a chiropractor in Chula Vista, Calif.

SHAWN ZORICK (B.A.) and his sister purchased Hair Attitudes in Escondido, Calif. Shawn manages the staff and salon, which is undergoing a major renovation. They plan to combine the high-end salon with an art gallery atmosphere to create an establishment that is comfortable but with a bit of an edge. [2004]

JOSHUA ANDERSON (B.A.) is completing helicopter flight school at Fort Rucker, Ala.

JERALD ARNOLD (B.A.) retired from the U.S. Navy in 2006, and he and his wife, Lori, welcomed a baby boy, Cameron Drew, on Aug. 4, 2007. The family lives in Massachusetts.

ALISA (BYRD) BURPEE (B.A.) is a research coordinator for the University of Washington, conducting prevention research for at-risk youth. She plans to return to school for a Ph.D. in clinical psychology.

MARIA CHAVEZ (B.A.) received a master’s degree in social work from the University of Southern California in 2007. As an adoption social worker, she trains potential foster and adoptive parents through Aspira Foster and Family Services in Santa Fe Springs, Calif.

STEPHANIE DEPPENSITH (B.A.) married Alex Kavounis on Oct. 6, 2007. They live in Las Vegas, where Stephanie is entertainment manager for BESTAgency at Caesars Palace.

MAGGIE ENGSTROM (BBA) has worked in Washington, D.C., for two years at General Atomics, and she plans to move home to Minneapolis to be closer to her family.

TROY FEDRICK (MSGL) completed department head tours on board the USS Shiloh and the USS Chancellorsville, two guided missile cruisers. He is currently attending the Naval War College in Newport, R.I.

KATHRYN GOODMAN (B.A.) works in the residence life department at USD and plans to pursue a master’s degree in education in the coming year.

JASON KIMMEL (BBA) is a commercial real estate broker with Grubb and Ellis and vice chair of the Real Estate Alumni Association at USD’s School of Business Administration.

JOSEPH MCKELLAR (B.A.) moved back to San Diego to work for the San Diego Organizing Project, a faith-based nonprofit dedicated to improving the quality of life of low- and middle-income families through civic engagement.

KEVIN MIKOLICH (B.A.) was accepted into the Peace Corps after graduation and went to Bolivia to teach local townspeople about HIV/AIDS. He also taught English to the students in the village where he served. Kevin has returned to Temecula and is exploring options for graduate school.
RACHEL ORIOL (B.A.) graduated from the University of Hawaii at Manoa with a master’s degree in English. She teaches at San Diego Mesa College.

STEPHANIE (GABBARA) PERRY (B.A.) and her husband, Ryan ’00, were married on July 14, 2007, at Founders Chapel. More than 45 alumni and 25 former resident assistants attended the celebration.

ERIKA (REEVES) PIKE (B.A., M.A. ’07) is a school counselor at Army and Navy Academy in Carlsbad. She reports that all of the counselors at the academy are from USD.

STEVE PIRO (B.A.) teaches environmental science and biology to high school students in Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia. After graduation, he traveled around the world for two years and visited 27 countries. Steve says he is still an avid surfer.

DANIEL VAN GROL (B.A.) is a student at Case Western School of Law in Cleveland.

KELLY (NIEMI) VIERRA (BBA) graduated from California Western School of Law in April 2007. She passed the California Bar and was sworn in as an attorney in December 2007. She lives in Carlsbad and plans to work in corporate law.

PATRICK WADE (MSEL) was deployed for a year to Afghanistan with the U.S. Navy.

SUZANNE (DOLEMBO) WARREN (J.D.) joined the Nevada Attorney General’s Office in June 2007, where she represents the Department of Taxation in administrative, federal and state proceedings.

MEGHAN DONAHUE (B.A.) is a student at the Creighton University School of Medicine in Omaha, Neb.

ROBERTO FIERRO (B.A.) expected to graduate in June 2008 with a master’s degree in international studies from the Graduate School of International Studies at the University of Denver.

ERIN (TOOHEY) GALLAWA (B.A.) and her husband, Brandon, were married in July 2007. Erin teaches theology at Loretto High School in Sacramento, where she has lived for three years.

FREDDY GRAND (B.Acc.) and Annie Bertocchini ’06 were married on May 24, 2008, in Anaheim Hills, Calif. Members of the wedding party included USD graduates Tony Bertocchini, Allie (Lunden) Bertocchini, Joey Bertocchini, April (Stephens) Bertocchini, Janae Draper, Ryan Castanos, Caleb Heldt and John Nisson.

LINDSEY HANSEN (B.A.) says that since graduation, she has worked as a fisheries observer in the cold waters off New England, taught marine science in New Brunswick and served with AmeriCorps in Oregon. She is now a science teacher with the L.A. Outdoor Science School in Wrightwood, Calif.

JENELLE HAWKINS (B.A.) works for the Consulate of Canada in San Diego. She facilitates trade (investment partnerships, etc.) between Canada and San Diego in the fields of biotechnology, security, defense and information technology. “I still travel to France (home) whenever possible!” she says.

ORIANA (YEOMANS) LEO (BBA) recently moved from primary care to pharmaceutical sales with Johnson & Johnson to specialty pharmaceutical sales with Allergan as a glaucoma specialist in ophthalmology.

MARY LUPICA (MSSCM) teaches at USD and started LNK Consulting in Oceanside, Calif.

JONATHAN MAHER (BBA) published a book called Grow a Winning Business, which is available on Amazon.com, and he has recorded music, which is available on iTunes or his Web site: www.jonathanmaher.com.

MARIAN McGAVRAN (B.A.) worked as a real estate assistant after graduation for two years. In July 2007, she joined San Diego City Realty as a full-time Realtor specializing in listing and selling residential property throughout San Diego.

TYLER PEW (B.A.) traveled through New Zealand and Australia for two years, working in both countries. He also traveled to Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand and Singapore. Tyler is now working toward a master’s degree in architecture at the New School of Architecture and Design in San Diego.

NAVY LT. THEODORE MAC O. QUIDEM (MSGL) and his shipmates participated in two community relations projects during a port visit while assigned to the USS Higgins. While in Mangilao District, Guam, sailors provided care at the Guam Animals-in-Need shelter by walking, bathing and playing with the dogs and cats. They also painted, cleaned and handled yardwork at the shelter. Higgins crew members also constructed a retaining wall to prevent mudslides and erosion at a youth baseball field and they knocked down two dilapidated structures, removing hazards near the children’s playground.

BRIAN VALENZUELA (MAFM, B.Acc. ’03) is teaching at Ernst & Young as an accountant. He and his wife, Rosanne ’05, live in San Diego.

CINDY WASSERMAN (M.Ed.) is in the San Diego City Schools.

YOSHITAKA YANO (B.S., B.A.) is in the MSE program at Loyola Marymount University.

In Memoriam

FRANCIS “BUCK” BENNETT ’62 (J.D.) passed away on Sept. 6, 2007. He was a naval officer, a trial attorney in San Diego and a community leader. In private practice, he emphasized criminal law, family law and personal injury, and he completed more than 5,000 cases.

JOSEPH CANEDO ’63 (J.D.) passed away on Dec. 21, 2007. He worked for the U.S. Department of the Interior in Washington, D.C., and enjoyed traveling and collecting stamps.

JOSEPH JOHN HIEL ’64 (B.A.) died on Dec. 28, 2007, a San Diego resident since 1949. Joe loved libraries, the arts, his Navy days, playing baseball and traveling.

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Please note that Class Notes submitted after Sept 1, 2008 will be considered for publication in the Summer 2009 issue of USD Magazine.
This spring, Danya Alhamrani ’00 (M.A.) won a chance to serve as on-camera tour guide for celebrity chef/adventurer Anthony Bourdain. She says highlighting the food, culture and people of Saudi Arabia for a segment of his TV show, *No Reservations*, was a pleasure. Find her independent television production company online at www.eggdancer.com.
USD alumni in every state across America are making plans to come home to USD this October 3-5, 2008.

Register online at www.sandiego.edu/homecoming. For more information call (619) 260-4819.