

# USD MAGAZINE

UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO / FALL 2016

## *The Road to Sainthood*

*From Albania to India and far beyond, MOTHER TERESA'S journey included a memorable stop at the University of San Diego*





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## FROM THE | PRESIDENT

[leadership]

# FORWARD MOTION

## Building upon the university's strengths



During the summer months, we completed our cross-country and global Torero Tours with fantastic engagements with alumni and friends of USD. Thank you to all who participated. We are blessed with a network of passionate Toreros who share their time, talents and treasures supporting our students and advancing this great Catholic university.

Many Toreros from around the country were excited to see Leading Change: The Campaign for USD prominently featured in advertising during the summer Olympics. Through your generous support, our campaign

continues its strong forward momentum, and we look forward to further promoting our many student and faculty successes.

We also continued our strong momentum over the summer with Envisioning 2024, our strategic planning process. We look forward to sharing a bold new vision with our Board of Trustees and with our broader campus community in the coming weeks. The strategic planning process capitalizes on our progress in recent years and aligns new strategic goals with our current strengths.

Many of those current strengths resulted from the leadership of Ron Fowler, whose dedicated service as our Chairman of the Board for the past six years is featured on page 7. His example of ethical leadership, compassionate citizenship and the ability to balance career and community service is a model of excellence for our students. In July, Mr. Fowler stepped down as Board Chairman and was succeeded by Donald Knauss, a USD Board Member since 2008, when he also served as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Clorox Corporation.

While we have much to celebrate, we also must take time to reflect on the summer months that were plagued with tragedies and unrest around the world. As a Catholic university, we are called to a heightened awareness and empathy for the most vulnerable as we serve our communities and help to correct injustices. There are few places better than a Catholic university where complex and sensitive issues can be framed in the context of trust, respect and civil discourse for students, providing opportunities for understanding and reflecting upon many different perspectives beyond our own.

This issue of USD Magazine features Saint Teresa of Calcutta, who visited our campus in 1988 and was canonized earlier this month in Rome. We can recall her words offered to a world in need of healing when she said, "If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other ... If you judge people, you have no time to love them."

Pondering St. Teresa's words in our hearts, I invite you to enjoy this edition of USD Magazine, as together we celebrate a new semester and pray for peace in our world.

— James T. Harris III, DEd  
President



# USD MAGAZINE

UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO / FALL 2016

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Illustration of Mother Teresa of Calcutta by Allan Burch

#### WEBSITE:

[www.sandiego.edu/usdmag](http://www.sandiego.edu/usdmag)





***Alongside USD Building Maintenance Mechanic Eliseo Hernandez, President Harris worked with nearly 100 volunteers and Linda Vista community members earlier this year to renovate the Montgomery School Community Garden.***

"But it's not just economic investment," Nayve explains. "It's about how you consider and understand what's happening in the community before you invest, both socially and culturally."

As one of the key drivers of the Linda Vista Anchor Institution Advisory Board, Nayve has helped put together a group that includes those involved with local health care, social justice, education and economic development, with the aim of bringing stakeholders together to expand the partnership between USD and other Linda Vista anchors.

"It's about creating what we call democratic community partnerships," he says. "And it doesn't have to be just the community of Linda Vista. We can and have formed this sort of partnership with Barrio Logan, or across the border. We've been working in places like New Orleans, Jamaica and South Africa for years."

The idea of USD as a true anchor is one of the supporting pathways leading the university to a strategic plan that envisions its role well into the future.

"We're not necessarily looking at a one-time or short-term partnership that USD may have had in the past, because those may come and go. We really want to make a thoughtful inventory of what we've been doing that's most truly anchorlike, and work to strengthen those bonds."

Nayve is all about sharing the credit. "It's all connected," he says. "We've been working with


the Changemaker Hub, the Center for Inclusion and Diversity and others. We call it our cohesion project.” When people get out in these various communities in an authentic way that builds true relationships, the overwhelming response is that the university is well down the road of bridging the town/gown divide through thoughtful, meaningful engagement.

"Democratic partnership is key. That's how you invite community members to participate. That's how you receive a reciprocal invitation by community members so that they say, 'Actually, USD, we would love to have you involved.' That has real implications for diversity and inclusion."

Nayve received the California Campus Compact's 2016 Richard E. Cone Award earlier this year, which recognizes impact on service-learning and community-campus partnershipsthroughout the San Diego region.

His colleague and friend John Loggins '95 (BA), '12 (MA), USD's director of community-based student leadership and learning, waxed eloquently about Nayve when he received the award:

"He is not an embodiment of all that community engagement offers; he is an example of what it looks like to practice it. It was social artistry watching Chris navigate complex feelings of hope, loss, anger and longing with multiple partnerships in New Orleans. Each partner had different feelings and sentiments about what has happened in the 10 years since Katrina.

"To see Chris hold all of these emotions and thoughts and find balance in the tension for himself and our partners is a testament to his ability and willingness to do exactly what we ask our students to do: To enter into the community with love, be fully present and then be willing to work with what emerges." 

[ giving back ]

## VIEW FROM THE TOP

Workers competed, students won

**B**ertin Santos has been climbing trees since he was a kid growing up in Tijuana and making his way to the upper branches of the pepper tree in his yard. Today, climbing trees is part of his job.

The USD groundskeeper takes pride in being one of the few who's mastered the art of pruning the pineapple palms around campus — and his favorite moments are when he's at the top of one of USD's 40-foot alders.

Santos started working at USD in 1998 at the age of 19, as a gardener. He loves the campus. When USD launched the Employee Giving Campaign in the spring, he jumped at the chance to be captain of the grounds team.

"Students are our priority," he says. "Education is important. It changes lives, but not everyone can afford it, so we have to do what we can to support them."

Santos recently went back to school himself, first to earn a certificate in landscaping technology; he's now working toward an associate's degree from a local community college. As a father of three daughters, he

understands all too well the challenge of juggling school, work and home life. And if making a gift helps a student in need, he's happy to contribute.

His colleagues followed his lead. Every person on his team participated in the Employee Giving Campaign. In fact, his department was among 81 departments on campus that achieved a giving rate of 100 percent.

In all, 1,207 employees contributed to USD during the six-week challenge. They helped raise more than \$625,000 for centers, programs and institutes, athletics, scholarships and all areas of the student experience.

"We are so grateful to work alongside such wonderful people every day," said Philip Garland and John Phillips, co-chairs of the fundraising effort.

“When we see the rankings improving for USD, we should all be proud of our roles in our university’s and our students’ continued success. Thank you to everyone who made a gift in support of Students First!”  
— *Krystn Shrieve*



**Bertin Santos' team was one of 81 departments on campus that achieved a 100 percent giving rate in the Employee Giving Campaign.**



[many-sided]

# TEAMWORK SPARKS CHANGE

Interdisciplinary solutions to environmental problems

by Taylor Milam

The world of higher education is changing. There are online classes and newly minted social media degrees, but there's one change to be particularly excited about at the University of San Diego: interdisciplinary courses.

This past year, three USD professors teamed up to co-teach a sustainability class. The most interesting part? They don't all spe-

cialize in environmental science. Associate Professor Mark Woods teaches philosophy; Assistant Professor Julia Cantzler is a sociologist and Associate Professor Michel Boudrias specializes in oceanography and marine biology. As it turns out, it's their differences that made the class innovative and exciting.

"Dr. Boudrias, Dr. Woods and I were all already teaching envi-

ronmental courses through our own disciplinary lenses, but we believed strongly that for students to adequately address environmental problems in the real world, they should understand the scientific, ethical and sociological implications of these challenges," Cantzler explains.

Instead of only focusing on theories and textbooks, the professors joined together to create

a class that was meant to truly spark change. According to their students, they succeeded.

For fourth-year environmental studies major Claire Flynn, the class was unlike any class she had taken before, because it approached topics through multiple lenses.

"Students from all three classes were able to come together, meet in groups, and work on a

Three USD professors teamed up to co-teach a sustainability class, with the belief that this approach would help students understand the many challenges involved.



proposal to impact sustainability at USD," Flynn says. "It was really interesting and engaging to be able to be a part of this collaboration between different fields. It's essentially what I think a liberal arts education should be. It was enriching to be able to look at something as broad but important as sustainability, and see how different disciplines interpret the same concept."

For these students, learning wasn't just about reading books or interpreting topics. It was also about creating actual solutions to the world's environmental problems.

"It was so inspiring for me to see how innovative and thoughtful the student team projects turned out to be," Cantzler recalls. "The teams came up with several really cool ideas. For example, one team produced a genuinely creative and sophisticated analysis of a zero emissions commuter program from the beaches to campus utilizing a Tesla Model X fleet. Another memorable proposal called for converting Marian Way into a permaculture garden using edible landscaping. Another team proposed donating food waste from catering events and dining services to local organizations that feed the hungry."

With a world that is faced with rapid climate change, joining forces and learning from one another is more important than ever before. If the enthusiasm of these team-taught students is any indication, the future of our planet may not be as grim as we fear.

"Right now, my favorite part of teaching has been to see my students really become motivated by what they are learning in class to take meaningful steps toward addressing the social and environmental challenges that we face today," Cantzler says.

"Instead of being overwhelmed and disheartened by the scope and gravity of these challenges, the students are always looking for solutions."

[impactful]

# MAN OF ACTION

Ron Fowler completes run as Board Chair

by Ryan T. Blystone

During his 20 years as a member of its Board of Trustees, including the past six as chairman, Ron L. Fowler's influence has shaped USD's past, present and future.

Fowler, the executive chairman of the San Diego Padres baseball team and chairman and CEO of Liquid Investments, Inc., has been influential on matters ranging from financial oversight of the university to developing a cohesive vision for Torero athletics, academic affairs and student life. Fowler's time as chairman has been visibly positive on a national level, evidenced by USD's highest-ever overall ranking among the nation's top 100 universities by *U.S. News & World Report*.

On June 30, Fowler stepped down as chairman, succeeded by Donald R. Knauss, a USD trustee since 2008 and former chairman and CEO of the Clorox Corporation.

Fowler, who remains as a trustee, has championed much of USD's institutional growth. Some prime examples include USD's designation as a Ashoka U Changemaker Campus; the development of an Office of Undergraduate Research; creation of the Shiley-Marcos School of Engineering; his generous lead gift for a state-of-the-art ballpark, Fowler Park; a Veterans Center; the Betty and Bob Beyster Institute for Nursing Research, Advanced Practice, and Simulation and a perennially top-ranked study abroad program and a permanent academic facility in Madrid. In 2015, Fowler led a national



NICK ABADILLA

search and selection of new USD President James T. Harris III, DEd; and, in February, Fowler publicly helped to launch USD's \$300 million fundraising effort, Leading Change: The Campaign for USD.

"Ron Fowler is a model of ethical leadership, responsible citizenship and compassionate service, which are the qualities USD aspires to instill in all of its graduates," says President Harris. "Mr. Fowler has given with extraordinary generosity of his time, talent and treasure to the University of San Diego in particular, and to the wider San Diego community. His balance of career and community focus is a model of excellence for our students."

In May, Fowler gave the Commencement address to USD's undergraduate College

of Arts and Sciences' Class of 2016, providing life advice that stressed the importance of giving back to others to make the biggest difference.

School of Law Dean Stephen Ferruolo says that Fowler's leadership is a blessing for USD. "Ron's service on the USD Board of Trustees has been exemplary of his lifelong commitment to the San Diego community. During the five years I have worked with him, Ron has impressed me as a conscientious and especially capable board chairman, fully aware of the delicate and sometimes difficult role of trustees to provide leadership and oversight consistent with the university's mission while respecting the important principles of academic freedom and shared governance."



[civic duty]

# LET'S GET OUT THE VOTE

Campaign to increase number of registered student voters



by Allyson Meyer '16

Immigration, health care and student debt. These are just some of the hot topics on the presidential campaign trail. With the November elections quickly approaching, the news is becoming ever more saturated with political coverage, detailing changes in policy positions, cabinet choices and new public poll results. Although many of the issues resonate with college-age individuals, voter turnout

among University of San Diego students has been lower than the national average in past elections.

Associate Professor of Political Science Casey Dominguez aims to remedy this. As an undergraduate student, Dominguez interned at the White House and the California State Assembly. Having earned her BA, MA and PhD in political science from the University of

California, Berkeley, Dominguez is now focused on educating the newest voting demographic on the importance of fulfilling one's civic duty by actively participating as members of American society.

"In 2014, voter turnout among USD students was 16 percent," said Dominguez. "That was slightly lower than the national average of college campuses. That means that a lot

of USD students will be voting for the first time this year."

Increasing voter turnout is important; that's why Dominguez is one of the faculty members behind the USD Votes Campaign, an on-campus initiative comprised of student leaders, staff, faculty and the Changemaker Hub, who are focused on providing support and coordination efforts aimed to encourage community members to become registered voters.

"Voting can be especially complicated and confusing for college students, who are going through the process for the first time," she says. "Research shows that informational campaigns that walk new voters through the voter registration and the voting process can significantly increase turnout."

For Dominguez, encouraging voting habits comes with her chosen field. "The whole reason we teach political science is because we care about educating the next generation of citizens. The focus is natural for us," she says. While the campaign's goal of registering every USD student is ambitious, she believes that even slight changes in voting behavior will make a societal difference.

"Voting is a practice and a habit. The only way to establish a pattern of voting across your lifetime is to get started doing

Political Science professor Casey Dominguez is involved with the USD Votes Campaign, which aims to register every USD student and urge them to turn out to vote.


it," she says. "Our ambitious goal is to register every eligible USD student and turn them all out to vote. We know that's probably a stretch, but why not aim high?"

As a university focused on educating the next generation of global Changemakers, the USD Votes Campaign contributes to this global citizenship perspective by encouraging student involvement in these most basic rights — the chance to exercise freedom of thought and actively engage in social change.

As an essential part of encouraging a global Changemaking focus, Dominguez sees this program as a crucial part of the USD education. For her, social change is directly tied to voting, with active citizens working to help change laws and policies.

"In democracies, peaceful change happens at the ballot box," she says. "Global citizenship begins in your local community, in your state and in your nation. The rest of the world looks to the United States for leadership; in order to lead the nation and the world in the direction of social justice, young people have to get involved, get informed and vote. At USD, we want our students to make change in the world, and being an active, voting citizen is an integral part of that effort."

Of course, for all citizens, education is crucial. Toward that end, Dominguez and fellow political science and international relations faculty colleagues Cory Gooding and Tim McCarty have created a compelling, approachable weekly podcast, *A Few Reasonable Words*, meant to help "soothe the frayed nerves of the American public with the comforting balm of political science."

 Listen at [www.sandiego.edu/reasonable-words](http://www.sandiego.edu/reasonable-words).

[multifaceted]

# EXPLORING HUMANITIES

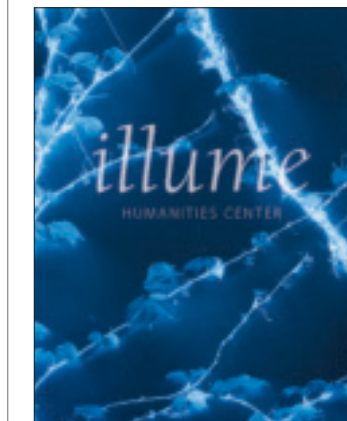
Innovative new center at USD offers up many exciting events throughout the fall

## Opening Celebration

The College of Arts and Sciences is proud to host a celebration in honor of the University of San Diego's new Humanities Center. The center is dedicated to the exploration of the human condition and the limitless ways in which human beings understand and interact with our world. The space will serve as an epicenter of collaborative research, public humanities, interdisciplinary curriculum and digital humanities. Thursday, Oct. 13 at 5:30 p.m. Humanities Center, Serra Hall, Room 200.

## Illume Speaker Series

The College of Arts and Sciences is the liberal arts heart of the university. Our students and faculty exemplify the power, vitality and value of a liberal arts and sciences education every day. To champion the tradition and future of the artes liberales, the Humanities Center Illume Speaker Series featuring our own renowned faculty scholars, invited thought-leaders and prominent public figures to advance the liberal arts on our campus and inspire lifelong learning in our surrounding communities.



## Reclaiming National Politics

Just days before the presidential election, the Bishop of San Diego, the Most Reverend Robert W. McElroy, will address the troubling U.S. political climate, contrasting it with the uplifting vision of politics that Pope Francis presented to Congress. An Illume special guest, Bishop McElroy will emphasize the importance of civic virtue, arguing that we must reclaim our national politics for the protection of the dignity of the human person and the advancement of the common good. Sponsored by the Humanities Center and Frances G. Harpst Center for Catholic Thought and Culture. Tuesday, Nov. 1 at 5 p.m. Warren Auditorium, Mother Rosalie Hill Hall.

## Academic Freedom in an Age of Conformity

Author Joanna Williams, PhD, is a senior lecturer in higher education at the University of Kent (United Kingdom) and author of *Consuming Higher Education: Why Learning Can't Be Bought*. In her Illume lecture, she will discuss themes from her recently published and highly acclaimed book, *Academic Freedom in an Age of Conformity*. Noting that academic freedom in higher education is increasingly being threatened by a range of political and intellectual trends such as feminism, critical theory and identity politics, Williams argues that a challenge to the culture of censorship and conformity is needed for critique to be possible and for the intellectual project of evaluating knowledge to be meaningful. Sponsored by the Humanities Center and Center for Ethics, Economics and

Public Policy. Monday, Nov. 14 at 6 p.m. Warren Auditorium, Mother Rosalie Hill Hall.



## Lisa Nunn, PhD

As part of the college lecture series, Lisa Nunn, PhD (pictured above), will be discussing her research on the sociology of education, organizations and cultural sociology. Her work also engages the fields of gender, sexuality and identity. Her latest book, *Defining Student Success: The Role of School and Culture* (2014), investigates how both schools and students refine and adapt cultural ideas about academic success, and how this process perpetuates existing social inequality. Her current research focuses on first-year college students' dilemmas as they make the transition from high school to college. Nunn has published articles on racial tension in classrooms, experiential learning and community engagement. Monday, Dec. 5 at 6 p.m. Humanities Center, Serra Hall, Room 200.

To learn more about any of these events, go to [www.sandiego.edu/humanities-center](http://www.sandiego.edu/humanities-center).



Does your food taste better if you post a picture of it on social media?  
Short answer: It depends.

[appetizing]

# NUTRITIOUS. DELICIOUS. AMBITIOUS.

## Food and health research in the Instagram age

by Kelly Knufken

That decadent meal may in fact taste even better after you snap a picture of it — for sharing on social media or elsewhere — but can the same be said for a simple apple or other healthy staple?

That's the crux of some recent research coauthored by Morgan Poor, assistant professor of marketing at USD. For Poor, who calls

herself a health nut, tapping into current trends was her modus operandi to inspire others to make more nutritious choices.

"We see these images of food everywhere, but there's not a lot of research on how it affects us," Poor says. "I certainly have an embarrassing number of food images on my phone. I exercise some willpower in how many I post."

It turns out that, at least for indulgent foods, taking a picture first does tend to increase one's perception of how it tastes.

"When you take a picture of it, you're focusing on the food, and this increases your anticipation."

The same wasn't found to be true for healthier fare, so Poor wanted to find out if there was a way to turn the effect on. For nutritious food, the study's subjects

needed to both read an article about people eating healthfully and take a picture to increase the pleasure they got from the food.

"We have a camera in our hand at all times. It's kind of changed what we see as photo worthy." With social media, "We are also brands that need to produce content."



While in some ways we're savvier than ever before, thanks to all that technology, it turns out there's much information that's not getting through when it comes to women's health.

That's where Associate Professor of Nursing Kathy James DNSc, FNP, FAAN, steps in. Her research, done with USD Nursing Professor Cynthia Connelly PhD, FAAN, has shown that many women aren't aware of the reproductive implications of their food and activity choices. Heart disease, yes. But breast cancer? Endometrial cancer? Pregnancy complications? That those and other health issues can also stem from being overweight may not be so widely known, James says.

"I think it's very important to educate the public. They seem to be well aware of the cardiovascular benefits of weight control."

James, who owns three weight clinics, helps her patients see that the basics we've known about for years — taking a 30-minute walk, eating a rainbow of foods — are the key to getting back in shape. And, most of all, that it's doable.

"What I'm doing in my practice is surveying patients, then reviewing these risks so they're better educated. I'm looking at ways to motivate my patients. I'm screening them so they can be aware and ask themselves, 'Could I be at risk? Can I do something about this?'"

Among her recent studies are

those on reducing diabetes risk by making lifestyle changes, helping women find their role as family leaders when it comes to healthy living and gaining understanding of how obesity can effect women's fertility.

"I think family health is very important. I always want to see what is going on in the home and encourage healthy living. I think the role the mother plays as role model is extremely important," she says.

James likes to share some "really achievable" goals that can help prevent diabetes without medication.

"I don't think people realize what control they have. If you make it too complicated, they throw their hands up and say, 'I can't do this.'"

So she makes it simple: lots of colorful produce with some lean protein and some healthy fats. "If we make things too difficult, we tend to get confused," she says. "A colorful diet is never going to hurt you."

As for practical advice, James says that her patients who have successfully lost weight have discovered that planning ahead — deciding what to eat and how to manage a busy day — coupled with stress management is key.

And a 30-minute walk does more than burn calories. "Walking is like your vitamin pill and an antidepressant; it's about making time for yourself."

[www.sandiego.edu/watch/food-pic](http://www.sandiego.edu/watch/food-pic)

[etc.]

**Four University of San Diego baseball players** were selected in the annual Major League Baseball draft in June, led by sophomore shortstop Bryson Brigman, a third-round selection by the Seattle Mariners. Other Toreros chosen were: junior first baseman Ryan Kirby (San Francisco Giants); senior right-handed pitcher Gary Cornish (New York Mets); and Taylor Kaczmarek, another senior right-handed pitcher (Kansas City Royals). Brigman's selection marks the fourth straight year that USD has had a player taken among the first three rounds of the MLB Draft, following Kris Bryant (Chicago Cubs), Connor Joe (Pittsburgh Pirates) and Kyle Holder (New York Yankees).

**The new executive director** for USD's School of Leadership and Education Sciences' Non-profit and Philanthropic Institute (NPI) is Emily Young, PhD, who comes to USD from the San Diego Foundation. The NPI is dedicated to the advancement of the regional, national and international nonprofit and philanthropic sector and its leaders. "I look forward to joining an exceptional team that's committed to making our world a better place for our children and grandchildren," Young said.

**At the end of the 2015-16 academic year**, the West Coast Conference announced the 15th annual WCC Commissioner's Honor Roll, which recognizes student-athletes who have balanced athletic success with academic excellence. 123 University of San Diego athletes were named to this distinguished list.

**The Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies** has named

Andrew Blum, PhD, as new executive director of the Institute for Peace and Justice. He was most recently the vice president of planning, learning and evaluation at the United States Institute of Peace, and has extensive experience working on peacebuilding programs in such places as Sudan, South Sudan, Nigeria, Iraq, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Estonia, Guyana and Turkey. After 15 years as director/interim director/deputy director, Dee Aker, PhD, will continue to serve the school as advisor for strategic peacebuilding.

**The Steubenville San Diego Catholic Conference** brought a capacity crowd of 5,000 young people to campus in late July. USD has hosted the conference each summer since 2012; the retreat weekend is a transformational experience that is described as "evangelistic in nature and authentically Catholic." Youth, young adults and leaders from 153 parishes and schools deepened their faith over the course of the weekend. The 2017 Steubenville Conference will take place July 28-30 at USD. Learn more at [www.allforgod.com/steubenville-san-diego](http://www.allforgod.com/steubenville-san-diego).

**Our enhanced and expanded website**, USD Magazine +, can be found online at [www.sandiego.edu/usdmag](http://www.sandiego.edu/usdmag). Beyond stories from our pages, find videos, expanded Q&As, an archive of past issues and much more. Another great source of news about the university is the USD News Center: [www.sandiego.edu/news](http://www.sandiego.edu/news). Updated frequently, visitors to the News Center will find stories about happenings on campus, faculty and student achievements, athletics and much more. During the academic year, the News Center team puts out a newsletter twice a month; opt in to receive it by visiting the News Center and clicking on "subscribe to USD News" on the left-hand side.



[powerful]

# HE'S GOT TRUE INSTINCT

Quarterback Anthony Lawrence is dedicated to the game

by Don Norcross

With 8 minutes, 12 seconds remaining in the third quarter of USD's 2015 football season opener against San Diego State, Toreros quarterback Anthony Lawrence jogged onto the Qualcomm Stadium field for the first play of his college career.

The Toreros trailed the Aztecs 27-0. In USD's first 11 possessions, the Toreros' offense managed to get into San Diego State territory just twice. Following five turnovers, six punts and just three first downs, head coach Dale Lindsey looked to his bench to change things up. So before an announced crowd of 48,785, with his offense struggling, Lawrence, an averaged-sized, then redshirt first-year out of El Cajon's Grossmont High, walked into the huddle for injured starter Trey Wheeler and ...

"He was smiling," recalls USD wide receiver Justin Priest. "You knew he wouldn't wet his pants."

In his first series, Lawrence proceeded to lead USD to a field goal, its lone score in a 37-3 defeat. The next week, Wheeler's shoulder injury prevented him from playing against Western New Mexico.

Head coach Dale Lindsey gave the ball to Lawrence, who proceeded to throw for 254 yards and four touchdowns in a 45-21 victory.

Lawrence would be the starter for the rest of the season. He guided the Toreros to a 9-2 record and a share of the Pioneer



BRUCK SCOTT

Well-respected by teammates for the way he plays the game, quarterback Anthony Lawrence wants to make the most of every opportunity at USD.

Football League title, completing 64 percent of his passes for 2,392 yards and 23 touchdowns. He suffered only six interceptions.

By a vote of his teammates, the young man who began the season on the bench was selected

USD's most valuable player.

"I think the kids made a good choice," says Lindsey. "In the locker room, it's hard to fool your buddies."

When Lawrence reported to USD in August 2014 he was one

of four new quarterbacks. At a fraction over 6 feet tall and weighing 190 pounds, he was the smallest of the new QBs. He did not possess the strongest arm.

"The one deciding factor he had that they didn't is that

he has a natural knack to play the position," says Lindsey. "It's called instinct."

Lawrence is football's equivalent of a basketball gym rat. He began playing Pop Warner at the age of 9 and was a three-year starter at Grossmont High, throwing for a San Diego Section-record 9,079 yards. As for dedication, he was strong enough in high school to lift weights with the offensive linemen, and in an effort to grow as tall as possible, he would hang upside down in gravity boots.

He's liked by his USD teammates for multiple reasons. He can be playful, jawing with defensive backs, telling them he could turn them in circles if he played wide receiver. He's independent, rocking about campus in turtlenecks and shorts that stretch far above the knees.

"He's a fashion statement," jokes Priest.

But mostly he's respected for the way he plays the game.

"The best way to describe Anthony is that he's just a football player," says offensive lineman Miles McArdle. "He loves football and knows how to play the game."

Lawrence's memorable red-shirt first-year season ended in frustration when he broke his right leg in a season-ending home victory against Butler. Despite a second surgery necessitated by infection, he recovered and is expected to be behind center at the start of the season.

Three weeks before the Toreros reported for practice, Lawrence was ready: "I could go out and play right now."

With three years of eligibility remaining, Lawrence might one day threaten Mason Mills' school record of 11,099 yards passing. He's not thinking that far ahead, though.

"I'm just grateful a great program like USD gave me an opportunity," he says. "I'm just trying to make the most of it." 🏈

## GETTING TO KNOW ...



ZACH BARRON

## T.J. HODGES

**AGE:** 20 **HOMETOWN:** Phoenix, Ariz.

**MAJOR:** Accounting **A CINDERELLA STORY:**

Hodges was ready to retire his running shoes when USD Head Coach Will Guarino came calling: "He told me I wasn't fast enough, but he gave me the opportunity to prove him wrong. He said that if I ran a 3K in 9:25 — around 20 seconds faster than my personal best — I could guarantee myself a walk-on spot. I guess I started eating my veggies that week, because I ran a 9:15. He gave me a shot and the motivation, and that's all I wanted." **UP AND AT 'EM:** Completing prepractice stretching and warm-ups by 6:15 a.m. is expected most mornings for Hodges and his teammates. "We've practiced and eaten before most students are even up, so it definitely helps gets you engaged and focused for morning classes. I'm not gonna lie, though. There are times where you go straight to class from practice and haven't had time to take a shower. Trust me, nobody likes that." **HAIL TO THE CHIEF:** As the USD Associated Students (AS) president and co-captain of the cross-country team, Hodges has a full dance card these days. "I've learned a lot about leadership from being an athlete, and I thought it would be great to have a student-athlete become AS president, so why not take a run at it? The last time there was a student-athlete AS president was 1995, the year I was born. I owe thanks to my teammates, who were really supportive and helpful throughout the election process."



# Extraordinary Moments

The **spirituality** of immersion speaks to the deepest longings of the **HEART**

| by Michael E. Lovette-Colyer '13 (PhD) |

**I lean in, razor in one hand and shaving cream in the other.**

I struggle for just the right way to place my feet and legs, searching for a position around the wheelchair that will allow me to get as close as possible.





**The elderly man — one of the *abuelos*, or grandfathers, cared for by the Missionaries of Charity —** is a nonverbal stroke survivor. He cannot tell me if I am hurting him, so I proceed with caution; I watch his eyes closely for tears or any other sign of discomfort.

The cheeks are relatively easy. The feel of the razor on his week-old stubble is familiar; it feels exactly the same as it does on my own face. I recognize the smell of the wool blanket, and of the man’s sleepiness. For a moment, my heart aches with memories of my own grandfather. I lose myself in this shaving process, feeling an inexplicable but unmistakable intimacy with a man who cannot tell me his name.

Now I am on to the chin and, even more challenging, the space between his upper lip and nose. The more intricate the task becomes, the more I lean in. Despite the coolness of this morning in Tijuana, I feel sweat trickle down my back. I am consumed by the task at hand, yet dimly aware that I am way beyond my comfort zone. When was the last time I was this physically close to anyone other than my wife? I keep going, intent on completing my task of offering this man the small dignity that comes from a fresh shave.

I am fully present in this moment. I am experiencing anew unfamiliar parts of myself; feeling, acting, living in ways that speak to the deepest longings of my heart that are too often buried by the stresses of daily life.

That morning, as our group of University of San Diego students walked into Casa Juan Diego — a dining room, migrant shelter and hospice, which the order of nuns founded by Mother Teresa operates — we were expecting to do service. We were not expecting such a powerful and visceral experience of intimacy, of solidarity, of God.

That experience of God is why I keep going back. In my daily life, a great deal comes between God and me: professional deadlines, demands, and conflicts; personal insecurities, difficulties and frustrations. All of which serve to distract and distort my relationship with God.

In Tijuana, however, my usual defenses and preoccupations are no match for the central reality of life into which the poor draw me. In solidarity with them, I experience a clarity of purpose and an intensity of feeling that puts the rest of my life into proper perspective.

In Tijuana, the God of New Life consistently surprises me. This God unfailingly invites me to move beyond my comfort, let go of my preconceptions, re-evaluate my priorities, rediscover who I am and open myself fully to God’s love and grace. In Tijuana, the God of New Life greets me in the open arms of the poor, helping me come alive to praise, reverence and service. This is the spirituality of immersion.

**One. Two. Three. Four. Five. Six. Where is the seventh student?**

We were supposed to have departed Casa Juan Diego 10 minutes ago. The seven male students and I need to meet our female companions across town at Casa de Las Madres — a similar shelter for women — in 20 minutes. Anticipating the unpredictable nature of Tijuana traffic, I know we’re going to be late. My stress level is high, and rising fast.

Who is not here? I systematically tick through the names of the students I can see in the small dining room with me, who are helping the sisters serve a lunch of soup and bread to the elderly men here. Finally it dawns on me. José is the one not here. Where is he?

I hustle out of the dining room and backtrack through the rest of the facility where we had spent the morning. José is not in the large dining room. He’s not on the patio. Nor is he outside where we had spent time washing windows.

As I enter again into the main building, I wind my way into the bathroom and then the sleeping



*Student Sydney Pidgeon shares a smile with a local child (top). Students Brenna Wetzberger, Mary Beth Putz and Cameron Heyvaert outside the San Francisco Chapel in La Morita, Mexico (center). The author gives a boost to a child, alongside her mother (below center). A USD student stands in front of a memorial of crosses dedicated to those who have died trying to cross the border without documentation (below right).*



MICHAEL LOVETTE-COLVER

quarters. There I enter a scene that takes my breath away: Along with one of the sisters, José is spoon-feeding a man who is close to death and therefore unable to get out of bed. The sister explains to José that this particular *abuelo* only wants to drink his juice, but he desperately needs the nourishment of the soup. The man cannot move his arms, nor can he talk, so it is José’s charge to spoon the right amount of soup into the man’s mouth and encourage him to swallow.

It is an extremely difficult and messy job. When the spoonful is offered before the man is ready and positioned just right, the man gags and the soup flies out of his mouth. When the spoon is too full for the man to take in, he chokes painfully, wheezes and coughs and spits, his whole body convulsing, and he has to be gently calmed down before another attempt can be made.

When the spoonful is just right, however, the man drinks it down and acknowledges José’s extraordinary care with a pleasant sounding gurgle.

José sits on the edge of the man’s bed and leans almost his entire body across the *abuelo*’s chest. Just as I was during the experience of shaving, José is in a most remarkable, intimate proximity with this man. Age, culture, nationality, language and all other borders fall away. For a moment, José and the man are kin, grandfather and grandson.

Prior to this extraordinary moment, I had been impressed with José. His maturity, thoughtfulness and sensitivity seemed solid if not sophisticated, especially for a second-year student. But I did not imagine him capable of such profound compassion. I did not anticipate his determination, his commitment to be present to this moment. I did not foresee the courage required to unflinchingly carry out the job assigned to him by the sister.

Clearly, José’s experience was one of compassion.

**With the Palm Sunday Mass almost complete,** I stand along the wall and savor the scene, marveling at how this small chapel — known as *Real San Francisco* — has been renewed in the past six years.

I recall coming to the site in 2009 with groups of USD students to pick up trash, level the ground before the construction of the patio, build a retaining wall out of used tires, and do other odd jobs or simple manual tasks. As the years unfolded, we returned several times a year, usually to make a very small contribution. On one occasion we cleaned the desks and classrooms used for children’s religious education; on another, we were asked to paint half of the outside walls of the school. Regardless of what task we were asked to attempt, the highlight of each visit was the opportunity to get to know the community a little bit at a time and, more importantly, to be inspired by the way in which they were mobilizing, sacrificing and collaborating to make the chapel the magnificent home and heart of their community.

As the final prayer begins, I start to plan my exit route. The chapel is standing-room-only full of families. I am preoccupied with the need to reconvene our group of 22 students amidst the dismissal and the chaos sure to ensue when the *pan dulce* and other treats I can see outside are served. I have been instructed to meet the matriarch of the parish, Conchita, who will, I’ve been assured, have arranged host families for us. Find Conchita, I was told, and she will have everything worked out.

In the midst of worrying about how I am going to find Conchita, a woman I’ve never met and don’t know how to recognize, I hear my name on the church’s speaker system.

*“Miguel. Ven, ven aqui.”* “Michael. Come, come up here.”

A woman at the front of the church is directing me to come forward for I know not what. With no idea of what is about to happen, I do as I’m asked and join this woman. When I reach the front of the sanctuary, Conchita introduces herself and explains that the matching of our students with their host families will be the concluding prayer of the Mass. It is my job to call our students forward in twos and threes to meet their host families in front of the entire congregation.

With all the eyes of the parish on me, Conchita holds the microphone up to my mouth. I nervously call out the names of the first three USD students. As they maneuver their way through the crowd to approach the altar, Conchita quickly organizes the *madres* who will be the hosts for the next two days.

Just as the students reach the front, the family appears and for each, Conchita exclaims, *“Este is su familia nueva,”* “This is your new family.” The assembly breaks out in wild applause. The family members hug each USD student with extravagant joy.

This continues for the next 10 minutes, until all of the USD students have been called up and introduced to their “new family.” Once we are all squeezed across the front of the church, Conchita asks the congregation to raise their hands over us in blessing. She leads the community in a beautiful prayer that I cannot understand, partly because it is in rapidly spoken Spanish, but mostly because I am overwhelmed at the beauty of the moment.

This is your new family. This is the spirituality of immersion. 🙏

*Excerpted from a May 2016 article in Engaging Pedagogies in Catholic Higher Education. Read it in its entirety, along with other compelling stories from USD, at <http://journals.stmarys-ca.edu/epiche>.*

[www.sandiego.edu/watch/tj-immersion](http://www.sandiego.edu/watch/tj-immersion)



# Hints of HOPE

## in the Middle East



by Diana Kutlow '03 (MA)

illustrations by Barbara Ferguson

A trio of **School of Peace alumni** are working toward a *better tomorrow*

*In a recent speech before the General Assembly of the United Nations, Pope Francis urged the assembled countries to support those “who have no desire to be caught up in hatred and folly, have been forced to witness the destruction of their places of worship, their cultural and religious heritage, their houses and property, and have faced the alternative either of fleeing or of paying for their adhesion to good and to peace by their own lives, or by enslavement.”*

*Alumni from the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies are working for this cause around the world, and several have focused their efforts on the Middle East, where conflict has devastated once-flourishing countries, prevented economic development and burdened already poor countries with the costs of providing basic needs such as housing, food and water, health care and education for hundreds of thousands of refugees in addition to their own citizens.*





**A**farin Dadkhah Tehrani, who earned her master's degree in peace and justice studies at the Kroc School in 2013, was born in Tehran, Iran, and received a bachelor's degree in English language and literature from Islamic Azad University of Tehran. She showed her penchant for peacemaking as a teenager when she joined the Dialogue Among Civilizations movement, which promoted understanding between cultures.



In the master's program, Dadkhah's research and work focused on women's and youth empowerment as a means of peacebuilding. In the summer of 2013, as an intern with the Middle East Program at Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington, D.C., she did extensive research on the status of women in the Middle East and North Africa, which informed her masters' thesis on sexual violence against women in post-revolutionary Egypt.

With language skills that include Farsi and English fluency, an understanding of Dari and some Arabic, Dadkhah is now working as a human rights advocacy coordinator for MADRE, a nonprofit organization based in New York that supports women's and LGBT rights in Iraq, Syria and elsewhere. MADRE, in partnership with local grassroots women's organizations, provides emergency support such as shelters, relocation assistance and health care. The group also advocates to protect these groups that are often targeted with discriminatory policies and violence.

As Dadkhah explains, conflict can actually present opportunities for social change. "For example, NGO-run shelters are illegal in central and southern Iraq," she says. "But in light of the mass displacement created by conflict and insufficient government resources, we are encouraging the government to allow NGOs to fill the gap. We are also documenting human rights abuses and violations, so that when transitional justice mechanisms start up after the conflict, we will have already built a record of human rights abuses which would then help ensure gender justice and equality."

In addition to direct services, MADRE brings together civil society organizations twice per year, providing an information flow that goes both from the local activists to the international community and from the international community to the activ-

ists. MADRE then collects recommendations from its local partners and creates reports, policy briefs and petitions, which are used to advocate for the implementation of the recommendations before U.N. member states, relevant U.N. bodies and international human rights mechanisms.

"These are really important steps, because it can mean that we get support for necessary changes, such as pushing the Iraqi government to give women access to ID cards without requiring a male relative verifying their identity," says Dadkhah. "Women may not have their own documentation because

they were always under the 'protection' of their male family members, or may have lost their documents when fleeing violence, so when the men in their families have been killed or disappeared, women can't access services or put their children in school without identification documents."

Being from the region, Dadkhah understands the culture and has experienced discrimination firsthand. "That drives my pursuit of justice in a nonviolent manner," she explains. "If one region is at war, we have to put our hands together to obtain peace and establish justice."

**K**evin Turner '03 (MA) works for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). His initial focus on monitoring, analysis and advocacy around the human rights situation in Palestine and Israel changed dramatically when the Arab Spring arrived. His scope of work expanded to include Jordan, Lebanon, Libya and Syria.

"It was a completely chaotic time — how does the OHCHR respond to these situations?" Turner asked. "We'd like to be present on the ground, but frequently can't be because the U.N. can only enter a country at the government's invitation unless it is a Chapter 7 situation" [Chapter 7 of the U.N. Charter allows the Security Council to vote on intervening in a conflict without a country's approval].

Another challenge Turner and his colleagues faced was getting credible information out of Syria. "In the beginning, we were counting casualties to provide statistics to the secretary general and the U.N. Security Council, but it was very difficult to be certain of the number of killed and injured," Turner said. The solution was presented by a California tech company that was able to use various databases to track reliable figures for people killed, injured or disappeared.

Turner recently relocated to Colombia to run the OHCHR field office in Medellin as the country implements a newly signed peace agreement between the government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Columbia. Even working in these difficult situations, he says he is attracted to human rights work because it represents some of the most important aspirations of humanity.

"There is a very strong philosophical underpinning that comes out of the ideas of the enlightenment and the empowerment of the individual," Turner believes. "To take that grounding, put it into laws that are agreed to by governments all over the world, and implement those laws to improve people's lives is intellectually engaging, but it's also about harnessing and restricting power for the betterment of humanity as a whole."

**F**or Skylar Lawrence '08 (MA), her connection to the Middle East began when she was in eighth grade and her father served as a Fulbright scholar in Cyprus. She travelled extensively and fell in love with the region. She returned to do her master's capstone research in the West Bank and then served as project manager for Dr. Alon Ben-Meir, an academic who facilitates track-two dialogues in the Middle East, and coordinated Dr. Ben-Meir's campaign to promote the Arab Peace Initiative.

After moving into fundraising with the Jewish Community Center in San Diego, Lawrence is now the director of donor development for American Near East Refugee Aid (ANERA), which works with refugees and poor families, including Palestinian and Syrian refugees and their host communities through health, education and economic development, and provides emergency response assistance.

Lawrence says that one of the most rewarding parts of her work has been the opportunity to visit ANERA's programs in Lebanon and Palestine to see their impact in person. A touching example is the ANERA's Gaza Land Restoration Project, which helped farmers in Khan Younis restore fields that had been destroyed by Israeli artillery fire. Tilling the soil, fertilizing and getting proper seeds and irrigation, the farmers deeply appreciated the way that ANERA staff really listened to their needs and acknowledged that the farmers would know best what was needed. To build sustainability, ANERA provides a yearlong mentorship that trains farmers to build their capacity so that the project's effects continue when ANERA finishes its work.

Lawrence remembers having tea with a farmer in his potato field, speaking through a translator, and seeing the pride that he and his family took in their successful new crop.

"After the first harvest of the restored farmlands, the farmers were so grateful for their bounty that they delivered boxes of extra produce to families who were still displaced after the 2014 war," recounts Lawrence. "They called their deliveries 'From Poor Farmer to Poor Family.' I was deeply moved by their incredibly beautiful gesture of generosity and solidarity."

As Pope Francis said during his U.N. talk, "In wars and conflicts there are individual

persons, our brothers and sisters, men and women, young and old, boys and girls who weep, suffer and die." Kroc School alumni see in their work every day that there are

also men, women and children who make great sacrifices to find a way out of conflict, to preserve their families, and to build new lives from the ashes of war.

"Our long-term goal is a society where everyone feels they are valued equally, lives and choices are respected, and people have equal access to resources to live their lives with the freedom to pursue their aspirations," says Dadkhah. "That's the ultimate goal." 

Diana Kutlow '03 (MA) is the director of development and alumni relations at the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies.





# The Road to Sainthood

From Albania to India and far beyond, Mother Teresa's journey included a brief stop at the University of San Diego

**T**he process leading up to the beatification of Mother Teresa of Calcutta was the shortest in modern history. In early 1999 — less than two years after her death — Pope John Paul II waived the normal five-year waiting period and allowed the immediate opening of her canonization cause. In 2003, he beatified the Albanian-born nun, one of the most iconic Catholic figures of the 20th century and recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize. In December 2015, Pope Francis announced her impending sainthood after recognizing a second miracle attributed to her.

On Sept. 4, 2016, as USD Magazine goes to press, Pope Francis celebrated her canonization in Rome at a joyous event that was expected to draw the largest crowd to the Vatican during this Holy Year of Mercy.

"Mother Teresa is an important counterpoint to the current culture, which is frequently referred to as a throwaway culture. She valued every person and the dignity of every person, particularly those who were the outcasts of society," says Center for Catholic Thought and Culture Director Jeffrey Burns. "The poorest of the poor, the untouchables, those that other groups would not acknowledge, became the center of her ministry. She recognized that they are beloved of God. Her role was simply to channel that love to these people who had been forgotten by society. That's really the most important lesson of her life, to call us back to the unity of all of us."

One of several special events that marked Mother Teresa's canonization, on Sept. 25, 2016, Founders Chapel was the site of the debut of a musical composition in her honor, composed by Thomas Bough. Additionally, University Ministry offered a "Spirituality is Served" community dinner; one of the primary themes was Mother Teresa, the canonization process and a reflection on the spiritual heroes in our lives.

On May 31, 1988, Mother Teresa brought to the University of San Diego her "simple message, that in serving the poor, we serve God." Following is the cover story that ran, nearly three decades ago, in what was then known as U Magazine.

■ ■ ■



The center of Mother Teresa's ministry was service to the poorest of the poor. She recognized that they are the beloved of God.

**H**er saga began more than 40 years ago. It was on a train to the Indian city of Darjeeling in 1946 that Sister Teresa, a young nun born of well-to-do Albanian parents, heard her call. "I was to leave the convent and help the poor whilst living among them. It was an order."

She wasted no time in following that order, opening her first school a couple years later on a bare patch of ground in the slums of Calcutta. From that humble beginning, this wee nun's efforts have multiplied a thousandfold.

Today, Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity and thousands of volunteers bring the basic necessities of life to the hungry, ill and homeless in 71 countries around the world. Her organization operates leper colonies, AIDS facilities, schools, soup kitchens and homes for the dying and destitute.

The Nobel Peace Prize winner brought her simple message — that in serving the poor we serve God — to USD on May 31, 1988.

■ ■ ■

**T**he small crowd gathered outside the University Center waited expectantly, clutching cameras in anticipation of her arrival. They were ordinary-looking men and women who spoke quietly to each other in the bright sunlight.

"She hasn't crossed the border yet," said a security guard stationed outside the building.



■

She would be late then, for her appearance at a luncheon organized by her coworkers' organization. Somehow, it seemed appropriate. The sick, the hungry and the dying certainly pay no attention to the rest of the world's ordered existence.

The minutes ticked by. Some keeping the vigil wandered inside the building in search of nourishment. The security guard provided periodic updates. "She's crossed the border. It shouldn't be long."

Some 45 minutes later, the calm was shattered by an excited voice in the crowd: "She's here." The bystanders surged toward the curb. The door of a cream-colored sedan swung open and Mother Teresa of Calcutta climbed out, unhesitant, clasping a rosary, and moved to greet her faithful.

Her white sari — trimmed with three rows of blue — was wrapped around her head and stopped just above her dark eyebrows. A heavy blue sweater was buttoned against the breeze. Bare, sandal-clad feet propelled her toward her greeters.

Dozens of camera shutters clicked, and dignitaries leaned down to shake the tiny, stooped nun's hand. She smiled and raised her head, exposing her eyes to the light. What wonderful eyes! They gleamed, filled with a mixture of love and passion and wonderment and, yes, determination.

She stopped suddenly as a young woman edged through the crowd, clutching a small child. Mother Teresa reached

out to the boy, first cupping one hand under his chin, then placing a hand on either side of his head and blessing him. Then she resumed her journey toward the University Center, the crowd pressing in around her on all sides.

Once inside the building, her waiting coworkers greeted her with enthusiastic applause. Mother Teresa stepped to the microphone and spoke in a quiet, yet forceful voice, belying her 78 years and diminutive physical stature.

"Jesus came to give us the good news that God is love, and that He loves you and He loves me. 'You are precious to me,' He said. 'I love you.' He wants us to love one another as He loves each one of us," she said.

She told a story about a man in India who came to her house when his son was gravely ill. The man said the life-saving medicine his son needed was available only in England. As they talked, another man delivered a basket of half-used medicine to Mother Teresa. In the basket, on top, was the type of medicine the desperate man needed for his son.

"I stood in front of that basket," she said, "and I was thinking, 'Millions and millions and millions of children in the world, and God's tender concern was for the little child in the slums of Calcutta.' And he has the same love for each one of you, here and everywhere."

She spoke without pause for nearly 20 minutes. No one



stirred except for the photographers, whose cameras whirled and hummed. She asked her listeners to work for the rights of unborn children, to teach children to pray, to share the joy of loving and to treat the poor with compassion and dignity.

"Before you go to sleep at night, hold out your hand, and count out on your fingers what you have done that day for God," she challenged her listeners.

■ ■ ■

Mother Teresa blessed her audience, then she and several of her sisters were escorted to a university van, which slowly drove down Marian Way to Torero Stadium, where an overflow crowd of more than 6,000 cheered and clapped exuberantly as it spotted one of the world's most recognized faces inside the vehicle.

The cheering intensified as Mother Teresa stepped out of the van and slowly wended her way through the crush of well-wishers and media to the stadium's platform. Blue and white helium balloons filled the bright skies, released by children in greeting, and Christ the King Catholic Church choir members raised voices in joyful welcome.

Following the invocation, Vice President and Provost Sister Sally Furay moved to the podium and told the assembly how USD shared Mother Teresa's commitment to serving the needy.

"USD is committed to volunteerism as a significant component of students' education," she said. "Prominent among the learning experiences in which USD students participate are opportunities to volunteer in the service of those who have less."

Judy Rauner, director of USD's volunteer resources, detailed the university's commitment to service. "Throughout the school year, USD students volunteer as adult literacy tutors, as builders of homes for the needy in Tijuana, as mentors for at-risk junior high students, as referees and buddies for disabled athletes in the Special Olympics, as tutors in Southeast San Diego and partnership schools, as friends to lonely and sick senior citizens, as servers in the Catholic Workers soup kitchen, as interns and student teachers preparing for service careers, and in many other ways. During this past school year, approximately 1,600 of our USD students volunteered to give tens of thousands of hours of their time to community service."

University trustee Anita Figueredo, the regional link for the Co-Workers of Mother Teresa and a longtime friend of the famous nun, introduced Mother Teresa. "I hardly know where to begin," she said. "This is supposed to be some sort of introduction, but how do you introduce Mother Teresa? In the first place, she doesn't like biographical notes. She says they're of no consequence."



More than 6,000 people packed Torero Stadium to hear the words of Mother Teresa when she came to campus in 1988, spreading a message that emphasized the joy of service.

At 5 feet 1 inch tall, Figueredo seemed at least a head taller than her famous friend. She continued, "I can tell you that Mother Teresa saw the poverty around her and decided that she, one person, must do something about it.

"Any of us, any sensible person — Mother Teresa is not sensible, she is endowed — would have known that it was a nice thought, but what can one person do? But Mother doesn't think that way. And she's teaching the rest of us not to think that way."

Those remarks were followed by the conferral of an honorary doctorate of humane letters upon Mother Teresa. Sister Furay read the citation: "In honoring Mother Teresa, the University of San Diego honors God who has gifted her with insights which animate her life and work. The University of San Diego is particularly privileged to honor Mother Teresa for exemplifying to the world that there will be peace when we live by her conviction that God is love in action, and that in serving the poorest, we are directly serving God."

Then, San Diego Mayor Maureen O'Connor officially welcomed Mother Teresa to San Diego. The mayor admitted she had intended to present the keys to the city to its honored guest: "But I thought, what does Mother Teresa want with the keys to the city when she already holds the keys to heaven?" An emotional stadium burst out in applause.

The mayor presented Mother Teresa with a rosary her own mother received nearly 30 years before. The Rosary, blessed by Pope John XXIII, had been a gift from the nuns who ran O'Connor's high school.

Finally, the climactic moment arrived. Mother Teresa stepped up on the footstool at the podium and momentarily surveyed her listeners — mothers, students, the elderly and businessmen — many with tears in their eyes.

She used the significance of the day — May 31, the Catholic Church's Feast of the Visitation, which commemorates Mary's visit to her pregnant cousin Elizabeth after Mary learned she was to bear Jesus — to speak out against abortion. Elizabeth's baby, according to scripture, leapt in his mother's womb at the coming of Christ.

"Strange that God used an unborn child to proclaim the coming of Christ," said Mother Teresa. "And we know what terrible things are happening to the little unborn child today, how the mother herself kills her own child. And how abortion has become the greatest destroyer of peace because it destroys two lives, the life of the child and the conscience of the mother. Let us, for one second in silence, thank our parents for wanting us, for loving us, for giving us the joy of living."

Human beings hunger not only for bread, but also for love and dignity, Mother Teresa said. And to make it easy for us to love one another, Jesus proclaimed, "Whatever you do to the least of my brethren, you do to me."

Where does this love of fellow humans begin? In the home, Mother Teresa answered. "By praying together. Families that pray together stay together. And if you stay together you will love one another as God loves each one of you. Therefore, let us thank God for this great love."

She related the story of a couple in India who decided to forgo the customary wedding feast and give the money to her instead. "And I asked them, 'Why did you do that?'"

"We love each other so tenderly that we wanted to share the joy of loving with the people you serve," they responded.

"Have you experienced the joy of loving?" Mother Teresa asked the stadium throng. "By sharing until it hurts? If you just give out your abundance you don't feel that sharing. So give until it hurts. This is the joy of loving."

She closed by urging the crowd to find time for prayer. "Works of love," she said, "are always works of peace, of joy, of unity. And prayer gives us that joy, because prayer gives us a clean heart. And a clean heart can see God. So let us learn to pray."

She directed a final blessing to her audience, greeted small children brought on stage to present her with flowers, then

joined in with 6,000 other voices in reciting the daily prayer of the coworkers of Mother Teresa:

"Make us worthy Lord, to serve our fellow men throughout the world who live and die in poverty and hunger. Give them through our hands, this day their daily bread, and by our understanding and love give peace and joy.

"Lord, make me a channel of Thy peace, that where there is hatred I may bring love; that where there is wrong, I may bring the spirit of forgiveness; that where there is error, I may bring truth; that where there is despair, I may bring hope, that where there are shadows, I may bring light; that where there is sadness, I may bring joy.

"Lord, grant that I may seek rather to comfort than to be comforted; to understand than to be understood; to love than to be loved; for it is by forgetting self that one finds; it is by dying that one awakens to eternal life. Amen."

The enchantment was broken. Helping hands helped Mother Teresa descend the platform stairs. The multitudes clapped and cheered and waved and cried, then turned to file out of the stadium.

It was another sunny day in America's Finest City. 🇺🇸

— John Sutherland

**See a video about Saint Mother Teresa and learn about a special event in honor of her canonization at Founders Chapel on Sunday, Sept. 25.**

📺 <https://video.sandiego.edu/watch/mother-teresa>

# The power of love is transcendent ■



**In 1991, then 81-year-old Mother Teresa of Calcutta was admitted to a local hospital after she was stricken with pneumonia while working with the poor in Tijuana. At the time, Msgr. Daniel Dillabough '70 was chancellor for the Diocese of San Diego; he is now USD's vice president of mission and ministry.**

"When Mother Teresa was in the hospital at San Diego's Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation, Bishop Robert Brom and I went out to visit her," said Msgr. Dillabough. "While we were visiting, the phone rang. The nurse picked it up and said that the Holy Father was on the line, Pope John Paul II.

Mother Teresa ripped off her oxygen mask and grabbed the phone and said, 'Bless me, Holy Father, bless me.' We could hear him saying, 'I bless you, Mother and your Sisters.' And then she said, 'I love you, Holy Father, I love you.'

He said something back to her and she put the phone over her heart and looked at all of us, gathered around her bed — Sister Nirmala (her successor), a nurse, me and the bishop — and she said, 'He loves me too.'

I thought that was such a powerful moment. Here are two of the most important people not only in the Church, but for what they've done all over the world, and the most important thing for them was to say at that moment was, 'I love you.'"

*During her hospital stay, Mother Teresa's endless devotion to the poor inspired a number of American doctors to promise to staff mobile clinics in Tijuana, working in conjunction with the Missionaries of Charity community in Tijuana, one of hundreds of convents her order established around the world.*



[compatible]

## AFFECTION FOR CONNECTION

Affinity groups promote sustained, active engagement



by Kara Marsh Proffitt '04

Most of us remember Founders Chapel as it appeared from the pews and can still smell lemony polish on hand-carved wood. Homilies focused on love and peace echo, even years later. The sense of history resonates, as we realize that for decades, thousands of Toreros bowed their heads in prayer, just as we did week after week.

But a small number of Toreros remember their time in Found-

ers Chapel differently — as experienced from the sanctuary. They were the voices that offered up ethereal melodies and harmonies, joyfully and gracefully leading the community in prayer and song each Sunday evening and for important liturgical celebrations such as Candlelight Mass.

The experience of being part of the group has been profoundly moving. When asked what being a part of Founders

Chapel Choir meant to them, the response from alumni was heartwarming. More than 350 alumni were a part of Founders Chapel Choir during their time at Alcalá Park.

This group connected through community, faith, and friendship that blossomed organically, the result of those countless practices and performances. When asked why the choir is still important to him, Adan Cortez '15 says, "This amazing group of people

became a family that helped me through both the best and worst of times."

"Founders Chapel Choir was my home at USD, and I miss it every day," says Sean McManus '11.

A prime example of the impact a student organization can have on the lives of its members, the group is led by longtime University Ministry Director Annette Welsh '79 alongside group organizer Tracy (Zetts) Telliard '12, '16 MA. "It's about helping to strength-

Over the years, bonds strengthen and deepen through shared campus activities. The closeness of Founders Chapel Choir alumni is a clear example of the power of affinity groups.

en a community that's already bound together by love and friendship," explains Telliard.

The growing Founders Chapel Choir Alumni group officially launches during Homecoming and Family Weekend, scheduled for Oct. 6-9, 2016. The group aims to provide its hundreds of alumni with a means to continue to engage with the university in meaningful ways, including through specialized communications, social media platforms, and opportunities to sing together. Also important to the group is taking the time to share their experiences, provide support to one another during life transitions and even offer advice to current members of the choir.

"I am my best self in that community," says Amanda Leger '10 of her time in Founders Chapel Choir. That sort of sentiment has a familiar ring to it, much like beloved hymns, echoing in our memories from across the years.

Of course, these are just a few examples of stories shared by alumni as they look back on their time in student organizations, participating in sports teams or dedicating themselves to individual leadership experiences while on campus. The unique experiences they shared as students build relationships and foster a distinct connection to the university.

Affinity groups such as the Founders Chapel Choir Alumni group provide profound connections that the Alumni Association supports in concrete ways. At USD, an affinity group is any collection of Torero alumni who actively engage in communicating or gathering around a central unifying purpose, mission or background. Recently, USD's Alumni Association has seen a growth in its affinity group program, which is attributed to the expansion in alumni connectedness. 📍

To learn more, go to [sandiego.edu/alumni-affinity](http://sandiego.edu/alumni-affinity).



[salud!]

## DRINK TO YOUR HEALTH

Eighth annual USD Wine Classic a resounding success

Hundreds of Torero alumni and friends enjoyed the eighth annual USD Wine Classic, which took place July 17. The signature event featured more than 50 different wines from 30 different wineries from California, Oregon, Washington and Mexico, paired with delicious gourmet food. The setting — the Joan B. Kroc Institute of Peace and Justice's Garden of the Sea — provided spectacular views and a convivial atmosphere.

Net proceeds from the wine weekend, which included a Vintners Dinner on July 16 and a Sunday pre-Wine Classic Zintastic! event, benefited the Alumni Endowed Scholarship Fund. This year's event raised nearly \$50,000; to date the event has raised more than \$400,000 for student scholarships.

While Sunday's main event was a memorable experience,

Saturday's Vintners Dinner was an intimate and delightful — wine-and-dine experience. Held at USD's on-campus La Gran Terraza restaurant, the evening consisted of a reception and a fantastic one-of-a-kind four-course meal. Each course was accompanied by carefully chosen wines representing USD family wineries that complemented the menu. This year's wineries were Ferrari-Carano, Kimmel Vineyards, SCRIBE and St. Supery Winery.

Zintastic!, a zinfandel component blending seminar, featured St. Francis Winery President and CEO Christopher Silva, who led a tasting of Sonoma's (Calif.) best single-vineyard zinfandels. The program featured exclusive tasting and discussion of limited release 2013 Zins. Guests blended their own version of an "old vines" zinfandel from the same wines as the winemaker.

Thanks for the successful weekend are due to the following: our wineries, the Alumni Association Board of Directors, volunteers and sponsors, Bartell Hotels, U.S. Bank, McGuire Research, 101 Things to Do in San Diego, Heritage Group, Mary M. O'Connor, DDS, Pediatric Dentistry and Sempra International. We also thank our Torero Taste sponsors, event chair Lisa Baldocchi '87, '98, Alex Beaton Real Estate, Architects Mosher Drew, Citizens Business Bank, DPR Construction, Kettle Steam Weddings & Events by Nadia Pandes '93, '01, Malitzlaw, Inc., Martin Goodman '97 (MBA), Paul Davis '86, '06, Ryan Bros. Coffee, Siri Fomsgaard '03, SJ Creations, Inc., and Teague Insurance Agency, Inc. 📍

For more, please go online to [www.usdwineclassic.com](http://www.usdwineclassic.com).



# UNSTOPPABLE

*by John Rosengren*

FALL 2016 | 31





NICK PORTER

**HEIDI WATNEY ‘03** may live and work in New York, but she’s a California girl at heart. “This is home to me,” Watney said while in San Diego in mid-July to cover Major League Baseball’s All-Star Game for the MLB Network. Born in Fresno, her broadcasting résumé includes stints with the Boston Red Sox and L.A. Galaxy. Watney currently hosts MLB Network’s *Quick Pitch*. As part of the MLB All-Star Week’s FanFest, Watney hosted “Leading Change Live,” interviewing USD President James T. Harris, Vice President of Athletics and Facilities Management Ky Snyder, Baseball Coach Rich Hill, Softball Coach Melissa McElvain and catcher Mary Grabowski ‘16. “I always will be a USD Torero,” Watney says. “That’s where my heart is.”

year, he is recovering from surgery and writing a book on local politics.

**DAVID PARRY (BA)** writes, “My biggest dream for USD: Become an independent Division 1 football team, play on alternate Saturdays to San Diego State. Only Army, BYU and Notre Dame remain as FBS independents for football. USD is located in the most beautiful city in America. Countless top college football players would love to play in San Diego. As an independent,

USD could play virtually any team. And big-time football would put USD on the map nationally!”

**ADAM SARANCIK (JD)** reports that he and Karen Sarancik ‘85 celebrated 40 years of marriage on June 25. Since graduating from USD, Adam worked as a civil litigation attorney, a small-business owner, obtained his Master of Arts in Teaching from Western Oregon University, and has been a real estate broker for 25 years. He has coached youth

sports for players ages 8-22 and is the author of *Coaching Champions for Life – Coaching the Whole Person, Not Just the Athlete* (Amazon.com or Xulon Press, 2012). Adam is also the athletic director for CYO baseball in Portland, Ore. Karen was a business litigation attorney in San Diego and in Portland she has been a school administrator and a business manager. She is currently an assistant escrow officer. Karen also participated in the *Singing Christmas Tree* production for 10 years as a singer and was in charge of wardrobe and choreography. Adam and Karen have two daughters and three grandchildren.

## 1980s

**[1980]** **THOMAS BALESTRERI (JD)** is managing shareholder of the San Diego law firm of Balestreri, Potocki & Holmes, which celebrated its 25-year anniversary by supporting the Fred Finch Youth Center Charity Golf Tournament. “We selected this event to commemorate our 25th anniversary because the Fred Finch Youth Center has demonstrated a long-term commitment to the community and we respect the work they do providing supportive services to high-risk children and their families,” Thomas says. The firm also served as the key volunteer team and committed to provide 125 volunteer hours for the May 2016 event.

**SUSAN BEATTY-HITES (BA)** moved from Coronado, Calif., to Atlanta in October 2015.

**RANDALL FONG (MED)** completed his 16th year as a college counselor at Sacred Hearts Academy, an all-girl Catholic school in Honolulu, Hawaii. He reports that his wife, Linda, is a flight attendant for Delta Airlines. Randall’s daughter, Marissa, received a master’s degree in business at Hawaii Pacific University and his son, Nathan, is a junior at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, where he also works as a resident assistant in the dorms.

**MICHELLE JOHN (BA)** reports that she and her husband, Christopher, founded New GateWay Solutions. They work among the churches of San Diego County to help the unemployed and underemployed find jobs or start businesses. “I have been out of touch with my classmates from

1976-1980,” Michelle says. “Hopefully, I get to see some of them again (or meet new friends) by attending some of the alumni events. I have fond memories of my years at USD.”

**[1982]** **ROBERT EATINGER (JD)** retired as senior deputy general counsel from the Central Intelligence Agency in December 2015. His tenure included four months during which he served as the CIA’s acting general counsel. Bob founded SpyLaw Consulting to provide consulting services to U.S. businesses faced with requests from U.S. intelligence and security services as well as to law firms that have a temporary need for expertise in intelligence law.

**[1983]** **JUAN MANUEL ESPINO MORA (MA)** received the San Diego Latino Champions Award in the field of education and he has retired from the San Diego Unified School District.

**THOMAS OERTEL (MSN)** retired from Grossmont College after teaching nursing for 29 years. He received his Doctorate of Nursing Practice from Case Western Reserve University in 2010. He plans to do nursing research projects and write. He reports that he has been married to Susan (Reeves) Oertel ‘86 for 28 years. They live in San Diego and have two grown daughters.

**[1984]** **MICHAEL MULLARD (BA)** completed a PhD in clinical psychology and is working at the County of Orange Health Care Agency in Mission Viejo, Calif. He is also a spiritual director and a retreat and conference leader.

**KATHLEEN (FREITAS) NELSON (BA)** reports that she was married in 2014. She also visited Quito, Ecuador, on a mission trip in 2011 to spread the gospel to people in remote, rural villages.

**VICTOR TORRES (BA, JD ‘88)** participated as an instructor in the Oral Advocacy Skill-Building Immersion Seminar (OASIS) under the Justice in Mexico program in Mexico City at UNAM (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México). His first grandchild, Ruby Rose, was born on April 6.

**[1985]** **GARY DOKES (MBA)** is the chief investment officer for the Arizona Community Foundation, the state’s largest private provider of college

scholarships, which awards millions of dollars to help students achieve their educational goals.

**NEIL EVANS (JD)** celebrated his 25-year anniversary with the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Oregon. “Enjoying the Northwest and my 15-year-old son,” he writes.

**JOHN KOWNACKI (BA)** practices ophthalmology in San Diego and specializes in laser vision correction.

**[1988]** **SHEILA (WHITE) OLANDER (BA)** has been with the Department of Treasury, IRS-Criminal Investigation for more than 25 years and is currently the director of special investigative techniques at its headquarters in Washington, D.C. She reports that she lives in Fairfax, Va., with her husband, Curt, and their two children.

**BILL PARROTT (BBA)** founded his own investment and financial planning firm in Austin, Texas, and he works with clients in California and Texas. The firm’s website can be found at [www.parrottwealth.com](http://www.parrottwealth.com).

**[1989]** **ROSEMARY COATES (MBA)** published a supply chain legal book written in collaboration with an attorney. Her fifth book — titled, *Legal Blacksmith: How to Avoid and Defend Supply Chain Disputes* — is available on Amazon.com. Rosemary is president of her own global supply chain consulting firm and is the executive director of the Reshoring Institute, which is a collaboration with USD’s Supply Chain Management Institute.

**ANNA (PATZMAN) UMSTADTER (BA)** reports that her husband and their daughter are back in San Diego after four years in the Bay Area. Anna sells residential real estate through HomeSmart Realty West. “Our daughter is now 6 and keeping us very busy!” she says.

**CHARLES WARD (BA)** launched Word with Ward, a copywriting business.

## 1990s

**[1991]** **SERGIO GIACOMINI (LLM)** is president of the Swiss Bar Associa-

tion SAV-FSA. The website is at [www.sav-fsa.ch](http://www.sav-fsa.ch).

**[1992]** **SCOTT KAWALL (BA)** writes, “Getting through another winter in Chicago while watching my three daughters grow up so quickly and seeing them excel in academics and athletics. Oldest daughter, Ashlee, is in her second year playing D1 softball at the University of Evansville. Middle daughter, Madison, is recognized on Illinois high school all-state basketball and softball teams, and youngest, Lauren, started freshman year starting alongside her sister on a state-ranked high school softball team. All while getting high honors recognition academically! My wife and I are so proud of their accomplishments!”

**ERIKA SANCHEZ (BA)** wrote her first novel, *Ernestine*, which is available in paperback on Amazon.com.

**PATRICIA SCHNELL (JD)** has worked for Travelers Insurance for more than 11 years. Her area of practice is workers’ compensation defense.

**[1993]** **DAVID HUCH (BA, JD ‘02)** reports that he and fellow USD law alumni, Derek and Suzanne Emge, achieved one of the largest California false advertising class action settlements in 2016. The \$50 million settlement was from a class action lawsuit against J.C. Penney for falsely advertising original prices and sale prices. The case was featured on the *TODAY* show and *CBS This Morning*.

**SAHAND POULADI (BBA)** writes, “Getting accepted to USD was a dream. From the moment I entered the campus, I was incredibly impressed with the faculty and the student body. As an international student, I enjoyed meeting people from all over the world and really immersed myself in the USD culture. Today, 25 years on, I own two successful businesses and truly know what I experienced and learned at USD helped get me to where I am today! This place is not just a university but a life school! USD we love you!”

**JOANNE ZIPAY (MFA)** published *Come, You Spirits! The Supernatural World of Shakespeare*, which is available on Amazon.com.

**[1994]** **REGINA BALLARD (BA)** received a Doctorate of Ministry in educational leadership from Virginia Theological Seminary. Her thesis was titled *That’s So ‘70s: Making Feminist Hermeneutics Relevant for the 21st Century Adolescent*.

**MATT ZELLER (BA)** transitioned his private family practice to a concierge medical model in 2015. His practice’s website is [www.kolvita.com](http://www.kolvita.com).

**[1995]** **ELENA HARTWELL (BA)** is a successful playwright and recently published her first work of fiction, *One Dead, Two to Go* (Camel Press, Seattle), the first of a three-part series. Elena earned a PhD in theater writing from the University of Georgia in 2004.

**BETHANNE (YOXSIMER) PAULSRUD (MED)** completed her doctorate in 2014 and then worked as an assistant professor of English at Dalarna University in Sweden. Since the summer of 2015, she has worked on postdoctoral research at the Centre for Research on Bilingualism at Stockholm University. BethAnne’s research focuses on the roles of multilingualism and interculturality in education policy, national curricula and teacher education. She collaborates with researchers from Helsinki University and they plan to conduct comparative studies.

**[1996]** **NICOLE ALEXANDER (BA)** was named one of New Jersey’s “2016 Best 50 Women in Business” by *NJBIZ*, a leading New Jersey business journal, in March 2016. The awards program honors New Jersey’s successful and influential women in business who have been making headlines in their field. Nicole is an attorney and director of business development at McElroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter.

**DARIN CHASE (BBA)** is an eight-year back-country ski patrol veteran. “Missing the snow,” he says.

**JASON EBERL (BA)** holds the Semler Chair for Medical Ethics and is professor of philosophy at Marian University in Indianapolis. He has published three books this year: *The Ultimate Star Wars and Philosophy*, *The Ultimate Star Trek and Philosophy*, and *The Routledge Guidebook to*

*Aquinas Summa Theologiae*. He reported that he sent his daughter off to college recently.

**[1997]** **JENNIFER CAREY (BA)** started a California nonprofit organization called FUN 4 GOOD, which creates “fun events for good causes.” She also teaches English within the community college system.

**LUIS MASSIEU (BBA)** and Marta Catala announce the birth of their second daughter, Flavia. Luis manages [www.apostille.net](http://www.apostille.net), the leading apostille service in New York City.

**MARY JOY SOTIC (BS/BA)** reports that she and her husband, Dennis, cofounded Guam Surveyor in 2013. Their daughter, Melissa, graduated from high school and will be attending California State University, Fresno, as a geomatics engineering major.

**CASEY (WALTON) WHALEN (BA)** says that she and her husband, Eric, moved to Sacramento, Calif., in 2007. Casey taught in Oceanside, Calif., for seven years and now teaches AP government and civics in the Sacramento area. “I am celebrating 10 years of marriage this summer and have a 6-year-old daughter and a 4-year-old son,” she says.

**[1998]** **KATHLYN (ALVAREZ) CANCEL (BBA)** graduated from LEAD San Diego’s Impact program in June 2015.

**BRUCE PLEAT (MBA)** reports that he and his wife, Arianna ‘99, returned to California last spring and now live in the Tri-Valley region of East Bay. Their children are ages 5 and 10. Bruce’s mother also lives with them.

**BRAD YOUNG (LLM)** is the general counsel, global business alliances, of Japan Display Inc. in Tokyo and San Diego. He also serves as general counsel of the Magic Johnson Foundation in Beverly Hills, Calif.

**[1999]** **KRISTINA (SCHELBERT) BROWN (MA)** was named chair of the Couple and Family Therapy Department at Adler University in Chicago in the fall of 2015.

**BRIAN ROSARIO (BBA)** reports that he married Michelle Sandoval on Aug. 15, 2015, at Santa Monica



Church in Santa Monica, Calif. In attendance were fellow alumni Elton Perkins (wedding party), Kevin Malady (wedding party), Natasha Lopez, Kelly (Kaiser) Edwards and Tiffany Jackson.

## 2000s

### [2000]

**PEDRO ALONSO COLIO (MSN)** is a nurse practitioner at an underserved hospital in Southern California and a tenure-track assistant professor of nursing for an associate's degree nursing program at Imperial Valley College in Imperial, Calif. Pedro planned to begin studies in the Doctorate of Nursing Practice degree at USD in the fall of 2016.

**MARISOL PRESTON (BA)** is the director of admissions at Father Ryan High School in Nashville, Tenn.

### [2001] 🎓

**SHAUNA McMUNN (BA)** has been working for Catholic Charities, Diocese of Trenton, N.J., for the past two years as office manager of the family growth program, in-home foster care program and natural parent support program. "Was back on campus in March 2016 over Easter break to marvel at all of the changes since I graduated," she says.

**RODD MILLER (BBA)** reports that he and Mary Miller '01 welcomed their third child in August 2015. Rodd is the president of Miller Wealth Management, a financial advisory firm in Carlsbad, Calif. Mary is working full time as an active mother of three.

**KAREN OGDEN (MA)** is a licensed marriage and family therapist. She was selected for the 2016 Best of Newport Beach Award in the category of mental health care/counseling by the Newport Beach Award Program, which annually identifies companies that have achieved exceptional marketing success in their local community and business category.

**AIMMEE RODRIGUEZ (MA)** reports that her master's thesis developed into a local history book, *The Harris Company* (Arcadia Publishing, 2008). She also is working with the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians on a tribal government unit for the secondary level.

### [2002]

**TONY BETANCOURT (BA)** reports that he and his wife celebrated the arrival of twin sons, Mico and Milian. The boys join older sister, Milenna. "They are doing great," Tony says.

### MEAGHAN (BURKE) CARTER

**(BA)** says that she and her husband welcomed their third baby, Paxton Maddox, in September 2015. "Big sister, Harper Monroe, 5, and big brother, Thatcher Marshall, 3, continue to dote on him daily," Meaghan says.

**MIKE CENTURIONI (BA)** reports that he married Vanessa Webster in the summer of 2015 in La Jolla, Calif. Mike is a former Los Angeles alumni chapter president (2005-2014).

**JASON COITO (BA)** moved from campus ministry and teaching at Bishop Alemany High School in Los Angeles to coordinator for young adult ministry for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

**MALTE FARNAES (JD)** was appointed honorary consul for the Kingdom of Denmark in San Diego. As honorary consul, he assists the Danish Embassy in Washington, D.C., in consular, commercial and cultural matters. The Danish consulate in San Diego will be located at his law firm, Farnes & Lucio, APC, in Cardiff, Calif.

**LAURA HARTWELL (BA, MED '03)** obtained the highest degree in France, the *Habilidad Dirigir Recherche*, which enables her to supervise PhD students doing research. She earned her PhD in English and Education from the University of Toulouse in 2009.

**SCOTT SCHIMMEL (BACC)** runs the YouSchool, an organization that provides life coaching for emerging adults, helping those in high school, college and the military discover their purpose and design a meaningful life.

**MICHAEL SPENCER (BS/BA)** reports that his first child, a daughter named Caroline Maria, was born on May 15, 2016. She weighed 6 pounds, 10 ounces and measured 19 inches at birth.

### [2003]

**MICHAEL BOOTH (BBA)** reports that he was married on Sept. 26, 2015.

**ALEXIS BRIEL (Paralegal)** was promoted to project manager for a new software line at Cybersoft.

**ROBERT DANIELS (JD)** will serve as president of the North County Bar Association for the year 2017.

**CHRIS HEIM (BBA)** founded his own law firm, the Heim Law Firm (heimlawfirm.com).

**SANFORD HOROWITZ (JD, LLM '03)** reports that he and his wife, Christy, opened a law office, Horowitz Law, in downtown Santa Barbara, Calif. Sanford and Christy are both veteran prosecutors. Sanford worked for the Santa Barbara District Attorney's Office, the San Diego County District Attorney's Office and the Criminal Investigation Division of the Internal Revenue Service in San Diego. The firm's practice areas include family law, business law, criminal defense, and civil and criminal tax litigation.

**ERYN SCHNITZLER (BA)** founded Wine Vibe San Diego in 2016. "Wine Vibe is the go-to spot for wine lovers looking to gain, improve and utilize their wine knowledge," Eryn says. "We offer interactive wine education tailored to fit your group or company's interest and comfort level." The firm's website is [www.winevibesd.com](http://www.winevibesd.com).

### [2004]

**ANTONIO LOPEZ (BA)** says that he and his wife, Liz, celebrated the arrival of their first baby, Logan Lopez, in October 2015. Antonio ran the Boston Marathon on April 18, 2016, in a time of two hours and 49 minutes. This was his 15th marathon, fifth fastest and second Boston Marathon. Antonio celebrated his 10th year as a vice president and senior financial advisor with Merrill Lynch/Bank of America in 2016.

**MICHELLE ROSALES-RUIZ (BA)** reports that she and her husband welcomed twin boys, Cristian and Gabriel, on May 13, 2015.

**SUZANNE WEINSTEIN (MA)** is a graduate of USD's leadership studies program and a successful consultant for 15 years. She recently launched Being in Sync, where she teaches authentic leadership and spiritual practices to global leaders.

### [2005]

**DANIEL BATTAGLIA (BBA)** writes that he lives "in Fayetteville, Ga., with

my beautiful wife, Lindsay, and amazing 2-year-old son, Lindan (born March 29, 2014)." Daniel is in charge of marketing operations for Castle Medical in Atlanta. He previously worked at MTV Networks in New York City as an event coordinator (with fellow USD alumnus Matthew Van Houten).

**HEATHER BURNER (BA)** is an anchor and reporter for Fox 31/Channel 2 in Denver.

**LINDSEY (HANSEN) LAPOINTE (BA)** reports that she welcomed a baby boy, Lucien Roger, on April 21, 2016.

### [2006] 🎓

**JENNIFER SCARBROUGH (BA)** was promoted to program director at Kids Vision for Life. She reports that she lives in St. Louis, Mo., with her husband, and that the couple has "our first baby on the way!"

**ELIZABETH THOMETZ (BA)** is a certified athletic trainer with a U.S. Army physical therapy clinic in Germany. "Simultaneously, I am pursuing a second master's degree, this time in secondary education, so that I can eventually teach sports medicine in Department of Defense Education schools and work toward getting athletic trainers hired in their full capacity in that realm," she says.

**ROBERT THOMPSON (BA)** is working for the Environmental Protection Agency on national priorities.

### [2007]

**MIKE JAIN (BA)** writes, "After USD, I am applying many practical business methods and strategies in my new realty business." Mike and his wife look forward to attending USD functions.

**CHRISTINA ARIAS LOERA (BA)** is the benefits manager in the human resources department at Pala Casino Spa Resort.

**DIEGO MANZETTI (LLM)** was promoted at AIG to the new head role of legal for southern Europe and the Middle East/North Africa. He is keeping the Italian general counsel role as well, he says.

**ERY MILLAN-COFFEY (MED)** was promoted to program coordinator after teaching English as a second language for eight years at several

secondary and post-secondary institutions. Ery is married with three girls, ages 6, 4 and 18 months.

**ALANNA PEARL (JD)** opened a solo practice, Pearl Legal Counsel, in January 2016, after nearly eight years of broad-based civil litigation experience working with some of San Diego's finest litigators. Pearl Legal Counsel represents individuals and small businesses damaged by the wrongful actions of others in the fields of employment and business litigation.

**WHITNEY SHARPE (BA)** reports that she married Evan Grist in Squaw Valley, Lake Tahoe, Calif., on Dec. 5, 2015. In attendance were several USD alumni, including Gina (Pettinelli) Celaschi, Mayra San Juan, Allison Barker, Courtney Jerzyk, Andrea Bosowski, Florie Clark, Christine McAuliffe and Emily (Correll) Freeland.

**KRESTSNA (NANN) TOTRESS (BBA)** welcomed a baby boy, Hendrick, and she also was promoted to manager at Genoptix Medical Laboratory.

**JULIO DE UNAMUNO IV (BA)** is the founding chief executive officer of LabFellows. "We're focused on helping biotech startups develop more cures faster by eliminating the multimillion-dollar burden of owning and managing lab space and equipment," he says.

### [2008]

**KEVIN BRADLEY (JD)** was commissioned as a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserve. On May 5, 2016, he graduated from the 199th Judge Advocate Officer Basic Course and he returned to Miami to practice immigration law. He will conduct monthly drills with the 151st Legal Operation Detachment out of Fort Belvoir, Va.

**BRYAN GLOVER (MBA)** was promoted within the Department of Defense and relocated to Sacramento, Calif. He negotiates contracts for the Army Corps of Engineers. "I now get to take full advantage of my Oakland Raiders season tickets," he says.

**MARY STURGEON (BA)** is a licensed architect in Illinois. She works in Chicago for Gensler, an international architecture and interiors firm, specializing in luxury automotive dealership design and construction. Several of her completed and ongoing proj-



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ects are in Southern California and the Bay Area. In 2013, she completed her Master of Architecture at the University of Texas at Austin.

**RACHEL (MAUPIN) SULLIVAN (BBA)** reports that she was married to Evan Sullivan on March 28, 2015, in Turks and Caicos. They live in Kansas City, Mo., where Evan practices law and Rachel is a physician, practicing bioidentical hormone replacement therapy at her own practice, BioBalance Health.

**[2009]**  
**SHERMAN GILLUMS (MSGL)** was promoted to executive director of Paralyzed Veterans of America in January 2016. The change was ratified by the board of directors in May 2016. Sherman adds, "First veteran of the post-9/11 era to head one of the Big 6 veteran service organizations (PVA, DAV, VFW, VVA, AmVets, American Legion)." He was featured on the cover of the Summer 2016 issue of *USD Magazine*.

**FRANCOIS PORTEE (Med)** is a high school teacher in the San Diego Unified School District for at-risk homeless students. He is also the president of Follow the Leader Foundation, a nonprofit organization founded in 2006. Learn more at [www.followtheliderfoundation.org](http://www.followtheliderfoundation.org).

**ELIZABETH SPANGENBERG (BA)** writes, "I am active-duty Navy, but right now, I am a full-time student in the peace and justice master's program at USD's Kroc School." She recently hiked Mount Kilimanjaro with two fellow USD alumni and student-athletes: Meghan O'Brien and Erin Voyles. Meghan and Erin were swimmers and Elizabeth was a rower.

**GILLIAN (HEMMES) VAN DER SCHAAF (BBA)** reports that she married Tyler Van Der SchAAF '09 in October, 2014.

## 2010s

**[2010]**  
**AMANDA (THEIS) ACCIOLY (BA)** reports "Luca Joseph Accioly was born on May 1, 2016, to Amanda and Guilherme Accioly. Big sister Gabriela is excited to have a little brother."

**VINCE ATOFAU (BS/BA)** reports that he is "blessed with a beautiful

wife, three children (two girls and one boy), and an awesome career at Northrop Grumman as an engineer."

**VIVIEN FRANCIS (MA)** has been passionate about art her entire life. She has a BA in graphic design and her passion for human rights and conflict resolution led her to USD to earn a master's degree in peace and justice studies, specializing in conflict resolution. Vivien combines her background in art and human rights to develop advocacy projects through the use of art and images, including cross-cultural understanding programs between the United States and Mexico. She also founded PilloveTalk, where she designs and produces home textiles with affirmations and empowering thoughts in order to provide people with uplifting messages in the intimacy of their homes. Vivien has lived in La Jolla, Calif., since 2009, where she is near the ocean and nature, and where she finds inspiration for her work.

**STEPHANIE LEUNG (BA)** moved to Savannah, Ga., where she is a digital marketing manager for TMC Finance. She is in charge of all digital media buying and planning.

**ERIC ROBERSON (BA)** graduated from the George Washington University Law School in Washington, D.C., in May 2016. Following the bar exam, Eric plans to clerk for a federal judge in Alexandria, Va.

**SERENA ROMERO (BA)** relocated to New York for a position at NBC/MSNBC.

**SAMUEL SWANSON (BBA)** reports that he moved to Dallas, Texas, to be with his partner, Daniel Martell, after dating long distance for more than two years. Samuel is a development director for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

**[2011]** 🎓  
**ERIN ALTON (BA, MAcc '11)** was promoted to audit manager at KPMG, one of the Big 4 public accounting firms.

**BRITTANY BERG (BBA, MS '16)** graduated from USD's Master of Science in Supply Chain Management in January 2016 and is now a senior procurement specialist for ViaSat Inc. in Carlsbad, Calif.

**CLARISSA BROWN-JENNINGS (BA)** invites her fellow alumni to "stay classy!"

**AMANDA (FOBAR) HOGAN (BA)** reports that she married Joshua Hogan in October 2015. They relocated to Roanoke, Va., to further her career as a labor and delivery registered nurse and recently bought their first home.

**MARGARET (McCANN) HOWARTH (DNP)** was promoted to assistant director at the School of Nursing/Health and Human Services at National University in San Diego.

**CHRISTIAN INZUNZA (BBA)** is the cofounder of Solteris Energy, a renewable energy supplier based in Indio, Calif.

**SHANNON IPPOLITI (BA)** is in her first year as a pediatrics resident at the University of California, Irvine/Children's Hospital of Orange County.

**YLIANA PENALOSA (BA)** graduated from Azusa Pacific University with a second Bachelor of Science in nursing. She is currently a student in APU's psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner program.

**ANNE STEWART (BBA)** passed the July 2015 California bar exam after graduating from the University of Southern California Gould School of Law in May 2015. She is a real estate and transactional attorney.

**[2012]**  
**ELOISA AMEZCUA (BA)** completed the Master of Fine Arts program at Emerson College in Boston in 2014. She has received scholarships from the Bread Loaf Translators' Conference, the Vermont College of Fine Arts Post-Graduate Workshop, the Minnesota Northwoods Writers Conference and the New York State Summer Writers Institute. Eloisa reports that her debut chapbook, *On Not Screaming*, was expected to be published by Horse Less Press in the summer of 2016.

**JOSE FELIX (BBA)** is working toward a master's degree in Spanish language and literature and also working as a graduate research assistant for the Spanish Department and the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at St. John's University in Queens, N.Y.

**NANCY JOYCE (BA)** works for Christie's Art Auction House.

**ELLE ORTEGA (BA)** writes, "After graduating from USD, it is my greatest

pleasure to pursue two master's in public health and social work at the University of Southern California. Having just completed my first year of graduate school, I am honored to say that I have been elected as the assistant regional director for Region F (Inland Empire) for the National Association of Social Workers for the 2016-2017 year. For my second year of graduate school, I will be working as a medical social work intern at Kaiser Permanente Medical Center—West Los Angeles." Elle says she was elated to be returning to "San Diego, my alma mater, and reunite with old and new friends for USD's 2016 Wine Classic. Fight on and olé!"

**ALEXANDRA PAULUS (BBA)** is a property manager for a private commercial real estate management company and also an accounts payable manager for a wholesale distribution company.

**HENRY PERAZZELLI (BBA)** works in wealth management at J.P. Morgan Securities in Boston.

**[2013]**  
**TARA IGUIDBASHIAN (BA)** is working in partnership marketing with the Portland Trail Blazers since graduating from USD. She reports that her experience interning for the USD athletics department helped her get to this position.

**SUE JORDON-TALASKA (MSN)** is the education specialist for the critical care and progressive care units at Riverside Community Hospital in Riverside, Calif., designated a Level II trauma center, cardiac care center of excellence and primary stroke center. Sue's job responsibilities include development of education programs for staff. "I graduated from USD's MSN, CNS gerontology program in 2013," she says. "I found the program and information invaluable to my successful job performance!"

**ANDY QUINTANA (BBA)** is a financial analyst for Acadia Healthcare in Carlsbad, Calif.

**HEATHER RASAMEETHAM (BA)** is a first-grade teacher at Anza Elementary in El Cajon, Calif.

**LUKE STAGER (BA)** earned a Master of Science in finance from the Owen Graduate School of Management at Vanderbilt University in May 2014. He is a financial analyst at Asurion.

**KAYLEY STUMPE (BA)** is a full-time producer and also conducts celebrity interviews for the *Entertainment Tonight* television show. She has worked at *ET* since graduation and interned there the summer before her senior year at USD.

**[2014]**  
**RYAN LANE (BA)** began his career in advertising with a year at The Garage/Team Mazda, an award-winning WPP-held advertising agency. "As project manager, I had the opportunity to work with creatives, account executives, legal teams, our board of directors and Mazda global executives from Japan," Ryan says. His photography skills were used in the national Drive for Good campaign. Another position followed as national events manager for Quest Nutrition, and Ryan is now director of sales and events for Level Up Entertainment, an Orange County event production company. "I love what I do, and have learned a lot along the way in the short time since graduating, but a lot of the tools I've utilized I learned while at USD," Ryan says.

**ESTEBAN LOPEZ (BBA)** works in management consulting on an enterprise resource planning project known as FISCal, the Financial Information System for California, a business transformation project for state government focusing on budgeting, accounting, procurement and cash management.

**KEVIN PELAEZ (BA)** is a San Diego corps member of Teach for America, where he teaches 10th grade math and AVID, a college prep class, at King-Chavez Community High School.

**MARIA RUVALCABA (BA)** finished a year of postgrad volunteer service with a tenant rights advocacy nonprofit organization in Los Angeles. She is now working with another nonprofit organization in Santa Ana, Calif., that provides leadership and community engagement opportunities for youth.

**LISA VANDER (MA)** moved to the Washington, D.C., area to work in the field of workforce development and social economic justice. Previously, she conducted a job creation summer program for 110 at-risk youth for the city of Baltimore, Md.

**KYLE WADSTROM (BBA)** met his fiancé, Sarah, when they were on USD's Second-Year Experience trip to





DAVE MEYER

[faith in action]

# A DEGREE OF CONFIDENCE

Collaboration is key for Michael Camacho

by Ryan T. Blystone

Michael Angelo Camacho was already working diligently for the Diocese of San Diego, putting his accounting degree to good use for an organization that espouses his values, when a natural, but personal, question arose. “What do I want to do next?”

He knew he wanted to elevate his skill set and overall development. After he earned a non-profit management certificate from USD, he wanted more. “I was still hungry,” he says.

So he took the next step. Camacho entered the School of Leadership and Education Sciences master’s program in nonprofit management and leadership in 2014. In May 2016, he walked across the

Jenny Craig Pavilion stage to accept his degree.

“This program has definitely prepared me for real life. I’ve learned how to advocate for issues I believe in, I’ve learned how to fundraise for nonprofits I work for and I’ve learned the importance of empirical evidence in proving our effectiveness in the work we do.”

He learned from quality faculty members who are also practitioners. His cohort went to Guatemala to study NGOs. He traveled to Sacramento to lobby for part-time workers’ rights. The curriculum strengthened Camacho’s passion for the Diocese’s mission and helped implement projects for a local nonprofit that supports human trafficking survivors.

“I’ve applied something from pretty much every class I’ve taken to my work with Children of the Immaculate Heart (CIH).” And his input helps CIH function better, allowing employees to focus on helping the afflicted and coming up with solutions for U.S.-Mexico border issues.

USD has many examples of projects that thrive in an interdisciplinary setting. “I believe the diocese and USD need to collaborate on educating people of all ages,” he says. “And this program challenged me,” he adds. “Not just the classes and the professors, but also my fellow students who challenged me to become a better version of myself.”

Learn more at [childrenoftheimmaculateheart.org](http://childrenoftheimmaculateheart.org)

Barcelona in 2012. “We met in Spain, and after we graduated, I proposed in Thailand,” Kyle says. “We figured we have to keep this up, so we are getting married in Hawaii.”

**HUGO WERSTLER (BA)** writes, “Was just recently hired at USD! Couldn’t be more proud to be a part of the continual excellence of my alma mater.”

**DANA YEE (BA)** finished her second year at USD Law School and is working as a law clerk at RJS Law.

[2015]

**DEEMA ALBASSEET (MA)** has a new position as quality management officer at Badir Program for Technology Incubators in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

**CAMERON CYRUS (MS)** assists his clients by writing custom applications providing strategic insight. “Removing information silos and providing visibility from the shop floor to the top floor is providing my people with an exceptional competitive advantage,” he says. “Thank you, USD, for helping to make this happen.”

**COLBY EDSON (BBA)** reports that he and his wife, Chloe ’15, were married just three weeks after graduating in 2015.

**JAZMIN GARCIA (BA)** moved to Washington, D.C., to pursue a nine-month paid fellowship with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute. After some time on Capitol Hill, and then working for an international union, she transitioned to a full-time position with NALEO (National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials) Educational Fund. “What an incredible opportunity I’ve had to really apply everything I’ve learned at USD — personally and professionally!” she says.

**JOSHUA GREENE (BA)** has decided to move to Washington, D.C., and as a part of his journey across the country, he plans to visit Catholic shrines. “At these holy pilgrimage sites, I will offer up prayers to God for particular people who have requested themselves or their own intentions to be offered,” he says. “I believe God has chosen to enhance the purpose of this extended vacation/drive across the country for the betterment of those I know and love, and those I will soon come to know and love as I meet them from state to state.”

**KERRY HAYDEN (BA)** spent a month traveling the world after graduation. She then accepted a position as marketing communications coordinator at HouseCall Pro, a San Diego-based technology startup. Kerry says she enjoys working in a fast-paced environment and appreciates her education for preparing her for this role.

**JULIANA LOCKWOOD (BA)** is a graduate student in a Master of Science program in marriage and family therapy at Northwestern University. “I have a growing caseload of couples and families that I see both in the Family Institute clinic right across from Millennium Park and during school and home visits through the Community Program,” she says.

**KHEA POLLARD (BA)** is a community representative for San Diego County Supervisor Greg Cox.

**MADISON POPE (BA)** was promoted from the position of marketing coordinator to director of client communication and marketing at HighTower San Diego.

**JENNY (CALVERT) RODRIGUEZ (MA)** is a program coordinator at Levi Strauss & Co.’s Red Tab Foundation, an assistance fund for the company’s global workforce and retirees.

**CHRIS RUIZ (MBA)** joined Huron Consulting Group’s health care practice. “I learned about the opportunity at a MOJO career fair in San Diego,” he says. “Huron is actively growing their veteran hiring, so it was great timing for me, and I hope in the future for other USD veteran alumni!”

**AMY SMITH (MA)** writes, “Wrapping up a successful year with the Del Mar Union School District! Absolutely loving my new role as a K-5 technology specialist!”

**KELLY SMITH (JD)** is a judicial law clerk for Judge John A. Houston in the Southern District of California. “I’m so happy to be back in the area!” she says.

**KIMBERLY WOODBURY (BS/BA)** is in the Operations Rotation Program based at the Carlsbad, Calif., site of Thermo Fisher Scientific. She expects to work in the Midwest for her second rotation.

[2016]

**TAYLOR KREBS (BA, BA ’16)** is a relocation planner in the Department of Planning and Capital Projects for Seattle Public Schools.

**HAYLEY PARK (BA)** is a graduate student in the Master of Music: Music Therapy program at Arizona State University.

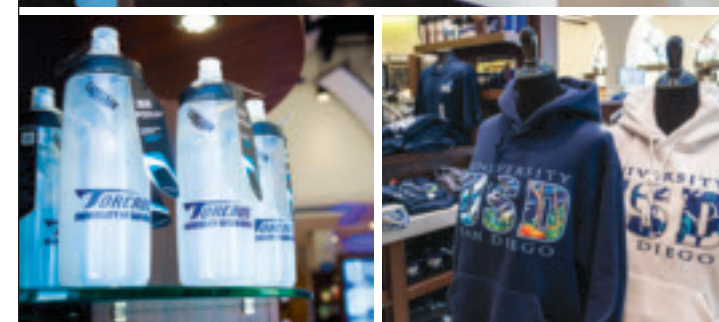
## In Memoriam

**LAURIE LAZZARO MASSA JR. ’64 (BA)** passed away on Feb. 6, 2016, in San Diego. Laurie earned an accounting degree from USD and later became a CPA. After college, he served in the Army and met his wife, Adeline, with whom he shared 47 years of marriage. Laurie was dedicated to his profession, working 35 years with the IRS, but his passion in life was his family. Genuinely loving, generous and kind, he was a treasure to anyone who knew him. Laurie is survived by his wife, Adeline Massa; children Laurie Massa, Anthony Massa and Catherine Hughes; three sisters; and seven grandchildren.

**TIMOTHY SKELTON ’98 (JD)** passed away from melanoma on Feb. 23, 2016. Upon graduation from USD, he joined Ropers, Majeski, Kohn and Bentley in Los Angeles and became a partner in 2006. He then joined the Los Angeles office of Arent Fox as a partner in 2013. He was a skilled writer and was excellent at arguing in court, from the U.S. District Court to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. He was an avid car, truck and motorcycle enthusiast and modified and raced his truck when he wasn’t practicing law. Tim is survived by his mother, Lois Skelton; his sister, Julie Skelton; and numerous family members, friends and coworkers.

**Class Notes** may be edited for length and clarity. Photos must be high-resolution, so please adjust camera settings accordingly. Engagements, pregnancies, personal email addresses and telephone numbers will not be published.

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[collaborative]

# IMMERSION EXCURSION

South Africa summer sojourns continue



**USD'S FIRST GROUP OF STUDENTS JOURNEYED TO THE VILLAGE OF MAKULEKE IN SOUTH AFRICA IN 2012.** Accompanied by Changemaker Hub Director/Political Science Professor Mike Williams and Sociology Professor Lisa Nunn, the goal was to collaborate with the non-profit group Sharing to Learn, and spend two to three weeks getting to know the community and, in particular, a group of young local education advocates/activists known as the Equalizers.

"A strategy for mitigating the unequal power dynamics between ourselves and the Equalizers in 2012 was to simply show up without an agenda," explains Williams. "We came with no preconceived notions of what we would be 'doing.' Instead, we wanted to just immerse ourselves as much as possible in the everyday rhythms of the village and to see what would emerge from our visit."

Williams and Nunn see unequal power relations as an "enduring dilemma" of immersive study abroad experiences. He is ever mindful of the importance of recasting the notion of service to "emphasize the importance of relationship building, dialogue, shared learning and mutual empowerment."

## SHARED VISION

One might not think of an academic journal as the place to find compelling personal stories, but that's exactly what emerged from a yearlong Scholarship of Teaching and Learning writing group at USD, the results of which made up the entirety of the most recent issue of *Engaging Pedagogies in Catholic Higher Education*, edited by the Catholic Institute for Lasallian Social Action at Saint Mary's College.

The contributors invested a year reflecting on their lived experiences of immersion. In the journal, community activist Rigoberto Reyes offers advice to university faculty and administrators on how best to implement community engagement and partnerships.

USD Sociology Professor Judith Liu, PhD, revisits the experience of teaching community engagement courses over the course of 30 years.

Assistant Vice President for University Ministry Michael Lovette-Colyer '13, PhD, provides a personal narrative of his experiences in immersion; that piece is excerpted in this issue.

Associate Languages and Literature Professor Kevin Guerrieri and Psychology Professor and Center for Educational Excellence Director Sandra Sgoutas-Emch coauthored a piece which poses questions around global equity and social justice, coupled with a proposed model of change.

And Associate Political Science Professor Mike Williams and Associate Sociology Professor Lisa M. Nunn explore the paradoxical challenge of power that is manifested in study abroad immersion experiences.

Find these articles at <http://journals.stmarys-ca.edu/epiche/>.



### Homecoming and Family Weekend

October 7-9  
USD campus  
[www.sandiego.edu/hfw](http://www.sandiego.edu/hfw)



### Homecoming and Family Weekend Football Game

USD v. Davidson  
Saturday, October 8  
[USDToreros.com](http://USDToreros.com)



### Women's Volleyball USD v. Loyola Marymount

Thursday, October 20  
Jenny Craig Pavilion  
[USD Toreros.com](http://USDToreros.com)



### Second Annual C4 Festival

Saturday, November 5  
The Immaculata  
[www.sandiego.edu/cas/music](http://www.sandiego.edu/cas/music)



### Lessons and Carols

Friday, December 9 and  
Sunday, December 11  
[www.sandiego.edu/cctc](http://www.sandiego.edu/cctc)



### Alumni Christmas Mass

Saturday, December 10  
Founders Chapel  
[alumni.sandiego.edu](http://alumni.sandiego.edu)



### All Faith Service

Thursday, February 2  
Shiley Theatre  
[www.sandiego.edu/um](http://www.sandiego.edu/um)



### Coming Soon!

There are many Torero alumni events happening around the globe!  
Check them out at  
[alumni.sandiego.edu](http://alumni.sandiego.edu)

Check out more USD events at [www.sandiego.edu/events](http://www.sandiego.edu/events).





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