

USD MAGAZINE

UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO / SUMMER 2015

Lasting Legacy

After 12 years, University of San Diego President
MARY E. LYONS, PhD, is stepping down

[i n c o m i n g]

GREATER HEIGHTS

Meet new Alumni Board President Heather Dooley



Greetings fellow Toreros!

I am excited to serve as the next president of the USD Alumni Association Board. As we look to the future and welcome our new university president, James T. Harris III, DEd, it is important to reflect on where we've come from. On behalf of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, I want to express our gratitude to President Mary E. Lyons, PhD, for all she has done for USD and to wish her well. I also want to thank Mark Hoekstra '86 for his leadership of the Alumni Association and for his service and commitment to the university.

USD has been a significant part of my life since my very first visit to Alcalá Park. After earning both a bachelor's and a master's degree, I began my career in teaching. The experiences I had while a student at USD had such a profound impact on me that it was important to find a way to remain active with the USD community.

My involvement with the Alumni Association began shortly after graduation. I have served as a volunteer, committee member and chair for signature events including Homecoming and the USD Wine Classic. In addition to making lifelong friends and reconnecting with classmates, being involved with these events has helped me strengthen my appreciation for the University of San Diego and deepen my understanding of the importance of alumni involvement.

Now, a new era begins at USD ... It's an exhilarating time to be a Torero! There are abundant opportunities to volunteer with the Alumni Association, and I encourage you to get involved. year, more than 1,200 alumni will volunteer, and next year, we want that number to grow!

What can you do? How can you make an impact on the lives of students? Attend or host a local event: on campus, throughout San Diego or in one of our 23 domestic Torero Clubs around the country. Do you live outside the United States? We have opportunities for you in Mexico, Japan and Europe! Are you busy with work and family? You can read scholarship applications, mentor students and provide support in many different ways. If you're interested, contact the Alumni at alumni@sandiego.edu or visit alumni.sandiego.edu.

No matter if you graduated in 1965 or 2015, this is your university. Whether through time, talent or treasure — or a combination of all three — your support will ensure USD's future success and help young students fulfill their academic and professional goals. It is my honor to serve as president of the USD Alumni Association Board, and I hope you'll join in our efforts as we help USD reach even greater heights!

— Heather (Manly) Dooley '02, '05 MEd
Alumni Association Board President

MISSION STATEMENT

USD Magazine is committed to upholding the mission and values of the University of San Diego. We engage our readers intellectually, spiritually and emotionally by featuring editorial content that showcases our academic excellence and our alumni's impact on the world. We nurture a relationship with alumni, parents, community members, faculty and staff that fosters continued participation in the life and support of this extraordinary Catholic institution.

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[torero notes]

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

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

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

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[be blue go green]

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ALUMNI GIVE BACK

*Make a USD EDUCATION possible
for the next generation of TOREROS*



"There is a perception that everyone who attends the University of San Diego is well off and can afford the education that USD provides, regardless of the cost. From personal experience, we know this is not the case. Seventy percent of students at USD require some sort of financial aid. If there weren't alumni giving back like we do, seven out of 10 students wouldn't be here.

Now, it's our duty as alumni to provide the same opportunity that we had for future Toreros!"

— Jenna (Biagini) '05 and Bobby LaCour '05

As donors, alumni and parents-to-be, Jenna and Bobby know that giving back is important. Please make your gift to support USD student scholars today.

Go to www.sandiego.edu/giving.



USD MAGAZINE

UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO / SUMMER 2015

FEATURE STORIES

GOOD WORK THAT NEEDS DOING.

16 / TAKING CARE

It takes a special kind of person to care for the sickest of children, but USD's School of Nursing alumni at Rady Children's Hospital San Diego are up to the challenge. Over and over, these nurses demonstrate a huge level of commitment to caring for sick kids. What's the secret? There's not just one, but adaptability is key.

DEPARTMENTS

TORERO NEWS

4 / *Lasting Legacy*

After 12 years, President Mary E. Lyons, PhD, is stepping down. *USD Magazine* talks with her about her tenure at the university.



6 / *Committed to Excellence*

James T. Harris III, DEd, will take the reins from USD President Mary E. Lyons, PhD, later this summer.

8 / *Dream Weaver*

School of Leadership and Education Sciences Dean Paula Cordeiro is moving on to the next chapter.

10 / *Mixing Things Up*

To address areas where the College of Arts and Science's faculty is lacking in diversity, several new postdoctoral fellowships have been created.

FAITH IN ACTION

12 / *Gracias A Dios*

Student Emerald Dohleman '16 looks back on her experiences as part of USD's 2015 Tijuana Spring Breakthrough.



ATHLETICS

14 / *The Stuff of Dreams*

After a life-changing cancer diagnosis, pitcher Taylor Kaczmarek has a heightened appreciation of what really matters. He's determined to keep pushing ahead.

ON THE COVER:

President Mary E. Lyons, PhD,
photographed by Nick Abadilla.

www.sandiego.edu/usdmag



20 / THE BEST AND THE BRIGHTEST

We continue to shine the spotlight on USD's most inspirational professors:

Get to know Law Professor

Miranda McGowan; Engineering Professor Susan Lord; Professional and Continuing Education Professor Malachi Walker; Librarian Hugh Burkhard and Theater Professor Evelyn Diaz Cruz. They are very different people, but each of them is very much at the top of their game.



EXCELLENCE IS NOT A SPECTATOR SPORT.



ALUMNI UPDATE

26 / The Dazzling Dozen

Alumni Honors 2015 was a night to remember for all attendees of the annual event, which celebrates the personal and professional achievements of USD's most accomplished and noteworthy graduates.



CLASS NOTES

28 / Holding the Line

Joan B. Kroc School of Peace alumni Yusuf Mzee Gawany '07 and John Patterson '13 are working in Liberia to stop the spread of Ebola.

31 / Backing Into Apologetics

Karl Keating '75 (JD), '91 (MA), has just stepped down from the helm of Catholic Answers, the largest lay-run apostolate of Catholic apologetics in the United States.

36 / Loss and Recovery

Co-founded by Mayra San Juan '07 (BBA), the USD alumnae-led nonprofit Chula's Mission aims to help girls who've lost their mothers.

40 / Impactful Investments

Tim Bubnack '91 (BBA), managing partner of private equity firm Huntington Capital, espouses socially conscious investment principles.





[valediction]

LASTING LEGACY

President Mary E. Lyons, PhD, anticipates the next chapter upon stepping down from her position

Recently, *USD Magazine* sat down with President Mary E. Lyons, PhD, for a reflective conversation on her 12-year tenure, which comes to an end this summer.

While the university has grown significantly in both reputation and reach during that time, Dr. Lyons is quick to credit others for those successes. She's also optimistic about the university's opportunities for the future — and more than a little excited about her own as well.

Q: During your tenure, USD has grown a great deal in reputation and significance, regionally, nationally and globally. What distinguishes the USD educational experience?

A: A distinguished university stands out from its 'peers.' One of USD's distinctive characters is a curriculum built upon a liberal arts foundation. I applaud the faculty for maintaining that commitment.

USD also stands out because of the remarkable collaborations

among our faculty who integrate their courses with other student-learning experiences. For example, the emphasis on research, creativity, innovation and hands-on community service explains why USD is truly a 'Changemaker' campus.

Q: What do you deem to be the university's most significant achievements since your presidency began in 2003?

A: I am very proud of the university's growing rep-



this environment offer some distinctive opportunities.

Q: In your view, what is the greatest challenge USD will face in the future?

A: I'm very concerned about the issue of access and affordability. The financial burden for many of our prospective USD families is simply too much to bear. We are constantly challenged to invest in quality, yet capture the best and brightest students from all economic strata.

Q: What is your fondest memory as president of USD?

A: Two moments are among the happiest each year: Move-in Weekend, when I absorb the energy of the students and their families experiencing USD for the first time; and Commencement, the launching moment when I experience the joy of our families and their gratitude for the wonderful education their students received.

Q: What are your plans once you step down from your presidency?

A: After a much-needed sabbatical year, I will return in a part-time capacity to teach or to contribute wherever my abilities and the university's needs converge. Our Board of Trustees graciously and generously established an endowed professorship in my name, the Mary E. Lyons Chair in Leadership Studies. In the fall, I will spend six weeks in Seville, Spain studying Spanish. I'm looking forward to new adventures and spending more time with my grandchildren. 🌐

This interview was abridged from a longer conversation. To read more, go to www.sandiego.edu/usdmag/summer-2015.

[Legacy]

HE BUILT THIS CITY

Longtime trustee has helped USD and San Diego to flourish

by Krystn Shrieve

Gene Trepte joined the Board of Trustees in 1973, not long after the College for Men, the College for Women and the School of Law became the University of San Diego and Author E. Hughes took the lead as the university's first president.

Trepte ran the neighborhood carpool at his daughters' Catholic school, was chair of the parent committee and head flipper at the pancake breakfast fundraisers — all while serving as president of Trepte Construction Company, which built countless landmarks in San Diego.

It seemed only fitting that Trepte serve on USD's facilities committee where he couldn't help but notice — more than two decades after its founding — that steel was rusting, tiles in The Immaculata's roof were leaking and the filigree on many of the buildings was deteriorating.

"Back then, the buildings of the College for Men were held together with chewing gum and baling wire," Trepte says. "But the location was amazing, the beauty was supreme, the people were of the highest caliber and Art Hughes had a vision."

Trepte, who served on the Board of Trustees for nearly four decades before retiring in 2011, has done tremendous things for USD, including supporting the athletic building fund, student aid, endowed faculty, the I.B. Eagen Plaza, the Hahn University Center and even the pipe organ in the choir loft in Founders Chapel.

"Student debt worries me," says Trepte, who has given generously to USD scholarships, as well as the Trepte Family Scholarship Fund. "That's why alumni participation is so important. People don't have

to give a lot to make a difference. Even if each of our alumni gave \$10 it would go a long way."

Trepte's story started with his grandfather, Moritz Trepte, who came to San Diego in 1893, built the magnificent ceiling in the Crown Room at the Hotel Del Coronado and went on to oversee the Work Projects Administration Plan for Balboa Park.

Since then, four generations, including Trepte's daughter, Christine, have designed, remodeled or built some of San Diego's treasures — including the Wonderbread Factory, Park Manor, First National Bank, countless naval facilities, Grossmont, Sharp Memorial and Children's hospitals, the Catamaran, Islandia and Bahia hotels, the County Courthouse addition to the Hall of Justice, the Coca-Cola Bottling Plant and Tom Ham's Lighthouse.

Trepte and his wife, Celeste, who passed away in January 2014, were active in organizations throughout San Diego. He served on many boards, including the Old Globe Theatre, the San Diego Foundation and the Girl Scouts of San Diego/Imperial Counties, among others. For nearly 50 years he served on the Zoological Society of San Diego, where he is a former president and trustee emeritus and is known as the "Grandfather of the Wild Animal Park."

There's not much in San Diego's history that Trepte and his family weren't part of building. "We saw it all happen," he says. "We did everything — freeways, buildings, Navy work — and we did it right. It was progress. It was my life. It was fun." 🌐

utation — nationally and internationally — as an academically rigorous institution.

I am also very pleased that the university has a fully-funded Center for Catholic Thought and Culture. This was a project I initiated during my presidency of the College of St. Benedict, but it found fruition at USD. Its aim is ultimately to help students answer, if asked, what difference it made that they studied chemistry, or art or political science etc. at a Catholic university. To that end, the center invites professors to engage and examine the intellectual and social traditions of the church, and its ongoing engagement with the world, through the lens of their own disciplines. In this way, students and faculty may discover why teaching and learning in

NICK ABADILLA

James T. Harris III, DEd, takes the reins as USD president in August. He says that the transformative power of education is one of the great forces in the world today.

[personable]

COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE

Incoming President James Harris believes in higher education



NICK ABADILLA

by *Julene Snyder*

While the 20-page curriculum vitae of James T. Harris III, DEd, is an impressive document, what's even more notable than his many, many professional accomplishments is the deeply personable way he interacts with the people around him.

"He is really the most genuine person I know. Everything about him is true," says his wife, Mary, when asked to describe her husband's attributes. "If he says something, he means it. If he laughs, he means it. It's all real."

Harris — who succeeds retiring University of San Diego President Mary E. Lyons, PhD, this summer — says that accepting the offer to become the university's next president was a no-brainer. "In many ways, it was love at first sight. USD's Catholic identity — along with the need to have a leader who believes in the university's Catholic identity — is a great fit. When coupled with USD's social justice mission, it all really resonated with who I am and the values that I hold dear."

In conversation, Harris has a

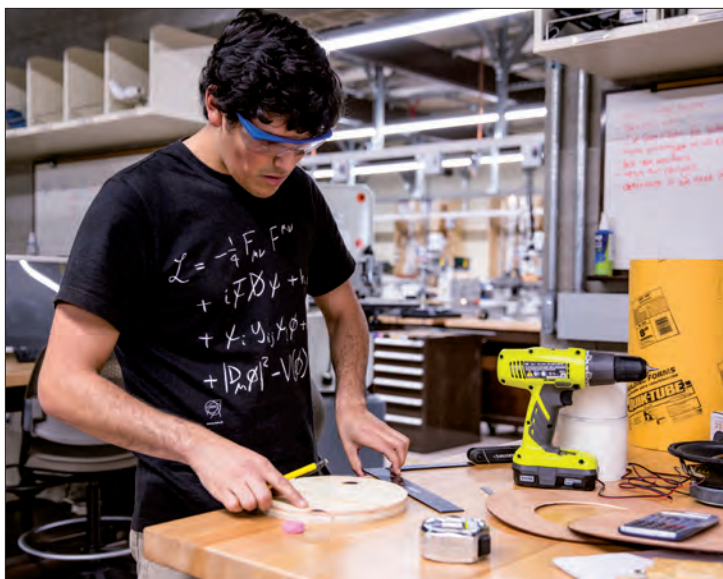
tendency to twinkle, and truly conveys that his full attention is focused right here, right now. A first-generation college graduate, he says that social justice is a theme that echoes throughout his career, which most recently saw him serving as president of Widener University in Pennsylvania for more than a decade.

His blue-collar parents reinforced lessons learned from his paternal grandmother, who taught him the principles of being a good citizen. "They were

both actively involved with local unions, would solicit door to door for the United Way, my dad gave blood on a regular basis. So, the sense of community came from my family. Because of them, I can step into the shoes of those who are less fortunate."

His interest in higher education stems from his own college experience. "Three very important things happened to me during that time: I found my faith and converted to Roman Catholicism when I was in college. I found my vocation and fell in love with the idea of teaching. And I found the love of life, my wife. The three things that transformed me as a man, and as a leader, all came from my time in college. So I've seen the transformative power of education first-hand."

Harris is both pragmatic and optimistic when it comes to the challenges facing USD at this juncture. "There are really three areas: It's about accountability, affordability and accessibility," he says. "But it really all starts with us: What values bring us together as an academic community as we develop a vision for the future of USD? I'm really looking forward to having that conversation. The first step is to listen to a diverse group of people who care about USD's future and then to work in partnership with them to achieve our full potential as one of the nation's great Catholic universities." 



TIM MANTOANI/CHRIS PARKS

[expansion]

LEAPS AND BOUNDS

New space for engineering

In mid-April, a festive dedication ceremony was held to celebrate the first phase of renovations for the Shiley-Marcos School of Engineering in Loma Hall. The 10,000 square-foot, state-of-the-art space was designed so that students would have a place to collaborate, brainstorm, design, build and test their ideas.


The \$4.5 million expansion includes the 1,600 square-foot, flexible Cymer Ideation Space, which was funded by the San Diego-based company, as well as Donald's Garage, a prototyping studio named after the late Donald P. Shiley, co-inventor of the Bjork-Shiley Heart Valve. Additional spaces include dedicated fabricating lab and wood and machine shops — bright, roomy areas where students can turn their projects from ideas to reality.

In 2013, a major gift from Darlene Marcos Shiley established the school. "Donald was not just an inventor," she said

during remarks at the dedication. "He was a master machinist. I feel that I have to do things that make him proud of me. I want the next Donna or Donald Shiley to be a Torero."

USD President Mary E. Lyons, PhD, said that the university has long had an engineering program to be proud of. "Our founders had a dream, they had a vision," she said. "Excellence in engineering education is not new at this university."

The expansion of the school is meant ultimately to double not just the physical space available for the use of students, faculty and staff, but to nearly double enrollment from the current level of about 500 students.

"I'm very proud to be a part of this exciting school, to be in this exciting space," said Founding Dean Chell Roberts, PhD. "This is about innovation, creation and becoming one of the best undergraduate engineering programs in the country." 

Senior Orlando Crespo, a mechanical engineering major, works on a project in the new Shiley-Marcos School of Engineering lab space.

[gifts at work]

USD fraternity and sorority chapters came together during Greek Week in March to raise more than \$25,000 to support City of Refuge Ministries in Ghana via a USD student-run chapter on campus. Students participated in various fundraising activities, filled 300 backpacks with school supplies and wrote personalized letters to children at City of Refuge's onsite school. "I want to say thank you (to Greek Week organizers) for helping to make an impact on a child in Ghana, who, because we're helping them get an education, could become a Changemaker and help lead their country," Ali West '15 said. An anonymous donor gave an additional \$30,000 in support of the students' efforts. Learn more at www.cityofrefugeoutreach.org.

Cymer Inc. has made a \$450,000 commitment to USD to support several areas of the campus. The bulk of the gift was used to name the Cymer Ideation Space at the Shiley-Marcos School of Engineering. A flexible space, with movable walls, interactive white boards, and multimedia technology, the Cymer Ideation Space will support up to 10 engineering student teams at one time. The gift also supports USD athletics and the USD Founders' Gala in 2015 and 2017.

The May and Stanley Smith Charitable Trust has awarded \$50,000 to the School of Law to expand the provision of free legal assistance to clients of the Veterans Legal Clinic. The clinic offers free legal services to veterans who need assistance in any one of three areas: disputes with predatory lenders and for-profit educational institutions over the use of GI Bill funds and related loans; appeals to correct the char-

acterization of their discharge from the military; and appeals of disability claims with the Department of Veterans Affairs. The clinic is one of 10 operated by the School of Law serving clients in the San Diego region. Robert Muth directs the Veterans Legal Clinic and supervises senior law students who work closely with veterans on their cases. Since requests have exceeded capacity, the award will help address the needs of many of those on the waiting list.

Carlo and Jan Cetti have pledged a "challenge gift" of \$25,000 to help fund a classroom dedicated to Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science Dean Emerita Janet Rodgers. Jan Cetti, an RN and previous USD Academic Affairs Committee member, served as CEO of San Diego Hospice for many years and as senior vice president of Sharp Healthcare. Carlo Cetti is former senior executive for Jack in the Box and now serves on the board of the YMCA.

The Gem Foundation made \$30,000 in gifts to support the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice's groundbreaking conference and subsequent regional dialogues on "Defying Extremism." The Gem Foundation co-convened a February Asia Regional Dialogue in the Philippines, which brought together religious leaders, human rights activists, women peacemakers and others for five days to examine how violent extremism is affecting communities and approaches used to overcome it. They also co-convened a similar Europe Regional Dialogue in Bosnia and Herzegovina in May, to be followed in 2016-17 by Regional Dialogues in Africa and the Middle East/North Africa region.

Fearless outgoing SOLES Dean Paula Cordeiro jumped from a plane in 2012, along with a member of the U.S. Army's Parachute Team's Golden Knights Squad.

[purposeful]

DREAM WEAVER

SOLES Dean Paula Cordeiro is moving on to the next chapter



COURTESY OF U.S. ARMY PARACHUTE TEAM

by **Melissa Olesen**

The hallways of the School of Leadership and Education Sciences will never be quite the same after Paula Cordeiro steps down as dean on June 30, 2015. Her vision has left an indelible mark on the school that's been her passion for the past 17 years.

Cordeiro's reach as SOLES dean has been helped by two dramatic developments that both occurred in 2007 — moving into a stunning, new 80,000-square foot building, Mother Rosalie Hill Hall,

and incorporating the word “leadership” into the title of what was previously known as the School of Education.

“This building gives us a sense of place,” she explains. “It tells the community that USD values the work being done in this school.”

During her time at the helm, Cordeiro has helped SOLES to establish its identity, to grow and to become a true Change-maker in the community.

In March, she and her team hosted a Jeffersonian dinner —

a time-honored tradition of connecting people and promoting causes through a structured evening of fine dining and topic-specific conversation — for members of the San Diego community.

“People want to have Jeffersonian conversations. Intellectual, polite, but challenging,” Cordeiro says. “One person talking at a time, with others listening. Facilitated conversations around topics that are important to them. SOLES has become a place where

those important conversations can take place.”

SOLES' expansion of programs, cutting-edge research and overall credibility is something to savor. But Cordeiro, who announced her decision to step down as dean last May, is confident about her decision to move on to the next chapter.

On April 1, 2015, it was announced that she will become a Dammeyer Distinguished Professor of Global Leadership and Education. She will be working with the nonprofit organization Edify, whose mission is to improve and to expand sustainable, affordable education in the developing world. Cordeiro and her SOLES faculty and students have been working with Edify on various projects for years.

In this new role, she will continue to work with SOLES students and other USD students and faculty. “SOLES, the School of Peace, the business school and the International Center, among others, are doing great work around the world. My goal is to connect all the dots.”

Cordeiro will also be working to provide microloans to schools, overseeing Edify staff around the globe, and providing training for school leaders.

“I truly believe that education can allow people to achieve their dreams,” she says emphatically.

But Cordeiro hasn't left the building yet. She's mentoring

staff, hiring faculty, ensuring all SOLES programs are in great shape and working with USD administrators to ensure there are intellectual and fiscal policies that cover the kinds of projects faculty and students are doing in SOLES' research centers.


She believes that mentoring is important, especially when it comes to helping women advance in the fields of education, leadership and counseling. Although she admits some progress has been made in gender equality, there's still much work to be done.

"Overall, when I look around the world, I see pockets of light from countries like Rwanda or Sweden or a few other nations where they've said that their corporate boards or their parliamentary positions will be held by a certain percentage of females, but they had to legislate it," Cordeiro explains. "I tell my students, especially the women, to always negotiate. Be assertive. You absolutely have to be persistent."

As a seasoned professional in the field of education and leadership, advice to graduating students takes on an amplified meaning. In an economic environment where jobs can be tough to find for students in any field, Cordeiro cautions her students to work for organizations that truly value them as individuals.

"Whether it's a nonprofit our students go into or a job in City Hall, whatever the position is, they really have to ask themselves, 'Is this a 50-50 relationship? I tell my students to question the world they're going into.'"

Talk of legacy is inevitable when a long-term leader embarks on a new challenge. For Cordeiro, her hope is simple.

"That our school and our programs remain relevant," Cordeiro says. "A professional school should not exist without being relevant and connected to the community." 

[knowledgeable]

MEET NICHOLAS LADANY

New SOLES dean comes to campus this summer from Santa Clara

Nicholas Ladany, PhD, an internationally known scholar, educator and leader, has been selected as the new dean of the School of Leadership and Education Sciences (SOLES) at the University of San Diego. He will begin his new role on July 1, 2015.

Dr. Ladany will be replacing outgoing Dean Paula Cordeiro, who has led SOLES for the past 17 years.

"Dr. Ladany is ideally suited to build upon the impressive progress at SOLES under the leadership of Dean Cordeiro," says Provost Andy Allen. "His leadership approach includes alliance building and interpersonal adeptness; a commitment to multiculturalism and social justice; and a collaborative visionary focus."

"I've known Dr. Ladany as a scholar and administrator for several years. He is an experienced dean and impressive scholar who will bring many strengths to SOLES," Dean Cordeiro says. "I have no doubt that he will continue to build upon and develop the programs, institutes and centers we're so proud of in the years to come."

Dr. Ladany comes to SOLES



CHUCK BARRY

from Santa Clara University, where he's been dean of the School of Education and Counseling Psychology since 2012. While there, he led a dramatic increase in student diversity, enrollments and community partnerships.

He worked with donors, foundations, corporations and the university to develop a satellite campus to focus on preparing teachers to work in underserved Latino communities. He also facilitated the development of multiple K-12 school and university partnership programs such as the Academy of Blended Learning for professional teachers and principals, and the Excellence in Catholic Education and Leadership program for aspiring Catholic school teachers.

"It is a distinct honor to serve as the dean of SOLES at such a distinguished university as the University of San Diego," Dr. Ladany says. "Throughout my administrative career, I have often pointed to SOLES as a model school and Dean Cordeiro as a model leader. I am humbled by this opportunity and look forward to the exciting opportunities ahead."

Prior to Santa Clara University, Dr. Ladany was professor and director of counseling programs at Loyola Marymount University and held a series of faculty and administrative positions at Lehigh University. He's also served as a faculty member at Temple University and the University of Maryland.

Dr. Ladany holds a PhD in counseling psychology from the University at Albany, State University of New York, and a BS in psychology from the University of Maryland. — *Melissa Olesen*

[etc.]

This spring, art lovers had the opportunity to see one of the most important Rembrandt exhibitions of the past 30 years at USD. The exhibition, *Rembrandt: A Decade of Brilliance, 1648 – 1658*, explored the last 10 years of Rembrandt's graphic output. The exhibit ran from March 20 to May 24 in the Robert and Karen Hoehn Family Galleries in Founders Hall.

The first annual Torero Trek

— in which Career Services staffers took 20 students to Silicon Valley to visit Adobe, Google and LinkedIn — concluded with a student/alumni networking event. As a result of going on the trip, Brianna Kirkpatrick '15 was offered and accepted a position in human resources/talent acquisition at Adobe, in large part due to the efforts of fellow Torero Jeff Vingjunco '96, the firm's vice president of talent acquisition. Additionally Brittan Bushman '15 was hired for a position in finance, this time due to networking with Vijungco when he was on campus over the course of the school year.

USD's School of Business

Administration has launched a new Master of Science in Finance (MSF) degree. The school will enroll its first class in August 2015. Through this 10-month program, business professionals will acquire the necessary skills needed for the increasingly technical demands of financial decision-making.

Correction: In the Spring 2015 issue of *USD Magazine*, we incorrectly attributed a quote to Alexis Sanz '15, which should have been attributed to Chris Barry '15. We regret the error.

[multiplicity]

MIXING THINGS UP

Diversity Post-Doctoral Fellowship brings new scholars to campus

Post-doctoral fellows Melanie Zauscher, PhD, (left) and Josen Diaz, PhD, (right) say that having mentors like Ethnic Studies Professor Gail Perez, PhD, (center) has made their transition from student to teacher nearly seamless.



NICK ABADILLA

by **Julene Snyder**

In a thoughtful, concerted effort, the University of San Diego's College of Arts and Science is working to affirmatively address areas where its faculty is lacking in terms of racial and ethnic diversity.

"The dean's idea, two years ago, was to establish a post-doc for those who've completed or are completing PhDs to do research and teach at USD," explains Alberto Pulido, PhD, co-chair of Dean Noelle Norton's Advisory Council on Faculty

Diversity Recruitment and Retention. "The goal is to bring diverse faculty here — who are under-represented in the college — and get to know them and let them get to know us, with the ultimate goal of hiring them."

"Supporting and recruiting a diverse faculty is a top priority for the college," affirms Norton. "As a Catholic university, we need to uphold our commitment to diversity and address the needs of our increasingly com-

plex global society."

Candidate recruitment for three two-year fellowships resulted in 173 completed applications to various departments within the college. Fellowships were ultimately offered to Josen Diaz, PhD in Ethnic Studies and Melanie Zauscher, PhD in Marine Sciences/Chemistry. Both are thrilled by the opportunity.

"In fact, I'm jealous that I didn't know about USD as an undergraduate student when I was looking for a program," Zauscher

says with a laugh. "These are great students, and I really enjoy interacting with them in the classroom and lab." Her research involves atmospheric chemistry, "specifically brown carbon," she explains. "We're looking at questions such as how does it form and how quickly? It's related to climate change."

Much of Diaz' work focuses on trans-nationalism. "I'm interested in the way that the experiences of Filipino-Americans in the U.S. are related to global conditions," she says. "My work has to do with the relationships and connections that immigrants have to the Philippines. The notion of 'home' becomes complicated." She says that her own Filipino background is definitely a factor in her abiding interest in the subject, but adds that the enduring relationships and connections that U.S. immigrants have beyond our borders translates to all sorts of other racial and ethnic categories.

Assistant Dean Pauline Berryman Powell, who co-chairs the Advisory Council alongside Pulido, says that the benefit of these new post-docs to students is immediate. "I really like that these hires allow our students to be exposed to people from different ethnic backgrounds in the classroom," she says. "It's really about perspective, and diversifying not just the faculty, but the curriculum and the work that we do."

Pulido adds that the process and strategy behind the selection of applicants is unique. "We want to make sure we get the faculty we're asking for," he says. "No one else is doing anything like this."


Berryman Powell agrees. "This is very innovative for USD. We could be met with resistance because our outreach was targeted, but we were methodical. We wanted to make sure we had mentors in place and a place to put our new post-docs." Applications are currently being reviewed for a third position.

Diaz says that her mentors have made the transition from student to teacher nearly seamless. "The mentorship is an everyday thing, and it's personal. They're not just checking in about my work, but they care about my professional development, about my work/life balance, about how to be a mentor to others. That's really amazing."

Both Diaz and Zauscher have two mentors; each works with Ethnic Studies Professor Gail Perez, PhD, as well as a faculty mentor within their own department. Pulido gives particular kudos to Perez, who was hired to serve as their official mentor.

The college's hope that these post-doctoral fellows would turn out to be a good fit and become long-term members of the community has come to fruition: Diaz has accepted an appointment to the Ethnic Studies Department.

"We are delighted with the hire of Dr. Josen Diaz as a member of our faculty," says Norton. "She will add to a growing transnational and international dimension to the department's work."

"We definitely had the ultimate goal of considering them for hire," Pulido says. "But our motivation isn't 100 percent selfish. We want to guide these fellows so that they can get a full-time position anywhere. If that happens, we've done our job and provided them with the tools they need to survive and thrive in higher education." 

[fast-moving]

STATE OF THE ART

Technology tools keep USD at the forefront

by *Julene Snyder*

The University of San Diego is leading the pack among liberal arts institutions nationwide, providing innovative digital solutions that go far beyond just serving student appetites.

"Information Technology Services (ITS) is a focal point for providing innovative teaching and learning experiences, as well as enhanced administrative services," says Vice Provost and Chief Information Officer Chris Wessells.

In 2014, ITS began its "mobile first" initiative. Moving forward, all applications development, new vendor systems and infrastructure advancements for academic and administrative activities at USD now consider the need for mobility. "We're at the forefront of mobile infrastructure, mobile classroom innovations and mobile applications development," says Wessells.

Among the most recent apps developed is Insight, described as the "world's most powerful student to-do list app," built specifically with USD students in mind. It was created at the behest of President Mary E. Lyons, PhD, who challenged ITS to create an innovative application that lets students organize their academic work, plan study abroad trips, keep up with class meeting times and grades, and much more.

Another app called the World Interactive Study Environment (WISE), a "geo-contextual social learning platform" also was conceptualized and developed at USD. It's a particularly handy tool for those preparing to or studying abroad, combining community sharing, detailed geospatial maps and context-based learning.

Other apps offered by the university include the content-rich mySDMobile, as well as the USD MascotCam, along with the Future Torero app for hopeful applicants, and others in development.


"As we continue to develop more customized apps, we hope to bring that superior level of personal connection USD is known for," explains Avi Badwal, senior director of enterprise resource planning technologies.

Of course, mobility and responsive app development are just two pieces of an intricate technical pie. The university's mobile-first strategy includes working toward transitioning the campus wireless network so that USD's campus will be a worldwide leader in implementing the very fastest Wi-Fi. "Statistics show that USD students carry, on average, three wireless devices," says Wessells.

"And their means of connecting to USD is almost exclusively through wireless connections."

USD's Mobile First initiative includes the iPad classroom project, which sees instructors and students integrating mobile technology into the curriculum

"When you see students working collaboratively with iPads in ways not possible before — the way it changes how they learn, and the excitement they exhibit — it's just profound," says Shahra Meshkaty, senior director of academic technology.

"Our work is never done," says Wessells. "We eagerly seek innovative ways to improve our technology infrastructure, applications, services and support. All of this helps to make USD an even more attractive place for our current and prospective students, faculty and staff." 



The university's annual Tijuana Spring Breakthrough lets students explore the realities of life just beyond the U.S. border. Junior Emerald Dohleman '16 found the experience deeply moving.

[emotive]

GRACIAS A DIOS

Lessons learned during USD's 2015 Tijuana Spring Breakthrough

by Emerald Dohleman '16

Heighted anticipation kept our group of 29 energetic, even though we were tired from a full day of service and sports. We were all eager to welcome our host families to the end-of-the-week fiesta.

Many of us were working to prepare dinner. The smell of freshly grilled carne asada and the steady sound of chopping filled the air. There was much laughter as one group transformed a pile of avocados into a giant bowl of fresh guacamole. Mismatched tables and chairs were gathered from around the chapel to seat the 70+ people we were expecting to join us in celebrating our group's last night in La Morita.

The moment was bittersweet: it was the first time most of us had seen our host families since departing from their homes two days before, but it was our last night in a place that had very quickly become home.

The families arrived one at a time: one bearing cupcakes for the group, the next laden with gifts and treats for their new brothers and sisters. All brought smiles and enthusiastic embraces. Some of the families arrived early to participate in a worship service; we joined them in the chapel.

All of the USD students were called to the front, alongside community youth who taught us



LUIS GARCIA

dance moves to several praise and worship songs. As we looked out at all of the now-familiar faces of our families we danced without inhibition, the qualms of leaving our newfound home forgotten in the joy of movement.

Breathless from dancing, everyone moved out to the patio to enjoy the dinner we'd worked to prepare. It was wonderful to reciprocate the hospitality we'd encountered count-

less times throughout our week. Once we had served all of the families, we ourselves were able to break bread, a concept that had come to hold great value. The animated sound of eager conversations and children playing filled the air.

One last time, we experienced the simple joy of being with one another and the people who now called us daughters and sons.

A true fiesta ensued with one

of the host dads leading an impromptu Zumba session, and more dancing broke out as the tables cleared of the now empty plates and cups. All too soon, families began to say their good-byes. An outsider would have assumed we were age-old friends making a difficult departure, but in truth, we were strangers-turned-family in a mere six days.

What made our goodbyes so difficult is hard to pinpoint.

Based on the number of hours spent together, I should be far more attached to some of my labmates than to the beautiful people I was now saying goodbye to. Nonetheless, I was deeply moved when my nine-year-old “brother,” Moises, asked if I was going back to their home the following morning. The answer was “no.” The only comfort I could offer were promises of continued connection via email, Facebook, and potential future visits. My “mother,” Rosy, parted by promising me a place in her thoughts, prayers, and heart, and five-year-old Matilda firmly grasped my neck and kissed me on the cheek.

As I’ve reflected more on this connection, I’ve come to realize that this very real love that we shared had everything to do with the mutual openness that my host family and I met each other with. This allowed for a truly genuine interaction and let me be present for them in an authentic way, without fear of judgment or the need to fit in.

The connection we had with host families made the rest of the week’s activities that much more impactful. The context of shared laughter and smiles — coupled with having lived a day in the life of my family — provided a visceral connection with the people of this wonderful community.

I left Tijuana with something much more substantive than some abstract idea or statistic that one is usually faced with when learning about immigration and border politics and issues.

One thing I know for sure: as my family left, they took a piece of my heart along with them, which will remain with them in my Tijuana home. 🌎

Each year, University Ministry takes a group of students to the Tijuana Spring Breakthrough. To learn more, go to www.sandiego.um.

[symbiotic]

A WAY FORWARD

USD’s efforts to empower Linda Vista through education

by Mike Sauer

The mini basketball that helps keep Corey Pahanish, ‘10 (MA), focused balances precariously in his palm as he searches for the right words to articulate his aspirations for the Bayside Community Center, and the vibrant community it supports. The ball seems to tether Pahanish — a whirling dervish of enthusiasm and self-proclaimed “basketball nut” — to the here and now, even though his thoughts are clearly on the future.

“This is a really important and exciting time for Bayside, specifically in our efforts to empower the diverse community of Linda Vista and propel it, and ourselves, forward,” he says. “Providing support to the youth of this community has always been a big part of Bayside’s identity, and we’re extremely grateful to USD for providing us with the resources to do that.”

As a nexus of education, culture and community, Bayside has been a Linda Vista landmark for generations. As its executive director, Pahanish knows that a major component of the center’s

longevity is directly attributable to the efforts of the USD students, faculty and staff located just a short jaunt down Linda Vista Road, and he’s eager to keep that connection going.

“Historically, USD had provided Bayside and the Linda Vista community a lot of support in the form of human capital,” Pahanish explains. “For example, we’ll have USD student volunteers getting hands-on learning experience through our Bayside Academic Club, where they’re matched up with students in the schools we have in the community.”

Much of that student support flows directly from the Karen and Tom Mulvaney Center for Community, Awareness and Social Action, where programs such as the Youth Engagement Initiative (YEI) provide approximately 80 work-study students with the opportunity to be trained as classroom mentors in K-12 classrooms.

Almost all of the YEI program’s resources are focused on Linda

Vista, with the specific aim of supporting Title I schools (where at least 40 percent of the school’s students come from low-income households), after-school programs offered by USD community partners like Bayside, school teachers and counselors, and extra-curricular activities that promote wellness.

As the Mulvaney Center’s director of community-based youth programs, Ilana Lopez understands firsthand how critical USD-supported educational programs are to the continued development of the community and its citizenry. In fact, Lopez ran a literacy development program for English language learners at Bayside as a graduate student at USD’s School of Leadership and Education Sciences, and cites the experience as one of the most formative in her professional career.

“When I ran the after-school program at Bayside, I also worked as a teaching fellow at Francis Parker,” Lopez says. “Originally, I wanted to become a teacher, but it was a very eye-opening experience for me to work in two very different academic environments. Understanding what certain students are getting and not getting informed the work that I do now.”

Above all else, Lopez, like Pahanish, is committed to empowering Linda Vista community members through education.

“We’re trying to set up a safety net for the children of Linda Vista by figuring out the best way to deploy our student resources so they can help our community partners like the Bayside Community Center in the most beneficial way possible,” she says. 🌎



Executive Director Corey Pahanish ‘10 (MA), at Bayside Community Center.

Taylor Kaczmarek's life-changing cancer diagnosis has led him to a heightened appreciation of what really matters.

[heroic]

THE STUFF OF DREAMS

Pitcher Taylor Kaczmarek is determined to make the most of every day



TIM MANTOANI

by Don Norcross

The dream goes like this ... USD pitcher Taylor Kaczmarek stands atop the mound, peering toward his catcher. The fastball touches 90 mph.

The breaking ball darts at a 45-degree angle. The change-up drops off the table, the batter foolishly lunging, bat flailing at air.

"Throwing a pitch, knowing it's going to be a strike, even before the batter does," says Kaczmarek.

For now, it's only a recurring dream, not reality. Kaczmarek is battling and, for now, defeating

acute lymphoblastic leukemia. He was diagnosed on May 26, 2012, seemingly at the height of his baseball career.

"In the beginning I was scared," recalls Kaczmarek, a junior majoring in business administration. "It wasn't really, 'Why me?' It was more, 'Holy (cow). I'm scared.' The only thing I'd heard about cancer was one of my dad's buddy's passed away. The only thing I knew was the worst."

Until cancer's call, Kaczmarek seemed to be on the fast track to

a pro baseball career. He was selected the Arizona Gatorade Player of the Year his senior season at Desert Ridge High in Mesa, Ariz., compiling an 11-1 record, driving in an absurd 58 runs.

"He was a stud," recalls Desert Ridge coach Pat Herrera. "He was our dude."

Drafted in the 50th round by the Dodgers in 2010, his senior year in high school, Kaczmarek passed on turning pro, instead heading to community college. Two years later, he struck out 88

batters in 81 innings at South Mountain Community College in Phoenix. He batted .343 and accepted a scholarship to USD.

Then came the pain in his left foot, leading to a blood clot in his leg. Next came sleepless, sweaty nights. Playing catch with a friend one day, he nearly passed out.

"I had no idea why," says Kaczmarek. A doctor thought he had mono. Blood was drawn. Then came the phone call. "You need to go to ER, immediately," a stranger told Kaczmarek. "Your symptoms point to leukemia."

That night, Russell Vaughan, Kaczmarek's catcher since junior high, spent the night in his friend's hospital room. No cot. No sleeping bag. Sprawled on the floor.

"I love the kid," says Vaughan. "He needed someone, and if I made him feel comfortable, made him feel like he didn't have cancer, then I'm going to try to make it as easy as possible."

Leukemia is cancer of the blood. There are about 6,000 reported cases of acute lymphoblastic leukemia annually in the United States. There is about an 80 percent cure rate among youths.

Because he was young and in excellent health, Kaczmarek underwent an aggressive form of chemotherapy. He was hospitalized for a month. Ever the athlete, he pedaled a stationary bike, cranking out push-ups and sit-ups.

"I was miserable at the end," he says. "I wanted to breathe fresh

air. I just wanted to lie on a baseball field and see the stars.”

He lost 45 pounds, going from 6-foot-1, 225 pounds to 180.

Despite Kaczmarek’s leukemia diagnosis, the Kansas City Royals drafted him days later in the 40th round. The cancer has been in remission since Kaczmarek’s release. He enrolled at USD in the fall of 2013 and has played in a limited capacity the past two seasons.

After appearing in only three games in 2014, Kaczmarek signaled a return to top form when he pitched six shutout innings vs. San Diego State in May.

He takes one daily chemotherapy pill, another once weekly, and makes a monthly visit to an Arizona hospital for IV treatments. There’s a good-news, bad-news angle to the cancer treatment.

The good news is that his cancer is in remission. The bad news is that chemo zaps his energy.

“It’s still a struggle every day,” he says. “I feel tired, fatigued.”

Meanwhile, he pushes onward, lifting weights, stepping atop the mound, practicing in the bullpen. If the cancer stays in remission, he can stop the chemotherapy medication in September.

He’s applied for an additional year of eligibility, and wonders how hard he’ll be able to throw and pitch with the anticipated increase in stamina.

“I don’t know if anybody could have handled this any better,” says USD Baseball Coach Rich Hill. “Taylor’s on the mound, throwing bullpen (workouts), in the weight room. You can see the determination in his face.”

Kaczmarek jokes that battling cancer is like “belonging to a brotherhood you don’t want to be in.”

He takes off his baseball cap, wipes his brow and says, “People may think I’m crazy, but I wouldn’t trade (cancer) for anything.

“I take nothing, absolutely nothing for granted. The beach. The desert. The mountains. Every day is a blessing.” 📸

GETTING TO KNOW ...



TIM MANTOANI

BRETT MASI

AGE: 36. **HOMETOWN:** Riverside, Calif.

CREDENTIALS: Over the past two seasons, the Brett Masi-led USD men’s tennis team has not lost a match in West Coast Conference play; an unprecedented achievement in program history.

“To have the opportunity to coach here at USD is amazing. As a Southern California native, I was aware of how successful the Torero tennis program has been, and we’re doing everything we can to continue that winning tradition.”

A FAMILY AFFAIR: Masi didn’t have to go far to find a blueprint for coaching success. “My dad was the head coach for basketball at UC Riverside for 26 years, so coaching is in my blood. He taught me the value of sportsmanship and playing for something bigger than yourself.” **WORLDLY:** There’s no denying that internationally-born recruits have been a cornerstone of the Torero tennis program, and the 2014-15 squad is certainly no exception. “With USD being a school that’s so desirable in terms of location, academics and athletics, it’s really appealing to young players from all over the world. Our roster is a reflection of that.” **RAISING THE BAR:** As the two-time defending West Coast Conference champions, the Toreros are no stranger to on-court success. Masi has a sneaking suspicion that he’s got the talent in place to take the program to new heights. “We’re a top 30 program, and we want to get to the next level. We believe in each other and play for each other. We’ll see where that leads.”

Taking Care

USD graduates leave no stone unturned with their efforts to heal

by Kelly Knufken

The nurse is answering a woman's question, but she makes sure to look at the boy standing next to her and talk to him as well. "Hey, buddy." There's softness in her voice, but she's not patronizing. This nurse knows what it's like to be a patient, indeed, to be a child with a serious illness.

"I'd always wanted to do this," says Megan (Hickey) Barbosa. "I was an oncology patient at 18 months."

She doesn't remember that time, of course, but kids who've had cancer have follow-up appointments for years. And she well remembers the summer camps she attended with other kids who'd been diagnosed at some point with pediatric cancer and the nurses who volunteered there.

Now she's a member of the latter group.

Barbosa '10 (MSN) is a charge nurse in Hematology/Oncology or "Hem/Onc," as it's known. She's answering phones and keeping tabs on everything that goes on. She's got a pen tucked into her bun and is triaging and assigning nurses for the day's chemotherapy infusions and lab work.

"It gets a little crazy around here," she says. She's making sure she knows which nurses need help, and which ones can provide that help.

She's interrupted over and over. This is what it means to be a nurse anywhere. But today at Rady Children's Hospital San Diego (RCHSD), dozens of USD graduates are making patients' lives better. Yes, they take vital signs, coordinate care and even administer chemotherapy. But they also provide comfort. They're passionate about pediatrics, and they're up to the multi-tasking endemic to working in the state's largest children's hospital.

"I don't think it's any different than

I expected," Barbosa says. She reflects for a second and adds, "Well, sometimes it's busier."

She and another nurse meet at a computer screen to check a patient's chemotherapy in advance of the procedure. It's a complicated process that involves not a little math — square roots, many calculations — to determine the patient's body surface area and the dosage he's to receive.

RCHSD was the only place Barbosa envisioned ending up, and her "very specific plan" for working there helped her land a rare slot in Hem/Onc as a new graduate. But there is one place she doesn't seek to work — the procedure room, where children are put under general anesthesia for procedures such as a lumbar puncture. "Having been a patient, that's a little too close."

"I'm constantly checking complaints, cleaning beds. There's nothing I won't do," Barbosa says. "I definitely understand

what it feels like to be lying in that bed. I try to get to the beeps sooner because of that. The team here is amazing. We're very tight-knit because of the patients. Everybody jumps in to help."



Elsewhere in Hem/Onc, Kristina Ost '92, '93, (MEd) is wearing navy blue scrubs, ready to be one of those jumping in to lend a hand. She's a manager and attends a lot of meetings as a nurse educator charged with keeping the department nurses' skills up to date, but the scrubs are a mark of her commitment to always be at the ready to help out bedside.

"I feel like I have the best of both worlds, because I still get to take care of patients, but I also get to be involved on the other side of the spectrum with all of the decisions to be made," Ost says. "Being a resource is the biggest and most important



Clockwise from top left: Kristina Ost '92, '93 (MED) believes that pediatrics nursing is a calling; Chief Nursing Officer and doctoral student Mary Fagan (at right) says USD has helped her understand the role of the nurse scientist; Rebecca Reynolds '07 (MA) earned her master's in marital family therapy at USD; Benjamin Brenners '10 (MSN) says his clinical background helps him balance staffing; Mark Abcede '08 (BA) calls his work in pediatrics "really rewarding."



Rady Children's

Top to bottom: Benjamin Brenners '10 (MSN); nurse practitioner Lani Yeh-Nayre '07 (MSN) works in pediatric oncology; Megan (Hickey) Barbosa '10 (MSN) had a specific plan to work in the Hematology/Oncology unit at Rady Children's Hospital San Diego, which helped her earn a rare slot there as a new graduate.

aspect of my job. It's important to know what goes on at the bedside. It also builds a little bit of respect. I'm not the fastest out there anymore, but I can go take care of a patient. And there are very sick kids here."

It's Ost's job to hire and train the Hem/Onc nurses. She also oversees licensing and supervises the nursing staff in the hospital's partnership in the Scripps Proton Center, the only pediatric proton center on the West Coast. "It's very exciting. It was a huge learning curve for me."

It's no surprise that it takes a special kind of person to care for the sickest of children. But over and over, these nurses demonstrate a huge level of commitment to caring for sick kids. There are many heart-wrenching moments, but there are also many rewards.

"I could not be an adult nurse. Pediatrics is a passion, a calling. I just gravitated toward them. Kids are resilient. Even though it's a sad place, sometimes we also have a lot of fun." There's real warmth in Ost's voice. "We make it the best experience for them, to relieve their suffering. We have an amazing team of nurses here."

The nurses "advocate hard" for the patients and really work on treating the whole family, she says, including making the most of their time if there is a terminal diagnosis. This all means she's constantly calling upon her University of San Diego undergrad psychology degree. "I got a great education at USD."



The university is also helping Children's Chief Nursing Officer Mary Fagan with her goals for the hospital's nurses. She's enrolled in the PhD nursing program and is expecting to graduate in December 2015.

"The real reason I got interested is that we wanted to grow our nursing research program," Fagan says. "USD has broadened my perspective and helped me really understand the role of the nurse scientist." She's finding it to be the best way to connect with other nurse researchers in the community and connect with those researchers who want to help the pediatrics patients.

Rebecca Reynolds '07 (MA) appears to have a permanent smile. One-on-one, Reynolds is effusive; her cheer isn't over-the-top, but it is contagious. Yet in her

role as residency program manager for nurses and respiratory therapists, she tells it like it is. Today, she's moderating as a group of nurse trainees — many in scrubs — get a lesson in patient- and family-centered care, hearing from parents who've been through the nightmare of a child's chronic illness — or worse.

"Every family has a culture," says Reynolds. "Things get magnified. Sometimes families glue together, and sometimes they blow apart. I was not always the nicest nurse. I was an adrenaline-junkie."

What saved her love of nursing? She was looking for a course change when she entered USD's Marital Family Therapy Program, but in the end, she says, it made her a kinder, gentler nurse.

"Becoming a therapist really enriched my nursing. Now that I'm a mom as well, I get it on a whole other level," Reynolds tells her students. "No one is here because they want to be here. So in the stress of these environments and their children's cases and the not knowing, it often brings out the good, the bad and the ugly in the families we work with."

It's the nurse's job to ask themselves the right questions to get to the bottom of any problems.

"Are (the parents) freaking out because no one took the time to explain to them what was happening?" she asks. "When you push parents to the side, you're missing the people who know the children best."



Benjamin Brenners '10 (MSN) is a nurse scheduler and coordinator in Hem/Onc who anticipates and balances staffing, but also crunches numbers to make sure quality can be measured and improved. His clinical background helps him fit the puzzle pieces — limited rooms, nurses and chemotherapy sessions that may vary from five minutes to eight hours — into a smoothly operating schedule.

He was surprised by his interest in hematology and oncology. "I fell in love right away. I think it was the amount of different things you could do and the variability in what your day could look like, the connection that you could have with the patients."

And there was this: "I think everyone here seemed like an ace. That was a huge draw."

Adaptability is key.

"Earlier, I was out there starting an IV for a patient that loves me to start his IV," Brenners says. "Most of the day, I'm at my desk booking appointments and working on quality metrics and putting together a proposal for industrial engineers on patient volume. It just works for me. I enjoy seeing what the numbers show. I want to see if there's a better way we can do it."

Mark Abcede '08 is another numbers-driven USD alum at Children's Hospital. As clinical research manager for cardiology and cardiovascular surgery, he works in a cramped office dominated by a wall of binders containing regulatory information for studies of procedures or devices to improve heart care. (The other notable feature of the office is a large shredder. As everywhere in the hospital, patient privacy is paramount.)

Wearing a crisp, dark blue checked shirt and glasses, Abcede is surrounded by bulletin boards bearing complicated diagrams of the heart, doctor schedules, regulatory bulletins and the like. Behind him, on a whiteboard, he's written project statuses and "6 Simple Rules." Those include: "Smile. It's not so bad" and "Work harder than everyone else" and, of course, "We are dedicated to the health and well-being of the children in our community."

"What I like about my job is it's really rewarding, being able to help our patients each day, just because they're so innocent," Abcede says. "I also like that it's multifaceted, so it's never the same thing. You're constantly adapting to various changes. You're learning about all the newest treatments that are coming out, which is always exciting. We have devices that were nonexistent 10 years ago. It's helping patients so much, decreasing the amount of stress that patients and their families have to go through because treatments are less invasive now."



It's easy to see how not only how these caregivers influence their charges, but also how they themselves are changed by the job. Nurse practitioner Lani Yeh-Nayre '07 (BA) is trying not to let that happen, but that doesn't mean she always leaves her work at the hospital.

A pediatric oncology nurse has to be patient and empathetic, Yeh-Nayre says, while also "not completely losing yourself in the difficult parts of what we do."

Nayre, who mostly sees patients with brain or spinal cord tumors, enjoys spending time with her own family to nurture her mental health.

"I'm able to keep an eye on what's going on at work, but still able to separate that when I need to. I mean, don't get me wrong, I definitely take it home with me plenty of times." At this, she struggles, her eyes becoming watery.

"There are times that it still affects you. But we all love what we do. For good or for bad, we get to be very close to our patients' families. It's great because when you see them succeed and get through their treatments, we celebrate with them. That part is very rewarding. On the other side of it, even when they don't do well, of course that's much more difficult to deal with. But I think for most of us, we look at trying to smooth the journey to soften the blow, as much as we can. Because we create a relationship with our families — oftentimes taking care of them for a year or more — I think we form a bond with our families, so we're not strangers."

For two years she worked as a nurse practitioner in primary care, while working in RCHSD on weekends. In 2009, they were looking for nurse practitioners in Hem/Onc. "It's my dream job. I'm very, very lucky. These jobs are few and far between."

For Ost, too, this career is very fulfilling.

"It made me realize that a simple life filled with friendships and relationships is the most important thing to me. My life is not based on material things." She becomes quieter. "You realize that families here are just completely destroyed overnight when there's a cancer diagnosis — for so many reasons, psychosocial and economic. Whatever we can do to relieve the suffering is really profound to me."

It can be a struggle, with competing priorities and many administrative tasks to complete, Ost admits. "But I always try to remember that my nurses come first, and the patients come first, and everything else has to wait."

They may be constantly switching gears. But the thing that's always there, at the forefront, is working together to make life better for a child who's very, very sick.

"I LIKE THAT PROFESSOR DIAZ CRUZ

pushes me to go outside my comfort zone. She advocates from a feminist, minority perspective and gets people to stretch outside of their bubble."

— Deja Featherston '18 (BA)

PROFESSOR MCGOWAN IS VERY

engaging. She's a dynamic lecturer and she's so well organized, which I really appreciate. She brings a little bit of humanity to the law, where sometimes it's lacking."

— Verin Valdez '16 (JD)

"I FEEL LIKE DR. LORD REALLY

knows what we're going through. She understands just how difficult the material is and that's a big factor in her teaching method."

— Madison Abron '16 (BS/BA)

The Best and the Brightest

A continued celebration of the university's rock star professors

Think back to your most memorable classroom experience, and it's likely what you remember is a dance, of sorts: The give and take, the push and pull, the back and forth of interaction between student and teacher that makes clear comprehension an inevitable end product. More than just instigators of a single "Aha!" moment, the best educators provide tools that last a lifetime. They inspire a love of learning for its own sake, and manage to help us forget how very many bad ideas precede the one that lights up our synapses like an over-the-top fireworks display. No, not just rock stars. These are the champions, my friends.

THE *Energizer* by Karen Gross

By the time her students are seated and settled in the lecture hall,

Miranda McGowan has covered one side of the blackboard with a diagram topped with three terms: “protected conduct,” “adverse action” and “causation.” The topic of today’s employment discrimination class is retaliation.

“Any preliminary questions here?” she asks, after reviewing the issues on the board. “OK, take about five minutes to talk amongst yourselves and develop arguments.”

McGowan has given the students a hypothetical case culled from an actual one. It involves an aging taxi driver who was terminated by his company, a protest he organized in response, and the company’s subsequent firing of his wife. She gives them a bit of time to discuss the issues, then launches into a fast-moving question and answer session, calling on students by name.

“What do you think?” she asks. “If Orange Cab wanted to defend this policy, what would they have to do? What does the driver have to prove?” The resulting discussion is spirited and smart, just like the professor who stands at the front of the room.

“The material is not always super-accessible when you’re reading it. Part of my goal is to get them to have a deep understanding of a case,” she says. “But I also want them to get past what might be their reflexive reaction. Having an opinion is not the same as having a reason for your opinion.”

Although employment discrimination is one of several classes McGowan teaches, her passion for this particular subject matter is personal. Raised in a racially mixed blended family, she spent her younger years as one of only a few white kids in her Hawaiian school. In the late 1970s, McGowan’s family moved to St. Louis, where school desegregation was still a work in progress.

“It became clear to me that there was an enormous amount of either conscious or unconscious discrimination in people’s daily lives,” she says. “One of the things I try to communicate to my students is the fact that discrimination is still prevalent. A lot of people really just don’t buy the idea that it still exists, though it’s an easier story to tell now, after Ferguson, New York and Cleveland.”

As the class winds down and the students begin to disperse, McGowan collects one index card from each of them. On it, they are obliged to write two main ideas from the day’s lesson, and ask one question. This is how she works to improve her teaching. “They’re really useful to me because I can see where I’ve screwed up or where I’ve failed to explain something,” she says. “It permits me to tailor the class to what they need.”



“THE CLASSES THAT I TEACH *are not just classes about law. They’re classes about history, they’re classes about social movements, they’re classes about politics and our political system. So there’s an enormous amount to talk about, in addition to whatever legal case we’re analyzing.”*

THE *Facilitator* by Mike Sauer

It's not like Hugh Burkhart is trying to annoy the taciturn colony

of students clustered in the "Silent Zone" of the Copley Library ... but it's clear from the icy glares aimed his way that he won't be winning any popularity contests in the foreseeable future. "They want to shush me, I know, but I look official, so they're letting it go," he chuckles. As an associate professor and Copley's resident reference librarian for the subject specialties of English, French, Theatre Arts and Communication Studies, Burkhart's usually the one putting Chatty Cathys in their place, but today he's leading a dozen English Language Academy students on a tour of the library and its facilities; a task that requires him to speak. Loudly.

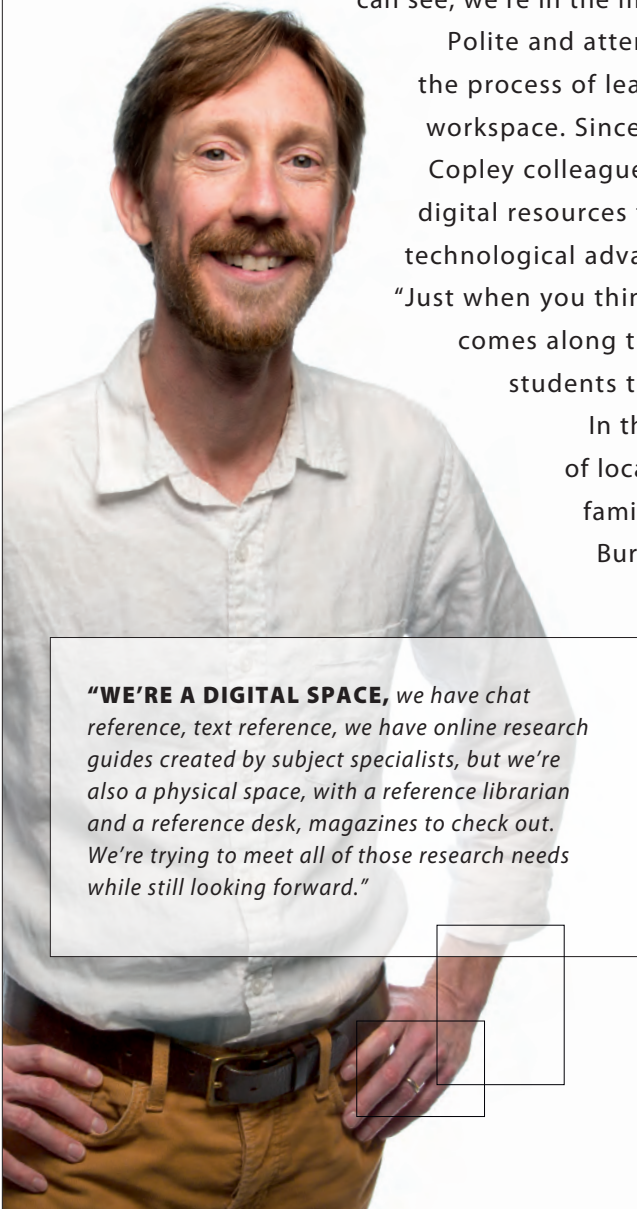
A major renovation project isn't helping matters much, and Burkhart is forced to raise his voice to a level that pierces the bang-and-clatter of the workers installing new flooring. "Normally, this is where you would be able to check out books and consult with people like me about research tools available to you, but as you can see, we're in the middle of a construction zone," he offers.

Polite and attentive, Burkhart is the last person who would purposefully disrupt the process of learning; especially in a place that is so much more than just his workspace. Since his arrival at USD more than seven years ago, Burkhart and his Copley colleagues have endeavored to make the library a nexus of print and digital resources that support student success. Staying abreast of the constant technological advancements in library sciences keeps Burkhart on his toes — "Just when you think you've caught up with everything available, something else comes along that changes the game," he muses — but it's the interaction with students that puts the spring in his step.

In this instance, he's educating a group struggling with the nuances of locating research information in a language they're only somewhat familiar with. Theirs is not an uncommon problem, and to help, Burkhart has developed a simple, two-step process: First, he takes the students on a 30-40 minute tour of Copley's ample reference materials, study spaces and research databases. He'll follow up with them via an in-class discussion on how they might apply that knowledge to the projects they are working on.

While this particular group may not be entirely familiar with local language and culture, Burkhart marvels at their ability to research and gather information digitally.

"Regardless of where they might come from, college students today are digital natives," he says. "Their knowledge of researching information is almost intuitive, so we want to tap into that, and, in the process, expand their knowledge on how to access academic-based research and information through the library."



"WE'RE A DIGITAL SPACE, *we have chat reference, text reference, we have online research guides created by subject specialists, but we're also a physical space, with a reference librarian and a reference desk, magazines to check out. We're trying to meet all of those research needs while still looking forward."*

THE *Scrutinizer* by Karen Gross

“Good morning, everyone!” comes a chipper voice from the front of

a Loma Hall classroom. Not satisfied with the tepid response from her Electrical Engineering II students, Susan Lord gives it another shot. And then another. On the third try, the persistent professor finally gets the robust morning greeting she wanted. And pupils gear up for another session of understated enthusiasm from their teacher.

“In general, what are we talking about here?” she asks, eyeing her students keenly. With quick strokes, she draws a trapezoid on the white board with a flat region in the middle and lines that fall off it from both sides. “Where would you say we would use this particular amplifier?”

The questions are quick and constant, and the answers zing back rapidly. To the uninitiated, this lesson could seem like it’s taking place in an utterly foreign language. But these students are juniors, and they’ve seen her in action before. “I think this is what I was meant to do,” says Lord, who also serves as chair of the department. “I love what I do. I really do love trying to help people understand.”


Her body of research and writing on engineering education — combined with multiple research and teaching awards — offers ample evidence of her talent as a teacher. A few examples: She serves on the California Science Project’s advisory board. She presents and organizes workshops that introduce school-aged girls to science, technology and engineering. Among her many accolades, Lord counts the prestigious Nicola Tesla Chain Award for outstanding achievements in the field of engineering pedagogy, bestowed by the International Society for Engineering Education.

Her approach involves peppering her students with pointed questions, prodding and pushing them to come up with the right responses. And if they don’t, she goes over things again, and again, until everyone gets it.

“Engineering is not about memorizing stuff,” Lord notes. “It’s really about finding a way to understand the problem-solving so you can do it when the problem changes a bit.” Just like it would if these students were building a real amplifier in the workforce.

Coupled with her passion for teaching, Lord — a mother of two girls — is focused on bringing more women, veterans and underrepresented and underserved populations into the engineering fold. It’s an ongoing challenge that she says she hasn’t mastered yet. But if you look around her classroom, there’s real variety in the group. She credits USD for fostering diversity by requiring its engineering students to study liberal arts.

“If you understand people and society a little better, you should be better at solving problems,” she says. “The reason it’s so critical to get more women and visible minorities is that we need lots of different people at the table. The more people you have, the more solutions you’ll develop.”



“WHEN I FIRST STARTED TEACHING, *I wanted them all to go on to be very successful engineers in the typical way we think of engineers, working for an engineering company. Now, I’d like them to help change the world.”*

THE *Practitioner* by Bonnie Nicholls

Malachi Walker has been up for 16 hours, but it's impossible to detect

any signs of fatigue as he shares wit and wisdom with his small class of future project managers on a chilly spring evening. "Don't make me pull out my phone and look at last week's wedding photos."

His gentle threat gets a laugh from his students, because they know he's really telling them to grab his attention when they make their final presentations later in the week.

A full-time project manager by day, Walker is teaching one of the last courses students need to receive their project management certificate through USD's Professional and Continuing Education program, which has catered to working professionals for more than 40 years.

Many of his students have day jobs, are the same age he is (or older), and have taken other courses with him, so it makes for a collegial vibe in the room in the Manchester Conference Center. But while Walker is easy-going and soft-spoken, he's no pushover, as he illustrates in a war story from his own experience.

He tells the class about a project he was working on, where he had announced to the client six weeks earlier that he was going away on a particular weekend. Then, right before Walker was leaving, he was asked to process a lot of small tasks that would have put him way behind. He said no.

"A lot of people will ask, 'Can you make a small change to this? Can you take time to do that?'" Walker says. "But all of their little changes can put you in a situation that makes it seem like you're not on top of what you're doing."

Walker knows what he's talking about. An instructor at USD since 2013, he has more than 12 years of experience in the field. He works as a technical project manager for the San Diego Tourism Authority, supports a biotech start-up as a project research and development specialist, and owns a fitness training business.

During one of the many lively class discussions on scope, cost and scheduling, Walker cautions his students: "Sometimes we get so focused on clearing the big hurdles that we trip over a pebble before ever reaching the hurdle."

Those pebbles might include using the wrong technology when something simpler might do, or paying attention only to feedback from executives rather than listening to the worker bees. Walker loves the challenge of teaching and the confidence the university has in him to step into any environment, whether in the classroom or online.

"It keeps me sharp. It forces me to think on my feet."

One key trait of a good project manager is the ability to cope with constant setbacks. Walker wants to teach that to his students. "You have to be very resilient," he says. "You have to practice patience with yourself. There are so many things that pop up where you can make a mountain out of a molehill."



"TRACK COACHES ENCOURAGE YOU
to run through the finish line, not to the finish line. Like a track coach, I want my students to manage projects through project closure, not to project closure."

THE *Provocateur* by Julene Snyder

If the essence of Evelyn Diaz Cruz could be bottled, the resulting

effervescent energy drink would deliver a tangy jolt of pure adrenaline, volatile enough to make your eyes shoot open wide and words race one another out of your mouth.

"I grew up in the Bronx in the '70s," recalls Cruz in her rapid-fire rat-a-tat-tat pace. "My family immigrated from Puerto Rico to Spanish Harlem in the 1920s. My mother moved our family to the Bronx, and then in the '70s moved us again to San Diego. During that time, landlords were burning buildings to collect insurance. Forty percent of the buildings in the Bronx were burned down. It was probably a good time to leave."

The associate professor of theater arts and performance studies pauses. "And yet it was the Bronx that made me an artist. We came together as a community through street art, graffiti, music and dance. As soon as the weather got warmer, the congas would come outside and we would connect with a higher creative power."

She laughs, remembering. "There was a lot of dancing and music. Salsa and hiphop were born in the Bronx. We had a lot of creative fun!" (Imagine the word "fun" underlined three times and elaborately scrawled three stories tall in neon spray paint on a brick wall, and you're almost there.)

A playwright, director, actor and professor, Cruz is as passionate about sharing her love of language and theater arts as she is about social justice. Toward that end, she chooses monologues, scenes and dramatic literature for students in her classes with meticulous care.

In one acting class, Cruz offers students feedback on their work, "It's really about, 'How much empathy can you elicit for this person?'" she tells them. "It's easy to horrifically judge someone, until you actually have to inhabit their body." Once her students shake off their inhibitions — literally in the case of one warm-up exercise — shyness appears to have left the building.

During their monologue presentations, there are raw moments of bottled-up pain, hilarious moments of awed reverence at a glimpse of forbidden fruit, and gut-wrenching outpourings of grief and humanity. After each one, Cruz offers a word or two of encouragement before urging the next student to take their place front and center.

Later, in her office, she talks about many things. The criminal justice system. The workshops she'll be facilitating this summer with underserved youth in Newark, New Jersey. Civil rights, race, gender, sexuality, feminism, pedagogy and activism: you name it, Cruz has a perspective to share.

"It is our mission at USD to provide students with a larger world perspective. And theater arts allow students to explore issues of social justice that they're passionate about. Engaging theater for consciousness raising exposes flaws in our system in a provocative and proactive way." 🎭



"AS A THEATER ARTIST, I WRITE, DIRECT
and act. But first and foremost, I'm a professor. I love the mission of USD and how we all inform each other's pedagogy. My work gives me a way to be an activist while connecting with students."

2015 Alumni Honorees (left to right, below): Stephen K. Nasman '71 (BS); Emiliano Gallego '00 (BS/BA), '11 (MSEL); Barbara A. Driscoll, PhD '78 (BA); Victoria J. Nasman '74 (BA); Lee C. Sorensen '07 (MA); Jim Parsons '01 (MFA); Janine Mason '86 (BA), '11 (MA); Karen P. Hewitt '89 (JD); Henry "Hank" J. Acquarelli '69 (BS); Josh Johnson; Sandra Solem '84 (MSN), '02 (PhD); Matthew "Matt" J. Reno '80 (BBA).

[celebratory]

THE DAZZLING DOZEN

2015 Alumni Honors a huge success for the university

Alumni Honors 2015 drew from every era of USD history for an evening of celebration and inspiration. The recipient bios in the program told only part of the stories to the more than 400 guests in Shiley Theatre. The 12 recipients were recognized for individual achievements, but taken as a whole they comprise a mosaic reflecting the university's spirit: the College for Men alumnus who quit a lucrative corporate job to become a teacher; the nurse who cares for wounds that can't always be seen; the entrepreneurs and professionals who did well in their careers and do good in their communities.

"I've heard people call USD a small university," said Charles Bass, director of the alumni association and the evening's master of ceremonies. "Intimate, for sure. But there is nothing small about it. This is a university of high ideals and big ideas, high hopes and big hearts."



LAUREN RADACK

[reaching out]

TIES THAT STILL BIND

Affinity groups keep USD alumni connected



When reviewing how graduates remember their time at Alcalá Park, the university and the Alumni Association have noticed a trend: Over the years, alumni have repeatedly shared that their strongest memories and affiliations are tied to the student organizations in which they participated, the sports in which they played and the academic clubs in which they studied.

These “affinity groups,” are budding programs housed

out of the Alumni Association that aim to connect graduates with USD and with one another in avenues that they deem meaningful.

To date, the Alumni Association has worked with more than 30 such groups, 13 of which are officially recognized as alumni clubs by the university. These range from academic-based groups (such as the College for Men and Sacred Heart Alumnae), to student organizations (PRIDE Alumni,

FUSO Alumni Network, Sigma Chi Alumni, Men’s Lacrosse Alumni), and finally, to special interest groups (Black Alumni Network, Comité Mexico and Torero Varsity Association.) Alumni Association activities have also been coordinated with groups based on class years, such as the Golden Toreros, the Mid-Career Alumni Network and Young Alumni Network.

To learn more, please email alumni@sandiego.edu.

— Kara Marsh Proffitt '04

1 Young Alumni Network: Emily Rote '12, Katie Kucich '12 and Samantha Merriam '12.

2 Black Alumni Network: Troy Owens '08 (JD), LaShanta Raymond '03, '15 (JD), Kalicia Hepburn '06, Carol Dyson '02 and Tatiana Lopez-Rogers '14.

3 Filipino Ugnayan Student Organization (FUSO): Hector Ramos Jr. '13, Kayla Kawile '13, Tiffany Mendoza '10, Krystle Umanzor '04, Edilita de Boda '95, Barbra Calantas '03 and Alejandro Cervantes '09.

4 Sacred Heart Alumnae: Susan Wachowiak '62, Judith Pidgeon '56 and Agnes West-Kohler '65.

HOLDING THE LINE

by Andrew Faught

Near the heart of the drama were two USD alumni — Yusuf Mzee Gawany '07, an associate field protection officer for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and John Patterson '13, a mili-

As a member of USAID's Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART), Patterson arrived in the country in September — at the height of the outbreak

"There was a study that came out that said that may have been the single most effective part of the whole response," Patterson says, noting the disease can

Tens of thousands of refugees have come through the Ivory Coast's Bahn refugee camp. Through the efforts of workers like Yusuf Gawany '07, Ebola did not infect the camp.

be spread postmortem.

DART team members include various technical experts who, after setting a strategy for the U.S. government, then work with non-governmental operations to determine needs.

Gawany, meanwhile, was on an Ebola task force committee in the Bahn refugee camp in eastern Liberia, where, between 2012-14, more than 20,000 refugees from the neighboring Ivory Coast sought protection from that country's civil war.

"My responsibility was to coordinate awareness for Ebola prevention in the refugee camp and supervise the construction of the Ebola Community Care Center in the Bahn community," Gawany says. "Fortunately, our efforts worked out well, and no refugee was infected with Ebola."

Gawany has worked for UNHCR for 17 years, during which he also has helped Ivorian refugees in his native Tanzania. He's also worked with refugees from Sierra Leone, Guinea and the Democratic Republic of Congo. The job isn't short on heartbreak.

"Especially when it comes to dealing with unaccompanied and separated children, as well as women, girls and children who have suffered sexual and gender-based violence and other traumatic events," Gawany says. That said, he takes solace in small victories. "I feel satisfied whenever I am able to find a durable solution to one case."

Like Patterson, Gawany attended USD's Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies. He left his wife, son and daughter for a year to move to San Diego and learn new perspectives on humanitarian work.

"I would not easily be considered to undertake an interna-

tional mission like this one and be able to assist even more persons in need of help were it not for the education and professional skills I acquired from the University of San Diego," he says. "The more I am able to help other human beings in need, the more motivated I become."

After graduating from the Naval Academy in 2004, Patterson was an active duty officer for seven years, serving mostly in San Diego in counter-drug operations, but also in the Middle East. It was in the military that Patterson was confronted with a paradox.

"The appeal of the military was the idea of service — being part of something bigger than myself and giving back," he says. "But after a while, I realized everything I did all day long was ultimately about violence. I decided I wanted to be able to do those same things — to serve — but to do so with the ultimate goal being nonviolence."

He considered joining the Peace Corps, but instead enrolled in the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies. The experience, Patterson says, "gave me the foundation, the vocabulary and the cognitive tools to wrestle with the problems that I deal with every single day."

He served on the DART team in the aftermath of the 2013 Philippines typhoon. Patterson also does work in Central America. They may be different colors on the map, but he doesn't differentiate.

"As I've traveled more, this barrier of us and them and here and there really starts to break down," he says. "These things are not happening to other people; they're happening to us. That's really what drives me and keeps me going." 🌍

1960s

[1961]

MARY DUGAN (BA) reports that her son, Tom Louie, married Denise Ovaldsen in Los Angeles. Mary completed nearly two years as a part-time grant writer with College and Community Fellowship. "Celebrating my friend Robert Mentken's 81st birthday now, both of us still running slowly in Central Park and trying to support efforts toward racial justice and climate justice in our country," she writes.

JOAQUIN DURAN (BA) says that he earned a BS in engineering from the University of Santa Clara after leaving USD, and later earned a master's degree at San Jose State University.

SISTER LINDA HAYWARD (BA, MA '68) is writing *Legendary Life*, a memoir about Sister Frances Danz, the second president of the San Diego College for Women.

[1964]

MIKE McDONNELL (BA, JD '67) is still practicing law. Mike and his wife, Kathy (Steves) '65, have 10 in their family, including two grandchildren, who have attended USD. "We have quite the legacy going," Mike says. "USD and USD Law School have been great for us."

PAUL NACOZY (BA) is retired from his positions as professor of aerospace engineering at the University of Texas at Austin and as chief scientist at an aerospace company. He has two grown daughters — Elizabeth, a pediatric nurse practitioner in Huntsville, Ala., and Kathleen, an attorney and writer in Seattle — and four beautiful granddaughters.

DELLE WILLETT (BA) has more than 30 years of experience in marketing and public relations. Currently, she is managing public relations for three major nonprofit organizations and writing for several community papers and magazines.

[1965] 🎓

LARRY MOYER (BS) was inducted into the Marin County Athletic Hall of Fame in 2014 for his work as a basketball official. He also is in his third year as the observer for the NBA at all Golden State Warrior home games. Larry is still working in his family insurance business and has no immedi-

ate interest in retiring. He has 10 grandchildren, "five of each!" he says.

AGNES WEST-KOHLER (BA)

says that she recently spent "two delicious weeks in Paris."

[1966]

VERN SCHOOLEY (JD) received the prestigious A. Sherman Christensen Award at the U.S. Supreme Court on Oct. 25, 2014. At a formal dinner hosted by Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg, the award was presented by Judge Richard Lin of the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. On Sept. 13, 2014, Vern was recognized by the Long Beach Bar Association and Ball/Hunt Inn of Court for his efforts to promote ethics, civility and professionalism. Vern is a partner at Fulwider Patton LLP in Los Angeles and Long Beach, Calif., where he practices patent and trademark law.

[1968]

FATHER GEORGE BYRNE (BA) earned a master of divinity degree from St. Patrick's Seminary and University in Menlo Park, Calif.

MICHAEL WELCH (BA) writes, "In the last year or so, my wife and I have settled in a home in El Dorado Hills, Calif. We've traveled twice to Europe, twice to Hawaii and made a double handful of trips to Alameda Island in the Bay Area and San Diego. We, somewhat by accident, managed to be in France for All Souls Day, Nov. 2, in both 2013 and 2014."

[1969]

JAMES DYCK (BA) says that following his service as a Navy officer, his career has included rancher, construction worker, electrical contractor and accounting executive for a medical equipment firm. Currently, James is a published author, including a novel and a collection of poetry, which are featured on his website, www.black-mountainlady.com.

WILLIAM GORE (BA) has served in the U.S. Navy and the FBI since graduating from USD. He is currently the sheriff of San Diego County.

1970s

[1971]

VINA (PIRES) PEREIRA (Med) and her husband, Julian, immigrated

to Canada in 1972, were married in 1973 and raised four children in Victoria, British Columbia. They now have seven grandchildren and another on the way. In 2004, Vina, Julian and their four children and their spouses opened a new company, ParetoLogic.com, which Vina and Julian have since retired from and their children run. "We now travel a lot and when we stay home, we babysit our grandchildren often and have our 17-member family over for dinner every Sunday evening," Vina says. "We are truly blessed to have such a wonderful, loving family. All are doing very well."

[1974]

VINCENT ADESKO (JD) joined the Sacramento County Public Defender's Office after graduation and, in 1985, he moved to the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office, where he served in research and training, and then with the Major Crimes Bureau. As a part of the California District Attorneys Association, Vincent co-chaired the Prison Crimes Committee, which provided statewide prosecutor training related to prison investigations, prosecutions of crimes involving inmates, staff or civilians, and officer-involved shootings. In 2007, he retired from his position with the CDAA and as assistant chief deputy DA with the Sacramento District Attorney's Office. "My retirement has been blessed with exciting travels and wonderful times spent with Diane, my lovely wife of 45 years," he says.

[1975] 

SUSAN REDELINGS (BA) writes, "Got laid off in 2012 and haven't looked back! Spoiling myself and the grandchildren!"

[1976]

JANE AUSTIN (BA) is an agent with Berkshire Hathaway Home Services California Properties, where she sells residential properties in the Mission Hills area of San Diego.

[1977]

OLUSUNMADE AKIN-OLUGBADE (MBA) reports that he married Folake Akin-Olugbade on Nov. 20, 2013.

RENNIE BLOCK (BA) recently returned from a two-week Pilates and cooking retreat in Italy.

[1979]

REV. DEACON ANN DUMOLT (BA) graduated on May 20, 2014, with a joint master of divinity degree from Claremont School of Theology and the Episcopal Theological School at Claremont. She is a parish deacon at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Monrovia, Calif., and is preparing to retire from state service to become a hospital chaplain.

ROBERT TRENTACOSTA (JD) is a former presiding judge of the San Diego Superior Court. He is currently the assistant supervising judge of the San Diego Superior Court, Juvenile Division.

1980s

[1980] 

NICK KRALL (BA) has served as chairman of the Relay for Life of Sylmar in 2008, 2009 and 2015. He is vice president of the Sylmar, Calif., Chamber of Commerce and sings with Marv Rosenberg's Safaris, a doo-wop a cappella group; L.A. River, an Americana band; and Fiddler's Green, a British Isle folk music group. Nick has appeared in dozens of television shows and movies, is a horse owner and enjoys hang gliding.

[1981]

NICK CROCE (BBA) writes, "NJ Croce Co. is in its 33rd year of business as a maker of licensed character merchandise sold to retail outlets in the U.S. and Canada." Nick and his wife of 27 years, Laurie, recently celebrated the birth of their first grandchild.

GINGER (PINTO) INFANTINO (BA, MRE '85) reports that her husband, Robert Infantino, is a USD professor emeritus.

[1982]

CHERYL BRIERTON (JD) retired in 2012 from her service as a litigation attorney and judge pro tem with the San Diego Superior Court. She now serves as a mediator with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

[1984]

NANCY CAMPMAN-CROFTS (BA) reports that she married Bob Crofts on Jan. 3, 2015. "We met at church!" she says. Nancy provides

business and creative development services to clients in the home-building industry in San Diego and Orange County. She holds board positions with the Sales & Marketing Council of San Diego, San Diego Housing Federation membership and fundraising committee, HomeAid San Diego and the 55+ Housing Council of Southern California. Nancy and Bob live in San Juan Capistrano, Calif., with their two dogs: Clairabelle, a basset hound, and Champ, a miniature pinscher.

CAROL DAMON-SCHERER (BBA)

has worked for Rady Children's Hospital for more than 18 years and currently serves as the vice president of development. She lives in Del Mar, Calif., with Frank, her husband of 30 years, and their three children: Frankie, 9; Samantha, 7; and Matthew, 6.

ROGER HAERR (BBA, JD '88)

reports that after 25 years as a partner at Luce, Forward, and later as chair of real estate litigation for McKenna, Long, he took his family on a second sabbatical to Europe and started his own law firm specializing in civil litigation.

GRIFF HARRIS (BBA) was honored at the annual convention of the Professional Insurance Agents Association with the Community Civic Leadership Award for myriad contributions and dedication to local charities and nonprofit groups.

RANDOLPH HOUTS (JD) has been in the practice of law for nearly 30 years, published four books and was recently accepted for another term on USD's adjunct faculty.

BILLY PRECIADO (BBA) and his wife, Kym (Marshall) '85, have three grandchildren. He reports that the last of their three children, Marina, expects to graduate from college this summer. "Bittersweet feeling to finally have an empty nest," he says.

MARY (DUREN) SWENSON (BA)

is a licensed professional clinical counselor (LPCC) therapist at the doctorate level. She continues to work at Interpretive Leadership Inc., offering leadership consulting, organizational training and devel-

opment. "Kids are almost grown; hope they go to USD," she says.

[1985] 

LYN ROSSI SEMETA (JD) was appointed to the Huntington Beach Planning Commission.

DONALD STUKES (BBA) is executive director and chief executive officer of Orange County Veterans.org.

[1986]

GLORIA BADER (EdD) writes, "I recently received a diploma in the supervision of executive coaches and published a book on group coaching, a form of action learning. And, the Bader Group celebrates its 25th anniversary this year!"

NOELLE BERNAL (BA) reports that she is "enjoying a career in insurance by helping people protect themselves."

CHRISTINA ROUSH (BBA) is investing in and developing office complexes and multifamily units in downtown Las Vegas.

[1987]

REZA ARABNIA (MBA) was awarded the title of "il Cavaliere del Lavoro" by Italian President Giorgio Napolitano on June 2, 2014. "This is the most important recognition in Italy (comparable to becoming 'Sir' in England) for my contribution to the country's growth, business environment and our communities' well-being," Reza says. (See photo on page 33.)

[1988]

LORI CZOP ASSAF (BA) was recently promoted to full professor in curriculum and instruction at Texas State University. Most of her research is in culturally mediated writing instruction and language learning. For the past four years, she has been working and conducting research in South Africa.

CAPT. JON BLACKER (BBA) and fellow USD alumnus Denis Nolan caught up on old times at a Navy change of command ceremony for Tactical Training Group Pacific. Jon is married with three children: Kelsey, 17; Sarah, 15; and Ryan, 12.

JOAN CHROSTEK (BA) was elected Superior Court judge for the County of Los Angeles after 20 years as deputy district attorney for Los Angeles County.



NICK ARADILLA

[devout]

BACKING INTO APOLOGETICS

Karl Keating is feeding a hunger for truth

by Karen Gross

It's not something Karl Keating envisioned as an undergraduate student studying mathematics. Nor was it something he planned while earning a degree at USD's School of Law, graduating in 1975. As he established his solo law practice in San Diego and settled down with his wife, Keating could never have foreseen the sharp turn his career and life would take. A mild-mannered gentleman, Keating's upbringing in Long Beach, Calif. was Catholic, but not devout. His own awakening dawned over a period of time during his 20s.

"There was no Damascus Road experience," he says with a chuckle. "I think part of it was that missionaries would come to our door. I knew their commentaries about the Catholic faith were incorrect, but I couldn't explain why." Keating started looking for answers. "And the more homework I did, the more interested I got."

His research was put to the test one Sunday in 1979, when a Protestant fundamentalist church papered the cars outside of Keating's Catholic church with leaflets. No one seemed to be countering the literature, so Keating

took up the challenge himself.


"I wrote my own flyers and got some copies printed up at the copy shop," he remembers. "The next Sunday I went to that church and put my flyer on the cars in its parking lot." He called his one-man organization Catholic Answers.

Over the next few years, Keating produced dozens of tracts while working at his law practice full-time. In 1988, he closed the practice and in 1991 he earned a master's in Practical Theology at USD. Today, what humbly began as his "homework" is now the largest lay-run apostolate of Catholic apol-

ogetics and evangelization in the United States. Catholic Answers has an annual budget of more than \$7 million and 45 employees. It produces a daily, national two-hour radio program and a bi-monthly magazine. Its website, Catholic.com, is reportedly the most visited Catholic website in the world behind that of the Vatican. Few people seem more surprised than Keating himself. "It's become quite a larger thing than I ever expected," he says. "When I began, it was almost as a lark. It was a one-time thing."

What's kept it going and fueled its growth appears to be a hunger for truth among Catholics, non-Catholics and would-be Catholics. "Apologetics is an art or a science that uses reason to handle questions," he says. "Its purpose is to clear away the underbrush of misunderstanding, so a person can be open to evangelization."

As a Catholic university, he feels USD has done a good job of imparting the ideal that faith involves both intellect and will, teaching students values and then putting them into practice. "I hope in the future Catholic Answers and USD will be able to work even closer together because I think we're emphasizing two facets of the same hope," he says. "USD has been very successful in getting its students to see that if you want to be a Christian authentically you need to go out into the world and actually live the faith."

Now, Keating is handing over the reins to devote more time to writing, but he'll be staying on as a senior fellow at Catholic Answers. Author of six books, he plans to do a lot more writing in the next few years. And he's unshakably optimistic about the future of the church. "Over the years I've heard every possible reason to leave the church and every possible reason to come back," he says. "Even those who may be disaffected at the moment, I've seen so many of them come back or come to the church for the first time." 

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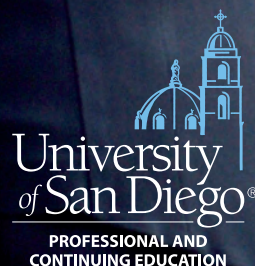
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DAVID QUINN (BA) returned to the Boston area after graduating from USD. He attended his 25th reunion in October 2013. "It was the best decision to be there for that weekend and reconnect with great friends from many different class years," he says. "Thank you, USD, for keeping the spirit alive so many years later."

RATAN VAKIL (MBA) started a new business, The Castle at Rockwall, a party venue in a castle for weddings, corporate parties and gatherings of all kinds.

[1989]

TIM BAKER (MBA) and Tecla (Guenther) '91 have been married for 17 years and have three children: Robbie, 14; Matthew, 11; and Katie, 8. "We travel to Maui, where Tecla grew up, take our boat to Catalina Island frequently, and are involved in the community in Huntington Beach, Calif. Life is amazing!" says Tim.

CURTIS DADIAN (BBA, MSEL '01) is president of California Space Management and is interested in networking with fellow USD alumni. "I've had my hands full with my own local business, but realize I may be missing the boat by not engaging more with our local USD family," he says. "As a local employer for the past 12 years, plus a provider in our community, I hope to build new relationships which could aid in the advancement of my business as well as help facilitate the efforts of other USD alumni."

KATHERINE (COSTELLO) RAND (BA) recently began a new social studies teaching position at the Co-balt Institute of Math and Science.

ANNA (PATZMAN) UMSTADTER (BA) writes, "I'm in full-fledged mommyhood! We moved to the Bay Area three years ago and are enjoying exploring Northern and Central California."

1990s

[1990]

THOMAS EDELBLUTE (BA) has worked for the Anaheim Public Library for 15 years and was recently promoted to library technology systems administrator.

KELLY (ENGLAND) McELWAIN (BA) says, "After moving to South Carolina in 2008 because of my husband's job, we've fallen in love with the history and the people here." Kelly continues to teach part time while volunteering in her kids' schools and in the community. She serves as PTA president, produces community theater shows and mentors at-risk students.

DENIS NOLAN (BA) and fellow USD alumnus Capt. Jon Blacker had a reunion at a Navy change of command ceremony for Tactical Training Group Pacific. Denis is vice president of international licensing and market development for Major League Baseball in New York. He lives in Westfield, N.J., with his wife and three children.

CARMEN WESSON (BA) recently retired from teaching and is developing a teen outreach program with GANAS, a division of the Sheriff's Community Crime Prevention Unit.

[1992]

ERIKA CHANG (BBA) and her husband recently opened a second Aaron Chang Ocean Art Gallery at the Headquarters at Seaport District in San Diego. The flagship gallery is in Solana Beach, Calif. "Our two boys are now 14 and 10 and go to Santa Fe Christian School in Solana Beach," she says.

PETE FAJKOWSKI (BA) works for HomeStart, a real estate and mortgage education site that teaches Americans how to buy and finance property. Pete notes that 90 percent of the education on the site is free.

LARA FURAR (BA) was promoted to director of alumni engagement and programming at the University of Michigan Law School (UMLS). She has been with UMLS for almost nine years and previously was director of alumni relations. Lara lives in Michigan with her husband, Jay Knott, and their 7-year-old son.

MARIE THERESE GAURAUD MARTINEZ (BA) says she has been married for 17 years and notes that she and her husband are blessed with five children.

[1993]

JACQUELINE AUSSIE (BA) reports that she married Greg Weir two years ago and they have a three-month-old son.

KEVIN DOOLEY (BA) reports that he and Heather Manly '02 married at Founders Chapel on Aug. 16, 2014.

SCOTT MAXWELL (BS) was named executive director of the Freedom of Conscience Defense Fund (FCDF), founded by USD alumnus and attorney Charles LiMandri. FCDF is a nonprofit public law firm that defends religious liberty in the public square.

KRISTIN WATKINS (BA, MA '13) owns Stephanie Rose Events, a wedding and event planning company.

[1994]

MAYNIL (RAMOS) LAMBERT (BAcc) and her husband, John '94, returned to the Rockies, settling down in John's hometown of Evergreen, Colo., after almost a decade in Northern Virginia. "Good to get back to mountain livin'," says Maynil.

ERIC TORYKIAN (BBA) recently started Energy Intel Advisors, an energy consulting firm that provides comprehensive energy efficiency and system engineering advisory services to commercial and multifamily building owners and operators.

MICHAEL WOORE (BBA) and his wife, Shelly, have four sons and live in Camarillo, Calif. Michael recently completed a consulting position as vice president of technology and operations innovation with Guthy/Renker and is seeking a new chief information officer role in Southern California. Shelly is a part-time registered nurse, full-time mom and "loving every fun-filled moment with her boisterous boys."

[1995]

SANDEE MAPP (BBA) is working to open her own office for Edward Jones Investments in Lemon Grove, Calif., so she can help others meet their long-term financial needs and reach their long-term financial goals.

JENNIFER (VALADEZ) SAGE (BA) says she and her husband, Richard, are enjoying their five children. Their oldest, Victoria, is getting her driver's license; Grant just turned 15 and is "going on 21;" Adam is in fifth grade and loves riding his bike to and from school; Isabella is in second grade and loves to dance; and Sophia is 3 and loves going to preschool. "Life is very busy with all that our



[impressive]

REZA ARABNIA '87 (MBA) was honored by the President of Italy on May 26, 2014 as the "Cavaliere del Lavoro," or the "Knight of Labor." This title began in 1901 and is awarded each year to those who have distinguished themselves with their innovative contributions to Italy's economy. Arabnia's company, Geico S.p.A, specializes in turnkey original coating systems and plants for the automotive industry. Under his leadership, the company reacted to the serious economic crisis that hit the auto industry in 2008 by investing heavily in innovation and research. Once Geico recovered, Arabnia decided to give workers back the money that they lost when they were placed under a voluntary "reduced salary" regime in 2009 and 2010. USD recognized Arabnia with an Author E. Hughes Career Achievement Award in 2007.

children are involved in. We have lots of places to visit ... daily! I wouldn't want it any other way!" Jennifer says.

[1996]

TERENCE BANICH (BA) has been practicing law in Chicago for 15 years and, since 2008, has been a member of Shaw Fishman Glantz & Towbin, a boutique commercial bankruptcy and litigation firm. He and his wife, Katherine, have a daughter, Sadie Rose, 2.

SHANNON BILBRAY (BA) recently celebrated her one-year anniversary as director of international sales for BerryBreeze, a start-up company. "It has been an exciting year of travel and learning," she says.

JACK LEER (JD) is a partner with a San Diego law firm, which recently added him to the firm's title: Calderelli Hejmanowski Page & Leer. Jack joined the firm in 2013, after 13 years with Seltzer Caplan McMahon Vitek, where he was a partner and member of the firm's executive committee. He specializes in business litigation, including real estate and construction disputes, partnership and corporate management matters, and intellectual property litigation. He also is president of the San Diego chapter of the Association of Business Trial Lawyers and is listed in The Best Lawyers in America for commercial litigation.

DONALD McELFREY (JD) was elected to the bench as Superior Court judge in Del Norte County, Calif. He thanks the faculty at USD's School of Law for the excellent education he received.

TONY SCIARRINO (BBA) and his wife, Christine, have been married for 16 years and they have three children: Kaitlyn, 12; Juliana, 10; and Peter, 7. Tony also recently celebrated his 22-year anniversary with Bank of America.

MONICA ZENT (JD) is the founder and chief executive officer of Zent-Law. Her firm's website is www.zent-law.com.

[1997]

LUIS MASSIEU (BBA) and his wife, Marta Catala, have a new daughter, Matilda. Luis is the founder and chief executive officer of www.apostille.net, an apostille services company.

BENTON MOORE (JD, MBA '98) specializes in entertainment law and is co-founder of the San Diego Music Foundation, a nonprofit organization that brings music education to more than 45,000 students in local public schools and produces the annual San Diego Music Awards.

NICOLE SNYDER (BA) was elected to a three-year term on the management committee at Holland & Hart law firm. The five-person committee oversees the management and strategic direction of the entire law firm, which has 470 attorneys in 15 offices. Nicole is in the Boise, Idaho, office, where she is a member of the firm's corporate practice group and has served as that office's administrative partner for two years.

BETHANY SUTTON (BA) joined Illumina, a San Diego biotech company, in 2008 as program manager of new product development. "Hiking and traveling as much as possible and enjoying time with my baby niece," she says.

[1998]

MAGGIE CATBAGAN (JD) moved to Boulder, Colo., with her son and her husband, Michael Cox.

MARIA VILLARREAL (BA) reports that she has been happily married to Julio Villarreal '97 for 15 years and that they are busy raising three children: Noe, Citlali and Sol.

[1999]

MARIE ELLIOTT (BA) recently spent four months in Guatemala visiting her parents, Stephen and Elaine Elliott. Elaine is the former director of community service-learning at USD. Marie is a paralegal at the Lawrence Holmes immigration law office in Pacific Beach, Calif. She also is a member of the USD Paralegal Association.

ANDREA MUNOZ (BA) is the head counselor at Hoover High School in San Diego.

VICTORIA RAMIREZ (BA, JD '02) has worked for the San Diego County Office of the Public Defender for nine years and continues mentoring and volunteering in the community through La Raza Lawyers, Justicia and Puente. "My husband and I are parents to fur babies Chubs, Piggy and Mamas," she says.

2000s

[2000]

LINDSAY LITTLE (BA) writes, "For the past 10 years, I have worked in accounting on television shows and movies. I've been lucky enough to travel all over the U.S. and internationally on the shows I work on. It's been fun, exciting and eye opening."

NICOLE MATTHEWS (MA) reports that she published her first book, *Permission: Stop Competing and Start Creating the Life You Want to Live*. Find her website online at www.nicolematthews.com.

SARAH MATTINSON (BBA) has owned and operated a local restaurant in San Diego's Mission Beach area for nearly 10 years.

DENISE (EDSON) STICH (LLM) retired from the U.S. Navy on Jan. 1, 2015, and relocated to San Diego. She intends to enter private practice with a small law firm in 2015.

BETHANY (FISCHER) WILLIAMS (BA) writes, "Donovan Gerard Williams was born on June 22, 2014. He was welcomed by his big brother, Coleman Lawrence Williams (19 months)."

[2001]

LIZET CAMPOS (MA) reports that she married Esteban Moreno last summer. "We feel incredibly blessed to be fulfilled professionally and spiritually," she says.

PAUL KAPLAN (MA) has been a world history/geography teacher with the San Diego Unified School District for 13 years.

[2002]

LARA BOLLINGER (BA) is the public affairs officer for the aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan. She will be seeing the crew through a swap in 2015-2016 from the USS Ronald Reagan to the USS George Washington, then finally to the USS Theodore Roosevelt.

GREG BOWDEN (EdD) is associate professor of education at California Baptist University for online and professional studies. He also is the program director for the bachelor's and master's degrees in organizational leadership.

HEATHER (MANLY) DOOLEY (BA, Med '05) reports that she and Kevin Dooley '93 married at Founders Chapel on Aug. 16, 2014.

LISA DUVALL (BS/BA) is close to celebrating 10 years in sales at Maxim Integrated. She says she keeps busy with her daughters, Lilly, 4, and Brooke, 3.

AURORA MADUENO (BA) is a marketing liaison for Canyon Villas Retirement and is training to become chief of operations. "Going into my 12th year of working with this wonderful company," she says.

LESTER SEBASTIAN (MBA) has his own business as a consultant in the electronic payment industry, better known as merchant services.

[2003]

OMAR BECERRA (BAcc) is a partner at AB Tek Productions.

BASIL CONSIDINE (BA) was elected the regional governor of the National Opera Association's North Central Region.

SARAH McPHERSON (BA) writes, "Expanded my family with a little boy, Andrew, born in October 2013. Big sisters Olivia and Lucy are obsessed with him!"

CATHERINE SANCIMINO (BA) is the director of the Autism Spectrum Disorder Center at Kaiser Permanente San Jose Hospital.

CHRISTOPHER YANOV (MA) founded Reality Changers, a scholarship program for inner-city students, just before beginning his graduate program at USD. In May 2014, Reality Changers held its 14th annual scholarship celebration at USD's Jenny Craig Pavilion, with Vicente Fox, former president of Mexico, as the event speaker.

[2004]

MATTHEW CARRILLO-VINCENT (BA) reports that he married Christine Carrillo-Vincent '04 soon after graduation. They now have three children: Emerson, Atticus and Aurora. "We lived for a while back East before returning to L.A. so that I could complete my PhD in English at USC, and now we enjoy spending time with our kids and each other when we are not both teaching," Matthew says.

KATE (GOODMAN) CRACHY (BA) and her husband, Justin '00, celebrated the birth of their third child, Jonathan Palmer. Kate recently completed a master's degree in education and works as a high school religion teacher in San Diego.

ADAM GREGORY (BBA) is a vice president at CommCap Advisors, a commercial mortgage banking firm specializing in long-term, non-recourse financing on commercial properties.

LAUREN (SAPP) HALL (BA) and her husband, Andrew '04, welcomed their second child, Madeline Marie, in April 2014. Madeline joins big brother, Nolan, age 2.

SHANNON HARRINGTON (BA, MA '10) lives in Del Mar, Calif., with her husband and two sons. She is a special education teacher at Carlsbad High School.

GAIRD HELDT (BA) and his wife, Katharine (Nabhan) '04, moved from Geneva, Switzerland, to Plano, Texas, in August 2014 when Gaird took a new job as director of marketing analytics with Market Fusion Analytics. He says they are happy to be closer to family as Gaird and Katherine welcomed their second son, Axel, on Oct. 6, 2014.

KENT KRISTOF (JD) was recognized as a rising star by *Super Lawyer Magazine*, a distinction conferred on just 2.5 percent of attorneys in Southern California. In addition to his law practice, Kent is the liaison from the ABA's Young Lawyer Division to the ABA's Commission on Law and Aging. In 2015, Kent expects to complete his LLM degree in estate planning and elder law.

JOSEPH MCKELLAR (BA) and his wife, Megan '05, returned to California after three years in New York City focused on starting Faith, a community organizing effort. Megan teaches at a Green Dot charter school in South Los Angeles and Joseph is deputy director of PICO California, overseeing organizing campaigns aimed at immigration reform, dismantling the cradle to prison pipeline, and creating living-wage jobs.

CASEY O'NEILL (BA) was appointed to serve as a federal prosecutor and trial attorney for the Criminal Division of the United States Depart-

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[healing]

LOSS AND RECOVERY

Alumnae-led nonprofit supports and guides girls

by *Julene Snyder*

Navigating through the pain of losing a mother toward a pathway to acceptance and healing is the goal of nascent nonprofit Chula's Mission.

Co-founded by Mayra San Juan '07 (BBA) and her friend Lyndsey Ruiz, the organization aims to help girls who've lost their mothers by offering a haven that includes dynamic grief counseling and incorporates cooking classes and other activities.

"We've set parameters that we work with girls from the ages of 11 to 13, but we won't turn anyone away," explains San Juan (pictured at bottom right). The advice to hone in on a particular age group came from someone who sadly has insight into such major life losses: Brent King, father of murdered San Diego teen Chelsea. "He advised us to really narrow it down and focus on a particular age group. However, if asked, we'll work with girls as young as five."

San Juan's mother passed away suddenly of a brain aneurysm in 2010, which led to her daughter's decision to relocate from San Diego to Texas in order to be closer to family. She started working at a preschool, which was where she met Ruiz, who had lost her mother to cancer years before. "We clicked right away," recalls San Juan. "I told her about my mom on my first day on the job."

Before long, Ruiz shared her idea with San Juan: to form a

nonprofit that would nurture young girls going through such a loss. "For some, it's recent. Some have been abandoned, or have moms that are incarcerated, or absent for a long time due to military deployment."

"We just want to help them with all the things girls look to their mother for," says San Juan. "Things like getting through puberty, learning to cook, balancing a checkbook."

When San Juan decided to return to San Diego, Ruiz soon followed, determined to see the idea of the nonprofit move from dream to reality. During the time it took to jump through all the hoops that go into setting up a 501(c)3 organization, the pair began to recruit others to their cause.



NICK ABADILLA

offering," she says. "After the loss of a friend I became acutely aware of how unpredictable the journey through grief can be, and how imperative it is to have a support system to lean on. Chula's Mission is an invaluable place that provides the support of caring adults, and peers that can relate to one another on a level that not everyone can always understand."

A fundraising launch event in August 2014 was a resounding success. While Chula's Mission doesn't yet have its own permanent home, the nonprofit rents space from Solana Beach's Center for Healthy Living through the Boys and Girls Clubs. The plan is to provide grieving girls with mentor/volunteers who will spend one-on-one time with them.

Those mentors have been carefully selected. "We have a pre-application process," explains San Juan. "Then we meet with them, give them an orientation, do a background check, educate them about maintaining appropriate boundaries and train them. The idea is that they bond with the girls and help them to feel safe, emotionally."

The notion that grief and loss can be transformed into rebirth and growth is a powerful one. At least in part, San Juan credits the University of San Diego with helping her become the person she is today.

"USD laid the foundation," she says. "It wasn't one specific professor. It was all of them. Because of them, I was able to start Chula's Mission. Because of them, we will be able to help young motherless girls, not only to heal, but to thrive." Bosowski agrees. "USD helped solidify my value system, which has always put great emphasis on helping others. I want to promote positive change in whatever way I can." 🌟

Board Treasurer Jessica McCarthy '07 (BA) met San Juan when the two were on a study abroad trip to Madrid while juniors at USD. She says she's glad to be a part of the Chula's Mission leadership team. "The board is great. We have a good variety, all with different strengths."

Executive Director Andrea Bosowski '07 (BA) is another longtime friend of San Juan. A therapist in private practice in San Diego, her specialty is working with children and adolescents who've experienced trauma. "This project is meaningful to me for a plethora of reasons, the biggest being the immense need for the specific services we're

ment of Justice. Casey prosecutes complex economic crimes.

JAY PARKER (MSEL) writes, "Recently enjoyed the holiday season in SD ... including a visit with MSEL to the Blanchards!"

JOHN VALENCIA (BBA) is the associate vice chancellor of advancement and communications for the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District in San Diego.

[2005] 🎓

BRITTANY CATTON KIRK (BA) reports that she married Lt. Brian Kirk in September 2014 in La Jolla, Calif. The couple has relocated to the Washington, D.C., area.

MATTHEW LITT (BBA) works as a fine-home specialist in Las Vegas, where he lists, markets and brands new home developments. He works directly with developers to deliver marketing and branding expertise as well as contractual guidance in order to get their projects sold.

DANIELLE MARCHIORO (BA) is the senior campaign manager for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's annual Light the Night Walk in Denver. In her three years in the position, she has helped to raise more than \$3.4 million to further the organization's mission to find a cure for all blood cancers and to improve the quality of life for patients and their families.

PAUL MISLEH (BAcc) returned to the United States after living in London for two years. He founded an investment firm in Seattle with fellow USD alumnus Mike Boroughs.

DEAN SCRIVENER (BA) is enjoying working with SAIC as a defense contractor supporting the U.S. Navy, growing his professional network and helping veterans find employment.

HEATHER (BROWN) STARK (BA) reports that she married Ryan Stark on Dec. 6, 2014.

[2006]

PAULINE (DAVID) CHANTAKRIVAT (BA) reports that she married her boyfriend of six years, Charles Chantakrivat, on Dec. 13, 2014. "The wedding was an amazing day full of love and support from friends and family," she says. After the wedding Mass, they celebrated

at Stone Brewing World Bistro and Gardens at Liberty Station in San Diego. The newlyweds plan to honeymoon in Greece later in 2015.

JONATHAN HASKELL (BAcc) joined the Denver law firm of Wade Ash Woods Hill & Farley, specializing in estate planning and administration. His wife, Colleen (Moore) '06, is a manager at PWC.

ALEXANDRA HECKAMAN (BBA) is the marketing manager for Colorescience cosmetics in Carlsbad, Calif. She also has a photography business in her free time.

JULIANA GAZALLO (BA) graduated from medical school and completed residency training in internal medicine. She now practices medicine in San Diego.

WILLIAM NEGLEY (BA, MA '08) has taken a leave from the CIA to found Sound Off, a nonprofit organization dedicated to changing the way U.S. military veterans seek and receive mental health support in the United States. His website is www.sound-off.com.

ERIN (WIEGHAUS) VAN VEEN (BA) and her husband, Scott, welcomed their first child, Shay Marie, on Sept. 8, 2014.

IRMA VENEGAS (BA, MA '12) is the KIPP Through College Director at KIPP Adelante Preparatory Academy in San Diego. Irma ensures that all of her students are "climbing the mountain to and through college."

[2007]

ISIDRO BARRAGAN (BA) recently returned from service as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Republic of Cameroon, where he taught computer science to 7th-12th graders at a technical high school in a small village. "Integrating into the local culture meant living a new life by opening to new experiences every day," Isidro says. "It was fun to eat different food, learn to speak the dialect, walk alongside the locals and share in the bounty of life. This expanded my human experience. Now I'm bridging what I learned with my new life at home."

BRYAN CARPENTER (BBA, BAacc '07) was selected to be one of 38 certified public accountants in the nation to participate in the American Insti-

tute of CPAs Leadership Academy. Bryan is the audit supervisor at Levitz-Zacks Certified Public Accountants.

KATHLEEN KERNS (BAcc) reports that she married Jamieson Kerns '08 in September 2013 in Santa Monica, Calif. Fellow alumni Carter Anderson and Jason Trujillo were in the wedding party. Jamieson is a senior staff software engineering manager with Google's Venice Beach, Calif., office. Kathleen is an audit senior manager at KPMG's downtown Los Angeles office.

KELLY RODRIGUEZ (BA) reports that she and Christopher Freitas married on Sept. 27, 2014, in San Jose, Calif. Kelly and Christopher attended the same middle school but did not officially meet until they were both in graduate school at the University of San Francisco. Fellow alumnae Sara Ramos and Sarita (Hammons) Pitones were matrons of honor. Other alumni in attendance included Monee Dulay and Natalie Garcia. Kelly and Christopher live in Fremont, Calif., with their two cats, Layla and Leonard.

ERIC STERN (BBA) writes, "2014 was a great year for me. I got married in October, recently bought a house in Chicago and expanded my own insurance brokerage, Stern Insurance Group."

[2008]

ADA CARPENTER (BA) is working toward a master's degree in social work at the University of Southern California.

EVAN EWALD (BS/BA) has been with General Atomics ASI for six years.

STEPHEN GALANIS (BA, BBA '08) lives in Los Angeles and is a human resources generalist at Fandango/NBC Universal. He has been a certified professional in human resources since 2013. Stephen graduated from the Drucker School of Management at Claremont Graduate University with an MBA degree in December 2011 and is a member of the Beta Gamma Sigma business honor society. During his time at CGU, he studied abroad in Hong Kong. While at USD, he studied in Madrid.

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

DIJANA RISTIC (BA) is an admissions advisor at San Diego University

for Integrative Studies in Old Town. "I was also able to go to Canada for the first time this summer with my Serbian Folklore dance group, and we were able to visit Niagara Falls," she says.

MAXINE SUKA (MA) lives in San Diego and is the program manager of the San Diego Metro Region Career Centers operated by KRA Corp. In addition to her master's degree in peace and justice studies from USD, Maxine earned a specialized certificate in workforce development career advising from the University of California, San Diego, and a bachelor's degree in sociology, with honors, from Mount St. Mary's College. She has extensive experience working with ex-offenders, immigrants, refugees, veterans and other populations that use Workforce Investment Act-funded job training and placement services.

[2009]

ANDREW ALDRIAN (BA) started his career as a participant programs assistant at the Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies, located at the National Defense University in Washington, D.C. While earning a master's degree in comparative and regional studies at American University's School of International Service, Andrew began working as a logistics analyst at the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, a U.S. Department of Defense organization focused on countering threats posed by all forms of weapons of mass destruction.

ARIANNA CORONA (BA) expects to defend her doctoral thesis at New York Medical College in the spring of 2015. She is a PhD student in the college's Department of Microbiology and Immunology.

BROOKE GONZALES (MA) teaches 10th grade humanities at High Tech High in Chula Vista, Calif. She has incorporated a curriculum focused on peace and justice in her class, and facilitates an elective class called Peace Leadership League, where students have led peace weeks on campus and created and implemented an annual peace conference. As part of Peace Leadership League, seven students were able to attend the United Nations' University for Peace in Costa Rica.

SARA HEADDEN (MA) is a lead career services specialist at Ashford Uni-

versity, where she provides one-on-one career guidance and support to nontraditional online students. She also serves as an adjunct online faculty member for Ashford and has been an integral part of the development and implementation of Ashford's first online career development series.

LOGAN JOHNSTON (BS/BA) is an engineer at General Atomic Aeronautical Systems.

RACHAEL LAUSTRUP (BA) volunteered with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps in Micronesia from 2010 to 2012, ran an after-school program in Wyoming from 2012 to 2014 and currently works as a resident minister at USD.

MARCIA LUTTIO (MA) spent last year teaching an introductory course on peace studies as well as a class on nonviolence and conflict resolution at San Diego City College. "This year, I've been enjoying raising my 1-year-old daughter, Nalu, teaching yoga and facilitating a support group for new mothers," she says.

BRIDGET ROYER (BA) writes, "I'm happy to report I'm beginning my career as a physician assistant. Living in Boston and loving every minute!"

EMILY SALVESON (BA) reports that she is writing, directing, producing and starring in an original comedy series called *The Jessicas*, currently in production. "I just returned from New York Fashion Week, where I filmed a lot of material for the pilot," she says. "The pilot will be available on YouTube later this year. Distribution through other websites and media platforms is currently being negotiated."

NEHA SOI (BBA) writes, "I miss San Diego every day!"

CASEY SORRELL (BA) has been working in marketing and public relations in San Diego since graduating from USD. She recently accepted a new position as senior publicist with PlainClarity Communications.

LOUIS VARGAS (BA) recently graduated from the San Francisco Art Institute with a master's degree in exhibition and museum studies. In December 2014, he joined the California Academy of Sciences as an assets review assistant for the nonscientific collection.

[2010]

SULAIMAN ABANUMAY (BS/BA) worked at HSBC and Citi Private Bank for three years after graduation. Currently, he is a graduate student working toward an MBA.

DAVID ARSCOTT (MSRE) is vice president in the real estate valuation and advisory services department of FirstCity Financial Corp. David and his colleagues advise other FirstCity departments and third-party clients on matters of real estate valuation, property management and disposition.

MICHAEL BENCH (BA) worked with Colliers International for three years and recently transitioned to CBRE. He was recruited to join forces with the industrial and research and development brokerage team.

JAMIE DICKERSON (BA) developed a passion for photography as a student at USD and has turned it into a full-time career with her own business, J.Dixx Photography. "I have been able to meet and photograph the likes of politicians to some of the most famous musicians in the world," she says. Her clients include *Riviera San Diego* magazine, David James Group, Southern Indian Health Council, and more. "Thank you, USD, for allowing me to find my passion and live it every day!"

KRISTIN DRURY (BA) reports that she and Jacob Sandy '09 married at the Bali Hai on San Diego Bay on Oct. 11, 2014. They met while studying cryptography, the science of secret codes, through a USD study abroad course in London and Oxford, England. The couple honeymooned on the Polynesian islands of Tahiti, Moorea and Bora Bora. Kristin is the middle school math specialist at St. James Academy in Solana Beach, Calif. Jacob is a software engineer in San Diego.

STEVEN KAMPF (JD) moved back to San Diego after three years of living and working in the Los Angeles area.

STEPHANIE LEUNG (BBA) moved to Honolulu, Hawaii, where she is the sales and marketing manager for Ko Olina Golf Club.



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MICHELE EHLERS

[principled]

IMPACTFUL INVESTMENTS

Tim Bubnack espouses socially conscious financing

by Mike Sauer

What do tennis and private equity have in common? At first glance, absolutely zero, but Tim Bubnack '91 (BBA) begs to differ. In fact, he believes the two seemingly diametric endeavors complement each other perfectly.

"When I played tennis at USD, I really embraced the team concept, even though I often competed as an individual," he says, referencing his days as a member of the Torero men's tennis squad in the late '80s/early '90s. "With

the work that I do now in investments, there's a very strong team dynamic, even though we might have individual tasks and goals. It's about helping the person next to you be better at what they do."

As managing partner of San Diego-based private equity firm Huntington Capital, Bubnack takes a great deal of pride in his team's focus on maximizing their investors' return on investment without compromising their core values. Since its founding in 2000, Huntington Capital has built a

very impressive portfolio by providing debt and equity financing to underserved companies that are overlooked by larger financial investment institutions.

For Bubnack and his team, investment in small business provides a value proposition that extends well beyond balance sheets and bottom lines. "More often than not, it can be very difficult for small business to get loans funded through the banking industry," says Bubnack. "For them, it's a numbers game.


Providing capital to underserved businesses has been key to Huntington Capital's growth, and it's a fundamental component of our mission statement."

Since joining the team in 2007, Bubnack has been instrumental in developing investment partnerships that identify and assist small- to medium-sized businesses in manufacturing, healthcare, services and technology industries. While some of his peers may view small-business investment as a risky means to an unpredictable end, Bubnack and team have raised more than \$210 million from 26 institutional investors for allocation to Huntington Capital's portfolio companies.

"When people realize that our focus isn't just about supporting a business — it's about supporting the community that business serves — it goes a long way in legitimizing our process," Bubnack says. He beams when discussing how Huntington Capital portfolio companies like Native Foods Café are flourishing, thanks in large part to their commitment to minimizing their product's adverse impacts on the environment, and reinvesting their success in communities through local nonprofit donations, free cooking demonstrations and the development of health conscious, plant-based diet plans for consumers.

"Native Foods fits our model perfectly, as they share our belief in improving their community by investing in it," Bubnack says.

Given that Native Foods Café grew from 14 to 26 stores in 2014, it would appear that the proof of Bubnack's successful and socially conscious investment strategy is in the proverbial pudding — or, in this case, Native Foods Café's freshly made, award-winning mango lime vinaigrette.

"We want to invest in businesses like Native Foods Café that share our mission to generate excellent returns while having a positive impact on communities." 

J.P. MARTIN (BA) spent the past year working as an applications developer for Elon Musk at SpaceX. He worked on developing the cutting-edge enterprise software that allows the business to provide the most economical launch services by streamlining supply chain, engineering and accounting.

TIFFANY MILLER (BA) is group sales manager at Hornblower Cruises and Events.

WHITNEY McINTYRE MILLER (PhD) recently joined the graduate leadership faculty at Chapman University.

ABBEY STEPHENSON (JD) and her husband, Tyson '14, recently celebrated the arrival of their first child, Cooper Michael.

MICHELLE SULLIVAN (MSGL) left an executive position to focus on her consulting businesses — Sullivan Global Consulting and Dragonfly Consultants — and on the launch of her handbag business, Belle Michelle.

ADAM TYDINGCO (BBA) is working in real estate investments and residential real estate as an agent with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage. Additionally, he continues to develop business opportunities with relationships he holds in Guam. "I am always looking for the next project and opportunity," he says.

[2011]

ARIELLE ATWOOD (BBA) is a project manager at a small marketing firm in Beverly, Mass., designing packaging for The Home Depot.

BRITTANY BERG (BBA) is a buyer at United Technologies Aerospace Systems. She also is pursuing a master's degree in supply chain management at USD and expects to graduate in October 2015.

JULIE BRODFUEHRER (BA) is in her fourth year of medical school at Touro University Nevada, and is applying to residencies for family medicine in California.

ALANA CALISE (BA) recently earned a master of public health degree with a concentration in international health from the Boston University School of Public Health.

CAROLYN CLEMENS (BA) is currently enrolled in the Security Studies Program within the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University, working towards her MA. She anticipates graduating in May 2016.

JEFFREY DAVIS (paralegal) graduated from the paralegal certificate program at USD and then spent three years in several professional fields gaining experience he hopes to apply to a new career. He now lives in Northern Virginia, within an hour of the Capitol, and is looking for a professional group of politically interested people to connect with.

ERIN DOWNEY (Bacc, MS '11) reports that she married Andrew Alton at Founders Chapel on May 17, 2014. Their reception was held at Marina Village, overlooking Mission Bay at sunset. Andrew planned a surprise Hawaiian honeymoon for Erin on the island of Maui, where the newlyweds enjoyed sunsets, sand and snorkeling.

MEGAN ECCLES (BA) writes, "Two kids, grad school, raising goats, making cheese. Super fancy life."

DENIZ KELEKCI (BA) reports that she is starting up her own business and mobile app.

MONICA KINYUA (MA) has been working with Children Peace Initiative — Kenya, a nonprofit organization she started with her colleagues. "Through working with children in inter-community conflict resolutions and by promoting inter-community interactions, the situation has normalized in some areas. The key highlight is that for three years, no life has been lost and education has not been disrupted due to violent conflict-related incidents," she says. "I highly appreciate the degree I received from the IPJ. It has been of great help!"

ARMANDO MALDONADO (MA) is serving a two-year tour at the U.S. embassy in Kigali, Rwanda.

LAUREN PAULUS (JD) moved from San Diego to Washington, D.C., where she opened her own immigration law practice, Paulus Immigration.

CALLIE PRENDIVILLE (BA) is currently teaching two classes at

USD's theatre department. Since graduating from USD, she received an MFA in performance in theatre, television, and film from Cal State Los Angeles and has worked as an actress at the La Jolla Playhouse, the Los Angeles Opera, South Coast Repertory and the Long Beach Playhouse.

MEREDITH SCHNEIDER (BA) started a full-time job as the social media manager at BigShot Inbound. She and her sister, Erin, also a USD alumna, still run DoubleTake Productions and they are revamping their website. Meredith is launching a new blog in 2015.

ALEXA TIERNEY-MAHS (BBA) reports that she got married in October 2014 and moved to Los Angeles in December 2014.

JESSICA TISHUE (BA) is director of marketing for Congrats, a new video-based greeting and gifting app developed to transform the greeting card industry by connecting loved ones while serving the environment. The app provides a platform for users to create individual and group custom video messages and to send gifts on the go. "Congrats is steadfast in our commitment to the common good, environmental stewardship and in our efforts to inspire a future of ethical conduct and compassionate service," she says.

ALYSSA (NAVAPANICH) WALLACE (BA, Med '14) reports that she married Tristan Wallace on Oct. 19, 2014, and that they are living happily in Rancho Bernardo, Calif. Alyssa worked at Pharmatek for two years with several fellow USD alumni and she returned to USD in 2013 to complete her MEd. She is now working at Del Lago Academy in Escondido as a biochemistry teacher.

REBECCA WEINRIB (JD) is general counsel for Eddy Pump Corp. and she founded The Animal Pad dog rescue.

JASMINE VILLA (MA) started a new job as assistant director of undergraduate admissions at Vanguard University. She reports that she got married at Founders Chapel during Homecoming Weekend 2014.

[2012]

ELOISA AMEZCUA (BA) completed an MFA in poetry from Emerson College in May 2014. Her work has been published in various literary journals and she currently works as a faculty assistant at Harvard Business School.

KELSEY (BROWN) BOYTE (BA) reports that she married Shaun Boyte.

KELLI DAVIS (BA) graduated with honors from nursing school in Washington, D.C., and is returning to California to practice.

COLLEEN DUNN (BA) is a publicist with a public relations agency specializing in hospitality and real estate.

NATALIE GARCIA (BBA) is working toward a master's degree in nursing at the University of Arizona.

SAM HARTFIELD (BBA) works for Lockton Insurance Brokers, placing management liability insurance for public and private corporations.

KIAN MESHKAT (JD) is an associate attorney at a boutique law firm in Washington, D.C., dealing with economic sanctions and export controls.

ALEXANDRA PAULUS (BBA) is a professional property manager for a private commercial real estate management company.

HENRY PERAZZELLI (BBA) moved to Boston in December 2014.

JENNA ROHRBACKER (BS/BA) is a design engineer at UTC Aerospace Systems in Chula Vista, Calif.

TYLER WILSON (BA) is a law student at St. Mary's School of Law in San Antonio, Texas.

[2013]

MICHAEL BLUMEYER (BBA) worked at Brandes Investment Partners, where his experience included working in the trading department and in risk management.

AFARIN DADKHAH (MA) moved to New York in May 2014 after graduating from USD's School of Peace Studies. Since June 2014, Afarin has been a part-time consultant for an international human rights organi-



COURTESY OF THE CINCINNATI BENGALS CORPORATION

LIAM E. MCGEE '85 (BBA) (1955 - 2015)
University of San Diego alumnus, friend and trustee Liam E. McGee passed away on Friday, Feb. 13 at the age of 60. A member of USD's Board of Trustees since 1991, he served as chair of the board from 2001 until 2004. Additionally, he was a sustaining member of the Torero Athletics Executive Cabinet. He was instrumental in guiding the smooth transition of USD presidents in 2003, overseeing the retirement of Alice Hayes, PhD, and the inauguration of Mary E. Lyons, PhD.

His connection to the University of San Diego ran deep. In 2008, McGee received the Author E. Hughes Career Achievement Award from the university. He was the 2009 commencement speaker for the School of Business Administration. He had been a generous contributor since 1981, with particular interest in supporting Torero Athletics; notably making a significant gift to the construction of Fowler Park in 2013.

Most recently, the university had granted McGee a professorship that would have begun this year, a joint appointment with the School of Law and the School of Business Administration. He retired in 2014 as chairman and chief executive officer of The Hartford, having led a company-wide restructuring effort.

zation, Madre. "I am very excited to have an NYC chapter of the USD Alumni Association because the social network in New York can be tough to break into, but having a smaller version of the USD community here provides that opportunity for all of us in the tri-state area to get connected," she says.

NATALIE ANDREWS (MBA) is social media editor for *The Wall Street Journal*.

CHRISTIAN FETTERS (BS/BA) was promoted to program manager at ATK.

DAVID HAMILTON (BBA) is in real estate finance with Southwest Realty Services in San Diego. The company organizes financing funded by the correspondent life insurance companies for all commercial real estate property types.

ALVIN JAVIER (BS/BA) expected to begin a new position with InSynergy Engineering in Honolulu, Hawaii, in February 2015.

JAMESON JOHNSON (BA) is with SR Commercial, a commercial real estate acquisition and management company in Solana Beach, Calif. "I have played a key role in the company's growth as a property manager and asset manager," Jameson says. "I'm also involved in acquisition analysis, construction management and marketing."

DELANEY KEPPEL (BA) writes, "As a pharmaceutical sales rep here in San Diego, I'm always proud to tell my clients that I am a graduate of USD. It has not only increased my credibility in my career, but has fostered phenomenal relationships throughout San Diego."

KELLY LA RUE (BBA) was promoted from business development consultant to account manager at Oracle.

TREVOR OLSON (BACC) recently switched jobs from working at PriceWaterhouseCoopers in San Diego to begin his dream job as a graduate assistant coach in women's basketball at Henderson State University in Arkadelphia, Ark.

ANTHONY PICOZZI (BBA) is the sales director for World Class Driving, a Las Vegas company that provides driv-

ing experiences with exotic vehicles such as Ferraris and Lamborghinis.

HEATHER RASAMEETHAM (BA) is a second-grade teacher at Anza Elementary in El Cajon, Calif. "After all of those state tests and student teaching, I finally landed my dream job of educating others, in particular, young children," she says. "Thanks to USD, I feel that I was well prepared for my career. I thank the amazing professors in SOLES and my advisor, Helene Mandell, for doing their best in helping me earn my teaching credential and, ultimately, a job here in San Diego."

JUSTIN ROY (MA) is an intern at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

KEVIN WRIGHT (BBA) is working in the music industry. "Could not possibly be happier or more fortunate!"

KATHRYN ZAMBON (BA) is an events planner for the Associated Students of San Diego State University.

[2014] VIRGINIA BAUMAN (EdD) just published research from a study about using e-books on iPads with adolescents in the Coronado School District. "My hope is that it can be useful in that it shows definite promise for improving comprehension and motivation to read."

JANET CHAO (BA) is a medical student at George Washington University.

RANDALL CLENDENEN (BA) is enjoying retirement and continuing his education in Web design and development with an emphasis in Web programming.

AFARIN DADKHAH (MA) is working as a consultant with a women's human rights organization in New York.

JUSTIN DILE (BBA) was hired before graduation to work at Houzz.

RICARDO DIXON (BA) is in his first year of law school at Indiana University's Maurer School of Law.

HARMONIE EDELSON (BS/BA) is a senior associate business excellence specialist in the Operations Rotation Program at Thermo Fisher Scientific in Carlsbad, Calif. She also is the member services director for

the San Diego profession section of the Society of Women Engineers.

JILLIAN HOSLER (MA) is working as an autism counselor for the San Jose Unified School District.

MELISSA GEORGI (BA) spent the summer of 2014 traveling abroad to New Zealand, Australia and Europe, specifically Germany and Austria, with her USD classmates. "We spent the days backpacking through New Zealand rainforests, drinking wine in the Australian countryside and eating lots of pretzels in Germany," she says. "I am so thankful for the friends I met at USD because without them, I wouldn't have been able to experience my time abroad with as much joy or adventure. Now, it's time to move back to San Diego and begin my journey in the workforce."

JENNIFER GIGLIOTTI (MA) works at the Salvation Army's transitional living center with victims of trafficking. She also is the Women Peacemakers program assistant. "I have definitely used the skills and experience I gained in the master's program to get me where I am," she says.

SLOANE KELLER (MA) moved to Paraguay to serve as a community economic volunteer with the Peace Corps, and is currently living in the pueblo of Ypane, about an hour away from Asuncion.

ESTEBAN LOPEZ (BBA) works for a mortgage bank in North San Diego County.

ANDREA McMULLEN (PhD) received a Learning in Practice Award from Chief Learning Officer magazine. She was given the Gold Innovation Award for accomplishments in applying innovative development practices to address significant business opportunities. Andrea and the other 2014 award winners were featured in a special report supplement to the December issue of Chief Learning Officer magazine.

RACHEL RICE (PhD) is a Common Core support cluster teacher for the San Diego Unified School District.

MARISSA RINGGOLD (BA) is a graduate student at Rutgers University.

BRITTANY ROTHNEM (MBA) has started a marketing consulting business since graduating from USD.

ERIKA URRUTIA (Med) traveled to Brazil in the summer of 2014 with her husband for the World Cup. She now has her dream job at USD's English Language Academy. "I am so grateful for my job," she says. "I am a USD adjunct professor and I am passionate about empowering people through the teaching of English as a second language. I am so excited to be able to use my talent at my alma mater."

LESLIE WILSON (BBA) is attending the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies to obtain a masters degree in International Relations, and is specializing in International Law and Development Microeconomics.

In Memoriam

JAMES BLUMENTHAL '89 (BA) passed away on Oct. 8, 2014, in Portland, Ore., after a yearlong battle with cancer. He was 47. Jim was born and raised in Southern California, and graduated from USD and the University of Wisconsin, Madison (MA, PhD). He was an associate professor in the School of History, Philosophy and Religion at Oregon State University and a professor of Buddhist studies at Maitripa College. Jim loved music, particularly jazz, rock, and the Grateful Dead. He was a poet as well as a baseball card historian. He and his second wife, Tiffany Patrella, were married in June 2014.

MALIA JOY LANGEN '98 (BA) passed away on Dec. 1, 2014, after battling leukemia for a year. Her father, Ken, reports that while a student, she started an early incarnation of USD TV. After graduation, Malia joined CBS Television as a page. In 2002, she became part of the comedy development team and was promoted to the executive position of department coordinator in 2005. Despite health challenges that dated back to the age of 12, Malia focused on giving to others, and was involved with a number of nonprofits, including the Renal Support Network, Donate Life and Be the Match.

THOMAS F. BURKE, JR. (1936 - 2015)

With family by his side, beloved University of San Diego community member Tom Burke died on March 24 at the age of 78.

He joined USD in 1973 as dean of students and served as vice president for student affairs for 28 years. Among his many successes were his contributions to the development of the Hahn University Center, the Jenny Craig Pavilion and USD's status as a Division I athletics program.

While maintaining the school's academic excellence, Burke also was responsible for expanding on-campus housing and dramatically increasing student clubs and intramural programs. His faith, fairness and hands-on approach helped shape the lives of countless students throughout his remarkable career.

He was inducted into the university's Chet and Marguerite Pagni Family Athletic Hall of Fame in 2005. Each year, a USD student affairs employee is the recipient of the Thomas F. Burke Employee of the Year award, which is given to someone who exemplifies the same traits and values: common sense, good humor, honesty, consistent support of the university's Catholic tradition and the gift of love to others.



[brain trust]

WORKING TOGETHER

Students share ideas about collaboration



NICK ABADILLA

Seniors Katinka Bosch, Britney Becker and Taylor Kilpatrick embody the university's commitment to Changemaking.

TO BE A CHANGEMAKER MEANS TO BE PART OF A TEAM. That was the recurring message during April's inaugural 2015 Changemaker Student Summit, which was primarily organized by USD students. "Without a lot of collaboration, the summit wouldn't have happened," said Changemaker Student Initiatives Director Katinka Bosch '15. "No one person is the superhero, it's all of us working together." Organizer and Changemaker Scholarship recipient Taylor Kilpatrick '15 said a key take-away of the summit was possibility: "We want to show college students that you can have a career that lets you make a difference. Following your passion can inform your career." Summit attendee Britney Becker '15 — who founded SmartyPants, a company that promises that the sale of every pair of its harem pants supports one month of primary school for a girl in a developing country — says it all comes back to teamwork: "It's collaboration that facilitates Changemaking. Ideas come to life when you've got a network of amazing people brainstorming, providing resources and even cheerleading."

In mid-April, the first annual Changemaker Student Summit brought more than 50 student leaders from institutions across the country to USD, the majority from the Ashoka U campus network. The three-day event was designed to further develop innovative and creative leadership skills to unlock individual and collective potential for making sustainable change.

"I wish I would have had an opportunity like this when I was a student to get together with students from across the country to share ideas about how to promote social justice," said Changemaker Hub Director Mike Williams. "These students know it takes more than one person working alone to make change. We have to work together."

The goal of the summit was to create a forum for experienced student leaders to share best practices related to student-centered initiatives and projects for Changemaking; promote student networking with like-minded peers; and generate realistic ways for Changemakers to collaborate. Presented by USD's Associated Students and the Changemaker HUB, sponsors included USD's School of Leadership Sciences, The Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies, the School of Business Administration, the Mulvaney Center for Community, Awareness and Social Action, and the College of Arts and Sciences.

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Sunday, June 28
**European Alumni
Reunion in Bilbao, Spain**
[toreronetwork.sandiego.edu/
europe2015](http://toreronetwork.sandiego.edu/europe2015)



Saturday, July 18
Vintners Dinner
usdwineclassic.com
Sunday, July 19
USD Wine Classic
usdwineclassic.com



Saturday, Aug. 29-
Tuesday, Sept. 1
**OLÉ! Weekend and
Parent Orientation**
[www.sandiego.edu/
orientation](http://www.sandiego.edu/orientation)



Saturday, Sept. 5
Football Opener
USD vs. SDSU
Qualcomm Stadium
USDToreros.com



Thursday, Sept. 10
Mass of the Holy Spirit
The Immaculata
www.sandiego.edu/mission



Friday, Oct. 16-
Sunday, Oct. 18
**Homecoming and
Family Weekend**
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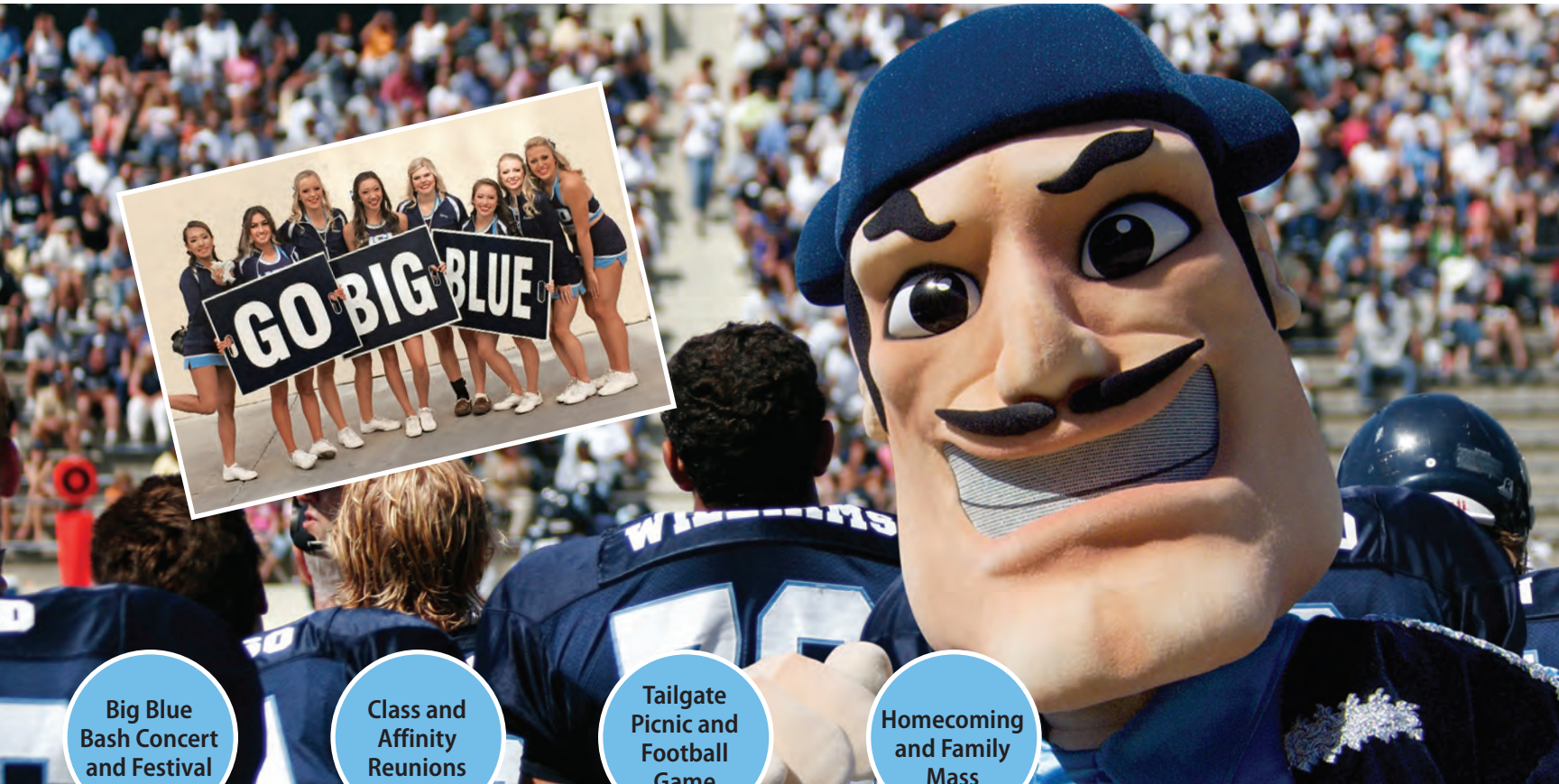
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