1980

Alcalá View 1980 02.01

University of San Diego Personnel Department

Follow this and additional works at: http://digital.sandiego.edu/alcalaview-1979

Digital USD Citation

http://digital.sandiego.edu/alcalaview-1979/9

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the USD News at Digital USD. It has been accepted for inclusion in Alcalá View (University of San Diego. Personnel Department) by an authorized administrator of Digital USD. For more information, please contact digital@sandiego.edu.
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

“A Change for the Better”

by Lorraine Watson

Last year a major study of the University’s employee benefits program was undertaken. As a result, specific areas of improvement were identified and a plan to implement changes was approved by the University Cabinet. These changes have taken effect at the beginning of the 1980-81 academic year. Starting September 1, staff employees are eligible to participate in the TIAA-CREF retirement program. The replacement of the Travelers plan with TIAA-CREF represents a substantial improvement since this plan is tax sheltered. It provides a University contribution of 5% and a minimum employee contribution of 2%.

The first of October brings three new benefits plans into the University’s overall benefits package. The Greater San Diego Health Plan will be added to Prudential Insurance and the Kaiser Foundation Health Plan as an option under our group medical coverage.

The Greater San Diego Health Plan provides medical service through over 800 private practice physicians and 20 hospitals in San Diego County. Employees select a private physician from the authorized list. Visits to the doctor cost the employee $3.00 and hospitalization is at no cost. Specifics about this plan have been distributed and are also available in the Personnel Office.

Also added in October will be a dental coverage program which offers a choice between California Dental Service (CDS) and the Safeguard Dental Plan. The CDS plan provides 50% reimbursement for covered expenses which includes most dental procedures except prosthodontics (crowns, bridges, etc.) and orthodontics. With CDS, the employee may visit any dentist of his/her choice. The Safeguard Plan provides services at specific dental offices. Charges for procedures are based on a schedule which represents a significant savings over usual dentist charges. For example, a filling under this plan will cost the employee $3.00, while the going rate is generally between $20-25.

The University will pay the full cost of dental coverage for the employee. Dependent coverage must be paid for by the employee. The charge ranges from $2.70 per month to $11.48 per month depending upon the number of dependents covered and the plan chosen.

Campus Parking Update

by Sue Howell

With the demand for parking space on campus an ever-increasing problem, the University Cabinet has approved steps to deal with the situation. Studies made in 1979 showed that, although there is sufficient parking on the Main Campus, congestion is created due to many drivers parking illegally in central lots rather than in the more distant areas. This “spillover” of parking has even reached the lots owned by the Chancery and the Maumalata, to the detriment of relations between the University and these offices.

Therefore, the first step to relieve the Main Campus congestion, effective September 1, will be to restrict all resident student vehicles to two parking areas—the northernmost section of DeSales lot and a portion of the west Camino lot.

If additional measures become necessary, the Cabinet will consider separate parking areas for Administration, Faculty, Staff, and Students. Ultimately—but not in the immediate future—the problem will be alleviated by new parking lots to be built along with a new School of Business and Conference Center.

Parking in the Mission Housing Complex area, however, will remain congested until the 1981-82 school year. This is because construction of the Phase B dormitories has temporarily eliminated an existing lot. Some of these spaces will be re-established by the summer of 1981, but until then, parking areas adjacent to the Field House will be the only alternative for many MHC residents.

Another new measure which went into effect at the beginning of this school year is a stiffer schedule of fines for parking violations, including violations of handicapped spaces, fire hydrants, fire lanes, and unauthorized parking in general. Appeals procedures remain the same as in the past.

Also, an increase in parking fees should be anticipated in 1981. This is due partly to inflation, and partly to the need to upgrade street and parking lights, as well as maintenance of roads and parking areas. The amount of the increase will be determined by the Cabinet at a later date.
Hello Myra . . .
by Sandy Edelman

That warm voice which greets most callers when they reach the USD switchboard belongs to Myra Amerson, chief operator for nearly 13 years, a period reaching back to the days before the merger of the College for Men and the College for Women.

Myra misses some of the feeling of that early time. The ITT system, she says, has removed much of the need for the personal touch, as well as some of the challenge. "Back then," she recalls, "we were just one big, happy family, loving and working together." Her initial contact with the University was through her first husband, Willie Moore. (Willie was a long-time member of the Athletic Department who has since moved on to Tennessee State—a move which ruptured their 28-year marriage.) "I was on vacation from my job at the Marine Corps Recruiting Depot, out doing some gardening, when Willie called and told me they needed some emergency help on the switchboard here. So I washed the dirt off my hands and came on in, and I've been here ever since."

Myra still knows a great deal about happy families. Her two-year-old marriage to Thelton Amerson brought her three grown stepsons, who along with Tina and Williddlen—daughters from her first marriage—combine to give her a large family which continues to look to her for motherly support. "I'm a grandmother, too—I have two grandsons and I'm the proud new grandmother of a month-old girl." Asked her new granddaughter's name, Myra laughed and admitted she couldn't remember, but promised to find out before press time. (It's Sakeenah.)

Devotion of time and energy to her family curtails the time Myra can spend at her favorite leisure activities—sewing and gardening. A new Singer has stood untouched for two years. But her houseplants flourish; she has a champion eight-foot rubber tree which threatens to lift the roof off her house and brings admiring glances from passersby. Does she specialize in certain kinds of plants? "No—I'll try anything. And people are always asking my advice."

Born in a small New Jersey town bearing the unprepossessing but probably historical name of Freehold ("it may not even be there anymore"), Myra grew up in Virginia, where she met and married Willie. Willie's entrance into the Marine Corps brought with it a life of constant travel, and it was not until they moved to San Diego and Willie left the service that Myra developed a sense of hometown. After all the hurly-burly, she lives such a quiet life—evening phone calls to her children to see if they need her help on anything, followed by a bit of television; on Sundays, church and a drive, usually to visit family—that now "I think I must be doing something wrong!"

What she enjoys most about her job at USD is meeting people. "Many people stop by just to find out who that voice was on the telephone, and I've made a lot of friends that way." One suspects that Myra Amerson has made many friends for the University as well.

Hail and Farewell: Bill Ritter
by Sandy Edelman

Bill Ritter, San Diego's answer to James Reston, Art Buchwald, and other luminaries of high journalism, has departed USD and his post as news and publications writer, a position he filled for two years.

An energetic, professional, and much-liked figure on campus, Bill made many contributions to USD, not the least of them his impact on this newsletter. SDSU alumnus, former correspondent for Newswack magazine, editor of CalPig Reports, contributor to San Diego Magazine, and recipient of the 1978 Community Service Award from the Mental Health Association, Bill is now a staff reporter for the newly launched San Diego Business Journal.

During his tenure as Alcala View Assistant editor, Bill refused to allow a Ritter profile to appear, possibly because publication of his photograph would make it easy for the general public to spot him on the streets. At the first opportunity the editorial board reversed this decision in an effort to say "Thanks, Bill. And you are very much missed."
USD 'Space' Lift
by Sue Howell

For nearly two years, work crews have been filling and compacting the canyon at the east end of the USD campus. Student dormitories construction Phase B is underway. The two buildings closest to Santa Anita Avenue will be erected first and the remaining buildings will be constructed as more canyon compaction is approved by the city. Approximately 40,000 cubic yards of fill are being used to prepare the canyon for the new dormitories.

Phase B includes four three-story buildings which will house 352 students and contain two staff apartments. There will be 74 single rooms and 104 double rooms. The features are similar to those in the present Mission apartments. Each floor will have common restrooms and a central living-lounge area. Residents of the new complex will also share the Mission Crossroads Lounge.

The final task in completing Phase B will be to provide a new parking lot for about 200 cars. The lot will be located at the east end of the canyon (eventually will be expanded to provide even more parking. During construction, a foot-path will be made from the field-house parking to the valley dorms.

Another major project underway on campus is the construction of a bookstore-mail center complex. Construction began in August and completion is scheduled for December 1980.

The new facility will be located in the patio area between the Law School and Serra Hall. It will be a convenient central location for the campus population, and rear delivery doors will provide direct access for vendors and the Postal Service.

The additional space in the mail center will eventually be used as a central receiving area for the campus. It will also provide a place to pre-sort mail which will save money and time. The number of mailboxes will remain the same for a while, but additional mailboxes will be added when needed.

The aisles in the new bookstore will be wide enough to accommodate wheelchairs and will also allow more customers to occupy the bookstore at any one time.

Additionally the new bookstore will carry a larger variety of merchandise, especially gifts, pleasure books and convenience items.

Another goal will be to purchase supplies in large enough quantities to pass along savings to bookstore patrons.

Two more new features will be a refund/buy-back counter in the lobby of the complex and an information/service counter where a customer can make inquiries without having to wait in a cashier’s line.

According to Palma Scheumack, Director of University Services, the present bookstore is less than half the recommended size outlined by the National Association of College Stores. The new bookstore will remedy that situation.

Overall, the consensus of campus opinion indicates that the new complex will be a great asset to the USD community.

The vacated space in Serra Hall will be used for laboratories, while the Computer Room, Personnel and Accounting offices will expand into the newly-emptied rooms in DeSales Hall.

Around Campus

by Julie Bowler

In light of the University’s continued growth, what is your feeling about the sense of community on campus?

ANSWERS:

Dean Colton, Cashier
Because I am a new employee, it is difficult to answer the question; however, the people in my office are great; I feel very comfortable.

Nick DeTuri, Registrar
I’ve noticed since I came to the campus in 1969 that the employees are much more permanent than they were in the early days (1969 and early 70’s) when there was a lot of turnover. So in that respect I feel good about that feeling of community. It’s so nice to walk down a hall and see someone who has been here 3-4 years. That’s what I like, I have a good feeling about that. People think enough of the University to stay with it. I think it started about the time Dr. Hughes came in, around 1972-73. People obviously like it here because they have stayed.

Ruth Rubinstein, Foodservice
Students in the cafeteria are the community I see—they are all friends. I haven’t been out on the campus.

Karen Reed, Student Affairs
I think there is a great deal of room for improvement—great potential since it is a small school. I think the staff needs to develop a sense of community that can be carried over to the students. It’s not good for students to run into friction between staff. We’re all working to improve that.
SEA BOARD MEMBERS, 1980 - 81

President • • • • • • Ann Bastis, X4490
Newly elected

Vice President • • • • • • Maureen Herrill, X4270

Secretary • • • • • • • Fran Swank, X4305
Newly elected

REPRESENTATIVES:
Camino: • • • • • • • • Terry Mignogna, X4316
DeSales:
Main Floor: • • • • • • • Debbie Gough, X4553
Jan Johnston, X4549
Newly elected

1st Floor: • • • • • • • Dorothy Thomas, X4308

Founders: • • • • • • • Penny Navarro, X4586
Newly elected

Law School: • • • • • • • Katie Albright, X4359

Physical Plant: • • • • • • • Dave Navarro, X4250
Newly elected
Tom Mandl, X4250
Newly elected

Tim Donovan, X4250

Sports Center: • • • • • • • Jan Allen, X4272
Newly elected

If you have any questions, or would like any information regarding S.E.A., Please contact one of the above people in your area.

Unscramble each word. Take those letters that are circled and unscramble to find the solution to our jumble.

arlethr

ndsoiwv

glibudin

soith

We, at USD, are proud of

Share your experiences and ideas with other USD employees by writing the Personnel Office. Alcala View in no way endorses any of the services, businesses, or ideas presented.

RESTAURANTS: Convenient to USD for lunch: the Country Deli, corner of Via Las Cumbres and Friar's Road. LaPetite Cafe, corner of 5th and University—small well-bred cafe, continental flavor; extremely good food at remarkably low prices, open for after-the-theatre desserts (Sandy Edelman).

FUN PLACES: Hotel Lucerne, Mexicali—½ hr. drive through desert; large rooms, good rates, excellent margaritas. Shopping in downtown Mexicali (Gerry Webb). Antiques and dining—above the Presidio, Mission Hills; two groups of antique shops and restaurants; along Washington at Goldfinch, seven antique shops and numerous ethnic restaurants; along West Lewis, seven antique shops and an authentic English tea room (Sara Finn).

NOTICE: This column is now open for one-time classified—garage sales, cars for sale, swaps, rentals, what-have-you, as a service to USD employees only. Pick up classified ad forms from the Personnel Office. Limited space puts us on a first-come, first-included basis.

FOR SALE

'71 HONDA 350 CB; make offer. Needs some work. One Owner. Julie X4296.

Custom-made child's desk, stool; custom twin beds. Sandy X4298.

Stereo + AM/FM. Old but works fine. No speakers. Make offer. Michael X4296.