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# Alcalá View

VOLUME 2  
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MAY, 1981

## WORKSTUDY: A Job Well Done

by Jan Chlarson

Photos by Bill Snead

Each academic year more than 500 Work Study students assist USD's staff, faculty, and administration in performing the many functions of our University. The way Sister Dale Brown, Student Employment Coordinator, sees it, the University could not function without the Work Study Program. Work Study students complement the permanent staff employees, allowing them to accomplish more in their various responsibilities. Marian Holleman, Director of Copley Library, observes that the efficiency of the Library hangs on the quality of the employees' work, including that of the Work Study students. They must work their scheduled hours, be reliable, and complete their assignments. Once they are given responsibilities, they must have the discipline to follow through.

The Work Study program is federally funded and allows students to earn a portion of their college expenses. Selection of students to participate is based on financial need. In addition to providing financial benefits, the program encourages the student to develop a sense of job responsibility. Sister Dale makes every effort to assign Work Study students to areas which interest them, which means the student is more likely to be motivated to good performance and also has the opportunity to gain experience in his or her chosen field. Because Work Study students are evaluated as any other employee, the University can provide references to prospective employers with regard to the student's experience and reliability. In short, the Work Study program affords the participating student valuable work experience in tandem with academic experience. A proof of how this benefits the student is evident on our own campus—six of the staff employees at the Copley Library began their careers there as Work Study students.



# PROFILE

## E. JANE VIA: Theologian

by Sandra Edelman

If when someone says "theologian," you conjure up the picture of a wizened old man surrounded by large dusty tomes on canon law, meeting E. Jane Via, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, will shatter that image forever.

Not that Jane hasn't had her own experiences with large tomes on complex subjects. She earned her doctorate at Marquette University with emphasis on the New Testament, and as a specialist in the Scriptures—Luke and Acts—is familiar with the scholarship and research in her field, with the political and historical backgrounds of the Gospels, with Christian and non-Christian writings of the period, methods of explication, and languages, of which she reads six—including Greek and Hebrew. Moreover, she is continuously involved in research and writing, contributing numerous technical book reviews to scholarly scripture journals, a chapter to an Orbis Press publication on the Trial Narratives, and a focal article on major themes in Luke and Acts published by the Society of Biblical Literature. In progress is a book-length exegesis of Mark.

But Jane brings to all this scholarship,

as well as to the classroom, a vigor and life-connectedness one does not always associate with the label "theologian." Take, for example, her many interests: gardening, bicycling, her two cats (Ebony and Electra), literature—in particular contemporary Jewish novels and drama—and Latin cultures (her B.A. is in Spanish, and she spent her junior year studying in Madrid).

One of two major interests which companion her discipline of religious studies is law, in which Jane will have a degree in the near future, from U.S.D. On the surface, this may seem an unlikely combination. "But," she explains, "much of the Hebrew Bible is a set of statutes. Since scripture is my specialty, I wanted to be able to understand those documents in their legal context. Jesus' major dispute with the Judaism of his time was over interpretation of the law, about the place law should have in the religious dimension of life. The study of law enhances my understanding of my own discipline."

Jane's other major companion interest is in the Holocaust, which she describes as "the paradigm of evil in modern life." The subject, which she taught at Mercy College, Detroit and includes now in her courses at USD, raises the great question with which theologians and laymen alike have wrestled for centuries: how can one experience God as loving and good



if God permits the suffering of the innocent to such an extreme. "The Holocaust," Jane remarks, "takes the question of Job and multiplies it by 6 million." It raises, too, questions for Christianity: "The persecution of the Jews began with the emergence of the Christian era and has re-emerged in almost every century since." Her intense interest in this black phenomenon we call today the "Holocaust" is the source of her ten-year-long correspondence with Elie Wiesel, to whom her doctoral dissertation is dedicated, and who learned through Jane that his books were being used in religious studies courses on Catholic campuses.

(Continued on Pg. 4)

### WORKSTUDY (Continued from Pg. 1)

Sister Dale believes that the relationship between the Work Study student and the staff members for whom he works determines the level at which the experience benefits the student and the University. If a student is shown the importance of his assignment and is given the opportunity and training necessary to perform effectively, chances are he will react in a positive way. Much of the work performed by Work Study students is very much routine, and it is helpful to offset those routine duties with one or two more interesting responsibilities from time to time. A prime example of this approach—and of the program in general—is seen in the Admissions Office. There Work Study students perform not only routine tasks such as mailing out catalogs, but also take prospective students and their families on campus tours. The Admissions Office finds that this has improved the touring program in two ways. First, the Work Study student is available to conduct tours for interested persons who "drop in"—since San

Diego is a tourist town, many people become interested in the University while here on vacation or business. Having someone available to tour these people increases the University's exposure. Second, the Work Study student can provide insights into student life in a way that even the admissions counselor cannot. Prospective students often feel more comfortable talking with a peer.

The University is given an irreplaceable service by Work Study students. As employees, we must remember that the impact of the Work Study program—how it benefits the University and the students participating—depends a great deal on us. To obtain good results, we must be willing to invest some of our time and effort.

As the academic year draws to a close, it seems appropriate to thank Sister Dale, the Student Employment Center, the Work Study students, and the many employees who have taken the time to become involved in the program. All have contributed to the success of Work Study at the University of San Diego.



## “This is YOUR Life”

by Lorraine Watson

How often have we heard the expression “being at the right place at the right time?” Although some of us quickly attribute opportunities and positive experiences to luck, I believe that luck or chance plays a very small role in life experiences. In actuality, we take steps or exhibit certain behaviors which result in certain consequences. We sometimes call these consequences “chance happenings” or “luck” because it is difficult to see our actions objectively. For the individual who receives a promotion, it is more than location and timing which created this opportunity. Clearly, talent, skill and initiative must be viewed as the major contributing factors. Setting a career goal will allow an individual to direct and focus his/her efforts, thereby assuring readiness when the promotional opportunity is presented. If you agree that we are in fact in control of our lives, then it would make sense that an organized life plan would help us focus on those things that we value.

Life planning is first and foremost recognizing and identifying a goal. This is often the most difficult part of the process. Most of us know what we don’t want. It’s quite another thing to know what we do want. There are an indefinite number of ways we could live our lives. We usually live one way. Many times it is not our way, but one which is heavily influenced by family, friends, and society. We substitute “supposed to” or “have to” for our own wanting to.

Life planning means being willing to consider life as an experiment—to try out, to examine, to change. We move through life either in a haphazard fashion or in a directed manner. If we are directed we are more efficient; we know where we are going and find it easier to get there. Life planning is a skill. There is much more to it than a rosy forecast or some wishes. A useful plan means anticipating the unexpected as well as developing several alternative routines to reach our goals.

The first step in life planning is values clarification—determining those things in life which are important and meaningful and setting them in priority. Next, we look at our current lives and our past, identifying the growth patterns and the support network. We ask the questions “Am I moving toward attaining the things I value in life?” If not, why? We look at accomplishments. “How have I used my time? What have I pursued? Is it consistent with my values and needs?”

We set goals integrating our values and needs with our talent and abilities. Goals are specific, concrete, or measurable, and most of all, attainable. It’s best to write goals down and review them often, noting progress and changes as we proceed in our life plan.

Life planning places you in charge of your life. External forces have only the effect you allow them to have on your life and your goals.



# AROUND CAMPUS ★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

## Why did you come to USD?

by Joan Murry

**James Sotiros**  
**Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations, University Relations**



I attended classes here in 1978 and was impressed with the environment and commitment to quality at USD. I think this university has the potential for real prominence in Southern California, and I see great potential for support from area corporations and foundations. I want to help bring this about.

**Jan Chlarson**  
**Assistant Director, Personnel**



Having worked for the University of Utah prior to moving to San Diego, I was eager to return to the academic atmosphere. In addition to being a pleasant place to work, USD is a good career move for me.

**Kenneth Packer**  
**Assistant Manager of Bookstore**



To assist USD in its academic pursuits.

**Madeline Voelker**  
**Secretary, School of Nursing**



I started as a temporary in the Nursing School and prayed hard everyone would like me enough so that I could get a permanent job when one was available. I like the young people, the atmosphere, and being surrounded by such bright people.

**Mary Anne Pryde**  
**Assistant Manager, Food Services**



I came to USD because it’s an excellent institution of higher education, and I hope to pursue an MBA at the Business School. This is the smallest school I’ve ever worked for, and I really like the warm atmosphere and the friendly staff, faculty, and students.

**Jacqueline Rolet**  
**VA Secretary, Registrar’s Office**



After praying for several months for the right job in the right location for me—I was divinely inspired to apply at USD. God always gets the job done.

E.JANE VIA (continued from Pg. 2).

Asked how she sees the role of religious studies in a liberal arts education, Jane replied that it is an essential part of higher education whether or not on a Christian campus. "Religion is historically and culturally a pervasive aspect of total human experience. It has had an enormous impact on the development of the Western world, and even today we are seeing that most apparently political crises have religious dimensions. The most important thing I strive for in my classes is to convey the complementarity of religions, especially of Christianity and Judaism—along with a tolerance and appreciation for the varieties of religious experience."

Jane Via came to San Diego for two reasons: to teach at USD and to enjoy the California sun after a lifetime in her native Mid-West. Hundreds of USD students are grateful for her decision.

**The Jaundiced Eye**   
**Films Reviewed by Sandra Edelman**

**THE LAST METRO.** One of the great unsung pleasures of life is to fall asleep in public. Ranking high among the guaranteed methods for public sleeping, third only to Wagnerian opera and long, nasal homiletics from the pulpit, are prize-winning "serious" French films. This particular French film is directed, if one is to believe the credits, by Francois Truffaut, who seems bent on proving that his reach exceeds his grasp: stars Ice Queen Catherine Deneuve, who can't act her way out of an unleavened croissant; and shamelessly exposes a supporting cast that must have graduated from the Vichy School of Auto Mechanics. It's ensemble work at its purest: everyone is equally somnambulant, including the screen-

writers, who had a wonderful idea but didn't know what to do with it. As if anticipating a nodding audience, Truffaut heaps insult upon insult by trying to beef things up with some cinematic tricks I had thought went out with the wimple—e.g., spooky music when the Nazis are around.

Why films of this inferiority command such attention, and why they are so often French, is a tantalizing mystery of the current human condition—one of my favorites, along with the recurrent inexplicable appearance of unmated shoes on the freeway. But if you're into low-cost public sleeping, **The Last Metro** will give you a fine uninterrupted snooze at \$1.57 an hour.

**TRADING POST**

How would you like to be treated to a DINNER as well as a MOVIE, if you're the winner of the contest? You still have until the end of May to submit your entry. REMEMBER — it doesn't have to be restaurants, it can be interesting places to visit, things to do, items for sale or items wanted. Don't forget to send your entry to Fran Swank, Controller's Office, and PLEASE PRINT your name. Enter as often as you have items for our column.

**CORRECTION** Julio's is located at University and 45th Street.

**MISIONO**, 5451 Kearney Villa Road (Clairemont Mesa at Hwy. 163). Excellent food, moderate price.  
**THE FIREHOUSE DELI**, 722 Grand Ave., P.B. Delicious sandwiches & salad bar. Med. prices. Choice of inside or upstairs patio dining. Tasty margaritas & appetizers.

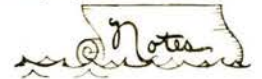
**CLAY'S TEXAS BAR-B-Q**, 623 Pearl, L.J. Comfortable atmosphere, excel. ribs, sandwiches, beer AND prices.

**A DONG**, Park Ave., 1/2 block South of University (across from Capri Theater). Excellent Vietnamese food at very reasonable prices.

**MARINE ROOM**, 2000 Spindrift Dr. (by La Jolla Beach & Tennis Club). Reservations required. Mod. expensive; good food, oceanfront seating.

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**S.E.A. Notes**  
 Staff Employee Association



SPECIAL BOARD MEETING, WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 1981, 2 p.m., Serra Hall Conference Room. ALL Board members are urged to attend.



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**GUESSWORK**  
 by Fran Swank

To Know Meaning Of \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Toil \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Not us, but \_\_\_\_\_

Read your answer to form our statement.

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