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NEWS RELEASE



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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

USD CHANGES SEMESTER DATE TO HELP STUDENTS AFFECTED BY STATE COLLEGE PROBLEMS

SAN DIEGO, Calif. --The University of San Diego will delay the start of the Spring semester one week to help students who are affected by the overcrowding problems at state colleges.

Students at USD were today (Friday) advised that the semester change would mean the second semester will start Feb. 3 instead of Jan. 27 as previously published. Commencement exercises planned for May 31 will not be affected.

In an official statement read to students at classes today (Friday) it was explained that the recommendation for a change came from the faculty.

"The chief motivation for this proposal is the desire to respond to the educational needs of the San Diego area. Overcrowded conditions at local state and junior colleges have created serious problems for students," said the statement.

"Recognizing that the University of San Diego might be able to help the situation by accepting at the semester a number of well qualified students who may wish to come here to ensure the continuance of their education, the faculty proposed the adjustment of the Spring semester dates by one week."

Until the semester change, there would have been insufficient time for a student at a public-supported college to transfer to USD. The week delay to Feb. 3

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will allow those students who wish to register with USD time to do so.

Sister Nancy Morris and the Very Rev. John E. Baer, presidents of the colleges at USD said they were pleased the University could play its part in the life of the community by being able to adjust to meet an education crisis, particularly affecting young college students.

It was pointed out that although USD charges tuition of approximately \$600 per semester, a large percentage of students either have sufficient employment to help them pay their way through college or take advantage of financial aid programs available.

"Scholarships and employment opportunities make it possible for many students to attend private colleges like USD," said Father Baer. "Any student who had planned to attend a state-supported college and considers tuition cost at USD might be a problem should consult with our financial aid officers. We are sure help can be made available."

The present enrollment at the two undergraduate coeducational colleges at USD is approximately 1200 students. "We could accommodate several hundred more and still give the individual attention which a small campus offers," said Fr. Baer.

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