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Right Next Door

Professor Alberto Pulido doesn’t need to take his students very far to show them another world
MOVING MOMENTS
Alumna’s trip to Rome coincides with election of Pope

My phone rang on the morning of March 13. It was my mom, letting me know that white smoke had risen from the roof of the Sistine Chapel, where the College of Cardinals had gathered to elect the new pope. Immediately, in USD’s University Ministry office, I found a live web stream. Some students and staff gathered around, and we all excitedly awaited the name while casting our guesses over who it would be.

When the words “Habemus papam” (“We have a pope”) came, the name was not someone we guessed. Minutes later, it was revealed that Argentina’s Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio had been elected as the new pope and that he had taken the name of Francis.

He became the “Pope of Firsts,” as he is the first pope from Latin America, the first Jesuit and the first Francis. Like many others, I have been touched by the servitude and humility with which Pope Francis has lived his life. He chose to live in a simple apartment and cook his own meals when he was Bishop of Buenos Aires, instead of living in the bishop’s palace. He walked the streets in the slums of Buenos Aires dressed like an average person, taking pictures with the people and attending their family celebrations and community festivals. There in the “villas of misery,” where Buenos Aires’ poorest of the poor are found, he was determined to give the people the message that, “It’s good that you exist.”

The week he was elected, I was preparing for my journey to Rome, anxious about travelling so far away on my own. I was travelling to attend the First International Meeting of Young Catholics for Social Justice. However, I did not quite know what that meant, what the meeting was really about or what to expect upon my arrival.

The day I flew to Rome was the day of Pope Francis’s Installation Mass. At the airport that morning, I read about the message Pope Francis gave during that Mass, and it struck by his call to action to be protectors of all of God’s creation. In particular, I was moved by his words regarding service being authentic power: “The Pope too, when exercising power, must enter ever more fully into that service … he must open his arms to protect all of God’s people and embrace with tender affection the whole of humanity, especially the poorest, the weakest, the least important.” These words resonated with me and calmed my anxiety. At that moment, I realized that I was called to this meeting for a purpose.

At the conference, which took place at the Pontifical Lateran University, also known as the “Pope’s University,” I met young adults from around the world who are carrying out the very call to action of which Pope Francis spoke. I met people coming from a range of professions—from attorneys to international developers to community organizers to business people to clergy—all gathered with one mission: to live faithfully and in service to the mission of God.

Bustling with ideas on how best a group of 130 international participants can change the world, the conference focused on the power of today’s youth. The meeting’s impetus was to bring together young Catholics to create leaders within the church and to discuss the formation of a movement of young Catholics to bring dialogue between the Vatican and the youth, giving a voice to a population which has often been left unheard.

For me, the highlight of the conference came on our final day when we attended the Palm Sunday Mass celebrated by Pope Francis in St. Peter’s Square. There, I had the privilege of participating in the Palm Procession. At this Mass, the pope re-emphasized the message of our conference when he directed his homily to the youth, calling on us to “go, make disciples of all nations” and to serve, love and bring joy.

My journey in Rome continued for an additional week, Holy Week. I continued on my own spiritual journey, rejuvenating my faith. One of the places I visited was the Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi, where I prayed before St. Francis’ tomb and hiked in the woodlands where he once walked.

It was then that I made the connection about how clearly I was meant to be in Rome at this time. After all, I was born in the hospital of St. Francis in Mexico 26 years ago. I returned home on Holy Saturday, holding tightly than ever to my own call to love and protect all of God’s creation, while serving with humility—just as Jesus and St. Francis of Assisi did, and as Pope Francis has and continues to do, setting an example for us all.

—Rosibel Mancillas Lopez ’09

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They are unique yet universal; seven members of the USD community were asked to tell the story of how, exactly, they got here from there. They are students and scholars, inspirational and aspirational, professors and seekers, all sharing one single overriding purpose: to make a real and abiding difference in the world. Their stories echo a singular theme: This is what is means to be a Changemaker.

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STARRY NIGHT
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THE HEART OF SUCCESS IS AUTHENTICITY.
Julie Sullivan had her work cut out for her when she took her post as provost of the University of San Diego. The year was 2005. The chief information officer was leaving, campus technology was behind the times, enrollment needed some tweaking, and the new Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies was waiting for a founding dean.

As Sullivan is about to end her tenure at USD to become president of the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minn., President Mary E. Lyons, PhD, reflects on everything the outgoing provost has accomplished during her eight years with the university.

“Dr. Sullivan helped transform the University of San Diego. Her vision for excellence brought the caliber of our incoming students to the highest point in history,” Lyons says. “She has assured that we continue to attract renowned faculty members who are dedicated to giving students the practical skills and real-life experiences to make a difference in the world.”

When Sullivan arrived, USD was just starting a five-year strategic plan. She rolled up her sleeves and jumped right in. “The leadership had established the mission and vision, core values and some strategic goals, but was just starting to determine the metrics for judging the success of those goals,” she says. “So I was able to help define success for each of those directions.”

One goal was to improve USD’s inclusiveness and diversity, which spawned a committee that grew
The common thread woven throughout the second annual Black Alumni Brunch was community. "It was a great success," says School of Leadership and Education Sciences PhD candidate Jessica Williams, who established the event in 2012. "Among our 84 guests were faculty, students, alumni and administrators, all partaking in great networking and fellowship."

Held in March, the event included not just good company and good food, but recognition for good works. During the brunch, the Black Students Graduate Council, the Black Law Student Association and the Black Student Union and the Black Student Retention and Recognition Committee honored R. Donna and Allen Baytop with an award for their many years of commitment to the success of black students at USD.

The Baytops have a long tradition of involvement with the university. Dr. Donna Baytop, the corporate medical director for Solar Turbines, Inc., was a member of USD’s Board of Trustees from 1989 to 2012. Her husband, Allen, has been a great supporter of the Black Student Union and the Black Students Graduate Council, the Black Law Student Association, the Black Student Union and the Black Student Retention and Recognition Committee honored R. Donna and Allen Baytop with an award for their many years of commitment to the success of black students at USD.

"All of the students, black or international, have benefited from the Baytops’ dedication.” says School of Leadership and Education Sciences Assistant Dean Patricia Marquez, director of the Changemaker Hub, says Sullivan is the embodiment of a Changemaker. “Julie knows that individually and together we can think, learn and act in ways that transform communities everywhere. That’s what Changemakers do.”

Life on campus has come full circle. Just as selecting a founding dean for the School of Peace Studies was one of her first tasks, hiring a founding dean for USD’s new Shiley-Marcos School of Engineering will be among her last. “I’ve always believed in pushing myself and continuing to learn and grow,” she says. “I’m ready for this next exciting chapter at St. Thomas.”

The award presented to the Baytops read, “In recognition of your continued support of the success of the black student.” Williams echoes that sentiment: “Allen has been a great supporter of the Black Graduate Student Association since its inception. He’s attended our events, offered critical feedback, and has been a terrific resource.”

By all accounts, the couple has gone above and beyond for students over the years. College of Arts and Sciences Assistant Dean Pauline Berryman Powell recalls one incident in particular with great clarity: “I introduced an engineering transfer student to Allen, as the student had exhausted his financial aid options via loans and grants and was considering leaving the university; Powell recalls. “Allen knew a donor who was interested in giving toward a scholarship that would assist engineering majors; miraculously, when he connected the donor and the student … well, the rest is history. Recently, the student visited the campus and told me, ‘If it wasn’t for Mr. Baytop and the donor, I would not be a USD alum today.’”

cent to a historic 90 percent. She helped replenish and expand the faculty base with 175 new tenured and tenure-track faculty members. She also helped enhance the first-year and second-year experience programs for students and established the International Center, the Frances G. Harpst Center for Catholic Thought and Culture, the Center for Inclusion and Diversity, the One Stop Center for Student Services, the Office of Undergraduate Research and the Council on the Advancement of Catholic Social Thought. Sullivan also made the word “Changemaker” part of USD’s vocabulary. In 2011, Ashoka, an organization dedicated to supporting social entrepreneurs, designated USD as a Changemaker campus.

“The world has changed and our students will need these Changemaker skills,” Sullivan says. “With our Catholic foundation, we teach empathy and care for the planet. With our liberal arts foundation, we teach students to understand the complexity of the world, to recognize connections and to see how they all fit together. With the Changemaker focus, we foster students who are prepared to create sustainable solutions to the world’s problems. I can’t think of a richer education.”

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Kir Leopoldo had barely arrived on campus when he decided to join the Alcalá Club — if he could. After all, one of the things he liked most about the group was its selective nature, the rare chance it offers 32 USD students to work with President Mary E. Lyons, PhD, and attend VIP events most of their classmates never even hear about.

“It seemed like a unique opportunity to represent the student body, interact with interesting people, and serve in a different way,” Leopoldo (above, second from left) says. The Alcalá Club may fly under the radar, but it’s been around almost as long as the university itself. Marge Hughes — wife of Author Hughes, who took over as president when the College for Men, the College for Women and the School of Law merged — came up with the idea of selecting student ambassadors to represent the university at events for trustees, donors, honored alumni and other high-profile campus visitors. It’s been a win-win ever since.

VIPS appreciate meeting current students and learning about USD from their perspectives, while students gain opportunities to interact with respected leaders.

“I went to breakfast with the Board of Trustees, met Jamey Power of J.D. Power and Associates and had a chance to talk with him,” says Leopoldo, who’s a business administration major planning a career in sports marketing. “Another time, I met Ron Fowler, one of the owners of the San Diego Padres. It was cool talking with him about baseball.”

Alcalá Club advisor Deanna Wittman, Director of University Events and Promotions, works hard to spread the word about the group. “We not only email incoming students, but we send letters to the parents, saying, ‘Please encourage your students to apply. It’s a once in a lifetime opportunity.’”

Only eight new members are chosen each spring from among 200 freshman and transfer student applicants. Making the cut takes at least a B average, plus character, charisma and a true passion for USD.

“It’s very competitive,” Wittman says. “USD has so many exceptional students; narrowing it down to just eight is very difficult.”

Leopoldo, who chaired last year’s selection process, says there’s a good reason it’s so rigorous. “Representing USD is an important thing to Dr. Lyons and the trustees; it can’t be taken lightly,” Leopoldo says. “We want to pick the most dedicated students who are going to serve the club and the university well, people who feel confident in VIP situations.”

New members go through special training in etiquette, protocol and conversation skills before they’re deemed ready to accompany the president to Masses, ceremonies, fundraising dinners or homecoming tailgate parties.

Leopoldo, now a brand-new business graduate, looks back fondly on every one of those events as an invaluable part of his time at USD, opportunities both to learn and to “talk with donors, alums and visitors, so I could tell them how great a school I go to. “College has been the best four years of my life so far,” he says, “and being in the Alcalá Club has been the cherry on top.”

Members of the Alcalá Club include (from left to right) Kaitlin Kikalo, Kirk Leopoldo, Katie Schoblaske and Jonathan Gillie.
As years go by, college roommates can wind up distant memories rather than best friends for life, but at least in one case, that connection has only deepened with time. Lorenzo Fertitta ’91 (BBA) and Tom Breitling ’91 (BA) are wildly successful by any estimation. “These are two guys who are really great business minds,” said School of Business Administration Dean David Pyke, as he introduced the pair at a student-only presentation in March. “As an educator, I think a lot about educating our students; it’s fun to listen to these two talk and see the kind of thinking and depth of thinking they put into their businesses.”

Fertitta (below, left with Dean David Pyke, center, and Breitling, right) is chairman and CEO for Zuffa LLC, which owns and operates the multi-billion dollar Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) global brand. When Fertitta formed Zuffa in 2001, priority one was to acquire the rights and assets relating to the UFC brand, which at the time was the premier mixed martial arts organization. Within a decade, Zuffa transformed the once-struggling UFC into the fastest-growing sports organization in history.

Breitling’s meteoric rise to success began with a simple sandwich order at a local eatery in 1993. It was there where he and future business partner Tim Poster formed the foundations of a partnership that would eventually gross the duo more than $200 million in profits. To this day, Breitling sees that casual meeting as one of the most important moments of his career. “It can all begin with a sandwich,” he advised the audience at USD’s Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice Theatre. “Grab a sandwich with someone and share your ideas. Ideas don’t make the world go round; the search for new ideas and the journey towards their implementation, that’s what makes the world go around.”

*Find Dean David Pyke’s blog at sites.sandiego.edu/pyke.*
The University of San Diego has received a $1 million grant from the Fletcher Jones Foundation to fund the Fletcher Jones Foundation Endowed Chair in Applied Mathematics. The endowed chair will be held by a faculty member with an impressive record of teaching, scholarship and service who is outstanding in the field of mathematics and embraces the role of a teacher-scholar-mentor. He or she will enhance the applied mathematics program, develop a new curriculum, improve the recruitment of students, expose them to math as the language of technology and advance the belief that students benefit from educational opportunities that bridge theory and practice through undergraduate research experiences. The endowed chair will also build relationships with corporate partners that will hopefully lead to additional internships, research projects, funding opportunities and student jobs.

“There’s an increasing demand in the workforce for people with strong backgrounds in mathematics, especially those who can apply mathematics to solve real-world problems,” says Perla Myers, professor and chair of USD’s Department of Mathematics and Computer Science. “The study of mathematics develops logical and abstract reasoning, the ability to recognize and employ patterns, structures and models to solve problems using different strategies, as well as an enhanced work ethic. These are all abilities and skills that are necessary for solving real-world problems.”

“In response to this demand, more students at USD are interested in majors in applied mathematics as they prepare for careers in diverse fields such as computing, physics, biology, finance, actuarial science, medicine, law, engineering and earth sciences, to name a few.”

Fletcher Jones was a mathematician, visionary businessman and larger-than-life pioneer in the fast moving and unpredictable new field of computer science in the 1950s. It is widely believed that, had it not been for the tragedy of his untimely death in an airplane crash at the age of 41, Jones would have gone on to be recognized as one of the giants of computer science.

The Fletcher Jones Foundation has been a longtime supporter of the University of San Diego, dating back to its first gift more than 30 years ago. Since then, the foundation helped build the Donald P. Shiley Center for Science and Technology, funded science equipment and established the Fletcher Jones Chair in Developmental Biology, currently held by Curtis Loer, who studies the process by which organisms progress from a single cell to a complex, multicellular species. The foundation also supported the building of, and technology needs for, Mother Rosalie Hill Hall, home to USD’s School of Leadership and Education Sciences.

“With the support of the Fletcher Jones Foundation, the applied mathematics program can be a model for other schools,” says Mary Boyd, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. “USD can help lead the United States to regain its leadership in science and technology.”
FIELD OF DREAMS
Fowler Park debuts to rave reviews

The lights are on and somebody’s home. For the first time in USD’s history, the school’s ballpark is illuminated at night. Of course, that’s just one of the many changes that fans who enter Fowler Park and Cunningham Field have noticed.

“Is this place awesome or what?” asks John Cunningham, rhetorically. Head coach of the University of San Diego baseball program for 35 seasons (1964-98) and responsible, literally, for construction of the previous facility — located on the same site from 1977 to 2012 — he’s effusive about the ballpark.

“Thank you, Ron and Alexis Fowler. It’s a dream come true.”

The $13.8 million facility opened Feb. 15 when the Toreros played host to San Diego State. The Fowlers, who gave the generous lead gift, cut the ribbon to kick off the festivities. Ron threw out the ceremonial first pitch and commended USD and its construction partners on delivering a quality ballpark.

During the dedication of Cunningham Field the following night, USD Executive Director of Athletics Ky Snyder surprised Cunningham with the news that his jersey number, 33, would become the first Torero number to be retired.

San Diego Padres Hall-of-Famer Tony Gwynn, now head coach of the Aztecs, applauds the addition of Fowler Park. He’s particularly happy for his one-time college teammate, Rich Hill, who’s in his 15th season as USD’s head coach.

“When Rich told me he was getting a new ballpark, I was trying to envision what it would look like,” Gwynn says. “It turned out even better than he described. I’m happy for him, happy for USD baseball and happy for San Diego.”

The 1,700-seat ballpark — which can expand to more than 3,000 with temporary seating so that USD can host an NCAA Regional or Super Regional — gives Hill added confidence that it can be an asset for player recruitment. “We’ve had great recruiting classes in the past and we hope this helps us keep players from signing pro contracts,” Hill says. “The facility is second to none.”

Snyder says Fowler Park’s debut is only one part of the Drive for Torero Success campaign. “This isn’t a completion, it’s the start of something special,” he says. “I look at the ballpark as us rounding first base. We want to go around and make all of our facilities worthy of USD and its reputation.”

College of Arts and Sciences
Dean Mary Boyd is leaving USD after four and a half years to become the vice president for academic affairs at St. Edward’s University in Austin, Texas, effective July 1, 2013. Her many accomplishments include spearheading the effort to foster undergraduate research across all disciplines, leading a major core curriculum redesign effort, working closely with colleagues to design and implement USD’s living-learning communities and significantly improving USD’s retention rates. Dr. Noelle Norton will become the next dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. She has enjoyed a successful career at USD as a teacher, scholar and administrator since 1994.

According to Stephen Pultz, USD’s assistant vice president of enrollment management, applicants to USD for Fall 2013 were the most ethnically diverse in the university’s history. “Forty percent of this year’s applicants are students of color,” he says. Application numbers to USD continue to be robust; the university has received 14,656 applications for 1,115 freshman spots, the second highest number ever. Another sign of the university’s vigorous good health is the unprecedented number of attendees to College Visiting Day in mid-April: more than 1,200 admitted students and their families spent the day touring and learning about campus.

Study abroad at USD celebrates its 50th year in 2013; the Guadalajara Summer Program started in 1963. Kira Espiritu, PhD, director of international studies abroad, is enthusiastic about the milestone. “The growth we have experienced over those 50 years has been exponential, not only in study abroad programming, but also in terms of the number of international students coming to USD and the amount of internationally focused research our faculty are engaging in.”

USD is in the top 1 percent of universities nationwide in terms of the density of our wireless local area network (Wi-Fi), according to Vice Provost and Chief Information Officer Chris Wessells. “USD is truly implementing bleeding edge technology. The campus has implemented a 10 gigabyte campus wired network, and we also have 1,865 wireless access points on campus, which makes our Wi-Fi among the most advanced and reliable for universities in the country,” Wessells adds that USD is queued up to be one of the first to deploy the next generation of Wi-Fi (IEEE 802.11.ac) from Aruba Networks, putting the university in an elite group that includes only three other campuses around the world. That implementation is expected to begin by the first quarter of 2014.

USD parent Albert P. Carey, CEO of PepsiCo Americas Beverages, met with a handful of undergraduate and MBA students from USD’s School of Business Administration on April 23, preceding his larger presentation, “Leading the Future with Beverages.” The students were recipients of the SBA Student Internship Fund, which Carey established in 2010. It allows students to accept internships they can’t otherwise afford because the positions are unpaid or require travel or relocation. Carey and the students discussed strategies for breaking into the business world and the roles their internships played in expanding networks, honing skills and choosing career paths.
Head Baseball Coach Rich Hill has built the Toreros into one of the most successful Division I programs on the West Coast. Since taking over in 1999, he’s led the Toreros to five West Coast Conference (WCC) Championship titles and recently earned his 500th win at USD.

Q: Pardon the pun, Coach, but USD Baseball sure seems to be swinging a hot bat right now.

“Yep. I’m really proud of where our program is, and where we’re going. There’s a lot going on, and it’s great to have a real buzz in the air about this team and the prospects for the future.”

Q: What were things like when you first arrived back in 1999?

“Well, I can tell you that we wanted to change the culture immediately. We had pencils and cups made up that had USD as the NCAA West Regional Champions, and handed them out to all the players at the first meeting. I told the guys to take them home and show their parents, their roommates, their friends. And we just went to work.”

Q: There have been some huge wins along the way that helped shape the program into what it is today. Any particular games stick out?

“The first thing that comes to mind is the sweep of Texas in 2006. Texas football had just won the national championship, and the baseball team was ranked No. 1 on the Coaches’ Preseason Poll. They came in here and we swept them, and I really feel like that put us on the map.

And then there was the 2008 NCAA regional. We beat Long Beach State in the morning game, and we came back and beat Fresno State in the nightcap (Fresno State went on to win the national title that year) to get to the regional title game. That established a new benchmark for us.”

Q: We’ve got to put you on the spot: Who’s the best player you’ve ever coached at USD?

“I’d have to say A.J. Griffin ’11. I remember when we first were recruiting A.J., and my assistant coaches were telling me that we had to have this guy. I saw him throwing in the low 90s during high school playoffs, and really felt like he was our guy, so we went after him and got him. When you stack his four-year career up as both a starter and a reliever, that kind of a career is really once-in-a-lifetime at this level.”

Q: Fowler Park has the potential to be a real game-changer for the program moving forward. What have been the immediate impacts of playing in such an amazing facility?

“Have you seen the place? That should be self-explanatory. What it’s done immediately is impact the 2013 team in ways I haven’t
seen before. The guys are grateful to the commitments of those who have gone before, the commitment of the university and the commitment of Mr. Fowler. It’s raised the intensity, and I know everyone can’t wait to get down here every day, myself included.”

Q: How has your coaching philosophy changed over 15 years?

“My approach has changed, is changing and will continue to change. I mean, you have to in order to get the most out of your players. There’s a real mental toughness that needs to be developed in baseball, you have to deal with the daily grind. I want my players to feel like they’re learning something new every day. That’s not just important in baseball, that’s important in everything.”

Q: A lot of the best young baseball players in the country head straight to pro ball from high school. How do you convince a potential recruit that USD is the place they need to be?

“That one’s easy: the USD campus and the USD experience. I feel like it ranks right up there with any school in the world. The quality of education, the campus life, the student experience, the location. That’s what makes it such a strong choice.”

Q: 15 years and 500 wins, and you’re not showing any signs of slowing down. Have you given any thought to where you see yourself 15 years from now?

“Wherever I’ll be, I’ll be there because God has a plan for me, and I know it’ll be absolutely amazing. But I’m focused on the here and now, and what’s happening right now is trying to bring these guys together into the team I know they can be.”

by Mike Sauer

It’s a bright and breezy early spring afternoon by the pool at the USD Sports Center, and Torero swimming sensation Keenan Lineback looks for all the world like a fish out of water. She’s attempting to settle into a poolside chair and discuss her accomplishments over the 2012-13 swim season, but is clearly struggling to get comfortable. She rocks from side to side and finally shimmies into an acceptable sitting position, but her gaze never leaves the placid waters just steps away.

“You’d think I’d be sick of it by now, with all the time I spend in it,” Lineback says with a wry smile. “It’s funny; sometimes I feel more comfortable in there than I do on land.”

It’s the same pool where the sophomore and reigning Female Torero Athlete of the Year has spent countless hours refining the strokes that propelled her to becoming the first Torero to win a Mountain Pacific Sports Federation (MPSF) conference title in five years. This past February at the MPSF championships in Los Angeles, she earned top honors in the 400 individual medley (IM) with a time of 4:17.42, and posted a personal and school-best 16:39.04 on her way to victory in the 1650 freestyle event.

From the sound of things, she owes her success to a simple strategy: steady as she goes. “My entire life, coaches have taught me to hit the same lap time, every time. I just try to be as efficient as I can with my stroke; going out too fast will kill you in distance events.”

Lineback’s love affair with all things aquatic began when she had her first swimming lesson near her home in Conway, S.C., at the age of 4. Just a few years later, she was competing in swim meets across the southeast, and would soon follow her older brother, Hunter, into the surf near their summer home in Myrtle Beach.

It didn’t take long for Lineback to catch the surfing bug, and by her teen years she had become one of the top amateur female surfers in the country. She is quick to credit surfing for helping her build the strength and stroke power necessary to compete at the highest levels of intercollegiate swimming.

“I think surfing has definitely helped my swimming, and vice versa,” she says. “Right now, I’m focused on the swimming side of things a bit more, as I have a lot of goals I’d like to reach while I’m here at USD, like qualifying for the NCAA Women’s Swimming Championships in the 400 IM.”

by Keenan Lineback
LIVE LIKE DAN

Woodruff Memorial Scholarship an enduring legacy

by Mark Riedy

One of the greatest joys of being a professor at USD is the opportunity to make a real difference in the lives of students— one student at a time. One such student was Dan Woodruff ’98 (Feb. 21, 1973 - Sept. 8, 2000), whose God-given gifts of intelligence, curiosity about everything under the sun, and compassion for others were truly special.

In the middle of one semester about 17 years ago, Dan knocked on my office door in Olin Hall, plopped down on a chair and warmly introduced himself with the self-assurance he had earned as a U.S. Navy veteran. “I’ve been studying mortgage derivatives and am registered for your real estate finance class next semester,” he said. Over time, our student-professor relationship evolved into a friendship, first while he completed his coursework and graduated, and then during his two-year battle with an aggressive form of cancer.

To honor his achievements, personal qualities and fighting spirit, I led a campaign that raised more than $50,000 to endow the Daniel B. Woodruff Memorial Scholarship. I will always remember the conversation near the end of his life when I told Dan of the scholarship in his name. He understood with crystal clarity that his life had just taken on additional meaning. He knew that, like a diamond, the value of an endowed scholarship is forever.

He was humbled in the knowledge that the Woodruff Memorial Scholarship would be awarded to extraordinary students who share Dan’s compassion for humankind, who are warm and loving individuals, and who also take seriously the important benefits inherent in real estate careers properly pursued. But in addition, echoing his unique characteristics, each student selected to receive the Woodruff Memorial Scholarship would have a special story that helped to shape and define their lives, and often the lives of others.

Scholarships are the lifeblood of higher education today, and donors who fund them generally work with university leaders to establish criteria for awarding them. Setting criteria for the Woodruff Scholarship was easy, however, as we all agreed that those receiving the scholarship would need to demonstrate the qualifications and attributes Dan personified.

We have recognized many incredible students among the 21 Woodruff Memorial Scholarship recipients, and their stories are as affecting as they are inspiring. From a 50-year-old father of five who commuted nearly 500 miles from San Jose to San Diego to earn his MSRE degree, to an intercollegiate athlete who displayed extraordinary compassion for a teammate whose life was torn apart by a family tragedy, Woodruff Scholarship recipients possess the character and moral integrity that make them wonderful representatives of our university community.

Each year at the Burnham-Moores Center’s annual real estate conference, the most recent recipient(s) of the Woodruff Scholarship make brief remarks about the meaning of Dan’s legacy, and the impact a USD education has on their current thinking and future plans. In early March, Woodruff scholarship recipients Carey Algaze and Nick Norris carried on this important tradition in front of more than 700 real estate and banking executives.

Some benefits of scholarships such as Dan Woodruff’s are obvious: they reward students for exceptional performance; ease financial burdens for parents and students; recognize the individual(s) responsible for providing the scholarship; and pay tribute in perpetuity to the achievements and legacies of those whose names grace the scholarships.

There are also benefits that may not be so readily apparent, such as: helping USD compete effectively in recruiting student scholars, budding artists, community service leaders and accomplished athletes; assisting USD in attracting a diverse mosaic of students whose backgrounds reflect society at large; providing USD additional resources to educate graduate and undergraduate student leaders who contribute meaningfully to USD’s growing national reputation; and instilling and enhancing a sense of pride and self-esteem in scholarship recipients.

Perhaps because his remaining time was so clearly limited, Dan instantly grasped the long-term meaning of the scholarship program endowed in his honor. Each of the 21 recipients of the Woodruff Memorial Scholarship, without exception, has also come to appreciate its significance. After digesting the importance of such an honor, they inevitably arrive at an astounding realization—they must now live up to the ideals of the Woodruff Memorial Scholarship.

Those who provide funding for scholarships, help students apply for and secure scholarships, or recognize the importance of scholarships by helping create new ones, are advancing the mission of the University of San Diego. My role in the creation and awarding of the Woodruff Memorial Scholarship has affected me profoundly. To help transform Dan’s special story into a stream of future scholarships for extraordinary USD students who forever will aspire to live up to Dan’s ideals is not just a joy and a privilege. It is one of the singularly most meaningful experiences of my career at USD.

Mark Riedy is the executive director of the Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate and the Ernest W. Hahn Professor of Real Estate Finance.
Their faces glow, lit from within with an infectious energy, infusing each word as if time might run out before their story can be shared. Each of the seven is, in their own unique yet universal way, the epitome of a Changemaker. Students and scholars, inspirational and aspirational, professors and seekers, they all share a single purpose: to make a real and abiding difference in the world.

Listen, look and learn.
“I FELT LIKE A FAILURE, BUT PEOPLE AT USD MADE IT THEIR MISSION TO MAKE SURE I SUCCEEDED.”

Ophelia Augustine ’13 says her journey at the University of San Diego truly started when people reached out to help her and, in turn, showed her how to make a tangible difference in the world.

“When I came to USD, I had six classes and worked part-time at Home Depot and Copley Library. I was helping out my parents and raising two kids. In community college, I could take that class load and get straight A’s. I thought I could do the same thing here, but it was too much.

I didn’t know how to ask for help. I was ashamed and embarrassed.

What brought me back the next semester were the people — the faculty and staff who reached out to me and said, ‘We’re not going to let you fail.’ That’s when I knew I belonged here.

People here made a difference in my life and made me see that I’m making a difference too. In the Black Student Union, our mission is to break down stereotypes. We want people to hear the stories of their fellow students and realize what they have in common.

I’ve been on a difficult journey and I’m finally graduating. Now that it’s about to come to an end, I’m asking myself, ‘Did I do everything I was supposed to do? Did I make an impact? Did I help create change? It came so fast, but I’m excited because this is going to be a new chapter in my life and I know I can’t be afraid of change. USD has given me everything — I’ve changed so much here. I’m ready to see what the world has for me. I’m ready to leave so there’s room for another student whose life can be changed.”
“MY FORECAST IS THAT THE UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO’S POSITIVE IMPACT ON SOCIETY WILL BE INCREDIBLY STRONG.”

For independent marketing consultant and USD Trustee James D. (“Jamey”) Power, IV ’85, the liberal arts education he received as a history major gave him the bedrock foundation that allowed him to succeed in life.

“For me, my parents really had the biggest impact on my life. We’re all on this earth to make a difference, and that is one of the core values of J.D. Power and Associates. I started working at a very young age, simple tasks like preparing surveys for mailing by taping quarters onto cover letters. Little fingers can do things like that pretty well. The tasks progressed as I got older. Those days had a huge impact on me. It’s trite to say, but I really learned the value of a dollar, of responsibility, of seeing how a business worked.

Both my parents went to Catholic colleges, and that was an important influence on them. I knew I didn’t want to go back east. I was won over by the university when I came to campus on Admit Student Day. It wasn’t until sophomore year that I really understood the concept of a liberal arts education and how it was meant to prepare me for life.

My favorite professors helped me open my mind to understanding how history has an impact on where we are today as a society and culture. Through the years, what I’ve found in business is that history is a tremendous foundation, because business is ultimately about people and why they do what they do.

Being involved today is my way of reminding USD that alumni matter. I wanted to make a difference, and felt that the university was ready to move up to the next level. I believe that USD is in a wonderful spot right now. This relatively young university has made tremendous progress and its best days are still ahead if it.

What the University of San Diego does is produce successful alumni, and the more successful alumni that USD creates, the more of an impact they will have on the world.”
“I MET WITH MOTHER HILL TO TALK ABOUT BECOMING A NUN, BUT I KEPT IT TO MYSELF.”

Sister Virginia Rodee ‘57, ’74 (MA), Assistant Vice President for Mission and Ministry, firmly believes that God wants people to be happy so their gifts can come to life.

“I started here as a student in 1953 and everything was brand new and beautiful. Today, students talk about how beautiful the university is, but in those days it was breathtaking. The dorm rooms were furnished to feel like home. The doors had panels of colored glass and sunlight shown through, making colored light dance everywhere.

Founders Chapel was a special place. Morning Mass was at 7 and the nuns were finishing morning prayer. They prayed for us every day and it was so comforting. Their love was so concrete. They laughed and were absolutely genuine. Also, they were very educated and had experienced the world. I was attracted to that.

Mother Hill’s cross is something I cherish deeply. She received it in Belgium in 1907 when she made her Final Profession. When our Religious pass away, we’re not buried with our cross, only with our rings. So when I heard about her death, I asked the Superior if I might have her cross. I don’t even know why I moved forward with that, but I realize now how incredibly special it was to me. It’s an endearing symbol of her rich life legacy, and a timeless connection to the university she helped build.

I made my Profession in Rome in February 1966. Two years later, at a meeting here on campus, the announcement was made that I would go to Korea. I was so elated! I left on Feb. 14, 1968. Aside from six years in Rome and some time to come back here for study and for family visits, I was in Korea until 1997 when I returned to USD. It was like coming home. God has been very good to me. I am very blessed.”
“I USED TO BE SHY AND TERRIFIED OF THE UNKNOWN. IT’S OK IF YOU FAIL, BUT IT’S NOT OK IF YOU FAIL BECAUSE YOU’RE TOO AFRAID TO TRY.”

Changemaker Scholarship recipient and McNair Scholar Hannah Wolf ’13 has found that the most important thing is to be herself at the most basic level; that’s when fundamental change takes place.

“I’ve grown tremendously in the last decade. It’s been a long process to learn who I am as a person, and learning to like who I am as a person. In 2012, I went to China with Dr. Yi Sun for 24 days and looked at the consumption by women in the middle class of brand name products and the intangible experiences like traveling, studying abroad and going out to eat. In the midst of it all, I found that I love academia and that I love research. I’m looking at how research can fit into the broader scope of international business.

The first day was rough. My two semesters of Chinese were completely useless. I couldn’t even order a bottle of water and went back to my room and cried. But by the last day, I was taking the subway by myself in rush hour and I was fine. I thrived there. I loved it and can’t wait to go back. I know it sounds grandiose, but I want to help Americans see China the way it is — not through rose-colored glasses and not with red fear or the fear that they’re stealing jobs or jeopardizing Internet security.

If we can see other people as having the same hopes and dreams and the same problems and fears that we do, then they’re not some faceless entity that we’re scared of — they’re someone like us.

I’m not saying it’ll bring world peace, but at the very least, it might make people stop and think before they do something or speak up when they might not otherwise. I may only be able to affect that kind of change among my friends, but even if I change one person’s view, it’s a start.

To be a Changemaker, you have to be yourself. So often we act the way we think people want us to act, but you have to be your true self.”
“Before I came to USD, the idea of service for me, like it is for a lot of people, was pretty simple: how can I contribute and make an immediate impact with my contribution? Whether it’s serving a certain number of meals, providing a certain number of donations … it’s easy to try to measure service in that way. Now, I feel like more comes with the feeling of solidarity you get being with other people who share your level of commitment and ideals. And there are lots of people like that at USD!

Surfing puts me in the mind frame of living simply, living humbly. You get this joy of just being in the water; if anything I think that’s a feeling that’s universal, something that connects people all over the world. I’m currently working on a senior thesis on how sustainable surf projects can promote peace within destabilized communities, and I’ve done some volunteer work in Nicaragua where we are trying to develop a sustainable businesses for local people based off surf and eco-tourism.

When I think about winning the Changemaker scholarship, the first thing that comes to mind is a sense of gratitude for the many opportunities it will create for me. It’s proof positive that I’m on the right path to making a difference in the lives of others. I’m really excited about the opportunities the future holds, and I know my experience at USD will help me maximize those opportunities.”
“DON’T EVEN THINK ABOUT SITTING AT THE SAME DESK TWO DAYS IN A ROW IN MY CLASS. SETTLING INTO ROUTINES IS NOT PART OF THE PROGRAM.”

For Communication Studies Professor Leeva Chung, student engagement is all about inspiring young minds to make connections that spark learning into action.

“This might sound counterintuitive considering where my career path has taken me, but I really didn’t enter the communication profession to become a teacher. I grew up in the ’70s in San Francisco, and went to five different elementary schools. I really had to adjust to different types of teaching, whether it be 2nd, 3rd and 4th graders all being taught together in one classroom, being bussed into a predominately African-American school as an Asian-American or being taught in a non-traditional format where parents determined the curriculum.

It was challenging at times, but it also taught me how vitally important it is to connect with people. All kinds of people. People who may not look, act, or talk the same, but people who are in search of knowledge, of love, of connection.

I want to get my students thinking creatively and collaboratively, which is one of the reasons I have them work in concert with USD’s E-Waste Collection Center on marketing ideas. It’s a project with a lot of moving parts, but in a nutshell, my students create a marketing campaign for the center and then help implement the strategy over a semester. I want there to be a connection between what they learn, and how they apply it. I also want them to be creative and to take some risks. This project provides them that opportunity.

If you had to explain my style, it’s organized chaos. Literally. I’m organized in my intended outcomes and what I want my students to connect with, but the process by which they get there can be chaos. But then again, that’s life, right?”
“WE’RE TELLING THE STORIES THAT DON’T JIBE WITH THE MAIN NARRATIVE OF U.S. HISTORY.”

Forming connections with cultures familiar and diverse equips Ethnic Studies Professor Alberto Pulido’s students with the wisdom and perspective to transform their lives by being a real part of their community.

“USD has really made it a point of emphasis for our students to see the world, but I feel that we have a really important story here in San Diego. The fact that we’re so close to the international border, every culture of the world is represented in San Diego, so you don’t have to go far to learn much.

I grew up here, and recently had the opportunity to produce a documentary on the rich history of San Diego’s Lowrider culture. It’s a story about politics, self-preservation, self-expression and resilience. It’s also a story about families and communities, and my hope is that it debunks the widely held theory that Lowrider culture is inextricably linked with gangs and violence.

I am a firm believer in experiential learning, and think it’s important to take my students to Tijuana. The proximity can heighten the sense of realism, I think.

We go to a place called Casa Migrante. The house is run by an order of missionaries who are specifically committed to work with migrant people. They don’t care about politics; they just want to provide these people with something to eat, a place to sleep, a shower. The simple things that we all too often take for granted.

These topics, these issues, need to be out there in the community. I think we’ve gained our reputation by just being visible. You don’t always have to interact with people just because you want something. It’s just as important to listen and be present as anything else.”
Luminaries gather to applaud nine remarkable alumni

The University of San Diego celebrated the lives and accomplishments of nine amazing alumni during the 2013 Alumni Honors celebration, which took place in the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice on April 27.

The recipient of the Bishop Charles Francis Buddy Award was Enrique Morones Careaga ’02 (MSEL), president and founder of Border Angels, an internationally recognized nonprofit organization made up of volunteers who strive to prevent the deaths of individuals traveling along the U.S.-Mexico border.

Terry Liberatore Gase ’73 (BA), a teacher at St. Michael’s School in Poway, Calif., received the Mother Rosalie Clifton Hill Award for serving on the Alumni Board of Directors for two decades — as president and as a member of various committees — including the Leadership Committee, the Homecoming Committee and the Wine Classic Committee.

Former USD Women’s Rowing team member Alison Cox ’01 (BA) was inducted into the Chet and Marguerite Pagni Family Athletic Hall of Fame. She started her rowing career as a walk-on at the university and developed into one of the most successful Torero athletes ever. In 2000, Cox was a member of the United States’ Under-23 rowing team and, upon graduating in 2001, joined the U.S. senior rowing squad, where she helped the women’s eight claim gold at the 2002 World Championships, multiple World Cup gold medals and a silver medal at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, Greece.

The university also recognized one alumnus or alumna from each school to receive the Author E. Hughes Career Achievement Award. Jan I. Goldsmith ’76 (JD), city attorney for the City of San Diego, was the School of Law recipient. He was appointed as a San Diego Superior Court judge in 1998. He also served three terms in the California State Assembly, representing the Northern San Diego City District, which stretches from Mira Mesa to the Escondido border. In addition to the Hughes Career Achievement Award, Goldsmith previously received special recognition from the Children’s Lobby, affiliated with the USD School of Law, for his legislative work on behalf of foster children.

Jacqueline F. Akerblom ’84 (BBA) represented the School of Business Administration. She’s the managing partner of the Southern California practice Grant Thornton, where she leads and manages a staff of more than 300 professionals who provide specialty services in audit, tax and consulting.

Jeffrey A. Carlstead ’04 (EdD), owner and manager of Carlstead Inc. Hotel Development & Management, was honored by the School of Leadership and Education Sciences. He has been active in the hospitality industry for 45 years and locally managed the award-winning Hampton Inn – San Diego/Kearny Mesa, which opened in 1989. He also served as a founding member of the SOLES Dean’s Advisory Board and has taught as an adjunct professor in the Department of Leadership Studies.
Courts, the Cavaliers’ player development League affiliate, the Canton Charge. Grant also supervises the athletic performance training team that cares for the medical needs and physical development of each player. In addition, he spearheaded the design and construction of the Cleveland Clinic Courts, the Cavaliers’ player development and training center, which is one of the most technologically advanced team development centers in pro sports.

Additionally, the Alumni Association’s first-ever annual report was published in an effort to connect the nearly 60,000 USD alumni living around the world back to their alma mater. And speaking of global reach, our graduates showed their Torero Spirit by celebrating with faculty, current students and fellow alumni at events hosted by one of our 25 national and international chapters. Locally, fundraising events like the USD Wine Classic were very successful in bringing members from across the Torero community together in the name of student scholarships.

Yet despite these highlights, USD’s alumni giving rate is still well below peer institutions such as Santa Clara, Loyola Marymount and Gonzaga — and that gap appears to be widening. As we count down the hours to the end of the fiscal year, USD needs our financial support now more than ever. For one anonymous graduate and donor, the reason for giving back was simple: a USD education provided “the feeling that I was part of something marvelous.”

I couldn’t agree more. How about you?
— Maureen Gavron Partynski ’82
USD ALUMNI ACROSS THE NATION

Toreros are inquisitive, ambitious and intellectually curious. It’s no surprise that after graduation, life often leads them far from their alma mater. But wherever they wind up, their Torero spirit keeps them connected to campus.

The Alumni Association has established chapters in nearly two dozen U.S. regions, each created due to high alumni population. In fact, an astounding 85 percent of University of San Diego alumni live near one of the areas highlighted here.

Beyond the obvious benefits — built-in support communities, professional networking and an ongoing connection to USD — each chapter offers professional development opportunities along with a chance to volunteer with local regional committees. Check out the one nearest you, and keep your Torero Spirit blazing bright.

If outside the U.S., we’ve got you covered. Contact the Office of International Constituent Relations at icr@sandiego.edu.

CHECK OUT THE CHAPTER IN YOUR AREA!

Boston, MA  toreronetwork.sandiego.edu/boston
Central Coast, CA  toreronetwork.sandiego.edu/centralcoast
Kansas City, MO  toreronetwork.sandiego.edu/kansascity
Las Vegas, NV  toreronetwork.sandiego.edu/vegas
North County San Diego, CA  toreronetwork.sandiego.edu/northcounty
Orange County, CA  toreronetwork.sandiego.edu/orangecounty
Portland, OR  toreronetwork.sandiego.edu/portland
Reno/Tahoe, NV/CA  toreronetwork.sandiego.edu/reno
Sacramento, CA  toreronetwork.sandiego.edu/sacramento
Salt Lake City, UT  toreronetwork.sandiego.edu/slc
Silicon Valley, CA  toreronetwork.sandiego.edu/siliconvalley

HONOLULU, HI
Number of Alumni: 505
Chapter President: Lai Tu ’04
toreronetwork.sandiego.edu/honolulu

SAN FRANCISCO, CA
Number of Alumni: 1,824
Chapter President: Patrick Brady ’07
toreronetwork.sandiego.edu/sanfrancisco

LOS ANGELES, CA
Number of Alumni: 4,182
Chapter President: Mike Centurioni ’03
toreronetwork.sandiego.edu/la

SAN DIEGO, CA
Number of Alumni: 21,659
Chapter President: Andres Melgar ’02
toreronetwork.sandiego.edu/sandiego

SEATTLE, WA
Number of Alumni: 1,009
Chapter President: Scott Weaver ’92
toreronetwork.sandiego.edu/seattle

PHOENIX, AZ
Number of Alumni: 944
Chapter Presidents: Paul ’04 and Jeanmarie ’02 (JD ’08) Bisceglia
toreronetwork.sandiego.edu/phoenix

WASHINGTON D.C.
Number of Alumni: 1,468
Chapter Presidents: Cmdr. Matthew Dolan ’96 JD and Karen Dolan ’91
toreronetwork.sandiego.edu/washingtondc
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Don’t live near one of our regional chapters? Join the Alumni Association on Facebook, LinkedIn and the online, password-protected database of all USD alumni, the Torero Network. To learn more, go to alumni.sandiego.edu and click on “regional chapters.”
LIVING IN “THE MOMENT”

A reality TV stint has Vince Mosio focused on what matters most

by Mike Sauer

Growing up, Vince Mosio loved fall Saturdays. The way he saw it, Sunday through Friday was just a means to an end; a tolerable inconvenience that eventually led to the magical moment when he’d settle on the family couch and spend the day watching college football games with his father, Robert Mosio.

They’d cheer big plays, and boo boneheaded ones. They’d heckle referees for bad calls and argue over play calling. Some 25 years later, Mosio’s eyes light up when recalling those halcyon days. “I loved hanging out with my dad and watching Saturday football,” he recalls, beaming. “He was a huge UCLA fan, so when the Bruins were on TV, we’d really get into it.”

Mosio lived and breathed the game, and just about every waking moment that didn’t involve school or chores was dedicated to honing his skills in the family’s backyard. “I played other sports, but it was always about football with me,” he recalls.

When the Mosio clan relocated from Orange County, Calif., to Oregon during Vince’s high school years, he quickly became one of the top prep quarterbacks in the state. Fortunately for the USD football program, the University of Oregon — his college of choice at the time — didn’t offer him a scholarship. The Ducks’ loss was the Toreros’ considerable gain, as Mosio went on to become one of the most prolific signal-callers in USD history.

“The thing about Vince was what a great student of the game he was,” says former USD Football Head Coach Brian Fogarty. “He was a great leader on the field, and if he did make a mistake, you could count on the fact that he wouldn’t make it twice.”

After graduating from USD with a degree in political science in 1995, Mosio went on to play professional football in Europe. While his career overseas was successful, it also prevented him from making it back home to be with his father as he battled the debilitating and ultimately fatal effects of Alzheimer’s disease. Newly married, and with his wife expecting their first daughter, Mosio turned his back on football, and built a life for his young family by returning stateside.

Roughly 16 years have passed since that fateful decision, and while Mosio isn’t one for second-guessing, there have been fleeting moments when he’s pondered what might have been. “We all make choices, and I know I made the right one, but you can’t help but wonder what would’ve happened if life had turned out differently. Who wouldn’t?”

Enter the USA Network’s new reality TV show, “The Moment,” an unscripted series that follows the journey of nine people who are given a second chance to pursue the career of their dreams. Unbeknownst to Vince, he’d be playing a starring role.

“My wife nominated me,” he says. “I was coaching my daughter’s softball practice, and I feel a tap on my shoulder, and it’s Kurt Warner, who hosts the show, along with dozens of family members and friends. It took me a minute to register the whole thing.”

Warner, a former all-pro NFL quarterback with the St. Louis Rams, New York Giants and Arizona Cardinals, informed Mosio that he’d have the opportunity to get back into the game he loved, this time as a high school coach in South Bend, Ind.

Over the course of one week, Mosio would re-immers himself in everything from the X’s and O’s of play scripting to learning the strengths and weaknesses of his players. Along the way, he was able to identify some of his own deficiencies, including his never previously acknowledged guilt over not being at his dad’s side when he passed away.

“I was given this opportunity to go back and coach football again, but that wasn’t what it was all about for me. It was about getting over my demons and moving on with my life.”

As cathartic as the experience proved to be, there was still a life-changing decision to be made. Mosio’s brief tenure as a high school football coach had been monitored closely by Notre Dame Athletic Director Jack Swarbrick, and he liked what he saw. The moment was now at hand; would Mosio accept Swarbrick’s offer to work at Notre Dame, or would the demands of his life back in San Clemente outweigh the benefits of this dream opportunity?

The decision was by no means an easy one, but thanks to the support of his wife and two daughters, Mosio is exactly where he wants to be. “Working at Notre Dame is the most amazing experience,” he says. “I’m so energized about where I am in my life right now, and there’s nowhere else I’d rather be.”
Just imagine what schools would be like if teachers were in charge.

Parents may assume that teachers are already, in fact, calling all the shots, but Kim Farris-Berg ’98 (BA), an independent education policy advocate, would disagree. She recently published the book, *Trusting Teachers with School Success: What Happens When Teachers Call the Shots*. It’s about what some call a “teacher-led” approach to running a school. For Farris-Berg, it reveals the benefits of giving teachers control — something that, for her, has become a rallying cry. “There’s a national trend to get tough with teachers, and governor after governor is tying test scores to teacher evaluations,” she explains. “Teachers feel they have very little control over what and how they teach.”

Farris-Berg is trying to buck that trend. She studied Mission Hill, a K-8 pilot school in Boston, and more than 50 other schools across the nation where teachers are in charge. There, in addition to teaching academic skills, the goal is to help children develop lifelong habits — such as solving problems creatively, thinking critically and acting with empathy.

The documentary film, “A Year at Mission Hill,” chronicles the school’s new approach. One year, for example, teachers decided to teach everything — from reading and writing to math and science — through a school-wide theme about bees. “We’re going to be studying honey bees a lot,” a teacher tells her class in the documentary. “We’re going to watch them fly, we’re going to watch them dance, we’re going to watch them eat, we’re going to watch them clean.”

“There’s not a single desk in any of these classes,” Farris-Berg says. “That’s just not the way the school operates.”

Farris-Berg works with clients around the country that are exploring whether to adopt similar approaches. She’s a frequent guest blogger and popular speaker on the topic. John Merrow, an education correspondent for “PBS NewsHour,” called her book a “must-read.”

In his most recent State of the State address, California Gov. Jerry Brown’s call to action mirrored...
what she’s been saying for years. “The laws that are in fashion now demand tightly constrained curricula and reams of accountability data,” Brown said.

“I’d prefer to trust our teachers who are in the classrooms each day,” he said, “doing the real work — lighting fires in young minds.”

That day in January, Farris-Berg was taking care of her own kids, who had the flu. She didn’t watch the governor’s address, and ignored the first few calls on her cell phone. But when they kept coming, she checked her voice-mail and heard message after message about his speech.

“This was the real deal,” Farris-Berg says. “I started calling back folks who were curious how the governor’s vision could be made into reality.”

It was a huge turning point in a quest that first began in 1991, when a group in Minnesota established what became the concept for charter schools. A decade later — just a few short years after graduating from USD — Farris-Berg worked with that same groundbreaking group of educators as an editor on what became a how-to book for others who wanted to launch their own charter schools.

Today, Farris-Berg says there are about 60 “teacher-led” schools throughout the nation. At these schools, teachers define student achievement, decide how to illustrate that achievement and determine how to evaluate student performance. Rather than relying solely on standardized tests, teachers might have students create a portfolio, or complete a project, like a thesis, that they defend at the end of the term.

“A test score is a single measurement of quality,” she says. “When we buy a car, pick a restaurant or choose our spouse we would never look at just a single measure of quality. Why would we do that with education?”

1960s

[1960] MARY JO (RINK) GRAHAM, who attended USD from 1956 to 1957, recently relocated to Larkspur, Calif., to be near her daughter’s family in San Anselmo. “It’s like being back home again,” she says. “I first discovered California in 1956, when four Chicago friends flew out from Midway Airport, before O’Hare Field was even built and jet planes were in operation to San Diego. It took a good eight hours.” Mary Jo graduated in 1960 from Barat College in Lake Forest, Ill., and raised three children in Chicago, where she also managed multiple levels in editorial at Pioneer Press, a subsidiary of Sun-Times Media, during her 21-year career. Today, Mary Jo is a freelance writer in the Bay Area. She has a website at ShopFreshPoetry.com and tutors women in English at the local senior center.

[1962] SUSAN (MONAHAN) WACHOWI AK (BA) and her husband, Dan ‘62, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 2012.

1965

DENNIS WICK (BA), recipient of the USD’s Bishop Charles Francis Buddy Award in 1998, recently retired after serving for 37 years as director of programs for young adults with special needs at An te- lope Valley College. He also retired as volunteer area director of Antelope Valley Special Olympics, a position he held for 33 years.

[1967] RICHARD FINER (BS) reports that he was recently married. He has two children and two grandchildren.

[1968] RICHARD FINER (BS) worked as a clinical lab scientist for hospitals and research companies from 1972 to 1995, and as a field research engineer for Coulter Biomedical Electronics from 1982 to 1987. He is also a U.S. Air Force veteran, who served from 1960 to 1965 at Hamilton Air Force Base in Novato, Calif., and Kadena Air Force Base in Okinawa, Japan, with specialties in air-to-air missiles and weapons systems administration, both conventional and nuclear.

1971

LEONOR (CARRASCO) GILLETTE (BA) reports that her husband of 38 years, Paul, died on Nov. 28, 2010. She is retired from teaching Advanced Placement Spanish and French at the local public school. Leonor has two daughters and four grandchildren and is contemplating a move back to San Diego.

[1974] ANNE (HAAR) SHILLAM (BA, BA ’83) recently relocated to Fort Washington, Calif., to live with her daughter, Danielle.

[1975] ANGELA (KEFFALA) NEWMAN (BA) is a marriage and family therapist intern at Lomi Psychotherapy Clinic in Santa Rosa, Calif. The clinic provides sliding scale and free psychotherapy to people in need of mental health care.

[1976] ARMIDA GONZALEZ (Med) retired and has a home in Arizona, where she is active as a town council member, on the board of directors for Clinical Adelante and involved in her church as a catechism teacher. “I still maintain my condo in Del Mar where I go to get ‘away’ from it all,” she says.

[1978] JANICE MULLIGAN (BA, JD ’81) practices law full time with Mulligan and Banham and, in September 2012, was appointed a clinical instructor on the faculty of the Department of Family Practice and Preventive Medicine, Health Sciences, at the University of California, San Diego. Her area of specialty is health law.

1979

H. WES PRATT (JD) and his wife, Francine, have a new grandson, Braeden Josiah Taylor, born on Dec. 5, 2012, in San Diego.

1980s

[1980] CONSTANCE THOMAS (LLM) spent six and a half years in China and is happy to be back in Geneva, Switzerland, heading up the International Programme to Eliminate Child Labour (IPEC). “It is a rewarding and challenging position,” she says.

[1981] CLAIRE (CARPENTER) BENTON (BA) is the program assistant for Peninsula Shepherd Center in Point Loma, Calif. The nonprofit center helps provide transportation for seniors and Claire also plans events for the seniors in the community.

[1982] GEORGE McFETRIDGE (JD) published his second novel, The White Rose, under his pen name, Mary Ann Cook. The novel is a wartime love story based on the life of the world’s first female ace fighter pilot, Lilya Litvyak. George is a deputy district attorney in Orange County, Calif., and he lives in Lake Forest with his wife, Bette.

[1986] ROB NORIEGA (BA) is an attorney and principal of Noriega & Associates in Bakersfield, Calif., which has attained an AV Preeminent rating by Martindale-Hubbell. “The AV Preeminent rating is a significant accomplishment,” he says, “a testament to the fact that a lawyer’s peers rank him or her at the highest level of professional excellence.” Rob has practiced law since 1986 and focuses his practice in the areas of civil litigation and business law.
Jeffrey Scharf (JD) started as an intern prosecutor at the United States Attorney’s Office in San Diego and then moved to Los Angeles, where he became an associate and then senior managing partner at the national litigation firm, Cooper, Brown, Kardaras and Scharf. He litigated multiple significant cases to successful verdict before Los Angeles Superior Court juries and the California Court of Appeal. Today, Jeffrey is an attorney and educator in Pacific Palisades, Calif.

[1983] Leslie (Lambert) Devaney (JD) is head of the Public Entity/Gov-ernment/General Counsel Division for her law firm, Stutz Artiano Shinoff & Holtz. She is currently the city attorney of Murrieta, Calif, the city attorney of Del Mar, Calif, general counsel for the San Diego Convention Center, and associate general counsel of the San Diego Ethics Commission. Leslie and her husband, Francis, a San Diego Superior Court judge, have two daughters who have graduated from college, one from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and one from the University of Chicago.

Scott Douglas (JD) celebrated 15 years as a full-time mediator in 2012. He has handled nearly 2,000 successful mediations and is recognized as one of the top FINRA mediators in the country. Scott focuses primarily on securities and investment-related claims, as well as insurance and business disputes.

Dianna (Lee) Griswold (BBA) writes, “After 26 years with the same firm, I have retired and am now able to spend time being a stay-at-home mom.”

[1984] Mary (Duren) Swenson (BA) has a firm that provides creative therapy, leadership education and consulting research. The website is www.interpretiveleadership.com.

[1985] Gary Dokes (MBA) was named to the Power 100 by ai-CIO, an Asset International’s Chief Investment Officer magazine. The Power 100 lists the most influential and powerful asset owners in the world, from fields such as pension, endowment, foundation, insurance and sovereign fund investing. Gary is the chief investment officer for the Arizona State Retirement System.

Barbara Elliott-Sanders (BA, MEd ’88) was elected to the South Bay Union School Board of Trustees. She also is a court-appointed special advocate for Voices for Children and a member of the organization’s speakers’ bureau.

[1986] Karen (Clark) Hanson (EdD) reports that her textbook, A Casebook for Catholic School Leaders and Aspiring Leaders: Linking the Archdiocese of New York Catholic School Leader Portrait to Reflective Practice, was just customized for the Archdiocese of New York. “This is a big deal!” she says. “I am very proud that the archdiocese selected my book for its publications and offered modifications to fit the Catholic school model.”

Genevieve Knych-Rohan (BA) is a senior executive recruiter for Vistage International, where she helps chief executive officers set up peer networking groups around the country. She also has been a court-appointed special advocate for Voices for Children for nearly eight years and so far, four of the five children she has volunteered with have gone on to college. She writes, “My foster girl made a documentary and CBS flew her to New York City to meet with key executives as her prize.” The family was featured in another video used to help raise $1 million for foster kids in San Diego.

Thomas Ignjatovic Steele (MBA) moved to Tampa, Fla., and started a telecommunications business in 1996, which he retired from and sold in 2009 to start a family with his wife, Marina. They recently moved across the state to Palm City, Fla., for the great school system, and celebrated their four-year anniversary with their children, Adam, 2, and Andrea, 9 months.

[1987] Anne Grey (BA) was named executive director of the newly launched OneLegacy Foundation, which supports the life-saving mission of OneLegacy, a nonprofit, federally designated organ and tissue recovery organization serving the seven-county greater Los Angeles area. With more than 25 years of nonprofit experience, Anne most recently served as national director of leadership gifts at the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, and previously served as COO of the American Heart Association’s Western states affiliate. Through its charitable work, OneLegacy Foundation will contribute to clinical training and research, honor those who have saved lives as donors and inspire diverse communities to donate.

Elleen Irvine (MA) is a retired foreign service officer, having served in the U.S. Diplomatic Corps from 1989 to 2011.

[1988] Jose Aquinaga (BA) graduated from Northern Arizona University in December 2012 with a doctorate in educational leadership.
HARRY HADJIAN KENNEDY (BA) worked as an attorney in the private and public sectors and, in 2007, was named a senior policy advisor on public safety issues for Tim Pawlenty, Minnesota governor and recent presidential candidate. For the past two years, he has served as a policy advisor to the Ways and Means committees in the Minnesota House of Representatives.

ROBIN PHELAN-TUGGLE (BBA) is senior manager of accounting, controls and logistics, with Walmart in northwest Arkansas.

[1989] KAREN CADIERO-KAPLAN (BA) was appointed director of the English Learner Support division, Instruction and Learning Support branch, at the California Department of Education. She is responsible for overseeing language policy and leadership and migrant education programs for California.

CAPT. LANCE MASSEY (BA) took command of the 33rd Maintenance Group at a change-of-command ceremony at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida on Jan. 18, 2013. The command is responsible for the introduction and readiness of the three variants of the Joint Strike Fighter, the F-35 Lightning II. Lance was a member of the NROTC unit at USD.

LANCE PELKY (BBA) reports that he and his wife, Eileen, are “village people” now. “Emptied the nest and moved to the village area of downtown La Jolla,” he says.

1990s

[1990] TERESA BECK (JD) was recently named a 2013 Woman Leader in the Law by AmLaw, and was asked to join the Board of the National Conference of Women’s Bar Associations, which advocates for the equality of women in the legal profession and in society by mobilizing and uniting women’s bar associations. Beck also co-chairs the ABA’s Work/Life Management Subcommittee, a part of the Woman Advocate Committee of the Litigation Section, and is a member of the ABA’s Women Rainmakers Committee. She is also involved with the Gender Equity Committee of California Women Lawyers, and spoke at the Claims and Litigation Management Alliance’s Annual Conference in April 2013. Her children are now 15, 16, and 18, and her husband, Stephen, continues to teach at Bonita Vista Middle School.

JEFF SNYDER (JD) has formed a new law firm, Shuman Snyder, focusing on employment law. The Menlo Park, Calif., firm represents employers in litigation and strategic counseling matters and has four lawyers.

[1991] RICK EYMAN (BA) is a first officer for JetBlue Airways, flying the A320 based in New York.

JOHN HUBER (BA) just finished a year of hosting local television for the Plum TV network and in May 2013, he expects to be operating as a fly fishing and wing shooting outfitter in Picabo, Idaho, a few minutes south of Sun Valley. In 2009, John was ranked among the top 40 fly anglers over the past 40 years by Fly Fisherman magazine. He is the author of Fly Fishers Guide to Oregon and Lessons of Fair-sized Creek. He hosts international fly fishing trips from the Caribbean to the Himalayas.

MICHAEL MAGERMAN (MBA) is president and chief executive officer of Quickie Manufacturing Corp. in Cinnaminson, N.J., and was elected vice chairman/chairman-elect of the board of directors of the International Housewares Association (IHA). He began his term on Oct. 1, 2012. Michael joined Quickie Manufacturing in 2005 and previously served as senior director at Centre Partners, a private equity firm, and as president and chief executive officer of Odyssey Golf. In 1997, Michael received the Author E. Hughes Career Achievement Award from USD.

[1992] WENDY WISE HIMES (BA) launched a professional organizing business in June 2011 in Parker, Colo., where she lives with her husband of 16 years, Brad, and their three sons, ages 4, 8 and 12. Wendy uses her fine art major and psychology minor from USD to help people beautify their homes and to understand which system of organization will best help each client. She also writes for The Denver Post and Colorado Living monthly.

MEIGHEN (MILLER) SPEISER (BA) raised $10 million for the launch of a national public engagement campaign to build support for climate change solutions. Meighen is chief engagement officer at ecoAmerica.

[1993] MARTY LORENZO (BA, JD ‘96) was named a 2012-13 Rainmaker by the Minority Corporate Counsel Association (MCCA). One of just 17 honorees, Marty was profiled in the November/December issue of MCCA’s Diversity & the Bar magazine. He is a member of the Corporate & Securities section of Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky & Popeo and has more than 15 years of experience in business and corporate and securities law, and 24 years in the Marine Corps. Marty was named a San Diego County Top Attorney by The Daily Transcript; he has received the Service to Diversity Award from the San Diego County Bar Association and the Distinguished Service Award from the Filipino American Lawyers of San Diego and the Pan Asian Lawyers of San Diego.

REBECCA HADDOCK SMITH (MEd) was recently appointed a member of the San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture.

[sugar and spice] MARISA (NUNN) MARSHALL ‘91 (BA) is a sales representative for Los Angeles-based My Saint My Hero, a company that brings the stories of the saints to life with handmade jewelry. Inspired by religious themes, the company’s products are sold in more than 200 boutiques and stores around the country, including the USD Torero Store. “It’s wonderful to be able to work in a field that brings faith and fashion together!”
Congressman Juan Vargas is on a mission

by Karen Gross

It’s another busy day for Congressman Juan Vargas ’83, newly elected Democrat representing California’s 51st district. Now splitting his time between San Diego and Washington, D.C., and juggling his schedule between votes and committee meetings, Vargas manages to snatch a few moments to reflect on the monumental challenges that accompany his latest political role.

“In many ways, Washington only works when it’s faced with a crisis,” he says. “That’s no way to work. It seems like people here only ultimately come together when things are falling apart.” Although a freshman in the federal arena, political struggles are nothing new to the 52-year-old, who spent eight years as a San Diego city council member, followed by several more in the California State Assembly. Just before he was elected to Congress, Vargas was serving in the state Senate; he’s arrived in Washington at a potentially historic juncture.

“It’s a very exciting time for me to be here, dealing with these very large issues,” Vargas says with characteristic optimism. “I’m particularly hopeful about the issue of immigration.”

With good reason. The son of a Mexican farm worker who came to the U.S. through the Bracero program in the 1940’s, he grew up on a chicken ranch in National City, Calif. Vargas attended USD on a full scholarship and went on to Harvard Law School, where he was a classmate of the future president, Barack Obama. Along the way, he served as a Jesuit for several years and worked for a time with orphans in the jungles of El Salvador. His devout Catholic faith drives his political agenda, which includes safeguarding Social Security and Medicare, and granting all undocumented workers in the U.S. legal status, followed by a path to earned citizenship.

“I try to tell my colleagues, ‘Why would you not want to encourage people to become full citizens, full participants?’” he says. “‘Why would you want to keep them in a sub-standard, sub-human condition?’

It’s a battle Vargas is ready to fight, not only because of his own experience, but because his district — which spans the entire California-Mexico border — has the highest number of undocumented workers in the San Diego region and one of the highest in California. Imperial County’s unemployment rate is at or near the top of the list nationwide.

“I think we have to get as much as we can in the bill and then pass it,” Vargas says. “If I had to, I would agree to something less than full participation, but it would need to be comprehensive. It can’t just be the Dreamers, the kids. Are you really going to tear families apart?”

Helping him achieve his ambitious mission are several long-trusted USD alumni: Chief of Staff Tim Walsh, who obtained his BA from the university in 2002 and earned a masters in peace and justice studies from USD in 2003; Press Secretary Dianna Zamora earned her masters in Global Leadership in 2008; Rita Fernandez ’10 is on staff as a community liaison, and Legislative Assistant Scott Hinkle ’08 is a graduate of USD’s School of Law, as is Vargas’ former chief of staff and close friend, Colin Rice ’97.

“Juan is the most big-hearted guy you’ve ever met,” Rice says. “He’s extremely loyal to his friends, to his heart and to his beliefs. No one man can change the system, but with people like him in Washington, you begin to get the sense that change at some level is possible.”

The infectious enthusiasm that Vargas inspires among his staffers has all of them believing he will quickly gain the respect of his colleagues on both sides of the aisle, and that he’ll find a way to make a real difference in D.C. “Our district is very unique,” says Zamora. “He has a very unique personal and political perspective on how it can work and he can offer a plan for how to best move forward.”

And because Vargas is likeable, smart, honest and determined, Walsh predicts he’ll rise quickly. “I don’t think he’s ever lost that Jesuit mentality,” Walsh says. “He wants to serve others. I think he’s a shooting star and we’re lucky to have him in the region.”

Still settling into his new office and his new cross-country commuter lifestyle, Vargas, a married father of two girls, says he’s looking forward to what lies ahead. Whether he’s talking about immigration, jobs or gun legislation, his sunny outlook seems unshakable.

“So far, I’m still hopeful,” he laughs. “I haven’t been here long enough to be as cynical as some others. I think we can get to some compromises. That’s what the American people want.”

[big-hearted]

THE GOOD FIGHT

Congressman Juan Vargas is on a mission
JOANNE ZIPAY (MFA) was named a Writer and Director of Living History by the Greater Hudson Heritage Network’s Awards for Excellence program. She was honored for her work writing and directing “On the Side of Angels,” which explores the intertwined lives of young Robert Newlin Verplanck and James F. Brown, an escaped slave and longtime Verplanck employee, during the Civil War era.

[1994] SHANNON MONTISANO (JD) was recently named a 2012 Top Attorney in probate and trust administration by The Daily Transcript.


NOLI ZOSA (BA, JD ’99) has run his event planning company, San Diego Young Professionals, for nine years. SDYoungPros organizes social events for San Diego law and graduate schools and for San Diego young professionals. He is also a partner in two restaurants/bars, including Dirty Birds in Pacific Beach, Calif., which Yahoo Sports recently ranked No. 10 best chicken wings in the nation. Most recently, Noli is working with his family’s medical foundation to partner with CURE International and the Tim Tebow Foundation to support the Tim Tebow Hospital in the Philippines. The family and a team of doctors travel to the Philippines for bi-annual medical missions providing pediatric and orthopedic procedures for the indigent population in the Philippines.

[1997] SACHA (DEVEREUX) BENZ (BA) has a 4-year-old son, Brendan, and plans to return to school to become a nurse.

TARA KAMIN (JD) accepted a position with the University of California, Los Angeles, in the Office of Intellectual Property & Industry Sponsored Research.

SASCHA LEHMAN (LLM) is the proud father of three children: Konstantin, born in 2008; Christoph, born in 2010; and Anna, born in 2012.

KATY (McCANN) PATERSON (BA) and her husband, Brad, were married in Bali, Indonesia, in August 2012. Katy and Brad live in Singapore, where she is a freelance travel and lifestyle writer with a luxury, international focus.

ROBERTO SICANGCO (LLM) is a senior partner with Sicango & Sicango Law Offices, which was the advisor for BG Group on Philippine law matters involving BG Group’s stake in two gas-fired power generation plants in the Philippines.

NICOLE SNYDER (BA) is the new administrative partner of Holland & Hart’s Boise, Idaho, office. In addition to overseeing strategic development for the office, Nicole manages recruiting and marketing efforts. She represents clients in matters involving mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance, debt and equity financing, and other complex business transactions. She is also president of the board of trustees for the Boise Art Museum.

[1998] ABBY PARTA GOSSMAN (BA) and her husband, Jeramie, welcomed a daughter, Liliana Abigail, on March 3, 2012. Liliana joins big brother Leighton, 5. Abby is a lobbyist for MedImmune, where she manages government affairs for six states in the Midwest.

ALBERTO GUARDADO (BBA) and his wife, Vicky, moved back to San Diego after four years in Albuquerque, N.M. Alberto accepted a position as general manager with Allied Waste/Republic Services of San Diego County. Their kids, Joey, 10, and Alyssa, 5, are excited to be in San Diego, Alberto reports.

WENDY (ANDERSON) INTRIERI (BA) and her husband, Dominick, welcomed their third child, Trevor Michael, on Nov. 18, 2012.

ROBERTO REYES (BAcc) has been working to expand the San Diego entrepreneur community by creating programs, locations and investments.

ADRIANNA (CORREA) SCHUSTER (BA) and her husband, Drew, were married after a four-year, long-distance relationship. They now live in Thousand Oaks, Calif. Adrianna
was recently promoted to associate director, alumni/donor relations, at Loyola Law School.

[1999]  
DANIELA REALI FERRARI (BA, JD ’02) and her husband, John Ellis ’03, welcomed twin sons, Vincent and Joseph, on March 4, 2012.

ERIN (CHRISTIE) HARRILL (BA) and her husband, Jonathan, recently purchased a home in Solana Beach, Calif. Erin and Jonathan have a 2-year-old son.

KATHY KOHN (BA) started her own law practice in 2010 and was splitting her time between Minnesota and Montana. She was married in January 2013 and moved to Edina, Minn.

KRISTEN (AMES) MAHRER (BA) writes, “Married my best friend and hero, Navy SEAL BUOS instructor, Mike Mahrer, in July 2012.” Kristen earned a master’s degree in English education in 2002 and a national board teaching certification in 2005. She welcomed her son, Yiannis, in September 2008. Kristen works at Cambridge Learning Center in Linda Vista, Calif.

WAYNE SLAPPY (BA) and his wife, Solangel, moved back to Los Angeles from Carlsbad just before having their second son, Bruce Anthony. Big brother Wayne Jr. turned 3 in April 2013. Wayne was married more than 10 years after graduating from USD and he’s happy to report that four of his six groomsmen were friends from USD. “The friendships I made at USD have been extremely powerful in my life,” he says. “Both the education and the relationships I attained at USD have been blessings that continue to impact my life every day. Thanks, USD!”

ROY VASQUEZ (BBA) and his wife, Ashley, were married in their hometown of Kona, Hawaii, in the summer of 2011.

2000s

[2000]  
PAOLO BUTERA (BA) recently returned to San Diego after working for eight years in Italy. He has a position in the marketing and research department of the U-T San Diego newspaper.

WILLIAM DOPP (MBA) was based in Hong Kong for the past five years as a finance vice president for Avery Dennison. He now lives in Dublin, Ohio, with his family and has joined Stanley Black & Decker as a group chief financial officer for the company’s industrial and automotive repair businesses.

ROBIN (ROLLINS) McKENZIE (PhD) is an adjunct faculty member and clinical instructor for Jacksonville University and the University of North Florida. Robin’s primary fields of interest are adult medical-surgical ICU, emergency department and rehabilitation nursing.

[2001]  
DIANE (DUMAS) ABELLA (BA) and her husband, Brian, were married in January 2013. Diane has been an educational consultant for Greater San Diego Academy for the past five years.

STEVEN BRUMER (LLM) was promoted to senior bankruptcy counsel with Fleischer and Associates in Del Mar, Calif.

COLLEEN DeCOOK-SNYDER (BA) and her husband, Ben, welcomed a son in May 2011 and Colleen has since opened her own licensed home daycare.

GINA (ROMANO) HORTON (BBA) and her husband, Travis, welcomed a son, Leo Collins, on Aug. 1, 2011, who joins big brother, Hutch William.

LEIGH NAVARRO (BA) is the owner and creative director of Leighellena, a wholesale designer and manufacturer of leather, enamel and exotic skin jewelry and accessories. She has a flagship retail location in Austin, Texas, and opened another location in the redeveloped Pearl Brewery in San Antonio, Texas.

[2002]  
KODY DIAZ (JD) was promoted to general counsel of Toyota Material Handling, USA. Based in Irvine, Calif., TMHU is Toyota’s North American distributor of Toyota forklifts and industrial equipment.

DAVID DUNSTON (MSGL) accepted a position as a benefits consultant in the Orlando, Fla., market with U.S. Able Life Insurance Company, based in Little Rock, Ark.

ANDIE (HADAD) JONES (BBA) recently moved to Denver with her husband, Mathew. Andie completed a master’s degree in holistic nutrition and has a thriving holistic nutrition practice.

JAIMIE (LOBDELL) PAYNE (BA) reports that she and her husband, Joel, welcomed a second child, Rory Benjamin.

JESSICA BECK (BA) earned her doctorate in performance practice on July 17, 2012, at the University of Exeter in England. She is also a graduate of East 15 Acting School, part of the University of Essex. Her PhD dissertation is titled “Directing Emotion: A Practice-Led Investigation into the Challenge of Emotion in Western Performance.” She is a playwright and director who lives and works in London. Most recently, she co-wrote and directed a play commemorating the 70th anniversary of the Exeter Blitz.

SARA BENNETT (BA) was one of 25 women honored at Business Insurance magazine’s annual Women to Watch Luncheon in New York City. The honorees were selected for their professional achievements, influence on the marketplace and contributions to the advancement of women in business. Sara joined Barney & Barney after graduating from USD and is a leading commercial producer in the San Diego office, specializing in health care and hospitality clients. She was recently elected to the board of the San Diego Women’s Foundation and is in her second year as chair of the B&B Grow initiative.

KATE (HARRISON) DOKMO (BBA) and her husband, Todd, welcomed their first baby, Harrison, on June 19, 2012.

STEPHANIE LaRUSSA (BA) is the West Coast sales executive for Catimini, a designer children’s clothing brand. “I get to travel to New York, San Francisco and Dallas, among other cities. I love my job!” she says.

DEMETRIOS SPARACINO (BA, LLM ’11) practices tax and estate planning law in San Diego. He was nominated as a Top Young Attorney for 2011 and 2012.

KERRY (SJOSTEDT) ZAVAGLIA (BA) and her husband, John ’02, are excited to announce the arrival of their daughter, Lucy Isabella. She was born on Oct. 10, 2012, weighing 6 pounds, 8 ounces, and was 18-1/2 inches long. “Everyone is doing great!” John says.

JENNIFER ARNT (Paralegal Certificate) worked for seven years as a paralegal in different types of law, including workers’ compensation, construction defect and personal injury. Jennifer is now an in-house claims adjuster for Chipotle Mexican Grill.

JULIE DUARTE (BA) was blessed with her first daughter on Jan. 27, 2012, in San Antonio, Texas. In September, Julie, her boyfriend and daughter moved to Temecula, Calif.

CAROLYN GORRICK (BA) moved back to Australia and started her own successful swim school.

ISAEL HUERTA (BA) moved to Washington, D.C., after graduating from USD for an internship at the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute. She was hired at the institute and then moved to a position at Georgetown University. Isabel now works for Northern Virginia Community College.

EMILY (LEETON) MISLEH (BA, MAFM ’06) reports that she moved to London.

MICHELLE ROSALES-RIUZ (BA) and her husband, Oscar, were married on June 13, 2012, in the company of their close family and friends. “We enjoy married life and look forward to having our own family soon!” Michelle says.

MEAGAN WALDRON (BBA) is a community manager for Lululemon Athletica in Carlsbad, Calif., and is president of the USD North County San Diego Alumni Chapter. She lives in Encinitas, Calif.

DANIKA (RAMBERG) WEBB (BA) and her husband, Andrew, were married in 2008 and welcomed a baby on Jan. 20, 2013. Danika has worked in the pharmaceutical industry since graduating from USD and is currently a strategic account manager at Actelion Pharmaceuticals.

BRANDON FISHTMAN (MSRE) was honored at the San Diego Business Journal’s sixth annual Most Admired CEO awards. Fishman is co-founder of the company.
Time for a Visit

USD Homecoming and Family Weekend
October 11-13, 2013

TO DO:
- Party at the Big Blue Bash
- Bring the family
- Visit my favorite Torero
- Go to the picnic and tailgate
- Wear Torero Blue
- Cheer on the football team
- Celebrate my reunion
- Reconnect with USD friends!
- Attend closing Mass

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and chief executive officer of Internet Marketing Inc. (www.internetmarketinginc.com), ranked No. 185 of the 500 fastest-growing private companies in the country for 2012.

GEORGE HONG (BBA) is now a consultant at Validant. His previous experience was in private banking, investments, real estate and insurance.

JOSEPH RAUCH (BA) writes, “Being married and having children is a wonderful vocation. I am honored to be married to such an amazing alumna (Teresa Peterson Rauch ’04, BA) and to be blessed with children.” Joseph works at General Atomics’ DIII-D National Fusion facility. “Teachers, feel free to contact us for a tour for your class or school. Amazing physics and awe-some feats of engineering abound here at DIII-D, where we are working on the future of energy today.”

GINO JAMES VINCENT (BBA) and his wife, Christel, were married in May 2012 in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. They live in Las Vegas, where Gino was the co-president of the USD Nevada alumni chapter and is now a committee member. In 2011, Gino joined his cousin and fellow Torero, Bill Skupa ’99 (BBA), to launch the commercial real estate division of Mint Property Group, specializing in distressed opportunities.

[2006] NOAH SACKS (JD) joined the United States Attorney’s Office for the District of the Virgin Islands as an assistant United States attorney in October 2012.

[2007] BRYAN CARPENTER (BAcc) participated in a Burning Man exhibit/philanthropic project, Flutter Tunnel (www.fluttertunnel.org), a 1,000-foot-long sculpture consisting of 100 steel arches illuminated by 200 solar-powered flashlights. After the festival, the materials for the arches are returned to the vendor for a restocking fee and the flashlights are sent to schools in the African country of Sierra Leone. His work on the project has been featured in California CPA magazine.

EVELYN (KELLUM) FRASER (MSN) is a senior system analyst for Sharp HealthCare, supporting a peri-operative documentation system.

TAYLOR HEINSOHN (BA) is working toward becoming a board-certified behavioral analyst for children with special needs.

ROBERT JONES (BS/BA) was married on March 20, 2012, and welcomed his first child on May 27, 2012.

REBECCA (DOHREN) LIPUS (BA) and her husband, Garrett ’07, were married on Sept. 15, 2012, in Coronado, Calif. Their wedding party included fellow Toreros Marisa (Famalette) Boylan, Kelliann Klein, Joy Richard-son, Kas Gallucci, Andrew Boylan, Nick Kusanovich, Vince Hovannissian, Brett Withycombe, Nick Clement, Chris Ferraro and Mike Hellbusch.

FATIMA PIMENTEL (BA) moved back to Las Vegas after graduating from USD to attend dental school at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. “After four long years of hard work, I became a dentist,” Fatima says. “I decided to specialize in pediatric dentistry, so I moved to Cincinnati in 2011 to begin my training at one of the best children’s hospitals in the nation. I will be done in July 2013 and I can’t wait!”

[2008] CLAUDIA LLAMAS (BA) earned a master’s degree in social work with an emphasis in administration.

MIKA (BUFFINGTON) MALONE (MBA) was married in her hometown of Ashland, Ore., in July 2012. Mika has worked at Meketa Investment Group’s Carlsbad, Calif., office since 2003 and was recently made an owner of the firm.
DEVIN O’NEILL (BAcc) and his wife, Melinda, were married at Founders Chapel in May 2011. Devin has been with The Walt Disney Company for three years and currently is a senior financial analyst supporting the Club Penguin virtual world game. He and his wife live in Burbank, Calif.

[2009]

SARAH (RIGGS) FORSTER (BA) graduated with a master’s degree in marriage and family therapy in December 2011 and she married her college sweetheart, T.J. ‘08, in April 2012 in Maui, Hawaii.

CONNELLY MESCHEN (BA) graduated from Washington University in St. Louis with a master’s degree in architecture.

ANN TAYLOR (PhD) has a new job as a nursing instructor at Hawaii Pacific University’s College of Nursing and Health Science in Kaneohe, Hawaii. She volunteered with Project Medishare: University of Miami in Port-au-Prince for the fifth time during Christmas 2012, and is writing curricula and protocols for Physicians4Haiti to be taught via Skype in Haiti. Ann is recertified as a 4MAT Trainer for Teachers and as a healing touch practitioner.

2010s

[2010]

SHELLEY BARAJAS-LEYVA (MA) was recently promoted to director of the USD McNair Scholars program and she also is a consultant/trainer for the National Conflict Resolution Center.

JACQUELINE (BRACKEN) FISHER (BA) and her husband, Kiel ‘09, were married in May 2012 before an intimate gathering of friends and family (including some fellow USD alumni) over a weekend at Blackberry Farm in Walland, Tenn. They now live in Nashville, Tenn., where Kiel has started work with a law firm and Jacqueline is preparing applications for doctoral programs.

VALERIE (SMITH) JUMPER (BA) is in her first year of veterinary school at Texas A&M University.

KYLE KOBOLD (MSGL) was selected one of the Top 40 Under 40 Military by Civilian Job News. He is a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy and a strategic weapons officer stationed on a nuclear submarine in Bangor, Wash. The Navy selected Kyle to become a NASA astronaut candidate and the interview process with NASA is ongoing. His military career achievements to date include completing nuclear power school, being placed in charge of a nuclear submarine as the officer of the deck, completing Navy SCUBA school and working with Navy SEALs for 2½ years.

[2011]

GIANA RAERA PROFETA (BA) is in her second year of teaching kindergarten at the same school where she was a student teacher during her credential program with USD’s School of Leadership and Education Sciences. “I love seeing USD students do practical hours at my school site,” she says.

JOSEPHINE ZOMAYAH (BA) and fellow Torero Cynthia Lopez ’11 coordinate the major contracts estimating department at Helix Electric, a San Diego-area electrical contractor that is ranked among the top 15 electrical contractors in the nation. The alumnae work with all the partners in a project — with sizes ranging from $3 million in electrical work to $100 million and up — and “focus on closing the deadline by handling the pressure with poise, patience and precision,” Josephine says. “We believe that our USD education deserves the recognition for creating the foundation to our work ethic.”

2012

CAITLYN BANNISTER (BA) was moved into a full-time role with Mitchell International after graduation.

ERIN (EMERSON) BARNS (JD) was recently married.

PATRICK CORNELL (BA) recently started a year of full-time volunteer service with Jesuit Volunteer Corps, Northwest. He is serving at Pretty Eagle School in St. Xavier, Mont., a K-8 school.

RYAN GOBLE (BA) is an executive team leader with Target. “Thanks, USD, for helping me find a job when I graduated!” he says.

MATTHEW LUJAN (BBA) started an internship with Deal Current as a temporary graduate law clerk position. He was given an honorary doctorate from USD and his children, Katie and Alex.

STEVEN FORSYTH, who attended USD from 1985 to 1989, died in a shooting at Clackamas Town Center in Portland, Ore., on Dec. 11, 2012. He was 45. He had recently opened a small shop at the mall, Coastoms, selling handmade wooden coasters. At USD, Steve studied political science and business, and he played basketball and football. “He had a vision and a belief in others that brought great joy and value to many lives,” said his family in a released statement. “He will be sorely missed by all who knew him.” He is survived by his wife, Carla, and his children, Katie and Alex.

C. HUGH FRIEDMAN, USD professor of law, passed away on Jan. 29, 2013. He was 81. With a 55-year tenure, he was the longest-serving faculty member at USD’s School of Law. He started teaching night classes as an adjunct professor at the law school in 1958 and became a full-time faculty member in 1977. He taught his last class just two weeks before he passed away. In his legal career, he served as a deputy attorney general for the state of California, corporate counsel for the Westgate California Corp., and as senior partner with Friedman, Kahan, Dysart & Frasier. Hugh served on numerous boards and commissions at the local, state and national level, including appointments by former President Bill Clinton and former California Gov. Gray Davis. His two-volume California Practice Guide: Corporations is now in its 28th edition and considered a standard reference. “Hugh’s passing is a terrible loss both to the USD School of Riyadh region, named for the capital and largest city in Saudi Arabia. He was renowned for his humanitarian work, including water and sanitation projects, charity housing, and the care of orphans. He also launched many national projects in the fields of medicine, education and smoking cessation.

DANIEL BRODERICK ’65 (BS) passed away on Nov. 29, 2012, after a valiant fight against esophageal cancer. He served in the U.S. Army Transportation Corps in Italy, was an international economist for the Department of Commerce, and a partner and estate planning attorney with Howser (Gertner) & Brown. He enjoyed reading, cooking, traveling and being with his family and friends. “Dan was a good man, a loving husband, a caring father and grandfather,” says his wife, Ann Marie, who survives him, along with sons Sean and Brian and a grandson, Jayson.

In Memoriam

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE SATTAM BIN ABDULAZIZ, emir of the Riyadh region of Saudi Arabia, died on Feb. 12, 2013. He was 72. Prince Sattam earned his bachelor’s degree in business administration from the University of San Diego in 1965. He was given an honorary doctorate from USD in 1975. In November 2011, Prince Sattam succeeded Crown Prince Salman bin Abdulaziz as the ninth emir of the
When Anooshah Golesorkhi strides on stage, cloaked in a wine-colored robe and golden headband, his entrance is dramatic in the extreme. He embodies rage as he sings, “I will crush him and grind his bones into dust,” referring to the Biblical hero, Samson. The music swells in support of his deep baritone voice, and his evil plan begins to unfold.

Last February, Golesorkhi made his San Diego Opera debut as the High Priest of Dagon in a lavish production of “Samson and Delilah” that enlisted a cast of more than 100. A professional singer for decades, Golesorkhi regularly performs with leading opera companies throughout the world (after San Diego, he jets off to Shanghai, Athens and Leipzig, Germany). “Coming back to San Diego is like the return of the prodigal son, because it all started here.”

Sitting in the firelit living room of the Degheri Alumni Center one morning between performances, the Persian-born singer seems the antithesis of his stage villain. Dressed casually, he uses laughter and lively gestures to punctuate the tale of how he landed this unexpected career. As a chemistry major, Golesorkhi ’76 had no interest in singing until a friend cajoled him into taking voice lessons.

“He was chatting about life, and on our way back to the dorms, we were singing … Well, she was singing, and I was yelling,” he recalls. “I’ve heard better sounding water buffaloes,” he jokes. But Robert Austin of USD’s music department detected something different when he heard Golesorkhi for the first time, telling him, “There’s a voice in there.”

When Austin invited him to join the opera workshop class, Golesorkhi was still not convinced he had talent. “If you happened to be a walking male with a 98.6 temperature, they would take you you because there were only four men.” Self-deprecation aside, he concedes that this was the spark that lit his career, or as he describes it, the disease that began to consume him. “I suppose it’s like malaria. Without knowing, it’s contracted.” Golesorkhi viewed singing merely as a hobby for a dozen years while earning a master’s in chemistry at San Diego State University and then working for a venture capital firm in Los Angeles. His professional opera debut came about by accident in 1988.

The opera singer Carol Neblett, for whom he had sung as a student, recommended him as an artist-in-residence at the now-defunct Opera Pacific in Santa Ana, Calif. Still having a day job, Golesorkhi negotiated to participate just part-time as an understudy. When he got a last-minute call to perform his role in the opera “Aida,” he had no chance for even a real rehearsal.

“I didn’t have time to get nervous,” he recalls. Things picked up steam, and by 1993 he had a steady stream of gigs coming to him. That’s when Golesorkhi quit his day job and made the leap to full-time professional opera singer. “And thank God, to my own amazement, I’ve been steadily working ever since.”

Today, Golesorkhi spends most of his time on the road performing, occasionally returning to his home in Norway or Germany. Yet he doesn’t view his life as glamorous; in fact, he laughs at the very idea. When asked about the beautiful cities he visits, he explains, “You basically have your hotel and the theatre, and you go back and forth. After seven hours of rehearsals, you just want to put your feet up.”

Show days, he says, are particularly grueling. “By the time you get out of makeup after the show, all the restaurants are closed. So you go to your hotel room, order room service — if there is any — and watch TV until four in the morning until the adrenaline goes away.”

The performance itself, however, he describes in almost spiritual terms. Feeling the vibrations of the orchestra beneath his feet, engulfed in the music of the masters, he calls it “a sublime nexus to the creative energy of the universe. There is no passage of time.”

Looking back, Golesorkhi credits the people at USD for nurturing his multiple talents, planting the seeds of what was to come. “Clearly, if the experience here had not been positive or not possible, then God knows what would have happened,” he says. “Maybe I’d be selling shoes now.”

SISTER MARINA MAPA, RSCJ, former USD associate professor of Spanish, passed away on Nov. 18, 2012, in Atherton, Calif. She was 87 and a religious for 65 years. Sister Mapa taught Spanish at the San Francisco College for Women from 1956 to 1969. She then moved to USD’s Department of Languages and Literature, where she taught until her retirement in 2004. She also taught in USD’s Guadalajara Summer Program for 14 years. Her survivors include three sisters and two brothers.

JANET RODGERS, dean emerita of the Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science, died on Feb. 17, 2013, in San Diego. She was 78. Dr. Rodgers assumed the deanship at the Hahn School in 1987, and after 14 years in her leadership role, retired in 2001. During her tenure as dean, she launched USD’s first PhD program and fostered an approach to teaching that combined clinical training with researching and serving the health needs of the community. Dean Emerita Rodgers also served as president of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, advocated for national health care reform measures, published extensively and was a sought-after speaker — all of which propelled the Hahn School of Nursing onto the national stage. Today, the school is ranked among the top 10 percent of the country’s graduate nursing programs.

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2011 NOBEL PEACE LAUREATE LEYMAH GBOWEE is a Liberian peace activist, women’s rights advocate and social worker who spoke on campus at the Joan B. Kroc Distinguished Lecture Series in March 2013. She delivered the following eloquent message at USD’s International Women’s Day Breakfast: “To end violence against women, we need to make the message simple and clear, leave out all the jargon. It’s not statistics and it’s not numbers — these are individuals. There are families in mourning. Every time there is talk of sexual and gender-based violence, they are not numbers or statistics. They’re our daughters and sisters.”
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