STARTING TO CLICK

From pre-med to jet-setting photographer
DEAR TOREROS

It is my pleasure to share my thoughts with the more than 65,000 alumni, parents and friends of the university who receive USD Magazine.

Since my arrival on campus in 2017, I have been continually impressed by our campus community. Amazing faculty members, inquisitive students, caring administrators and dedicated staff members; these are the people doing the important work of empowering individuals to lead purposeful lives.

At the core of USD’s mission are solidarity, compassionate service, diversity, inclusion and social justice. Here, excellence in learning converges with endless inspiration, and community members are nurtured as leaders who work in an environment that fosters growth and creativity.

This has been a remarkable year of achievement. Timothy Keane, PhD, has been named dean of the School of Business. He joined us at the beginning of January 2020. Dr. Keane comes to USD from Regis University, where he served as founding dean and professor for the Anderson College of Business. His previous roles include serving as executive and founding director of the Emerson Leadership Institute and Emerson Ethics Center at Saint Louis University. At Saint Louis, he also served as associate dean and executive director for the Center of Sustainability.

We were also proud to announce the search for a Chief Diversity Officer (CDO) position. This position is essential for USD to continue to advance our institutional commitment to strengthen diversity, inclusion and social justice. The CDO will provide strategic leadership to move initiatives forward so that our community will be empowered by a culture of care and supported by pathways for access and inclusion.

Across campus, we take the message of Pope Francis’ encyclical, Laudato si’, to heart as we approach USD’s 75th anniversary in 2024. In it, he tells us we must not only speak the words, but also take immediate action regarding caring for our common home. Therefore, we have taken concrete steps across the university — including revising policies affecting how we do business, facilitating engagement from our staff, students, faculty and administrators and creating and supporting curricular efforts at all levels — that reveal areas of opportunity to create a truly shared and lived vision.

Toward that end, the decision has been made to print USD Magazine just twice a year. Moving forward, the summer issues will be online-only (sandiego.edu/usdmag) with a print edition produced each spring and fall. The website will continue to feature the same inspiring stories of our faculty, alumni, students and generous donors, along with class notes, videos and more.

In my time on campus, I have been deeply moved by the hard work of this community and our shared promise to face humanity’s urgent challenges with dedication, empathy and grace. Thank you for your part in making this campus engaging, intriguing and exciting. Thank you, especially, for your commitment to building a strong future for the University of San Diego.

— Gail F. Baker, PhD
Vice President and Provost
IT’S OK TO ANSWER THE PHONE

It’s not a bot, it’s a student! Don’t let it go to voicemail. Pick up! Share your USD experience.

USD ALUMNI AND STUDENTS – TOREROS TOGETHER!

Meet the callers at sandiego.edu/callers.
CONTENTS

4
8
13
14
15
16
24
30
FEATURES

STARTING TO CLICK
The connection between Justin Chung ’08 (BA) and his professor and faculty advisor, Esteban del Río ’95 (BA), ’96 (MEd), PhD, got even stronger after graduation. More than a decade later, the pair remains close. In fact, Chung — now a highly sought-after fashion and brand photographer — just featured del Río in his second coffee table book, Faculty Department — Vol. 2.

HARVESTING STORIES
Documentary filmmaker Jared Ruga ’11 (BA) still marvels that a core group of his USD professors had a profound impact not just on his undergraduate experience but on his life as a whole. His Honors Program professor, Roger Pace, is one such person. Ruga’s latest effort, Quiet Heroes, garnered a rave review from Pace: “It’s very good filmmaking.”

PLAYING THE GAME
Lauren Crawford Shaver ’06 (BA) has devoted her life to public service, running the gamut from grassroots activism to presidential campaigns. Her interest in politics was sparked by professor and Changemaker Hub Director Mike Williams ’92 (BA), whose mentorship has become a regular touchstone for Shaver in both her life and her work.

STOPPING TRAFFIC
A bold new cross-campus initiative, spearheaded by the School of Law and the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies, aims to increase awareness of human trafficking while bringing the university’s resources together to combat the issue on multiple fronts.

TORERO NEWS

Clear-Eyed Visionary
Jimmy Bried ’16 (BBA) has had a remarkable journey. The latest step? Establishing the Bried Family Scholarship for Sober Students.

Meaningful Work
A new Women’s Legal Clinic will launch this spring, due to the efforts of Una Davis, whose husband, Jack McGrory ’81 (JD), is on the School of Law’s Board of Visitors.

An Honorable Education
USD’s Honors Program attracts top-notch students with team-taught courses, small class sizes and dedicated faculty who appreciate teaching highly inquisitive undergrads.

Superpowers, Activate!
2019’s Alumni Honors event paid tribute to the university’s best and brightest. Each of these honorees is truly superheroic.

TORERO ATHLETICS

Out Front, Ready to Go
Senior defender Henry Lander ’20 (BA) is a true leader on the soccer field. He practices hard, plays hard and expects the same of teammates.

Getting to Know ... Alex Floresca
Men’s Basketball forward reflects upon his greatest on-court accomplishment, his future and the person that matters most to him.

CLASS NOTES

No Strings Attached
Billiekai Boughton ’15 (MSEL) is all about the positive difference she can make, targeting the myriad needs of women veterans.

He’s Banking On It
Bank chairman and CEO David Reiling ’89 (BBA) believes that doing well financially and doing good socially should not be mutually exclusive.

ON THE COVER
Photograph of Justin Chung ’08 (BA) by Cameron Weaver ’08 (BA).

WEBSITE
sandiego.edu/usdmag

FACEBOOK
facebook.com/usandiego

TWITTER
@uofsandiego

INSTAGRAM
@uofsandiego
When Jimmy Bried ’16 (BBA) came to the University of San Diego as a transfer student in 2014 to continue his interrupted higher education, he knew he had his work cut out for him. A few years earlier, he’d withdrawn from the University of Arizona to enter rehab. Upon emerging — with sobriety firmly in hand — he worked construction and took a few classes before deciding to resume his undergraduate studies full time at USD. “Construction taught me humility, discipline and punctuality,” he recalls. “It built the foundation for me to go back to school to get a degree.”

Now an enterprise account manager for Amazon Web Services in Seattle, Bried prefers life to be busy. “As a sober person, I like to have other things to focus on,” he says. An inveterate go-getter, he started looking at graduate programs and completed his MBA from Pepperdine University in the summer of 2019. While most of us would feel that it might be time to relax and enjoy the fruits of all that hard work, Bried felt compelled to give back so that others could have the opportunities to succeed that he’s had.

“When I was a student at USD, Assistant Vice President for Student Wellness Melissa Halter...
Bried realized that he wanted others to have the same second chance that he’d had. “I recognize how fortunate I am; I’ve had emotional and financial support from my parents and support from rehab, from sober living and also while I was in school. I know how much of a rarity that is. I wanted to start a scholarship but had no idea what it takes. I did know I was willing to donate $5,000 to make it happen.”

Halter suggested he reach out to Philip Garland, assistant vice president of Advancement Operations. “We started riffing back and forth, and then Philip suggested the USD Changefund- ing program,” Bried recalls. “Everyone was amazing throughout the process. I worked with Jessie Szumski at USD; we went back and forth coming up with the marketing content behind it and sharing my story.”

It was a perfect fit: Much like the online fundraising platform GoFundMe, USD’s Changefund- ing requires applicants to set a goal and expects those seeking funding to have a network of people they’ll solicit to contribute. These efforts typically run no longer than eight weeks, and 100 percent of the money raised goes toward the projects.

Bried’s efforts were wildly successful: The Bried Family Scholarship for Sober Students fund has exceeded its initial goal of $5,000, ultimately raising more than $15,000. Bried — who matched the first $5,000, which was raised in one day — is thrilled with the results. “I feel so grateful for all the money that people donated. It’s great that they support the idea of helping existing sober USD students with at least of year of sobriety,” he says.

Throughout his journey, he remains mindful of all the help he’s had along the way. “I want to show my family how grateful I am,” Bried says. “Naming the scholarship after my family means a lot to me.” He’s also cognizant that he’s now in a position to offer guidance to others trying to navigate their own sobriety.

“I think a big part of being sober is having small accomplishments along the way; having both short- and long-term goals. For me, going back to school kept me really busy with a lot of short-term goals.”

In concert with Halter, he developed requirements for scholar- ship applicants. “We decided to prioritize students who were directly in recovery with more than a year of sobriety. From there, we narrowed it down to students applying to, or enrolled at the University of San Diego who were looking to complete a bachelor’s degree,” he explains.

Bried is enthusiastic about encouraging others with ideas for projects that could make a difference for students to consider starting their own Changefund- ing effort.

“I was surprised at how easy it was once I started to take action. If you have a well-vetted vision and you think you can get support, there are people who are willing to work with you in the name of doing something philanthropic. And I was really excited that other people were excited with me.”

For Bried, it all comes back to walking the walk, not just talking the talk. “I don’t think it would have garnered as much attention if people didn’t already know my story and think, ‘Hey, I’ve seen the change in him over the past few years. I’m willing to bet that somebody else can do the same.”

sandiego.edu/bried

[AROUND THE PARK]

Renaissance Plan Update
The Renaissance Plan is the most ambitious long-term building maintenance plan in USD’s history. This effort is well underway and is being overseen by Vice President for University Operations Ky Snyder. Highlights include a new Learning Commons; renovations of Copley Library; deferred maintenance of Founders, Camino and Olin Halls; and a new Knauss Center for Business Education. Learn more at sandiego.edu/renaissance-plan.

Getting Out the Vote
USD was the winner of the 2018 Ballot Bowl competition, having registered the highest number of students among the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities. USD Votes, a concerted effort aimed at students to become engaged in the democratic process, helped to raise student turnout to 45 percent, nearly six percent above the national average.

Justice in Mexico
This fall, USD’s Justice in Mexico project was awarded an additional $3 million grant for its Oral Adversarial Skill-Building Immersion Seminar, extending it through the year 2022 and bringing the amount of the total federal grant to $9.3 million. “This helps strengthen litigation skills among faculty and students at Mexican public law schools,” explains Justice in Mexico Principal Investigator David Shirk, PhD.

Casino Night a Winner
The second annual Fabulous Casino Night, which took place during USD’s 2019 Homecoming and Family Weekend, raised more than $60,000 for the Parent Partnership Fund. The evening was a fun-filled night of community, connection and compassion. Guests were treated to casino-style games, delicious California fare and festive music. The funds raised will directly and positively impact the educational experience of at-risk students.
Inspired by her volunteer service to GenerateHope, a faith-based organization that provides long-term programs for women who have been victims of sex trafficking, Una Davis recently helped make it possible for USD’s School of Law to establish a Women’s Legal Clinic.

The clinic was established with a $1 million gift, which was arranged by Davis through an anonymous donation from a charitable estate making gifts in Southern California. Davis says that her husband, Jack McGrory ’81 (JD), who is on the School of Law’s Board of Visitors, and her son James Davis, an attorney at Casey Gerry LLP, influenced her decision.

The nonprofit clinic, expected to open during the Spring 2020 semester, will provide free legal services to victims of human trafficking, some of whom are survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and sexual exploitation. The goal is to help women in San Diego County navigate the legal system and obtain services related to divorce, custody, child support, financial exploitation, commercial sexual exploitation and human trafficking. Through outreach events and training programs, the clinic will also raise awareness and educate the community about critical issues related to human trafficking.

“I have been so moved to witness the work of GenerateHope,” Davis says. “It brought the whole issue to light and I saw firsthand what they were doing to help women. Every life they save is precious, but there’s so much more that must be done.

“I share the excitement with the School of Law and hope that more law schools will follow,” she continues.

This will be the 11th clinic at the School of Law. Established in 1971 as a student volunteer project, the legal clinics have become a key component of the School of Law’s experiential education program. In addition to offering free legal services to the San Diego community, the legal clinics also provide law students with real-world training.
USD’s first Homelessness and Food Insecurity Awareness Week

by Allyson Meyer ’16

Recognizing and embracing human dignity is at the core of USD’s mission. Today, one of the greatest challenges that society faces is homelessness. “San Diego County has the fourth-highest population of homeless individuals in the country. The last Point-in-Time Count that the city conducted — to estimate how many people are sleeping on the streets and in shelters — counted more than 8,000 people,” says Kate DeConinck, ThD, a teaching professor within USD’s Department of Theology and Religious Studies and a member of the Urgent Challenges Collective leadership team.

The collective, a two-year effort funded through USD’s Envisioning 2024 strategic initiatives, aims to address the issues surrounding homelessness and food insecurity through research, teaching, and advocacy and engagement. One way it’s making a difference is through the inaugural Homelessness and Food Insecurity Awareness Week, which took place Oct. 21-24.

The weeklong event addressed the multidimensional issues connected to homelessness through critical and creative thinking. From packing lunches for Father Joe’s Village to a Housing and Food Access Resource Fair, participants found ways to take an active role and promote positive change.

“If you think about the word ‘Catholic’ — thinking about this being a universal church that is open to all across the globe, regardless of background — what does it mean to be a church that is a space for all people?” asks DeConinck. “This question cuts deeply into the issues surrounding homelessness, thinking about the dignity of other human beings. How do we promote a community where all people have the opportunity to thrive?” Finding answers to questions like these is at the heart of the university’s mission: enabling others to flourish. As a Catholic institution situated in a large, metropolitan city, being at the forefront of finding solutions is essential.

“This is about making people more aware of the dynamics that are happening in our community surrounding homelessness and food insecurity, including in our campus community,” says DeConinck. “Not everyone knows that we have students on campus who are facing food insecurity or who are facing moments where they’re unsheltered or don’t have stable living situations. How can we make this a better-known fact and have a call to action that encourages people to think about what they can do?”

Finding solutions begins with awareness and empowerment, and that’s the overarching message of Homelessness and Food Insecurity Awareness Week: We each have the power to make a difference in the challenges impacting our society.

sandiego.edu/homeless

SPREADING THE LOVE

and serve as a foundation of ethical lawyering.

Davis said she contemplated whether the gift should fund a new lecture series or bring in a visiting professor, but ultimately decided it should be used to establish a new legal clinic based on feedback from her son, James Davis, who worked in one when he was a law student at UCLA. (The pair are pictured together at left.)

“He thought the legal clinics offered very practical experience for law students,” Davis says of her son. “He says a clinic is the best way for students to learn firsthand and it inspires them.”

Under the direction of a supervising attorney or adjunct professor, law students working in the Women’s Legal Clinic will be given the opportunity to interview clients, draft documents, prepare for and even engage in court appearances.

The need is great, especially in the San Diego region. According to GenerateHope’s website, the national average age of children entering into the sex trade is 13 to 16 years old. San Diego is considered among the top eight, high-intensity areas for commercial sexual exploitation of children in the nation, where each year there are anywhere from 3,317 to 8,108 sex trafficking victims.

“The USD Legal Clinics are excited to expand our clinical offerings for students as we grow to 11 direct client-service legal clinics,” says Bob Muth, the academic director for the legal clinics. “Our new Women’s Legal Clinic will initially focus on serving the family law needs of survivors of human trafficking.

“Unfortunately, there is a great need in the San Diego community for such services,” Muth continues. “We are grateful that the USD Legal Clinics will be able to serve this critically vulnerable population in such a meaningful way.”

[faith in action]
Sydney Pidgeon’s initial perception of the University of San Diego Honors Program was flat-out wrong. “Friends who were in other schools’ honors programs told me not to apply, saying it would just add too much to my plate. It made me fearful of the workload, the extra requirements and, honestly, because I wanted to be the cool girl,” Pidgeon says.

Now a 2019 USD graduate with degrees in psychology and theology and religious studies, Pidgeon (pictured above), who changed her mind and was a midyear transfer into the Honors Program, knows she made the right decision. “I quickly realized the Honors Program makes the workload worth it, makes the extra requirements something you’d choose to do anyway and being invested in your college experience is exactly what the cool girls do. My Honors Program experience was the cornerstone of my time at USD. It was a place of exploration, innovation and creativity. I was able to engage my passion for social justice, mission-driven thinking and academia.”

To USD professor Susannah Stern, PhD, and Erin Fornelli, USD’s Honors Program director and coordinator, such praise validates working with students like Pidgeon, who received the Anne Catherine Swanke Award for exceptional contributions to the Honors Program and the university at the 2019 Honors Convocation. Stern, a communication studies professor, says the typical Honors Program student “is curious, processes ideas with others in a collegial way, is collaborative and enjoys learning for the sake of learning.”

Starting in 1979 within the College of Arts and Sciences, the Honors Program attracts top-rate students with team-taught courses, small class sizes, undergraduate research and faculty who appreciate teaching highly inquisitive students.

Stern, director since 2018, completed a comprehensive academic program review to install a strategic five-year plan. Fornelli has been with the program for eight years. The duo works well together because they see the same traits in the students. “Curiosity, creativity and conscientiousness,” says Fornelli. “What I hope we cultivate is not just achievement, but students who have a love of learning. They’re not just about being a scholar, but really being a good person. Humility, honesty and kindness, to me, are equal to intellect.”

Stern’s recent program review helped shape the program’s future. Changes included adding a Spring 2019 Honors Program Colloquium; revising the application process, which made USD’s Fall 2019 first-year student class its most diverse; and piloting the first linked Honors classes. Honors Program students are interested in pre-health, STEM, humanities, social sciences and business disciplines, but most of all, Stern says, they raise USD’s caliber.

“They bring their interest and curiosity and willingness to engage into all of their classes, not just Honors Program courses, so they enrich and enliven every discussion in every classroom in meaningful ways,” she says. “Our students are campus leaders, on our sports teams, are volunteers, organize events, movements and protests. They bring vibrancy and leadership to campus to move the whole university in a positive direction.”

**AN HONORABLE EDUCATION**

Honors Program enhances students’ academic curiosity

*by Ryan T. Blystone*

**[collegiality]**
Every parent’s worst nightmare is the loss of a child. But thanks to the decades-long efforts of USD’s Children’s Advocacy Institute (CAI), both the state of California and the nation as a whole have seen the rate of childhood drowning drop substantially.

Passed in 2017, the California Pool Safety Act strengthened legislation that was created and passed in 1996, in large part due to the efforts of CAI. “While the swimming pool bill is 23 years old, that is kind of the point of the work that we do,” explains CAI Executive Director Robert Fellmeth. “You enact a bill and the key is what it does over time. If it’s not working, try a different approach. If it works very well, replicate it elsewhere. We knew these provisions were working in Australia prior to our formulation of the California bill.”

Fellmeth notes that many of the protective elements in the law that CAI sponsored in 1997 and helped to refine further in 2017 have been adopted in other states. In particular, he thanks the Drowning Prevention Foundation and the American Academy of Pediatrics for their work to disseminate it.

The bill’s passage is “a testament to the power of the CAI’s tenacity,” says Program Director of the California Coalition for Children’s Safety and Health Steve Barrow. As CAI’s former senior policy advocate, he worked tirelessly to get this important legislation passed.

“The original 1996 Pool Safety Act was strongly opposed by California’s pool and spa industry community, whereas SB 442, which is national landmark legislation, was actively supported by that same community. The revised legislation adds a second barrier requirement and captures more existing pools that are subject to the pool safety act law,” he adds.

Changing the law has required patience and collaboration over the years. As Julie Fellmeth, the former administrative director for USD’s Center for Public Interest Law, notes, “This bill brought together the insurance industry, the swimming pool industry and trial lawyers — rare bedfellows.”

According to a recently released study from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, drowning rates for children age 14 and younger are now about a third of what they were in the early 1980s in the U.S., and have dropped even more in California. That decline is specifically attributed to the CAI model statute of 1996.

While the work that CAI does to protect the rights of children has been unceasing over the years, Robert Fellmeth notes that the institute is also able to respond to national events that are in the news today, ranging from defending the rights of foster children to legal counsel to working to "stop the predations of private for-profit schools."

"We are very grateful that USD has embraced changemaking,” he says. “We have been doing that for 40 years and treasure its escalation at the university."
Superpowers, Activate!

Alumni Honors pays tribute to USD’s best and brightest

The University of San Diego continued its tradition of honoring extraordinary alumni who exemplify the values and mission of USD. This year’s Alumni Honors celebration took place on Oct. 3, 2019, just prior to Homecoming and Family Weekend, at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice.

The theme of the 24th annual event was a lively celebration of 11 honorees who are truly superheroic: Each is a fantastic force to be reckoned with.

Stephen “Swooper” Gauvin
The 2019 recipient of the Mother Rosalie Clifton Hill Award — which is presented to an alumnus who personifies the spirit and philosophy of the University of San Diego — was Stephen A. Gauvin ’84 (BBA). He is a senior field sales representative for Arrow Electronics and is a five-time President’s Club member with the company.

As a student, Gauvin was a founding member of USD’s chapter of the Sigma Pi fraternity, serving as its first social chair and later as its second president. He was also active in campus ministry, serving as a retreat leader in 1983 and was confirmed in 1984.

His passion for being a Torero continued to grow as an alumnus. He served as a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors for many years and has served as the board’s vice president.

Marilyn “Do-Right” Ditty
The Bishop Charles Francis Buddy Award is presented to an alumnus in recognition of his or her extraordinary contribution and commitment to humanitarian causes. This year’s recipient was Marilyn Ditty ’76 (MEd), the founder emerita of Age Well Senior Services.

She has been a catalyst and advocate for seniors in Orange County, California, for more than 40 years and has been instrumental in the planning...
morning show, contributor to the weekday during the offseason, she is a nightly show called the regular season, she hosts a studio programming. During ing across MLB Network’s studio host and reporter appear-
Heidi Watney ’03 (BA), who is a Award was bestowed upon The Alumni Emerging Leader
Heidi “Sporty Sport” Watney — the first recipient of the Therese Truitt Whitcomb Faculty Award, honoring her posthumously. She founded the university’s art history program and Founders Gallery and was USD’s inaugu-
Therese “The Treasure” Whitcomb The late Therese Truitt Whitcomb ’53 (BA) — the first gradu-
There are numerous accolades for her dedication to improving the welfare of senior citizens and has served as a delegate to the White House’s Conference on Aging several times.
and development of affordable senior housing communities and senior centers throughout Orange County.

**Author E. Hughes Career Achievement Awards**

**John “Peace Purveyor” Patterson**
John H. Patterson ’13 (MA) was honored by the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies. He works for USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) as a regional advisor for OFDA’s Europe, Middle East, North Africa and Central Asia regional offices. In his six years with OFDA, he has also worked as an advisor to the U.S. Southern Command and as deputy team leader (Colombia) for the Venezuela regional crisis response.

**Michaela “Globally Green” Wittmann**
The Shiley-Marcos School of Engineering lauded Michaela Wittmann ’92 (BS/BA) who leads the Office of Sustainability for HDR, a global firm specializing in engineering, architecture, environmental and construction services. She and her team focus on adding value to projects by balancing environmental, economic and social equity goals.

**Laurie “Excellence Empress” Ecoff**
Laurie Ecoff ’83 (BSN), ’09 (PhD), the vice president of the Center of Nursing Excellence for Sharp HealthCare in San Diego, was honored by the Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science. She oversees Sharp’s strategic plan to advance the profession of nursing to achieve exemplary patient, nursing and organizational outcomes. She is also a clinical associate professor in USD’s Clinical Nursing and Executive Nurse Leader Programs.

**Lawrence “Rock Doc” Sykoff**
The School of Leadership and Education Sciences bestowed its award on Lawrence S. Sykoff ’73 (MEd), ’88 (EDd). He is president of the LSS Consulting Group, LLC. As former head of school and appointed headmaster emeritus of Ranney School, his 20-year tenure saw unprecedented levels of enrollment growth. He has been a frequent speaker at state and national educational associations and has received numerous awards over the course of his career.

**Kris “Bat Buster” Bryant**
The 2019 inductee to the Chet and Marguerite Pagni Family Athletic Hall of Fame was Kris Bryant, who spent three seasons with the San Diego baseball program from 2011 to 2013. He emerged from his collegiate career as one of the most distinguished and successful players in the history of the university’s program.

The highest draft pick in USD history, he was drafted No. 2 overall by the Chicago Cubs in 2013, and in 2016, helped lead the Cubs to a World Series championship — their first in 108 years — fielding the final out to clinch the title in Game 7.

Jack McGrory ’81 (JD) was honored by the School of Law. He is CEO of La Jolla MJ Management, LLC, a real estate investment company. During his long and illustrious career, he served as city manager of the City of San Diego, was president and chief executive officer of Price Enterprises, Inc., was chief operating officer of the San Diego Padres and chairman and chief executive officer of Price Legacy Corporation.

**Angelo “Groundbreaker” Tsakopoulos**
Angelo G. Tsakopoulos, Esq. ’94 (BBS), ’98 (JD) was the honoree for the School of Business. He is a principal at Tsakopoulos Investments and is manager of the firm, one of the largest landowners in the Sacramento region. Among its many projects, the firm and its affiliated entities have permitted and developed retail sites, master planned communities and high-rise office buildings.

**Jack “Can-Do” McGrory**
Jack McGrory ’81 (JD) was honored by the School of Law. He is CEO of La Jolla MJ Management, LLC, a real estate investment company. During his long and illustrious career, he served as city manager of the City of San Diego, was president and chief executive officer of Price Enterprises, Inc., was chief operating officer of the San Diego Padres and chairman and chief executive officer of Price Legacy Corporation.

**Laurie “Excellence Empress” Ecoff**
Laurie Ecoff ’83 (BSN), ’09 (PhD), the vice president of the Center of Nursing Excellence for Sharp HealthCare in San Diego, was honored by the Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science. She oversees Sharp’s strategic plan to advance the profession of nursing to achieve exemplary patient, nursing and organizational outcomes. She is also a clinical associate professor in USD’s Clinical Nursing and Executive Nurse Leader Programs.

**Lawrence “Rock Doc” Sykoff**
The School of Leadership and Education Sciences bestowed its award on Lawrence S. Sykoff ’73 (MEd), ’88 (EDd). He is president of the LSS Consulting Group, LLC. As former head of school and appointed headmaster emeritus of Ranney School, his 20-year tenure saw unprecedented levels of enrollment growth. He has been a frequent speaker at state and national educational associations and has received numerous awards over the course of his career.

**Kris “Bat Buster” Bryant**
The 2019 inductee to the Chet and Marguerite Pagni Family Athletic Hall of Fame was Kris Bryant, who spent three seasons with the San Diego baseball program from 2011 to 2013. He emerged from his collegiate career as one of the most distinguished and successful players in the history of the university’s program.

The highest draft pick in USD history, he was drafted No. 2 overall by the Chicago Cubs in 2013, and in 2016, helped lead the Cubs to a World Series championship — their first in 108 years — fielding the final out to clinch the title in Game 7.

**Angelo “Groundbreaker” Tsakopoulos**
Angelo G. Tsakopoulos, Esq. ’94 (BBS), ’98 (JD) was the honoree for the School of Business. He is a principal at Tsakopoulos Investments and is manager of the firm, one of the largest landowners in the Sacramento region. Among its many projects, the firm and its affiliated entities have permitted and developed retail sites, master planned communities and high-rise office buildings.

**Jack “Can-Do” McGrory**
Jack McGrory ’81 (JD) was honored by the School of Law. He is CEO of La Jolla MJ Management, LLC, a real estate investment company. During his long and illustrious career, he served as city manager of the City of San Diego, was president and chief executive officer of Price Enterprises, Inc., was chief operating officer of the San Diego Padres and chairman and chief executive officer of Price Legacy Corporation.

**Kris “Bat Buster” Bryant**
The 2019 inductee to the Chet and Marguerite Pagni Family Athletic Hall of Fame was Kris Bryant, who spent three seasons with the San Diego baseball program from 2011 to 2013. He emerged from his collegiate career as one of the most distinguished and successful players in the history of the university’s program.

The highest draft pick in USD history, he was drafted No. 2 overall by the Chicago Cubs in 2013, and in 2016, helped lead the Cubs to a World Series championship — their first in 108 years — fielding the final out to clinch the title in Game 7.
by Krystn Shrieve

The lights were low, the air smelled faintly of new paint and fresh wood, and while the perfectly controlled climate was decidedly cool, the excitement in the Hoehn Family Galleries was palpable on the morning that its latest art exhibit was so carefully uncrated and installed.

A team from the British Museum and the University of San Diego’s galleries watched as art handlers unscrewed the bolts on the face of each crate, broke the customs and security seals and lifted the tops off.

The Michelangelo drawing known as The Three Crosses was among the first to be revealed for the exhibition Christ: Life, Death and Resurrection, which was displayed on campus throughout the fall of 2019. It included more than 40 original drawings and prints by Italian Renaissance artists.

“As we unwrapped the plastic sheeting from the frame, we were especially curious to see the artwork we had built this exhibition around,” says Katherine Noland, operations coordinator for the University Galleries. Noland oversaw the installation and breathed a sigh of relief to know it had made its journey across the Atlantic safely.

“When the art handlers finished installing the frame on the wall, we paused our work and all took a step back to admire it for the first time,” Noland recalls. “The red chalk shone against the blue wall and the effect was as beautiful as we hoped it would be.”

The Three Crosses, which depicts Christ on the cross between two thieves, is one of the few large-scale, fully finished drawings by Michelangelo to survive to present time — not just because it’s estimated to be nearly 500 years old, but also because it’s a sketch, a
draft or a study of a larger commissioned piece that was either never completed or simply lost in time.

Art historians date this 11-by-15-inch piece to sometime between 1521 and 1524, when Michelangelo was at the height of his career. There are several hundred drawings in the world that scholars have identified as being done by Michelangelo. Some are just scraps of paper where he was working out an idea in his mind, but The Three Crosses is rare.

“There’s no finished work that relates to this piece,” says Derrick Cartwright, PhD, director of the University Galleries, who returned to the University of San Diego in 2012 following his tenure as an art professor at USD from 1992 to 1998. “Also, this drawing has very little in common with the established iconography of the time.”

Typically, what’s shown is Christ’s family and his apostles who are supporting his mother, Mary, while she swoons at the sight of her son. But that’s not the case in Michelangelo’s drawing. In his version, Christ is still alive on the cross. He’s turning his head toward the thief on the cross to his left.

Cartwright wonders, “Why did Michelangelo draw Christ this way? What was he saying to the thief on his left?”

“I don’t know what Michelangelo was thinking,” says Cartwright, who, once the exhibit closed, announced that it attracted a record-breaking 6,125 visitors — more than any in the history of the university. “Maybe he is making us rethink the Crucifixion. Sometimes we think we know a story or we know the artists and then they show us something new.”

[generosity]

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

$2.3 million to Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate

by Liz Harman

After years of neutralizing Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) in Iraq and Afghanistan, Navy Lt. Brian Lehtinen ’22 is looking for a career that’s a little more relaxing. Since he’d acquired some properties during his service, he thought an elective in the principles of real estate made sense for his bachelor’s degree. And when he heard about the USD real estate program’s No. 1 ranking, he realized a major in the subject was the “right choice.”

The personalized attention from faculty members, industry professionals and the Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate is something he wouldn’t get anywhere else, says Lehtinen. “I’m so fortunate.”

Lehtinen also has benefited from a $5,000 scholarship facilitated through the center. The scholarship was awarded from the San Diego-based Burnham Foundation, named on behalf of legendary real estate icon and San Diego native Malin Burnham (pictured). That Burnham and the foundation saw something in him “is an honor,” says the humble Lehtinen, who did six combat deployments as a Navy explosive ordnance disposal technician.

Now, through a generous $2.3 million gift from Burnham and his wife, Roberta, the Burnham-Moores Center, within the USD School of Business, will be able to do even more to shape the next generation of outstanding professionals and industry leaders in real estate. The Burn-
between his 11 seasons as Seamus McFadden’s lead assistant plus the last two years as USD’s head men’s soccer coach, Brian Quinn has coached, mentored and prodded close to 200 Toreros: stubborn defenders, moody goalkeepers and flamboyant forwards.

Of all those players, senior defender Henry Lander ’20 (BA) stands out in one crucial category. “In a sentence, I would term Henry the best leader in my time at USD,” says Quinn. “We’ve had great captains, but he’s the best leader.”

Quinn says Lander’s leadership is exemplified by his almost professional approach to the college game. He practices hard, plays hard and expects the same of teammates.

“When the bell rang for pre-season, there he was, at the front, ready to go,” says Quinn. Lander is one of only two players, along with goalie Matt Wiher ’21 (BA), who played every minute this season, which ended with an overall record of 12-5-1.

Lander grew up in Bournemouth, England, a coastal city on the English Channel. His home sat barely 300 meters from the professional soccer club AFC Bournemouth, a member of the Premier League. In soccer-mad England, you can imagine what his dream was as a child.

By the age of seven, he was selected to the AFC Academy, a professional sports organization.
that offers year-round soccer training. He played for the academy for 11 years. At the end of his final two years there, five players earned contracts. Four did not.

Lander was one of the four. “It was heartbreaking,” he recalls. “How long I’d been there, the relationships I made.”

In the back of his mind, Lander had contemplated that if he did not make the professional team he would pursue playing collegiate soccer in the United States. “I was quite keen on getting an education,” he says. He’d seen others struggle to earn good jobs when their soccer days ended. He signed up for an agency that helped place players at U.S. colleges; USD assistant coach Nico Nicholson watched Lander play at a trial day and the Toreros offered a scholarship. So did the University of Pittsburgh.

Lander’s parents, both of whom worked as flight attendants for British Airways and had traveled to San Diego, recommended Southern California. So off to USD he ventured, 5,455 miles from home.

He’s been a starter since his first-year season, a captain since he was a sophomore.

“His best trait is his knowledge of the game and his positioning in regard to recognizing danger before it happens,” says Quinn.

Lander is humbled that Quinn called him the best leader during his 13 seasons at USD.

“To have that come from someone like Quinny, the caliber person he is, who has been there, done that, played on national-level teams, it does mean a lot,” he says. “I feel I left my mark on the program.”

Asked what he likes most about soccer, Lander cuts to the chase: “I love what soccer teaches you as a person, and how you can carry that over into everyday life,” he says. “It laid the foundation for me maturing into a man.”

GETTING TO KNOW ALEX FLORESCA

AGE: 22 HOMETOWN: St. Louis, Missouri CREDENTIALS: In his fifth season as a forward on USD’s men’s basketball team, Floresca’s size (6’ 8”) makes him an intimidating on-court presence. When asked to recount his greatest on-court accomplishment, he doesn’t have to reach too far into the memory banks. “Making the National Invitation Tournament last year and having that pretty cool run during the West Coast Conference Tournament.”

CREATIVE EYE: An architecture major, Floresca completed two prestigious internships this past summer. “Gensler is a global design and architecture firm here in San Diego, and then I went to HOK Architecture in Kansas City. That was especially cool because I got to work on sports architecture. I want to specialize in facilities — with athletes, whether professional or collegiate — which would be super cool.”

LEADING LADY: From his physical stature to his booming voice, everything about Floresca seems big. But when he talks about the person that matters most, all that melts away. “My number one role model would be my mom for sure. She is the most hardworking person I’ve ever met; super down to earth but also a real boss.”

THE DREAM: In a perfect world, Floresca would be able to meld his athletic and architectural passions into a career. But for now, he’s leaving the door open to whatever life offers. “Ah, the dream … I don’t know what I’ll be doing, but I just want to be happy. Whether that’s playing basketball somewhere over in Europe or pursuing sports architecture.” — Chloe Zakhour ’21
Building lasting connections with students is second nature for Associate Professor Esteban del Rio, particularly when conversations turn to subjects they’re passionate about, such as architectural design periods.
Starting to Click

FROM PRE-MED TO JET-SETTING PHOTOGRAPHER

by Julene Snyder

photography by Justin Chung

It’s a career with a trajectory that resembles a comet streaking through the sky, but that arc makes perfect sense when you see Justin Chung’s photographs, which are both objectively gorgeous and bathed in a warm patina of authenticity.

While his clients now include big hitters like Apple, Levi’s, J. Crew and Esquire, Chung’s entry into that rarified air was almost accidental.

“I was about to jump into medical school,” he recalls. He was back in his hometown of San Francisco after earning a master’s in public health. He’d had a growing interest in photography, even writing his master’s thesis about how the medium could work as a tool to help with public health. So he continued to pick up his camera.

“I was deciding whether it would be medical school or taking photos. And I photographed every day for fashion agencies, for model agencies, to see if it would work out.”

And then?

“It just started to click. Inquiries started to come in organically, and photography opportunities led themselves from one to the next. Although I’m self-taught, I’m lucky that I was able to have so many opportunities to just keep shooting and learning from each project, each story.”

That’s how Chung — who earned a bachelor’s degree in communication studies from USD in 2008 — and then-girlfriend Emily (Clarke) Chung ’08 (BA), decided to move to New York in 2011, shifting course dramatically, leaving Justin’s med school plan behind.

“He moved to New York City to try to make it as a fashion and brand photographer,” recalls Associate Professor Esteban del Río ’95 (BA), ’96 (MEd). “Him and thousands and thousands and thousands of others, right? And he made it — quickly. He’s now a very prominent fashion and brand photographer. His work is much sought after.”

While it’s a remarkable story, in some ways del Río sees it as inevitable.

“If you look at his work across all kinds of projects, it’s amazing in terms of its continuity and authenticity,” he says.

The friendship between the two — del Río was Chung’s undergraduate adviser — had no small part in the way Chung’s journey has unfolded.

“In any student/professor or advisory relationship, you’re talking about things like, ‘What courses do you need for your major?’” explains del Río. “But what’s typical for me in office hours is to end up in deeper conversions about vocation and music and art and photography and all the things that I love.

And that’s how it was for Justin and I. When he first became interested in photography, I had small children, and I told him how I was really enjoying taking pictures of my daughter.”

Chung has a similar recollection of how that nascent spark grew into a flame. “My interest in photography was growing over the years, starting from talks in college with del Río.”

The two remained friends after graduation, particularly after Chung wound up attending graduate school at del Río’s alma mater, the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

“It was almost as though I was in his footsteps on the East Coast, just pursuing a different degree,” says Chung.

“I was over the moon,” recalls del Río. “They were moving to Northampton, and I was excited because I missed my little New England town. All along, he was starting to take pictures. I was following him on Flickr and there was a particular kind of emotion to see his photographs and a really beautiful reliance on natural light. He was clearly skilled.”

After Chung and Emily, who is now his wife, moved to New York, his career continued to take off. “In late 2012, I started being commissioned by J. Crew to do lifestyle profiles on various artists and creatives and showcase the fashion element through them. I became really fond of those kind of stories, which allowed me to connect with other creatives.”

In 2013, he went to Japan for one of those profiles and wound up extending his trip to photograph other artists.

“There was one subject, Tokuhiko Kise, who has a furniture brand with a staff of 40-50 craftsmen. And I was able to build this beautiful photo essay of my trip to his compound,” Chung recalls. “But when I came back to the states, I didn’t know what to do with it.”
But del Río had continued to follow Chung on social media and got in touch. “He messaged me, and said, ‘I can’t believe you’re shooting for J. Crew, this is incredible.’” The two got on the phone and Chung mentioned an idea he was interested in.

“When we talked about how much this documentary essay meant to me, he said it made him think that, in a way, I was still learning from these people. As if the world was my school and I was enlisting my own faculty, a faculty of thought.” It was an ultimate aha moment for the photographer. Chung’s coffee table book, *Faculty Department*, was self-published in 2014 with a small run of 3,000 copies.

“It was published just about a year and a half after we’d talked about it,” del Río recalls. In a quirky twist of fate, Chung was returning from a press check for the book from the printer in Iceland and had a job in Los Angeles afterward. “I flew to L.A. with the press sheet with me, in hand, and it turned out that del Río was at a conference there and was staying in the same hotel I was. It was exciting because he was the first person to see what the pages actually looked like,” Chung says. “He was able to see the whole thing come full circle from the concept to the printing to the finished product.”

“We had breakfast and he showed me the proofs,” del Río recalls. “I was looking at the way that the images were coming together and I thought his photos matched who he is as a person. The book is beautiful. There are a lot of great photographers, but Justin shows up as authentically himself, authentically curious, authentically engaged. The relationships he’s able to develop have delivered a career where that’s appreciated.”

*Faculty Department — Vol. 2* was released in October 2019. And, again, Chung’s relationship with del Río played a part. “For this next one, I really wanted it to be more personal,
to share stories that kind of leaned toward my own personal curiosities,” Chung explains. “The first book showcased various professional career choices and explained a little bit about the subject’s personal journey. Whereas this book, I think, takes you more into my own personal journey that explores certain ways of living. This book has a lot more of the connections and people that are in my own personal circle.”

Up front and center — in fact, featured in the opening pages — is Esteban del Río.

“I wanted to spotlight him as a professor but it’s also about how he balances his professional lifestyle with his personal lifestyle.”

“When he told me last year that he was going to publish a second edition and that he wanted to include me, I was floored,” says del Río. “I knew what this project means to him, and I knew what it meant for the kind of people he was profiling. I was delighted to continue the conversation with Justin in a way that was more public.”

On the day of the photo shoot, there was quite a bit of excitement in the del Río household.

“I’ve never really sat for a photo session,” del Río admits. “I’m not used to being in front of the camera.” Naturally, his daughters, Lucia, age 14, and Ida, age 9, wanted to know what it was going to be like to have a professional photographer in the house. Their dad told them just to go about their lives like a normal day.

“They were going to come over at 6 a.m. on a school day. So the kids were up at 5 a.m., they were dressed, and Lucia is reading at my desk. Ida is sitting and looking at a book on the sofa quietly.” He laughs. “This is not how mornings normally are!”

Chung put the girls at ease and found ways to get them to behave as they naturally would. “What we got was a priceless day-in-the-life morning at our house. My wife, Alicia, wanted me to ask him if he’d do a portrait of us because we’ve never had one done, for a Christmas card. And I said, ‘Oh, Alicia, Justin’s going to come in as an artist, and shoot these beautiful pictures of our family going about their business in the morning. That’s going to be gold for us in the future! Why do you want some kind of cheesy family portrait? Let’s go to Olan Mills for that.’

“But she asked him, and you know what? They came out beautifully. And now our parents have those pictures in their houses.”

They say an artist’s vision matures over time,” reflects del Río. “I think, especially with Faculty Department — Vol. 2, there’s a way he can deepen his own practice. Not just with the industry where he’s getting a lot of his work, but also as an artist, as a storyteller.”

The pair’s relationship has deepened over the years. Both are still evolving, growing and talking about where their life journeys might take them.

“My conversations with Justin have helped me remind myself that there are no guarantees about my future and how I might continue to share my gifts and talents in the world,” del Río muses. “Conversations with Justin and some of his friends have me wondering, ‘How else can I, as a writer, find an audience outside of the academic journals I get published in?’”

Chung remains self-reflective as he goes about his day-to-day work. “I just did a project for a fashion brand, and the art director said that because I’m not so technical and didn’t go to school for this, it actually plays in my favor, because the photos have their own unique look that’s not taught. It’s something that I’ve created in my own way, with my own process. He was intrigued and excited to work this way, because we were just capturing moments that we wouldn’t normally expect.”

As for del Río, he continues to marvel at Chung’s evolution. “It’s really kind of both rare and beautiful when the world of work and vocation accepts and wants and seeks authenticity. Too often, work asks us to be something besides what we really want to be. Justin has been able to follow his vision and desire to tell stories, and in my view, Faculty Department allows him to really say, ‘Here are the stories that I want to tell. Here are the people who I find inspiration from.’”

With Faculty Department — Vol. 2, Chung’s appreciation for the way creative people — chefs, sculptors, tailors, designers, editors, professors, curators, architects — live and work emanates on every page. The book (“23 stories / 372 pages / 578 photos”) is a thing of beauty, celebrating individuals from all over the world and the ways that they’ve thoughtfully built their careers while striving to live their best life.

Clearly, del Río is rightfully proud of Chung, not just as a former student but as a friend. “We need more authentic voices in the world,” he says. “What I see most in his work — and what I hope to see more of — is hope. When he talks about inspiration and inspiring people, this is hope to create a better world. That’s how I read it, and that’s what I want to be a part of with him.”
A
fter 35 years at USD, Professor of Communication Studies Roger Pace has seen potential in unsure first-year students and watched them become confident seniors. He’s shared his love of independent film with them in his Interession Sundance Film Festival class in Park City, Utah, and mentored them in Honors Program courses.

Jared Ruga ’11 (BA) is one student who flourished. A triple major — international business, communication studies and philosophy — he was concurrently station manager for USDtv, a Public Affairs intern and was in the Honors Program, which Pace can attest, “is really like a fourth major.”

Ruga handled it all and handled it well. He credits his professors — Pace, Eric Pierson, Leeva Chung, Kristin Moran and Jonathan Bowman, to name a few — for their impact on his undergraduate experience.

“I had a sense that every professor was deeply invested in me,” Ruga says. “I took advantage of faculty office hours and felt I could talk to them about anything. Those great scholarly relationships turned into great personal relationships.”

Pace wrote a letter of recommendation when Ruga applied to graduate programs at the University of Utah. Asked how Ruga stacks up among other students he’s taught, Pace’s response was quick: “The top one percent, for sure. Jared is very bright, obviously, but he doesn’t rest on it. He’s very organized, very ambitious and incredibly committed to improving the world.”

Ruga's post-education career — at age 31, he’s founder and CEO of Salt Lake City-based Yavani Productions — is proof of that commitment. His movies aren’t mainstream superhero fare; instead, they tell true stories of everyday heroics.

His first film, the documentary Quiet Heroes, takes a candid look at HIV/AIDS and the ways the disease provoked societal fear and anxiety in the ’80s and ’90s. In Utah, those reactions were particularly heightened, often by those of the Mormon faith.

The film spotlights the courageous work of Dr. Kristen Ries, an infectious disease specialist, and the patients she treated upon arriving in Salt Lake City in June 1981. Due to the disease’s stigma, Ries and her partner, physician assistant Maggie Snyder, became the only medical professionals in Utah to treat the growing population of HIV/AIDS sufferers.

Quiet Heroes launched Ruga’s film career. Fewer than three percent of the 1,700 documentaries submitted were chosen to be shown at Sundance in 2018, and Ruga’s film was one of them. The film was subsequently released on multiple platforms and award nominations came from GLAAD and the Daytime Emmy Awards. The project ultimately won the latter in the Outstanding Special Class Special category. Ruga was humble going into the ceremony, but was truly happy with the result.

“When we won, I stood up, shouted an expletive, and told myself, ‘Get to the stage and say things that will make them like you,’” Ruga says.

Ruga brought Quiet Heroes to USD for a screening in Spring 2019 that was attended by Pace, other faculty members and students. “It really felt like coming home,” he says. “I had so many formative moments at USD and learned so much. The people I worked with enriched my experience and made sure I developed while also serving USD’s mission.”

Ruga’s second project, No Crime in Sin, was released in June 2019. The Utah-based documentary tells the story of siblings who were sexually abused by their father, an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The victims seek an explanation of why the church never intervened to help them or other possible victims, and want to know why he wasn’t punished by the law.

In the film, the family members confront their father in a quest for answers that ultimately proves cathartic.

Ruga has found time to return to campus since graduation. In the 2019-20 academic year, he’ll be teaching a weeklong practical workshop in film production, which will include five phases of creating and marketing independent films: development, pre-production, physical production, post-production and distribution.

“Jared approached us about doing the class,” Pace says. “We have nothing like that. It’s very generous of him to do it.”

Teaching at the alma mater that he cherishes — just before Pace’s Sundance students left for Park City in January 2019 — takes him full circle. Now he’s the mentor, not the mentee.

“I’m excited to give back this way. It’s fun to be on the other side.”
Whether gardening in the backyard or watching students blossom, Professor Roger Pace takes pride in the fruits of his efforts.
As a little league coach or in the classroom, Professor and Changemaker Hub Director Mike Williams knows the importance of building consensus.
Playing the Game

PAYING IT FORWARD TRANSCENDS POLITICS AS USUAL

by Nathan Dinsdale

From the outside, political life in Washington, D.C. seems as turbulent as it’s ever been. A washing machine filled with fiery rhetoric and partisan brawling set on permanent spin cycle. But for behind-the-scenes insiders like Lauren Crawford Shaver ’06 (BA) it’s still largely business as usual.

“One thing people often don’t realize about D.C. is that the majority working here are centrists,” Shaver says. “You have to work together to get anything done and there are a lot of things that get done every day that don’t make the front page.”

Shaver is one of the thousands who help keep the policy gears moving even while the political spotlight is dominated by headline-grabbing bluster and brinkmanship. In the eye of the storm, there is calm in her sense of purpose.

“We came here to do our jobs, do them really well, and hopefully have a positive impact on the American people,” she says. “There are times your party is in power and times it’s not, but your focus is the same.”

That ability to keep solid footing amid shifting circumstances has served her well from grassroots activism to presidential campaigns.

“There are some really cool things that we get to do because we work here,” Shaver says. “If you find something you’re interested in and interesting people working on it, then you’re hooked.”

That initial spark began soon after she arrived at Alcalá Park. The very first class Shaver took at USD was a course on American politics taught by Professor and Changemaker Hub Director Mike Williams ’92 (BA).

“He had a Socratic way of teaching that I loved,” Shaver says. “It made me want to do my research and come to class prepared with answers.” It didn’t take long for Williams to take notice, especially after his students gave presentations about the congressional representative from their home districts.

“I remember her project to this day,” Williams says. “She had so much detail, so much energy, she was so passionate about being involved.” Williams saw a natural fit for Shaver in the political science department’s Washington Center Academic Seminar and mentored her passion for politics in class and with long conversations over coffee. It was déjà vu for Williams, who credits his former professor and now colleague Del Dickson for guiding his own career path.

“Without his teaching and his mentorship, I wouldn’t have studied political science,” says Williams. “The impact he and other professors had on me has been my model for working with students.” Shaver initially thought she wanted to teach. Then she turned her attention to international relations, eventually interning at the British Embassy. But when she came to D.C., “I just fell in love with good old-fashioned American politics.”

That passion was cemented after graduation when she worked on voter outreach campaigns for then U.S. Senators Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama in advance of the 2008 presidential election.

“That was the clincher,” she says, for a life in the political sphere.

Shaver worked as a consultant for different firms on a range of issues, but it was her interest in health care that led to a position as deputy assistant secretary for public affairs at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

“I’m a health care nerd,” Shaver says. “I find the policy and the politics about it fascinating. It’s never fully solvable, it changes daily, and that keeps me interested.”

She was back on the campaign trail for Clinton’s presidential bid in 2016, helping lead efforts to strengthen party infrastructure up and down the ballot in 37 states. That experience informs her current role as a partner with Forbes Tate Partners, where she helps oversee the D.C. firm’s public affairs and grassroots engagement.

Along the way, she’s kept in touch with Williams.

“We still send each other Christmas cards every year,” Shaver says with a laugh. “I know that if I send him an email today about something, we’ll have a really great discussion.”

That mentorship and her strong connection to USD has become a regular touchstone for Shaver in her life and work.

“I walk around the Hill and run into alums,” Shaver says. “We have a strong network and it’s really cool to see all of these people from USD thriving in D.C.”

Williams credits Shaver for helping build that network by participating in alumni panels, helping to facilitate internship opportunities and being a go-to resource whenever USD students and faculty members venture to the nation’s capital.

“Lauren is making a difference,” Williams says. “I’m so proud of her. She’s worked hard for her success, and now she’s paying it forward.”
Across campus, the university community is combatting human trafficking on multiple fronts

by Karen Gross

illustrations by Neil Shigley

As an associate professor at the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies, Ami Carpenter specializes in conflict prevention and resolution. Like most San Diegans, her knowledge of human trafficking and its grip on San Diego was relatively superficial back in 2010, when she was invited to use her negotiating skills to help a disparate group of community stakeholders figure out how to face the growing challenge.

“I got brought into this small group of people who represented different sectors, who understood they needed to work together but didn’t really know how,” Carpenter says. “I came in as a conflict resolution analyst to help the conversation move forward. That’s what I did for two years.”

By the end of those two years, the group — which included law enforcement, social service providers, victim rights advocates and others — managed to form a countywide umbrella advisory council. And Carpenter, along with Professor Jamie Gates of Point Loma Nazarene University, became co-chairs of its subcommittee on research and data.

“I asked District Attorney Summer Stephan, ‘What can Jamie and I do? We’re academics. We study numbers,’” Carpenter remembers. “And she said, ‘We need numbers. We know there’s a problem, but we don’t know the scope of the problem.’”

What she and Gates uncovered during their seminal three-year study revealed much bigger numbers and a much more daunting problem than almost anyone expected. Their findings also shattered some widespread misconceptions: that perpetrators are more often black, that the issue is mainly tied to organized gang activity and that it most often involves smuggling people across the border.

The study found that human trafficking and sexual exploitation of children existed in every part of the San Diego region and estimated the scale of the region’s underground sex economy at $810 million a year. Its perpetrators and victims included people from multiple racial and ethnic backgrounds, with a relatively even split between white, black and Hispanic facilitators. One hundred percent of the 20 schools they surveyed had evidence of sex trafficking connected to students, in both wealthy and impoverished neighborhoods.

“The first thing that happened was, we got a lot of press coverage,” Carpenter says. “And we did that intentionally because we wanted to raise awareness.”
Awareness led to action. Some 30 state and local bills written in its wake mentioned data revealed in the study. Among the most impactful: a new state law that decriminalized child prostitution and one that mandated the inclusion of sex trafficking awareness education in middle and high schools across California.

In San Diego, an anti-trafficking curriculum is now offered in elementary schools as well. It's funded entirely by venture philanthropy and the private sector through a new partnership called the San Diego Trafficking Prevention Collective. USD's Division of Professional and Continuing Education is providing continuing education units at a reduced cost to teachers who train in the curriculum. The model is the first of its kind in the nation.

It's all very encouraging, Carpenter says. But still, she adds, “To this day, the average San Diegan does not know we have a human trafficking problem. And if they do, they still think it’s people being trafficked across the border.” In fact, 80 percent of victims are born in the United States.

Now, a bold new initiative, spearheaded by USD’s School of Law and the Kroc School, aims to not only continue increasing awareness, but to bring the university’s considerable resources together in a formal way to combat human trafficking on multiple fronts.

“As an institution, USD has had pockets of work being done to help address the issue,” says Jessica Heldman ’04 (JD), Fellmeth-Peterson Professor in Residence in Child Rights. “So about a year ago, we began to bring together folks from different schools on campus to talk about how USD could have even more of an impact on this issue.”

At the School of Law, attorneys at the Children’s Advocacy Institute had already sponsored key legislation and were involved in the creation of San Diego County’s Resiliency Is Strength and Empowerment Court, conceived specifically to work with child victims of sex trafficking. In the fall of 2019, Heldman teamed up with her colleague, Professor Bridget Gramme ’98 (BA), ’03 (JD), and Jamie Beck ’11 (JD) to offer a semester-long clinic, using a human-centered design model to target solutions.

“We’re doing a lot of exercises in class around empathy,” Heldman says. “Interviewing survivors and stakeholders so we can be better informed about how to help and be more connected as a source of support.”

Beck left a lucrative corporate position to found Free To Thrive, a nonprofit that provides legal and social support to human trafficking survivors. She also runs workshops in the community and, with the help of some key partners, puts a human face on the crisis.

“With an issue like homelessness, you can walk down the street and see homeless people and know that’s a problem our community needs to address. You don’t walk down the street and see human trafficking,” Beck says. “It’s something that happens so under the radar; those that are in it don’t even know they’re in it.”

Beck works in hand with lived-experience experts: people who have been in the “game,” as they call it, and now work to make a difference in the lives of those who are still there or at risk of being drawn in.

A rmand King, a former exploiter, grew up in southeast San Diego, in a neighborhood where he says gang membership was not optional. What started out as his crew of partiers and dancers in early high school led to human trafficking as a logical way to pay the bills - encouraged, he says, by hip-hop lyrics and the 1999 HBO documentary, Pimps Up, Ho's Down.

“I was a member of the crack baby generation. We saw what happened, the devastation to our family and community,” he says. “We were all lost, with no opportunities and no resources. The documentary showed me another option. We idolized the people in it. Then we started hearing the same pimps in the music.”

Being a pimp or a prostitute became cool, King says. The girls thought so, too. “If you weren’t involved in the life, you were scum. And that was across the board, male and female.”

His involvement lasted years, including a three-year stint in federal prison for marijuana conspiracy. When he finally quit the game for good, King decided to take his acquired entrepreneurial skills back to his old neighborhood, where he put them to better use.

“It was like a responsibility was now on my shoulders to do something with the younger kids who were following in our footsteps,” he says. “We knew what needed to be done because we were those people. We started having meetings in garages, rec centers, on the street. I just knew they needed somebody to look up to. That person that I didn’t have.”

“Interviewing survivors and stakeholders so we can be better informed about how to help and be more connected as a source of support.”

Now we use hip-hop as a Trojan horse, to teach them how to be good young men,” he says. “We show adults that their lives are not a waste. We teach them how to apply their entrepreneurial skills to other stuff.”

They host an annual hip-hop event, bringing rappers and children together for a seminar and contest. They hold turkey drives and toy drives that amplify their message on the ground, while impacting countless others through social media. King also hosts a podcast called Raised in Pimp City and has written a book by the same name.

“Our reach is gigantic,” he says.

J aimee Johnson lived the experience from the other side. Her upbringing in northern San Diego was very different from King’s, geographically and socially.

“I wasn’t really aware that this whole lifestyle was going on. I would say lack of awareness made me kind of naive to the
situation,” she says. “I was a young mom, I’d recently lost my job and I was separated from my kids’ father at the time.”

Vulnerable and verging on broke, Johnson met a man who offered an alternative.

“I had bills piling up, and he told me I could make this amount of money every day. So that became a good idea in my head.”

Johnson’s life in and out of prostitution and in and out of jail lasted about seven years. The lower she sank, the harder it was to hoist herself out of the pit. “Society was giving me fewer and fewer options. I didn’t want to be there anymore but I didn’t know what else to do. I had a big gap in my job history, I lacked education, social status and social skills. I wasn’t comfortable around people who weren’t in the hustling lifestyle.” And although she now knows help was available, she had no idea how to access it at the time.

“We have to stop putting a blanket scope on human trafficking. There are so many different types, and we need to approach each one on an individual basis.”

“Looking back now, that’s really how I got into the game. There were resources for single moms, there were resources for military wives. I was a military wife. I just didn’t know.”

Her life began to change when she decided to share bits of her story online.

“I started telling myself things I wished people were telling me. Affirmations that I needed to hear. And little by little, people started messaging me.”

Johnson launched an informal ministry, which eventually blossomed into her own nonprofit, Sisters of the Streets. Like King, Johnson works by reaching out to the community she left. She goes back to the streets without judgment, initiating conversations and letting people know she’s there if they need her. She and her volunteers hand out purses filled with useful provisions that can improve their daily lives.

“I think back to when I was trying to transition. There was nobody coming to tell me where the resources were. There was nobody doing outreach when I was on the street,” Johnson says. “I tell them, ‘You don’t need to change what you’re doing. But if you need some food for today or a hotel or whatever, here’s my number. And if you need a friend, you can call me.’”

Johnson also runs seminars and additional outreach programs aimed at empowering women and young girls, educating the public and helping those who decide to leave to create stable life situations that prevent them from going back. She too hosts a podcast, called Rebel Rose.

What Johnson and King strongly believe is that the route to positive change runs through people like them, rather than through theoretical experts who mean well but lack emotional connection. They say academics or social service providers who really want to make a difference need to partner with those who have lived the life.

“We have to stop putting a blanket scope on human trafficking. There are so many different types, and we need to approach each one on an individual basis,” Johnson says. “We need to bring ourselves into the space of the person that we view as a demon and start recognizing that in each person, there is a piece of us.” She adds, “I don’t really feel like our job is to change the system, because the system is not going to change. But we do need to create new systems.”

Approaching the issue with empathy is a cornerstone of the clinic that USD’s Heldman and Gramme teach.

Another class, taught by two assistant U.S. attorneys for the past six years, uses a more traditional lens.

Andrew Haden ’08 (JD) and Alessandra Serano are both experts: Haden is chief of the Violent Crimes and Human Trafficking Section in the U.S. Attorney’s Office in San Diego and Serano currently works as senior counsel to the assistant attorney general, Office of Legal Policy, creating a strategic plan with the White House and other federal agencies to address human trafficking across the U.S. and abroad.

“It really focuses primarily on three pillars: prosecution, prevention and protection,” Serano says. “The prosecution piece is what we do. But the prevention and protection portions are just as important.”

“We’re training prosecutors to prosecute, defense attorneys to protect the rights of the accused, and we’re training people who will become future victim and survivor advocates.”

“Several of our students told us that our class is a prerequisite to do an internship for Jamie Beck’s Free To Thrive,” Haden says. “And so you see people inspired in the space to help build out one of the legs of the stool. And the investment starts to feed on itself. In the course we teach, we’re training prosecutors to prosecute, defense attorneys to protect the rights of the accused, and we’re training people who will become future victim and survivor advocates.”

The aim now is to take the work beyond these classrooms, by devising a university-wide strategy that will draw on the expertise available in each of USD’s schools and apply it in the communities where it is most needed: in partnership with people like Johnson, King and Beck, who are already out there building a formidable foundation. It’s a bold undertaking, but it exemplifies USD’s role as a Changemaker institution.

“Just pulling together what tends to sometimes feel like silos, pulling them into a conversation, that to me is a first step,” says Gramme. “It’s not just a legal issue or a health care issue. It’s business and engineering and social work and education. We have such a wealth of expertise on campus. Let’s create some unity around an issue that’s clearly important to all of us.”

sandiego.edu/stop-traffic
JAIMEE JOHNSON
Sisters of the Streets Founder
The dragonflies are flitting around the lake, and Billiekai Boughton ’15 (MSEL) can’t help herself. She interrupts her thoughts about veterans and talks about how the gossamer-winged creatures are born underwater, but also don’t just ultimately live outside it: they get to fly.

It’s a sweltering morning that will, by degrees, eventually reach 100. Boughton and another die-hard member of her women veterans group — “I think the heat scared off most of them,” Boughton says — are walking around San Diego’s Lake Murray and talking about their shared experiences as veterans in combat zones that were close geographically, if not chronologically.

There’s an ease the pair has together, despite the decade or so that separated Boughton’s stint in the U.S. Army serving in Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Kuwait during Desert Storm from Colleen Shuster’s time in the Marine Corps during the Iraq War.

“This definitely has changed my life, meeting Billiekai,” says Shuster. As they walk, little echoes of their shared experience creep in: A fellow vet who resisted treatment got into a therapy program? They high five. Shuster says she’ll get back to Boughton on something, and the reply is unironic “10-4.”

NO STRINGS ATTACHED

Helping women vets find themselves — and each other

by Kelly Knufken

The dragonflies are flitting around the lake, and Billiekai Boughton ’15 (MSEL) can’t help herself. She interrupts her thoughts about veterans and talks about how the gossamer-winged creatures are born underwater, but also don’t just ultimately live outside it: they get to fly.

It’s a sweltering morning that will, by degrees, eventually reach 100. Boughton and another die-hard member of her women veterans group — “I think the heat scared off most of them,” Boughton says — are walking around San Diego’s Lake Murray and talking about their shared experiences as veterans in combat zones that were close geographically, if not chronologically.

There’s an ease the pair has together, despite the decade or so that separated Boughton’s stint in the U.S. Army serving in Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Kuwait during Desert Storm from Colleen Shuster’s time in the Marine Corps during the Iraq War.

“This definitely has changed my life, meeting Billiekai,” says Shuster. As they walk, little echoes of their shared experience creep in: A fellow vet who resisted treatment got into a therapy program? They high five. Shuster says she’ll get back to Boughton on something, and the reply is unironic “10-4.”
Boughton is a natural when it comes to connecting female veterans: Her role as a Desert Storm vet places her in between the main populations of women who served: those from the Vietnam era and those emerging from recent conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Boughton is all about the positive difference she can make, targeting a gap aimed at helping women vets. It’s not just mornings like this; she also organizes vision-board sessions, trips such as visiting with miniature horses, attending a concert as a group or other activities aimed at supporting mental health and bringing people together.

While her efforts are about helping and connecting women, the outings aren’t necessarily the place to discuss some of the traumatic personal experiences they may have endured during their life in the service.

Boughton notes she’s not a therapist, but she is adept at helping vets find the services they need. Still, many of the things they experienced — and are still experiencing — as women may well come up: that the local Veterans Affairs hospital only retained an OB/GYN on staff at the end of 2017; that there is just one mammography machine available, which comes with a long wait; incredulity from other vets when they visit the VA — “Where’s your husband?” — or, worse, a certain suggestive tone.

She says she uses her master’s in executive leadership all the time in her day job as executive administrator for the San Diego Supercomputer Center and in the nonprofit she founded, the San Diego Women Veterans Network. She calls her discovery of the MSEL program via a random email she received as morphing into a “really fun, universe is supporting me adventure.”

“I loved it. I loved being on campus, I loved the program, I loved the instructors, I loved the content. And I immediately started applying what I learned the first week of the program.”

Boughton, who is married and has a teenage son, targets the isolation women veterans can experience and delights in helping some recover the pride they took in their service. “I love watching it happen,” Boughton says. “It’s really empowering.”

“She just brings people together and has this really personal approach,” Shuster says.

That attitude comes without strings. She aims for the group to make women feel “welcome, but not obligated.”

“I generally believe that we’re stronger together, but I don’t believe in taking hostages,” she says with a laugh.

All of her efforts are by design, but in an under-the-radar way. The monthly walking meetups help women make connections while taking the pressure off. Boughton is ready with a soft referral — a warm handoff, she calls it — if someone is struggling with post-traumatic stress disorder or depression, or just needs to know how to get a “vet” designation on her driver’s license.

“We know sunshine is good for us. We know movement is good for us. You can bring your kids or your dog,” Her welcoming vibe is at work, but she also helps women remove barriers — or excuses — that might come up.

And those dragonflies she mentioned weren’t just about enjoying a moment in nature. It’s symbolic with Boughton. A little like butterflies, dragonflies also go through metamorphosis.

“I value growth and change.”

**Billickai Boughton ’15 (far right) founded the San Diego Women Veterans Network. She brings veterans together for monthly walks that build connections.**

---

**1950s**

**1956**

JAMES FREED (BA) reports that he and his wife, Helen, just welcomed their first great-grandson.

---

**1960s**

**1963**

VICTOR BIANCHINI (JD) was named the 2018 Distinguished Alumnus for the San Diego State University College of Arts and Letters. He was also honored by the San Diego County Law Library with the Winkin Award for Judicial Excellence. In April 2019, Victor won the North American Fencing Championship in the 70-year-old division, and he qualified for the United States team for the Veterans World Fencing Championship in Cairo, Egypt.

**1969**


STEVE CLOUD (JD) attended the 50-year reunion dinner for the Class of 1969, held on Sept. 7, 2019. Steve remembers all of his friends in the daytime law school class and says he misses those days. He says, “Hello to all of you from the 1969 School of Law” and sends his best wishes.

---

**1970s**

**1973**

DEBBIE (SHATTUCK) BURKE (BA) published Stalking Midas, the second thriller in her award-winning suspense series. She and her husband, Tom, divide their time between their Montana home and a Florida condo.

---

**1980s**

**1981**

DOROTHY (KENT) APPLEBY (MD) writes, “I am enjoying my retirement years staying busy with family, friends and church activities.”

**1982**

SISTER MARY POTTER (BA) retired to Ireland in January 2019 after 41 years in Catholic education and parish ministry in the Diocese of San Diego.

---

**1983**

HALLIE GARDNER (BA) writes, “After a long and varied career, I am semiretired in a private counseling practice. I am loving the freedom along with the privilege of helping others.”

**1984**

NANCY (CRUMP) CAMPMAN-CROFTS (BA) moved to Arizona from Orange County, California, in August 2019.

KEITH GREGORY (JD) joined the board of directors for Anti-Defamation League Los Angeles. A partner with Snell & Wilmer, Gregory is a leader at his firm, serving as chair of the firm’s diversity committee. He is also a past co-chair of the firm’s veterans network. Gregory is a graduate of U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He serves on the board of directors of San Diego’s Partnership for Peace Coalition, the San Diego County Bar Association and the 35th Infantry Museum in Colorado Springs.”
of the commercial litigation group in Los Angeles and co-chair of the commercial litigation group in California. He practices in the areas of general business matters, corporate, franchise and partnership disputes, and intellectual property and commercial litigation.

[1986] WILLIAM GRANT (LLM) is vice president and recorder of the American Contract Bridge League's District 22.

[1987] JOELLEN BECHINA CAMDEN (BA) writes, “I've been busy with family, children and a career for over 30 years, but lately I've had the privilege and utmost enjoyment of being a parent of a USD student!” Joellen's daughter, Courtney Camden, started graduate school in the fall. "It's been amazing watching her enjoy USD school in the fall. "It's been the privilege and utmost enjoyment of being a parent of a USD student!” Joellen's daughter, Courtney Camden, started graduate school in the fall. "It's been amazing watching her enjoy USD school in the fall. It is a unique place filled with amazing watching her enjoy USD school in the fall. "It's been the privilege and utmost enjoyment of being a parent of a USD student!” Joellen's daughter, Courtney Camden, started graduate school in the fall. "It's been amazing watching her enjoy USD school in the fall. It is a unique place filled with amazing watching her enjoy USD school in the fall. "It's been the privilege and utmost enjoyment of being a parent of a USD student!” Joellen's daughter, Courtney Camden, started graduate school in the fall. "It's been amazing watching her enjoy USD school in the fall. It is a unique place filled with amazing watching her enjoy USD school in the fall. "It's been the privilege and utmost enjoyment of being a parent of a USD student!” Joellen's daughter, Courtney Camden, started graduate school in the fall. "It's been amazing watching her enjoy USD school in the fall. It is a unique place filled with amazing watching her enjoy USD school in the fall. "It's been the privilege and utmost enjoyment of being a parent of a USD student!” Joellen's daughter, Courtney Camden, started graduate school in the fall. "It's been amazing watching her enjoy USD school in the fall. It is a unique place filled with amazing watching her enjoy USD school in the fall. "It's been the privilege and utmost enjoyment of being a parent of a USD student!” Joellen's daughter, Courtney Camden, started graduate school in the fall. "It's been amazing watching her enjoy USD school in the fall. It is a unique place filled with amazing watching her enjoy USD school in the fall. "It's been the privilege and utmost enjoyment of being a parent of a USD student!” Joellen's daughter, Courtney Camden, started graduate school in the fall. "It's been amazing watching her enjoy USD school in the fall. It is a unique place filled with amazing watching her enjoy USD school in the fall. "It's been the privilege and utmost enjoyment of being a parent of a USD student!” Joellen's daughter, Courtney Camden, started graduate school in the fall. "It's been amazing watching her enjoy USD school in the fall. It is a unique place filled with

[1988] ROBERT REINCKE (MBA) is an artist and a writer. He writes business plans for investor immigrants, wrote and published two books and produces fine art through painting and sculpture.

[1989] JOHN NICHOLSON (BBA/BA) writes, “Ever since I graduated in 1989, I have been living and working as an expat in several countries, i.e., U.K., 18 years; Lebanon, six years; Pakistan, two years, and Iraq four years. Consequently, I have a lot of experience that would be valuable for other alumni who are thinking about living and working abroad.” John also reports that he recently married his wife, Noura.

[1990s]

[1991] JAMIE (TODD) CORBIN (JD) retired in March 2016 from the San Diego County District Attorney's Office and moved to The Villages, Florida. “I'm living a good life and recommend retirement,” Jamie says. “Though I had a good career, I no longer practice law and I don’t miss it.”

ROBERT JACKSON (BA) reports that his memoir, Running Scared, has been adapted into an action thriller/biopic by Gustavo Freitas. “Gustavo is working with a producer to get the movie made,” Robert says.

[1992] BRUCE ETHAN MAXON (BA) is vice president of international sales for Salient Systems. “I really enjoy my role with Salient and would be happy to help USD alums looking to get into the physical security space if interested,” Bruce says.

CHRIS SPENCE (BA) reports that his office, Spence Chiropractic Center, was voted Best Chiropractic Office in San Diego for the 11th year by San Diego CityBeat.

ELIZABETH WARD (BA) was an English teacher at Serra High School from 1998 to 2017. She was named the San Diego Unified School District High School Teacher of the Year for 2007-08 and Assistant Coach of the Year for field hockey at the high school in 2018. After completing her preliminary administrative services credential at SOLES in 2017, she was promoted to vice principal at Serra High School. Elizabeth also reports that she adopted her daughter, Samari, in 2015 after two years as her foster parent with Angels Foster Family Network in San Diego. Samari is going into the third grade at Tierrasanta Elementary School in the dual-language immersion program.

[1993] DEBORAH (VIDOSIC) BRESKO (BA) returned to the San Diego area due to an illness in the family. She now lives in San Diego with her children, Matthew, 12, and Julianne, 10.

LESLIE HENSON (MBA) is an education specialist in Vista, California. She teaches students with emotional and behavioral disabilities in a residential treatment center. Leslie has a master's degree in special education and is working on a doctorate in the same field.

CHRISTINA ( CRITCHFIELD) HUBER (BA) is the founder and owner of MadPax specialty backpacks.

HAYES PETER MAURO (BA) is an art history professor at the City University of New York. His second book, Messianic Fulfillments: Staging Indigenous Salvation in America, was released on Aug. 1, 2019.

[1995] LT. COL. RYAN MILLAY (BA) retired from the U.S. Air Force in June 2019 after 23 years of service. His last assignment was with U.S. Southern Command in Miami. Upon retirement from active duty, he was awarded the Defense Meritorious Service Medal on behalf of the Secretary of Defense. Ryan reports that he and his family will remain in South Florida, having recently purchased a home. Ryan sends his best wishes to all past classmates and current and future USD students and family.

ANDREW SERWIN (JD) joined DLA Piper as a partner in San Diego and a member of the firm’s data protection, privacy and security subgroup in the intellectual property and technology practice. He advises Fortune 500 and emerging companies on matters relating to privacy, security, crisis management and national security, and he has served as lead counsel in a number of FTC matters, matters before the Office of Civil Rights, and state consumer protection and privacy litigation.

KATHERINE (SNIFFIN) STONE (BA), ’97 (MED) is in her 23rd year of teaching high school, focusing on Advanced Placement English Language, Expository Reading and Writing 11 and AVID. She also works with the district office as a data, standards, learning and instructional specialist. “My oldest child just graduated from high school and is starting college,” Katherine says. “Two more in high school and one entering eighth grade.”

[1996] JENNIFER BROBST (JD) received tenure in July 2019 and was promoted to associate professor of law at Southern Illinois University School of Law.

[1997] AARON BLumenkranz (BA) writes, “I've been jumping rope and doing squats consistently for six months. The training has paid off. I was able to tomahawk dunk from the free-throw lines on my 44th birthday.”

JAMES MCCORMICK (JD) reports that he and a few other USD alumni started Delphi Law Group, which represents common-interest developments throughout Southern California. Six of the seven attorneys are USD alumni, as well as several paralegals. “I’m also currently on the Law School Board of Visitors and support USD whenever I can,” he says.

KRISTIAN PANGILINAN (BA) works for Genentech, a biotech health care company based in San Francisco. Kristian oversees the Hawaii territory.

[1998] MICHAEL HALL (JD) was elected president of the Minnesota Association for Justice at the association’s annual convention on Aug. 16, 2019. The organization’s mission is to protect the state’s citizens right to a trial by jury and to redress for the wrongs done to them. Michael is the lead attorney at Hall Law, a firm of trial lawyers. His father, grandfather and sister are all lawyers. From 1998 to 2006, he litigated personal injury and business litigation cases in Southern California. In 2006, he returned to Minnesota to join his father at Hall Law.

HEATHER (HUFFMAN) HIRSC-HOFF (BA) reports that she traveled in Australia and Indonesia during the summer of 2019.

[1999] JORDAN HOPCHIK (MSN) is in a global medical affairs position as a gastroenterology medical science liaison.

FRANK IBARRA (BA) has partnered with DH Hill Advisors in forming Sleeve Financial to educate and advise individual investors on how to manage their 401(k)s and other investment accounts with features like draw-down limits.

MICHAEL JOLLEY (BBA) was promoted to assistant director of University of Nebraska Online, where he helps facilitate and promote all online programs across the four University of Nebraska campuses.
CREAM OF THE CROP

USD teams up with Ryan Brothers to produce coffees and teas

Since 1994, when family-owned Ryan Bros. Coffee operated a coffee cart on campus, their passion to make a positive impact has never wavered. As alumni, they’re proud to partner and give back to the place where it all began. A portion of all sales supports USD student scholarships.

Shop usdtorero.store.com (products are within the Food tab).

Officially licensed, fair trade, locally roasted, small-batch coffee and organic tea now available.
2000s

[2000] Ashley Hall (JD) was promoted to chief development officer at Esperion Therapeutics, Inc., a publicly traded pharmaceutical company.

[2001] Amanda (Scarberry) Huppert (BA) reports that she and her husband, Dirk, welcomed a baby, Ryan Keith, on Aug. 10, 2019.

Gail Nolan (BA) reports that she recently graduated from USD with a master’s in cybersecurity operations and leadership.

[2003] Stephanie Larussa (BA) returned to San Diego after 15 years away. She is a luxury manager for The RealReal and is building business in this territory. Stephanie was the president of the Los Angeles Torero Club for the past five years before she moved back to San Diego.

Liliana Rurup (MBA) reports that she moved her Edward Jones offices “to the SunTrust building down the street from USD. Come by and visit!”

[2005] Elijah Bonde (BA), ’15 (MA) was named president of the Native Alumni Affinity Group for USD.

Philip Bretsch (BS/BA) was promoted to vice president of investments for Regency Centers, a real estate investment trust company. In his position, he manages the Pacific Northwest region in the areas of new development, acquisitions and the overall operating portfolio in Oregon and Washington.

Monie Captan (BA), ’07 (MA) is the chief executive officer of the Millennium Challenge Account — Liberia, where he is responsible for the implementation of a U.S. federal grant to Liberia through the Millennium Challenge Corporation. “Our goal is to increase access to affordable and reliable electricity in Liberia as a means to promote economic growth and poverty reduction,” he says.

Dan (BA) and Erin (Burke) Gunning (BA) are thrilled to announce the arrival of their second baby boy, Jonah Robert. “What an adventure it’s been since meeting freshman year at USD! Big brother Caden can’t get enough of his new best buddy and is already preparing him for a life of Torero fandom.”

Patricia (Mountain) Lavoire (MED) is enjoying travel, working part time and spending time with family and friends.

Meredith Miller (BA) is vice president for strategic projects at NCC Media in New York City.

Suzanne (Emsman) Temme (BA) says that she and her husband, Lars, welcomed their first child, Claire Grace, in July 2019.

[2006] Jonathan Haskell (BACC) became a shareholder of Wade Ash Wood Hill & Farley, a trust and estate law firm in Denver. He reports that he and his wife, Colleen (Moore) ’06, are the proud parents of Chip, 4, and Bailey, 1.

Dru Kanuha (BA) was elected to the state senate in Hawaii. Previously, Dru was a councilmember for six years on Hawaii County Council, representing Kona.

[2007] Katherine (Maeda) Chiriboga (BA) writes, “After four years away from the West Coast and living in Japan, my family and I are returning to the Southwest in Arizona! We will be closer to family in El Centro, California, and closer to my MLIS program in Tucson. Ole!”

Cynthia Sistek-Chandler (EdD) is a full professor at National University in San Diego. She recently received the ISTE Making IT Happen award, honoring outstanding educators and leaders who demonstrate extraordinary commitment in improving digital learning opportunities for students.


[2008] Tricia (O’Sullivan) Fox (BA) reports that she was married in the fall of 2018 in Oregon, Missouri, with a fiesta-themed wedding in the woods complete with a mariachi band and piñatas. “It was amazing,” she says. “Our wedding was just published in The Knot magazine!” Tricia also was promoted in April 2019 and is partnering with patent attorneys to strengthen their proposals and pitches in order to grow the firm.

Rebecca (Hertel Hames) Leidiger (MA) reports that she and Ernie Leidiger were married on July 6, 2019. Ernie’s son, Luke Leidiger, is a current USD undergraduate.

Austin Melrose (BA) is the owner and founder of Umbrella Hospitality Group in Los Angeles, including Melrose Umbrella Co., LONO Hollywood and The Corner Door.

[2009] Meghan Bunchman (BA) is in the process of publishing her first book, which is an inside look at the TV news industry. She is also a stepmother to two children and a happy newlywed, she reports. Meghan is the news director and news anchor of a station in Michigan.

Alexa Contreras (BA) became the first female alumni director of St. Ignatius College Preparatory in San Francisco. The Jesuit high school is 165 years old, the past 31 as a coed institution. Its alumni network includes 25,000 individuals nationwide, with eight chapters around the world. Alumni include former California Gov. Jerry Brown, film director Chris Columbus and actor and singer Darren Criss.

Joan Kling (MS) reports that she is “helping first-time supervisors and managers become effective leaders.”

Chris Minkoff (BA), ’10 (MED) teaches Spanish at Classical Academy High School. He and his wife, Therese, have a daughter, Colette, 1. Therese is a speech-language pathologist at Rady Children’s Hospital.

John Mosby (PhD) just celebrated one year as president of Highline College in the Seattle area.

James Nelson (BA/BACC) repatriated to California after living for seven years in Switzerland, where he provided treasury consulting services to Fortune 500 businesses across Europe. He is now developing a corporate treasury solutions practice in the Southwest region of the United States.

Kristina (Goldman) Nortwne (BA) lives with her family in the Austin, Texas, area, where she provides real estate services through a locally owned real estate brokerage.

Bridget Royer (BA) moved to Atlanta, where she has a new job at Emory Healthcare.

Jensen Shirley (EdD) earned a master’s degree in clinical counseling with a specialization in military family services.

2010s

[2010] Lt. Cmdr. Stephanie Roadarmel (BA) studied at the University of California San Francisco School of Dentistry after graduation and joined the U.S. Navy through the health professions scholarship program. She was stationed at Parris Island, South Carolina, then Twentynine Palms, California, and was deployed as the dental officer for the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit in charge of dental readiness for 2,700 Marines. Stephanie was recently stationed in Sigonella, Italy.

[2011] Alana Calise (BA) is traveling around the world as a global public health manager with the Orbis Flying Eye Hospital “to ensure everyone has access to quality eye care, no matter where they live,” she says.

Nicole Kathol (BA) graduated from the University of Southern California with a master’s of physician assistant practice and started work as a physician assistant in family medicine at Scripps Clinic Santee in August 2019.

Jessica Tishue (BA) writes that she is “a serial entrepreneur and has won Best Digital Marketing Agency out of 314 agencies in San Diego for the past three years.” Her next venture is a zero-waste solution to single-use plastic cutlery and containers. She is looking to collaborate with others committed to ensuring a thriving planet for generations to come.

[2012] Eloisa Amezcu (BA) published her debut poetry collection,
From the Inside Quietly, which was selected by Ada Limón as the inaugural winner of the Shelterbelt Poetry Prize. A MacDowell fellow, Eloisa’s poems and translations have been published in The New York Times Magazine, Poetry Magazine, Kenyon Review, Gulf Coast and others. She lives in Columbus, Ohio, and is the founder of Costura Creative.

**JANELLE LOPEZ (BBA)** is with TYPE Clothing, which has a mission of making an impact in the community and supporting mental health through the company’s brand. With each purchase from TYPE Clothing, the brand donates $1 directly to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, the nation’s largest grassroots mental health organization. “With TYPE Clothing’s involvement in a community initiative like mental health, we hope to spark a similar interest with other businesses to get involved in a community initiative that they are passionate about,” Janelle says.

**STEPHANIE MALONE (BA)** joined California State University Fullerton as an academic advisor in February 2019.

**[2013]**

**SUSAN JORDON-TALASKA (MSN)** is the education specialist for the critical care and step-down units at Riverside Community Hospital, which has expanded by 100 beds. “I am even busier teaching a multitude of orientation classes for our newest RNs,” Susan says. “Additionally, we must deliver required education to staff as part of Center of Cardiac Excellence, Comprehensive Stroke Center and Level II Trauma Center status. It is an exciting time in nursing!”

**LIZETH JUVERA (BBA)** writes, “I really enjoyed being a student at USD. I had such a wonderful and impacting experience throughout my four years on campus. After a few years, I decided to return to USD to work!” Lizeth works in the biology department and is now a master’s student in the SOLES school counseling program. “I feel very grateful for the community around me and the positive atmosphere on campus,” she adds. “I am excited for the adventures to come...”
Risk is something that David Reiling ’89 (BBA) has never been averse to. It’s a word that’s often tossed around in the world of banking, but for Reiling, risk takes on deeper meaning than it might for the average bank chairman and CEO.

His introduction to banking wasn’t for the faint of heart: Early in his career, he was present during five bank robberies. Those experiences might have caused the average person to consider looking for work in a different field, but not Reiling. “I thought it was exciting, between the money and the bank robberies” he says. “And I was always kind of fascinated with money and commerce and business.”

Reiling worked at branches in low-income, economically distressed communities, first in his native St. Paul, Minnesota and then at a stint in South Central Los Angeles in the early ’90s, when the region was the bank robbery capital of the world. “It was a phenomenal learning experience, but the third time I had a gun to my head, I didn’t think my luck would last,” he recalls, a hint of a shrug in his voice. Though his career trajectory veered away from low-income neighborhoods, he never forgot the needs of the people who live and work in those communities. Long before terms like Changemaker and social entrepreneurship became part of his lexicon, service to others was ingrained in him. “I had a very positive Catholic upbringing,” he says. “My time at USD was a wonderful extension of that.”

As an undergraduate, he was part of a USD team of volunteers that built a home for a family in Tijuana. This experience had a
profound impact upon him, leading to an epiphany.

"There was that aha moment during my time at USD," he reminisces. "It was, ‘You’re going to have to earn a living, but finding your purpose in the world is really the place where you’re going to be happy.’"

Reiling credits USD for nurturing his search for that purpose. "How do you find both a financial paycheck and the emotional paycheck within the work that you do? To make it not really work, but to make it your life’s purpose?"

He’s quick to note that his days on campus weren’t all about academics and community service. He still cherishes the people he met and the friendships he built, especially his most important relationship: He met his wife, Kerry ’89 (BA), while they were students. The couple has been married for 24 years and have three children, one of whom, Daniel, graduated from the university in 2019.

Reiling has always thought that doing well financially and doing good socially shouldn’t be mutually exclusive propositions. He was able to make that belief a reality when he received a lead from his father that there was a bank for sale in St. Paul in a low-income, immigrant community. It was a neighborhood that he knew well — a melting pot of ethnicities and cultures — as his immigrant grandmother had lived there. Even though people thought he was a little crazy, he wasn’t dissuaded. He saw it as his opportunity to practice what he preached.

When the purchase went through, "The bank was really on shaky ground," Reiling admits. "I knew the only way that this bank was going to succeed was if the community succeeded." He was intent on getting capital into the hands of the people that lived there; he saw that as the clearest path toward improving the community.

He notes his belief that the perceived risk of investing in low-income areas is blown out, but cautions, "You really do have to understand the people that you serve and the community you serve." That philosophy is the backbone of Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI), and Sunrise Banks became the first — and still only — Minnesota bank that is CDFI certified.

It’s all part of a broader worldview. According to Reiling, there are two pressing social issues that humanity is facing. The first?

“We lack sensitivity towards one another.” The second? “I don’t think we really understand how valuable peace is, economically, socially, culturally.”

He’s intent on being part of the solution, and his optimism is contagious. Surprise has grown and now boasts total assets that exceed $1.4 billion. In fact, it’s ranked by B Lab as one of the best banks in the world for social and environmental impact.

Reiling’s USD experience came full circle when his son graduated from the university in 2019. Not content to be a proud parent from afar, he served on the board of USD’s Office of Parent and Family Relations.

“It was so much fun to be on the parent board and to reconnect, see old friends, and understand where the university is and where it’s going. It was a great excuse to get back on campus and to see the school keep progressing and growing. It was an exciting thing to be a part of.”

David Reiling found his purpose all those years ago when he was a student at USD. Today, he’s a living example of the tremendous influence and positive impact one Changemaker can have. ☑️

and memories to be created.

KYLE LOKANC (BACC/BBA) opened his own accounting practice, Pilot Accounting, in June 2019.

ALEXANDRA (RUSSELL) SHERMAN (MA) reports that she was married in 2017 and welcomed a son in December 2018.

KELLY (FROMM) WOLDSETH (BA), ’14 (MED) reports that she and her husband, Leif, welcomed a son, Ty, to their family in December 2018. Kelly teaches math at Poway High School, her alma mater.

[2014] JAMES DOBBS (PhD) was promoted to dean of faculty at the U.S. Air Force Academy Preparatory School.

AMY KAME (BA), ’19 (MA) completed the SOLES Leadership Studies master’s program in 2019 and received the top capstone project award in her cohort for research related to sexual misconduct prevention. In the fall of 2018, she co-founded Athlete Initiative LLC to change the landscape of how sexual misconduct prevention programming is conducted on college campuses.

RHISTYN (BURKE) MUELLER (BA) reports that she and her husband, Luke, were married after seven years of dating. They welcomed a daughter, Adeline Jane, in 2018. “We just celebrated her first birthday in August!” Rhistoryn says.

CODY TESCHER (BA) was promoted to assistant director of football operations at Northern Illinois University.

[2015] BILLIEKAI BOUGHTON (MSEL) started a nonprofit to serve female veterans. “Currently we are serving over 600 women!” Billiekai says. (See story on page 30.)

BONNIE COBARRUVIAS (BA) was promoted to lieutenant in the U.S. Navy. Currently, she is stationed at Pearl Harbor in Oahu, Hawaii, and serves as the anti-submarine warfare officer onboard USS Wayne E. Meyer (DDG 108).

SLOANE (SMITH) HAWES (BA) and her husband, Derek, welcomed a daughter, Laney Grayce, on Nov. 7, 2018.

BARBARA IVOS (BA) is in the last year of naturopathic medical school.

EMILY KNAPP (BBA) is a chef working for private families; she also teaches cooking classes.

DONNA OHLMAYER (BA) bought her first home in Cary, North Carolina, and says she has been enjoying remodeling it.

VALERIE PHAN (JD) is a litigation associate with Wilson Turner Kosmo in San Diego. A member of the firm’s business, class action and employment law practice groups, Valerie defends businesses against class actions and individual lawsuits involving consumer protection, wage and hour, wrongful termination, harassment and ADA accessibility violations. She is also an adjunct professor at the USD School of Law.

JESSICA (GARCIA DE PAZ) SERRA (MA) reports that she married her high school sweetheart and has been in her role as a TRIO SSS adviser for one year.

SARAH ZENTNER (BA) graduated from Colorado State University in May 2019 with a master’s degree in English and now teaches fourth grade in the Archdiocese of Denver.

ALEXA BRACHVOGEL (BBA) is working on an MBA at San Diego State University. In October 2017, she self-published her first book, Postcards, and in September 2018, she founded Blüm Agency, a digital marketing agency for small and local businesses focused on providing strategy and data-based design to San Diego companies.

HENRI HICKS (BA) works for Inovexus, a cross-border acceleration fund.

CLAIRE (DELLEGROTTI) LISTON (MSN) is one of three providers for a family practice with a unique model that is walk-in only. The clinic has been operating for 20 years. She reports that she was married in December 2017 at The Immaculata.

MICHELLE LUELLEN (MA) is the program director for the San
Before he put pedal to the metal as a mechanical engineer, Payton Stanaway ’19 (BS/BA) wanted to pedal for a cause. So in the summer of 2019, he set out on a coast-to-coast bicycle trip to support young adults affected by cancer. Seventy days, more than 4,300 miles and approximately 1.2 million pedal strokes later, he’d helped raise nearly $160,000.

Since he was graduating in December of 2019 from the Shiley-Marcos School of Engineering and about to enter the workforce, he was eager to take the challenge. “I knew this would be the last chance I would ever have to do something like this,” he says. “I really wanted to do something that would change lives.”

The thousands of dollars raised from sponsors will support the Baltimore-based Ulman Foundation that provides scholarships, housing and other support for young adults affected by cancer and their families.

When he left Baltimore to start the trip, Stanaway wasn’t sure what he was getting into. But he says it turned out be the “adventure of a lifetime.”

Along the way, there were obstacles, including heavy rain in Ohio, bugs in Wisconsin and even a grizzly cub in Glacier National Park. There were many highlights as well, such as riding through the beautiful Appalachian Mountains and down Lakeshore Drive in Chicago.

At the end of the journey, “seeing the Pacific Ocean and knowing that I really did ride coast to coast was absolutely amazing,” he recalls.

Stanaway was always “calm and collected” and making sure “everyone was okay,” recalls fellow cyclist Victoria Bricker.

The team started with 30 members but ended with 28, after one participant crashed and had to drop out and another suffered a collapsed lung.

“Supporting each other through the tough rides, the steep climbs and fixing each other’s bicycles, we really learned to work together as a team,” says Stanaway.

What also made the trek easier were the service days the group would make every 10 days or so by stopping at a hospital or center to visit cancer patients. “They were so inspirational to us,” Stanaway says. “They really taught me how to push through any adversity I might face.”

He emerged from the journey with a true sense of connection with many of those patients. “Each day, we dedicated that day’s ride to someone impacted by cancer,” he recalls. “One day I dedicated my ride to a little girl named Addi who is battling the disease. Biking 100 miles a day is easy compared to what she faces every day, yet she has such a positive attitude.”

“So often today all we hear about is the bad in this world, and yet there are so many good people out there,” Stanaway says. “People were so generous to us and were genuinely interested in what we were doing. It made me feel good about this country and human nature in general.”

PEDALING FOR A CAUSE
Riding from coast to coast to support cancer survivors

by Liz Harman
Diego County Bicycle Coalition. “We work from Oceanside (California) to San Ysidro to improve roads for everyone, not just people on bikes,” she says. “Our education department reaches 10,000 people annually, educating children to seniors about how to ride a bike safely for fun and commuting.”

ZACH MELLEN (BA) has been working with the Delegation of the European Union to the U.S. to help them with their public diplomacy and outreach. “Most recently, we collaborated with Foreign Policy Magazine for the EU-FP Defense Forum at the U.S. Institute of Peace,” he says.

KIRSTEN PARRIS (BA) graduated from the University of Washington School of Law in June 2019 with plans to practice education law.

SAMIN SYED moved to San Francisco and “made a 180, going from Cisco and ‘made a 180, going from Cisco and ‘made a 180, going from Cisco and moved to San Francisco Bay Area.”

[2017]

ALMONTER ALSHAREEF (BS/BA) is a product manager in charge of developing and managing cloud services at Saudi Telecom Company, the largest cloud provider in the Middle East, helping empower enterprises to achieve Saudi’s digital transformation plan.

LAUREN BERCHA (MED) reports that she was hired at her old middle school. “It was amazing, and kind of strange, to work with my old teachers!” she says.

KATIE LEVY (BBA) is a software engineer at Intuit working on the TurboTax product. She expected to be traveling to Cadiz, Spain, in October 2019 to speak at the Lamba World Conference about the Kotlin programming language.

JAQUELYN AMANI MITCHELL (BA) is the vice president of business development for Donors Endowment. “With my passion for health and wellness, I have created a program called 7 Minutes of Yoga, where we have volunteers go into different co-working spaces to guide people in 7 Minutes of Yoga,” she says. They have been in WeWork, Downtown Works and Desk Hub, and they planned their first fundraiser to support training more yogis. “I believe 7 Minutes of Yoga can reach more communities, such as nursing homes, schools, after-school programs and special needs facilities,” she says.

SURABHI MOHTA (MBA) has been using her MBA in new venture management to help family-owned businesses and entrepreneurs through the CPA firm where she works. “USD has provided me with a great network and community to hang out with and build on,” she says. “We make a difference every day.”

ELIZABETH MOK (BA) works with UOMM New Day Centers, the largest emergency crisis shelter in Maricopa County, Arizona, that serves families, single women and unaccompanied youth.

ELAINE POEU-EN (MED) is a full-time staff member at USD and she loves spending time with her husband and three children. She serves as an executive board member for Khmer American Mutual Association of San Diego, a nonprofit organization focused on cultural and ethnic awareness.

MELISSA ROSE (JD) is a litigation associate with Wilson Turner Kosmo in San Diego. A member of the firm’s product liability and warranty practice groups, Melissa represents manufacturers and companies in breach of warranty, product liability, personal injury and wrongful death claims. While at USD, Melissa was the research editor of the San Diego Law Review.

JUDY WAI (MA) is a full-time elementary school counselor in the San Francisco Bay Area.

[2018]

BRADEEN ASPER (JD) reports that he and his wife, Amy, have two sons. Braden and Amy also bought their first home.

DEVYN BRYANT (BS/BA) is an associate engineer at San Diego Gas & Electric. He has earned his engineering-in-training certification and he is pursuing certification as a licensed professional engineer through the state of California. In his free time, Devyn coaches high school football and mentors a robotics team.

ALISON FILIPSKI (MA) is a mental health specialist at San Diego Youth Services, where she works in the prevention and intervention program.

JESSICA POLAK (BA) is in her second year of studies at the Southern California College of Optometry at Marshall B. Ketchum University in Fullerton, California.

GAIL WINGFIELD (MA) is the senior arts and culture funding manager for the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture. She works with nonprofits in the arts and culture sector and also speaks about funding opportunities with the City of San Diego Nonprofit Academy at USD.

[2019]

BAILEE DAWSON (BBA) moved back to Phoenix after graduation and started a new job as a talent acquisition specialist at Boeing. “I am so excited to become a part of the USD Alumni Association!” Bailee says.

CHRISTINA RUCCI (MA) is a program director at Hands of Peace in Chicago.

CALLIE SHARP (BA) is a student at the Washington University School of Law in St. Louis.

SIGRID STRUBEN (MA) started a new job at PATH San Diego in May 2019. “I had done a consultancy project for the organization as a student and was hired based largely on my strategic plan for volunteer engagement,” Sigrid says.

SISTER ANNICE CALLAHAN, a faculty member at USD from 1998 to 2011, died on Aug. 10, 2019. Sister Callahan entered the Society of the Sacred Heart in 1966 and made her final profession of vows in 1978. She was an alumna of Barat College, Boston College and the University of San Francisco. Sister Callahan wrote her doctoral dissertation on Karl Rahner and spent seven months in Innsbruck, Austria, having lengthy conversations with him. She served on the faculty of Boston College, Regis College and USD. A prolific writer and lecturer, she published a number of articles and books on spirituality.

SISTER CALLAHAN is survived by her sisters, Clare Callahan and Alice Callahan; her brother, John Callahan; and her sisters in the Society of the Sacred Heart.

ALLAN FARIAS ’69 (BS), a graduate of USD’s College for Men, died in Scranton, Pennsylvania, on March 28, 2019. Allan was the second of four brothers to graduate from USD and a proud Phi Kap. He organized and was the president of Cuyamac Bank in Santee for 18 years. For many years, he reeled his wife, Ann O’Donnell Farias ’86 and daughter, Katie, with stories of hijinks involving the College for Women.

JUDY (BUSCH) HAMILTON ’80 (BSN), ’83 (MSN), ’93 (JD) passed away.

SISTER JOAN KING ’57 (BA) passed away on May 7, 2019.

PABLO JIMENEZ MENDOZA ’87 (BA), ’89 (MED), ’97 (ED) passed away on July 9, 2019, after a brief illness. After retiring as a USN YNMC (yeoman master chief petty officer) in 1979, he began and completed his educational adventure at USD. He loved the coursework, being around his younger classmates and going to Torero basketball games every chance he had. He is survived by his wife, Maria B. B. Mendoza; daughter, Maria C. B. Mendoza, PhD; and son, Pablo Bueno Mendoza, PhD, ’85 (BA).

SFC ELLIOTT JEROME ROBBINS, the son of Freeman E. Robbins Jr. ’84 (BA) and Adrienne (Swanke) Robbins ’81 (BA), died on June 30, 2019 in service to his country. A Green Beret medic in Afghanistan, he was 31 years old. Elliott was the third grandson of Professor Emeritus John W. Swanke (Swanke) Robbins ’81 (BA), died on June 30, 2019 in service to his country. A Green Beret medic in Afghanistan, he was 31 years old. Elliott was the third grandson of Professor Emeritus John W. Swanke and Kathleen B. Swanke ’75 (MA), both of whom predeceased him. He is survived by his wife, Victoria, their 13-month-old son, Elliott Jr., and six siblings: Freeman III, Nicholas, Hillary, Jonathan, Monica and Beatrix. Also among Elliott’s relatives are John J. Swanke ’83 (BA), Thomas A. Swanke ’83 (BA) and the late Anne C. Swanke. Contributions in his memory can be made to Elliott J Robbins Memorial Account at any branch of America First Credit Union.

In Memoriam
Mark Your Calendar

Saturday
November 7, 2020
Petco Park

The University of San Diego, in partnership with the San Diego Padres, invites you to party in style at USD’s Founders Gala.

USD’s signature black-tie event will become a Field of Dreams, in support of USD student scholars, as the dazzling event takes place under the gleaming lights of Petco Park. Experience an evening of cocktails, gourmet food, silent and live auctions, and entertainment like never before.

Proceeds support USD’s Founders Endowed Scholarship Fund.

Tickets and Sponsorship Opportunities Available
email usdevents@sandiego.edu or call (619) 260-4690 for more information.
Follow USD students on Instagram: usdstudyabroad
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>URL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 30</td>
<td>All Faith Service</td>
<td>sandiego.edu/all-faith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 21-23</td>
<td>Grandparents’ Weekend</td>
<td>sandiego.edu/parents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 8</td>
<td>Restoring Respect Conference</td>
<td>sandiego.edu/mccain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 20-24</td>
<td>Research Week</td>
<td>sandiego.edu/research-week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, May 8</td>
<td>Engineering and Computing Showcase</td>
<td>sandiego.edu/engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 16-24</td>
<td>Commencement</td>
<td>sandiego.edu/commencement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, July 11</td>
<td>Vintners Dinner</td>
<td>sandiego.edu/wineclassic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, July 12</td>
<td>USD Wine Classic</td>
<td>sandiego.edu/wineclassic</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>