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Art and Marge Hughes Bid Farewell

The final day of June marks the last day Author E. Hughes will serve as president of the University of San Diego. President-elect Alice B. Hayes will take office July 1.

Many campus employees bid farewell to Hughes and his wife, Marge, at the May 12 retirement ceremony. Staff, faculty, students and trustees recounted fond memories and expressed sincere gratitude for the care and commitment the couple have shown the university community during the past 24 years.

The letter that follows is Hughes' expression of gratitude to the employees of USD.

To the University Staff,

As I leave the presidency of the university, I want to thank all of you for your commitment to USD and for the support you have given Marge and me personally during the past 24 years.

Together, we have created a sense of community at the university where people can enjoy their work and enjoy each other. You should complement yourself as you are making it possible. And to the extent that the university has gained recognition for the quality of life it provides its students, you, working together with the faculty, are again responsible. I sincerely hope that you have a sense of joy and fulfillment that you clearly deserve.

The ways in which you have supported Marge and me are beyond recounting. From the time we arrived on campus, during the time our children were growing up here, and until today, you have been supportive, kind and very generous in your concern for all of us. For all of these things we thank you with all our hearts. You have made these 24 years happy, productive and fulfilling. We will always be grateful to all of you.

We send our warm wishes and prayers for your success and happiness.

Sincerely,

Author E. Hughes

Hundreds of staff, faculty and alumni gathered May 12 for the Author E. and Marjorie A. Hughes Administration Center dedication. The festivities marked the official farewell to retiring President Hughes.
Traveling out of the San Diego area this summer? Have you thought about your health coverage while traveling?

Kaiser travel packets are available in human resources. Participants enrolled in Prudential's PruCare Plus Triple Option plan may choose the type of benefit they wish to receive while traveling outside San Diego county. The HMO benefit (tier 1) is available for emergency services only. Contact membership services within 48 hours.

PPO benefits (tier 2) are an option if you are unable to utilize HMO benefits. Network providers are available throughout Southern California. There are also network providers in other states.

The Out-of-Network option (tier 3) allows the participant to see any doctor, any time, anywhere.

A deductible is required for PPO/Out-of-Network services. Benefits for most services will be paid at 80% /20% or 60%/40% of reasonable and customary charges.

Out-of-Network claims may be submitted by the doctor's office directly to Prudential. The employee may be required to pay for the services first, then submit a claim to Prudential for reimbursement. Claim forms are available in human resources.

Check with membership services if you have any questions or concerns. The number is on the back of your identification card.

Call (800) 456-5510 to find a PPO network provider (tier 2) outside of San Diego county. Be sure to state that you are a member of Prudential's PruCare Plus Triple Option plan, and the name of the city of the PPO provider.

Contact Human Resources at 260-4594 if you need help. Good luck, and have a safe summer.

-Vicki Coscia

Seven Employees Sport Mortar Boards and Gowns

By Jill Wagner

When Judy Sanchez is asked how long it took to get her B.A. in psychology, she laughs and replies, "Forty years." A records coordinator in human resources, Sanchez actually has been an undergraduate student at USD since 1991 and this summer is celebrating the end of her degree work.

Six other USD employees joined Sanchez and received diplomas in last month's graduation ceremonies. For some of the students, the end of school represents a sense of relief and for others, it is a bittersweet ending to hours of enjoyment in the classroom. But for each of these full-time employees the USD degree marks a great sense of accomplishment.

Sanchez looks forward to displaying her diploma on her office wall next to the 10-year service certificate she will receive next summer. The four years it took to complete one year of coursework was not always easy, but finishing her degree was a promise Sanchez made to her boss and herself.

"I was hired as a clerical assistant and it was an agreement between Judith (Muñoz) and me that if she promoted me, I'd get my degree," Sanchez says, explaining that college work she did after high school amounted to three years of credit. "And it's something I've always wanted to do because I was so close."

Although her days were already filled with a full-time job and the many responsibilities of being a mother of two young boys, Sanchez found the added effort of going to school invaluable. She gained a perspective of the university she could not have understood otherwise.

"Going to school changed my attitude about what we're doing here," she says. "Being on the administrative side, you tend to think it's just a business. It helped me to really understand the educational process that goes on here."

"What really impressed me is the commitment of the teachers. They love what they are doing," she adds.

Maria Martinez-Cosio, director of community relations, noticed the same commitment from professors in the School of Education.

"I have mixed feelings," Martinez-Cosio says about completing the master's in educational leadership. "It's a nice sense of accomplishment but I'll miss being in the classroom."

Going back to school fed the seven-year USD employee's curious nature and love for learning. "It forced me to look at issues I was interested in in an organized fashion," she says.

The five years Reuel Shivers spent earning his M.Ed. called for personal strength he did not know he had. "I had to dig deep inside and be patient."

With a family and two jobs, including one as records officer in the registrar's office, Shivers had time for one class per semester. "I rediscovered the strength not to be discouraged," he says. "Now I believe it was really worth it."

An employee since 1987, Shivers looks forward to staying at the university and is hoping his graduate degree will pave the way to an administrative position.

Other employees graduating this semester include Kathy Bruzzese, resident director of Camino and Founders halls, with an M.Ed.; Neal Hoss, financial accounting manager in the controller's office, with an M.B.A.; Liz Jacobs, recruitment coordinator in career services, with an M.Ed.; and Judy Rauner, director of community service-learning, with an Ed.D.

Congratulations to everyone.
Department of the Month

Legal Research Center

The staff of the Legal Research Center includes (front row from left to right): Niran Shenoda, Frank Weston, Suzanne Stone and Sergio Pinto; (center row from left to right): Ruth Levar, Sushila Selness, Lois Scheer, Margaret McDonald, Kathy Whisler, Luda Berengolts and Jin Wang; (back row from left to right): Larry Dershem, Mark Hammond, Loren Stamper and Modena Conrad; (not pictured): Pat Bermel, Cynthia Carrillo, Nancy Carol Carter, Lois Ann Chareonsuphiphat, Ruth Hastings, Pat Meyer and Mikel Wasserman.

1. Where is your department located?
The Legal Research Center is located in the Katherine M. and George M. Pardee Legal Research Center building, dedicated in 1990 after two years of building expansion and renovation. The law library shares the building with law faculty offices, the Center for Public Interest Law, the law review and two classrooms.

2. What are the functions of your department?
The mission of the Legal Research Center is to serve the legal information needs of the university, with special emphasis on the library’s primary patrons, law faculty members and law students. In addition, all USD legal assistant (paralegal) students are served, along with alumni and the entire San Diego community. The LRC is a repository for state and federal government documents.

The LRC exists to unite legal researchers with the information they need, whether in a book, an electronic database, on microfilm, or located at a remote library. Secondly, the LRC performs a teaching function by educating future lawyers to effectively use the tools of their trade. The LRC is a place where law students can pursue their studies for 108 hours per week, with reference librarians available to advise researchers during 70 of those hours.

3. What is the biggest challenge your department faces?
The LRC faces budgetary and technological challenges. Annual budgets are not keeping pace with the rising costs of legal materials. Tight budgets increase the challenge of achieving a level of excellence that corresponds to the growing reputation of the law school and meeting increasing demands of interdisciplinary and international law research and programs.

Staying abreast of technological change is a struggle in all libraries today. Finding funds to acquire new computers, new software, and to pay for database access is difficult. Even more challenges are presented by the need to design effective education and training programs for rapidly changing technologies and electronic information sources.

4. How has your department changed over the past 10 years?
The LRC has rapidly evolved over the past 10 years, both due to external factors and in response to a decade of improvements in the law school. Legal research methods and library practices are radically different from those of 1985.

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Blazing Paddles Competition Heats Up

The annual employee appreciation picnic is just around the corner and reports say competitors in the Blazing Paddles boat race have been on local waters practicing for the race between departments June 9 at the Sports Center pool. The five four-person teams are determined to bring glory to their section of the university.

But, alas, only one team shall prevail. Which will it be?

The Academaniacs, paddling under Vice President and Provost Sister Sally Furay, may stare the competition right out of their boats with some maniacal paddling. Watch out for Captain Don McGraw, Barbara Morris, Jackie Sabanos and Bob Cornish.

Then there is the Holy Rowers, under Monsignor I.B. Eagen, vice president of mission and ministry, a team that surely will invoke higher powers to carry it to victory. Mike McIntyre, Annette Welsh, Mary Ellen Pitard and Barry Vinyard could prove they are the chosen ones in this competition.

Burke’s Ballistic Boaters, paddling for student affairs and, you guessed it, Dean Tom Burke, sounds like another dangerous team with plenty of tricks in the making. Richard Clark, Ruth Silva, Trong Nguyen and Barbara Peterson even have their own captain, Greg Zackowski. What, are you afraid of the water, Greg?

The university relations team, WE R UR, under the guidance of Vice President John McNamara, may get the best chant going to spur it on to the finish line: WE R UR, WE R UR, WE R UR! Rumor has it that Mike Haskins, Maria Martinez-Cosio, Elaine Atencio and Mike Shivers are going to tuck a portrait of their v.p. to the boat’s bow for additional inspiration.

And finally, Fiscal Assets, under Vice President for Finance and Administration Fred Brooks, surely is calculating the best combination of rowers, the best route depending on wind conditions and the exact length of the pool to prepare for race day. Roger Manion, Teresa Anderson, Michael O’Deane and Jill Stutzman are not about to take any unnecessary risks.

Good luck and may the best boat win!

Department of the Month
(Continued from page three)

The LRC staff is only slightly larger, but meets much higher service expectations than 10 years ago. The LRC is in a beautiful and modern facility. The card catalog has disappeared and all library functions have been automated, changing the way the LRC is used and transforming every LRC job. In 1985, books were still the main sources of legal information. Today, books are supplemented by a quantity and variety of digitized worldwide legal information that was unheard of 10 years ago.

5. What is the one thing you would like the campus community to know about your department and its functions?

In addition to being a “place” and a collection, the LRC is a service. As a specialized library serving a professional school, success in meeting the LRC mission depends entirely on the quality and commitment of its staff. The LRC is fortunate to have a highly credentialed, highly motivated and hardworking staff, dedicated to upholding a standard of excellence in the work of the LRC.