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Alcalá

A newsletter for the employees
of the University of San Diego

View

February 1996, Vol. 12, Issue 5

A Successful Campaign



The 1996 United Way/CHAD campaign team captains gather for a final meeting and tallying of results. The annual fund-raising campaign, held in the fall, garnered \$50,185 from USD employees, who pledged donations that will be distributed to United Way charities over the next 11 months. Team captains led the charge in their areas to encourage faculty, staff and administrators to give. Seventeen more pledges were gathered than in 1995, for a total of 336.

Excellence is the Bottom Line for New Provost

By Jill Wagner

A year-long search for a new provost and academic vice president ended in January when Francis M. Lazarus was selected from three finalists to fill the position. Lazarus, currently vice president for academic affairs at Wisconsin's Marquette University, will succeed Sister Sally Furay on July 1. Furay is retiring after 24 years as USD's provost.

In a phone interview shortly after his appointment, Lazarus said he was attracted to USD "because it is a young and dynamic university with lots and lots of potential." He's also eager to work with President **Alice B. Hayes**, whom he has known professionally for many years but never worked with directly. And finally, as a person who has spent his career in chilly Midwest and East Coast locations, Lazarus says USD is in a "highly desirable location."

"Frank Lazarus has had a distinguished record of leadership in Catholic higher education, and, under his direction, this university is certain to reach new levels of academic excellence," Hayes says.

It's academics that Lazarus knows best, and he was pleased with what he saw at Alcalá Park. The diversity of USD's programs, the exceptional credentials of the faculty and the dedication to both teaching and scholarship convinced Lazarus USD was the next natural step in his career, he says.

A native of Elma, N.Y., Lazarus joined Marquette in 1988 after eight years as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Dayton in Ohio. Lazarus was hired as dean a year after a new president was appointed, to replace someone who held the position for 13 years. The changes

(Continued on page four)

Annual Nursing Lecture

Marilyn P. Chow, R.N., D.N.S., FAAN, will present "The Leadership Challenge: Preparing Now for the 21st Century" at the annual Philip Y. Hahn School of Nursing Lectureship at 4 p.m., Feb. 20, in the Manchester Conference Center. A reception will follow the presentation.

University Ministry Events

All-Faith Service, noon, Feb. 1, in the Immaculata.

Soup Kitchen, 11:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., every Tuesday and Thursday. Transportation is provided. For more information, contact **MaryEllen Pitard** at ext. 4465.

Bible Study, noon, every Wednesday, in UC104. For more information, contact **Mike McIntyre** at ext. 4251.

Prayer Breakfast, 7:30 to 8:30 a.m., Feb. 20, in the faculty/staff dining room. A buffet breakfast will be followed by a prayer and presentation by Pat Livingston. She will speak on the topic, "Lent: Making Way for Easter, a Time to Plant Seeds of Joy." Call Sister **Irene Cullen** at ext. 2265 by Feb. 14 to make reservations.

Motivational speaker, noon to 1 p.m., Feb. 20, in UC Forum A. Pat Livingston will speak on the topic, "Hanging on to our Hope." Call Sister **Irene Cullen** at ext. 2265 by Feb. 14 for reservations.

Ash Wednesday Masses, 7 a.m., 12:20 p.m. and 5 p.m., Feb. 21, in Founders Chapel.

Latin Mass, 7 p.m., Feb. 25, in Founders Chapel.

Benefit Briefs

Human Resources now has AUDIX telephone system. One of the first options on the menu allows you to reach someone in benefits by dialing their extension immediately. Esther Nissenson's extension is 8762 and Vicki Coscia's is 8764. You do not have to listen to the entire menu before dialing.

Another option on the menu is called "Benefits." You may reach this option by dialing 2. "Benefits" lists medical, dental and retirement membership service numbers, as well as selected benefit information. Using the AUDIX "Benefits" option saves time!

Financial aid and law financial aid deadlines are the end of February. If you are or will be a full-time student in the fall and eligible for financial aid, you must file for aid before the appropriate deadlines. Human resources mailed a notice in the campus mail near the end of January explaining basic financial aid requirements and instructions on applying for tuition remission benefits.

Important: If you are applying for acceptance as a full-time student and qualify for aid, you must file the financial aid forms before the deadline. Otherwise, you will not be eligible for full tuition remission benefits.

Do you need to file tuition remission forms for spring 1996? Most students must file for tuition remission benefits each semester. The only exceptions are full-time undergraduate, graduate and law school students who qualified for and are receiving financial aid benefits.

Summer tuition remission benefit information should be available by the middle of March. Watch the campus mail for complete information. **Reminder:** There is a special tuition remission application form for summer.

— Vicki Coscia

'Forever Mom and Dad' Adopt Three Kids

By Jill Wagner

Lou and Jerri Magaña's kids are not unlike those of any family. Marta has fallen headlong into the "terrible two's." Nanci, the middle child, struggles for attention. And Danny, a freshman in high school, adores his sisters but is sometimes annoyed by the antics of the younger two.

But until nine months ago, these siblings had not lived together for two years and had no one to call "mom" and "dad." So despite the usual trials of growing up, the Magaña family is happier and bigger than ever before.

Lou, a 1980 graduate of USD and manager of general services, and Jerri, a probation officer with the County of San Diego, have adopted and reunited the three siblings, who were living in separate foster homes in places as disparate as Chula Vista and Carlsbad.

After an adoption process through which the Magañas waited a year and a half to get on the placement list, things suddenly switched into high gear a few weeks after the couple became eligible. They were told Marta, 2, and Nanci, 6, needed a home. Lou and Jerri began visiting the two girls last April and easing into the role of parents.

In choosing to adopt through a county-administered program, the Magañas were bound to follow guidelines, including enrolling in a parenting course and spending several weeks in preparation to take custody of the children. Marta and Nanci moved into the Magaña's Vista home in May.

Meanwhile, the couple learned the girls had an older brother in a nearby foster home who was eager to see his sisters. After reuniting the siblings, Lou and Jerri talked extensively about their options and a few months later told their social worker they were interested in providing a home for Danny. He was placed with the family under long-term foster care two weeks before Christmas. The Magañas are hoping to adopt Danny as well.

"It's a big adjustment, going from no kids to three kids in nine months," Lou says candidly. "But we told them they are with us. They are our kids now. Whatever problems we have, we'll work through."

Some of the instant adjustments Lou and Jerri made included preparing three meals a day on a regular schedule and waking up early on the weekends — as a couple with no kids, they ate when they were hungry and particularly enjoyed sleeping late. The new dad smiles broadly when he reports his daughters wake up between 6:30 and 7 a.m. each day. It's clear he wouldn't want it any other way.



The Magaña family grew from two to five in nine months when Lou and Jerri adopted Marta, Nanci and Danny.

The children have forever changed Lou and Jerri's lives. But it's a change Lou, a 21-year employee in physical plant, and Jerri, a 19-year employee of the county, spent a decade building toward. When the couple was married 10 years ago, they weren't ready for children but agreed they would someday adopt, Lou says. When they decided to start the process, the 18 months of paperwork, background checks and classes gave Lou and Jerri the necessary time to work through various emotions, from fear to elation.

Now the quintet is enjoying things like family trips to Disneyland and the Family Fun Center, holidays at grandma's house and Danny's weekend soccer tournaments. The family is still getting to know each other, but it's an exciting time full of immense love.

"We're just like any family," Lou says. "We tell the kids, 'We're your forever mom and dad.'"

Department of the Month

Grounds Maintenance



The staff of grounds maintenance includes (front row from left to right): Raul Viramontes, Robert Sparaco, Martin Chavez, Jesus de la Torre, Fred Rocha, Chuck Smith, Everett Guzman, Armando Laguna and Enrique Plascencia; (middle row from left to right): Silberio Bobadilla, Ernesto Gomez, Jose Manzo, Samuel Robles, Carlos Olivas, Manuel Sandoval, Mike Hernandez and Cornelio Gonzalez; (back row from left to right): Vincente Martinez, Roberto Miramontes, Charlie Thomas, Bernardo Martinez and Jim Stevenson; (not pictured): Roberto Acuna, Sixto Gomez and Jose Gonzalez.

1. Where is your department located?

The grounds maintenance department is located in the physical plant complex at the northwest corner of campus, near the west tennis courts.

2. What are the functions of your department?

The functions of the grounds maintenance department consist of exterior maintenance and repairs of all the landscape and hardscape areas throughout the campus. For instance, trimming of trees, shrubs, lawns and ground covers; mowing, field striping, fertilization, integrated pest and water management; landscape and irrigation design and overseeing new landscape areas. The department also takes care of maintenance and repair of sidewalks, parking lots, roads and signs in addition to weed abatement for fire protection. We provide input for new construction and oversee green waste and trash pickup and disposal. We coordinate work and assist other organizations.

3. What is the biggest challenge your department faces?

The biggest challenge we face is adapting our schedule to functions of the university

faculty and student population. In addition, we must also comply with all requirements based on the laws and regulations of federal, state and local agencies.

4. How has your department changed during the past 10 years?

The university has expanded dramatically during the past 10 years. With the increase in the student body, we have new buildings and landscape areas to maintain. Our department has increased in size approximately 20 percent, along with our responsibilities.

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

It is very important for the campus community to know that we currently represent more than 100 years of experience on our staff. We are a skilled labor force. Also, the grounds maintenance department is here to help and to provide the campus community with a pleasant environment we can all enjoy and be proud of.

New Hires and Promotions

Welcome to the following employees who recently joined the USD community:

Judith Carbone, law school; **Joan Lengyel**, child development center; **Martha Ponce**, Guadalajara program; **Martha Campos**, undergraduate admissions; **Brynn Edmonds**, student affairs; and **Jose Manzo**, grounds and maintenance.

Congratulations to the following employees who were recently promoted:

Marjoel Montalbo, assistant director of annual funds and Invisible University in development; **Rosie Rodriguez**, faculty secretary in the School of Education; and **Jose Rojas**, special services worker in general services.

Passages

Births

A son, Kyle, to **Trisha Ratledge**, associate director of publications, and her husband, Dave Veidt, on Jan. 20.

A son, Zien Keola, to **Astrid M. Garcia**, administrative assistant in international resources, and her husband, Robert S. Garcia, on May 2, 1995.

A daughter, Sarah Francis, to **Molly Di Fede**, processing assistant in undergraduate admissions, and her husband, Ryan, on May 12, 1995.

Retired

Robert Arsenault, electrician in physical plant, after two years, on Dec. 29.

Deaths

Oscar Martinez, brother of **Maria Martinez-Cosio**, assistant director of public relations, in November.

Marie Kolar, mother of **Henry Kolar**, professor emeritus in fine arts, on Dec. 4.

Lost and Found

Found. A good quality spatula/serving utensil at the SEA picnic last August. Call **Lynette Layne** at ext. 2310 with a description to claim the item.

Noontime Workout

Fighting that New Year's resolution to stay fit? Join fellow employees from 12:10 to 12:50 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday for aerobic dancing and some lunchtime socializing. Classes are held in Solomon Lecture Hall and led by **Jan Tuomainen**. Call ext. 4681 for more information.

Classifieds

For Sale

'94 Mazda Protege, standard transmission. \$500 and assume low interest Mission Federal Credit Union loan. Call **Amanda** at ext. 4864.

Full weight set, brand new. \$99. Call **Susan** at ext. 4659.

Full ski outfit, including gloves, jacket, overalls and sweater. Size 8/9, worn once. \$125. Call **Susan** at ext. 4659.

Montgomery Ward lawn tractor. Briggs and Stratton 8 hp engine. Runs great. \$150. Call **Judy** at ext. 4684.

SEA Strands

At the request of several supervisors and members, the SEA is running a list of the remaining legal holidays for the 1996 spring semester and summer session.

Good Friday:

Friday, April 5.

Memorial Day:

Monday, May 27.

Independence Day:

Thursday, July 4.

Alcalá View

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Editor:

Jill Wagner

Contributing Editors:

Michael Haskins

Trisha Ratledge

Production and Design:

Judy Williamson

Photography:

Jill Wagner

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Provost

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he witnessed at the Ohio campus in that period will help him when he arrives at USD as part of a new presidential administration, he says. As a witness to the various feelings running through a campus community at times of turnover, Lazarus hopes his experience will help him relate to his new colleagues.

Throughout his career as an administrator, Lazarus continued the scholarly work in

Latin literature and archaeology

he began when he earned a master's and

a doctorate in classical

languages from Cornell

University.

Francis M. Lazarus

One of his main interests was tracking the idea of luck and good fortune through Latin literature, he says.

Lazarus currently uses his spare moments to study Greek architecture and Roman epic poetry. This month he also is delivering a paper to the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities on the history and current standing of academic freedom in Catholic universities. As provost at USD, Lazarus plans to continue his scholarly research, both for personal development and as a role model for the faculty, he says.

"I am a person who is absolutely dedicated to the academic development of the university and faculty," Lazarus says. "My goal will be to work with the deans and faculty to mount the best possible academic program for the students. Excellence is really the bottom line."



Meet 'Shreddy Betty'

When a new heavy-duty, high speed document shredder arrived at the print shop in December, the machine was so imposing the staff was compelled to name it. Sitting in a room of its own for any department on campus to use, the shredder earned the name Bob.

The print shop staff, however, thought it deserved better and opened the naming contest to the campus community. **Michael O'Cull**, print shop manager, was overwhelmed by the enthusiasm and gathered the staff to choose the winner out of 156 entries.

Betty Sotelo, faculty secretary for the theological and religious studies department, won the contest and will live in infamy at the print shop as the namesake of the machine now known as "Shreddy Betty."

The decision was difficult, O'Cull says, noting "Sister Shred," submitted by **Frank Romani** from telecommunications, came in a close second. **John Frazer**, from the media center, came in third with "Shred Clampett."



Betty Sotelo



University of San Diego

Office of Publications

Maher Hall 274