

University of San Diego

Digital USD

Alcalá View (University of San Diego. Public Relations Office)

USD News

1996

Alcalá View 1996 12.06

University of San Diego Publications and Human Resources offices

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digital.sandiego.edu/alcalaview-1985>

Digital USD Citation

University of San Diego Publications and Human Resources offices, "Alcalá View 1996 12.06" (1996). *Alcalá View (University of San Diego. Public Relations Office)*. 118. <https://digital.sandiego.edu/alcalaview-1985/118>

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the USD News at Digital USD. It has been accepted for inclusion in Alcalá View (University of San Diego. Public Relations Office) by an authorized administrator of Digital USD. For more information, please contact digital@sandiego.edu.

Alcalá

March 1996, Vol. 12, Issue 6

A newsletter for the employees
of the University of San Diego

View

Debate Preparations In Full Swing

By Jill Wagner

When USD officials learned in January the campus will host the final 1996 presidential debate, preparations began immediately to renovate Shiley Theatre and gather a core group of administrators to oversee the proceedings. The Camino Hall theater will take on the look of a television studio the evening of Oct. 16 when the leading presidential candidates gather to debate key campaign issues.

Major improvements to Shiley Theatre will include replacing the benches with 725 to 750 theater seats, adding air conditioning, recarpeting to enhance the acoustics and enlarging the stage, according to **Roger Manion**, director of physical plant. These changes are essential to producing a major television show and are required by the Commission on Presidential Debates, the group that selected USD as one of four sites to host presidential or vice presidential debates.

Depending on time and available funding, Manion hopes to complete other renovations that have long been contemplated for the theater. A fresh coat of paint and new drapes for the stage are high on the wish list, as is a new lighting and sound system.

Across campus, the Hahn University Center will serve as headquarters for more than 2,000 national and international media representatives expected to cover the debate live from Alcalá Park. The first media scouts will arrive next month to survey the campus and choose their preferences



Director of Public Relations Jack Cannon answers a reporter's questions at a press conference announcing USD will host the final 1996 presidential debate.

for other spots to broadcast from, says **Jack Cannon**, director of public relations and chair of the presidential debate task force. Cannon anticipates the major networks will broadcast political programs from the campus for several days leading up to the debate.

None of these preparations can happen without funding, Cannon notes, adding that a host committee will be named shortly. The committee of campus and San Diego community representatives will be asked first to raise the \$500,000 required by the Commission to produce the debate, and later the group will seek funds to offset the cost of renovating Shiley Theatre.

President **Alice B. Hayes** called the debate an "extraordinary opportunity" for students and faculty to put on or take part in seminars, conferences and other educational events, and for students to perform volunteer work for the Commission, media and other political groups. She also pointed out the debate will showcase the university

(Continued on page four)

Beware of Roadwork

Trolley construction, street widening and bridge retrofiting projects in the Morena Boulevard, Napa Street and Friars Road area could cause traffic delays for drivers heading to USD in the coming months.

The bridge connecting the I-8 off-ramp to Linda Vista Road is undergoing changes in preparation for the trolley to run underneath it. This work could last four to six months, according to California Department of Transportation officials. Additionally, drivers should plan for possible weekday closures of the I-8 westbound Morena off-ramp for the next six months.

The Morena trolley station will be constructed at the corner of Linda Vista Road and Napa Street and is expected to open early next year.

The earthquake retrofit of I-5 and I-8 overpass columns is nearly complete, Caltrans reports. Delays may occur as crews landscape the area.

Annual Social Issues Conference

The Social Issues Committee will be "Celebrating Voices of Diversity" at its annual conference March 28 and 29.

Ronald Takaki, a professor of Asian American Studies at UC Berkeley, will kick off the event at 7 p.m. March 28 in UC Forum A/B with a keynote address. The following day workshops related to courses offered at USD will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call **Guadalupe Corona** at ext. 4798.

Benefit Briefs

Watch campus mail for the following information:

- Summer tuition remission benefit information will be mailed the second week of March.

- A Social Security benefits workshop is tentatively scheduled for March 28. Retirement consultant Tonya Nieman will discuss the Social Security system, how to apply for benefits, how benefits are calculated and much more. This workshop is sponsored by VALIC.

- Employees nearing retirement will be invited to an April 12 workshop that will cover the process of applying for Social Security, Medicare and retirement income.

- TIAA/CREF, Scudder and VALIC will hold individual counseling sessions in late April and early May.

University and State Employees Credit Union is offering a free home buyer's seminar, 5 p.m. to 6:45 p.m., March 13, at 5394 Linda Vista Road, Suite D. First-time home buyers, individuals with moderate incomes, or anyone who wants to know more about purchasing a home should attend.

Employees may have as many as four TIAA/CREF contracts through USD. Originally, the university offered the Retirement Annuity contract. Group Retirement Annuity II contracts were available from January 1989 through August 1990. CREF was the only investment choice. The university changed to the Group Retirement Annuity on Sept. 1, 1990. Both GRAII and GRA contracts accept the employee's basic 2 percent and USD's matching 10 percent contribution. A Supplemental Retirement Annuity is available for employee contributions in excess of 2 percent. The next issue will highlight investment features unique to each contract.

- Vicki Coscia

Just Another Day at the Office: Weapons and Slim Jims

By Jill Wagner

When Barbara Hughes skips into my office at 4:45 p.m. on a recent Wednesday she has two assignments to complete within 15 minutes. We hustle downstairs, hop in the patrol car waiting curbside and take off to find the student who flagged Hughes down for help in retrieving the keys locked inside his car.

The same student left his lights on and may need a jump start. "Hopefully we can do it all in 10 minutes because we have an escort at 5 p.m. from Maher," says Hughes, an eight-year veteran of USD's public safety department.

Once on the scene in the stadium parking lot, Hughes cheerfully greets the grateful student and grabs a Slim Jim to pry open the passenger door lock. Although some officers grimace at the sight of electric locks that short out easily, Hughes goes to work, assuring the student she hasn't once disabled an electric lock. This door proves more difficult to open than most, but Hughes never appears rushed or worried about making the next call.

With the mission accomplished and back in the patrol car, I am surprised to learn our next duty is not to escort a student to another location on campus, but to accompany the day's receipts from the cashier's office to the wall safe on the ground floor of Maher Hall. Public safety officers do vault detail several times a day for the bookstore, student accounts and the cashier, Hughes explains between jovial greetings to passers-by who are genuinely pleased to see the officer. Employees and students alike address the diminutive blonde by first name and she, in turn, personally greets friends and acquaintances.

The 5' 2" officer needs an extra cushion to see over the steering wheel of the campus patrol car, but any hassles resulting from her height stop there. Hughes has proven a skillful negotiator with an intensely tough streak when she needs it. She has been in prickly situations with male car thieves, emotionally unstable students and USD neighbors, and a burglar. Only once has she used a gun to control a situation.

Hughes says she has a sixth sense for knowing when something is not right, yet always gives the people she is confronting

the benefit of the doubt. "I talk to people like I'd like to be talked to," she says. "Even though personally I think I know what's going on, I let them tell me the truth."

She is almost apologetic when reporting she has used her gun, yet proud to say the incident occurred when she helped nab the thieves who burglarized President Alice B. Hayes' home last summer. Soon after the break-in, public safety officers discovered



Barbara Hughes, a favorite at the child development center, volunteers to sell candy to raise scholarship money.

some goods from Hayes' home hidden in nearby bushes and guessed the culprits would return the next evening for the items.

A stakeout began at 2 p.m. with Hughes in her car and another officer hidden in the backyard of a neighbor. Eleven hours later at 1:15 a.m., Hughes says she saw two men pass the car and, once they left the street for the bush area, she began pursuit on foot. The men went straight for the goods and Hughes caught one as he pulled a bike from the hiding spot. When he lifted the bike over his head, as if to throw it at her, Hughes pulled her gun and instructed him to drop the bike. He did, and took off running. A chase through the canyon ensued, Hughes recalls, but the quick officers caught up and apprehended the suspects.

Not every day on patrol at USD is that eventful, but Hughes approaches each call to secure gates, turn on security lights and

(Continued on page four)

Department of the Month

Office of University Ministry



The staff of university ministry includes (front row from left to right): Brother Tom Thing, Diane Rich and Father John Keller; (back row from left to right): Father Barry Vinyard, Mike McIntyre, MaryEllen Pitard, Chris Nichols, Sister Alicia Sarre, Annette Welsh, Mary Kruer and Sister Irene Cullen; (not pictured): Monsignor I. Brent Eagen, Father Paul Donovan and Traci Merrill.

1. Where is your department located?

One set of our offices circles Founders Chapel: Monsignor **I.B. Eagen**, vice president of mission and ministry, is at the chapel entrance; Father **John Keller**, director of university ministry, and Sister **Irene Cullen** are down a dark hall in rooms 186 A and B; **Annette Welsh**, director of music, is in the West Sacristy; and **Traci Merrill**, wedding coordinator, is in the East Sacristy. **MaryEllen Pitard**, Father **Barry Vinyard** and **Mike McIntyre** are in UC238, university ministry's base of operations, and Brother **Tom Thing** is located in Laguna 123.

2. What are the functions of your department?

Our mission is to reflect and foster the Catholic heritage of USD and offer pastoral care to the university community by developing and supporting an active Catholic faith community; fostering spiritual enrichment and ecumenical outreach for students, faculty, staff, parents and alumni; helping students to integrate faith and life; and encouraging leadership through community outreach and service.

3. What is the biggest challenge your department faces?

Keeping all the balls in the air. We are to be facilitators of the Kingdom of God, a "reign" that finds special expression in the

Church but far exceeds it. God's reign is a "kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of holiness and grace, a kingdom of justice, love and peace" (Preface of Christ the King). We trust that this kingdom is breaking out all over USD in every aspect of the university's life. University ministry has designated tasks, but poorly defined boundaries for the ways in which we support the entire community's effort. That reality has us moving in many directions — images of yeast and mustard seed come to mind.

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

There is an increasing diversity and depth in the ways university ministry carries on its work — greater emphasis on peace and justice issues; more collaboration with other aspects of university life; larger numbers attending student retreats; and renewed attempts to be present to law school, graduate and non-traditional students. With this growth in service we have seen growth in staff.

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

We see our efforts in providing opportunities for Catholic liturgy, Christian formation and service to the world as support for, and one more expression of, what we believe informs the entire USD community.

University Ministry Events

Evening Mass, 7 p.m. and 9 p.m., every Sunday, in Founders Chapel.

Taize, 8 to 9 p.m., March 7, 21 and 28, in Founders Chapel. Contact Brother **Thomas Thing** at ext. 4735.

Lenten Mass, 5 p.m., every Wednesday during Lent, in Founders Chapel.

New Hires

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

Craig Clower, dining services; **Elizabeth Limberg**, paralegal program; **Rodel Aquino**, sponsored programs; **Robert Fisher**, print shop; **Duvy Galvis**, School of Education; **Alexander Moran**, Copley Library; and **Beverly Thomas**, print shop.

Congratulations to the following employees who were recently promoted:

John Husler, assistant manager of Traditions and Aromas; and **Lori Stevenson**, administrative assistant in the Philip Y. Hahn School of Nursing.

Passages Births

A daughter, Sydney Lynn, to **Sue Snyder**, volleyball coach, and her husband, **Ky Snyder**, director of athletic development, on Jan. 28.

Deaths

Robert L. Longmire, husband of **Kathleen Longmire**, nurse in the Health Center, in January.

Marvin "Dusty" Draper, father of **Mark Draper**, custodial supervisor for general services, on Jan. 23.

Maria Ofelia Mapa, sister of Sister **Marina Mapa**, associate professor in foreign languages, in February.

For the Record

Betty Sotelo, noted in last month's issue for winning the Print Shop's shredder naming contest, is faculty secretary for the theological and religious studies and anthropology departments.

Classifieds

Wanted to buy: Late model, used, five passenger Lexus. Please contact **Mimi** at ext. 4856.

SEA Strands

The Staff Employees Association is looking for volunteers to help with the annual Employee Recognition Picnic prize raffle and decorations. Call **Alicia Buenrostro** at ext. 2861.

The 1996 grad squad also needs volunteers. To join the SEA as an usher for the May undergraduate commencement exercises, call **Becky Gilbert** at ext. 2370.

Many thanks to everyone who purchased See's candy in the November fund-raiser. Your generous support brought in \$400 for the Manchester Family Child Development Center staff scholarship fund.

The child development center has a new fund-raiser. For \$30 you will receive 30 boxes of name brand cereals delivered to your home. For more information, call **Jill Meade** at ext. 4620.

— Nancy Roos

Alcala View

Vol. 12, Issue 6

Editor:

Jill Wagner

Contributing Editors:

Michael Haskins

Trisha Ratledge

Production and Design:

Judy Williamson

Photography:

Pablo Mason

Jill Wagner

Alcalá View is published monthly (except January) by the publications and human resources offices. The newsletter is distributed to all USD employees.

[0296/1200]

Publicist to Promote Campus Events

For those of you who are planning a lecture, fine arts event or special presentation but are wondering how to attract interest from the San Diego community, you need look no further than the News Bureau right here on campus. **Chris Mattson** recently joined the public relations staff to work exclusively on publicizing campus events to the outside media.

A native San Diegan and former assistant to the publisher at *San Diego Magazine*, Mattson brings years of experience in local media to her new position. She will determine whether print, radio, television or a combination of the three is most appropriate for the particular event and work with faculty, staff or students to gain exposure. Anyone interested in promoting their events should contact Mattson as early as possible with the details.

"The longer they sit on the information, the harder it is to publicize," Mattson says.

As the current nightlife editor for *San Diego Magazine On-Line* and publicist for Street Scene, California's largest weekend food and music festival, Mattson is keenly aware of the realities of seeking press coverage for special events.

"You can have a really amazing lecturer and if something like the teacher's strike

happens, you're going to get bumped," she says. "You've got to roll with it."

Mattson can be found in Maher 268, Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 1

p.m. She can also be reached at ext. 4650 or via e-mail at cmattson@acusd.edu.

To those seeking publicity through the monthly *Update*, produced by the public relations office, queries should be directed to **Judy Williamson** at ext. 4684 or via e-mail at wmson@acusd.edu. The *Update* is distributed to the entire campus community and the surrounding neighborhood.



Chris Mattson

Day at the Office

(Continued from page two)

unlock doors for stranded employees with the same seriousness of purpose. The campus is hers to oversee from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. — Hughes is a field supervisor and coordinates the duties of the two to three other officers on duty during her shift — and she is singularly focused on keeping everyone on campus safe.

As we slowly traverse the north territory of Alcalá Park, scanning for unusual activity, a call comes in to Hughes that puts the biggest smile on her face I've seen yet. The student she transported to a downtown medical facility earlier in the day for an injury to her finger has returned to campus, bandaged but otherwise healthy.

So far, so good on this Wednesday night shift.

Debate Preparations

(Continued from page one)

to millions of television viewers expected to tune in.

"We are tremendously excited by this opportunity to make history," Hayes says. "This event will teach our students an unforgettable lesson about democracy."

Watch for monthly *Alcalá View* updates about debate news and issues that affect USD faculty, staff and administrators.



University of San Diego

Office of Publications
Maher Hall 274