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Employee of the Year Takes the Oath

By Jill Wagner

When Kily Jones' father moved his family from Tijuana to San Diego in 1979, he immediately encouraged his seven children to become U.S. citizens. A few years later he handed Jones, the first of his children to learn English, a gift. It was a book detailing the process of naturalization.

In January, as Jones frantically combed her house in search of a lost birth certificate, the gift reappeared after years of being forgotten. Jones knew then that her father, who died five years ago, was smiling upon her. The next day she took and passed the test to become a citizen of the United States.

"I did it, Dad!" she remembers thinking as she walked out of the downtown immigration office.

Back at Alcalá Park, Jones' friends in the Hahn University Center, where she is secretary of operations, covered the office in red, white and blue streamers, bunting and balloons. They anticipated her return with the good news, but Jones took the rest of the day off to let it all soak in. Her colleagues and the student workers she supervises celebrated anyway, for they played a big part in helping Jones through the process and coaching her on study skills to learn about U.S. history, the branches of government and current political leaders.

In June, nearly six months later, Jones, her husband, Bob, and their two daughters were driving from their Clairemont home to the San Diego Convention Center for the swearing in ceremony when Elizabeth, 7, asked her mom, "Are you an American now?"

"I remember telling her, 'I will always be Mexican in my heart. My new citizenship is American, but I will always be Mexican because that's me," Jones says.

When Jones speaks of her 12 years at USD, her voice is equally filled with pride. "When I'm here, I'm myself," she says.

As assistant to Director of Operations Greg Zackowski, Jones handles billing and budget matters, supervises student workers, and oversees the ticket booth and information desk. She moved from human resources to join the UC staff in March 1987, soon after the center opened, and has been impressing her supervisors with diligence and love for her work ever since. A week before taking the oath of American citizenship, Jones was named the 1996 Employee of the Year at the annual appreciation picnic.

She was clearly the crowd favorite at the picnic when President Alice B. Hayes announced her name, a reaction that mirrors that of the students who are the patrons of the UC and frequently work with Jones. The feelings are mutual. In a job that Jones (Continued on page four)
An Insider’s Guide to the Hughes Center

Busy workers in accounts payable attend to paying the bills. Their new office overlooks Founders Hall, the School of Nursing and beyond to Mission Bay.

At first glance, USD’s newest building may seem a maze of hallways with unmarked doors to mysterious interior office networks. Really though, the Author E. and Marjorie A. Hughes Administration Center is a spacious complex that is now home to 19 departments from accounts payable to the vice president of university relations.

The Alcalde View recently sent a roving photographer to the new offices to capture the feeling of the place and document the whereabouts of our administrative colleagues who have spent the summer settling into their new environs.

President Mike A. Hayes could play the morning’s work in her office, located on the southeast corner of the building.

Associate Provost Don McGrane enjoys his new office on the third floor.

Hughes Center at a Glance
First floor:
- Career Services
- Parking Services
- Public Safety

Second floor:
- Telephone Operator
- Loan Administration
- Cashier
- Student Accounts
- Telecommunications
- V.P. for University Relations
- Director of Public Relations
- Provost

Third floor:
- Financial Aid (Paralegal)
- Student Employment
- Financial Aid
- V.P. for Finance & Administration
- Institutional Research
- Provost
- Accounts Payable
- Accounting

New Hires
Welcome to the following employees who recently joined the USD community:
- Lisa Briggs, Center for Public Interest Law; Betty Grant, child development center; Caitlin To, financial accounting; James Wachenheim, athletics administration; Stacy Cunningham, graduate programs; Cheryl Gibbons, physical plant administration; Arthur Harris Jr., public safety; Grace Holguin, law school administration; and Kirsten Staple, human resources.

Congratulations to the following employees who were recently promoted:
- Carol Lawrence, assistant director of financial aid; Elsa Meza, employment and training representative in human resources; Esther Wissner, benefits specialist in human resources; Patrick Noma, employment and training specialist in human resources; and Jo Powers, administrative assistant in the provost’s office.

Passages
Death
Katherine Barnhardt, mother of Anne Hendershot, professor of sociology, on July 5.

Classifieds
For sale:
- 1987 Saab 900: 4-door, AC, AM/FM cassette, power steering, seats five, pass-through trunk, 96,000 miles. $3,300. Call Miriam Rothman at ext. 4856.

Appreciated Thoughts
Thank you to the administrators, faculty and staff who sent expressions of caring and condolence regarding the loss of my mother. Each thought was helpful and much appreciated.

— Modena Conrad
The staff employee night with the San Diego Padres was a smashing success. One hundred strong, the USD fans cheered the Padres to a nail-biting, extra-innings victory over the Chicago Cubs. The fun continued late that night with the KGB Sky Show. A Padres win, fireworks and three lucky winners of $25 gift certificates to the Padres Store — what more could we ask for? How about another game?

If you couldn't attend in June or enjoyed it so much you want more, join the USD crowd on Saturday, Sept. 21, for a sure to be teeth-clenching game with the Los Angeles Dodgers. Tickets will be $5. Watch your mailbox for fliers or call Laura Nottoli at ext. 4629.

Tickets for the third annual SEA parking permit raffle go on sale Aug. 14. For just $1 you have a 1:150 chance to win a $75 faculty/staff permit for the 1996-97 year. We wish the California lottery odds were that good! The drawing will be held Aug. 26. Be on the lookout for your SEA representative peddling tickets.

— Becky Gilbert

Debate Countdown '96

Construction Zone

Floor to ceiling scaffolding has replaced the benches, chandeliers sit on the ground in giant plywood boxes, men in hard hats work on the ceiling — Shiley Theatre is being renovated.

A sign personalized with the presidential debate logo welcomes Camino Hall visitors and introduces the construction zone that lies ahead. Within the theater walls asbestos has been removed, the electrical wiring updated and duct work for air conditioning installed. Last month a towering crane parked on the lawn behind Copley Library hoisted an air conditioning unit onto the roof of the theater.

Roger Manion, director of physical plant, reports that the ceiling has been replastered and the decorative moldings reattached with stronger anchoring. The transformation into a theater capable of hosting a national television production is just around the corner.

Donaldson Moderates Luncheon

"Prime Time Live" co-anchor Sam Donaldson is scheduled to moderate a panel discussion between prominent media and political experts at an Oct. 16 luncheon sponsored by USD, announces Coreen Petti, director of corporate relations.

Nearly 500 corporate and community leaders are expected to attended the event at the Hyatt Regency downtown on the afternoon of the final presidential debate. Confirmed speakers include Frank J. Fahrenkopf Jr., former Republican National Committee chairman and co-chairman of the Commission on Presidential Debates; Paul G. Kirk Jr., former Democratic National Committee chairman and co-chairman of the Commission on Presidential Debates; and Margaret Warner, PBS sub-anchor of “The News Hour Weekly.”

Oath

(Continued from page one)

virtually has defined, particularly since the late 1980s when special events and operations were combined under one director, her favorite part is working with the students who fill out the staff.

“The students keep me so young,” Jones says, smiling broadly. “I feel like one of them.”

University of San Diego

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