Input Sought on Kroc Institute

By Jill Wagner

If plans go as scheduled, two years hence the Joan B. Kroc Institute of Peace and Justice will open its doors to the world. By the end of 2000, West Point Field will be home to a 100,000-square-foot conference center.

Vice President and Provost Frank Lazarus, speaking to faculty, administrators, staff and students at a recent town hall meeting, acknowledged that developing the rugby field and running track is like building on the university's front lawn, a process that must be undertaken with the proper reverence for one of San Diego's prime pieces of property.

The 13-member Kroc Institute planning committee is intent on developing a facility and curriculum that highlights the existing strengths of USD without overshadowing other programs and academic endeavors.

"We want USD to define the institute, not have the institute define us," said Virginia Muller, professor of political science and a committee member.

The Sept. 17 meeting was the first step in involving the entire campus in the planning process. Faculty members made up the bulk of the crowd that filled about 100 seats in Manchester Auditorium, along with administrators and a handful of staff employees. After hearing a brief overview of initial plans for the institute's programming and building, the audience asked questions and made suggestions to the committee.

A programming subcommittee, chaired by Joan Anderson, professor of economics in the School of Business Administration, is charged with deciding what kinds of events will take place at the institute, which in turn helps the building subcommittee plan a facility with the needed conference rooms, offices and common areas.

Programs at the Kroc Institute, including conferences, lectures and classes, could center on such topics as social and economic justice, human rights, peacemaking through service and Latin American studies, Anderson said. Her committee has also considered a visiting scholar program, a conflict resolution center and a prayer and meditation space.

By the end of the fall semester, the major functions of the facility have to be determined, said Beth Dobkin, associate professor of communication studies and chair of the building subcommittee. Joan Kroc, who donated $25 million to construct the building and develop a curriculum, wants the institute to include a world-class conference center, which will call for an auditorium, seminar rooms and offices. The facility might also include faculty offices, living quarters for visiting scholars and common areas for informal gatherings and receptions.

Lazarus, who chairs the planning committee, expressed a keen interest in preserving a walkable area around the building, noting that many employees use the track for lunchtime exercise. The institute, at its estimated size, will take about half the land available on West Point Field. The provost assured concerned students who spoke at the meeting that alternative locations for a playing field are being sought. The rugby and lacrosse teams currently use West Point Field for practice and intercollegiate matches.

Updated news on institute planning can be found on its Web site at http://peacecenter.acusd.edu. The committee encourages

"We want USD to define the institute, not have the institute define us." — Virginia Muller

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**Falling in Love Again**

By Jill Wagner

Kathy Van Hoe became a mom for the first time four years ago. Her son, Gregg, arrived seven weeks early, weighing in just over two pounds. But four short weeks after his Oct. 14 birth, Gregg went home with mom and dad as healthy and strong as any parent could wish.

Every day since has been one in which their son shares his incredible strength with Kathy and her husband, Ron.

“Never realized how much you fall in love with your child,” says Van Hoe, payroll lead in human resources.

Among the many lessons she is learning as a mom, one of the greatest is understanding and appreciating her own mother better, Van Hoe says. Although she and her brother were raised in Kalamazoo, Mich., Van Hoe is able to easily share her appreciation with her mom, who now lives in the second unit of a Spring Valley duplex she and Ron own.

Van Hoe’s brother, R.T. Ronk, is also in San Diego, and just a few months ago joined the USD staff in administrative data processing. Ronk can claim more years in California — he moved west in 1981 — but Van Hoe has 11 years on her brother as a USD employee. Now she can also claim bragging rights as the first in the family to be named an Employee of the Year finalist.

Judy Sanchez, manager of payroll and employee records, had this to say in nominating Van Hoe for the annual award:

“Kathy is always willing to go the extra mile to give the best customer service on campus. With so much to do every day, deadlines to meet, accounts to balance and input to verify, Kathy always makes time to help USD employees with their payroll needs.”

Van Hoe is responsible for the monthly payroll, direct deposits and all the funds that are taken out of paychecks prior to deposit, such as loan or IRS payments. When she took the time to share her story in mid-September, a poster hung prominently in the Maher Hall office announcing National Payroll Week. On Van Hoe’s desk two piles of papers several inches thick represented hundreds of changes in salary that needed to be logged before the next payroll. The national recognition was timely for USD’s payroll department, which is hardest hit in September when faculty contracts are renewed and hundreds of work-study students are added to the rolls.

“We often refer to September as the 90 days of September,” Van Hoe says.

Each of her 11 years at USD have been in payroll, and nine of them have seen Van Hoe in charge of the monthly paychecks. She was named payroll lead in April 1996 when the department merged with employee records and became part of human resources.

Even after 15 years in California, where she started a career in cash handling and payroll, Van Hoe still remembers to appreciate the comforts of an office. The manicured lawns and tidy buildings of Alcala Park are a far cry from the General Motors plant where Van Hoe spent the first six years of her working life. She worked the assembly line, on a machine known as a small press, putting strips of metal into molds that made car parts.

It seems trying new things is in Van Hoe’s nature. Earlier this year, she and Ron started a home business for personalized children’s books. Through a Web site (http://www. greggys.com) and word of mouth, the couple sells storybooks that incorporate the child’s name into the narrative.

In honor of their son, who inspires his mom and dad to seek the best from life, the business is named Gregg’s Creations.

“Gregg has been quite an inspiration,” says Van Hoe, who smiles sweetly as tears well in her eyes. “His perspective on life is just amazing.”
Faculty Will Increase Over Next Five Years

By Jill Wagner

President Alice B. Hayes and Vice President and Provost Frank Lazarus have a vision for USD that takes a slightly different approach than the one that has distinguished the university over the past 50 years. The University of San Diego has long been recognized for its excellence in teaching and dedication to students. Now it’s time to also emphasize research, the two university leaders told a roomful of faculty and administrators at the annual fall convocation.

Lazarus announced at the Sept. 18 event that the size of the full-time faculty will increase in the coming years in order to reduce teaching loads and provide more time for scholarly work.

“It is my goal to add sufficient faculty over the course of the next five years to provide the deans with the resources necessary to achieve an average teaching load across the university of no more than nine units per semester for full-time faculty,” said the provost, whose announcement was met with cautious applause from faculty members filling the audience in Hahn University Center Forum A/B.

Most USD professors teach 12 units per semester, in comparison to their peers at research-oriented universities who average nine units of time in the classroom.

SEA Generosity Continues

Back-to-school days can be expensive for anyone, whether you’re buying clothes and supplies for your kids or books and notebooks for yourself. The Staff Employees Association made life a bit easier for eight staff employees this semester by giving each of them a $50 bookstore certificate. The winners, drawn randomly from the list of staff members who are attending classes at USD, were:

Bill Anderson, School of Law; Nellie Dougherty, financial aid services; Garry Frocklage, engineering; Susan Gaydos, advancement services; Laura Ginella, School of Law; Kay Norton, registrar; Linda Sola, School of Law; and Kathleen Wolski, print shop.

On the Docket

Have you decided to see what the SEA is all about? The Oct. 14 meeting promises to be an example of the wide range of issues the association tackles. Guests are welcome at the 2 p.m. meeting in UC107. Some of the agenda items include:

Jacqueline Kennedy, coordinator of the Manchester Family Child Development Center, will review the center’s funding needs for equipment and tuition assistance. The SEA board will then vote on donating funds for specific projects.

Beth Dobkin, associate professor of communication studies and member of the Joan B. Kroc Institute of Peace and Justice planning committee, will briefly explain building and program ideas for the institute. She also will address how staff members can be part of the planning process.

The board will form a nominating committee for the November SEA elections in which new officers — president, vice president, secretary and treasurer — are chosen.
New Hires and Promotions

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

Elizabeth Ancarana, arts and sciences; Amy Beasley, law school development; Daniel Dillabough, university ministry; Alicia Gallegos-Butters, human resources; Steven Grech, athletics; Angela Grundy, housing; Elizabeth Harman, public relations; Ryan McCrery, athletics; Kenneth Wilford, data processing; Linda Barris, law school; Alejandro Crosthwaite, religious studies; Stacy Ferraro, law school; Janice Blanton, housing; Rebecca Flynn, student affairs; Jonathan Fong, main dining; Stephanie Meardith, parking services; Bianca Morales, Philip Y. Hahn School of Nursing; Tina Reyes, registrar; Rosaura Rodriguez, academic computing; June Rogers, undergraduate admissions; Felix Santiesteban, public safety; Bertin Santos, grounds and maintenance; and Susanna Zhu, media services.

Congratulations to the following employees who were recently promoted:

Martha Campos, administrative assistant 2 in undergraduate admissions; Diane Gronholt, director of advancement services; Michael Haskins, director of publications; Maria Lopez, administrative assistant 1 in the deli; Reuel Shivers, executive assistant 2 in graduate records; Tamas Varga, administrative assistant 1 in community service learning; Monica Vasquez-Ramirez, media assistant 2 in media services; and Alicia Williams, executive assistant 2 in human resources.

Faculty Increase

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Law; and Gary G. Whitney, School of Business Administration.

This year’s university professors, project-based, are: Edward F. DeRoche, School of Education; Delavan Dickson, political science; Richard Crawford Pugh, School of Law; Louise Rauckhorst, Philip Y. Hahn School of Nursing; Steven Schoenherr, history; and Marie A. Simovich, biology.

The Herzog Endowed Scholars are: Nancy Carol Carter, Kevin Cole and Emily L. Sherwin, all from the School of Law.

The 1998-99 Steber Professors are: Denise Dimon, School of Business Administration, and Ronald A. Pachence, theological and religious studies.

Kroc Institute

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anyone with questions or suggestions to call or e-mail one of its members. The 13 faculty constituting the main committee are:

Joan Anderson, School of Business Administration; Dennis Briscoe, School of Business Administration; Beth Dobkin, communication studies; Pat Drinan, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences; Larry Hinman, philosophy; Frank Lazarus, provost; Michele Magnin, foreign languages; Virginia Muller, political science; Lance Nelson, theological and religious studies; JoEllen Patterson, School of Education; Patricia Roth, Philip Y. Hahn School of Nursing; Randy Willoughby, political science; and Don Weckstein, School of Law.

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