JCP’s Great Wall

A view from the Sports Center reveals the first wall anchoring the Jenny Craig Pavilion. Since the May 5 groundbreaking, crews have worked diligently to meet construction deadlines for the 5,000-seat arena. Plans call for the pavilion to open the end of September 2000.

A Fall of 50th Festivities

The start of a new semester marks another round of events to celebrate USD’s 50th anniversary.

A year of celebration will culminate during Homecoming Week, Nov. 8-14. Prior to that, October is highlighted by the groundbreaking ceremony for the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice.

Following is event information, as of press time, for fall activities:

“Building a Culture of Peace,” Oct. 4-7. Social Justice workers from around the world will come to USD for a four-day conference centered around the promotion of peace and social justice. The conference includes workshops, roundtables, skill-building sessions and presentation of academic papers on creating a culture of peace through education, service and vision.

The conference opens with a public address, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Oct. 4, in Shiley Theatre. For information on other sessions open to the public, contact Dee Aker at ext. 2358.

Peace Institute Ground Breaking, 4 p.m., Oct. 6, on West Point Field. Richard Riley, U.S. Secretary of Education, will be on campus to celebrate the beginning of construction on the 90,000-square-foot Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice. For information, call Pamela Gray at ext. 4659.

School of Nursing 25th Anniversary, 6 p.m., Nov. 6, at the Westgate Hotel. For information, contact Joe Passaretti at ext. 4694.

Culminating Festivities, Nov. 8-14. A week of campus activities, still in the planning stages, centered around Founders Day on Nov. 12 and Homecoming on Nov. 13. For information, call the alumni office at ext. 4819.

Suggestions Welcome

Employees with environmental health and safety concerns or suggestions have a new outlet to share their ideas with campus officials. Suggestion boxes will be placed this month in the Hahn University Center, parking services, facilities management and near the human resources office.

Leilei Thein, manager of environmental health and safety programs, and Bob Brown, manager of risk management and workers’ compensation, have teamed to provide the boxes so that employees can freely, and anonymously if they choose, voice concerns.

Fresh Air Permits

Free parking permits are available at the next Fresh Air Club meeting, noon to 1 p.m., Sept. 3, in UC104.

The special passes are for employees who use alternative transportation to commute to work at least 80 percent of the time. The Fresh Air permit allows holders to park on campus up to 12 times a semester.

For more information, call Greg Ackowski at ext. 4796 or Jill Wagner at ext. 2551.

University Ministry Events


Bible Study, 12:10 to 12:50 p.m., every Tuesday, in Warren Hall 201. For information, call Mike McIntyre at ext. 4251.

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Liza's Mom is Administrator of the Year

By Jill Wagner

Debbie Gough likes to tell people she grew up at USD. A longtime employee in the provost's office, Gough says the time she spent with Sister Sally Furay probably influenced her as much as the years being raised by Midwestern parents.

"Sister Furay showed me what it means to respect each individual human being," says Gough, assistant provost. "She taught me how to listen and about thoroughness. Every single time I went to her with a problem and thought I had considered all the possible solutions, she'd see something I hadn't even thought of."

Now, 23 years after joining USD as a part-time executive assistant to former provost Sister Furay, Gough is in a leadership position that allows her to put all those skills to work. When the dean of graduate and continuing education stepped down to return to teaching, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Frank Lazarus elected not to appoint a new dean, but instead to reorganize and put Gough in charge. The directors of continuing education, summer sessions and the paralegal program now report directly to her.

"One thing that helped is that I had informally been working with deans and directors who would come to me with issues before going to the provost," she says. "I had a lot of people who respected me."

That respect eased the transition into a whole new area of responsibility and earned Gough the 1999 Administrator of the Year Award, bestowed annually by the Staff Employees Association.

"Debbie has a very strong work ethic, a caring heart, an incredible mind for detail and a hilarious sense of humor," wrote an anonymous employee who nominated Gough for the award.

In addition to overseeing the three departments, Gough manages the provost's budget, which includes funds for departments run by 14 deans and directors. She's kept the books since first taking the job in 1976, but Gough's transition into an administrative position with more leadership responsibilities happened after she earned an M.Ed. from the School of Education in 1982.

"I've been everything here," Gough says with a chuckle. "A student, employee, parent and alumna."

The toddler Gough used to bring to work in the late '70s and watch scurry around the old Maher Hall provost offices eventually reached college age and enrolled at USD. A few years ago, Liza (Gough) Peterson continued to follow in her mom's footsteps, coming to work at Alcalá Park as campus scheduler in Hahn University Center Operations.

"I get a lot of people saying, 'Oh, you're Liza's mom!'" Debbie says.

At home in Tierrasanta, Debbie is also Dayna's mom and Bob's wife. The close-knit family still vacations together and often spends weekends at classic car shows. Gough and her husband have a 1967 Plymouth Barracuda that they've spent years restoring, and now enter in car shows throughout Southern California. The couple boasts four trophies won in the past six months.

"Bob does 95 percent of the restoration work," says Debbie, explaining that father and daughter were bit by the classic car bug.
President’s Dinner Serves Winning Fare

When the Mother Rosalie Hill Reading Room in Copley Library was transformed into a Spanish Renaissance banquet hall for an evening in January, rearranging the tables, decorating the large room and creating an Old World feel was only the beginning of special arrangements necessary to pull off a dinner for 400 people.

The guests at the 1999 President’s Club Dinner, an event for major donors to the university that kicked off the 50th anniversary celebration, were treated to a Spanish meal and anniversary program that won national recognition for the banquets and catering department.

The award, one of nine received in the last 10 years by USD dining services, was handed out at the National Association of College and University Food Services annual conference in July.

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Perhaps the biggest feat of the night was turning art studios in Camino Hall into temporary kitchens. The banquets and catering department, under the direction of Nona Janus, rented refrigeration units and warmers, and hauled coffee pots, dishes and serving utensils down from the Maher Hall kitchen. Chefs prepared the four-course meal in the main kitchen and transported all the food to the Camino Hall classrooms, where servers accessed the library from a back door.

One of the judges from NACUFS commented, “This is one of the most beautiful events I have seen. The menu selection superb!”

After months of research and several taste testings, Janus and the USD chefs settled on a meal that started with black bean soup, included a salad with pomegranate seeds and black olives and was highlighted by a main course of mixed grill of quail, a beef tenderloin medallion with paprika sauce, jumbo shrimp in garlic sauce, saffron rice and broccoli. Spanish wines served throughout the meal complemented the unique tastes. The dinner ended with an orange custard flan.

“We wanted to go back to the Spanish Renaissance roots of the university because it was a singular event that happens once every 50 years,” says Janus.

SEA Considers Expansion

A proposal to open the Staff Employees Association to include administrators received a mixed response from the SEA board at its August meeting.

Dave Edgar, SEA president and paste-up artist in the print shop, suggested that low-to mid-level administrators on campus have many of the same workplace concerns as staff employees, and that they have no forum to add their voices to the discussion. The SEA represents the more than 500 staff employees, and the faculty senate works on behalf of professors from each school, but administrators have no committee or organization composed exclusively of administrative employees.

Yet some representatives said the risk of including administrators in supervisory positions could intimidate staff employees.

Cindy Thomas-Evans, administrative assistant in continuing education, countered, “If we have people of that level, they might be very interested in hearing our point of view.”

Added Edgar: “They might shed some light on our discussions.”

No decisions were made on the proposal, and Edgar said the discussion will continue at future meetings. The SEA meets at 2 p.m., the second Wednesday of each month, in UC107.

New Reps

Two new building representatives joined the SEA board at its August meeting.

Sandi Harrod, administrative secretary in the School of Business Administration, represents Olin Hall and Cindy Thomas-Evans, administrative assistant in continuing education, serves on behalf of Manchester Executive Conference Center.
Psst...

Bits and Pieces from Our Readers

A place like USD is naturally going to have its share of myths, legends and even ghost stories. There's one in particular that we've been investigating at the request of a reader.

Some folks — students and employees alike — will warn any admirer gazing covetously at the wonderful roses scattered about campus that a steep fine will follow if they dare pick the blooms.

Horsepucky! Several long-time employees, in a position to know these things, claim never to have heard of such a sanction. Besides, if it were true, why would so many offices be sporting vases filled with freshly picked, sweet-smelling roses?

New Hires and Promotions

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

Olukemi Akoni, School of Education; Gonzalo Briseno, custodial services; Cynthia Covarrubias, career services; Kathryn Frasca, paralegal program; John Frawley, public safety; Fred Galloway, School of Education; Thomas Holliday, administrative data processing; Tammy Leibl, athletics; Janice Reiboldt, controller; Antonina Scuito, human resources; and Emily Turner, career services.

Congratulations to the following employees who were recently promoted or reclassified:

Larry Perez, assistant director of housing and residence life; and Suzanne Stone, research analyst in donor relations.

Gough

(Continued from page two)

when Liza came home in high school with a 1965 Plymouth Valiant convertible. "I write the checks!"

With a touch of that humor shining through, Debbie tells of growing up as one of five children to an Ohio factory worker and stay-at-home mom. Laughter in their modest home was a daily staple.

"When I was growing up, we had to make our own fun," she says. "We used to laugh all the time. I think humor is important, I need it to relax."

Office Park Houses Six Departments

A mini campus is taking shape in a university-owned office park, with the paralegal department the newest tenant in the Linda Vista Road complex.

In August, the paralegal and test preparation office moved from Serra Hall to 5384 Linda Vista Road, Suite 204. The office complex, just west of main campus and behind Mission Federal Credit Union, is home to six USD departments. The multi-story buildings, one of which is currently vacant, can be accessed from Linda Vista Road or by a walkway from the lower west end parking lot.

Other departments in that location are: engineering labs, first floor; School of Education's leadership studies department and International Center for Leadership Development, second floor; legal clinic, third floor and patient advocacy program, third floor.

The departments' phone numbers remain in the 260 prefix and can be dialed from a campus phone using only the extension.