2000

Alcalá View 2000 17.02

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President Hayes Delivers State of the University Address

Anyone who has been to Alcalá Park lately can see there is a lot of building going on — between crews at the Kroc Institute on the west side of campus and the Jenny Craig Pavilion on the east, construction workers seem almost as numerous as students. But in her State of the University Address Sept. 14, President Alice B. Hayes detailed many other, less obvious ways that USD is building for the future.

The speech, delivered to a group of supporters invited to campus by BusinessLink USD, the university's liaison to the corporate community, focused on the connections the university is forging on campus and internationally.

Technology is the tool, Hayes said, that USD will use to create connections with groups ranging from K-12 students in the San Diego Unified School District to scholars throughout the world. While many refer to such relationships as distance learning, Hayes said that description misses the point.

"Think of it as connected learning, because that's what it is," she said. "The most important thing about the students (Continued on page two)

USD's Multimedia, Multi-Tasking Music Man

John Frazer adds a whole new meaning to the concept of multi-tasking. USD's resident expert on audio/visual equipment is also an accomplished musician who can play a variety of instruments including guitar, bass, piano, drums and harmonica. Since finding time to play all those instruments can be a challenge, Frazer has mastered a little shortcut: he can play the drums and harmonica simultaneously.

"About 20 years ago I was in a band called The Bass Went Home, where the guitar player played bass pedals with his feet," Frazer says. "Playing two instruments at once just seemed like the thing to do, and that's when I started playing harmonica and drums together."

Frazer began playing drums when he was in the seventh grade but he really began in earnest when his parents gave him a full drum kit for his 14th birthday. A few years later, he borrowed a friend's harmonica and taught himself to play. "The guy kept asking for it back," Frazer recalls, "so I finally went out and bought my own."

Frazer now owns more than 50 harmonicas, any dozen of which he keeps in a vest he wears during performances (he can also carry another dozen on a machine gun ammunition belt he converted for that purpose). A veteran of groups including the Kobalt Blues Band, Cruise Control and The Harmonica John Blues Band, he has played at venues throughout San Diego County — including gigs with local blues legend Tomcat Courtney and ex-Eagle Joe Walsh. Frazer also takes his show on the road, attending harmonica player conventions throughout the country. For good measure, he moonlights as a DJ, hauling a collection of a thousand or so CDs to weddings, private parties and company picnics.

Frazer's penchant for multi-tasking is also evident in his job at USD, where (Continued on page three)
Trolley/Coaster Shuttle
Public Safety reminds the campus community that shuttle service is available from campus to the trolley station in Old Town (the Coaster also stops at this station).
The times from the Old Town Trolley Station to USD are: 6:20 a.m., 7:07 a.m., 7:42 a.m., 8:14 a.m., 8:38 a.m. The times from USD to the Old Town Trolley Station are: 3:30 p.m., 4:05 p.m., 4:35 p.m., 5:05 p.m., 5:50 p.m., 6:30 p.m.
The stops for the Old Town Trolley/Coaster at USD are: West side of Cholachis Fountain, Manchester Conference Center, Copley Library tram stop and the stop sign at the entrance to the Lower West Lot. The stop at the Old Town Trolley Station is at the west bus island next to the stop for the No. 8 bus. For more information, call Public Safety at ext. 4517.

University Ministry Events
For more information on any of the following events, call the University Ministry office at ext. 4735 or email God Squad@acu.edu.

Daily Mass, 12:10 p.m., Monday - Friday, 5 p.m., Monday - Thursday, Founders Chapel.

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

Busy Person's Retreat. An at-home retreat designed for faculty, staff and graduate students, with one-on-one guidance from Sr. Irene Cullen, RSCJ. Call ext. 2265 for more information.

Homecoming Mass, 10:30 a.m., Oct. 8, Founders Chapel.

Election 2000 Workshop, 12:15 to 2:15 p.m., Oct. 10, Salomon Hall (English); 2:15 to 4:15 p.m., Oct. 11, UC Forum A (Spanish).

Washington, D.C.-based NETWORK presenter Teresa Villa-Nira will analyze the issues and candidate platforms in the upcoming election from the perspective of Catholic social teachings.

Fresh Family Weekend Mass, 9 a.m., Oct. 15, The Immaculata.

Fall Family Weekend Mass, 10:30 a.m., October 29, Founders Chapel.

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who are online instead of on campus is not that they are distant. It’s that they are connected; they are linked to campus.

Hayes pointed to the recent appointment of David Todd to the newly created position of vice provost for information technology, the merge of academic and administrative computing, and the aggressive development of academic courses based on online technologies including e-commerce and global leadership master’s programs. Hayes said they are just a few of the indicators that technology is playing a vital part in USD’s future plans.

“The state of the university is on track, online and on campus,” she said.

The future is looking bright for USD’s athletic teams, Hayes added, and in more ways than one. The new Torero logo will be unveiled when USD dedicates the Jenny Craig Pavilion Oct. 5, and those in attendance at the State of the University Address got a sneak preview; plastic models of the logo served as centerpieces of the luncheon tables.

Hayes took an obvious delight in recounting for the crowd the success of the Torero teams over the past year, among them the fact that a dozen student-athletes were named Academic All-Americans. She also remembered an unusually tough road trip.

“Our women's basketball team won their conference title and was part of March Madness,” she said. “And I went with them. We played Notre Dame. At Notre Dame. On St. Patrick’s Day. But we made them earn it.”

Hayes also offered the crowd another sneak preview, discussing the design of the proposed Center for Science and Technology. The skylight atop the Center's four-story high lobby will be outfitted with a prism to refract sunlight through a glass slide on the building’s second floor — in effect making the lobby a giant microscope and recreating T.W. Engelmann’s landmark 1883 experiment that showed the type of light most favorable to photosynthesis. She said it also represents another kind of connection.

“The microscope lobby is an architectural symbol of that memorable moment in scientific history when a single discovery linked biology, chemistry and physics,” she said. “The building itself will be a living expression of that, bringing our scientists in physics, chemistry, biology and marine and environmental sciences together.”

Benefits Briefs

Benefits Fair: Mark Nov. 3 on your calendar for the annual USD Employee Benefits Fair from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Forum A and B. You are invited to participate in free health screenings, enter opportunity drawings for a variety of prizes and take advantage of this chance to talk with insurance and retirement company specialists.

Open Enrollment: Nov. 13 - 22 are the dates for open enrollment for year 2001 benefits. Check campus mail in the coming weeks for more information.

New Employee or Rehire Benefits Orientation: New faculty, staff and administrators need to contact Becky Gilbert at ext. 4377 or Debbie Anderson at ext. 4456 to schedule a benefits orientation. Please remember that insurance enrollment must occur within 30 days of eligibility.

Leave of Absence Reminder: Supervisors should contact Becky Gilbert when an employee has been absent more than three days. This requirement is the result of state law which mandates that the employee be made aware of entitlements of the Family & Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

TIAA-CREF & Scudder Individual Counseling Sessions: Schedule an appointment with a TIAA-CREF representative Oct. 18 or 19 for one-on-one counseling. On Oct. 26 a Scudder representative will be on hand. To make a reservation, please call the benefits reservation line at ext. 6537.

Scudder Workshops: A series of workshops will be sponsored by Scudder on Oct. 25. Topics range from Managing Risks & Understanding the Rewards of Investing to Preretirement Planning. A flyer will be in campus mail soon. For more information or to make a reservation, please call ext. 6537.

— Debbie Anderson
Editor's note: The focus of our monthly look at Alcalá Park is the sculpture on top of The Immaculata.

Since Dec. 8, 1958, activity at USD has gone on under the watchful eyes of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception. Perched atop The Immaculata's dome, the statue, carved from stone by Chris Mueller, is nearly 11 feet tall and weighs more than four-and-a-half tons.

The statue and the distinctive blue mosaic-tile dome were cleaned up and refurbished in 1984 in preparation for The Immaculata's 25th anniversary. The dome's tiles were removed, cleaned in a muriatic acid solution, and re-installed. The statue was cleaned and resealed with an epoxy coating by a worker supported by the end of a crane.

Officially dedicated with a mass attended by some 300 priests on May 5, 1959, The Immaculata serves as the anchor of the USD campus. Father Edward P. McNulty serves as its rector and, although not officially designated a cathedral, The Immaculata's pastor is Most Rev. Robert H. Brom, bishop of the diocese of San Diego.

Summer Conferences a Big Success

I want to say thank you to all who made Summer Conference 2000 a success. As you may have noticed, we were very busy this summer! USD welcomed to campus nearly 7,000 guests who attended more than 80 conferences, workshops and retreats. The eclectic group of visitors included Phi Theta Kappa, National Ironworkers, JOSTENS Yearbook, Christian Missions Overseas, San Diego Ballet and Sisters for a Christian Community, plus four different upward bound programs (including USD's first-ever group!). I heard numerous accolades about how beautiful our campus is — something we all already knew — and how friendly and welcoming everyone was. The success of this program is truly dependent on the entire University community, so my heartfelt thanks go out to each of you who contributed to an outstanding three months.

— Kathi Spittel
Director, Summer Conference Program

Calling all Musicians

Do you have a song in your heart? President Hayes is inviting all USD faculty, staff and administrators with musical and/or vocal abilities to perform at “Christmas Around World,” the president's annual Christmas party, from 2-4 p.m., Dec. 14 at Casa de Alcalá. Call John Frazer at ext. 4182 to learn more.

Frazer

(Continued from page one)
in addition to being in charge of all classroom audio/visual equipment he also serves as president of the Staff Employee Association, a job he assumed when former president Dave Edgar retired this spring. He says he'll probably be a candidate for his own full term as president in the fall election.

Frazer and his wife, LeAnn, are the parents of two daughters: Michele, a freshman at USD, and Monica, a junior at Morse High.

Day of Prayer, 10 a.m.-4:15 p.m., Nov. 4, Hahn School of Nursing. People of all faiths are invited to this day of reflection led by the Rev. J.J. O'Leary SJ. The day will include three presentations, time for personal prayer and sharing. Lunch provided for those registering by October 31.

Prayer Breakfast, 7:20 to 8:30 a.m., Nov. 9, UC Faculty-Staff dining room.

Bible Study

Bible Study sessions are held Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m to noon (Spanish) and Thursdays noon to 1 p.m. (English) in Warren Hall room 2B. Pizza and soda are provided. For more information, contact Perla Bleisch at ext. 2540.

Blood Drive Set

On Nov. 20-21, an information booth will be set up in front of the University Center for members of the USD community to make appointments to donate blood. Walk-in donors are also welcome at the semi-annual USD Blood Drive, scheduled for 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Nov. 27 - 28 in UC Forum B. Call ext. 4796 for more information.

Passages

Deaths

Grace McElhaney, former employee in the Media Center, Athletics and Housing and Residential Life, on Aug. 26.
Major Nicholas Ferencz III, graduate student, on Sept. 11.
Joanne Muller, wife of Warren Muller, director of the enrollment management program, on Sept. 12.
Cole Manes, professor emeritus, biology, on Sept. 13.
Jeanette Hastings, mother of Ruth Hastings, head of circulation at the Legal Research Center, on Sept. 17.

Note of Gratitude

Sister Virginia McMonagle wishes to express her gratitude for all the good wishes and prayers she received during her recent “heart battle.” She is grateful for each one, and sends a big Creol Mensi Anpil.
Salary, Benefit Issues Dominate September SEA Meeting

September's SEA meeting began with some controversy on the course of action the group should take regarding three letters received from anonymous staff members concerning the recently completed staff salary survey. SEA Secretary Chere Smith said she had been told by Thomas Barnett of human resources that the survey results would be kept confidential and a memo from President Hayes regarding compensation issues would be forthcoming; Smith recommended holding on to the letters until the memo is issued.

After a lively discussion, Manchester Conference Center representative Cindy Thomas made a motion that two of the letters be forwarded immediately to the president and a third, concerning the Catholic Church's position on a living wage, be sent to Msgr. Daniel Dillabough. An invitation will be extended to Hayes and Dillabough to address the SEA reps at the October meeting, following receipt of the memo, to discuss the larger issues raised by the survey in addition to the letters themselves. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

As the issue was discussed, the exact processes available to staff members for airing grievances came into question. Thomas, Perla Bleisch (Warren Hall/LRC) and Margie Carroll (Serra Hall) were appointed to a Grievance Policies and Procedures committee to review the existing policies and recommend possible changes.

Medical Benefits for Retirees
Mary Quick, acting director and executive assistant of special projects/capital programs, attended the meeting to present the findings of her research on the retirement benefits offered by USD. Quick contacted several universities similar to USD to determine if employees are permitted to remain part of their respective institution's group health insurance plan after retirement. Since USD currently does not, Quick said it posed a tough choice for those eligible to retire before age 65 — COBRA can extend coverage for only 18 months, and if that time expires before Medicare benefits become effective, retirees risk exorbitant medical costs. "We are behind the times," Quick said, pointing out that many of the universities she contacted allow retirees to purchase coverage at the group rate. The issue was recommended as a "hot topic" to be taken up by the Human Resources Advisory Committee at their next meeting.

Parking Points
Douglas Gilbert, representative of Copley Library and Sacred Heart Hall and the SEA's liaison with Public Safety, received two items to take to his next meeting with that department. The first is the stipulation, in writing on the back of reserved parking passes, that only the owner of a reserved space my request a vehicle parked there be towed away. SEA President John Frazer said that makes the space owner's car an easy target for vandalism, as there would be no question as to the identity of the person responsible for the offender's car being towed. Mildred Brown of Hughes Center requested a review of the policy that prevents part-time employees from paying for their parking passes through payroll deduction.

The winners of the parking pass raffle, held Aug. 31 in Aromas, were announced: Pat Gillis of the School of Law, Emma Sanders of Facilities Management and Kay Norton of the Registrar's Office each received a check for $120 to cover the cost of their annual parking passes. Funds for the passes was provided by an anonymous donor. The SEA realized $454.85 in proceeds from the raffle.

Next Meeting
All staff employees are always welcome at SEA meetings. The next meetings is scheduled from 2-3 p.m., October 11 at UC 107.