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AlcaláView

A newsletter for the employees of the University of San Diego / June 2004 / Vol. 20, No. 9

The picnic is upon us!
Join fellow employees for
this south-of-the-border
bash. See page 3.



New Vision Offers USD a Clear View of the Future

At its final meeting of the academic year, USD's board of trustees approved a vision statement and five strategic goals the university will strive to accomplish over the next five years.

The vision statement, which declares what USD wants to become and where it intends to go in the future, says: "The University of San Diego is becoming a nationally preeminent Catholic university known for educating students who are globally competent, ethical leaders, working and serving in our complex and changing world."

In her April 30 presentation to the board, President **Mary E. Lyons** explained how the five strategic goals will bring the university closer to this vision. To assist the trustees

in evaluating each goal, she provided context and examples of action plans that will advance the university toward each goal. The actual five-year action plans, along with measurable performance indicators, will be developed by task forces during the next year.

"The fact that the president managed to do this in such a short timeframe is a testament to her persistence — and the steering committee's perseverance," says **Cel Johnson**, executive director of the Office of Institutional Research and Planning, who helped oversee the process. "Dr.

Lyons had a lot of help and a lot of input from many sources, but it wouldn't have happened without her."

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Parking Fees on the Rise

President **Mary E. Lyons** recently approved a proposal by the budget and treasury department to increase parking fees for annual permits. The new rates will be effective in August for the 2004-05 academic year. They are as follows:

| Permit Type | 2003-04 | 2004-05 |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Reserved | \$450 | \$590 |
| Resident students | \$230 | \$255 |
| Faculty/Staff and commuter students | \$185 | \$230 |



Filly Fanatic

Walker-Pinneo Tracks Horse Racing History

Most people dream, when they go to Del Mar to pin their hopes on a horse, that they can turn a \$2 bet into the win of a lifetime. But when **Amy Walker-Pinneo '01** took a gamble on her passion for the ponies, she found herself in the winner's circle in more ways than one.

Walker-Pinneo, who works in the registrar's office and is pursuing a master's degree in history, learned early in life to make what she does for a living an extension of what she loves to do in life. So it came as no surprise when she chose to write her thesis on the history of the Del Mar Racetrack.



Amy Walker-Pinneo poses with her brother, Ben, and jockey Mike Smith in the winner's circle after *EarlySnow* was victorious in a one-mile allowance race at Santa Anita in March.

"I would love to be the track historian and create a museum," says Walker-Pinneo, who took in her first live horse race in 1996, during a vacation to San Diego from Northern

California. "They don't know it yet but they need to hire me. There's such a rich and glamorous history there. I've talked to Joe Harper, the president of the racetrack, and he's got a closet full of memorabilia. I figure we should show that off, and I'd love to be the one to make it happen."

The track is a haven for history buffs. Under the leadership of the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club, the Del Mar Racetrack has been called the Cadillac of racetracks and a playground for the stars. One of the founders was singer Bing Crosby and other regulars included Charlie Chaplin, Ava Gardner, Bob Hope, Greta Garbo, Desi Arnaz and Lucille Ball.

Bankrolled by Hollywood stars, the track opened in 1937. In 1939, during a

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New Vision

(Continued from page 1)

The five strategic goals read as follows:


- USD will become a more culturally diverse and culturally competent community through recruitment at all levels, deepening transborder and international educational partnerships, and involving students and faculty in international learning experiences.
- USD will provide integrated learning experiences across educational contexts and contribute to the scholarly research on ethics to develop intentionally the leadership capacity of all students.
- USD will be a powerful advocate for social justice and human rights through the establishment of the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies and the recruitment of international scholars and peace practitioners.

- USD gives a privileged place to the liberal arts and sciences in its undergraduate curriculum and in its influence on graduate and professional programs.
- USD will substantially increase its endowments, strengthen fiscal viability and forge stronger relations with alumni and friends by developing a stronger and clearer institutional identity, regionally and nationally.

The new vision statement comes on the heels of a revised USD mission statement, which reads: "The University of San Diego is a Roman Catholic institution committed to advancing academic excellence, expanding liberal and professional knowledge, creating a diverse and inclusive community and preparing leaders dedicated to ethical conduct and compassionate service."

Adopting the vision statement and

strategic goals was the latest step in the president's plan to determine the strategic directions in which the university should move during the next five years.

"The president is very pleased that in the course of this academic year we were able to produce a revised mission statement, a vision statement and a set of university goals," Johnson says. "Initially, we hoped to have the entire strategic plan outlined by April, but we needed the trustees' approval of the goals before it made sense to develop action plans to achieve them — and crafting the goals took time." 

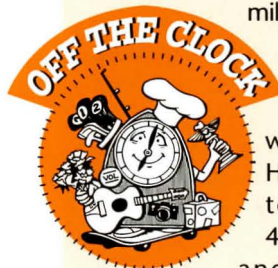
To read more about USD's vision, and the context and example action plans for each strategic goal, log on to

www.sandiego.edu/irp/strategic/goals.php.

Filly Fanatic

(Continued from page 1)

24-day meet, the track showed a profit of only \$69. Today, it brings in more than \$12 million a day. As part of her research, Walker-Pinneo, who so far has written 60 pages of her thesis, works with the Del Mar Historical Society, volunteers at the track's 4 O'Clock Friday events and interns with the



Thoroughbred Hotline, a radio show that offers listeners the latest back-track information by featuring jockeys, trainers and handicappers, people famous for selling their picks of winning horses.

And, while she's careful not to get too caught up in the horseracing fever, she's also spent her share of time standing in line at the betting

window. Over the years, she's bet on thousands of races and won and lost thousands of dollars. Last year she received her biggest payback — winning \$871 off a \$2 bet.

"What's great about horse racing is

that these are living breathing animals, they're not slot machines programmed with precalculations," says Walker-Pinneo, who cautions people to focus on the pleasure rather than the profit. "It's about picking the best horse on a given day and anything can happen. I've seen people pick a horse based on their birthday or their favorite color and win."

For Walker-Pinneo, getting the inside track isn't about being a heavy better. And it isn't just about scrolling through old news clippings, digging through the photo



EarlySnow has a photo finish as he wins a race on opening day at the Santa Anita track.

archives and working alongside the industry's elite. She took her research one step further and became part owner of a horse — and then another and another and another. Through a partnership concept known as an

owners' stable, Walker-Pinneo spent approximately \$1,000 each for one share of five horses, including a 2-year-old colt that has yet to be named. The other four horses — EarlySnow, Salvino, SuicidalBlonde and



Amy Walker-Pinneo and KUSI's Rod Luck at Del Mar.

Southern Meeting — have done well. The horses have been in the money — meaning they've placed first, second or third — an impressive 46 percent of the time. Just since January, the horses have garnered \$176,000 for the partnership mem-

bers. All four are expected at Del Mar this year once the season opens July 21.

"I never thought my love of horse racing would come to this," says Walker-Pinneo. "To see the horses' names on the racing form, and know that I'm lucky enough to be one of their owners, is a dream come true. We've had unprecedented luck. I look for our fillies, especially SuicidalBlonde, to do phenomenally this year. Our horses have been so healthy and have run well and seem like they're just getting better and better."

The Alcalá View wants to hear what you do when you're off the clock. Share your "Off the Clock" stories by sending an e-mail to [Krystn Shrieve at kshrieve@sandiego.edu](mailto:Krystn.Shrieve@kskshrieve@sandiego.edu) or call her at ext. 4934 to share your story.

SEA Snippets

The following issues were discussed at the May meeting of the Staff Employees Association:

- SEA Vice President **Julie Tahapary** reported that staff employees previously could expect the amount of the third paycheck of months that had three pay periods to be slightly different, because Benuflex dollars and benefits deductions wouldn't be reflected in those checks. However, to reduce errors, the dates of paychecks that won't reflect Benuflex additions or benefits deductions will be set each calendar year and may not be tied to months with three pay periods. In 2004, those dates will be June 7 and Nov. 8. The dates will be printed on employees' pay stubs and announced in the human resources' January edition of *Benefits Briefs*.

- SEA President **Penny Navarro** reported mixed results of a survey conducted this spring regarding whether merit or market should play a role in how staff raises are calculated. When asked whether they were satisfied with the university's current policy for staff pay increases — which divides available funds for raises equally among all staff members — 100 of the 351 respondents said yes, 118 said no and four didn't answer. When asked if they would prefer that annual staff increases be based on a merit system — which could allow some staff members who score higher on a proposed evaluation system to get bigger raises than others — 120 participants said yes, 96 said no and six didn't answer. Navarro explained that because survey results were inconclusive, the university next year will continue its current policy of basing staff employee raises on market value. In the meantime, Navarro said, once a proposed evaluation

process is approved, it will be used as a training tool but will not have a bearing on employee compensation.

- The SEA voted to donate some of the campus cash cards it purchased as incentives for meeting attendance as door prizes for the employee appreciation picnic on June 25. SEA representatives also are selling 50/50 tickets for \$1 each or six for \$5. Proceeds from the sales of the tickets, which are available now, will be split evenly. Half the money will be given away as prizes at the employee picnic, where tickets also will be available, and the other half will go toward SEA programs. To purchase tickets, see your SEA representative. For a list of representatives, log on to www.sandiego.edu/sea/ reps.html.

SEA meetings are open to all employees, especially staff. The next SEA meeting is scheduled for 2-3 p.m., June 9, in the Hahn University Center, Room 103.

Kudos for USD's Caterers

The banquets and catering staff recently was notified it will receive national recognition from the National Association of College & University Food Services for the outstanding work they did for the opening of the Donald P. Shiley Center for Science and Technology in June 2003. The silver award, in the catering/special events category of the Loyal E. Horton Dining Awards contest, will be given to USD representatives at the association's national conference in July in Las Vegas.



Gilbert Lopez

In other catering news, **Gilbert Lopez**, who has worked for banquets and catering for three years, recently was named as Dining Services Supervisor of the Year for making sure that many events on campus — including high teas and the president's dinner parties at her residence, the Casa de Alcalá — go off without a hitch.

Also, **Laura Beck**, a former restaurant and hotel chef who joined USD's banquets and catering staff in September, shared culinary tricks of the trade with students as

part of the life skills component of Manchester Village's Wisdom for the Real World residential program, which helps prepare students for life outside Alcalá Park.

In March, Beck spent a Sunday teaching 19 residents in the program how to cook a simple, basic, yet elegant meal including lemon chicken with a cream sauce, grilled vegetables, rice and an angel food cake trifle dessert. She also offered quick tips on understanding basic cook book terms, rules about cooking temperatures, how to cut vegetables, how pounding out a chicken breast helps it cook more evenly and even how to get those fancy diamond-shaped grill marks on the meat.

"The students loved it," says Beck, who says she was happy to share her secrets. "Everyone got something out of it and it was fun giving them the basics so they're not intimidated when they get into the kitchen."

If you or someone you know deserves to be put "In the Spotlight," send an e-mail to Krystn Shrieve at kshrieve@sandiego.edu or call her at ext. 4934.



It's A Date!

Get to the Picnic Pronto!

Round up your amigos because this year's staff appreciation picnic will be a fiesta that won't soon be forgotten. The picnic, at noon, June 25, on the Copley Library Lawn, will offer the whole enchilada, including games, music and prizes.

And, speaking of enchiladas, the menu will feature favorite Mexican fare. Bring copies of your hottest recipe and compete in the homemade salsa contest, which is expected to make mouths water.



Summer Syllabus and Sunny Snapshots

Some people spend their summer lounging by the pool or soaking up the sun, while others fill their days scaling mountains, learning new languages or rebuilding tornado torn towns. If you're doing something extraordinary this summer, share your stories and your photos with the *Alcalá View*. Don't be shy because the only rule is that you, the employee, have to be in the shot. Send your photos to Krystn Shrieve, Degheri Alumni Center, Room 320.



MILESTONES

Jessie Butera, mother of **Janice Holbrook**, director of banquets and catering, passed away April 27.

Jerome Dummer, father of **Mary Jo Clark**, professor in the School of Nursing and Health Science, passed away April 22.

Dear Campus Community,

The older one gets, the faster time seems to pass. It already has been six months since the devastating Cedar fire destroyed our home, along with those of so many others. With the passage of time, our efforts to rebuild slowly are being rewarded and it also becomes easier to look back on the time since the fire and reflect on the individuals and organizations within the campus community that came to our aid.

My wife, Carmen, and I would like to thank the SEA and University Ministry for the gift cards; the Center for Community Service-Learning for the clothing; **Kily Jones**, **Toñis Manriquez** and **Greg Zackowski** from the University Center for the gift basket that appeared on my desk; **Marc Camin**, **Lee Russell** and **Terry Whitcomb** for putting us up (not to mention putting up with us); the Moot Court organization for the gift card and everyone at the law school who contributed generously to the "Help Bill and Carmen" fund. Although this effort was anonymous, we'd like to thank Professor **Fred Zacharias**, the man behind the scenes, who orchestrated it all. If we've forgotten anyone we apologize, but thank everyone for their gifts, prayers and kind thoughts.

Carmen Anderson and
Bill Anderson,
administrative services manager,
School of Law

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE: Complete black lacquer queen-size bedroom set in excellent condition. \$575. Set includes a hutch with two reading lights and two mirrors and dresser includes a mirror. Mattress and bed frame not included. Call ext. 7873.

FOR SALE: Executive style computer desk and chair. \$75. Desk has a black frame with an off-white top. Both the monitor and the keyboard rests are adjustable. The desk has ample space for any size printer, scanner or fax machine and a work area. Adjustable office desk chair is covered in black fabric. Both items are in excellent condition. Call ext. 7873.

FOR SALE: Hunter green couch and love seat in great condition. Lightweight and perfect for apartment living. \$75 for the pair, or best offer. Pick up is a must. Call ext. 4934.

FOR SALE: Portable gas grill. \$50. 6 months old. Thermos Grill2Go with George Foreman-style Teflon grilling surface. Call ext. 4886 or e-mail etag@sandiego.edu to see a photo of the grill. See product information by logging on to www.grill2go.com/grill2go/index.asp.

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