USD Hurries to Help Hurricane Victims

For Carmen Vazquez, vice president for student affairs, responding swiftly in emergencies is nothing new. She was dean of students and an adjunct faculty member at State University of New York, Stony Brook, when two planes brought down the World Trade Center buildings on 9/11. And she was the assistant chancellor for student life at UCSD in 2003, when deadly firestorms blackened thousands of acres and devoured thousands of homes in San Diego County. So she knew she'd have to act quickly when Hurricane Katrina pounded the Gulf Coast regions of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama.

Vazquez first called to order a meeting of the university's crisis response team. The goal of the team, composed of representatives from public safety, facilities management, human resources, the counseling center, the health center and University Ministry, was to find a holistic approach to helping people on multiple levels and on multiple fronts.

"I really called upon the protocol that was already in place, as well as my own personal experiences about how a campus needs to mobilize during this kind of crisis," Vazquez says. "But what I was most impressed with was the swiftness with which Dr. Lyons, the vice presidents and many members of the campus community answered the call to action with a range of initiatives for our students and employees who were from the affected regions, as well as for ways we could help other people whose lives were devastated by Hurricane Katrina."

The university coordinated a campus-wide collection of donations for hurricane victims (Continued on page 2)
Doug Burke
(Continued from page 1)
the employee admiration.

"I just try to be honest with them," Burke says. "I find that seems to work the best. I just try to treat everyone respectfully."

Burke, who began his USD career 19 years ago, working on phones and terminal driver connections, now oversees the wiring of the campus, the network, cyber security and the telecommunications needs of a campus with thousands of students and employees. His operation requires the care and upkeep of five computer rooms with 250-plus servers toiling away on such things as time cards, running the Oracle system and handling data storage for departments.

When he’s not ferreting out network problems, Burke and his wife can be found out and about searching for geocaches. He describes this diversion as a “treasure hunt using GPS.” For the uninitiated, that’s a global positioning system used, along with coordinates from the Internet, by hikers tracking down boxes of trinkets and notes left behind others.

Hmmm. Any parallels between his day job and his hobby? “Geocaching is much more relaxing than trying to find solutions here on a daily basis,” he quips.

Aleman admires him because of his calming influence and his way of making the everyday work fun. She says Burke’s simple act of pouring her orange juice on a recent working Saturday when she was “dragging” showed his caring side.

“I thought that was pretty neat that he’d take the time to go get it and mix it with ice and make sure I drank it,” Aleman says. “It felt good.”

She sums up his influence this way: “When you work for Doug, you want to be the best you can be for him.”

But with all those servers and as many as 250,000 e-mails running through the system daily, things are bound to occasionally go wrong. Next time a glitches occurs, however, take a moment to think about everything that goes right, thanks to Burke and his team.

— Kelly Knufken

Hurricane Katrina
(Continued from page 1)
through Catholic Charities, as well as a special fund to assist members of the USD community whose families were directly affected by the hurricane. So far the funds have raised nearly $5,000.

Members of the crisis response team helped students and employees cope with their emotions by offering counseling, the university partnered with John Carrieri ‘91 to collect clothing, food, toiletries, batteries, flashlights and other important items for hurricane victims, and USD set up a blood drive during which students, faculty and staff donated 42 pints of blood, enough to help 126 people.

Elizabeth Cordero, who works in the counseling center, says she was anxious to help out in any way she could.

“We’ve never experienced an act of nature like this before,” Cordero says. “I feel guilty being in San Diego, with its perfect weather, when people so close to us are going through such devastation. I can’t be in New Orleans right now, but I’m hoping that my physical contributions of my money and my blood will help even just a little bit.”

Elaine Elliott, director of USD’s Center for Community Service-Learning, says the center is working locally at the Family Resource Center, where volunteers are working with Catholic Charities to help people find housing. Although details have not yet been finalized, the Center for Community Service-Learning also is arranging for interested students to travel to the Gulf Coast Region during January Intersession to volunteer with relief efforts.

“So far, agencies that would help us plan a trip are still working on meeting immediate needs,” Elliott says. “We’re hoping to help with the cleanup or rebuilding.”

Like other universities across the nation, USD opened its doors to displaced college students. More than 30 students from San Diego and Imperial counties who attend Loyola University, Xavier University and Tulane University have been accepted to USD on a temporary basis.

"USD has an excess of generosity, and it’s our duty to offer whatever we can,” President Mary E. Lyons said after USD made the announcement about the students. “And what we can offer them is the opportunity to continue their education without disruption.”

Many of the students — 26 undergraduates, two graduate students and six third-year law students — already have arrived and are attending classes. USD has waived fall semester tuition for students who have paid fees to their home institutions, and tuition these students pay for subsequent classes will be returned to their home universities, to help those universities rebuild.

“This decision was based greatly on our Catholic mission and because these universities are going to need all the support they can get,” says Pamela Gray-Payton, assistant vice president for public relations. “We’re not here to steal students, but to offer them our assistance. The fact that we’re willing to do that without charging them is a statement about who we are and depth we’re willing to go to fulfill our mission.”

How to Help
USD is coordinating a university-wide collection of cash donations, which will be directed to aid victims of Hurricane Katrina through Catholic Charities. Monetary donations are being accepted in the offices of Public Relations, Hughes Center, Room 218, and Community Service-Learning, Maher Hall, Room 218.

A special fund has been created to assist members of the USD community whose families have been directly affected by the hurricane. To donate money to this fund, visit Human Resources in Maher Hall, Room 101. Employees who need assistance, or know of a student, faculty or staff member in need, can contact human resources at ext. 6611.
Dining Room Specialty Bars
The chefs in dining services have some special menus planned in October. Noodles of Fortune will be featured in the faculty/staff dining room on Oct. 5, and seafood pasta will be offered on Oct. 20. The exclusive dining room for faculty and staff is open for lunch from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, during the regular academic school year. The entrance is tucked away within the main dining room on the second floor of the Hahn University Center. To receive the daily menu via e-mail, go to www.sandiego.edu/dining.

Women Peacemakers Events
A conversation with Mary Ann Amado of the Philippines will be held at 12:30 p.m., Oct. 13, in the Institute for Peace & Justice Theatre. A conversation with Sister Pauline Acayo of Uganda will be held on Oct. 20 in the Institute for Peace & Justice Theatre. An annual women peacemakers panel, "Working for Peace, Living for Justice: Women Peacemakers’ Stories from Cambodia, the Philippines, Uganda and Zimbabwe,” will be held at 7 p.m., Oct. 26, at the JP. The panel discussion will be followed by a question-and-answer session and reception. For information, call ext. 7509 or visit http://peace.sandiego.edu.

Center for Christian Spirituality
The Center for Christian Spirituality will hold a conference, “Justice for Immigrants: A Journey of Hope,” from 7-9 p.m., Oct. 13, in Institute for Peace & Justice Theatre, and from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Oct. 14, and 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Oct. 15, in the Hahn University Center Forum. The conference, presented with the Catholic Campaign for Immigration Reform, will examine perspectives on and solutions for immigration reform. The conference is $10. For additional information, call ext. 4784, or visit www.sandiego.edu/ccs.

James Bond Stockdale Lecture
The Ninth Annual James Bond Stockdale Lecture, featuring James Webb, former Secretary of the Navy, will be held on Oct. 19. The reception will be at 5 p.m. in the Sacred Heart Plaza and the lecture and book signing start at 6 p.m. in Shiley Theatre, Camino Hall. For information, call ext. 4681.

Budget Meetings
Open budget meetings will be held from 12:30-2 p.m., Oct. 25, and from 4-5:30 p.m., Oct. 26, in Salomon Lecture Hall, on the second floor of Maher Hall. All members of the USD community are invited and encouraged to attend.

Faculty and Curriculum Development
The Faculty and Curriculum Development Program, offered to enhance teaching, primarily in the areas of diversity and inclusion, is holding three programs in October. A women’s dinner, from 5:30-7:30 p.m., Oct. 6, in the Hahn University Center, Room 107, will discuss gender imbalance at USD and why enrollment figures for women students is 65 percent, while that of men is only 35 percent. A breakfast workshop, to address “Liberal Arts Beyond the Classroom,” will be held from 9-10:30 a.m., Oct. 14, in UC, Room 107. A luncheon colloquium, to discuss “Deep Learning and Community Service,” will be held from 12:30-2 p.m., Oct. 20, in UC, Room 107. To register, call Michelle Morris at ext. 4525, or e-mail her at michellemorris@sandiego.edu.

Prayer Breakfast
The Faculty/Staff Prayer Breakfast will be held from 7:20-8:30 a.m., Oct. 14, in the Faculty/Staff Dining Room. Rev. Kenneth Himes, a member of the theology faculty at Boston College, will speak on, “Sacred and Social: The Catholic Vision of the Person.” For reservations, call the Office for Mission at ext. 2263.

It’s a Bootiful Thing!
Stock up on yummy treats. Children from the Manchester Family Child Development Center will trick-or-treat on campus on Oct. 31. The kids will arrive at the Colachis Fountain between 9-9:30 a.m., and have a costume parade to the Hahn University Center. They will visit offices throughout the UC, and hold a dance party in the lower foyer. Others on campus are welcome to pass out treats anywhere along the parade route or in the UC.

Construction Corner
The final construction project on campus for the year is nearly finished. The project to repair leaks in The Immaculata dome and to replace tiles on the dome and bell tower is expected to be completed on Oct. 15. The scaffolding will be removed by the end of the month.

It's A Date!
October 7-9
You Can Always Come Home
Alumni will be on campus to revisit their college haunts and reminisce with old friends during Homecoming Weekend, Oct. 7-9. The weekend will be a whirlwind of entertainment. The Friday schedule features a golf tournament and a concert, and dedication of the Plaza de San Diego, the new pedestrian mall. Saturday activities include a tour of the Degheri Alumni Center, campus tram tour and a tailgate party, complete with Toro Fun Zone for kids. Visitors can cheer on the Toreros as they face off against the Butler Bulldogs and then attend the reunion reception and alumni night in San Diego’s Gaslamp district. The weekend will end on Sunday with an Alumni Mass in Founders Chapel and reception in the Founders Foyer and French Parlor. For a complete schedule, go to www.sandiego.edu/alumni/alumnirelations.
SEA Snippets

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

- Gregory Pogue, associate vice president for human resources, talked with members of the SEA meeting about their concerns. Some members were worried that their Social Security numbers were still being printed on their paychecks. Pogue said that by law, the Social Security numbers don’t have to be removed until Jan. 1, 2008, but that the staff is working to remove them sooner.

- The SEA announced the winners of the drawing for parking passes. John Frazer, in instructional technology services, won $255, the cash equivalent of one pass; Ted Geddes, in custodial services, won twice and received the cash equivalent of two passes; and Ken Marra, in the School of Business Administration, won the cash equivalent of one pass.

- Keith Fink, in Marine and Environmental Studies, volunteered to continue his post as the SEA representative on the University Senate’s Benefits Policy Committee.

- Donna Holston, who works in athletics administration, announced that in order to boost school spirit, all students and employees are encouraged to wear Columbia blue or navy blue on Fridays to show support for all of USD’s athletic teams.

SEA meetings are open to all employees, especially staff. The next SEA meeting is at 2 p.m., on Oct. 12 in the Hahn University Center, Room 103.

The Fitness Guru

As part of campus recreation’s continuing effort to provide the best in health, wellness and physical, mental and spiritual fitness, Assistant Fitness Director David Freeman, known as the “Fitness Guru,” will be sending out regular messages to campus about various areas of spirit, mind, body and “sport specific” developments at USD. Students, faculty and staff are invited to send letters or e-mails with questions they have about fitness topics. Send letters through campus mail to the Fitness Guru, Campus Recreation Sports Center. Send e-mails to fitnessguru@sandiego.edu.

Fitness tip du jour: While walking around campus and taking stairs is beneficial, it’s not a sufficient cardio workout to keep fit. Both the American College of Sports Medicine and the former president’s council on fitness say a minimum of 30 minutes cardio per day—walking, jogging, running, biking, treadmill or stair master—is what most people need to achieve or maintain cardio fitness.

— The Fitness Guru

MILESTONES

George Middleton, brother of Janey Middleton, executive assistant in the College of Arts and Sciences, passed away on Sept. 7.

Rose Catherine Russick, mother of Annette Welsh, associate university minister, passed away on Sept. 7.

Jose P. Zorola, father of Carol Norman, dining services’ director of campus restaurants, passed away on Aug. 31.

Donald Drinan, father of Patrick Drinan, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, passed away on Aug. 21.

Cristina Woodcock, sister of Michael Catanzaro, special projects coordinator for the vice president for finance and administration, passed away on Aug. 18.

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE: Lexmark All-in-One Scanner and Printer X73. $25. Call Elaine Tagliaferri at ext. 4886 or e-mail her at etag@sandiego.edu.

FOR SALE: One coffee table and end table from IKEA. Assembled, but unused. Dark cherry wood, clear glass top. Paid $300 for the pair, will sell for $100 OBO. Call Marissa at ext. 4806.