Family Weekend 2005 — A Great Time Had by All!

The eighth annual Family Weekend was a big hit with parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, and the SDSU students who participated. Even faculty and staff who attended Family Weekend raved about the good times. Nearly 1,900 people attended and every event was sold out.

Families were everywhere on campus — in the Bookstore, the Aztec Recreation Center, Aztec Center, the Library, and even in the classrooms. Students had the opportunity to pre-arrange with their professor to bring family members to their regular classrooms, and many parents jumped at the chance.

Friday, September 30 was the official start of Family Weekend. One event on that evening was the theatre production of SDSU's Summer Reading Program selection, Nickel and Dimed, On (Not) Getting By in America. The theme of the working poor was especially relevant in the aftermath of the terrible gulf coast hurricane.

The weather was beautiful for the Picnic and Serenade on Friday night. Families in attendance enjoyed dinner and dancing under the stars. The Picnic and Serenade is one of the most popular events of Family Weekend.

"Without a doubt, the picnic and serenade was my favorite aspect of Family Weekend," said parent Judy Rose. "What fun!"

After a night of revelry, hungry families started arriving at Montezuma Hall on Saturday morning for a special breakfast. Many of SDSU's key administrators, including President Stephen L. Weber, Provost Nancy Marlin, Vice President for Student Affairs James Kitchen, and Aztec Parent Board members and Family Weekend Co-chairs Dan and Lori Steinberg, were in attendance.

"I really enjoyed hearing Provost Marlin talk about the transition parents experience when they realize that yesterday they had a child, but today they have a college student — because that's exactly what I've been feeling," said parent Lisa McCleary. "Her talk at the breakfast was warm and touching."

Marlin emphasized that parental involvement in the academic side of life does not end with high school, a message the parents in attendance appreciated hearing.

"Parents like you are the type of parents who have always been involved in your child's education," said Marlin. "You went to the PTA meetings, sold cookies to raise funds, and did what you needed to do to make your child's education better. Being involved in the Aztec Parents Association is just one more step in that process and I applaud you. Parental involvement is key to a student's success."

Saturday's breakfast concluded with a scholarship drawing and then many families headed to the Bookstore to take advantage of a discount on SDSU logo merchandise and a drawing for free textbooks. Then they headed to the Aztec Recreation Center (ARC) to exercise and work up an appetite for the pre-game reception.

A large group met up again at Qualcomm Stadium for a pre-game feast. School spirit was very high as families cheered on the Aztec football team against Brigham Young University. San Diego State's quarterback Kevin O'Connell completed his first 12 passes and ran for a final touchdown to lead SDSU to victory against Brigham Young University. Almost 42,000 fans were in attendance.

Safety is SDSU’s Primary Concern

According to Vice President for Student Affairs James R. Kitchen, the safety of our students is the university's most important matter.

"Education is, of course, why we are here, but we cannot educate without putting safety first," said Kitchen.

Safety has been on the mind of many in the SDSU community lately. From the devastating natural disasters in the gulf coast and other parts of the world, to concerns about crime and terror, SDSU works collaboratively to address potential emergency situations.

SDSU has a detailed emergency preparedness plan that outlines specific steps to take in a variety of possible scenarios. Specifics include whom to contact, where to go in an emergency or to check for information, emergency supplies on campus, preparation procedures, and more. To review SDSU’s emergency preparedness plan, visit http://bfa.sdsu.edu/emergency.

Although it was 2,000 miles away, Hurricane Katrina severely impacted some members of the SDSU community (see related articles on page 5).
Employment

My son is entering his final semester at SDSU. Although we are all thrilled that he’s so close to graduation, he admitted he’s feeling nervous about leaving school and entering the world of full-time work. His biggest concern is that he might make the wrong “choice” in a career.

Graduation is a major transition in one’s life. I’m sure your son experienced nervousness when he first started San Diego State, so it’s only natural to have feelings of trepidation when ending one phase of a life and beginning a new one. Please let your son know that what he is feeling is very normal. SDSU has programs to help him, and he should contact Career Services now. Don’t wait until graduation is here. In fact, we encourage all students to meet with Career Services as early as their freshmen year to help them focus on their career and educational goals. Your son still has more than four months left on campus, so he should use this time to help him pinpoint future possibilities.

SAFETY IS SDSU’S PRIMARY CONCERN

— continued from page 1

“It also served as a wake-up call for the rest of the nation that emergency preparedness is everyone’s responsibility. Although the San Diego area does not get hurricanes, it is prone to other natural disasters like wildfires and earthquakes. The Cedar fire of 2003 affected many SDSU students, faculty and staff, and proved a test of the campus’ emergency preparedness. During the month of October, SDSU experienced an unusual spike in crimes on and around campus. SDSU has increased police surveillance and reached out to students to educate them on steps they can take to help prevent crimes. According to SDSU University Police Chief Eddie Gilbert, students can take several precautions to ensure safety, including:

- Always be aware of your surroundings.
- Walk in groups when possible.
- Use the Campus Escort Service. Take a minute to program the number, (619) 594-6659, into your cell phone for easy access.
- To save time in contacting the Police, program the SDSU Police main number, (619) 594-1991, into your cell phone.
- Avoid walking through shortcuts and dark isolated areas.
- Report suspicious persons or activity to police.
- Keep doors and windows locked.
- In an off-campus emergency, dial 9-1-1.
- Sign up for a Rape Aggression Defense course offered by SDSU Public Safety.

Your son should start by talking with a Career Counselor. These trained counselors are available to help with any career-related concern. Counselors are available on a walk-in or appointment basis.

Another important step for your son to take is to register with the Aztec Career Connection, an online resource for finding jobs. By registering, he will be eligible to participate in on-campus interviews with recruiters from business, industry, government, school districts, and even graduate schools. Career Services strongly recommends that graduating seniors start the interviewing process during their final year, long before they graduate.

The recruiters offer internship opportunities in addition to career positions. If your son has never done an internship, this final semester might be an ideal time for him to do so. Not only do students gain valuable experience and networking opportunities through internships, they also get a feel of what is right for them, and more importantly, what is not right for them.

Through Aztec Career Connection, your son can access online tutorials and assessment tests, find out about upcoming workshops geared toward career exploration, and access the Career Consultant Network. Some of the more popular workshops include “Job Search Strategies,” “Effective Resume Writing,” and “Interview Skills.”

And of course, Career Services is the place to go to research job listings. Thousands of jobs from local, national and international employers are listed each month.

For more information, and to register for the Aztec Career Connection, visit http://career.sdsu.edu
Dr. James R. Kitchen Speaks Out

Vice President for Student Affairs

The Kitchen Corner

Student Health Services • The choices they make have many consequences. Programs and services help students understand that not only in college, but also in life. Student Affairs helps students to learn and to grow.

POSITIVE CHOICES:

- STUDENT AFFAIRS… helps students to learn and to grow.
- STUDENT AFFAIRS… enables students to make positive choices.
- STUDENT AFFAIRS… helps to connect students to the university, enhancing retention and loyalty beyond graduation.
- STUDENT AFFAIRS… provides opportunities for students to succeed.

LEARNING AND GROWING:

We know that education happens everywhere — inside the classroom and outside. Just a couple of examples of the learning opportunities Student Affairs provides include:

- In collaboration with the Division of Undergraduate Studies, we were instrumental in establishing the Summer Reading Program. The Aztec Parents Association (APA), under the guidance of the Vice President for Student Affairs, provided funds for this program. Additionally, the APA sponsored campus visits by the authors of both the 2004 and 2005 books.
- Last year marked the first graduating class in the Master of Arts program in Postsecondary Educational Leadership with an emphasis in Student Affairs. One component of the program is an intensive internship program, which is provided by various offices within the division.

CONNECTING:

Students who connect to the university not only have a better overall experience during college, but also have higher grade point averages and are more likely to graduate. Student Affairs serves as the bridge to help students connect to their own individual interests and needs.

- In an effort to connect more students to the programs and services that will help them succeed, the Student Affairs Communications Services office, in collaboration with Associated Students, launched SDSU’s first official online newsletter, @State. This electronic newsletter informs students of what’s happening at SDSU on a monthly basis.
- Several departments within Student Affairs have established student advisory boards to help bring student perspectives to policy decisions. The Educational Opportunity Program developed a student advisory board last year, following in the footsteps of the Disabled Student Services, Student Health Services, and Counseling and Psychological Services.
- The Centers for Student Involvement completed both its Center for Leadership and Student Help Center development plans. Both initiatives will provide more connections for SDSU students.

SUCCEEDING:

Student success is the bottom line for Student Affairs. Everything we do is geared toward making sure students have a meaningful college experience. Examples of how we help individual students succeed include:

- The Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) undertook three significant endeavors in the 2004-2005 academic year. First, EOP expanded its Summer Bridge program to accommodate a larger population of students. Secondly, in an effort to provide even greater access to high-need students, EOP collaborated with the Financial Aid and Scholarships Office to identify low-income students who met EOP’s admission criteria but who had not applied to the program. This “identification campaign of students” recruited 512 new EOP students. And finally, with Residential Education and the Financial Aid and Scholarships Office, EOP helped to develop a deferral program for the on-campus housing deposit payment. This deferral helped to remove an identified financial barrier to low-income students, who have traditionally been underrepresented in on-campus housing.
- The Residential Education Office established its second STAR Center (Students Taking Academic Responsibility) last year. Each STAR Center serves as an academic resource center for residence hall students, providing access to a quiet area conducive to learning and studying. It is a positive, academically oriented environment that helps all residence hall students achieve academic success.
- Counseling and Psychological Services introduced the Bounce Back program last year, a resiliency-training program for students at risk. Probationary students participating in the Bounce Back program are retained at a 70 percent rate, compared to only 30 percent of similar students who do not participate in the program.

The student success rate for students who participate in the Bridge program are retained at a 70 percent rate, compared to only 30 percent of similar students who do not participate in the program.
Plan Early for Commencement 2006

The 2006 Commencement dates for May graduates are Thursday, May 18 through Sunday, May 21.

Plan Early for Commencement 2006

The first graduation ceremony will be for the Imperial Valley Campus graduates. On Friday, services will be held on the main campus for graduates in the colleges of Health and Human Services and Arts and Letters; on Saturday for Education/Undergraduate Studies, and for Professional Studies and Fine Arts; and finally, on Sunday, for the colleges of Business Administration, Sciences and Engineering. Separate smaller ceremonies will be hosted for individual majors, with specific times and locations to be finalized in February. Check the Commencement Web site for details, which will be linked from the SDSU main page in early spring.

If your son or daughter will be graduating, we know you’ll be planning a trip to San Diego for that special weekend. The Aztec Parents Association arranges special discounts for parents, family and friends, for car rental and lodging at various San Diego hotels to help keep your costs to a minimum. See below for complete details or visit www.sdsu.edu/aztecparents

2006 Commencement Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>THURSDAY, MAY 18</th>
<th>FRIDAY, MAY 19</th>
<th>SATURDAY, MAY 20</th>
<th>SUNDAY, MAY 21</th>
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<tr>
<td>8 am</td>
<td>Business Administration</td>
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<td>Education and Undergraduate Studies</td>
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<td>11 am</td>
<td>Health and Human Services</td>
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<td>1 pm</td>
<td>Professional Studies and Fine Arts</td>
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<td>Sciences and Engineering</td>
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<td>4 pm</td>
<td>Arts and Letters</td>
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<td>7 pm</td>
<td>Imperial Valley Campus</td>
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Travel Discounts Available for Aztec Parents

Special Discounts on Hotels and Airport Transportation for SDSU Aztec Parents, Family, and Friends. Just ask for the “SDSU Friends and Family Rate!”

HOTEL INFORMATION

To inquire about “SDSU Friends and Family Rate” and to check out hotel amenities, call or view the Web sites.

To ensure the special rates, ask for the “SDSU Friends and Family Rate” when you make your reservations. All special rates are based on availability.

► Town and Country Hotel
PHONE: (800) 772-8527
WEB SITE: www.towncountry.com
If you want to make hotel reservations online, go to their reservations page, click on “Corporate/Special Rate” (middle of the page, in blue) and enter “SDSU” as the Corporate Account Rate Code.

► Best Western Lamplighter Inn & Suites
PHONE: (619) 582-3088 or (800) 545-0778
ADDRESS: 6474 El Cajon Blvd., San Diego, CA 92115
WEB SITE: www.bestwestern.com/prog_05601
DISTANCE TO SDSU: less than one mile

AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

► Hertz at the San Diego Airport
20% discount
Once you arrive in San Diego, reference the SDSU Friends and Family Rate at the Hertz counter and ask for a manager in order to receive the 20% discount rate.

► Cloud 9 Shuttle Service
PRICE: Range ($8-$20) depending on the location the passenger is being dropped off. These rates apply to the Old Town area, Mission Valley area, and the College area west of SDSU.
PHONE: 1-800-9-SHUTTLE (800-974-8885)

The Bartell Hotels
WEB SITE: www.bartellhotels.com/
Tanis and Aaron Starck Start New Lives After Katrina

Tanis Starck, SDSU’s new coordinator of Community Based Service-Learning (CCBSL), is a humble example of resiliency at its best. As the academic year was beginning with students moving into the residence halls on August 27, Starck was welcoming new students and parents, as well as preparing her syllabi for classes in psychology. Only it wasn’t here at SDSU, but at Tulane University in New Orleans.

At 12:30 pm on that Saturday, the president of Tulane convened a mandatory meeting. Even as students were just moving in, he suggested that parents take their students away from New Orleans, just as a precaution, as hurricane Katrina was approaching the area.

Starck and her husband, Aaron, who was the director of Upward Bound at neighboring Loyola University, debated about what to do. This was the fourth hurricane of the year, and they were used to the inconvenience of minor flooding. Starck’s office at Tulane was in the lower basement level of a residence hall, so her normal mode was to pile things up high when storms hit.

The Starcks had just returned from a two-week road trip, so they weren’t anxious to hit the road again. Watching the news unfold, they thought better to be safe, so they took an overnight bag, their laptops, and made a reservation for the next day at a hotel in Houston. After a nap before leaving a little after midnight, they were convinced they’d be back within two days. Unfortunately, they left their 11-year old cat, Tiffany, their bird, fish and hamsters, at their townhouse, as they often did when they traveled. By 2:30 am, the highway was packed, and this was before New Orleans had been ordered to evacuate. They pulled over into a rest stop, thinking they could get a little sleep, but to their amazement, it was packed with people, pets and belongings. “It was frightening, looking like a refugee camp,” said Starck.

Cell phones were not working so there was panic in not being able to contact anyone. When they arrived in Houston at 9:30 that morning, they checked into their room and stayed glued to the weather channel. On Monday, it seemed that New Orleans had avoided a direct hit, and there was some relief. But by Tuesday, after the levees broke, they began to slowly realize the impact of what was happening. At this point, their reservations at the hotel had run out, as others from New Orleans began pouring into the area. They decided to go on to San Antonio. Still, in the back of their mind, they thought they’d be back in a week or so. The realization of the devastation kept growing and growing.

“What are we going to do, and where are we going to go,” her husband asked.

The Starcks had been in the process of buying a home, but when the hurricane hit, they were still renting a townhouse. They realized they had lost everything — their home, their possessions, their pets, and their jobs. Being renters, there would not be any insurance to help them out. They were both in shock.

They decided to go to her parents’ house in Oakland, CA. But they knew they had to be realistic financially. With their laptops, they started sending out resumes while on the road as they traveled to California.

In the meantime, Tanis’ mother was flying from Oakland to San Diego to help care for her sister, Tanis’ favorite aunt, who had recently become ill. In addition, her uncle, had been diagnosed with terminal cancer. Knowing that this was hard on her mother, the Starcks felt that San Diego would be the ideal place to be to help with these family needs.

With a Ph.D. in psychology, and with a great deal of experience in community service, Starck was offered the job of overseeing the CCBSL at SDSU. Her husband has been offered a position at SDSU as well. They are now living in Cuisacalli suites on campus, and she is an eight-minute drive from her aunt and uncle’s home.

“I have to believe there is a reason for this at this time,” said Starck. “I moved from California in 1981, and this happened at a time when my family needs me to be here. Ironically, my mother’s birthday was August 21, just a few days before the hurricane hit. When I asked her what she wanted, she said she wanted me to move back to California. So in a very odd way, she got her birthday wish!”

Starck hit the ground running at SDSU. On her first day here, she completed the California State University Infrastructure Grant from the Chancellor’s Office. This year, for the first time, SDSU received the full funding of $48,000 all at once.

“In the short time of (her) being at SDSU, Tanis has already had major successes and it is my view that Tulane’s loss is SDSU’s gain,” said SDSU Dean of Students Darlene V. Willis.

Starck is working with a group of students who also were affected by the hurricane. The Starcks hosted some of those students for Thanksgiving. She is hoping to arrange a community service project, perhaps as part of the Alternative Spring Break program, to go back to New Orleans to help out.

In late October, Tanis and Aaron Starck returned to New Orleans for the first time to assess the damage. With the exception of some clothing, everything else was destroyed. The one silver lining is that the Starcks were reunited with their cat, Tiffany, who came back to San Diego with them.

SDSU’s Call to Action in Wake of Hurricane Katrina

The devastation of Hurricane Katrina elicited a campuswide call to action to help those affected.

For the 43 Hurricane Katrina survivors who now walk the grounds of SDSU as students, their lives have been changed forever. To further assist the neediest students, the university hosted SDSU Hurricane Relief Day, “Aztecs Helping Aztecs: Caring for Our Own,” on September 20. Four donation tables were set up across campus — in Aztec Center, West Commons, the Business Administration building and Cuisacalli Walkway.

The fundraiser garnered over $2,000 in donations from students, faculty, and staff. The funds collected have been placed in a scholarship fund to benefit current SDSU students who have family and homes in the affected areas, as well as new students displaced from universities along the Gulf Coast. The fund will be managed and disseminated by SDSU’s Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships.

On September 13, nearly 150 SDSU students, staff and faculty attended an American Red Cross “shelter operations” certification course. Those interested in volunteering in evacuee shelters were required to complete this course.

SDSU’s Athletics department and its supporters also raised $15,300 at the SDSU-UCLA football game Sept. 3 to aid the relief effort.

Amid devastation, the SDSU community united and opened its heart and campus to those affected by Hurricane Katrina — a valiant effort of which to be proud.
STUDENT PROFILE:

Tommy Himawan Made Sacrifices to Get to College

The anxious excitement of moving to a new city and attending college at a large university is a common experience among first-time freshmen. For sophomore Tommy Himawan, adjustment to a new way of life began long before he came to SDSU.

Tommy left his homeland of Indonesia at the age of 13 to come to the United States to live with his aunt and uncle. His parents still live in Indonesia.

"I was really young," says Tommy. "Looking back, it was really difficult for me to leave my parents, and come to a new country."

Difficult is an understatement, and it's hard to imagine that this charismatic young man would have any difficulties adjusting to a new environment.

"When I came to San Diego I didn't know anyone, or even speak the language," says Tommy, who shows no sign that he's been speaking English for only five years. "It was hard to adjust to a new way of life. I was the one who wanted to come to the U.S. I wanted to be here, and I had to force myself to adapt," said Tommy. "I had no choice but to succeed."

Those powerful, determined words from a young man who's just starting his college career are inspiring. Tommy says that his inspiration to succeed comes from his role model: his grandpa.

"My grandpa came to Indonesia from China; and he tells me the stories of what he's been through, and how hard he had to work," said Tommy. "I hope to make him proud one day."

Looking to his grandpa for inspiration, Tommy also looked to his family to decide what career field he wanted to pursue. As a business major, Tommy hopes to follow his family's aspirations, and one day to have his own business.

"My friend and I have been talking about opening up our own coffeeshop one day," said Tommy. A big grin on his face, Tommy adds, "I'm thinking it's about time to give Starbucks some competition."

Currently, Tommy is taking a full load of classes and admits that he has little free time. When he's not in class, Tommy works at SDSU as an Ambassador, a facilitator for the Freshman Leadership Connection, New Student Orientation, and at the campus Information Booth in Aztec Center. Tommy also works as an intern at an accounting office off campus.

As an SDSU Ambassador, Tommy provides campus tours to prospective students and their families, and assists with events such as New Student Orientation, Homecoming, Commencement, alumni gatherings, sporting events, and other campus activities.

Tommy credits his campus involvement with helping him settle into the university.

"Being involved on campus has helped me tremendously," says Tommy. "I will definitely continue to be an Ambassador. It has been the most memorable college experience for me so far. They're the main reason I'm here…without them I'd feel lost."

Tommy calls being chosen 'Star Rookie of the Year' from the Ambassadors his proudest moment yet.

"It meant a lot to me to be picked out of so many other Ambassadors who work so hard. It motivated me to be more successful," said Tommy.

Tommy has overcome a lot in his young life. His determination and everyday perseverance ensure him success on whatever path he may follow.

Tommy is currently working to save money for a trip home this summer.

2005 Homecoming Court

LEFT TO RIGHT: Chris Vercammen, Katy Risman, Kelly Mitchell, Bill Steigelman, Joaquin Ortega, Michelle Hocking, Kristi Kimura, Dennis Kramer II, Chris Manigault, Hunter Gray (King), Katie Phillips, Ally Estey (Queen), Carolyn Bohana, Augustus Gatto

Bartels says that parents are often unable to witness their student being recognized for their outstanding contributions to the university. However, the Parent Reception provides this priceless opportunity.

During the reception, each member is introduced, and they in turn introduce their parents or guests. The Homecoming King and Queen from the previous year were also in attendance.

During the October 29 Homecoming Game, the Aztecs faced Texas Christian University at Qualcomm Stadium; during halftime, the Homecoming King and Queen were unveiled. Senior Hunter Gray was named Homecoming King. Mortar Board of SDSU nominated Gray. Graphic Design and Marketing senior, Ally Estey, was named Homecoming Queen. The Panhellenic Association nominated Estey.

Currently, Hunter and Ally are coordinating an event for the spring semester that will unify students and enhance campus pride.

Homecoming 2005 — Super Heroes!

Homecoming is an annual event celebrating the spirit of SDSU. SDSU brought in another lively Homecoming Week in 2005 with this year's theme: Super Heroes!

Homecoming Week 2005 kicked off on October 24 with the Associated Students’ Cultural Arts & Special Events (CASE) student organizations competitions, where students took part in a banner-making competition, a talent show, a pep rally, and they also sang their hearts out at a karaoke contest.

"As participation from student organizations increases, so does school spirit," said Troy Bartels, assistant coordinator of Greek Life, who helped to coordinate this year’s homecoming activities. "We saw this at the pep rally. The more involvement we have from different organizations, the more people will remember how eventful, and successful Homecoming was. We want students to have lasting memories of their time here at SDSU, and this is an opportunity to do so."

The collaboration of students, parents, faculty, staff, Associated Students, CASE, Athletics, and other organizations, is crucial to making Homecoming such a success each year.

"Without the support of the SDSU community, we would not be able to officially recognize the outstanding contributions of our students," said Bartels. "Homecoming Court is not a popularity contest, but a showcase of the types of student leaders we have. The Aztec Parent Association plays an integral role in the development of many programs in Student Affairs. We are fortunate to have their support."

This year, 38 Homecoming Court hopefuls were nominated by their respective student organizations. After submitting an application and an essay, each nominee underwent a group interview administered by a selection committee comprised of SDSU faculty and staff. Fourteen students were then chosen to be members of the Homecoming Court. They were selected based upon their academic record, student involvement and community service. Each year, the decision-making process becomes more difficult, as the caliber of SDSU students continues to rise.

Traditionally, the evening before the Homecoming game, a dessert reception is held for the Homecoming Court, their families and friends. It is sponsored by the Aztec Parents Association and Target. "The Parent Reception is a time to celebrate the people who helped the Homecoming Court members get to that point, which for most, is their parents," said Michelle DuBord, coordinator for Parent Programs.
SDSU’s Revised Campus Master Plan

In 2005, the California State University Board of Trustees approved SDSU’s revised Campus Master Plan. The revised plan allows SDSU to accommodate the anticipated growth of the university’s student body. Over the next 20 years, SDSU will steadily increase the university’s enrollment capacity by 40 percent, and 1 million square feet of infrastructure space will be added to the campus.

“This is an important step forward for San Diego,” said SDSU President Stephen L. Weber. “We need to expand access to higher education to ensure this region doesn’t shut out or send away its tremendous human potential. SDSU now has a sensible plan in place to help serve the growing number of qualified students who apply to the university each year.”

The demand for exemplary college graduates is outstanding. San Diego business leaders continue to look to SDSU for capable job applicants.

“One of the biggest challenges our economy will face in the next decade is having enough highly trained, university-educated workers and leaders available for employers,” said Julie Meier Wright, President & CEO of the San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation. “SDSU’s plan is critical for making sure our region can keep up with that demand. As planning moves forward, I have every confidence that there is a win-win for the university as well as surrounding communities.”

There will be an increase of more than 700,000 students seeking higher education in California by 2010-11, according to the California Post-Secondary Education Commission — a trend often referred to as Tidal Wave II. The CSU system has indicated that no new campuses will be built in the immediate future. This would require the 23 existing CSU campuses to fulfill the demands of future student enrollment.

In accordance with SDSU’s new plan, the university will increase its enrollment capacity from 25,000 full-time equivalent students to 35,000 full-time equivalent students by 2025. The growth-rate will be gradual — occurring at about 3 percent a year.

To further facilitate the needs of SDSU’s growing student body, the plan calls for new classrooms, support space, a new residence hall for undergraduate students, a new and larger student union, a hotel, and affordable housing for faculty and graduate students on university-owned land just north of Interstate 8. The approved plan calls for future SDSU development to be completed entirely on university-owned or affiliated land.

Over the last 12 months, SDSU conducted a thorough community outreach program for the Campus Master Plan. The plan elicited broad regional support, with endorsements from more than 35 elected officials, civic and community groups and individuals. Most recently, state Senator Christine Kehoe endorsed the plan after SDSU and community representatives signed a memorandum of understanding clarifying SDSU’s commitments as part of the master plan.

SDSU’s Campus Master Plan was developed through a collaborative effort involving a committee of SDSU faculty, staff, students and alumni. This committee worked for nearly two years to develop a plan that achieved the university’s goal of supporting more students while minimizing impact to surrounding communities.

“This plan is all about increasing access to high-quality higher education,” said Eduardo Valerio, president of the Sweetwater Education Foundation. “Through programs like the Compact for Success, we are telling our kids that if they work hard, they will be guaranteed admission to SDSU and can work toward a bright future. This plan will help us keep our promise to them.”

Professor Wins Grant to Develop Laser-Based Method to Detect Explosive Devices

SDSU chemistry and biochemistry professor, William Tong, was awarded a $75,000 seed grant to further expand the research and development of his laser-based method of detecting concealed explosive devices. The Department of Defense-funded Center for Commercialization of Advanced Technology (CCAT) awarded the grant.

For the last 20 years, Tong has been researching how to use lasers to help detect diseases in the body and toxins in the environment. Funding from the grant will allow Tong to explore another use for his patented technology: using lasers to detect hidden explosive devices — protecting soldiers and civilians. From the grant funds, Tong will be able to explore how to adapt his “laser wave mixing” technology into one of the most sensitive and portable methods devised for detecting trace amounts of chemicals present in explosives.

“Detecting trace amounts of explosives is very challenging, whether it is on the battlefield or in homeland security settings,” Tong said. “Pursuing this project is our way of contributing to the effort to save lives at home and overseas.”

“Detecting trace amounts of explosives is very challenging, whether it is on the battlefield or in homeland security settings,” Tong said. “Pursuing this project is our way of contributing to the effort to save lives at home and overseas.”

In the laser wave mixing detection system, overlapping laser beams are sent to a target. Different elements or molecules in the target interact with the laser beams in unique ways, and the chemical information is transmitted to an analyzer by a laser-like signal beam. Laser wave mixing can detect substances at the parts-per-quadrillion level. According to Tong, this detection system is many times more sensitive than other methods.

Tong decided that the time had come to use this technology to detect threats such as the improvised explosive devices (IEDs) confronting troops in Iraq, or the kinds of bombs used in the recent suicide attacks in London and Madrid.

“It was always in the back of my mind that laser wave mixing could be used effectively to detect explosives, because we have already detected similar isotopes and chemicals at trace concentration levels for other applications,” Tong said. “But recent world events clearly showed the need for this. Also, the capability now exists to put this technology into a much smaller housing or device, which is vital for effective, portable use in the field.”

If this early stage of development is successful, additional financial support to move Tong’s laser wave-mixing technology out of the lab and into the field could come from several sources.
Consider This…

• A first year freshman living in the residence hall calls Counseling & Psychological Services for help as she struggles to adjust to her new life away from family and friends. She feels that it’s been difficult to “fit in” and find her place at SDSU.

• Another student is referred by his professor after he confides in the professor about difficulties he’s been having getting to class. The student reports feeling depressed, overwhelmed, and “stressed out.” He’s contemplating dropping out of school because he “just can’t handle it anymore.”

• A third student is referred by Student Rights & Responsibilities after being caught with alcohol in her residence hall room.

Although these are hypothetical cases, they represent some of the common scenarios encountered at Counseling & Psychological Services (C&PS) at San Diego State University. Students may feel confused or overwhelmed by the challenges they face during their years at SDSU. Through conversations with SDSU therapists, students are able to sort out the relevant issues and gain a greater understanding of their situation. C&PS therapists focus on the personal strengths within each student in order to guide them through the process of addressing challenges they encounter and to determine the most effective way to resolve those difficulties.

Understanding that students approach personal issues in different ways, C&PS seeks to meet student needs in a variety of ways. Not all students will choose to call the office to discuss their concerns. Some students are more comfortable gathering information privately by accessing the C&PS Web site. They will find information about C&PS services or various topics, such as anger management or test anxiety. They can learn about C&PS Center for Well-Being, and the Alpha Chairs used for stress management. They may also complete an online assessment that will provide feedback to them on their alcohol or drug use, mood, or eating behavior.

Students are also informed about wellness issues through outreach that is provided by C&PS. Contact with students extends across campus to classrooms, student organizations, sororities and fraternities, where workshops and presentations are provided on a wide range of topics.

C&PS staff is often asked to talk with students about stress management, time management, drug and alcohol issues, relationship conflict, depression and anxiety. The goal of C&PS is to provide services to students in a supportive and respectful way that allows them the opportunity to reach their personal and academic goals.

As a parent, you are often the first person the student turns to for guidance. C&PS values the important role you play in your son or daughter’s life and hopes to provide support for you as well. Each day, therapists are available by telephone to consult with staff, faculty, students and parents. Although the services received by students in C&PS are confidential, we are available to talk with you if you would like assistance in developing ways to support your son or daughter when they are facing challenges, encouraging them to seek services when needed, or figuring out what the next best step may be. As your son or daughter moves through their years at SDSU, know that C&PS is here as a resource for you and for them as they strive for personal and academic success.

For more information, visit www.sdsu.edu/cps

Explore SDSU, the university-wide open house, returns on Saturday, April 8. Its combination of exhibits, tours and entertainment draws more than 12,000 visitors to campus.

2005 SDSU Month Scholarship Challenge Winners Announced

San Diego State University has announced the six winners of the 2005 SDSU Month Scholarship Challenge. They are: marketing junior Erin Bala, finance senior Sean Durkin, psychology sophomore Kristin Harris, political science/Spanish junior Hillary Hartley, Spanish junior Randy Johnson, and accounting junior Jeffrey Maurice.

The SDSU Month Scholarship Challenge, which provides financial awards to some of SDSU’s most deserving undergraduate students, was supported in 2005 by partners U.S. Bank, Rubioís Fresh Mexican Grill, Woodstock’s Pizza, San Diego Magazine, Time Warner Cable, PAETEC Communications, Diebold and SDC. The SDSU Month Scholarship Challenge will be back for its third year as part of SDSU Month 2006.
Paul Loeb
Soul of a Citizen: Living with Conviction in a Cynical Time

With a background of more than 30 years as a committed social activist and writer, Paul Loeb spoke to several hundred SDSU students in October about the importance of recognizing their own power.

Loeb is the author of several widely acclaimed books, including Soul of A Citizen and The Impossible Will Take a Little While, which was named the number three political book of fall 2004 by the History Channel and the American Book Association.

He started off by asking the students “what makes some people choose a life of social activism?” Most people see social injustice, yet there are many people who feel that their efforts won’t make a difference.

Loeb’s message is that people might not see an immediate result, but the power of committed, ordinary citizens can have a domino effect in transforming situations.

He gave the example of the late Rosa Parks. Loeb was on CNN when the announcer stated, “…in one day, Rosa Parks started the civil rights movement.” Loeb called this comment “the CNN version of history,” which, he explained, did the disservice of stripping away one of Parks’ most important traits — her perseverance.

Rosa Parks spent 12 years prior to the famous bus incident working in the NAACP, doing many quiet, unheard actions in the name of civil rights,” he said. “And it was her husband, Raymond Parks, who first encouraged her to become actively involved with the group. My question is, who was the anonymous person who sparked that interest in Raymond Parks? That person’s influence on Raymond Parks ultimately led to Rosa Parks’ involvement. The more powerful message is that Rosa Parks, and the people before her, continued to work on an issue, never knowing if their efforts would pay off. Activists persevere over the long haul and then, in unexpected ways, history does turn.”

Loeb noted that one reason people don’t get involved is they reach for the “perfect standard.”

“Some feel they can’t be an example unless they know every fact about an issue, but the truth is, nobody is ever going to,” he said. “Instead of looking at it that way, you need to realize that you will learn as you go about working on an issue.”

Loeb encouraged the students to address a particular situation that they feel needs improvement, then to broaden the base of those involved, creating a “river of social involvement.” He spoke of other activists — including Vaclav Havel, Desmond Tutu, and Nelson Mandela — who started small but saw their efforts evolve into life-altering actions.

“We don’t always know if we’re going to win or not, but what matters is being in the game, on the team with hope,” he said.

The U.S. Constitution — Would you sign it?

Would you sign the Constitution? That’s the question that students, faculty, staff and U.S. Constitution enthusiasts gathered to discuss in celebration of Constitution Day in September. In 2004, President George W. Bush signed a bill that reserved September 17 as Constitution Day, and in observation, students could take part in various activities on campus.

About 70 people packed into the Cross-Cultural Center on their lunch break to hear SDSU political science professors Ronald King and Ed Heck, and history professor Eve Kornfeld, debate whether or not they would sign the U.S. Constitution today. The panel of professors share expertise in American politics and public policy, public law and judicial politics, and early American history.

The faculty panel challenged audience members, and one another, to think about the relevance of the Constitution today and what it would have meant to people of various socio-economic classes in 1787. A Constitution pocket guide was given to all participants, and they were encouraged to follow along with the professors when citing the Constitution.

The Office of the Dean of Students and the Center for Community Based Service-Learning sponsored the event. Associated Students and the Cross-Cultural Center co-sponsored the faculty panel discussion.

SDSU Among Top 25 MBA Programs for Hispanics

In 2005, Hispanic Trends magazine named SDSU as one of the top 25 MBA programs for Hispanics, nationwide. SDSU was one of only four California universities to be recognized for this achievement. The other three universities were Stanford, University of California, Los Angeles, and the University of Southern California.

The national magazine ranked universities based on their program quality, Hispanic student support programs and outreach to diverse communities.

“We are delighted that our MBA program is being nationally recognized for our longstanding commitment to diversity, and our continuing efforts to provide every student the support and tools to achieve academic excellence,” said Gail Naughton, dean of the College of Business Administration at San Diego State.

Hispanic Trends mentioned the university’s full-time, part-time and executive MBA programs, and student support programs that include the Hispanic Business Student Association and the Graduate Business Student Association. SDSU was also recognized for its participation in the National Society of Hispanic MBA’s Destination MBA recruiting fair, and at the Diversity Forum sponsored by the California State University System of Higher Education.

Other recent SDSU recognitions for diversity:

• The College of Engineering was recently ranked No. 4 in the nation by Hispanic Business magazine.
• Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education ranked San Diego State No. 9 in the nation, in 2005, for the most bachelor’s degrees awarded to Hispanics.
• According to the 2005 survey by Black Issues in Higher Education, SDSU ranked No. 12 in the nation for bachelor’s degrees awarded to minority students overall.
• SDSU joins the company of Yale University, Columbia University, and Harvard University — just to name a few — in the magazine’s rankings.
SDSU Fees Among Lowest in the Nation

Registration fees for the 2006/2007 academic year will be rising by eight percent over current costs, but the California State University (CSU) system in general, and San Diego State in particular, still have some of the lowest fees in the nation.

Starting next year, total tuition and fees for in-state undergraduate residents will be $3,372 per year. The national average at a four-year public university is $5,670 — over 68 percent more than what SDSU will charge.

Because the CSU system is partially supported by taxpayer fees, non-California residents pay an additional tuition cost.

However, as California went through a very tight budget crisis during the past several years, the state legislature made several cuts in education. According to CSU officials, the system had more than $1.5 billion in cuts and unfunded programs.

Because San Diego State University has a large number of students from low-income families, any increase in fees is always a difficult adjustment.

“I strongly encourage students and families to take their concerns to the state legislature to let them know that public higher education should be a top priority of state budgets,” said Chrys Dutton, director of the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships.

The CSU system is more affordable than similarly ranked universities, including Arizona State ($4,408); the University of Texas ($5,670); and the University of Maryland ($8,520).

The CSU will set aside 33 percent of the student fee revenue to provide $32.7 million in additional funds for the State University Grant (SUG) financial aid program. This will allow the CSU to provide financial aid to an additional 5,100 students.

Student Financial Services

Important Reminders — Visit us on the Web at www.sdsu.edu/sfs

Student Financial Services oversees the university cashiers office, collections and disbursements for students. Online services are provided, including the e-Bill system, which allows students to receive and pay bills through the Internet. Important reminders from Student Financial Services for the new year include:

• Students will soon be receiving 1098T forms that may be used to claim the Hope Scholarship or Lifetime Learning Credit on 2005 tax returns. For more information, please visit our Web site or refer to the 1098T form. If you need more assistance, please talk to your tax advisor.

• Students can allow their parents access to billing information by setting them up with a parent account and password on the E-billing Web site. Once the account is set up, parents will receive an e-mail notification of an eBill at the same time the student is notified. The account allows access to view the current bill, as well as billing history. More information about E-bills is on our Web site.

• Students with bank accounts should sign up for Direct Deposit if they will be receiving financial aid or scholarships (Parent Loans are excluded from Direct Deposit). It is fast, easy and secure. Forms are available online or in the University Disbursements Office — Student Services West, Room 2536.

Scholarships Are Available — Your Students Can Apply Now

Did you know that there are many scholarships available that go unclaimed each year? The key is for your son or daughter to apply. Your student may very well be eligible for one of the wide variety of scholarships offered through SDSU. The minimum requirements vary depending on the scholarship.

Scholarship applications for next year were made available in November and will continue through early February. Don’t wait — have your son or daughter apply now.

The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships recently revamped its Web site to make searching for scholarships easier than ever.

Students should submit applications to many scholarships as they are eligible,” said Josephine Mojica, financial aid administrator.

Visit www.sdsu.edu/scholarship to see what scholarships are available.

SDSU To Award President’s Diversity Scholarships to Local High School Seniors

This year will mark the second annual President’s Diversity Scholarship program, offering local, high-achieving, low-income high school seniors financial support they need to earn a degree from San Diego State University.

The President’s Diversity Scholarship provides $3,500 annually for each recipient for up to four years, and is open to any eligible incoming student regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, disability or national origin.

Last year, the inaugural scholarship program was also planned to award 10 deserving students, but private fundraising allowed 12 students to be selected. All 12 were feted at a special gala ceremony featuring Yolanda King, the eldest daughter of Coretta Scott King and the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

“It’s important to remove the financial barriers facing these local, high-achieving, young students so they can attend our university and concentrate on building a successful future,” said Weber. “These scholarships are designed to help open the doors for tomorrow’s leaders today.”

Scholarship applications for next year were made available in November and will continue through early February. Don’t wait — have your son or daughter apply now.

The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships recently revamped its Web site to make searching for scholarships easier than ever. “Students should submit applications to many scholarships as they are eligible,” said Josephine Mojica, financial aid administrator.

Visit www.sdsu.edu/scholarship to see what scholarships are available.
Southern and Northern California Aztec Parents Regional Meetings

The Aztec Parents Association hosted four Regional Meetings taking place in Los Angeles, Orange County, San Ramon and San Jose this October. Parents mingled with other parents from their areas and had the opportunity to meet the Vice President for Student Affairs, Dr. James R. Kitchen. Aztec Parents Advisory Board Members, Ray Hoyt, Steve Eklund and Larry Svetich participated and shared their experiences as current SDSU parents.

Men’s Basketball Has High Hopes for 2006

The Aztecs men’s basketball team began their season as the number one pick in the Mountain West Conference, and that along with the energy of a new line-up is something to watch for in 2006. "We’re optimistic and justifiably so. We’re the preseason number one pick (in the Mountain West Conference), which also, as all of us know, doesn’t mean a great deal except that we were picked number one and that probably hasn’t happened around here too often," said men’s basketball head coach Steve Fisher. "I know it hasn’t happened in our tenure. Rather than tap dance around it and give all the reasons why it doesn’t mean anything, we’re saying that we do think we’re pretty good, others think we’re pretty good and now we want to prove that we’re better than pretty good. We believe with the nucleus, starting with (forward Marcus) Slaughter and (guard Brandon) Heath, that we’ve got a good foundation to build from, and, coupled with all of the others who have played, either in a starting role or significant minutes the last year or two, should lend itself to a solid basketball team that will grow and get better with the blending in of the new guys."

For the 2005/2006 season, SDSU has the top two returning vote getters — off the 2004-05 all-Mountain West Conference team — juniors Marcus Slaughter and Brandon Heath.

Last season, forward Slaughter wowed fans when he became the third player in SDSU’s Division I era, and the first non-senior to record at least 475 points, 200 rebounds, 30 steals and 30 blocked shots — all in the same season. Among the Mountain West Conference, he is ranked in the top eight in six statistical categories (including scoring, rebounding, steals and blocked shots). Slaughter is a Conference Player of the Year candidate.

Heath is also a Conference Player of the Year candidate. He is the leading returning scorer and second-leading returner in assists in the conference. Heath was one of five players in the nation, and the only sophomore, to rank among the top 50 leaders in both scoring and steals. He has 945 career points: the most by an Aztec player following their sophomore campaign in school history.

For the 2005/2006 season, fans want to watch for these newcomers: junior, center, Mohamed Abukar, from the University of Florida; and freshman, guard, Richie Williams, from Steele Canyon High School.

"I love what I see. We have a lot of new guys and a lot of young guys who are willing to learn. They don’t think they know everything, they’re just open for all the advice the veterans have to give."

— Steve Fisher, Men’s basketball head coach

For out-of-area fans, three games will be nationally televised in February. For more information and a complete listing of games, visit www.goaztecs.com
**SPRING 2006 SPORTS SCHEDULE**

**MEN’S BASKETBALL**

- 1/1 Colorado State
- 1/7 Air Force
- 1/11 Utah
- 1/14 UNLV
- 1/18 TCU
- 1/25 New Mexico
- 1/28 Wyoming
- 2/4 Colorado State
- 2/8 Air Force
- 2/11 Utah

- 2/25 New Mexico
- 2/22 BYU
- 2/28 UNLV
- 3/1 Wyoming
- 3/4 Cal State Fullerton
- 3/6-7 Air Force
- 3/8-9 New Mexico
- 3/11 Long Beach State
- 3/13-14 Utah
- 3/16 BYU
- 3/20 UNLV
- 3/25-26 Pacific
- 3/28 USC
- 3/29 New Mexico
- 4/1 TCU
- 4/2 UNLV
- 4/4 Cal State Fullerton
- 4/7 New Mexico
- 4/11 Long Beach State
- 4/13-14 Utah
- 4/15 Utah
- 4/21 UNLV
- 4/22 UNLV
- 4/23 UNLV
- 4/25 Long Beach State
- 4/28 TCU
- 4/29-30 TCU

**WOMEN’S BASKETBALL**

- 1/27 Alumni
- 1/28-30 TCU
- 2/1-2 Oregon State
- 2/4-5 Cal State Fullerton
- 2/5-6 Oregon State
- 2/7-8 Cal State Fullerton
- 2/9-10 Oregon State
- 2/10-11 Cal State Fullerton
- 2/11-12 Oregon State
- 2/12-13 Cal State Fullerton
- 2/13-14 Oregon State
- 2/14-15 Cal State Fullerton
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- 3/29-30 Oregon State

**BASEBALL**

- 4/15 TCU
- 4/16 UNLV
- 4/17 UNLV
- 4/18 UNLV
- 4/19 UNLV
- 4/20 UNLV
- 4/21 UNLV
- 4/22 UNLV
- 4/23 UNLV
- 4/24 UNLV
- 4/25 UNLV
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- 4/28 UNLV
- 4/29-30 UNLV
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- 7/21-22 UNLV
- 7/23-24 UNLV
- 7/25-26 UNLV
- 7/27-28 UNLV
- 7/29-30 UNLV

**FINANCIAL AID** — Disbursement begins the week before classes each semester and continues throughout the semester as new awards are processed and changes to awards occur.*

**RESIDENCE HALLS** — Residences halls re-open.

**MAY**

- 5/16–18 Texas A&M Corpus Christi

**TBA**

**SPORTS SCHEDULE**

**MEN’S BASKETBALL**

- 2/16 UNLV
- 2/18 TCU
- 2/22 BYU
- 2/25 New Mexico
- 3/1 Wyoming
- 3/3 South Dakota State
- 3/7–11 MWC Basketball Tournament

**WOMEN’S BASKETBALL**

- 1/5 Colorado State
- 1/7 Air Force
- 1/11 Utah
- 1/14 UNLV
- 1/18 TCU
- 1/21 BYU
- 1/25 New Mexico
- 1/28 Wyoming
- 2/2 Air Force
- 2/11 Utah
- 2/15 UNLV
- 2/18 TCU
- 2/22 BYU
- 2/25 New Mexico
- 3/2 Wyoming
- 3/7–11 Mountain West Conference

**BASEBALL**

- 4/15 TCU
- 4/20 UNLV
- 4/22 UNLV
- 4/23 UNLV
- 4/25 Long Beach State

**TELEVISION**

- TBA