Welcome to 360 online! To increase the type size for easier reading, change the percentage field in your toolbar or use the settings found under the “view” tab. To jump from one article to another, use the “table of contents” or “thumbnail” links under the tabs to the left. If no tabs appear, click on the navigation symbol in your toolbar to reveal them.
Ten years ago, SDSU Magazine, the predecessor to 360, introduced Nancy A. Marlin, San Diego State’s first provost and female vice president of academic affairs.

A brief article cited the new provost’s “dedication to academic quality” and predicted that her “commitment to the international arena will serve us well.” How prescient!

With Provost Marlin guiding academic affairs for the last decade, SDSU has gained national repute as a university of the highest caliber.

Our exceptional faculty members—60 percent of whom have been hired by Provost Marlin—have propelled SDSU to prominence as the No. 1 most productive research university in America among schools with 14 or fewer Ph.D. programs. Thanks in large part to her leadership, we are now classified by the Carnegie Foundation as a “Research University” with high research activity.

Provost Marlin’s vision is also evident in SDSU’s emergence as a champion of international education. San Diego State ranks No. 2 among universities of our type nationwide and No. 1 in California for students studying abroad as part of their college experience.

By encouraging faculty to build relationships with universities around the world—and giving them grants to do so—the provost has helped create study-abroad opportunities for thousands of SDSU students.

These achievements speak to our provost’s unwavering commitment to academic quality. She has perpetuated a culture of distinction in which faculty excel and students thrive. Her keen intelligence and vision, leavened with a disarming approachability, have won her many friends and supporters across campus.

Cezar Ornatowski, an associate professor of rhetoric and writing studies, worked closely with Provost Marlin while serving as vice chair of the SDSU Senate. He described her as an outspoken advocate for shared governance who “prefers solutions that are transparent; that rely on initiative, autonomy, cooperation and good faith; and that release, rather than control, creative energy.”

Patricia Huckle, professor emerita of women’s studies and SDSU’s Fulbright adviser, spoke of the provost’s “boundless energy and commitment to academic values” in all aspects of campus life. “She is joyful to the bone, and it’s contagious.”

Provost Marlin regularly receives requests to consider applying for the presidency of some of the nation’s best universities. She has always declined. She loves what she does; she does it superbly well; she is too smart to be a university president.

I know first-hand how fortunate we are to have Nancy Marlin as our colleague and chief academic officer.

Stephen L. Weber, president
San Diego State University
Building Bridges

American efforts to rebuild war-torn Afghanistan will require more than bricks and mortar. The country also needs help training a new generation of educators to lead a top-down reconstruction of Afghanistan’s higher education system.

With $4 million in financial support from the World Bank, San Diego State University is partnering with Nangarhar University in Jalalabad, Afghanistan (San Diego’s sister city), to train faculty and provide technical support in two critical areas—English language instruction and civil engineering.

During the next two years, eight Afghan professors from Nangarhar University will participate in SDSU’s master’s program in civil and environmental engineering. These faculty will, in turn, train the country’s aspiring engineers and redesign Nangarhar’s engineering curriculum, which hasn’t been updated in two decades.

Seven other Nangarhar faculty members visited SDSU during this summer to participate in a three-week institute to improve their English-language teaching skills and learn how to teach English to students and fellow faculty.

“Education is the way to build solid relationships that have an impact, not only on the faculty we train, but also on all the students and their families who are touched by these faculty,” said Fred McFarlane, principal investigator for the project.

McFarlane is co-director of the SDSU’s Interwork Institute, a partner in the Nangarhar University initiative, along with Afghanistan’s Ministry of Higher Education, SDSU’s Fred J. Hansen Institute for World Peace and the La Jolla Golden Triangle Rotary Club.

SDSU is also helping to establish an International Learning Center at Nangarhar University in collaboration with the rotary club and other community sponsors. The center will sponsor seminars, visiting lecturers and student and faculty exchanges—all designed to help Afghanistan build bridges to the rest of the world.
Tougher Substance Policies

Following the arrests of students last spring, SDSU will enforce new policies to ensure campus safety with regard to drugs and alcohol:

- Alcohol is now prohibited in all campus residence halls with no exceptions.
- SDSU fraternities/sororities cannot host parties with alcohol in the first five weeks of classes.
- Students on disciplinary probation (including alcohol and drug offenses) are ineligible to join a fraternity or sorority.
- New SDSU students must complete SDSU’s e-CHUG evaluation before the end of the semester. e-CHUG is an online self-assessment tool that provides students with accurate and personalized feedback on their use of alcohol and compares their responses to college norms.
- SDSU launched “Aztec Nights” to provide substance-free, entertaining weekend activities during the first five weeks of the school year.

The ISC provides a full range of services, including assistance with immigration issues, for international students and SDSU students going abroad. It also hosts weekly cultural and social programming coordinated by the visiting students.

The ISC opened its third building at the end of August, with the generous help of donors Larry and Gigie Price, as well as other friends and Aztec families. A fourth building and patio area are also planned.

The ISC provides a full range of services, including assistance with immigration issues, for international students and SDSU students going abroad. It also hosts weekly cultural and social programming coordinated by the visiting students.

The ISC provides a full range of services, including assistance with immigration issues, for international students and SDSU students going abroad. It also hosts weekly cultural and social programming coordinated by the visiting students.

The ISC provides a full range of services, including assistance with immigration issues, for international students and SDSU students going abroad. It also hosts weekly cultural and social programming coordinated by the visiting students.

The ISC provides a full range of services, including assistance with immigration issues, for international students and SDSU students going abroad. It also hosts weekly cultural and social programming coordinated by the visiting students.

A River Runs Through It

The San Diego River meanders gently—in places imperceptibly—from its origin near the historic town of Julian, alongside shopping malls and under cracked sidewalks to the mighty Pacific Ocean.

Humans have lived within a stone’s throw of the river for more than 8,000 years. The Kumeyaay tribe depended on it, and so did the early Spanish settlers. But in the last century, as rapid development degraded the river’s water quality and habitat, it became San Diego’s most overlooked resource.

“Many people living in San Diego today are aware that a 52-mile river runs through some of the most populous parts of their city,” said Matt Rahn, director of San Diego State’s Field Stations Program.

Attempting to restore the river’s central role, the field stations program is partnering with the San Diego River Conservancy and the San Diego River Park Foundation to enhance and preserve the San Diego River watershed.

Last April, biologists from SDSU and UCSD’s High-Performance Wireless Research & Education Network (HPWREN) worked with partners in the conservancy and the foundation to install a high-speed, wireless sensor network that will provide remote monitoring of the watershed.

“This system will resemble the one we pioneered in our Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve,” Rahn explained. “It will assess the real-time effects of fire, landslide and chemical contamination or flooding. As a result, responders can react more quickly and effectively to such occurrences.”

Ultimately, SDSU and its partners in this project will maintain the largest such waterway monitoring network in the country to collect long-term, real-time data on water quality, flooding and changes in the ecosystem.

SDSU and the river conservancy are now planning a research center to support research, education and outreach programs involving the San Diego River.
Rising in the East. SDSU’s Imperial Valley Campus celebrates 50 years.

Fifty years ago in Calexico, a fledgling university and a sleepy farming community existed side by side.

In the same spot today stands a thriving university town. It is a town whose prosperity is inextricably linked with San Diego State’s Imperial Valley Campus, which has educated thousands of students.

Calexico’s growth owes much to its fortunate position on the U.S.-Mexico border during a period of flourishing cross-border trade in goods and services. As it grew, Calexico required teachers and the Imperial Valley Campus supplied them. The city needed public administrators and people with business acumen; the Imperial Valley Campus met those needs.

Recognizing a growing demand for local higher education, the university built a second campus about 20 miles north of Calexico in Brawley. Bixby Land Co., long-time owners of the Luckey Ranch near Brawley, donated 200 acres for the campus, which opened in 2004.

Next year, the Imperial Valley Campus will celebrate its 50th anniversary supported by a large and loyal alumni base. Many of its graduates chose to remain in Calexico, Brawley and the surrounding communities, forming the backbone of a modern and thriving Imperial County.

“Having a university here transforms the community,” said Stephen Roeder, dean of the Imperial Valley Campus. “We are creating leaders for this community. You will find our graduates at every level of government and private industry.”

Roberta Burns, recently retired CEO of Imperial County, is an alumnus. So is Victor Carrillo, a county supervisor and twice mayor of Calexico.

Joining them as alumni this year are twin sisters Jazmin Jesus Leon and Jessenia Maria Leon, pictured on the opposite page. They represent the Imperial Valley Campus’ changing demographic.

Both are Freshman Scholars—students who enrolled directly from high school, rather than transfer from community college—and both are considerably younger than the typical 26-year-old Imperial Valley Campus student.

A younger student population could translate in the near future to increased demand for graduate programs to train a new generation of border residents. If so, the Imperial Valley Campus will be ready to respond.
Tray Magnifique

Something is missing from Cuicacalli Dining Hall.

Beginning last year, San Diego State Dining Services removed the familiar plastic trays that students had inevitably loaded with more food than they could possibly eat.

“One student could have a large salad, another three cocktails, and a third a big drink of milk and a sandwich,” said Isner. “We stand by the garbage cans during dinner and watched, said Isner, associate director of Residential Dining and Production. “We stood by the garbage cans during dinner and watched,” said Isner, associate director of Residential Dining and Production. “We stood by the garbage cans during dinner and watched.”

Isner and Paul Melchione, director of Dining Services, hoped eliminating the trays might cut waste and give students better quality food without increasing cost.

Taking only what a plate would hold, they reasoned, students would eat smaller, healthier portions, resulting in a substantial cut in waste, and less time and energy spent cleaning the trays.

They were right. Not only has the change cut consumer waste by 25 percent, the cost savings have allowed Cuicacalli to expand its menu dramatically.

“As we watched the costs drop, we have introduced items like fresh fish, shrimp and steak,” Isner said. “Our salad bar is now 80 percent organic and we always have one organic soup.”

Isner said the first few weeks were rough for some of the students, accustomed to loading their trays, but once he explained how the change translated into an enhanced menu, responses were consistently positive.

Civil engineering major Rosie Sepehe supports the change. “I used to reach for everything and get too much. Now I eat less and don’t throw away so much food.”

Isner hopes the tray-less dining hall will help students make more conscientious decisions about what they eat, while still feeling full.

“Our goal,” he said, “is to be the next best thing to home.”

Aztec Intelligence

Allan Bailey (’64, accounting) was named chief financial officer of the year by the San Diego Business Journal. A former dean of the SDSU College of Business, he is currently CFO of the Campanile Foundation, which fosters private philanthropic support to SDSU. The Daily Aztec, SDSU’s campus newspaper, took home 12 Excellence in Journalism awards from the San Diego chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists’ annual banquet…The Mojalet Dance Collective, under artistic director, Faith Jensen-Ismay (’89, physical education) has secured a permanent performance and studio space at the Rancho Bernardo Winery…This summer, DIRECTV launched the MountainWest Sports Network—the Mtn. The new network will broadcast 30 live regular-season Mountain West Conference football games to a nationwide audience.

Aztec Authors

“Henry Miller Is Under My Bed” By Mary Duncan

SDSU Professor Emerita Mary Duncan’s research had taken her to volatile cities like Belfast, Tehran and Managua. When friends introduced her to the works of Henry Miller, Simone de Beauvoir, Colette and other avant-garde writers, the pleasures of Europe beckoned. She left San Diego and, in 2005, pursued an archive of audiotapes, photographs and correspondence related to Miller’s life. Duncan weaves this material together with her own life story in “Henry Miller Is Under My Bed.”

By Richard Robbins

The Untested Hand” (Backwaters Press, 2008) is the fourth collection of poems published by Richard Robbins (’76, English), director of creative writing at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. As in previous Robbins books, the American West is featured as both literal place and myth. According to reviewer, Philip Dacey, the poems “transform the quotidian into the marvelous, as if any day were the first.”

Like Dizzy Gillespie’s Cheeks” By Scott E. Smith

In his first novel, Scott E. Smith (’83, graphic art) tells the fictional tale of jazz pianist, Sam Greene, and how his taking on life changes after the sudden death of his friend and mentor. “Like Dizzy Gillespie’s Cheeks” (Universe, 2008) is an alternately comic and sad story told against the backdrop of Chicago’s jazz scene.
Horizons

Modeling the Forces of Nature. Math helps researchers predict red tides and build fuel-efficient planes.

By Lorena Nava Ruggero

How do scientists model an earthquake’s effect on Southern California, map the ocean floor, design an airplane to conserve fuel, or predict the red tide in Monterey Bay?

While these problems may seem disparate in nature, the answer to each one begins with something we all learn in school—math.

“Let’s say you want to model the flow around an airplane. That requires the development of a mathematical model and the use of equations,” said Jose Castillo, mathematics and statistics professor at San Diego State University. “Those equations need to be solved. There is no analytic or explicit solution. It needs to be done with mathematical methods.”

Castillo, who founded and directs the nationally ranked SDSU Computational Science Research Center, has collaborated with researchers across the globe to find to better solutions to some of the complicated issues we face.

“I develop mathematical models of the forces of nature,” Castillo said. “We mimic the physics of problems.”

In the lab, Castillo and other SDSU researchers build models that can make sense of millions or billions of data.

No squares or circles

Building these 3-D models is like building the screen of a papier-mâché sculpture, providing something for the design to adhere to and a model to test against projections.

Researchers first generate a mesh that adapts to the geometry of the problem they’re trying to model. Because the models represent large and complicated problems, they can’t be portrayed as simple geometric figures like squares or circles.

Once the model is created, researchers can test it for accuracy with projections built on collected data. In the red tide project in Monterey Bay, for example, researchers tested projections from the mesh models by comparing results to data collected previously.

“In order to validate your model, you check it with real data,” Castillo said. “Right now, we’re validating the model for Monterey Bay with real data.

We’re using the data to run our simulations. For example, we’re checking all the days of August 2003. We’re trying to see if our model can reproduce what happened back then.”

Researchers hope that one day the model will help predict the red tide concentration for the following week, thus protecting surfers from the health-threatening tides and helping the Monterey Bay Aquarium with its research.

True Collaboration

As head of the nationally known SDSU Computational Science Research Center, Castillo works with more than 60 SDSU faculty members in a variety of disciplines, including physics, biology, chemistry, engineering, psychology and health care.

“Our work is both multidisciplinary—because it involves researchers from multiple disciplines; and it is interdisciplinary—because the problems touch on a lot of different disciplines,” Castillo explained.

The research is funded mainly by the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Department of Energy and the National Institutes of Health. For every dollar from the state, the center gets $5 from outside agencies, Castillo said.

Other active participants at the center include more than 40 students enrolled in the doctoral program in computational science, offered jointly by SDSU and Claremont Graduate University. Managed by Castillo, it is ranked ninth in the discipline, according to data released last year by Academic Analytics.

With one of the largest student enrollments on campus at the doctoral level, this program meets growing industry demand for scientists capable of working across disciplines to create virtual models that help solve the mysteries of our world.
Imagine deflecting hostile stares at the mall. Imagine steeling yourself against a stranger’s angry words. Imagine knowing you will be judged for wearing a head scarf. Imagine feeling like an enemy in your own country.

Imagine life in America as a young Muslim.

Since Sept. 11, 2001, when Arab extremists crashed jumbo jets into the U.S. Pentagon and New York City’s Twin Towers, people in this country have viewed adherents of Islam through a filtered lens.

As a corollary of the “war on terror,” many Americans harbor mistrust and apprehension toward the Muslims in their midst. Their suspicion manifests itself in various forms, from avoidance to outright hostility.

“There’s a national subculture of fear around Islam; anyone can say something at any time,” observed Ghada Osman, associate professor at San Diego State University and director of the Center for Arabic and Islamic Studies.

Most Americans may interact cordially with Muslim neighbors and co-workers, but the intolerance is prevalent enough that Muslims living in this country face almost daily challenges to their religious beliefs and customs.

The immigrant story

Seven years after the attack on New York’s Twin Towers, non-Muslim Americans still have no more than a rudimentary understanding of the religion practiced by 1.3 billion people throughout the world and 6 million in their own country. Muslims in the U.S. are, at best, tolerated as outsiders and, at worst, attacked as anti-American.

On the flip side, Americans are now more conscious of (though not necessarily more informed about) the Middle East, ancestral home to a high percentage of U.S. Muslims. The heightened awareness of Muslims in American society has generated dialogue among those open to learning about the tenets of Islam and the impediments to living a devout life in this secular society.

Many of the SDSU students interviewed for this article are the children of immigrants hailing from nations within a broad swath of land that stretches from northwest Africa to Indonesia.

For the most part, they are typical college students—bright, sociable, tech-savvy and lost without their iPods. Their outlook on personal freedom is unmistakably American, and they seem to have a heightened awareness of its value.

Once they arrived, religious freedom was supposed to be a given. And it is but with strings attached.

Someone they know—their parents or maybe their friends’ parents—came to this country seeking relief from political persecution. Once they arrived, religious freedom was supposed to be a given. And it is, but with strings attached.

Obliged to cope with suspicion and misunderstanding, these young people struggle with the daily rituals of observing Islam in secular America. Pride in their Islamic culture, tradition and history resides uneasily alongside anger at the handful of Muslim extremists who changed their lives forever.

Knee-jerk discrimination

“It has become a constant, this anti-Muslim feeling,” said Homayra Yusufi, a 21-year-old political science graduate who recently completed the competitive summer program at the University of Michigan’s Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy.

“You have to prove your patriotism because it is questioned.”

Yusufi was in high school on Sept. 11, 2001. That year, the neighbors skipped her home on Halloween. She heard classmates advocate the
Sept. 11 changed these young people’s lives forever.

bombing of Islamic countries. She remembers a girl at school running up to a Muslim classmate and shouting, “This is for 9/11,” before screaming in her ear.

The knee-jerk discrimination left Yusufi feeling helpless. She wanted to speak out and defend her religion, but didn’t know how. So, she began working with the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), whose mission is to change public perception about Islam.

Last January, though her Afghan parents discouraged it, Yusufi decided to wear the head scarf. She had never imagined herself a poster child for Islam, but when her world changed, so did she.

“Sept. 11 happened at such a crucial time in my life,” said Yusufi. “I think it deeply influenced my personality and my identity. Because people were attacking me, I had to stand up for my religion. I had to consider: was I a Muslim because my parents were Muslim or because I truly believed?”

A bin Laden person

As Yusufi spoke, her friend of 10 years, Sally Reda, nodded empathetically. Reda’s skin is lighter than Yusufi’s, and she eschews the head scarf. People often do not realize she is Muslim—a mixed blessing, to be sure.

Unlike Yusufi, Reda is not a magnet for the hostile sentiments of strangers. On the other hand, she hears harsh criticisms and anti-Muslim slurs not necessarily intended for her ears. On campus, she witnessed one student telling another that her dark hair made her look like a “Bin Laden” person. Reda recalled her own exasperation at the remark.

“What was she talking about? What is a bin Laden person? Usually, when I overhear something like that, I will say, ‘Excuse me, I’m Muslim, and what you said is really rude.’ Sometimes, I can’t believe the things I hear.”

Reda was vacationing with her family in Lebanon on Sept. 11, 2001. Her parents, both American citizens, postponed their return to the U.S. for a month afterwards, fearing repercussions for travelers from the Middle East. When they finally landed in San Diego, Reda felt anxious and uncomfortable.

At school, many Muslim friends faced harassment. Fear stopped Reda from going to the mosque, though it had been the center of her social life. She refused to let her mother leave the house alone lest her head scarf invite verbal or physical attack.

“I considered the terrorists stupid people for doing what they did, and I was angry with the media for printing untrue things about Islam,” Reda said. “I understand that the public response was typical because most people don’t know any Muslims, but it still upset me. I almost wanted to give up. I didn’t want to have to explain about Islam anymore.”

So many misconceptions

Explaining Islam to an ill-informed public is both mission and bane for many American Muslims. Almost daily, they face the irony of having to defend their beliefs in a country whose Bill of Rights guarantees freedom of religion.

Consider the controversy surrounding presidential candidate Barack Obama’s religious identity. Throughout the 2008 election campaign, rumors of his “secret” Islamic affiliation have insidiously implied that bringing Muslim is a political liability.

“Clearly there is a campaign to discredit Obama as a Muslim,” said Dipak Gupta, SDSU’s Fred J. Hansen professor of Peace Studies and the author of nearly a dozen books on terrorism, ethnic conflict and international policy. “If he were a Muslim and he is not—what purpose would that serve?”

Eldegwy frequently speaks to local groups about his religion.

He explains that Islam condemns the terrorist tactics of al Qaeda and other extremist groups. He also cautions his audiences against painting all Muslims with the same broad brush.

Certain stereotypes, like the notion that Islam considers women inferior to men, try his patience. Eldegwy’s wife is an engineer and he dreams that his infant daughter will someday pursue a Ph.D.

“Islamically, men and women are equal,” Eldegwy said. “They have their own separate roles. Of course, women can seek education. Islam encourages them. They can work. My grandfather did not allow his daughters to attend school, but that was his decision. The determinations of individuals or even entire regimes do not always reflect Islam.”

An ethnic identity

Though Islamic principles are universal, the observance of Islam differs from country to country. Pakistan, from Iran to Indonesia. Historically, culture and tradition have shaped religious customs in Muslim and non-Muslim countries alike. But the events of Sept. 11 changed the dynamic, giving rise to a new Muslim ethnicity.
American-born Muslims will define the future of Islam in our country.

"We are Americans, too. We love San Diego and we enjoy life here."

"I think the strength of Muslim students’ religious affiliation changed after 9/11," said SDSU’s Osman. "Since then, being Muslim in this country has in some ways become similar to being Jewish in this country.

"People may identify themselves as being ethnically Jewish, even if they are not religiously Jewish," observed Osman, "and now Muslims who may not be religious are still somehow seen as being ‘ethnically’ Muslim. Sept. 11 created an atmosphere in which that identity is foremost, even if a person is not religious."

In Islamic communities nationwide, the newfound identity and pride are strongest among youth. Attendance at mosques is rising. More young women are wearing the head scarf, a simple piece of cloth that has become a lightning rod for misunderstanding between the Muslim and non-Muslim populations.

In 2004, the French parliament overwhelmingly approved a law banning Islamic head scarves in public schools. The decision for years. Homayra Yusufi was one of them.

"My younger sister was the first of us three girls to wear it," she recalled. “Then my older sister, and finally, me. I always wanted to, but I wasn’t sure if I could handle it. My main concern was being a good ambassador for my religion.

For example, if I cut off another driver on the road, the person might think, that Muslim girl cut me off. You become a symbol of Islam."

The pursuit of Islam

Post 9/11, Yusufi and young Muslims like her have also become symbols of who they are. They express themselves freely “are in a unique position between Western and Muslim civilizations,” wrote Akbar Ahmed, a former high commissioner from Pakistan to Great Britain and currently the Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies at American University.

"Islam does not support judging others," Alhabri said. "It has nothing to do with rejecting non-Muslims. Islam is about building bonds and learning compassion. We are a community of believers.”

Each of the young Muslims interviewed for this article is well aware of the constraints imposed on friends and families living in certain Islamic countries. They have heard their parents’ and grandparents’ stories. They have been raised with the immigrant’s profound appreciation for America’s opportunities and freedoms.

American Muslims who can express themselves freely are "in a unique position between Western and Muslim civilizations," wrote Akbar Ahmed, a former high commissioner from Pakistan to Great Britain and currently the Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies at American University.

The pursuit of Islam is a journey of self-discovery—a rite of passage—for young worshippers of Allah. As the largest-ever generation of American-born Muslims, they will define the future of Islam in this country. They will be the bridge between America and the Muslim world as the 21st century unfolds.

"After learning this, I knew I was ready to commit to wearing a head scarf as an act of faith and trust," Shalabi said.

There is another facet of wearing the scarf that non-Muslim’s don’t instinctively understand—the heavy responsibility of being a symbol of Islam. Muslim women say those who cover their heads are automatically held to a higher standard.

"People see a Muslim on the trolley,” Abdullah said, “and they think, ‘Is this guy going to blow us up?’ As a minority, our voices are not heard, so people don’t understand that we are Americans, too. We love San Diego and we enjoy life here.”

Misunderstandings arise between Muslim and non-Muslim Americans because the two groups rarely interact. Abdullah said. Americans read about Islam, but have little opportunity to hear what he calls “a pure voice of Islam” without the negative stereotypes.

Last year, as president of SDSU’s Muslim Students Association, Abdullah worked to establish stronger connections between the disparate Muslim students on campus. Kamilla Alhabri, a sophomore, will continue that work as incoming president.

"Islam is based on the concept of one ummah which means that we are all one community," she said. ”People sometimes focus on our differences instead of our similarities."
Illustration: Tom Voss

How would you demonstrate basic division to a first grader?

Like this:

\[
4 \div 3.00
\]

Or like this:

\[
\frac{3}{4}
\]

Or would you ask the child to share three cookies equally among four friends? Chances are youngsters will understand the concept more easily if it connects with their own experiences.

Teaching children math as a component of daily life is not a new idea; rather, it is one ingredient in a complex recipe to improve math-teaching effectiveness in San Diego County school districts.

In 2000, with a grant from QUALCOMM Incorporated, San Diego State University pioneered the Improving Student Achievement in Mathematics (ISAM) program.

ISAM’s director, Nadine Bezuk, a professor of teacher education at SDSU, questioned traditional pedagogy during her years as a middle school math teacher. She had prepared what she thought was a clear, coherent lesson on fractions. But many students failed the test.

“I realized that students presented with the same information had different ways of processing it, and I decided that I needed to learn more about how kids learn math,” she said.

Bezuk brought that philosophy to ISAM, whose instructors have trained nearly 2,500 teachers in both mathematics content knowledge and teaching effectiveness. Through those teachers, more than 200,000 students county-wide have been helped by ISAM.

In the Sweetwater School District, the passing rate for 10th grade students taking the high school exit exam rose from 61 percent to 78 percent after the district partnered with ISAM.

The results in Sweetwater stand in sharp contrast to the national trend. American 15-year-olds ranked 25 among 30 developed nations in math literacy and problem-solving in a recent international assessment by the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

Concerned about the relatively poor U.S. rank in student math achievement, the National Mathematics Advisory Panel concluded that K-8 math teachers need more rigorous preparation and training to improve their effectiveness in the classroom.

ISAM responds to that concern, giving teachers the specialized content knowledge they need to teach math.

“Relative to math, it’s a very different world out there from the one in which many teachers were trained,” said Jane Gawronski, director of assessment and outreach for ISAM.

At the same time, ISAM instructors encourage teachers to build math skills in ways that make sense to their students. That might involve standing back and allowing different students to use different strategies.

Many teachers involved in ISAM training are also enrolled in SDSU’s two-year math specialist certificate program.

Angela Hurson was a first-grade teacher at Burbank Elementary School when she began working toward the certificate. During her second year in the program, she began to apply what she had learned to her own classroom.

“I could see the difference very quickly,” Hurson recalled. “My students were thinking and reasoning beyond a first-grade level.”

Multiply Hurson’s results by 2,000 or 3,000 and it becomes clear that ISAM is helping San Diego County students acquire the math knowledge they’ll need in the real world.

Illustration: Tom Voss

Divide and Multiply

ISAM encourages teachers to build math skills in ways that make sense to students, like allowing different students to use different strategies.

360 editor Coleen L. Geraghty recently interviewed Weintraub by telephone.

360 Magazine:
Arnold Schwarzenegger appears to be larger than life. Does that explain his appeal?

Dan Weintraub:
There are two Arnold Schwarzeneggers. One is the public bodybuilder turned movie star and now governor of the largest state in the country. In public he is “playing” Arnold. He fills up a room; he draws a crowd instantly; people try to touch him and be connected to him.

But when it comes to the nitty-gritty work of governing, he is humble, almost modest. One on one, he is a great conversation partner. He has interests outside of politics; he asks questions; he doesn’t interrupt like most politicians do. Early in his term, he forged alliances in Sacramento simply by being open, unlike his predecessor, Gray Davis, who was a loner. The governor uses his celebrity at will, particularly with large groups, but in small groups, he is what you would call a regular guy.

360 Magazine:
Now that he is a politician with a proven track record, is he still proud of his previous careers as bodybuilder and actor?

Dan Weintraub:
Very much so. In both cases, he started out small and rose to the top. First, he was a scrawny teenager who willed himself into the bodybuilding field. As an actor, he possessed marginal skills and a less-than-stellar command of the English language and somehow created a niche for himself to become fabulously successful. He is proud of those achievements and sees them as proof that anyone can achieve success by willing themselves to succeed. Deep down at his core, that remains his defining principle—if you work hard enough and you’re determined and you will it, you can make anything happen.

360 Magazine:
Most people know that the governor’s wife, Maria Shriver, is the daughter of Eunice Kennedy, sister of the late President John F. Kennedy, and Sargent Shriver, founding director of the Peace Corps. Can you tell us about the influence of the Kennedy/Shriver clan on Schwarzenegger’s life?

Dan Weintraub:
At the time he met Maria Shriver, Schwarzenegger was inwardly focused and very much the individualist. Her parents were a huge influence in opening his eyes to the struggles faced by some Americans. The volunteer work he did with the Shrivers gradually changed his view of the government’s role in creating and preserving equal opportunity.

As the governor’s wife, Maria Shriver has been very public, but they shield their children from the limelight. He likes people to believe he is quite the tough dad. He almost boasts about his disciplinary tactics, like hiding toys that have been left out. But it is mainly in fun, to tweak the kids and remind them of their responsibilities at home.

A veteran journalist puts Schwarzenegger under the lens
360 Magazine: Nearly two years into Schwarzenegger’s second term, California has the same budget problems that led to the recall of former governor Gray Davis. Will Schwarzenegger’s failures to balance the budget become his ultimate legacy?

Dan Weintraub: If he doesn’t get on top of it before he leaves office, it will be his legacy for the short term. He doesn’t seem concerned about it. I think he feels these budget crises come and go in the broad sweep of history, but that people like (former California governors) Pat Brown and Ronald Reagan are remembered for much bigger things. He wants to be remembered for his environmental policies and his push to rebuild California’s infrastructure, culminating with a huge deal on the future of the state’s water supply and storage. I think he still hopes to address health care as the crowning achievement of his governorship.

To his credit, Schwarzenegger really is a futurist; he thinks 10 or 20 years ahead. He is a man of vision, who tries to force or cajole people into dealing with problems that have been swept under the rug. But his ability to get certain things done is hindered by his inability to balance the budget and the distraction that creates.

360 Magazine: What is Schwarzenegger’s most obvious character flaw and how has it affected his performance as governor?

Dan Weintraub: He is impatient. Most of his mistakes happened when he failed to take the long view. That’s especially true on the budget. He has cowered from year to year without any long-term plan to get the state out of the red. His desire to move things forward—to cut deals with the legislature and just get the budget done each year—has outweighed his desire to actually get it done right.

The same was true in 2005 when he took his agenda to a special election and was rejected by the voters. He had grown impatient with the legislative process, but when he put together his package for the ballot, it was a mess. There was no coherent theme tying the different pieces together.

360 Magazine: During the summer, there was talk of Schwarzenegger becoming energy czar for either John McCain or Barack Obama. Is that where his political future lies?

Dan Weintraub: He didn’t actually say he wanted to be the energy czar. He was asked about it and said that after he leaves office, he wants to continue in public service, either directly through a government post of some kind, or through his own private foundation. I think the most likely scenario is along the lines of what (former President) Bill Clinton has done—forming a non-profit foundation to support the causes he has championed. That would allow Schwarzenegger to retain control over his agenda and remain active in public life.

Schwarzenegger really does enjoy the strokes he’s getting as a serious policy player, particularly on the environment and health care. He has been motivated him to run for governor and keep him in a public role that fulfills his need for attention and public recognition.

360 Magazine: Is Arnold Schwarzenegger the consummate symbol of California’s future?

Dan Weintraub: I think he is more of a bridge to the new California. Essentially, he is a traditionalist, personally and culturally aligned with the old European mindset. On the other hand, he is open and curious. He seems committed to laying the groundwork for the future. Given his non-partisan style, he is a harbinger of the new independent California, which is also thrown off by the hyper-partisanship of the last decades. It will take a few more governors to get there, but we are beginning to see the change. Young Democrats are refusing to line up with the old agenda. There are leaders out there in the Latino and Asian communities who see economic growth and entrepreneurship, not big government, as the path to success for their struggling constituents. When one of these political figures—a Latino or Asian woman— inherits the governor’s office, then the new California will have arrived.

“The governor uses his celebrity at will, but in small groups, he is what you would call a regular guy.”

Daniel Weintraub

Born and raised in San Diego, Daniel Weintraub has been covering California politics and public policy since 1983. He was a Capitol correspondent for the Los Angeles Times for eight years and the Capitol bureau chief for the Orange County Register for five years before joining the Sacramento Bee as public affairs columnist.

Weintraub was the 2000 recipient of the John Jacobs Award from the Center for California Studies for excellence in reporting on California government and politics.

In 2003, he started the California Insider, the first blog written by a full-time political journalist in California. That has evolved into The Conversation with Daniel Weintraub, a weekly Web forum for debate on issues important to Californians. He also blogs on the Bee’s Web site, Capitol Alert.

360 Magazine asked Weintraub if he ever tires of covering California politics.

“I think it’s the most fascinating place in the country to live in and write about. It is, as this governor has said, a nation state unto itself. We’re creating an entirely new society here in terms of ethic and economic diversity. I enjoy writing about that much more than I do about the political game. What interests me is public policy and the effects of public policy in the real world. It’s always changing.”

Dan Weintraub:

I think he is more of a bridge to the new California. Essentially, he is a traditionalist, personally and culturally aligned with the old European mindset. On the other hand, he is open and curious. He seems committed to laying the groundwork for the future. Given his non-partisan style, he is a harbinger of the new independent California, which is also thrown off by the hyper-partisanship of the last decades. It will take a few more governors to get there, but we are beginning to see the change. Young Democrats are refusing to line up with the old agenda. There are leaders out there in the Latino and Asian communities who see economic growth and entrepreneurship, not big government, as the path to success for their struggling constituents. When one of these political figures—a Latino or Asian woman— inherits the governor’s office, then the new California will have arrived.

“The governor uses his celebrity at will, but in small groups, he is what you would call a regular guy.”

Daniel Weintraub

Born and raised in San Diego, Daniel Weintraub has been covering California politics and public policy since 1983. He was a Capitol correspondent for the Los Angeles Times for eight years and the Capitol bureau chief for the Orange County Register for five years before joining the Sacramento Bee as public affairs columnist.

Weintraub was the 2000 recipient of the John Jacobs Award from the Center for California Studies for excellence in reporting on California government and politics.

In 2003, he started the California Insider, the first blog written by a full-time political journalist in California. That has evolved into The Conversation with Daniel Weintraub, a weekly Web forum for debate on issues important to Californians. He also blogs on the Bee’s Web site, Capitol Alert.

360 Magazine asked Weintraub if he ever tires of covering California politics.

“I think it’s the most fascinating place in the country to live in and write about. It is, as this governor has said, a nation state unto itself. We’re creating an entirely new society here in terms of ethic and economic diversity. I enjoy writing about that much more than I do about the political game. What interests me is public policy and the effects of public policy in the real world. It’s always changing.”
Working alongside Chinese researchers, two San Diego State professors have a chance to save the golden monkey from extinction.

In the dense forests of southern China’s Guizhou province lives an elusive creature with a dubious claim to fame.

Known for its dark golden fur, distinctive flat nose and timid disposition, *Rhinopithecus brelichi*, the Guizhou snub-nosed monkey, is among the most endangered species on the planet. Humans are its prime enemy and, paradoxically, its only hope for survival.

San Diego State University geography professor Li An is among those working to ensure the continued existence of the intriguing creature affectionately known as China’s golden monkey.

“Once these species are lost, they are gone forever,” An said. “It would be a tragedy if future generations were never able to see [the monkeys] or do research about them.”

A Chinese native, An has long been intrigued with his country’s endangered species.

His doctoral research examined the impacts of human activity on giant panda conservation. An linked the effects of human
socioeconomic and lifestyle dynamics to changes in the pandas’ habitat, and developed a model of action to protect their environment.

Victims of modernization

Of all the species listed by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species as “critically endangered,” 25 percent are found in China. And that list has grown as China’s booming population inches ever closer to the most remote corners of the country.

Hundreds of years ago, the monkeys roamed freely throughout southern China’s lush subtropical forests. But China’s march toward development turned forests into farmland and factories.

Even the Fanjingshan reserve is not sacrosanct. At its edges, rural residents cut trees to use for firewood or timber, further reducing the primates’ habitat.

As the various units move through the forests, Tan explained, individual monkeys coordinate their movement by communicating with each other through distinctive vocalization patterns. Simple contact calls resemble a human baby’s whine, while a “hoo-chuck” alarm call warns of approaching danger.

Tens said snub-nosed monkeys have developed the same kinds of complex behaviors that enable humans to live peaceably in large social groups. For example, although the monkeys prefer a defined breeding season—from September through November—they mate throughout the year. Mating outside the breeding season appears to be a socially motivated behavior tied to reconciliation after conflict, Tan said.

Reclaiming lost habitats

Tan’s research on the Sichuan snub-nosed monkey has provided a solid basis for An and Riley as they attempt to learn more about—and protect—its cousin in Guizhou. CRES can boast a proven record of success in advancing scientific knowledge of Asian primates, preserving existing habitats, reclaiming lost habitats and discouraging human hunting to help preserve endangered species.

Early next year, SDSU geography and anthropology students will join the Guizhou snub-nosed monkey project, working at the Fanjingshan National Nature Reserve alongside students from the Chinese Academy of Sciences, a partner in the research. With An’s cameras monitoring the monkeys’ behavior, student researchers in the field will collect valuable additional data about the ecology of their habitat, including food sources.

Both Tan and An believe their work will help ensure the survival and resurgence of the Guizhou golden monkey.

“As we more clearly understand the behavior of the Guizhou snub-nosed monkeys and the effects of human interaction on their habitat, we will be able to make more specific recommendations to improve their chances of survival,” An said.
Playing Hardball. Stephen Strasburg is among the best ballplayers in SDSU history.

Aztec baseball fans—take note. Stephen Strasburg is giving his right arm a lot of TLC.

The San Diego State pitching phenomenon, coming off standout performances with Team USA at the Beijing Olympics, was back at the gym in early September for daily conditioning workouts with his SDSU teammates. Only Strasburg’s right arm got a reprieve.

He and his coaches decided to give it a few extra weeks of well-deserved rest after Strasburg’s extraordinary 2008 season, in which he set multiple Mountain West Conference records, earned a spot on the USA Baseball National (collegiate) team and capped the year as a starting pitcher for the Olympic baseball squad.

“What an unbelievable experience for him,” said SDSU pitching coach Rusty Filter. “Stephen was part of a national collegiate team that went undefeated this year. In his Olympic starts, he dominated the Netherlands and held his own against Cuba.”

Strasburg was the youngest player on the 2008 Olympic team, and the first college player to be named to that prestigious squad since the decision to include minor leaguers beginning in the 2000 games. The U.S. team won the bronze medal in Beijing this year.

Strasburg’s talent is indisputable, but he has worked hard to be the kind of player who can rack up double strikeout figures in six consecutive games and hurls fastballs at triple-digit speed.

When the SDSU junior takes the mound for the Aztecs next spring, Major League Baseball (MLB) scouts will be watching. At this rate, Strasburg is expected to be first overall selection in the 2009 MLB amateur draft.

“I always dreamed of playing in the major leagues ever since my grandma played catch with me in the backyard,” Strasburg said. “I remember watching Tony Gwynn with the Padres and I am proud to have him as a coach here at San Diego State.”

As a West Hills High School senior, Strasburg declined offers to play at Stanford and Yale. Both his parents are SDSU alumni, and young Stephen relished the chance to play for family and friends with the Aztec team he had long supported.

“I can honestly say I would not be where I am today in the game of baseball without the help and support of my coaches and teammates at San Diego State,” Strasburg said. “We’re all on a mission to win.”
Giving Back

Lamden Gift Honors a Legacy, Creates a Legend

By Nicole K. Millett

The extraordinary man whose name is synonymous with the School of Accountancy’s celebrated past will now be linked to its future achievements.

Charles Lamden, who passed away in 1992 after a 35-year academic career, was mentor to hundreds of San Diego State’s most successful accounting graduates. During the 1950s and ’60s, he was chair of the accounting department and eventually became the first dean of SDSU’s School of Business (later the College of Business Administration).

In honor of Lamden’s contributions to SDSU and in recognition of his deep attachment to the university, Lamden’s wife, Gertrude, has made a $10 million naming gift to the School of Accountancy.

The Charles W. Lamden School of Accountancy is the first named school on campus, and Gertrude Lamden’s gift is one of the largest ever to SDSU.

It will support faculty, student and program excellence—including recruitment and retention of outstanding professors—and will fund a variety of other initiatives designed to transform the school into one of the nation’s most respected.

With more than 700 students and 35 faculty, emeritus faculty and lecturers, the School of Accountancy is nationally recognized in the academic community. A hallmark of the school is the consistent involvement of faculty and students with accounting professionals in the real world, a model established by Charles Lamden years ago.

Dr. William “Bill” Lamden, Charles’ son, said his father’s dedication to San Diego State, and particularly to its students, was a fundamental imperius for the gift.

“He would be proud and honored to know that, with the support of his colleagues and former students, the college’s School of Accountancy will now share in his success and bear his name,” Lamden said.

Marriage of shared interests

Both Charles and Trudy (as she is known to friends) came from humble beginnings. Through hard work and perseverance, they gradually built a comfortable life for themselves and raised two children, Dr. William Lamden and Dr. Carol Lamden Corby.

With a doctoral degree in economics from the University of California, Berkeley, Charles Lamden went to work for the local accounting firm Everts and Esenoff, which later merged with the national firm Peat, Marwick & Mitchell and is now KPMG.

Trudy Lamden also joined Everts and Esenoff, becoming its first female certified public accountant at the firm’s highest level of management. Friends of the family remember Charles’ pride in the successes of his trail-blazing wife.

After several years in the private sector, Lamden joined San Diego State College as a professor in 1946, and later was appointed chair of the Department of Accounting and Management. He championed the establishment of the School of Business Administration (later the College of Business Administration), for which he served as dean from 1954 to 1965. In that role, he was largely responsible for its formal accreditation.

A model of excellence

In 1965, Lamden left SDSU to spend more than a decade with KPMG, first as a senior partner in the Paris office and later as a top executive in New York.

Given Back
During this period, Trudy’s career changed paths. She developed an aptitude for real estate investment. Success in this new endeavor augmented the Lamden family assets that now enable Trudy to make this significant gift acknowledging her husband’s contributions to SDSU.

In 1975, the Lamden family returned to San Diego, and Charles rejoined the School of Accountancy at SDSU. Until his retirement in 1991, he continued to teach and mentor.

He was twice voted outstanding professor of accountancy by the students of Beta Alpha Psi, the influential professor” by the Cap and Gown Society and received the honorary accounting organization.

In 1996, he was posthumously recognized by the SDSU chapter of Mortar Board, the national honor society, for an outstanding career exemplifying the ideals of scholarship, leadership, dedication and service.

Sharon Lightner, the William E. Cole Director of SDSU’s School of Accountancy, said the school has moved closer to its goal of achieving international recognition in the field.

“Charles Lamden: First Among Equals”

“He was a larger-than-life figure whose energy and passion commanded attention in the classroom.”

Another Lamden student, Patrick Howard, has never forgotten his professor’s definition of internal accounting controls as “polices and procedures put in place so that otherwise honest people won’t be tempted to do what they ordinarily would not.”

Howard said the definition reflected Lamden’s experience, wisdom, humanity and humor. “I loved that man, and I went to see him for years after I graduated,” recalled Howard, now CEO of LifeScape Technologies.

It was common for students and colleagues to spend hours in Lamden’s office, said Allan Bailey, former dean of the College of Business Administration and currently chief financial and information officer for SDSU’s Division of University Relations and Development. Bailey said Lamden was happiest when students came to his office to chat.

Bailey remembers conversations with Lamden about the responsibilities of accounting professionals and the role they played in society.

“It was Charles’ strongly-held belief that accounting was a profession for which societal expectations were high. The idea of serving society was a cornerstone of his belief system,” Bailey said.

All who knew him said Lamden set a high standard for his students, colleagues and the accounting profession.

“The bar was high, and we knew it,” Regan recalled. “Through his example, Charles helped us to establish our own internal barometers of excellence. If you look at those who emulated him, you’ll see that a majority went on to achieve wonderful things.”
Class Notes

1958

58. David Stine ★ (English), a teacher, administrator and San Bernardino County Board of Education member for 18 years, now has a school named in his honor. The David Stine Chaffey West County Community Day School opened in August in Montclair, Calif.

1965

60. Edward Blessing ★ (undergraduate studies) was named a "Significant Sig," a designation given to individuals whose achievements honor the Sigma Chi Fraternity.

62. Darlene Gould Davies ★ (communicative sciences; ’65, MA communicative disorders) was appointed to the San Diego County Commission on the Status of Women.

67. Tom Gable ★ (journalism) was elected to the Public Relations Society of America’s College of Fellows, a group of senior leaders in the profession.

69. James A. Davis ★ (71, MA kinesiology) received the 2008 Distinguished Faculty Scholarly and Creative Achievement Award from California State University, Long Beach.

1978

70. Michael McKim (social science) is a substitute teacher, a part-time education associate at Legoland and an ordained Presbyterian pastor in Oceanside, Calif.; Dell Schroeder (MA music) is founding director of Band at the Beach, a summer music enrichment camp in San Diego. She plays saxophone in the San Diego Concert Band.

71. Alan Brown (social science; ’72, teaching credential) retired after 35 years teaching in Escondido and 25 years on the San Marcos School District Board of Education; Ward Bushee (history) is executive vice president and editor of the San Francisco Chronicle. He was previously editor and vice president of the Arizona Republic in Phoenix.

72. Roger Kemp ★ (real estate; ’74, MS public administration) was appointed a fellow of the Academy of Political Science and is researching his next book, "Documents of American Democracy."

When I was at State...

My favorite places at San Diego State were Love Library and the student-run radio station KCR. I did a short sportscast two or three times weekly for most of my time at State and called my commentaries Sports Leeway. I always ended with these words—"Anyway, my name’s Elder and that’s what I think." Later, as a professional sportswriter, I used the title Sports Leeway for my newspaper column. But I never wrote for the Daily Aztec; I was too confident about my road to radio greatness to bother getting print experience.

Lee Elder (’79, journalism), has been sports director for two radio stations and sports editor for two newspapers. He now runs his own public relations firm in the auto racing industry and is a member of the Ventura County Board of Education.

Do you have a favorite memory from your days at San Diego State? Write to us at 360mag@mail.sdsu.edu

360mag@mail.sdsu.edu | 368 MAGAZINE

Giving Back

Oh, the Places They’ll Go

Sickels’ Endowment Supports Children’s Lit at SDSU

Christopher “Kit” Sickels’ relationship with San Diego State began when he was a child. From kindergarten through sixth grade, he attended the Campus Laboratory School, an elementary school operated by the college to train teachers in its credential program. Known for its creativity and rigorous curriculum, the school sparked Sickels’ early interest in books.

Sickels later returned to campus to earn an education degree from SDSU, as did his mother and his wife, Karen. In fact, husband and wife began their careers as teachers in the San Diego City Schools.

Over the years, Sickels’ love of books deepened, along with his appreciation for SDSU. Since 2002, he has served on the board of directors of The Campanile Foundation, SDSU’s philanthropic auxiliary. In addition, he and Karen remain dedicated to their alma mater’s success, demonstrating their commitment with a $1 million gift to the SDSU library.

The Christopher D. and Karen Sickels Endowment for Special Collection in Children’s Literature will support SDSU’s premier children’s literature programs, which comprises the nation’s largest facility in the field. The university hopes to offer the first humanities doctorate in the California State University system in this specialty, and due to the Sickels’ generosity, its scholars will have the research materials necessary to excel in their discipline. In addition, the gift creates the largest single endowment ever to SDSU’s library.

The Sickels’ gift fulfilled two primary objectives to serve all students and benefit both children and teachers. “We liked the idea of being able to support the library because it is a resource for the entire campus and larger community,” said Sickels. “Helping SDSU purchase rare and unique books for children also reflects our love of children and those who devote their lives to educating and inspiring them.”

A successful entrepreneur who built his fortune in real estate development, Sickels now invests in business ventures and activities he enjoys, such as the Milagro Farm Vineyards and Winery in Ramona, and antiquarian book collecting. Among his prized collection are many Dr. Seuss books.

“We were fortunate to have Theodore Geisel [Dr. Seuss] as a neighbor years ago. He helped me build my collection. Now I’m a few first editions short of a complete collection,” Sickels mused. “Theodore Geisel once said, ‘Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting. So… get on your way.’ It makes me even more determined to fill in the gaps.”

—Nicole K. Millett

Lee Elder broadcasting on KCR.
1990s

94. Capt. Ruth Christopherson (real estate) assumed the responsibilities of commanding officer assigned to the Fleet and Industrial Supply Center, Naval Station Norfolk, Va. Shawn Potter (history) is vice president, marketing, for SbridoEnds, overseeing global marketing. He has trained and lectured in China, Russia, Australia and Europe. Terrie Leigh Relf (MA English) has published “My Friend, the Poet” (San Diego Publishing), her fourth collection of poetry.

95. Guadalupe Corona (Chicana/Chicano studies) is systemswide director for the Alliant International University Office for Latino Achievement Initiatives. Shawn Davidson (interior design) is senior associate at the design and interior design firm, Gensler, an international architecture and interior design firm. Alex Yates (speech communication) is communications director, North America, for the Island Press Association, a media research and training organization.

96. Josh Suchon (journalism) is co-host of PostGame Dodger Talk on 790 KABC; he is also senior manager, content development, for the coast2coastlive.com network. Josh Suchon (MS business management) earned a master’s degree in clinical psychology from Pacifica Graduate Institute.

97. Ann Archbold (Master of Fine Arts) is chair of the Department of Theatre and Dance at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she is an associate professor of lighting design.

2000s

98. Katie MacLeod (social work) has published “William Battles the Angry Squiggles” (Marco Products), intended for teachers and counselors.

99. Midori Connolly (international business) owns Pulse Staging and Events, Inc., which recently completed the industry’s first sustainability policy. David Cordero (management) won first place in the Society of Professional Journalists’ Utah Chapter for best sports reporting. He is a former sports editor for the Daily Aztec.

Harvey Goodfriend 1935 – 2008

A student, staff member, volunteer and mentor at San Diego State, Harvey Goodfriend was dedicated to the university from which he earned a degree in management in 1957. As a student, he was treasurer of Associated Students and leader of Zeta Beta Tau. In 1961, having completed a master’s degree at State, he became manager of Aztec Shops, a position he held for 58 years. He continued to serve SDSU even after retirement as a mentor for student entrepreneurs and a business plan team coach.

100. Andrew Bauer (MS business administration) was named client service director at Turner Investment Partners in Beverly, Pa.; Ryan Combies (art) is employed with HGA Architects and Engineers, leading the company’s sustainable policies in San Francisco; Jeff Eckstein (MM music) conducted “Madama Butterfly” for the Miami Lyric Opera; Joseph Farrow (graphic design) is a designer with Combies Corporate Communications; and Joseph Farrow (MS business administration) is a designer with AArrow Management Group.

101. Rebekah Volo (social work) is lead prevention specialist for the ElderVenue program at the Area Agency on Aging near Phoenix, Ariz. She married last year and is expecting her first child in December.

102. Andrew Bauer (MS business administration) was named client service director at Turner Investment Partners in Beverly, Pa.; Ryan Combies (art) is employed with HGA Architects and Engineers, leading the company’s sustainable policies in San Francisco; Jeff Eckstein (MM music) conducted “Madama Butterfly” for the Miami Lyric Opera; Joseph Farrow (graphic design) is a designer with Combies Corporate Communications; and Joseph Farrow (MS business administration) is a designer with AArrow Management Group.

103. Caleb Goh (musical theatre) also completed an artist’s certificate in voice at SDSU. He teaches dance at La Jolla Country Day School; Jana Mahal (business administration) established her own company, Ultimate Solutions LLC, in the field of power and home automation in Dubai; Jeremy Wilcox (criminal justice) is an associate attorney with the family law firm Davies & Rosenberry.

104. Carla Ponti (MM music) sings with the San Diego Opera Chorus. She has launched a Website for SDSU music alumni at http://www.rundboard.com/boardsigostate-musicalumni.

105. Erica Buechner (dance) had her original choreography presented in August at The Vine, a new venue in Escondido for the Mojaves Dance Collective; Michael Kenny (political science) was featured last year as a “Business Week” top entrepreneur under 25. He is chief operating officer of AArrow Advertising.

106. Lauren Englehardt (communication) is an account executive at 3.1mm agency with clients in the building and real estate industries; Caitlin Friedhoff (art history) recently graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Recruit Training Center as a Coast Guard warrant; Shelly Ly (graphic design) is a designer with CWA Inc.; and an assistant with the Design Innovation Institute. She is also a team leader for Volunteer San Diego.

107. Terrie Leigh Relf (MA English) has published “My Friend, the Poet” (San Diego Publishing), her fourth collection of poetry.

Theodosia Ballard has the highest expectations for her students because her teachers never expected much from her.

“The students that I have the privilege of serving are often labeled as ‘low-achieving,’” said the veteran educator. “The truth is my students are under-achieving. They have the ability to do well, yet don’t believe they can.”

Ballard is determined to nurture achievers in her fifth-grade classroom at Walter J. Porter Elementary School in the San Diego Unified School District. Her own struggle to achieve was hindered by those who told her she did not have the ability to get into college, let alone graduate.

But Ballard proved them wrong, earning a bachelor’s degree in liberal studies and a master’s in curriculum and instruction from SDSU, where her major influences include professors Shirley Weber, Nadine Bezuik, Ricardo Cornejo and Carla Mathison. She is currently enrolled in the joint USD/SDSU Ph.D. program. Now, Ballard’s exceptional talents have earned her the highest recognition in her field – she is San Diego Unified Teacher of the Year (elementary level) for 2008-2009.

“I consider it a blessing and an honor to represent an elite profession,” Ballard said of the award. “It is a great feeling to know that the hard work we do with students each day and every day does not go unnoticed.”

SDSU Graduate Named Teacher of the Year for San Diego City Schools

Theodosia Ballard has the highest expectations for her students because her teachers never expected much from her.

“The students that I have the privilege of serving are often labeled as ‘low-achieving,’” said the veteran educator. “The truth is my students are under-achieving. They have the ability to do well, yet don’t believe they can.”

Ballard is determined to nurture achievers in her fifth-grade classroom at Walter J. Porter Elementary School in the San Diego Unified School District. Her own struggle to achieve was hindered by those who told her she did not have the ability to get into college, let alone graduate.

But Ballard proved them wrong, earning a bachelor’s degree in liberal studies and a master’s in curriculum and instruction from SDSU, where her major influences include professors Shirley Weber, Nadine Bezuik, Ricardo Cornejo and Carla Mathison. She is currently enrolled in the joint USD/SDSU Ph.D. program. Now, Ballard’s exceptional talents have earned her the highest recognition in her field – she is San Diego Unified Teacher of the Year (elementary level) for 2008-2009.

“I consider it a blessing and an honor to represent an elite profession,” Ballard said of the award. “It is a great feeling to know that the hard work we do with students each day and every day does not go unnoticed.”

With Affinity Partners

Please find three methods of notifying us if you do not want to receive information about services and products offered from our affinity partners. These partners are carefully selected and screened for their proven record in working with universities throughout the nation.

Some of these affinity partners include:

1. Mail us a letter with the following information:
   a. ID# (this can be found above your name on the mailing panel located on the back page of this magazine)
   b. Name, address, city, state, zip, email or phone number
   c. An indication that you do not wish to share your information with alumni affinity partners. For example, “please do not share my information with alumni affinity partner.”

   Mailing Address: SDSU Alumni Assoc., 5300 Campanile Drive, SD, CA 92182-1698

2. Email affinity@mail.sdsu.edu with the following information:
   a. ID# (this can be found above your name on the mailing panel located on the back page of this magazine)
   b. Name, address, city, state, zip, email or phone number
   c. An indication that you do not wish to share your information with alumni affinity partners. For example, “please do not share my information with alumni affinity partner.”

   Visit www.sdsualumni.org/affinity and follow the opt-out directions.

Important Note: Please remember to carefully select and screen for their proven record in working with universities throughout the nation.

Some of these affinity partners include:

1. Mail us a letter with the following information:
   a. ID# (this can be found above your name on the mailing panel located on the back page of this magazine)
   b. Name, address, city, state, zip, email or phone number
   c. An indication that you do not wish to share your information with alumni affinity partners. For example, “please do not share my information with alumni affinity partner.”

   Mailing Address: SDSU Alumni Assoc., 5300 Campanile Drive, SD, CA 92182-1698

2. Email affinity@mail.sdsu.edu with the following information:
   a. ID# (this can be found above your name on the mailing panel located on the back page of this magazine)
   b. Name, address, city, state, zip, email or phone number
   c. An indication that you do not wish to share your information with alumni affinity partners. For example, “please do not share my information with alumni affinity partner.”

   Visit www.sdsualumni.org/affinity and follow the opt-out directions.

Important Note: Please remember to carefully select and screen for their proven record in working with universities throughout the nation.

Some of these affinity partners include:

1. Mail us a letter with the following information:
   a. ID# (this can be found above your name on the mailing panel located on the back page of this magazine)
   b. Name, address, city, state, zip, email or phone number
   c. An indication that you do not wish to share your information with alumni affinity partners. For example, “please do not share my information with alumni affinity partner.”

   Mailing Address: SDSU Alumni Assoc., 5300 Campanile Drive, SD, CA 92182-1698

2. Email affinity@mail.sdsu.edu with the following information:
   a. ID# (this can be found above your name on the mailing panel located on the back page of this magazine)
   b. Name, address, city, state, zip, email or phone number
   c. An indication that you do not wish to share your information with alumni affinity partners. For example, “please do not share my information with alumni affinity partner.”

   Visit www.sdsualumni.org/affinity and follow the opt-out directions.
In Memoriam

1931 Virginia Calver
1933 Thomas Walt
1934 Rex Ball, Ruth Levi Schulman
1937 Helen Smith Peiffer
1938 Shirley Condra, Maude Bosch Olsen
1940 Keith Whitcomb
1941 Thomas Hart, John Knight, Bernice Yates McGrew
1942 Alma Erchul
1943 Warren Butcher, Ruth Milne Evans, Mary Leu McPherson, Geraldine Westminster
1944 Andrew Bogunker
1945 Russell Lichtfeld
1947 Richard Albrecht, Allan Dale, Joe Sausco
1948 Rupert Crouchwaite, Carl Commons, Mary Ingalls, William Saccaman, Millard Stanford
1950 John Caffer, John Faidish, Joseph Filippis, Bob Finch, Harry Main
1951 Joseph Alston, Albert Blaylock, Virginia Champ, William Hurtzburg, Robert Sposone, Bertram Winrow
1952 Jack Hawkes, Richard Jarvis, Spencer Maze, Robert Myers, Dorothy Faulkner Sanderson
1953 Robert Berry, Nancy Deett, Mathew Hergeler, Pete Simmons, Avery Smith
1954 Shirley Brown, Allan Mann, Harry Nadler, Barbara von Eckartsberg Smith
1956 Duane Peters
1957 Orville Elze, Laurence Marzaga
1959 James Duffy, Vernon Kettle, Donald Magee
1960 Thomas Horning, Robert Josmay, Michael Thompson, Michael Wallman
1961 Patricia Awater, William Buller, John Ritter
1962 John Kallin
1963 Roger Bourbeaux, George Duli, William Fiss, James Webb
1964 Russell Pike
1966 Philip Bunch, Steven Kramer
1967 Phillips Claud, Edwin Gruschwitz, Carl Hopkins
1968 Bruce Freeman, Margaret Muir Hamilton, Joseph Mendoza, James O’Keefe, Bobby Sims

1969 Richard Haan, Marc Oliver
1970 Alma Crouchwaite Braun, William Brunnheul
1971 Ann Marie Bowman, Leaert Fernandez
1972 Beverly Ball, Hilda Lindsey, Marion Monier, Daryl Quande, Steven Quert, Michael Stevens, Michael Whalen
1973 Paul Bernard
1975 Daniel Hartigan, James McCarthy
1976 Mary Atache, Donald Fifer, Joan Nobbs, Amy Strzala, Geraldine Wolff
1977 Lawrence Lukin, Adolph Machulak, Kay Miller, Beth Ochoa, Pieter Totten
1978 Elinve Dantz-Lugo, Eugene Murphy, James Neill, David Odh
1979 Shaton Leta Calvin, James Elder Kim Goertz, Marilyn Hardebeck
1980 Ellen Davison, Jeffery Drarof, Nola Evon Slater, Beverly Walker
1982 Rebecca D’Aoust, Judy Morrison
1983 James Cargill, Jonathan Henderson, Dana King, James Robinson
1984 June Fay, Allen Jeffries
1985 Barbara Edmonds, Bill Emard
1988 Holly Smith
1989 Mary Ann Cerrino, James Kerzen, Karen McCarthy
1990 Alex De Noble
1991 Shannon Daughey
1992 Barbara Bonner, Peter Call, Kristine Twentynay
1994 Kimberlee Caledonia, James Lyons
1995 James Webb
1996 Loreta Crawford, Kerry Karzen
1998 Garet Anderson, Joseph Hernandez, John Wagner

The 2008 Faculty Monty Award Winners

College of Arts and Letters
Mark Thayer

College of Business Administration
Alex De Noble

College of Health and Human Services

College of Sciences
Catherine Atkins

Library and Information Access
Katalin Harkanyi

Imperial Valley Campus
Gregorio Ponce
Naomi Nauta
Hometown: San Clemente, California

Naomi Nauta is a percussionist with the SDSU Marching Aztecs.

Have you always been a drummer? I joined my high school marching band as a clarinet player. At the time, my cousin played drums and I got interested. I did three years of drumline in high school, and by senior year, I was captain.

Is training for marching band like training for a sport? I do ballet movements and other exercises designed to strengthen core muscles and improve posture. I also play competitively with a junior drum and bugle corps called Mystikal. We meet monthly for practice and travel to competitions during the summer.

Describe a typical game day. Every game is different, but usually I wake up between 9 and 10 a.m. The drumline has to be at the stadium an hour before the band to warm up properly and put the drum stands in the seats. Warming up with the drumline is one of the best parts of the day. Our section has raised itself to a level of excellence that makes me proud; it’s a great feeling when we can show everyone what we’ve been working so hard at! Afterwards, most of us go to Giovanni’s, a pizza place on Clairmont Mesa Blvd. that stays open just for the band.

Who on campus has influenced you? Well, I’m a sophomore now, so I’ve only been here a year. But in that time, Bryan Ransom, the (marching band) coach, has influenced me musically. The goal of the band is to get the audience excited and involved. Coach’s song choices do that. Some of my favorites are Black Dog and Kashmir by Led Zeppelin and Heartbreaker by Pat Benatar.

"Our legacy at SDSU is special. Sponsoring a paver is a unique and lasting way of honoring my daughter and giving back to SDSU."
Aiming to **Advance Your Career?**

Network of 500+ well-connected EMBA alumni • Alternating Friday/Saturday class schedules • VIP parking/catered meals • Books and materials included

www.sdsu.edu/emba

Thank you for reading 360 Magazine online! To receive your own subscription, join the SDSU Alumni Association or help support the university with a financial gift. Contact the editor at 360mag@mail.sdsu.edu for more information.

360: The Magazine of San Diego State University is produced by the Marketing and Communications Department, University Relations and Development, San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive, San Diego, California 92182-8080. Copyright 2008.