

CAMPUS E-MAIL REGARDING HURRICANE KATRINA RESPONSE

Distributed Sept. 8, 2005, 9:14 a.m.

To: SDSU Students, Faculty, and Staff
From: President Stephen L. Weber
Subject: Hurricane Katrina Response Update – September 8, 2005

San Diego State University continues to work with the local chapter of the American Red Cross and other government officials to prepare for the possible arrival of evacuees from Hurricane Katrina. SDSU has offered, in cooperation with the American Red Cross, to establish a temporary shelter in the Peterson Gymnasium should the need arise.

It is still uncertain if or when our shelter might be needed. However, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), which is responsible for airlifting evacuees, told local officials yesterday that no evacuees will be sent to San Diego for at least three days. They also said San Diego would have at least 24 hours' notice before any evacuees arrive.

At this point, regularly scheduled activities will continue in Peterson Gym until further notice. SDSU and the American Red Cross may conduct some preparation of the facility in the event it becomes needed as a shelter – but that will not affect classes or other activities.

In the event the shelter is needed, I assure you the safety of our campus and education of our students remain our two highest priorities. Upon notice from the American Red Cross, Peterson Gym activities will be relocated to the Aztec Recreation Center. No classes or other scheduled activities will be cancelled.

I am proud of how San Diego State's students, faculty, and staff have responded to this horrible human tragedy. In response to the need for information about SDSU's role in the hurricane response and how people can help, SDSU has established the Hurricane Katrina Information Center at www.sdsu.edu/katrina. This is the best place to find updated information, links to relief agencies, and contact information for SDSU faculty and staff who are coordinating response efforts. For general information, you are also welcome to call SDSU's Hurricane Katrina Response Information Line at (619) 594-8204 or via e-mail at katrina@sdsu.edu.

Thank you, again, for your cooperation and assistance but most of all for your generous caring spirit.

We will continue to provide updates as new information becomes available.