RANKINGS
U.S. News & World Report Ranks SDSU Among the Best

SDSU’s international business program ranked No. 11 nationwide, according to the latest issue of U.S. News and World Report’s “America’s Best Colleges 2012.” SDSU’s undergraduate programs in business and engineering also ranked among the nation’s best.

Once again, SDSU ranked among the best public colleges (No. 89) as well as the most diverse (No. 18).

GRANTS
Imperial Valley Campus Receives $1.6M Job Creation Grant

San Diego State University’s Imperial Valley campus is one of 20 winners of the Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge announced by the Obama administration.

SDSU-Imperial Valley received $1.6 million to establish the Renewable Energy Generation Training and Demonstration Center that will help create a thriving green energy technology industry in the Imperial Valley region, an area that has a persistently high unemployment rate near 30 percent.

AWARDS
SDSU Professor Receives Grant for Work with San Diego Veterans

SDSU Music Professor Marian Liebowitz, has been awarded a $20,000 grant by the Disabled American Veterans Foundation to aid her Heartpower Performances program at Veterans Village San Diego. Through music, Liebowitz and the other faculty and students provide unique opportunities for therapy and rehabilitation to San Diego’s homeless veterans. The grant will fund 10 concerts and a veterans choir.

RESEARCH
Targeting Killer Bacteria

Through a new grant from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, an entity of the National Institutes of Health, SDSU research will examine the potential for genetically specific therapy against pathogenic bacteria — such as Salmonella, E. coli and Staphylococcus/methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA).

The NIH EUREKA (Exceptional, Unconventional Research Enabling Knowledge Acceleration) grant awards highly innovative research that will have a high impact on public health.
RESEARCH

Surf is Up for Ecotourism

As the trend of surf tourism rapidly expands throughout the world’s surfable coasts, SDSU’s L. Robert Payne School of Hospitality and Tourism Management has launched the world’s first Center for Surf Research. The center’s research will focus on how countries like Indonesia, Fiji or Papua New Guinea adapt to an influx of surfing tourists.

The Center for Surf Research will be a non-profit research and teaching center. This winter, the center will take students abroad to Peru where they will surf and study the surf tourism culture and its impacts.

HOMECOMING

Aztec Bowl Turns 75

The historic Aztec Bowl will be rededicated this month in celebration of its 75th anniversary as part of the 2011 SDSU homecoming festivities. The old football stadium was built in 1936 by the U.S. Works Progress Administration.

Aztec Bowl’s most memorable occasion was President John F. Kennedy’s commencement speech in 1963. The university also awarded President Kennedy with its first honorary doctorate as part of the ceremony before 30,000 graduates and guests.

RESEARCH

Saving Sea Turtles

A graduate student in SDSU’s ecology program has helped uncover a hawksbill turtle population once considered to be extinct. The new findings, published in a report this month in the academic journal, Biology Letters, explains why the hawksbills went undetected for many years.

Alexander Gaos found the critically endangered hawksbill turtles, which normally inhabit coral and rocky reefs, living among in-shore mangrove estuaries in the eastern Pacific Ocean.

RESEARCH

NSF Awards $4.6M for Earthquake Study

Researchers from San Diego State University’s Department of Geology and the San Diego Supercomputer Center at the University of California, San Diego, will assist researchers from six other universities and the U.S. Geological Survey to develop detailed, large-scale computer simulations of earthquake faults under a new $4.6 million National Science Foundation grant.

AWARDS

Faculty Fulbright to Study Marine Mammals

SDSU biology professor Annalisa Berta has received a Fulbright Award to study and present lectures and tutorials on the comparative biology of marine mammals at the University of Pisa, Italy.

Berta joins more than 50 SDSU faculty members since 1993 who have participated in the Fulbright Scholarship program.