COMMENCEMENT

SDSU Graduates Close to 10,000 Students

This year, 9,996 students were approved to participate in Commencement, including 7,696 bachelor’s degree candidates (figures adjusted for double majors), 2,309 master’s degree candidates and 94 doctoral degree candidates.

More than 700 students who participated in this year’s commencement ceremonies were part of the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), which supports first-generation college students. In addition, the Compact Scholars program graduated its first two students, both finishing in less than four years.

COMMENCEMENT

Commencement 2009 Honorary Degree Recipients

Former San Diego mayor and California governor Pete Wilson and San Diego philanthropist Malin Burnham received honorary degrees during the 2009 commencement ceremonies.


Burnham founded the Burnham Foundation, a private nonprofit organization, and chairs the Burnham Institute. He is also co-chair of the Kyoto Laureate Symposium, part of which takes place at SDSU each year.

INTERNATIONAL

Five SDSU Students Named 2009-10 Fulbright Scholars

Five students at San Diego State University have received Fulbright Scholar grants for the 2009-2010 school year. The award-winning students are Alexander Eastman, Leah Bremer, Martin Woodside, Tonya Warren and Kyndra Turner. The grants will help fund their research in countries around the world, including Colombia, Ecuador, Romania, Taiwan and Hong Kong.

STUDENTS

From School to Service

Thirty nine students and alumni applied to the Peace Corps this year, continuing SDSU’s legacy of service. SDSU currently has 23 alumni serving in 20 countries. SDSU ranks as the 24th top university and college producer of Peace Corps volunteers in the nation and ranks second among all CSU campuses. The highest concentration of alumni is in Morocco and Nicaragua, with the greatest number serving in the health field.
EVENTS

President’s Conference Room Renamed

Formerly the President’s Conference Room, San Diego State University leadership approved a name change in gratitude for President and Mrs. Weber's philanthropic support of SDSU. At the last minute, President Weber chose to name the room for Susan only in recognition of her efforts on behalf of San Diego State.

It was a surprise to many when he announced the official name of the room. As a curtain was pulled, guests applauded while appreciating Mrs. Weber's wide-eyed astonishment at seeing only her name above the conference room doors.

RESEARCH

Aztecs Win Big at CSU-wide Research Competition

Five of the 10 students receiving awards at the 23rd Annual CSU Student Research Symposium, held earlier this month were from SDSU.

There were 18 categories with a first and second place prize from each category, and SDSU received the most awards of any of the CSU universities.

VETERANS

Congressman Bob Filner Hosts Veterans Town Hall

U.S. Congressman Bob Filner (D-California) hosted a Veterans Town Hall at SDSU to discuss the 21st Century G.I. Bill, which aims to increase access to higher education for veterans and members of our armed forces.

President Weber addressed the panel and guests about how universities must respond to the anticipated influx of veterans in the coming years, and how SDSU is leading the way by setting up a Veteran’s Center, housing for veteran students, and other resources to assist student veterans. After the presentation, a panel discussion took place to provide the veterans more information regarding the new benefits of the post 9/11 GI Bill which will soon be implemented.

RESEARCH

Unique Baby Names Not Just a Celebrity Fad

New research conducted at San Diego State University found that American parents are giving their children more unique names and the most common names are nowhere near as popular as in decades past.

According to Jean Twenge, SDSU psychology professor, this shift illustrates the growing interest of Americans in uniqueness and standing out instead of sameness and fitting in.