TECHNOLOGY
Natural Disaster Exercise Tests Global Infrastructure

Exercise 24, an international disaster preparedness training exercise coordinated by San Diego State’s Immersive Visualization Center, tested the viability of using social media during a disaster as it simulated a major earthquake that generated other catastrophes.

Organizers plan to identify best practices and weaknesses of the response and generate an after-action report, which will guide future exercises and response efforts.

OUTREACH
SDSU Helps Champion Hispanic Higher Ed Success

Nearly 1,500 participants attended the 24th annual conference for the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities hosted by SDSU and titled, “Championing Hispanic Higher Education Success: Expanding Opportunities in Challenging Times.”

Lou Murillo, director of the SDSU Compact for Success program, organized a Youth Leadership Forum for local 8th grade students, which emphasized leadership skills and teamwork, as well as the importance and accessibility of a college education.

STUDENTS
Newest Class Most Diverse in University History

The newest class of undergraduates at San Diego State University is the most ethnically diverse in SDSU history. Seventy-one percent of the local freshmen and 52 percent of all freshmen are from diverse ethnic and racial backgrounds—well above the university’s 11-year average.

The new freshman class also includes the highest percentage of Hispanic students. More than 26 percent of first-time freshmen and 28 percent of new transfer students are Hispanic. And for the first time, more than 25 percent of the entire student body is Hispanic.

GRANTS
Local Defense Tech Biz Bolstered by Grant

SDSU received funding for economic development and job creation through a new Small Business Administration pilot initiative, “Innovative Economies.” The program supports small businesses participation in regional economic “clusters”—collaborations between small businesses, the public sector, economic development and other organizations.

The $600,000, one-year contract will create the San Diego Advanced Defense Technology Cluster, which will focus on cybersecurity and autonomous systems technology to help meet critical defense technology needs.
**FOUNDATION**

**The Campanile Foundation Welcomes New Board Members**

Former SDSU running back and future NFL Hall of Famer, Marshall Faulk; former editor of the San Diego Union-Tribune, Karin Winner; and real estate investor Casey Brown have been appointed as board members to The Campanile Foundation—the philanthropic auxiliary for San Diego State University.

They will help lead the university in its first-ever comprehensive fundraising campaign to raise money for student scholarships, endowed faculty chairs and several other university-wide initiatives.

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**SUSTAINABILITY**

**Riding into a Greener Future**

SDSU President Stephen L. Weber joined dozens of students as they ceremoniously rode down the new bike/skate lane and broke through a ribbon set up at the dismount point at the north end of the lane, near Hepner Hall.

The bike/skate lane came after a three-year effort to promote sustainability, and is on a one-year trial period. A more extensive permanent inner-campus route of several lanes will be considered in the spring/summer of 2011.

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**VETERANS**

**Proud to Serve Again**

SDSU’s College of Education is the new location for California’s Troops to Teachers program, which places personnel in the classrooms of often disadvantaged schools.

The center, co-administered by the U.S. Departments of Education and Defense, is moving from Sacramento because organizers believe there is a better fit within a college that is located in an area with a high concentration of veterans and active-duty military.

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**TECHNOLOGY**

**SDSU Goes Mobile**

SDSU launched a new mobile application for iPhones and a mobile site for other smart phones, which will allow students, faculty, staff and alumni to get important information about the university delivered straight to their phone.

The application and mobile website gives users the ability to view SDSU videos, news and current events, as well as find contact information for faculty and staff, or locate points of interest on campus. It is available in the Apple iTunes Store for iPhones and as a mobile site for other smart phones—just visit m.sdsu.edu.

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**ACADEMICS**

**New Health Communication Major First in California**

Beginning in fall 2011, San Diego State joins a small group of universities nationwide in offering a new major in health communications. It is the only California university to offer the undergraduate major. SDSU counts a number of the nation’s leading scholars in health communication among its faculty, and the field is one of the fastest growing areas of study in the discipline.

*SDSU Marketing & Communications produces Stateline each month as a service to the SDSU community. We encourage you to share this with your friends and colleagues or contact us via MarComm@sdsu.edu to have them receive it directly.*