The Dean of the College of Health and Human Services is pleased to announce that the School of Speech Language and Hearing Sciences has begun its new doctoral program in audiology. The program will be offered jointly at the University of California at San Diego (UCSD) and San Diego State University. The program is designed to prepare students to receive their doctorate in audiology (AuD) and is for those who will specialize in clinical practice. The AuD program will consist of four years of post-graduate preparation to meet the new and upgraded professional standards. As currently envisioned, this program will consist of two tracks; the professional doctorate in audiology (AuD) and the research doctorate in audiology (PhD). The focus at present will be on the AuD program and a separate proposal for the PhD program will be submitted once the AuD track is established and properly staffed.

Over a decade ago, it became clear that a two-year master’s degree would be inadequate to prepare audiologists for their expanding professional roles. Accordingly, the American Academy of Audiology (AAA) and the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) established a framework, competencies, and a timeline for the professional doctorate degree to supersede the master’s degree as the minimum degree of practice. The new certification standards will take effect January 1, 2007. Because the new certification standards essentially require a four-year post BA curriculum, it was imperative that the program be in place this year.

There are now about 17 professional doctorate programs in audiology around the country, but SDSU and UCSD will host the first one in California, providing highly trained audiologist to the San Diego area. With the new professional standards nearly in place for audiology, the master’s degree becomes obsolete. The SDSU audiology masters program had a well-established history, was the largest in California, and is the only audiology program to be ranked in “U.S. News + World Reports.” A joint doctoral program combining the intellectual resources from the highly regarded programs at UCSD School of Medicine and at SDSU and hearing science research provides a very attractive program for students. Several audiology programs across the country have already upgraded their graduate programs to an AuD, and many more are in transition. This program will ensure that the San Diego community and California continue to be leaders in the preparation of audiologists, and continue to provide the clinical workforce needed for the state.

There is currently a shortage of audiologists, and it is projected that the need for more audiologists in the future will grow, especially as the government mandates the screening of all newborns, our population ages, and the technology of hearing aids and other devices keep expanding. The National Institute on Aging has estimated that by
The beginning of each school year always brings excitement and new challenges. This year is no exception. The energy is at many levels from national, state, local, and campus all of which are interacting to create an ever changing environment.

The knowledge and skills acquired in the 20th century will not service us well for very long in the 21st century. Technology is driving a large part of the change we are seeing in science, health care, communication, etc. Our curriculum must reflect this new knowledge and the skills that are essential to operate in our professions in the coming years. Academic programs are dynamic which allows them to respond to and incorporate new knowledge in course work and clinical practice. The recent terrorist events have accelerated the urgency of our quest for advances in learning. The immediate need to “gear up” the practical application of new knowledge provides a creative atmosphere for interdisciplinary dialogue.

We can no longer operate in our disciplinary boxes. In reality, knowledge does not exist that way. It’s only the interactions between the disciplines that allow us to develop the larger picture for teaching, learning, and for the public good.

The overlay of the state economic crisis renders our commitment to our partners and students more important than ever. We must find ways to maintain the rigor and the excellence of our program and of our graduates. Once before I charged you to be ambassadors for the College and it’s more important than ever that this activity be realized. You may be called upon to assist us in the long stated endeavor. I’m counting on you to work with us by supporting your alumni association, recruiting new students in the helping professions, mentoring current students and attending school and college events, and in our quest for financial assistance.

Deven Parlikar is the Executive Director of the Indian Health Council, Inc., a Native American Indian health center serving a consortium of nine tribes (Pala, Pauma, Rincon, San Pasqual, La Jolla, Los Coyotes, Santa Ysabel, Mesa Grande and Inaja-Cosmit) in northeast San Diego County. Deven has a B.S. in Business Administration with an emphasis on Accounting from San Diego State University and an MBA from the University of California, Irvine. Deven has worked for the Indian Health Council, Inc., since July 1999 and has overseen substantial expansion of clinical and health promotion programs over the last four years. Deven has worked in community based healthcare for the last twelve years. His first job while a student at SDSU was as a Research Assistant with Project TRUST (Teens and Retailers United to Stop Tobacco), a Prop. 99 grant that was awarded to SDSU’s Graduate School of Public Health.

In partnership with SDSU’s College of Health & Human Services, UCSD Medical School, County of San Diego Health & Human Services Agency and the US Naval Research Center, Deven has done the following:

- Established the first California Native American Research Center for Health at the Indian Health Council, Inc., in October 2001. This is one of seven research centers nationwide funded by the National Institutes of Health and the Indian Health Service.

- Completed Phase I of the Bioterrorism Response and Disaster Preparedness Demonstration Project, helping rural tribal community health centers to be better prepared to respond to emergencies related to bioterrorism, disasters and onset of infectious diseases. This demonstration project will be presented to the Department of Homeland Security by the Indian Health Service to demonstrate the commitment of the first natives of America to homeland security.

- Often called to testify before congressional committees on need for sustained funding for the healthcare of American Indians and Alaska Natives.

Deven Parlikar
Executive Director of the Indian Health Council, Inc.
Dr. David Pritchard was deeply committed to the social causes of society. His compassion led him to social work. His passion for learning led him to teaching. Ultimately, these two themes blended into a professional life that spanned thirty-five years of working to improve the human condition while teaching others to do the same.

Dr. Pritchard earned a BA in History and a Master’s in French at Middlebury College in Vermont. After a brief time teaching high school French, his social work career began in the early 1960’s. He worked for the San Diego County Department of Social Services in Child Protective Services, then as a trainer and finally as an administrator. During this time he also completed a second master’s degree in Social Work at San Diego State University.

In the early 1970’s, Dr. Pritchard began to focus on the field of gerontology. He undertook a seven-year assignment as Graduate Training Supervisor with the Field Center on Aging, part of the SDSU School of Social Work. In this capacity, he was intimately involved with the development of the University Center on Aging. As a field instructor, he supervised student interns placed in community agencies. Graduate social work students under his supervision were instrumental in developing several key agencies, including ElderHelp, UPAC, and San Diego Hospice.

During the 1970’s, Dr. Pritchard commuted between work in San Diego and classes at the University of Southern California, where he earned his Ph.D. in 1978. His doctoral studies focused on continued learning for older adults. Upon achieving his Ph.D. he became a full-time faculty member in the School of Social Work at SDSU, where he taught MSW students in the aging concentration.

As a professor, Dr. Pritchard accomplished much. He published and presented his research on aging issues, including pioneering studies on the concept of shared housing for seniors. He maintained his connection to the University Center in Aging and helped establish both the bachelor’s and master’s programs in gerontology. Among his professional affiliations, he was a Fellow of the Gerontology Society of America.

While dedicated to improving the lives of seniors, Dr. Pritchard said his greatest satisfaction came from working with his students. Teaching was paramount throughout his tenure. Dr. Pritchard had a great commitment and devotion to his students and was an unflagging advocate on their behalf. He has the rare ability to mentor and inspire students and to share his expertise and knowledge. Because of this, he received several Outstanding Faculty and Exemplary Academic Advisor awards. As Emeritus Professor following his retirement in 1996, Dr. Pritchard continued to tutor and mentor students.

Dr. Pritchard was a man of integrity who had the utmost respect for all people. In the field of gerontology, he strove to do everything possible to bring about equity and quality of life for seniors. He firmly believed that education is one of the most important and rewarding aspects of life and that everyone has the right to attain their educational goals regardless of age, financial need or other circumstances. He understood firsthand the challenge and sacrifice of pursuing a postgraduate education. Dr. Pritchard’s intellectual life was stellar in that he sought to understand all he could about issues related to his field, and he encouraged students to learn all they could about the subject area in which they were engaged.
CHHS Board Member, leading fight in diabetes in American Indians

Deven Parlikar, Executive Director of the Indian Health Council and a College of Health and Human Services Advisory Board Member, is helping fight the rise of diabetes in the American Indian community. Currently, of the 4,000 patients that use the clinic, 260, or about have been identified as diabetics 6.5 percent. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 16 million Americans have diabetes and of those 9 percent are American Indians, an astounding number considering that American Indians make up only 1 percent of the population of the United States.

Although the research on why diabetes is plaguing the region is still in its infancy, the health clinic believes that the number of actual diabetics is under-represented because many American Indians are reluctant to seek healthcare due to mistrust and the feeling of hopelessness in its cure. Diabetes is a chronic disease, affecting the body by not producing and properly using insulin to help convert sugar and other foods into energy. Diabetes can lead to kidney failure, vision loss, and circulatory problems. If not treated properly diabetes can cause the loss of limbs and death.

Founded in 1970, the health clinic serves nine Indian reservations in the north and northeastern San Diego County. To help combat the disease and attract the local population to the clinic, officials have created programs such as arts and crafts classes, helping bring awareness of the disease and its treatments. By using less invasive methods such as “talking circles” or group meetings where diet and health issues are discussed, more American Indians are accessing the benefits of the clinic. Based on the relative success of these programs, Deven Parlikar and other officials at the Indian Health Council presented their program design at a prestigious Health Conference in Paris in late August.

“I’m proud of and humbled by the ability of our staff not only to deliver top quality care, but to stand shoulder to shoulder with academics and scientists around the world and share their experience in the field of diabetes prevention and management,” said Deven Parlikar. “The clinic has been able to focus on diabetes largely because of grants, including one totaling $425,500 from the California Endowment.”

To promote continued support to the Health clinic, Dr. Stephanie Brodine, an internationally known scholar and epidemiologist in our Graduate School of Public Health, is expanding her research agenda to focus on diabetes and the Native Americans.

Consensus Organizing Center takes another “Step-Up”

Since the inception of the Consensus Organizing Step-Up Program three years ago, over 100 students have achieved their dream of attending college. Most of these students are the first in their families to graduate high school, much less attend such universities as SDSU, UCLA, Cal State Berkeley and Purdue.

The Step-Up program uses the Consensus Organizing Model to recruit, educate and empower high school youth in under-represented areas of the community. This model serves to train these students in the practical skills needed to solve health and social problems in their own neighborhoods. The Consensus Organizing Center accomplishes this by providing an opportunity for high school juniors to experience post-secondary education and encourage students to apply newly learned skills in local community-based organizations. Their focus is to expand a student’s future educational success while enabling them to envision themselves as an important asset to their community.

Continued on page 5

Consensus Organizing Center Staff
These students will work together in class and in their community while participating in a 40 hour community service requirement that incorporates the premise of community-based learning by which young people learn and develop through active participation in thoughtfully organized service experiences. Class content will be both challenging and stimulating as students are encouraged to bring real-life experiences, creativity and analytical thinking into the classroom discussions. Once the course is completed, COC staff will work one-on-one with each student to apply for admittance to a university or community college.

The Foster Community Connections program will be implemented in the Fall of 2003 and completed by the end of Spring 2005 with 108 students receiving services throughout the duration of the program. As a result of this program, students completing the course will have gained both high school and college credit and will be knowledgeable in conducting an internal neighborhood analyses, and community partnership formation. In addition, students tend to complete the course with high self-esteem, high focus of control, increased mental health, strong ties to the community and better prepared for careers in the helping profession--improving the quality of life for themselves and their families.

The Fostering Community Connections program shows that if given an opportunity to earn a college degree, students are ready to thrive. This program is designed as a long-term process that will help students and their community both immediately, and in the future. The students in this program have a new sense of excitement about their future, and they look forward to continuing their work in order to improve their neighborhoods and create a pathway to success for future generations.

If you would wish to contribute much needed funds to the Consensus Organizing Center’s Step-Up or Fostering Community Connections program, please contact the College of Health and Human Services Development Office at (619) 594-7102.
The Sharon Burt Memorial Scholarship: Continuing a Nurse’s Tradition

By Jeff Wilson

Even as San Diego State School of Nursing professor Sharon Burt battled terminal brain cancer, her characteristic humor and warmth were apparent. According to friend and colleague Carolyn Walker, Sharon was an incredibly effective teacher and clinician because of her wit and ability to see the bright side of every issue. “During the most challenging moments of her struggle, she’d find something to laugh about,” remembers Walker.

After Sharon passed away on March 12, 2003, her parents, Paul and Ruby Ruhling, donated $40,000 to San Diego State’s School of Nursing to establish a scholarship in their daughter’s name. Other family members and friends have also contributed to the fund. For the Ruhlings, the Sharon Burt Memorial Scholarship Endowment will serve as a lasting tribute to their daughter’s “glass-half-full” attitude. “Not only will the scholarship keep Sharon’s memory alive, but it will also give aspiring nurses an opportunity to pursue their dreams as Sharon did,” said Paul.

Years ago, Ruby encouraged her daughter to pursue her dreams by advising Sharon to always follow her heart. But it was Sharon’s great-grandmother who first sparked her interest in the field of nursing—Sharon cherished a photo of her great-grandmother in her nursing uniform, and the image never left her mind.

Though Sharon’s high school guidance counselor steered her toward a career as an English teacher, she listened to her heart and enrolled at Foothill College in Los Altos Hills, CA. After gaining her registered nurse title, Sharon transferred to San Francisco State for her Bachelor of Science degree, while working evenings at Stanford hospital. After a few years in public health, Sharon moved to San Diego, where she found employment at Scripps Hospital as the manager of progress for the Homecare Department. During her tenure at Scripps Hospital, San Diego State approached Sharon to gauge her interest in teaching in the School of Nursing. Torn between the job she loved and a desire to educate others, Sharon again heeded her mother’s advice, following her heart to SDSU.

During her 15 years at San Diego State, Sharon made a lasting impression on both her students and colleagues. Andra Davis, a former student of Sharon’s, recalls that the community health nursing class Sharon taught was one of her best experiences at SDSU. “Sharon pushed her students to strive for excellence, but her forcefulness was balanced by her extraordinarily human and caring manner,” reflects Andra. In addition to Sharon’s time in the classroom, she was also an active participant in many aspects of the Gamma Gamma chapter of the Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Society, which enabled her to share her passion for nursing with fellow nurses throughout the world.

While colleagues in the School of Nursing remember Sharon’s brilliant academic contributions, her sense of humor will forever be recognized as her signature. “Her warmth and wit always made it fun to be with her,” says Betty Broom. “But there was also another key aspect of Sharon,” comments Richard Reed, “her good heart. She was always available to help a colleague, student or friend in trouble.”

Thanks to the scholarship established in her name, Sharon’s presence, with her hallmark caring and generosity, will be felt in the School of Nursing for generations to come. It was precisely this generosity that led to the Ruhlings’ decision to honor their daughter through an academic scholarship. Ruby recalls that her daughter was the recipient of a grant while at San Francisco State—a piece of good fortune that her daughter accepted with mixed emotions.

“Sharon received a grant for being one of the top two students in her class, but she was upset because she knew that a lot of her classmates also needed the money,” remembers Ruby. “And since Sharon dedicated 15 years of her life to providing knowledge and guidance to
Dr. Maibach is no stranger to NCI. Early in his career from 1984-1986, he was a member of the staff of the former NCI Division of Cancer Prevention and Control. While at Emory, he served as a member of the Advisory Council for National 5-a-day for Better Health Campaign.

Dr. Maibach received his B.A. from University of California San Diego in social psychology in 1980. He received his M.P.H. from San Diego State University in 1983 and his Ph.D. in communication research from Stanford University in 1990. His research and publications examine issues related to improving the effectiveness of public health communication, understanding how market forces influence design and success of public health programs, and a variety of related topics.

The faculty of the Graduate School of Public Health and the College of Health and Human Services congratulate Dr. Maibach on his outstanding accomplishments.

It was announced in late July that Graduate School of Public Health alum Edward Maibach ('83) was appointed Associate Director of Dissemination for the National Cancer Institute. Dr. Maibach will coordinate NCI-wide efforts to create awareness and enhance understanding of the progress NCI is making towards their goal of eliminating suffering and death due to cancer by 2015. In addition, he will lead an important research initiative to engage the public to fully participate in the biomedical revolution. This will include fostering healthy behavior changes, to promoting participation in clinical trials, to increasing awareness of the promise of molecular oncology. “Dr. Maibach brings an ideal set of qualifications and experience to lead our efforts,” says Andrew C. von Eschenbach M.D., Director of the NCI.

For the past eight years, Dr. Maibach has been with Porter Novelli, a global marketing and communication agency. He has been widely credited with having created the discipline of social marketing. As Porter Novelli’s Worldwide Director of Social Marketing, he has worked across the nation, and around the world, with clients in all sectors- public, private, non-profit and philanthropic organizations. Issues included critical public health problems pertaining to cancer and tobacco control, diet and nutrition, physical activity promotion, vaccine education, clinical trials, premature birth prevention and adolescent substance abuse prevention.

Last year, Dr. Maibach took on additional responsibilities as an Adjunct Associate Professor in the McDonough School of Business at Georgetown University. Prior to joining Porter Novelli, Dr. Maibach was an Assistant Professor of Public Health Communication at the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University, where he founded the Center for Health and Risk Communication.

The Sharon Burt Memorial Scholarship will award its first recipient in fall 2004. For more information regarding how students can apply for the scholarship, or to make a donation to the fund, please contact Brian Behan, assistant to development in the College of Health and Human Services, at 619/594-7102 or bbehan@mail.sdsu.edu.

**Alum Appointed Position for National Cancer Institute**

students at San Diego State, it is only fitting that they will continue to benefit in her name."

The Sharon Burt Memorial Scholarship will award its first recipient in fall 2004. For more information regarding how students can apply for the scholarship, or to make a donation to the fund, please contact Brian Behan, assistant to development in the College of Health and Human Services, at 619/594-7102 or bbehan@mail.sdsu.edu.
Alumni Association Highlights SDSU’s Accomplished Faculty

By Jennifer Zwiebel

There’s a new twist on the old tradition of convocation this year at San Diego State. The ceremony commemorating the kickoff of the academic year will include the presentation of coveted Monty Awards to distinguished faculty and staff. The ceremony also has a new name—the All-University Convocation.

Previously, faculty Monty Award winners were recognized in the spring at the Montys Awards Gala sponsored by the Alumni Association. This year, the organizers decided to bestow these honors at convocation so faculty could enjoy greater recognition from their colleagues throughout the academic year.

“By highlighting our remarkable faculty in the beginning of the year, we’re setting a tone for academic excellence,” says Joyce Gattas, dean of the College of Professional Studies and Fine Arts. “This gives our faculty the opportunity to be visible and inspire the new faculty joining our ranks this fall.”

One notable faculty member representing each of the colleges, the Imperial Valley Campus and the SDSU Library, will be praised for his/her years of service and impact on education. These stellar examples of Minds That Move the World will be featured in a special video presentation as each receives a Monty statue and a check for $500 from the Alumni Association, sponsors of the event.

“We’re honored to recognize our faculty as they are amazing individuals with incredible accomplishments,” said Jim Herrick, executive director of the Alumni Association. “They pursue innovation across a range of disciplines from education to biotechnology, always with the common goal of enhancing lives. Our faculty make us proud to be part of this institution. By sponsoring these awards, we acknowledge the critical connection between outstanding faculty and future alumni touching the community and beyond.”

Convocation will take place on Thursday, August 28 at 9 a.m. in Cox Arena. Speakers will include President Stephen L. Weber, Provost Nancy A. Marlin and Senate Chair Patrick Papin. For more information about Convocation, please contact the Alumni Office at (619) 594-ALUM (2586).

And the honorees are...

- **College of Arts and Letters:** Bonnie Zimmerman, Ph.D.
- **College of Business Administration:** George (“Joe”) E. Belch, Ph.D.
- **College of Education:** Eleanor Whiteside Lynch, Ph.D.
- **College of Engineering:** Fredric J. Harris
- **College of Health and Human Services:** Maria Roberts DeGennaro, Ph.D.
- **College of Professional Studies and Fine Arts:** Peter M. Aufsesser, Ph.D.
- **College of Sciences:** Judith W. Zyskind, Ph.D.
- **Imperial Valley Campus:** Breena Coates, Ph.D.
- **SDSU Library:** Charles Vincent Dintrone

This story originally appeared in SDSUniverse, SDSU’s staff and faculty website. See http://www.sdsuniverse.info/story.asp?id=8419
CONTINUED (FROM COVER PAGE)

2020, the need for audiologists to serve the older population will increase by 50 percent. It has also been estimated by the hearing aid industry, that only about 15 percent of persons in need of hearing aids and/or aural rehabilitation actually receive these services, indicating a vast number of underserved individuals. In addition, California recently passed the Newborn Hearing Screening Act, designed to evaluate the hearing of all newborns and provide comprehensive follow up studies and health management for all newborns suspected of hearing problems.

We appreciate the continued support from our donors over the years. It has allowed us to expand our college in so many ways. We have instituted many successful programs such as SDSU Nurses Now and the Consensus Organizing Step-Up Program. We have setup numerous scholarships to assist students in fulfilling their dreams of a college education. We have endowed professorships, allow the College to hire additional faculty to the College to serve a community need. All these things are made possible only through the generosity of our alumni and friends.

If you are interested in donating to the College, or have any questions or concerns, please contact Brian Behan, assistant to development, at 619-594-7102 or email at bbehan@mail.sdsu.edu.

NEW SDSU/UCSD JOINT DOCTORAL AUDIOLOGY PROGRAM CONTINUED (FROM COVER PAGE)

A college becomes successful in its objectives through many different ways. The core foundation is quality faculty, bright students, and programs that meet the demanding needs of the surrounding job market. In the College of Health and Human Services, we strive to give our students the best education possible. As we enter the Fall Semester, the College is faced with making difficult decision due to budgetary constraints.

As you know, San Diego State University is a state supported institution, but no college can rely solely upon those funds to provide the level of education that we guarantee for our students. As California suffers through budget reductions, higher education is no different. The level of service provided in the past can no longer be sustained.

A number of our programs are partially funded through grants and contracts, along with donations from our alumni and friends. True prominence in higher education is gained when partnerships are formed between the college and the community it serves. The ties between the College of Health and Human Services and alumni, friends, corporations and foundations are critical to the College’s distinction nationally. The College relies heavily upon these to maintain its level of excellence.

There are many ways to partner with the College. We have many talented alumni and friends that continually give each year. Be it through their volunteer time assisting the college, through their knowledge and contacts that allow us to explore new options, or simply through a monetary gift to their preferred school or scholarship. Each benefits the college in many ways that can be imagined.

As we enter this arduous year, the Dean and Development staff are working diligently to provide assistance to alumni and friends who wish to explore donation opportunities. There is a number of ways to support your favorite program. Typical monetary donations include:

- Outright gifts of cash, appreciated securities, real property or other highly appreciated assets.
- Pledges of the donor’s intention to make a gift to the College at a future date or in a series of payments over a specified period of time.
- Life income gifts such as charitable remainder trusts, charitable gift annuities and pooled income funds.
- Estate gifts under one’s will or through a revocable trust

Other popular gifts include donations to establish professorships, scholarships and fellowships. All gifts of this magnitude are naming opportunities for the donor or donor’s designated honoree. Professorships, scholarships and fellowships can also be endowed, allowing the gift to act in perpetuity, continually being awarded for years to come.

We appreciate the continued support from our donors over the years. It has allowed us to expand our college in so many ways. We have instituted many successful programs such as SDSU Nurses Now and the Consensus Organizing Step-Up Program. We have setup numerous scholarships to assist students in fulfilling their dreams of a college education. We have endowed professorships, allow the College to hire additional faculty to the College to serve a community need. All these things are made possible only through the generosity of our alumni and friends.

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PLANNED GIVING: PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

Patricia N. Moulton
Director of Planned Giving, J.D., C.S.P.G.

Over the last century, San Diego State University’s mission to educate, explore and serve has never wavered. We’ve produced over 200,000 Aztec alumni who entered into the workforce prepared to tackle the challenges of an increasingly complex global society. Our alums, like Art Linkletter and Dr. Dwight Stanford, leave campus inspired to realize their dreams of becoming civic and corporate leaders who shape our society through their innovation and influence.

Yet in an era where state funding and tuition cover roughly half of SDSU’s operational costs, philanthropy is a vital source of funding. In fact, without increased private giving, many of our fundamental resources, such as academic programs, scholarships, curricula and facilities will not be available in the future. In order to ensure continued academic excellence, we need to do more than sustain our current level of funding—we must expand our resources to build an innovative University that remains responsive to students’ needs in this new millennium.

As you review your year end tax planning, please consider making a planned gift to SDSU to receive a charitable tax deduction and an excellent “life-income” return. By entering into a Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) with SDSU through a donation of cash, stock or property, you can receive a higher annual return on your investment for the duration of your life as well as serve the mission of our University. In addition, your gift of $10,000 or more will:

• Provide a guaranteed fixed income that is partially tax free
• Entitle you to a current income tax deduction
• Save you from paying capital gains tax if you donate appreciated stock or property
• And offer you a sense of security in knowing you’ll have a consistently higher rate of return on your investment for your lifetime

To view a personalized illustration of how a CGA will work for you given your age and assets, please visit our state-of-the-art planned giving website at www.sdsugift.org. SDSU’s planned giving website is the first of its kind in the country, and it allows you to sign up for a weekly e-newsletter to advise you on current estate planning opportunities. Or if you’d prefer to receive a personalized illustration for a CGA via mail, please return the form in the enclosed reply envelope or call me at 619-594-7090.

In closing, a CGA is a mutually beneficial opportunity—you enjoy special privileges while your deferred gift serves as a lasting legacy at SDSU. With the help of loyal friends like you, we can ensure that SDSU honors the traditions of the past while striving to build an esteemed University of the future.

NEW FACULTY MEMBER GOES ‘BACK TO SCHOOL’

Gwen Anderson, Ph.D., Associate of the Nursing Research, SDSU School of Nursing has graduated from the 2003 Summer Genetics Institute (SGI) at the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR), National Institutes of Health (NIH). The SGI is a competitive two-month summer research training program held on the NIH campus in Bethesda, Maryland. The program is designed to provide a foundation in molecular genetics for clinical practice and the research laboratory. Dr. Anderson’s areas of research are 1) modifier genes for breast cancer in Korean women with a family history of early-age onset breast cancer or ovarian cancer, and 2) communication and decision making patterns among health care professionals involved in gene therapy clinical trials.

“The Summer Genetics Institute integrates the latest application of genetics in research and clinical practice with nursing. I know of no other course that provides this unique perspective,” says Dr. Melinda Tinkle, Intramural Program Director for the Research and Training, NINR.

Over 35 genetic experts from NIH and surrounding universities in the Washington, DC area serve as course faculty for SGI. The course includes lecture, seminar and laboratory components. The lecture component focuses on molecular aspect of genetics. The seminar component addressed ethical, legal and clinical practice issues and perspectives, and the role of the nurse in the area of genetics. The laboratory component integrates concepts, principles and techniques of laboratory experiments designed to provide an understanding of genetic testing, the detection of genetic disease, how to understand the strengths and limitations of genetic research designs and how to use laboratory information clinically to counsel individuals and families. One of the highlights of
the program was the final lecture given by Dr. Francis Collins, director, National Human Genome Research Institute at NIH, on “Genetics, Health and Society.”

“Advances in genetics are redesigning the future of health care,” says Dr. Patricia A. Grady, director, NINR. “The SGI draws upon the unique resources available here at NIH to provide nurses with cutting-edge training in research and clinical practice to prepare them to meet the challenges of the future”.

Dr. Gwen Anderson was one of 20 NIH Fellows who graduated from SGI 2003. The class was comprised of students from 14 states and included 11 faculty members in schools of nursing, eight doctoral students and one advanced practice nurse. NINR’s website for the Summer Genetics Institute is: http://fmp.cit.gov/ninr/

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2003

This year’s Commencement Ceremony, held on May 17, 2003, was a wonderful cap to a year full of anniversaries and celebration. Most notably, our School’s of Nursing and Social Work celebrated their 50th and 40th anniversary respectively. San Diego State, as a whole, kicked off its inaugural SDSU Month with great success and the College of Health and Human Services sent its first class of Nurses Now students into the surrounding healthcare community.

Cox Arena played host to this year’s program as the College graduated 667 students, 377 of which were Masters and Doctorate degrees. The College welcomed remarks from Dean Dolores Wozniak, Assistant Dean Olita Harris, and President Stephen Weber. The Keynote Speaker was former KFMB News anchor and author, Denise Yamada.

Dr. Pritchard’s family, friends and colleagues contributed to endow a scholarship to continue his legacy of commitment to education and social causes. Eve Pritchard, widow to Dr. Pritchard, with the assistance of the College of Health & Human Services and the Scholarship Office awarded the first scholarship last spring. The recipient, Ann Sediego, is a master’s student in gerontology. Ann’s compassion and commitment to her family, studies and career emulate the ideals of Dr. Pritchard. The College congratulates Ann for all her accomplishments and wishes her the best in her future endeavors.

Alumni who would like to support Dr. Pritchard’s scholarship endowment may contribute by sending donations to CHHS Development Office, for more information contact Brian Behan at 619-594-7102 or by email at bbehan@mail.sdsu.edu.
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Stephanie Baker, B.S.N. ‘88, received her MBA from University of Phoenix in 2003. Sue is an active member of the Emergency Nurses Association. She wrote, published and implemented the “Wipe Out Waiting” (WOW) project designed to reduce Emergency department wait times while improving customer service and financial revenue for the organization. Her favorite SDSU memory was climbing the stairs from the “pit” parking lot.

Michelle Wells Balter, B.S.N. ‘87, Michelle’s chosen area of nursing has been in Public Health. She has worked all over the West Coast, including Oregon and Washington State. She currently works in Gray Harbor County, Wash. Michelle was chosen for a national CDC - University of Washington competitive scholarship in 1998 for graduate work. She continued after the yearlong scholarship and earned and MPH degree in 2001 from the University of Washington. She has been married for 10 years to her lovely husband who is a firefighter and a paramedic.

Rita Renay Callahan, B.S.N. ‘87, has been working for the past five years at Southwestern Community College as an associate professor under a 10 month tenure position – teaching in the AND, LVN, and CNA programs. Rita obtained her MA degree in Organization Management and is presently working on a doctoral of philosophy of nursing degree at USD. Rita also enjoys writing, having several articles published. Two vignettes appear in the book “Touched by a Nurse” as well as two articles in the “Home Health Care Management and Practice Journal.” Both were published in 1999 by Aspen Publications.

YOUR NAME HERE! Please send us your classnotes by filling out the back portion of this newsletter, or by simply E-mailing the information to: chhsdev@mail.sdsu.edu. We would love to hear from you!

Scott Randall Davis, B.S.N. ‘95, currently works as a Clinical Nurse Director, Surgical and Invasive Services for Sutter Medical Center in Sacramento, California. After completing his nursing degree at San Diego State University, he also completed the R.N.F.N. program at University of California, Los Angeles. His favorite memory is eating lunch with his fraternity brothers outside Monty’s.

Lynn (Day) Edwards, B.S.N. ‘80, after receiving her BSN from San Diego State University, she went on to gain her MSN from the USC with certification as nurse-midwife. Currently she is working in private practice as a nurse-midwife. She has two wonderful sons, Seth 20, and Lucas 18.

Barbara D. Labate (Wahl), B.S.N. ‘97, Barbara left nursing in 1995 to become a stay-at-home mom. After her second child was born in 1995, she chose to homeschool her children. She says that she is “more confident” due to the education she received from SDSU and looks forward to possibly re-entering the nursing field in the future.

Pamela (Stence) Steen, B.S.N. ‘83, M.S.N. ‘97, Pamela is currently the Business Director - Region 2 Mercy Air Services. Mercy Air oversees operations in Orange County, Riverside, County, Imperial County, and San Diego County. She has also worked in the Emergency Nurse Department, County of San Diego, Program Manager – base hospitals, and Trauma.

Debbie Briseno-Toomey, B.S.N. ‘92, Debbie works at the City of Hope Medical Center as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner. She job shares, working 3 days a week in the Pediatric Oncology Unit. She went back to school for her Master’s in Nursing from UCLA. She has three lovely children ages 8, 5, and 3.

Marie K. Woodin (Driskill), B.S. Environmental Health ‘87, Marie’s degree from SDSU has led to her current position with local government in Sacramento. She is an Environmental Specialist II, conducting inspections at local businesses in underground tanks, hazardous materials storage and hazard waste programs. She has also worked several years with the local Emergency Response Team—responding to chemical spills and overseeing site clean-up. Marie is also a current member of SAPPCCO, the Sacramento Area Pollution Prevention Committee.

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Lynn Mountain-Oravetz, Health Science ‘87, has been practicing as a Licensed Marriage Family Therapist since 1997. She is married and is expecting her first child in August.

Dr. Scott J. Ellner, M.P.H. ‘94, Dr. Ellner currently is a fourth year general surgery resident at UCSD Medical Center. He currently took a one-year leave from his surgery residency to participate in a cancer research program at UCSD. The purpose of this research is to discover a vaccine for the prevention of breast cancer. In November 2002, Dr. Ellner made a presentation, along with his research team, at the Society of Surgeons in Yokohama, Japan. Dr. Ellner’s favorite SDSU memory was playing on the SDSU hockey team.
Robert L. Mitchell, M.S.W. ’92, Roberta is currently working as a social worker in the Bronx, New York. Her specialization is forensic social work, but also includes mediation and psychotherapy. She is also working on her second master’s degree in forensic psychology.

Russ Schweiger, M.S.W. ’91, Russ is currently employed as a School Social Worker at the Truth or Consequences School District. He is also a Lieutenant with the New Mexico State Defense Force (State Guard). Russ’ favorite memory is strolling Centennial Walk and relaxing at the Scripps Cottage Pond.

Barbara Stone-Trinka, M.S.W. ’87, for the past 15 years, Barbara has worked with Children’s Services in both California and Oregon. She has been working with families that are adopting for the past eight years. Barbara works mainly with “current care takers” who are relatives and/or foster parents of the children. She has one daughter and is happily married.

Carolyn J. Lasswell-Leffler, B.A. ’75, M.A. ’82, Speech Pathology, Carolyn is a Speech-Language Pathologist at Lincoln Intermediate School and was recently voted “Teacher of the Year” for the Escondido Union High School District. Carolyn reminisces her times as SDSU, remembering the Bookstore, having coffee with her friends, great teachers and graduation!!
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The College of Health and Human Services shapes the future, meets the challenge, and makes a difference in the health and social well-being of the community.

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