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## Research

**SDSU** received a total of 805 research grants worth \$130.9 million in 2007-2008, a 9.4 percent increase from the previous year, the university reports. Research awards from the National Institutes of Health increased by \$7 million.

"This is a gratifying increase, accomplished in an austere federal funding climate," says Thomas Scott, v.p. for research. "Results from the NIH, where success rates are now below 20 percent, are particularly encouraging and demonstrate the highly competitive caliber of SDSU's researchers."

Dr. Greg Talavera was one of the researcher receiving grant help. For years, he has worked with Latinos in San Diego County, trying to understand why they have higher incidences of hypertension and diabetes as compared to other ethnic groups. In the past year, he received a nearly \$1.2 million grant from the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities to fund the San Diego Latino Research Center of Excellence's Partnership to Reduce Cardiovascular Disease Disparities.

Other NIH awards received last year include:

- Mark Sussman, biology professor, received nearly \$1.9 million from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute to study how to protect heart cells.
- Kelly Doran, biology professor, received \$614,906 from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke to study the blood-brain barrier failure in bacterial meningitis.
- Nader Amir, psychology professor, received \$403,650 from the National Institute of Mental Health for an interpretation modification program for social phobia.
- Jim Sallis, psychology professor, received more than \$1.3 million from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute for an ecological analysis of activity, eating and weight in adolescents.
- James Lange, with Student Health Services, received \$214,906 from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism to investigate drinking in college.