Update for Community Groups – January 2012

The U.S. News & World Report 2012 Best Colleges guidebook ranks UC San Diego as the 8th best public university in the nation and 37th among the nation’s top 280 universities and number one in the nation for public service by the Washington Monthly.

Please note the underlined text in the electronic version of this update contains active links that provide additional information on the subject matter.

PROJECTS

Location of instructional and research facilities, as well as necessary campus support facilities, such as housing and parking, is directed by UCSD’s Long Range Development Plan (LRDP), which is prepared in response to campus enrollment and population projections. Available on the Physical and Community Planning website at http://physicalplanning.ucsd.edu/projects/index.html is the Capital Improvements Status Map which is an interactive map where each project link leads to a detailed project information sheet.

PROJECTS ANTICIPATED FOR COMPLETION IN 2012 — EAST CAMPUS

- East Campus Parking Structure — 1,245 parking spaces with anticipated completion this month. The project will include parking and a recreation field under which some of the spaces will be constructed.

PROJECTS ANTICIPATED FOR COMPLETION in 2012 — WEST CAMPUS

- Rady School of Management Phase 2 (RSOM) — 80,000 GSF with anticipated completion in April 2012. The project will include construction of additional classrooms to Rady Phase 1, an open class laboratory, faculty and administrative offices, conference rooms, an auditorium, and student work and study areas.
- Structural Materials and Engineering Building — 169,000 GSF with anticipated completion in August 2012. The project will provide instruction and research space for the Department of Structural Engineering and Department of Visual Arts. The facility will merge the areas of advanced materials testing with scientific visualization.
- Theatre District Landscape Improvements — the project with anticipated completion in June 2012 includes landscape enhancements that will restore and renovate two acres of the Grove Reserve within the Theatre District.

NEWS

UCSD COMMUNITY PLANNING NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE INFORMATION

The most recent issue of the newsletter focuses on the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. The newsletter, together with project information sheets and an interactive map of campus projects is available on the UCSD Physical and Community Planning website at http://physicalplanning.ucsd.edu. Visit the website to learn more about campus development with accompanying information on specific projects.

UCSD NEWS

For UCSD News visit http://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/
UC SAN DIEGO NAMED A ‘BEST VALUE’ PUBLIC UNIVERSITY BY KIPLINGER’S

The University of California, San Diego is again named a best value public college, according to Kiplinger’s Personal Finance magazine. UC San Diego ranked 10th in the nation, up from 12th last year, based on cost and financial aid, average student debt, competitiveness, graduation rates and academic support. The list of the top 100 best values in public colleges and universities will appear in the February 2012 issue of the publication.

“We’re delighted to be included in the top ten best values in public colleges list by Kiplinger’s Personal Finance,” says Ann Klein, director of UC San Diego’s financial aid office. “Our mission is to ensure that all admitted students can attend, regardless of their financial circumstances. Financial aid gives students choice and access to higher education. UC San Diego will continue to offer strong financial aid programs to support students in need. More than 60 percent of our undergraduate students receive need-based support. UC San Diego provides an outstanding and affordable education.”

The Kiplinger’s editors noted, “UC San Diego charges a lower sticker price than its sister schools in our top-ten rankings. Near both the Mexican border and the Pacific Ocean, this top research institution gives students plenty of opportunity for expanding their horizons. And have we mentioned the great weather?”

Recognizing the persistent decline of state funding for many public universities, Kiplinger’s changed its ranking methodology for the 2012 best values in public colleges list. “Given these hard times in higher ed, the word value takes on special resonance,” the publication stated. “We’ve retooled our rankings to give more weight to criteria we consider crucial to academic value.”

California’s budget cuts to UC campuses have resulted in a 57 percent decline in California’s per-student funding over the last two decades. Although the university has been forced to raise fees as a result of state budget cuts, Kiplinger’s Personal Finance consistently ranks UC San Diego a best value university.

In response to California’s current economic climate, UC San Diego launched the $50 million ‘Invent the Future’ (www.inventthefuture.ucsd.edu) student support fundraising campaign that will help fund scholarships and fellowships for all who need them.

UC SAN DIEGO TRAINING PROGRAM ON DRIVING SAFETY EXPANDS STATEWIDE

The University of California, San Diego School of Medicine TREDS (Training, Research and Education for Driving Safety) program has been awarded a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety to continue their work on driving safety in older adults. This team of experts, part of UCSD’s Injury Epidemiology, Prevention and Research Center, has been working to keep San Diego County’s highways and senior drivers safe since 2007.

“Both health care and law enforcement can play an important role in the identification and referral of drivers who may be at risk for a collision,” said Linda Hill, MD, MPH, clinical professor in the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine at UCSD School of Medicine. “Physicians have knowledge of a patient’s medical history and the medications that can impact driving, while law enforcement witnesses and responds to unsafe driving first hand.”

Family members of older drivers often seek guidance from these professionals in an effort to keep their loved ones safe behind the wheel. TREDS educates health care providers on the American Medical Association’s screening guidelines that assess for vision, strength and cognitive impairment in adults over age 70. The focus of the law enforcement training is to increase recognition of medical conditions that can impact driving and referral resources.

Early identification of conditions is paramount to the continuation of safe driving. Treatment may be as simple as a new pair of glasses, some adaptive equipment for the car, or physical therapy to improve range of motion. Training health care practitioners and law enforcement officials will better equip them to help older drivers maintain mobility for as long as safely possible.

“Older adults have positive driving attributes like experience, being more likely to follow laws and less likely to take risks; however, as a group, their rates of death per distance driven and per population is as high as that of teenage boys,” Raul Coimbra, MD, PhD, FACS, chief of the Division of Trauma at UC San Diego Health System and founder of the UCSD Injury Epidemiology, Prevention and Research Center. “In addition, elderly drivers and their passengers are four times more likely to die than their 20-year-old counterparts in crashes of similar intensity.”

The grant team, led by Hill, includes Coimbra; Jill Rybar, MPH, project manager; and Tara Styer, MPH, training coordinator. For additional information or to schedule trainings, email TREDS@ucsd.edu or call 858-534-9330.