

## **UCSD student named one of Glamour Magazine's top ten college 'movers and shakers' for 1999**

**October 15, 1999**

Media Contact: Pat JaCoby (858) 534-7404 or [pjacoby@ucsd.edu](mailto:pjacoby@ucsd.edu)

### **UCSD STUDENT NAMED ONE OF GLAMOUR MAGAZINE'S TOP TEN COLLEGE 'MOVERS AND SHAKERS' FOR 1999**

Leena L. Shankar, a senior student in molecular biology at the University of California, San Diego, has been named in Glamour magazine's October, 1999 issue as one of 10 collegiate "Millennium Movers and Shakers" in the nation.

With an impressive background of work in public health issues and community outreach, the 21-year-old was selected from among 700 candidates nationwide. Other colleges represented by the top 10 winners included Harvard, Stanford, Yale and MIT. Shankar said it was especially pleasing to see achieving women students recognized and UCSD represented among the top universities.

Each winner received a \$1,000 scholarship and weeklong trip to New York City.

The Glamour article noted that "Shankar brings compassion to her studies. She recently completed her undergraduate honors thesis at the Center for AIDS Research in San Diego and reported her findings in May at the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology's conference in San Francisco." Asked about the "hot issue" on her campus, Shankar replied that it was "affirmative action. I'm for it, but I think there's a better means to achieve the desired end."

Shankar, whose home is Thousand Oaks, Ca., has attended UCSD since 1996 and has a GPA of 3.89. During the summer of 1997 she attended Harvard University Summer School.

The past summer she completed an American Heart Association Research Fellowship project at UC San Francisco, which included presentation of her work to the American Heart Association, and concurrently volunteered with the Coalition on Homelessness in San Francisco.

This year she is continuing her research project at the UCSD Center for AIDS Research, working on an independent project studying public health issues surrounding macular degeneration, serving as a teaching assistant for an urban studies and planning class, serving as managing editor for the UCSD campus newspaper, The Guardian, helping to create a new Revelle College leadership program, Leaders of the 21st Century, and serving on COAST (Chancellor's Organization for Allied Students).

This is the 42nd year of Glamour magazine's program to recognize and reward the exemplary achievements of American undergraduates.

(October 15, 1999)