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November 15, 1996

Column: OBITUARIES

Brett J. Cassens, 46 among first San Diego doctors to treat AIDS

ByJack Williams; STAFF WRITER

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OBIT

Article Text:

Dr. Brett J. Cassens, who was among the first San Diego physicians to treat a rising tide of AIDS patients beginning in the mid-1980s, was found dead Nov. 7 in his Hillcrest home. He was 46.

His death, from a cause yet to be determined, stunned many of his medical colleagues throughout San Diego and students at the UCSD School of Medicine, where he was an associate clinical professor.

Laboratory tests are being conducted by the county Medical Examiner's Office to confirm the cause of death.

"Brett was a dedicated teacher who took an extreme amount of time with his students," said Dr. Lucy Moore, a colleague and director of general medical clinics at UCSD Medical Center.

"He made a tremendous impact on students regarding the importance of correlating a patient's emotional and psychological health with physiological well-being."

Dr. Cassens, a board-certified internist, left private practice within the last few years. He had worked with Moore in the urgent medicine and general medicine clinics at UCSD Medical Center for the past three years.

From February 1987 to October 1992, Dr. Cassens had been affiliated with Kaiser Permanente Medical Center, serving as a supervising physician in the health appraisal center.

An AIDS activist, he was co-chairman from 1988 to 1989 of the AIDS Task Force in San Diego. He also had been both national president and president of the San Diego chapter of the American Association of Physicians for Human Rights, a group of gay and lesbian physicians and medical students.

After coming to San Diego more than a decade ago from Philadelphia, Dr. Cassens teamed with the late Dr. Brad Truax, who diagnosed the first AIDS cases in San Diego County. Dr. Truax died of AIDS in 1988.

Beginning with his years with Dr. Truax, Dr. Cassens saw AIDS cases spread dramatically. By 1995, 7,000 AIDS cases had been diagnosed, compared with 50 in 1983.

"Brett was one of the leaders in HIV care in the early days," said Dr. Keith Vrhel, of the Park Center for Health in San Diego. "He cared for a large number of patients with HIV and he was an extremely compassionate, understanding physician."

Dr. Cassens continued his work in the AIDS field as a research associate in the HIV Neurobehavioral Research Center and at the AIDS Treatment Evaluation Unit, both at the University of California San Diego.

"He spoke extensively about HIV and AIDS as a lecturer," said Mary McCarthy, a registered nurse at UCSD Medical Center. "He was a very generous friend with a wonderful sense of humor."

Dr. Cassens, an Illinois native, had a varied academic background. He earned a bachelor's degree in German from Illinois State University in 1972, then graduated in 1976 from the University of Illinois' Rockford School of Medicine.

He obtained a master of business administration degree at The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, in 1981.

Dr. Cassens began his medical career in the Urban Health Maintenance Program at the University of Pennsylvania in 1980.

He was president and medical director from 1982 to 1985 of Jefferson Health Care in Philadelphia, where he combined administrative and patient-care duties.

Before moving to San Diego, Dr. Cassens' teaching duties included serving as an instructor at the University of Illinois College of Medicine from 1977 to 1979 and serving as clinical professor of Medicine at Thomas Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia.

He is survived by his parents, John and Lois Cassens, his sister, Laurel Meyers, his brother, Gary M. Cassens, all of Sterling, Ill.; and his companion, Don Stille, of San Diego.

Cremation was planned. Memorial Services are scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Nov. 23 at a site to be determined. For information, call Balboa Cremation Services, 563-8810.

Donations are suggested to the Dr. Brett Cassens Memorial Fund, Attention Roger Laramee, Illinois State University, Campus Box 3200, Normal, Ill., 61790-3200, or to a favorite charity.

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The Umbrella Group

A Recognized Staff Association of UCSD

Published Quarterly

The Umbrella Group is the officially recognized Faculty/Staff Association for lesbian, gay, transgendered and bisexual employees at UCSD. Under the "Umbrella" are the UCSD Med Center Bisexual, Lesbian & Gay Network, the Lesbian Support Group and Queer University Employees.

The Michael L. Marx and Donald K. Marshall Scholarship for Gay & Lesbian Students at UCSD

Several days before Thanksgiving, I met Michael Marx and Donald Marshall, originators of the Michael Marx and Donald Marshall Scholarship for Gay and Lesbian Students at UCSD. This is the first scholarship at UCSD for gay and lesbian students and has only been initiated this year. The scholarship award is based on financial need and academic promise. Applicants are required to submit an essay explaining why they need the scholarship and must be self-identified as gay or bisexual.

Michael Marx, originally from New Jersey, has always been out and active in the gay community and has an expansive and energetic personality. He was instrumental in establishing the first gay recovery house in Los Angeles and was on the board of directors of it for some time. In Carlsbad, he was the first person to get hospice care for people with AIDS, at a time when most hospice would not care for AIDS cases. He was active in and president of NCGLA, the North County Gay & Lesbian Association, in it's day, a large and dynamic organization.

Donald Marshall is more soft-spoken and gentler, originally from Ohio but living in California since 1968. They were charming hosts in their beautiful La Jolla home, literally across the street from UCSD. Neither are alumni of UCSD, Donald went to Columbia, Michael, the University of Georgia. rc: Why a scholarship? mm: There's funding for other gay-related causes. I saw a need here. When I went to school in the 50's. there was definitely a gay community at the University of Georgia. I have always been pretty out, although it would have been easier if there were some kind of gay fraternities or organizations. There was harassment. dm: As a public school teacher for 33 years, I firmly believe in education as a prime tool to eradicate prejudice. Therefore, the concept of a scholarship is most appealing. Furthermore, the scholarship is designed to help the student be a student full time; it's hard enough attending school at UCSD without worrying about money. rc: Why UCSD? mm: While living in Orange County, we became friends with the a person

mm: While living in Orange County, we became friends with the a person who worked in Development at University of California at Irvine; he was the person who helped find grants and scholarships at UCI. We knew we would be retiring to San Diego, but didn't realize at the time that we would be across the street from UCSD! Here we met a great guy, Rich Heinrich, a fundraiser for

Scripps, then the Salk institute. We didn't realize how ill he was at the time; he died shortly after that...but he got us interested in helping UCSD in some way.

rc: What was involved in establishing the scholarship?

mm: It happened very quickly; it was very easy and smooth and the Development team at UCSD was helpful all the way. We basically met with the people in Development and they had their legal team review the scholarship so we would comply with 209 and not discriminate.

rc: In choosing the recipients, did you look at specific majors, like psychology, or research work specific to gay issues?

mm: No, UCSD screens the bulk of applicants based on need and academic standing, and then selected essays were given to us to review. We looked for involvement in the gay community.

rc: Does the scholarship continue indefinitely?

mm: The scholarship will continue as long as long as there is funding. Currently, they're funded for about ten years at two scholarships per year.

The initial generous gift from Michael and Donald began the fund; other potential donors were approached to contribute and increased the initial amount

considerably. The total of these gifts was matched by Dr. Joseph Watson, Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, as part of a one-time scholarship matching program. Interestingly enough, according to Michael, most of the gay organizations did not donate to the fund; the vast majority were straight people, many were academic friends of Don's. The only gay organization, to respond for donations to the fund with a generous gift was Couples of San Diego, a large organization of equal male and female couples.

Even though the scholarship was announced late in the academic year, ten students applied for the first Michael Marx and Donald Marshall Scholarship. Development is expecting to receive over 20 student applications for the 1997-98 scholarships. Anyone who would like to contribute to this fund or would like to start their own fund is directed to contact Mary Gagliardo of the Development department at 534-9646.

The gay community at UCSD is extremely grateful for the thoughtful generosity of Michael Marx and Donald Marshall. From all of us at UCSD, a big public THANK YOU! By

Ruthann Coyote, Newsletter Editor

Treasurer's Report:

Polyester A Hit!

On November 23rd, the Umbrella Group held a fundraiser to help pay for such items as this newsletter, postage, entry fees for the Pride Parade and other outreach activities. The event, a John Waters' Film Festival featuring such outlandish films at "Polyester" raised \$75.00 for the Group. Thanks to those fine folks who contributed towards the efforts. The Umbrella Group treasury now contains \$228.63. However, our mailing list is growing all the time; so if you're reading this, I hope you're a

dues paying member! Please see order form at the end of this newsletter. Send it in now; and you'll feel a new and special sense of belonging.

Obituary: Evelyn Hooker

Source: LA Times , 11/22/96 Myrna Oliver

Evelyn Hooker, the psychologist whose 1950's research showing that homosexuality is not a mental illness and helped fuel gay liberation, has died. She was 89. Hooker, who has been called "the Rosa Parks of the gay rights movement" by historian Eric Marcus, died Monday at her home in Santa Monica. In a highly controversial report in 1957 called "The Adjustment of the Male Overt Homosexual," Hooker challenged then-prevailing beliefs about homosexuality. Her landmark study of gay men showed that homosexuals were not inherently abnormal and that there was no difference between the pathologies of homosexual and heterosexual men. Several years later the American Psychiatric Assn.. finally agreed, and in 1973 struck homosexuality from its Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Psychiatric Disorders. The American Psychological Assn.. followed suit in 1975. In 1992, the group awarded Hooker its lifetime achievement award, its highest honor. Hooker was the subject of a documentary film, "Changing Our Minds The Story of Dr. Evelyn Hooker," produced by David Haugland in 1992. The film was nominated for an Academy Award. "Gives a kind of finality to one's life, doesn't it?" she told The Times, pleased with the documentary. "I don't exactly say my last goodbye to the world on film, but it does sum me up like nothing else."

She politely but consistently shredded the hero's mantle that gays and lesbians tried to wrap her in,

claiming that "curiosity and empathy" rather than special courage compelled her to do her famous study. Her work began when she befriended Sam From, a gay man who attended one of her psychology classes at UCLA. He persuaded her to study non-pathological homosexuals.

The novel concept and the initial research set her on a new professional course. She continued her work with homosexuals for the remainder of her career and for many years headed the National Institute of Mental Health's Task Force on Homosexuality. One of her most lasting contributions, which garnered her several major awards, was to legitimize homosexuality as a field of study. The University of Chicago honored her by establishing the Evelyn Hooker Center for the Mental Health of Gays & Lesbians. The Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Community Center gave her its highest honor in 1989.

Born Evelyn Gentry in North Platte, Neb., she grew up in Colorado and earned bachelor's and master's degrees in psychology at the University of Colorado. Her doctorate was from Johns Hopkins University. Hooker taught psychology at UCLA from 1939 to 1970, and then continued her private practice for another decade.

The widow of UCLA English literature professor Edward Hooker, she is survived by two sisters, Mildred Haugh of Downey, and Myrtle Fisher, who lives in Colorado. A memorial service is scheduled for 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 20 at the UCLA Faculty Center.

The family has asked that memorial donations be made to Amnesty International, 322 8th Ave., New York, N.Y. 10001; the Southern Poverty Law Center, 400 Washington Ave, Montgomery, Ala. 36104, or the American Psychological Foundation, 750 1st St, NE, Washington, D.C. 20002.

AA/EEO Award Winner!!

The Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgendered Issues is the PROUD recipients of an Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunities Award reflecting the time period of November 1994 to April 1996. An award ceremony was held on November 22, 1996 and a certificate and plaque was awarded to a CACLGBTI representative. Congratulations are very much in order, first, to the team effort that made the award possible (CAC members past and present)! Thank you to those who participated in writing up the nomination: Paul Harris, Sarah Archibald, Mark Freeman, and Rich Belmontez. (If anyone's name was left out, sorry!)

Events:

All of UCSD events are open to staff, faculty and students regardless of sexual orientation. Events listed below are subject to change so please call or e-mail one of the social co-chairs to verify the events. The editor is not responsible for incorrect information.

January 3 - "First Friday" at Kickers/Hamburger Mary's, 308 University Ave. From 6 pm. Instruction in line dancing optional. Come early stay late!

January 17 - "Third Friday" at David's Place, 3766 5th Ave. From 6 pm. A coffee house with indoor/outdoor/patio seating and evening entertainment.

Friday 7 - "First Friday" The Eagle. (No suede, please). 3040 North Park Way. From 6 pm.

February 13-17, 1997 The National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Annual Conference is a gathering of over 1000 African-American Lesbian, Gay and Bisexuals. This year the BGLLF will host its 10th Anniversary National Black Lesbian and Gay Conference in Long Beach, CA from February 13-17, 1997 at the Long Beach Hilton Hotel. Confirmed speakers for the conference include Dr. Joycelyn Elders (former Surgeon General), Dr. Cornel West of Harvard University (author of "Race Matters" and more recently the co-author of "Jews and Blacks") and June Jordan. The General Conference consists of workshops which range from issues of political activism, oppression work, health issues, legal issues impacting the community and many more. The conference also features specific break out sessions for youth/young adults and sessions for people over the age of 55. The conference planners would like to encourage you to sponsor at least one person from your organization to attend this gathering. You are additionally invited to submit a program proposal that addresses the issues facing young African-American Lesbians and Gay men. Community housing is available for students attending the conference and/or assistance will be available to help share a hotel room with other students. For additional information about the conference. contact the FORUM office at (213) 964-7820 or you may contact the Youth/Young Adult Committee by calling Jonathan Poullard at (213) 259-2627 or Benita Ramsey at (909) 621-8248. If you are interested in representing UCSD at this conference, or interested in raising funds to sponsor a representative from UCSD, please call Ruthann Coyote at 534-2261 or email address is Ruthann Coyote@HOUSING. ucsd.edu

February 21- "Third Friday" The

Living Room Coffeehouse. 1417 University Ave. From 6 pm.

Feb 21-23 Gay Writers' Retreat, first writing retreat designed specifically for lesbian and gay writers. This weekend retreat will offer workshops on story and novel writing, as well as providing writing, leisure and relaxation time in a beautiful mountain setting in Los Angeles. The retreat will be run by fiction writer/teacher Karen Dale Wolman. The retreat begins on Friday, February 21 and continues through Sunday, February 23. Fees start at \$285 and include workshops, accommodations, food and activities. Registration is strictly limited and participants will be accepted on a first-come basis. For more information, please call 310-226-2834, or contact Rick Richardson, aladdin8@earthlink.net

February 23 - Sunday Brunch on the patio at Hamburger Mary's. 11 am. RSVP to the social co-chairs, Sam and Jack, for table arrangements. Details forthcoming.

February/March 1997 - A conference is being planned entitled "Homosexuality and Public Life" with four separate tracks/themes: Community, Family, Politics, and Military. Chancellor Dynes has indicated that there will be major support from his office, but that additional funds must also be raised. Local participation will be needed in the organizing and production of the conference. There will be national speakers and it is planned that the event will attract media, off-campus visitors, students, and a wide variety of interested persons. Please be thinking about what you will be able to do to help and who else you will "invite" to become involved. For more information, contact Milt Phegley at 534-5782 or e-mail him at

mphegley@ucsd.edu.

March 7- "First Friday" at Shooterz. 3815 30th St. From 6pm. Chalk up your cue sticks and dust off your darts!

March 21 "Third Friday" at Java de Paradigm, 3343 Adams Ave. From 6.

April 11-13, The Umbrella Group Camping Trip. We will be "roughing it" at Agua Caliente County Park, located in the Anza Borage Desert. The campground has two swimming pools, showers, a small convenience store and if you want to get away from civilization, numerous hiking trails. If you would like more information on the excursion call Paul Harris at 534-8164 or e-mail pharris@ucsd.edu.

August 21-23, The Gay and Lesbian Medical Association's 15th Annual Symposium, San Francisco. The Symposium is a three day conference dedicated to providing continuing medical education on lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered heatlh, including one full day dedicated to HIV and AIDS related medical information. The format varies from panel discussions to plenary sessions to small discussion groups. For more information call 415-255-4547 or visit us on the web at www.glma.org

Regarding Events: Please feel free to volunteer to "host an event" of your choice. Contact one of the social co-chairs with a short description of your event and include your campus telephone and e-mail. Jack Neves, 534-1219, ineves @ucsd.edu Sam Dunlap, 534-6443, sdunlap @ucsd.edu

Journal of Gay, Lesbian, & **Bisexual Identity**

The new quarterly "Journal of Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Identity" is out and a complimentary copy is available to you for free. The Journal is an international interdisciplinary forum dedicated to the exchange of new knowledge and ideas about every major aspect of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender life. The Journal is a source of information for professionals involved in public health and human services; the social and behavioral sciences; the humanities; political science; law; religion and spirituality; and the arts. For a complimentary premiere issue and subscription information for the "Journal of Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Identity", contact the publisher directly:

Human Sciences Press, Inc. Attn: Dept. HGL 233 Spring Street New York, NY 10013-1578 1-800-221-9369

The editorial board of the journal welcomes the opportunity to review your original manuscripts dealing with lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender topics. Please write to the Editor for complete submission guidelines:

Warren J. Blumenfeld, Editor Journal of Gay, Lesbian, and P.O. Box 929 Bisexual Identity Northampton, MA 01061 blumenfeld@educ.umass.edu

Extra Treat In This Mailing

Most of you probably received a copy of the Chancellor's Advisory Committee on LGBT Issues latest offering, a "Straight Talk About Homosexuality" brochure and, from the Library, a resource guide for researching LGBT topics in the Social Sciences and Humanities Library. The latter was developed by librarian Sam Dunlap and has proven to be a

very popular and useful tool for library patrons. If you already have a copy of either of these items, please pass them on to your friends and/or family so they can be put to greater use. Also if you have any comments about the Library guide please pass these on to Sam Dunlap at sdunlap@ucsd.edu. If you have favorable comments about the straight talk brochure you are encouraged to pass these on directly to Chancellor Dynes at dynes@ucsd.edu.

Umbrella Contacts:

Umbrella Group Co-Chairs: Patrick Dowd 574-0840 Richard Zoehrer 534-2910 0308 rzoehrer@ucsd.edu

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Ruthann Coyote 534-2261 0079 Ruthann Coyote@housing.ucsd.edu 574-0840 Patrick Dowd

Unless you know otherwise, please send mail to work mail code addresses, "Addressee Only", please!

times a year, pl	his newsletter four us other fabulous angible benefits!
Name	
Address	

(that's \$5.00) in check of money order, payable to Umbrella Group to:

Umbrella Group c/o Patrick Dowd P.O. Box 3454, San Diego, CA 92163

ELSEWHERE

Berkeley Papers Stolen From Racks

BERKELEY, Calif. - Over the past three weeks, more than 13,000 copies of the Daily Californian have been stolen from the UC Berkeley campus. The thieves targeted high-volume campus locations. On three occasions, the papers disappeared from the racks within minutes of being placed there. The incident is similar to the Nov. 5 theft, in which the entire press run of the Daily Californian was stolen. The paper's editor-inchief alleges that the Coalition to Defend Affirmative Action by Any Means Necessary is involved with the thefts because of the paper's support for eliminating affirmative action. A spokesman for the group said no member of the group was involved, but did not condemn the action.

— The Daily Californian

USC Student Jumps To His Death

LOS ANGELES — Dimiter Georgiev, a 26-year-old doctoral student studying economics at the University of Southern California, jumped to his death late Monday night. Georgiev was apparently distressed about numerous school and personal problems. Students said Georgiev was competent, energetic and outgoing in the classes he taught.

- The Daily Trojan

UCLA Chancellor Finalists Revealed

LOS ANGELES — The search committee responsible for finding departing UCLA Chancellor Charles Young's replacement has narrowed down the list of finalists to four, according to documents obtained by the Daily Bruin. The candidates are the president of the University of Florida, the Stanford and Harvard University provosts and the dean of UCLA's law school. UC President Richard Atkinson will submit a single name to the UC Board of Regents for approval at the board's March meeting.

- The Daily Bruin

INSIDE



HIATUS: There's a whole lot of love going on. Plus Valentine Personals!

OPINION: In this time of togetherness, Peter Chang wants to be alone

SPORTS: The USC Trojans broke under the Triton's pressure

UC SAN DIEGO

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1997

VOLUME 90, ISSUE 12

UC Releases Transcript of Meeting

AUDIT: Bravin pushed for public release of meeting details

By Terry Lew

News Editor

After three months of delays ostensibly caused by poor recordings and privacy concerns, UC officials released Friday the transcript of an illegal closed meeting, where the university's auditors detailed \$100 million in "accounting corrections" that may have painted a bleaker picture of the university's medical cen-wrong." ters than was actually the case.

Officials released the 22-page transcript, covering the Nov. 14 regents-only sessions with the accounting firm Deloitte & Touche, because of Student Regent Jess Bravin's charge that the meeting violated California's open-meetings

"I had no doubt I was right, but I had everybody else in the room telling me I was wrong," Bravin said. "The fact is, the transcript would

Bravin raised his objections during the meeting, which was supposed to concern strictly personnel matters but instead delved into the schools of medicine and medical centers' financial controls and per-

"It had nothing to do with personnel," Bravin said. "If that had to do with personnel, then every meeting, everything we do, has to do with personnel."

UC Deputy General Counsel never have been released if I was John Lundberg attempted to stop

the meeting after repeated prompting from Bravin, but was rebuffed by Regent Howard Leach, chair of the regents' committee on audit.

"We're getting a little away from [personnel matters],"Lundberg said, reminding the committee of the specific exemptions allowed under California's open-meetings law which was co-authored by Regent William Bagley while he was a leg-

Leach said the meeting was based on general personnel issues and re-

See MEETING, Page 8

REFLECTING ON HISTORY



Schooling: Linda Brown Thompson, of Brown v. Board of Education, discusses her life as UCSD Assistant Professor of Ethnic Studies Jonathan Halloway looks on.

LGBTA, Other Campus Groups Sponsor Kissing Booth as Part of 'Day of Action'

AWARENESS: UCSA is pushing for systemwide domestic-partner benefits

By Julia Kulla-Mader

Guardian Reporter

Several campus organizations co-sponsored a kissing booth in the Price Center on Tuesday as part of the University of California Student Association's (UCSA) Day of Action.

"Every campus has some sort of visibility campaign," said Alex T. Tom, UCSD's Associated Students (A.S.) vice president for external affairs. "It is either going to be a kissing booth or a [same-sex] wedding."

UCSA, Student Affirmative Action Committee (SAAC), Graduate Student Association (GSA), UCSD Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Association (LGBTA) and A.S. External Affairs

Office all contributed to UCSD's event.

A.S. Campus Office Director Arzo Mansury said the goal of the Day of Action was to "put domestic partnership in the forefront."

According to a UCSA flyer distributed at the event, the designation "domestic partner" is generally defined as "two people who share a primary residence, are financially and emotionally interdependent, and have an intimate relationship including a commitment to caring for each other's

Mansury said the Day of Action was part of a quarter-long campaign to pressure UC President Richard Atkinson and the UC Board of Regents into extending spousal benefits to domestic part-

"UC regents have been debating the domestic partnership issue for 20 years," Tom said. "This is the first time that students, faculty and staff see See SMOOCH, Page 8

Brown Sisters Talk History

LITIGATION: Supreme Court shot down longstanding precedent

By Paul Dodge Staff Writer

Linda Brown Henderson and Cheryl Brown Thompson, the litigants in the monumental Supreme Court case that ended legal segregation in public schools, gave firsthand accounts Monday of their experiences being the Browns in the landmark Brown v. Board of Education case.

The Brown sisters, schoolchildren at the time of the 1954 ruling, lectured Monday morning during Dimensions of Culture classes and held an open dialogue later that day at the Cross Cultural Center.

Both are daughters of the late Rev. Oliver L. Brown who, along with 12 other families in the fall of 1951, filed suit in Topeka, Kansas on behalf of his children against the local board of education.

Led by lawyers from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Brown and the other families had simultaneously tried to enroll their children in all-white schools across the city. All of them were rejected because of their

The NAACP, along with then-lawyer Thurgood Marshall, used the evidence to bring the case to the Supreme Court. There it was combined with cases from Delaware, South Carolina, Virginia and Washington, D.C., to form the official case, Oliver L. Brown, et al, v. The Board of Education of Topeka Kansas, et al.

In an unanimous decision, the court ultimately overturned the 50-year-old precedent of "separate but equal" laid down in the 1896 Plessy v. Ferguson case.

The sisters shared their personal stories and various recollections, trying to educate the audience about the history of the case.

"We are proud to be have been a part of opening the doors of education to everyone," Henderson said. "I think it is important to educate everyone about the true history of the case in order to stay true to its original intent."

"If we don't remember history we won't See SISTERS, Page 9

© 1997 BY MATT

UCSD Hosts 1,379 **Foreign Scholars**

STUDY: Researchers from around the world converge at UCSD for its top-flight array of programs

"The scope of

University of

global

research at the

California is of

dimensions. In

being global in

participation."

UCSD International Center

Mary Dhooge

Director

addition to

scope, it is

global in

[foreign]

Staff Writer

According to a recently-released report by the Institute of International Education, UCSD ranks fourth worldwide in the number of foreign scholars it hosts.

UCSD follows Harvard University, UC Berkeley and UC Los Angeles, and preceeds the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and UC San Francisco in the 1995-96 rankings.

UCSD International Center Director Mary Dhooge said the scholars are not specifically invited to the university, but rather the quality of UCSD's research resources prompts them to come.

"The amount of research and the quality of research draws scholars to UCSD," Dhooge said.

Dhooge also attributed the large presence of foreign scholars to the University of California's international-research

"The scope of research at the University of California is of global dimensions, Dhooge said. "In

addition to being global in scope, it is global in [foreign] participa-

Dhooge cited two examples of international collaboration between UCSD researchers and faculty members and foreign schol-

One six-year-long project currently being conducted is the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor project. UCSD researchers have been working on the project with scholars from the European Economic Community, Japan, Russia and other American

universities. The U.S. project headquarters are located at UCSD.

Dhooge also noted that campus international centers facilitate work in the social sciences, particularly between North and South American researchers.

"The Center for U.S./Mexican Studies and the Institute of the Americas shows the university's international collaboration with scholars in the social sciences from

> throughout all of South America," Dhooge said.

According to the UCSD International Center's 1995-96 annual report, UCSD hosted 1,379 foreign researchers and faculty members last year.

More than half — 51 percent of the scholars were on the main UCSD campus, while 41 percent were located at the School of Medicine and nine percent at the Scripps Institute of Oceanography.

Forty-two percent of the foreign researchers specialized in the health sciences, 19 percent in the physical sciences and 14 percent in the life sciences.

Other fields of study represented were engineering, the social sciences, computer and information sciences, psychology, the arts and mathematics.

Of the scholars present in 1995-96, 13.1 percent came from Japan, 10.8 percent came from Germany and 10.1 percent came from China. A total of 105 countries sent students to UCSD.

According to Dhooge, the scholars work together with UCSD's studyabroad program at the International Center to both interest UCSD stu-

See SCHOLARS, Page 8

LIFEIN HELL

ETCETERA...

GROENING

CALLING ALL YOUTH!

So You Want to Get Pierced

HEY! YOOK AH ME!

Q: ISN'T PIERCING STRICTLY FOR FETISH-GUYS, S&M FREAKS, AND SEETHING CARNIVAL WORKERS? A: NOT ANYMORE! THANKS TO MODERN ALIENATION AND BOREDOM, YESTER DAY'S CREEPY PSYCHOPATHOLOGY HAS BEEN MAGICALLY TRANSFORMED INTO TODAY'S WHOLESOME TRENDY MIDDLE. CLASS YOUTH AFFECTATION! Q: WILL I EVER RUN OUT OF BODY PARTS TO PIERCE? A: IF IT DANGLES, PROTRUDES, JIGGLES, OR THROBS, WE CAN IMPALE, LANCE, DRILL, OR STAB IT!

MATUG IH AHMO HEAHED!

A: AS MIGHT BE EXPECTED, ANY SUDDEN PERFORATING, PUNCTURING, OR SKEWERING DE SENSITIVE HUMAN TISSUE MIGHT
LEAD TO WHAT SOME CALL "PAIN." WE
LIKE TO REFER TO IT AS "THAT SHAPP
UNPLEASANT TINGLING SENSATION." Q: ISN'T PIERCING JUST A FANCY WORD FOR SELF-MUTILATION? A: HEY, SELF-MUTILATION IS SOMETHING YOU DO TO YOURSELF. WITH PIERCING, WE DO IT TO YOU, AND YOU MERELY PAY US. COME ON, GROW UP! DON'T YOU WANT TO REALLY FREAK OUT MOMAND DAD?

Q: DOES IT HURT TO GET PIERCED?

NOW YOU CAN WEAR YOUR ABUSED CHILDHOOD AS A PERMANENT FASHION STATEMENT !!!

BRIEFLY...

'Pill Hill' to Benefit Staff Association

The Feb. 15 performance of Samuel Kelly's play "Pill Hill" at the Hahn Cosmopolitan Theatre will benefit UCSD's Black Staff Association.

The play, directed by UCSD Theatre Professor Floyd Gaffney, is a drama about six African-American steel workers and their struggles for the American dream.

The play is currently showing and will continue through Feb. 16. Tickets are \$12 for general admission or \$8 for each person in a group of 10 or more. For more information about the Feb. 15 benefit, call

Ashanti Houston at 534-0644.

For information about other performances, call the Common Ground Theatre at 702-5833.

Stein Lecturer to Examine Alcohol, Drugs and Aging

The UCSD Stein Institute for Research on Aging is sponsoring a lecture on Wednesday, Feb. 19 entitled, 'Alcohol, Drugs and Aging.'

The lecture will take place at 6 p.m. in the Garren Auditorium of the Basic Science Building.

Psychiatry Professor Mark Schuckit will speak about the physiological changes associated with aging, such as alteration in liver function and changes in the sensitivity of the brain, and how they relate to drugs.

Schuckit will apply this theme to prescription medications as well as over-the-counter drugs, alcohol and illegal substances.

The presentation is the next in a series of free lectures sponsored monthly by the institute.

For more information, call 534-6299.

Two UCSD Scholars Awarded 1996-1997 Fulbright Grants

Associate Sociology Professor Martha Lampland and Robert K. Willey, a research associate at the UCSD Center for Research in Computing and the Arts (CRCA), were recently awarded 1996-97 Fulbright Grants.

Fulbright grants are administered by the United States Information Agency, and awarded by the J. William Fulbright Scholarship Board.

The Fulbright program emphasizes international education exchange. Lampland received a Fulbright Lecturing Award, allowing her to teach in Budapest, Hungary this spring. Willey just returned from a lecture and research trip to Belo Horizonte, Brazil.

Willey, who has been a research associate at CRCA since 1990, specializes in interactive computer music performance systems.

Clinical Trials Center Needs Asthma Victims For Study

The UCSD Clinical Trials Center needs volunteers between 15 and 45 years of age for studies about asthma.

Participants must have exercise-induced asthma or must be using "environmentally friendly" inhalers.

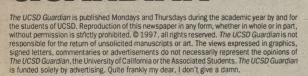
Compensation up to \$350 is available for qualified subjects, as well as complimentary medications, chest X-ray, ECG's, physical examinations, breathing assessments and laboratory blood tests.

For more information, call the center at 597-2640.

ERRATUM:

In a Monday, Feb. 10, Guardian article, "Conference Draws 150 High-School Students to Campus," it was inaccurately reported that George Williams is UCSD's sole African-American recruiting officer. Williams is actually the university's only male African-American recruiter — there are several female African-American recruiters.

The Guardian regrets the error.



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SMELLS: San Diego can't do

San Diego can't do anything right

Continued from page 4 ing to their "civic pride."

If there ever was civic pride in San Diego it disappeared long ago. Perhaps we can trace the loss back to 1972, when the Republicans, after promising San Diego a national convention, abruptly moved it to Miami.

Can you imagine the psychic blow to San Diego — the longtime bastion of right-wing politics, the town President Richard Nixon referred to as his "lucky city," the home of James Copley, publisher of the *Union* and the *Tribune* who practically swore fealty to the GOP?

At the time, Mayor Pete Wilson responded with a sure-fire cure-all for the city's blues. Wilson dubbed San Diego "America's Finest City," although there wasn't—and still isn't—anything particularly fine about it. Perhaps everyone fell for it. Who knows?

San Diego proceeded to lose its professional basketball team, the Clippers, to Los Angeles, who didn't need or want another basketball team. Then the city lost the one sports franchise that had ever brought any attention to San Diego — the Gulls of the International Hockey League — to

San Diego is an optimist's nightmare and a therapist's daydream. "If only I could get more patients like San Diego...."

Los Angeles, who again didn't need or want another hockey team.

While San Diego hasn't lost the Super Bowl or Chargers to Los Angeles yet, it loses or neglects many city functions yearly. San Diego lost its symphony orchestra, doesn't have a worldclass international airport, doesn't have a modern library and, worst of all, doesn't have a sewer system worthy of the name. Never have I been in a U.S. city that stinks as badly, and as often, as San Diego.

San Diego, in a word, is the biggest small town in America. It doesn't have any of the big-city amenities, nor any of the small-town comforts.

What do you think the city council and Mayor Golding will do when they lose everything for the city? This entire stadium disaster is their fault. They played fast and loose with construction companies and city money before knowing the outcome of the lawsuits against stadium expansion.

Although it's not official yet, San Diego will more than likely lose the Super Bowl to Pasadena, and the Chargers along with it.

Do you think the council and the mayor, after making it look like the whole affair was someone else's fault, will come up with a panacea for the city's latest blues? Perhaps San Diego will experience a new renaissance when they introduce a new motto:

"San Diego, The World's Greatest, Coolest, Neatest, Niftiest, Finest — if Slightly Smelly — City."

Brent Johnson appreciates all 112 Valentine personals he has received, but regrets that not all of them could be printed.

REALITY:Most people don't have a vision for life

Continued from page 5

disturbs me to hear people say things like "I can't wait to graduate, to stop learning and get on with 'real life!"
For these people, their education is, for all intents and purposes, already over.

Developing personal vision can also be terribly lonely at times. Most of us feel so anonymous, so misunderstood, so unappreciated for most of our lives, that by the time we arrive at college we are ripe for others to tell us who we are. It's a small wonder then that on college campuses charlatans and two-bit hucksters disguised as university professors wait in the docks for a chance to proselytize their captive and oh-so-receptive audience with messages of prepackaged identity and politics.

The quick-and-dirty payoff of a sense of community and solidarity that accompanies ethnic identity I understand why the cultivation and maintenance of a personal vision can be so difficult. It demands a high level of emotional security.

pales in comparison to the richness of what we are truly capable. We have only to summon the courage to find our own voice. You are worth much more than what ethnic-studies professors tell you.

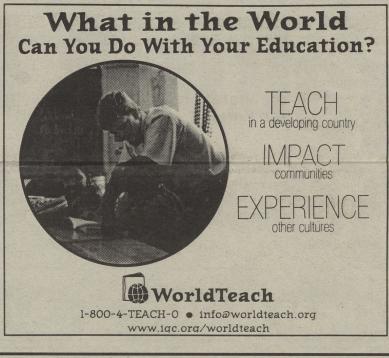
It is a perpetual delight to work and converse with people who have highly developed senses of personal vision. Inevitably, they appear unusually blessed with enormous energy, and their exuberant enthusiasm for life touches everyone they meet. They are keenly aware of their limitations. As a consequence, they suffer no illusions about who they are or what they can accomplish. They preserve the

natural curiosity that we all once possessed as children. They are often deeply creative, and reflect something that is all too rare in our modern cookie-cutter-mentality world: an independent intellect.

The most precious cargo you will ever carry in life is your psychological autonomy. For all that the acolytes of group identity promise to offer you in an effort to barter for your intellectual independence, remember: You will never, never get a fair deal for what you sacrifice in exchange.



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MEETING:

Holst cites technical, legal difficulties

Continued from page 1 fused to stop.

"The audit was based to see how key personnel performed according to key university accounting procedures," Leach said yesterday, noting the importance of confidentiality in fostering on-site cooperation with the auditors.

Bravin sent a letter to UC President Atkinson the next day, detailing his objections to the violation and urging him to release a transcript of the meeting.

"I was aware the transcript was ready in December for release," Bravin said. "It's quite clear the best possible spin you could put on it was that the university didn't think it was important enough to get around to it right away."

In a worst-case scenario, Bravin said regents and university officials could be conspiring to conceal public information and protect their reputations.

However, UC General Counsel Jim Holst said Bravin was mistaken. According to Holst, the poor quality of the meeting tape made preparing a transcript difficult. Several speakers were in the audience far from any microphones, rendering their voices almost unintelligible.

"It was a fairly laborious process," Holst said. "One of the complicating factors was trying to make sure it was absolutely as accurate as possible."

Holst said his office then took "considerable time in reviewing the transcript."

"I won't tell you how many times I read that material," Holst said. "It took longer than it should have, there's no question about that. But it just required a lot of attention and I have to tell you it wasn't the only thing on the desk during that time period."

However, Holst said he didn't feel pressured to delay or withhold the transcript.

The meeting centered on the \$100 million in accounting corrections the university's auditors said were necessary, including a \$70 million adjustment to correct what UC spokesman Rick Malaspina said were routine physician billing errors

"That level of adjustments is not

"I won't tell you how many times I read that material. It took longer than it should have, there's no question about that. But it just required a lot of attention and I have to tell you it wasn't the only thing on the desk during that time period."

— Jim Holst UC General Counsel

unusual for an operation this complex," Malaspina said.

According to Anne Broome, UC's associate vice president for business and finance, the problems stem from contracts UC medical centers have with insurers to be reimbursed for care at reduced rates.

"Any medical center could have as many as 250 contract rates," Broome said.

The different rates were improp-

erly recorded at the UC Davis, Los Angeles and San Francisco medical centers, resulting in the \$70 million adjustment. UCSD's procedure for recording the different reimbursement rates was correct, Broome said.

Broome said the reduced rates stem from increasing competition between hospitals for patients.

"The pressure on bills has increased substantially, so while in the past you might have been recording 80 cents on the dollar, now it could be 50 cents on the dollar," Broome said. "The amount you fail to book becomes larger as the competitive rates increase."

While the auditors didn't find any illegal accounting practices, the auditors warned the regents several times of the university's inadequate financial procedures.

"We want you to know that we have very serious concerns about the accounting and the financial controls at the University of California," said Deloitte & Touche partner Rich Fineberg.

The auditors questioned the effectiveness of the university's decentralized and redundant accounting systems, as well as the size and purpose of general reserve funds at the five UC medical centers.

"Management needs to be more disciplined about monitoring the level of these reserves and more importantly not building them up just to avoid reporting larger bottom lines in these medical centers," Deloitte & Touche auditor Ken Weixel said.

Some regents expressed their concern with the data the auditors provided.

"In other words, these medical centers are in a stronger position financially than we think?" Regent Gerald Parsky asked.

"That's one message," Weixel said.

"Right now you have pulled the rug from underneath us with regard to our judgment of the financial performance of those centers, I feel," Regent Peter Preuss said later in the discussion.

However, Bill Gurtner, UC's vice president for clinical services development, said the numbers "reflect what we believe is a legitimate reflection of the economic viability of the organization."

The meeting took place the day before the regents voted to approve the highly contentious UCSF-Stanford merger of clinical activities.

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KAPLAN

SMOOCH: Students have mixed reactions to booth

Continued from page 1

this issue as being winnable."

The kissing booth was in operation in the Price Center between noon and 2 p.m.

KFMB-T filmed the event.

"I think it's really exciting that [A.S.] is getting involved in the continued effort to obtain domestic partnership benefits in the UC system," Business and Financial Service staff member Mark Freeman said. "As a gay male employee of the UC system, anything that can be done to encourage the UC system to extend domestic-partnership benefits is very important."

Several students said they supported those who participated in the kissing booth.

"I think it's beautiful. I think there should be more love on this campus," Muir senior Diego Casteneda said.

However, Roosevelt junior D. Forrest Corn, III said he was "slightly indifferent."

"I have no problems with domestic partnership," Corn said. "I'm not exactly apathetic, but I still have a positive opinion on the whole situation."

One student who wished to remain anonymous noted that the kissing booth was quiet until the TV news crew arrived.

SCHOLARS: UCSD also supports foreign students

Continued from page 2

dents in studying abroad and to attract foreign students to UCSD.

"UCSD's International Center is unique because it houses a study-abroad program and foreign students and scholars under one roof," Dhooge said. "The scholars work with the students interested in studying abroad and even assist the students. The students and scholars are important in forming a community here at UCSD that supports students studying abroad."

ELECTION: New council will take over fifth week

Continued from page 1

race. Chen received 35.9 percent of the vote.

However, Yen was reluctant to celebrate his victory.

"I feel relieved, but honestly I don't feel any joy," he said. "Connie has been a good friend of mine since the very beginning of the year and I've really seen her work really hard."

"I think that either one of us would have done a really good job," Yen added. "I feel like my happiness is put aside for what I must imagine that she's feeling."

Mckoon received 72.1 percent of the 179 votes cast in the Marshall junior senator race. Brar collected the remaining 27.9 percent of the votes.

Like Yen, McKoon was hesitant to declare the runoff election an outright success.

"You know everyone worked hard, so, it was really up in the air who was going to win," McKoon said. "I'm happy, but it could have gone the other way as well.'

Roosevelt students overwhelmingly elected Felfe as their next sophomore senator.

Felfe received 93.2 percent of the 119 votes cast. Kobold won the remaining 17.8 percent.

Of the newly elected senators, Felfe expressed the most enthusi-

asm about his slate's victory. However, he said he was still disappointed by the results of the general election.

"I think the students finally found out that 'Students First!' are there to represent all students," he said. "Unfortunately, it came a little bit too late"

Felfe added that he thinks "Students First!"

did well in the runoffs because "people wanted a little bit morediversity in A.S."

Overall, students elected 13 out of 16 "Revolution" candidates to next year's council. Out of nine "Students First!" candidates, four were elected to office.

President-elect Souley Diallo said he was disappointed by the results of the runoff election, but added that he is looking forward to the newly-elected A.S. officers taking over at the end of fifth

"I'm glad elec-

tions are over,"

Diallo said. "I'm

obviously sad that

people on our slate

didn't win, but

nevertheless we're

ready to get on

was also disap-

pointed by the low

popular support

'Revolution' slate]

voter turnout.

Diallo said he

"I think a lot of

with it."

"I think that either one of us would have done a really good job. I feel like my happiness is put aside for what I must imagine that she's feeling."

- Dave Yen Warren Sophomore Senator

had was hurt by extremely

voter turnout," he said. "I congratulate the members of 'Students First!' who won today's election — they obviously did a good job campaigning," he added.

The new council will take over after fifth week this quarter.

Lights& Sirens

Lights & Sirens is a selection of entries compiled from the log book of the UCSD Police Department.

Sunday, April 13

10:15 p.m.: A student reported the theft of money from the Muir Apartments between April 10 at 4:30 p.m. and April 13 at 8:30 p.m. Loss: \$750.

Monday, April 14 2:52 a.m.: Officers arrested a 34year-old male non-affiliate at the VA Hospital for possession of a firearm on campus, possession of other weapons on campus and possession of a concealed firearm. Transported to County Jail.

6:55 a.m.: Officers detained a 45year-old female non-affiliate for being drunk in public at the Thornton Hospital. Transported to

12:37 p.m.: A student reported the theft of a backpack from the Quick Copy Center on April 11 between 11 a.m. and 11:20 a.m. Loss: \$200. 1:11 p.m.: A female student suffered an arm injury from a dog bite at York Hall at 11 a.m. Sought pri-

2:00 p.m.: A student reported the theft of a green Motiv mountain bike from the intersection of Regents Rd. and Voigt Dr. between April 11 at 2 p.m. and April 14 at 11 a.m. Loss: \$150.

3:10 p.m.: A staff member reported the burglary of an office at H&SS between April 12 at 4 p.m. and April 14 at 9:20 a.m. Loss: \$353.

Tuesday, April 15

2:40 p.m.: A student reported the burglary of a gray '85 Honda at lot 406 between April 14 at 4 p.m. and April 15 at 5:30 a.m. Loss: \$100.

Wednesday, April 16 8:40 a.m.: A student reported the burglary of a gray '89 Toyota Camry at the Mesa Apartments between April 15 at 11:20 p.m. and April 16 at 8:30 a.m. Loss: \$100.

1:30 p.m.: A staff member reported the theft of parking permits from UCtr 504 between February 12 at 1:30 p.m. and March 31 at 10 a.m. Loss: \$1,521.50.

> — Compiled by Terry Lew **News Editor**



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Revolution Slate Should Keep Campaign Promises

For the second consecutive year, UCSD students voted into the ASUCSD offices a working majority consisting of candidates from one of the large slates.

Last year, the Students First! slate scored an overwhelming victory over the U.N.I.T.E. slate. This year the tide turned against Students First! as the Revolution slate was swept into office.

We would like to congratulate all the candidates for their efforts and desire to improve the lives of UCSD students. All the campaigns managed to maintain a level of dignity that is sorely lacking in the vast majority of our national, state and local elections featuring professional politicians.

We would also like to congratulate the Revolution members on their victory. Their job has only just begun, and it is important that our newly elected representatives remember the reason they were voted into their offices: to do everything in their power to address the daily concerns of UCSD students.

The Revolution platform promised to change the council's funding priorities in favor of programming and student organizations, to push for expanded student parking and to try to increase funding for student services and financial aid.

It is important that the council work together to accomplish these goals, with each elected representative serving for the entire term of office. The infighting that has plagued previous administrations should not be allowed to bog down these objectives.

We encourage our new representatives to continue to distinguish themselves by keeping their campaign promises to the student body, and accomplishing their goals for UCSD.

Judges' Overruling Stops Illegitimate 209 Concerns

Last Tuesday, a three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit overturned U.S. District Judge Thelton Henderson's recent injunction against Proposition 209. In December, Henderson ruled that 209 violates the 14th Amendment's Equal Protection clause. Obviously the Constitution does not require that states pursue preferential policies, so why the constitutional concern about 209?

The key issue in this case pertains to the way in which Californians went about abolishing race- and gender-preference programs. Proposition 209 amended the state constitution so that affirmative-action programs cannot be enacted at the state or local level without re-amending the state constitution. According to Henderson, forcing women and minorities to re-amend the state constitution in order to enact policies they favor is an unconstitutionally discriminatory political burden.

So the legal question does not concern the constitutionality of affirmative action, but the constitutionality of the way in which Californians abolished affirmative action. The 209 case is about political procedure — not whether affirmative action as a policy is right or wrong.

However, these procedural concerns are bogus. It's only fair that a referendum can only be overturned by another referendum. The Ninth Circuit judges who overruled Henderson are to be applauded. Nevertheless, 209 opponents will not give up until the U.S. Supreme Court delivers a ruling in this case. For this reason, the court should review the 209 case as soon as possible. Only after a definitive decision has been rendered can our society get beyond this divisive issue.

OPINION



THE PAPER TRAIL

ELLEN'S 'COMING OUT' IS MERELY A MEDIA PLOY

COMMENTARY: Opportunistic TV executives have found a way to exploit the sexuality of a sitcom star for selfish financial gain

Those of you who

are excited by the

fact that Ellen is

now openly gay,

think that a

the way the

views your

to happen.

those of you who

television star will

somehow change

American public

orientation — news

flash: It's not going



Starboard Salvo On April 14, the cover of *Time* magazine featured actress Ellen DeGeneres, wearing a pants suit and a self-satisfied grin, next to the caption "Yep, I'm Gay."

And why shouldn't she be grinning? Her faltering show, "Ellen," has received a free ratings boost courtesy of American tabloid jour-

nalism. Yet again the media show that they are

ever-willing to feed the public's insatiable, voyeuristic appetite for inane details of the lives of so-called "stars."

If this is the most newsworthy event that *Time* can come up with, I want a *Time* cover featuring me crouched behind a stack of American Express and MasterCard bills, 1040 tax forms, 60 ungraded midterms to finish by 9:00 a.m. and unfinished scholarship applications, wearing a tattered shirt and a wearied expression next to the caption: "Yep, like I care Ellen's gay."

Time, in its typical editorial mode, asks its readers breathlessly: "Ellen DeGeneres is poised to become TV's first openly gay star. Is America ready or not?"

Who cares?

This nation has plenty of real issues. We've got a crippling national debt, Byzantine mazes of tax law, bankrupt morals in the White House and Congress, skyrocketing rates of child abuse and divorce and unsettled racial tensions in a supposedly colorblind nation. Are we supposed to

believe that the most newsworthy event this week is the fact that a second-rate TV personality told the world something everyone already knew?

We all know what's going to happen. People of all stripes will tune in to this 'Great Moment In Television History just for the experience of "being there," and tune

On April 14, the cover of *Time* in to watch the game show of television as it once again agazine featured actress Ellen spin its Wheel of Misfortune.

Pat, I'd like to buy a "why," please.

Why should we care about somebody's sexual orientation in this day and age?

DeGeneres wanted to have the character she plays on "Ellen," her three-year-old ABC sitcom, discover that she — the character — is a lesbian.

After all the argle-bargle, ABC announced last month

that the character of Ellen Morgan would indeed come out in a special one-hour episode on the last day of April, just in time for sweeps.

Pundits shake their heads: Does Ellen Morgan's coming out in what is still our most massive medium legit-imize homosexuality, or does the financial backing of a bottom-line business like ABC merely reflect its acceptance by a significant portion of the population?

Huh? Since when does television validate something in society? Have we really sunk to where entertainment fiction is seen as the authority from which we draw our societal mores?

"For me," she says, "this has been the most freeing experience because people can't hurt me anymore. I don't have to worry about somebody saying something about me, or a reporter trying to find out information. Literally, as soon as I made this decision, I lost weight. My skin has cleared up. I don't have anything to be scared of, which I think outweighs whatever else happens in my career."

Of course, this sort of self-absorption is par for course in the world of television and tabloid media. In a world of shameless opportunism, DeGeneres sunk to a new low: capi-

talizing on the marketability of homosexuality (and all its attendant controversy) to troll for higher ratings.

The predictable reactions from activist groups do not fail to disappoint. The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation is building a national "Come Out with Ellen"

See GAY, Page 6

COMMENTARY: Even though candidates on the Revolution slate deny that they have any bias toward fraternities and sororities, we still need to hold them accountable for issues not addressed in their platform

UCSD SHOULD KEEP AN EYE ON GREEK SLATE



Against The Grain

slate is taking over A.S.? I guess this means that frat boys and sorority chicks will soon be running things at UCSD.

That's scary.

and I've heard denials, so let's get it all out: Revolution swept the elections, many say, because of its "decep-

tion campaign." Revolution won because it effectively camouflaged its Greek slate under the veneer of "leadership experience."

Revolution denies any reports of a covert operation. On the contrary, slate leader Souley Diallo sought candidates with leadership qualifications — it was merely coincidental that a majority of them are Greek.

Revolution is much too noble to assemble a slate on self-serving vengeance. Although the incumbent A.S. council is viewed to be anti-Greek (council members deny the allegations, however), Revolution would never use A.S. to redeem the Greek system. No, Revolution would never dream of it.

So there was not a deception campaign, nor is there a scheme to employ A.S. offices to revitalize the Greek system. Could it have been the free pizza given only to those with a voting stub and sweaters bearing Greek symbols that gave Revolution a leg up over Students First!? No, that's bribery — Revolutionaries are noble, remember?

OK, then maybe it was because pledges feared the wrath of "big brothers and sisters;"

So, the Revolution they wanted to vote as free-thinking individuals but were told Big Brother had ways of finding out. No, that couldn't be it. either — the Revolution slate just happens to be Greek, remember? Of I've heard rumors course it wouldn't cater to Greeks.

> All right, then it's got to be the advertising. That colorful flier probably caught the attention of socially depraved UCSD students; the card looked as though it was publicizing a rave or promising a party. (Oh, so that's what they mean by the term "revolution" - revolutionary frat parties with more beer, more often.)

No? Slate members told me their No. 1 priority was to increase funding and improve allocation for programming to augment the quality of UCSD's social life.

Maybe they'll change their minds divided on certain issues.

That is where the problem lies.

All jokes aside, I am wary of an A.S. Council comprised mainly of Greeks. I would be wary of any council with numbers that overrepresent any single faction, whether left- or



UCSD — home to increasing diversity, burgeoning social awareness and strong-willed free thinkers (with the exception of those who voted according to what Big Brother said) — must hold Revolution accountable to its claims.

right-wing, Democrat or Republican. The A.S Council is designed to represent and meet the needs of a diverse student population.

Given its members' lack of experience on matters concerning underrepresented groups this campus, Revolution may be inclined to neglect people of color, and vital services like the Women's Center. the Cross-Cultural Center, O.A.S.I.S. and OSD.

Of course, it will not be done with malicious intent. However, when things come down to the wire and time constraints are pressing, certain items on the agenda become dispensable.

That's my concern given that the majority of Revolutionaries indeed Greek, temptation and time pressures may lead them to focus not on reaching a compromise

Revolutionary did tell me that the slate is but reverting to intersections of commonality, namely the Greek element. Humans are creatures of habit and tend to stray toward the familiar.

> How could Revolution possibly ignore people of color when half its slate is comprised of such people? Let's put it this way:

"The Joyluck Club" is not every Asian's favorite movie and Spike Lee is not every African-American's favorite director. So not every person of color is automatically "down for the cause;" some even employ racial stereotypes against other people of color to bolster their own images.

Case in point: Remember how Clarence Thomas wrongfully called his own sister the epitome of the "welfare-queen" and implied that Anita Hill was a "traitor-to-the-blackrace"?

No, I'm not saying that Greeks are a homogeneous group and no, I'm not branding Revolutionaries-of-color as "whitewashed." My point is that next year's A.S. Council will need to make a visible effort to recognize its privileged position and reach out to those whose needs may not be represented by Greek Revolutionaries.

Revolutionaries have not often been seen utilizing the facilities and services offered by the Women's Center, the Cross-Cultural Center, OSD or O.A.S.I.S. Nor have they been active in advocating for the rights of people of color or other underrepresented groups.

Diallo, some say, ignored constituents of the Summer Bridge program even though he is its president. The African-American Student Union "booed" Revolution for failing to play an active role in advocating the rights of people of color.

I've been told that Diallo has been vying for the A.S. presidency since he first entered UCSD. Some A.S. council members question Diallo's motives. Some charge that he magically reappeared for elections after several months of neglecting his duties.

See SLATE, Page 7

GRAPHIC ABORTION PICTURES PORTRAY REALITY

Editor:

Thank you for addressing the abortion issue in an intelligent manner ("Drawing the Ad Line," Apr. 14, 1997). Abortion is one of those issues that seems to evoke strong feelings from people on both sides of the issue. It should be dealt with "delicately," but without ignoring truth.

The university has always been a place where established ideologies have been challenged. This is very important in allowing individuals to examine their beliefs more closely. This should be true regardless of the issue. It is your obligation to present opinions on controversial subjects, even though some people may object, not because they're offended, but because they disagree that's a side effect of free speech.

If the ad in question was nothing but lies, I would say, "Don't print it."

But, I've seen the ad in the past and all it does is remind us that abortion is a reality and it does result in dead fetuses. These are facts. The procedures used by abortionists are real. Just like the film "Schindler's List" used a graphic account of the Holocaust to emphasize the tragedy. so do some "pro-life" groups, to emphasize what they believe to be a tragedy. "Biased" terms like "abortion mill," while certainly subjective, are not false.

If people are moved by the images, perhaps it will prompt them to rethink or strengthen their opinions. Isn't thinking what universities are all about? We can't run away from issues, no matter how disturbing. I think it would be a great injustice to turn away a paid advertisement endorsing a valid opinion.

Michael R. Kostura II



Readers' Forum

The Guardian welcomes letters from its readers. All letters must be no longer than two pages, typed, doublespaced and signed. Letters must also contain a phone number. We reserve the right to edit for length and clarity. Letters may be dropped off at the Guardian office on the second floor of the Old Student Center or mailed to:

> The Guardian: Opinion Editor 9500 Gilman Dr. 0316 La Jolla, CA 92093-0316 Fax: (619) 534-7691

Editor:

deciding whether or not to run an ad that has historically been so controversial. However, people should be exposed to arguments on both sides of the emotional and controversial issue of abortion, even if it means being exposed to unpleasant images. The fact is that these pictures represent what really happens in an abortion. If they were drawings "made up" as inflammatory propaganda, the Guardian would have legitimate cause to refuse to run the add. However, these are real photographs — presented to argue a position, yes, but real. If one is to fully support legalized abortion, one cannot deny or refuse to face the physical reality of the process.

No one enjoys looking at such

graphic photographs. They bring I appreciate your dilemma in disgust and pain to those who believe that abortion is the taking of a human life just as much as 'those who are pro-choice. But graphic photographs and descriptions have always been used to make people confront the unpleasant reality of what is happening in violent situations to bring to light the horrors of war or the suffering in famine-stricken areas.

The Guardian is not forcing readers to look at the insert, rather. it is giving readers a chance to, as you wrote, "expose [themselves] to all sides of the debate." Even if one is an ardent supporter of legalized abortion, one must make an effort to understand the totality of what one is supporting to form an educated opinion.

Nicole Fach

GAY: Ellen's stunt will not greatly change society

Continued from page 4 day around the episode.

This is not to say that I do not sympathize with the plight of gay men and women. I do. You deal with folks like the Rev. Jerry Falwell, who referred DeGeneres as "Ellen DeGenerate," and from the Rev. Donald E. Wildmon, whose American Family Association is threatening to boycott DeGeneres' advertisers

You live in a world where heterosexuals are referred to as "straight" (as if there was something "crooked" about being gay).

You are bombarded by unwanted heterosexual imagery from advertisements. If you enter the corporate world, you walk on eggshells and learn to avoid discussions of marriage, children and "that nice young man/lady" at the company party with whom you were seen. You are still an object of curiosity in many circles and are oftentimes the pariah to your family and friends. You deal with a thousand small injustices, learn to suppress your anger at "fag" jokes

Have we really sunk to where entertainment fiction is seen as the authority from which we draw our societal mores?

and compromise with the thoughtless clods at work.

You are seen as a "pervert" and unfit to work with children, even though nearly 100 percent of child molesters are heterosexual. You live

with a host of ugly stereotypes and find yourself constantly battling them in the face of ignorant classmates, co-workers and bosses. You endure needless suspicion and scrutiny in the company of people of your gender, as if being gay means you have an insatiable appetite for anyone of the same sex.

You must make all the compromises in your interactions, and are rarely appreciated for your Herculean efforts to fit into a hostile, or at best, indifferent, heterosexual world.

I understand.

But those of you who are seeking

across-the-board validation of your sexuality, those of you who are excited by the fact that Ellen is now openly gay, those of you who think that a television star will somehow change the way the American public views your orientation — news flash: It's not going to happen.

To those of you on the straight side of the ledger: Be a little bit more considerate to your fellow human beings. I certainly did not wake up this morning and consciously "decide" to find members of the opposite sex attractive. Neither did you. Human sexuality is rooted in a

See ELLEN, Page 7

SLATE: Non-Greek issues should not be ignored

Continued from page 5

Whether his office is mainly a means for Diallo to spice up his resume and law-school applications, meanwhile gaining prestige, is an issue of contention.

"But the past is behind us," Revolution protests. "It's the future that matters." True — but you're going to have to try harder, communicate frequently with student coali-

tions and pay more than lip service to the voices of people of color. This is especially important because Proposition 209 will be implemented in the near future.

UCSD — home to increasing diversity, burgeoning social awareness and strong-willed free thinkers (with the exception of those who voted according to what Big Brother said) — must hold Revolution accountable to its claims.

The concerns of the "average student" at UCSD are not limited to the parking problem, 16-unit quarters and a part-time job or the major

issue of whether to drink at a TG or a frat house. These are not "real issues." They are issues pertinent to the middle-class UCSD student. For instance, many students lack the money to buy a car, much less afford a parking permit.

Once in office, Revolution will be expected to represent all students — not simply the Greek council. The various constituents that comprise the student body at UCSD cannot simply be appeased with free pizza.

Grace Jang can be reached by e-mail at gracej@ucsd.edu.

ELLEN: Coming-out is exploited by press

Continued from page 5

million subtle influences, both social and genetic. Nobody really knows what drives us to the giddy, rarified, intoxicating state of infatuation and Eros; nobody can explain why we fall in love (or simply lust).

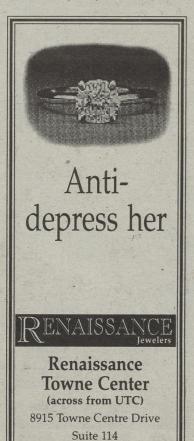
It's just as well.

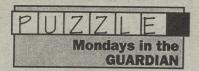
The media, as always, misses the point. Instead of using recent events as an opportunity to segue into a serious exploration of complex issues, we are instead witness to a large-scale advertising campaign for a television sitcom.

The whores of news magazines, at the beck and call of the pimps of broadcast advertising, laid down once again at the cheap motel of trash journalism. Once again, it is the American public that gets screwed — the one brand of sexuality that none of us should have to tolerate.

Peter Chang can be reached by e-mail at:

pchang@weber.ucsd.edu.





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Final Exam Question The Collect Call

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FORUM:

Students cite problems with OSD

Continued from page 1

Union President Moshe "Micky" Witztum.

Several students complained about OSD's current understaffing. According to Witztum, here are currently just three full-time employees working at OSD, making services difficult to obtain.

Other students said that cuts in class note-takers' pay has made it harder to find people willing to help them. Also, the students questioned the quality of the translators OSD provides.

Jade Morris is currently the office's sole full-time interpreter

"It is sad when it's easier to get into your local K-Mart than it is to get into some of the buildings on this campus"

— Concerned Student

and captioning coordinator.

Morris said the office uses casual interpreters paid by the hour, and those supplied by outside agencies when necessary.

Another concern raised by students attending the forum was the difficulty of accessing certain classrooms caused by the bad design of several campus buildings

"It is sad when it's easier to get into your local K-Mart than it is to get into some of the buildings on this campus," one student said.

Other students said they prefer to use their own vehicles to move around campus instead of using the inconvenient OSD carts.

Murray said the purpose of the forum was to gather input from students on the status of OSD, its services and its funding.

According to Murray, OSD's funding has been static for the past five years, but the number of students that the office serves has increased dramatically.

Murray said the office is looking to hire a full-time specialist in learning disabilities, as well as two part-time staffers.

RAPE: March incident is first of its kind at UCSD

Continued from page 1

"There's nothing that really stands out in my mind," he said. "The area is really quiet."

According to Jones, this type of attack is a first for UCSD — a dubious achievement.

"The unknown offender raping a UCSD affiliate in her apartment has never happened or has never been reported to us before," he said.

The last reported rape on campus took place over the last summer break. A woman visiting UCSD for a conference was raped in the La Casa area on July 1,

1996. That case remains unsolved.

There have been a handful of in-home rapes in UCSD's history, most recently involving a graduate student at the Mesa Apartments. In that July 1994 incident, the graduate student raped a visiting female acquaintance in his room. The victim pressed charges and the student was ultimately convicted.

In 1989, two female juveniles attending a camp in July were raped in their Revelle Mud Huts room following a party. Jones said the rapist was also an acquaintace of the victims and that the victims declined to pursue criminal prosecution.

Jones encourages anyone with information about the March 27 attack to contact him at 534-4359

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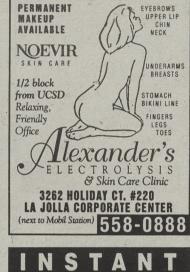
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ARTICLE MISREPRESENTED MUIR REQUIREMENTS

Editor:

I was not at all surprised to discover that the Jessyca Wallace who wrote an article in the April 21, 1997, edition of the *Guardian* disparaging the Muir College curriculum is not a Muir student. Thus, I felt no responsibility for the remarkable array of errors and misjudgments her article contained.

I was disappointed, but again not surprised, that the *Guardian* would print such an uninformed "opinion." I have neither the time nor the interest to correct all of her mistakes, but two do require comment:

"Students in comparable majors in Muir (and Warren) take as many as 12 fewer 'university-level' courses than students in, say, Revelle."

This is, of course, nonsense. All UCSD students take a minimum of 180 units to graduate. Students in Muir and Warren take fewer required GE courses than students in Revelle (or Marshall or ERC), which gives them the flexibility to

develop double majors, special project majors and other challenging programs.

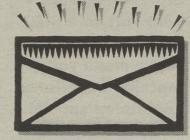
Among the colleges, only Muir requires 18 upper-division courses for graduation — a requirement that is possible because of the relatively flexible lower-division requirements.

"UCSD should try to measure up to the standards of UC Berkeley..."

UCSD more than measures up to UC Berkeley now. As I read the Berkeley catalog, the GE requirements of the College of Letters and Sciences are nearly equivalent to those that Wallace disparages at Muir College, although in my view the Muir requirements are better-structured.

The requirements of each college are set by the faculty of the college and approved by the Academic Senate (not the administration).

I regret that Wallace did not seek more precise and accurate information about the Muir College program before she took advantage



Readers' Forum

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Fax: (619) 534-7691
e-mail: guardian@ucsd.edu

of the space available to her in the Guardian.

Patrick Ledden Provost, Muir College

Chang Needs to Empathize with Gays

Editor:

I am enraged at Peter Chang's article on Ellen's coming out ("Ellen's 'Coming Out' is Merely a Media Ploy," *Guardian*, April 17, 1997). I wonder if Chang really does sympathize with the oppression that lesbians and gays face every day. Sympathizing doesn't do much for one's understanding of any community. If Chang would empathize, he would get at least a bit of an understanding of the gay community.

Should we just forget about having any gay characters at all on television? How realistic would that be? How fair would that be? It used to be controversial when blacks made appearances on television. Asians were seldom seen as well. (Remember, Bruce Lee couldn't show his "slanted" eyes on "The Green Hornet.")

If Chang would try to see this

Ellen issue through the eyes of the lesbian and gay community, he would understand how important it is for her character to come out.

How many role models do young, closeted gays have? Very few. Closeted youths probably (and most likely) wouldn't know where to go to discuss their feelings.

If Ellen comes out, this could be a coming-out experience for both her and the viewers. It may lead young gays to reach out to the social-support system. Perhaps her coming-out will give them enough courage to call that gay youth hot line that they've spent months staring at in the white pages.

Empathizing is the key to understanding the importance of this issue. It will help those struggling with their own sexuality and those who are closed-minded to see this character that they have loved find out that she is gay. It will help many like me say, "Yep, I'm gay!"

Robert Nguyen

LEARNING: Get all you can out of your education

Continued from page 4

are either too busy or just uninterested in talking to undergraduates, there are many more professors who are extremely generous with their time.

Have a question about the material that you were too afraid to ask in class? Go to office hours. Have a question about something not directly related to class material? Go to office hours. Developing relationships with faculty is important — and not just because you want to hit them up for graduate-school recommendations down the line. Faculty members have unique and valuable perspectives on a lot of things other than their field of study. Professors are people, too!

Besides getting to know faculty,

students should attend the myriad of special lectures held around campus. Check with various departments to find out which colloquia are offered throughout the academic year. Frequently, top scholars visit UCSD to give talks. Take advantage of the opportunity to hear them speak about their research. Also, quality lectures are featured both at the bookstore in the Wednesday Night Live series and in the Helen Edison Lecture Series.

A Liberal Education

When I first started UCSD in the fall of 1993, I feared that my classes would be so politically correct that I would not be able to get a good education. I worried that my education would not expose me to the "Great Books" of Western civilization. This fear was reinforced somewhat when I entered the Muir writing program my first quarter. The assigned reading consisted of some pretty silly and pointless arti-

The choice is very simple: You can either sleepwalk your way to a B.A. or a B.S., or you can really make your learning experience something special — something that you will carry with you for the rest of your life.

cles in addition to the book *Dreaming in Cuban*. I guess the point was to ensure "diversity" in our readings.

The two-quarter Muir writing program is intended to teach incoming freshmen how to write critical expository essays, but all I remember is how much I hated the

assigned reading. I've learned more about writing from my outside reading, from my work at the *Guardian* and from a book called *Style* by Joseph Williams.

Even though Muir writing was something of a hell-hole, things got much better from there. The turning point came when I decided to take a philosophy course to satisfy Muir's humanities requirement. The rest is history. Philosophy is now my major, and since my freshman year I have read works by Plato, Aristotle, Descartes, Spinoza, Leibniz, Locke, Berkeley, Hume, Kant, Augustine and Anselm, to name but a few.

These are the great minds in Western thought, and I worried I would never get to them. I thought they had been all but expunged from academic reading lists.

Don't misunderstand me: I'm not saying that you have to be a philosophy major to get a good

education. There are plenty of other departments that offer courses in the classics. Revelle's Humanities sequence is a good example. The political-science department also offers an outstanding sequence called Systems of Political Thought (PS 110A-C). The literature department offers several courses in Greek and Roman classics.

Make no mistake, UCSD is a highly technical university. For this reason, a liberal education sometimes gets lost in the shuffle of chem lab reports and programs for CSE courses. I'm not saying that these other fields aren't important, but they're only a fraction of the whole story.

If you want your time at UCSD to pay off in the long run, take a wide variety of courses. Be sure to take courses that cover the important texts of Western civilization. Take your education seriously — it has to last you a lifetime.





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The Umbrella Group

A Recognized Staff Association of UCSD

Published Quarterly

The Umbrella Group is the officially recognized Faculty/Staff Association for lesbian, gay, transgendered and bisexual employees at UCSD. Under the "Umbrella" are the UCSD Med Center Bisexual, Lesbian & Gay Network, the Lesbian Support Group and Queer University Employees.

Umbrella Group Camping Trip a Huge Success!

What can I say? What can I say? If you missed it, it's too late now. The thirty-three attendees of the Umbrella Group camping trip had such a blast! It was held at the Agua Caliente County Park which is located in the Anza Borrego Desert. We consisted of staff and students, nine women and twenty one men. This is twice the turnout of previous Umbrella camping trips. And just so you have plenty of advance notice, mark your calendars now, because tentative plans are being made for another camping trip in the Palomar Mountains in August. It was such a pleasure to get out to the desert to hike, enjoy the striking beauty of the desert, and then relax in the soothing rejuvenating mineral water pools.

I was so grateful for the huge Jacuzzi pool for adults only. I mean, I have children, so I don't mind kids in the pool, but that shallow outdoor pool was, at times, almost wall-to-wall people, and most of them were under three feet tall! The maximum capacity listed was 20, but it had to have been twice that! It certainly was refreshing in the heat of the day, and the children were fun to watch, but I enjoyed the indoor pool much more.

It takes all kinds of people at camping areas, you know? That tattooed biker couple drinking beers and making out it the corner of the pool; the religious family with the Harvest Crusade bumper sticker,

whose campsite was right near Terri's and mine (we smooched extra when they were around); the white-haired, slow-moving geriatric crowd that hogged the jets of the Jacuzzi at night. By the way, I use that term "geriatric crowd" with the great respect, as I am getting sooo close to joining them.

Bob Green made everyone a cool "Umbrella Group Desert Trip" full-color rainbow dashboard placard encased in plastic so we would all recognize each other (just in case we didn't). A souvenir I will cherish forever!

"Family" everywhere, and not just the ones who came up with the Umbrella Group! Is Agua Caliente known as a particularly gay-friendly hang out? Does everyone know this but me? I really should get out more.

Let me take this opportunity to say so long, (goodbye is so final) and to tell everyone what a great time I had working on the Umbrella newsletter, as this will be my last one. It has been such a blast and educational too! Thanks for all the great times, and I will be in touch!

Your newsletter editor, Ruthann Coyote

Treasurer's Report:

The Umbrella Group treasury now contains \$244.32. However, our mailing list is growing all the time; so if you're reading this, I hope you're a dues paying member! Please see

order form at the end of this newsletter. Send it in now; and you'll feel a new and special sense of belonging.

We Want You!

Have you ever felt that you should get a little more involved in helping the LGBT community but don't know where to start? Besides such great endeavors as the Lesbian, Gay Historical Society, the Center, the Royal Court and numerous HIV/AIDS groups, you might consider helping out locally by becoming involved with the Umbrella Group.

The time commitment is basically whatever you can afford to put into it. Have you ever thought, "Gee I wish they'd do an outing to Las Vegas or a play."? Well you are the "they". If you are interested in giving something back to your community so that life for an lgbt person on campus may be a little easier please let us know if you would be interested in holding a position in the organization.

There will be openings for a new Newsletter Editor. Ruthann Coyote will be leaving for graduate school in Colorado in June. Many thanks go to her for helping us all keep in touch. Your duties, if interested, would include maintaining the mailing list, producing a quarterly newsletter and arranging for stuffing the envelopes and mailing out. Ruthann would be

happy to give you more information if you e-mail her at rcoyote@ucsd.edu or call her at 534-2261.

In addition there is an opening for a Social Chair or Co-Chairs. Jack Neves and Sam Dunlap have arranged a great assortment of get-togethers this past year, with more still to come. If you have an interest in seeking out what activities interest members and then setting a calendar of dates/times please let us know. You would just need to send out a social calendar on e-mail to the members along with updates to the newsletter editor and a reminder of upcoming events a few days in advance of them. You can seek out individuals to make the arrangements for the actual activities.

If you have a special knack for fundraising, perhaps you would like to serve as the Fundraiser for the organization. The Umbrella Group is supported entirely by private donations. Maybe you want to arrange a raffle, a car wash, a garage sale, a bingo night, a beer bust, a movie night, or solicit donations from lgb organizations. This very important position is what enables us to produce a newsletter, have entries into Parades, make flyers and advertise through other media.

Another informal position is to maintain and mail out to the lgbt mailing list educational and political information online. This person receives e-mail from anyone who contributes to her or him and then forwards the information to the mailing list both informational or and urgent messages. It is helpful to maintain membership on at least one lgbt listserv. The Umbrella Group mailing list currently consists of about 75 names.

The Umbrella Group is also looking for a new Co-Chair to serve as the liaison to other Staff Associations on campus and the Med Center, to attend monthly Staff Association Chairs meetings, and ensure that all areas of the Group run smoothly.

If none of these positions appeal to you, but you just want to help out or you can think of another position that could use your efforts, PLEASE let us know. The organization will not exist without you. If you have any questions please contact current Co-Chairs Richard Zoehrer <rzoehrer@ucsd.edu> or Gaby Tako <gtako@ucsd.edu>.

In addition, a couple of autonomous organizations under the banner of the Umbrella Group are looking for new contacts should UCSD persons want more information. Your name will be listed in literature as being the contact person. The UCSD Med Center's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Network needs a replacement for Patrick Dowd and Queer University Employees needs a replacement for Fred Atchison. If you can be a contact please let the officers above know as well.

Paul Harris

This Falls Under the "Duh!" Category...

Three Studies Find Lesbian Couples Raise Emotionally Healthy Children

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Sam Dunlap, 534-6443, sdunlap

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UC Pressed On Partner Benefits

An unlikely coalition that includes Regent Ward Connerly is pressuring the University of California to offer benefits to same-sex partners. But UC administrators -- still recovering from the bitter affirmative action controversy -- have been working hard to keep the issue out of the public crossfire.

"We've known it's a looming issue and we won't escape it, but we have all the big issues we can deal with right now," said one regent, who requested anonymity. Student and staff groups have lobbied for benefits for years, but Connerly's backing together with San Francisco's new domestic partners ordinance could give them new ammunition.

The University of California at San Francisco has \$62 million in contracts with the city which could be

jeopardized if UCSF does not adopt a policy on domestic partners benefits. The Board of Regents is deeply divided on the question. Connerly, the Sacramento businessman who led the regents in overturning race and gender-based affirmative action in 1995, favors the idea of equal treatment for domestic partners. He said he does not plan to make a formal proposal on domestic partner benefits, though he has been speaking out in favor of the idea. "I have probably 30 letters here from people who have been in long-standing relationships at the university, prominent faculty members whose partners cannot get health benefits," he said. "If that's not discrimination, I don't know what is." His position on domestic partners has surprised some who think the views fall on opposite sides of the political spectrum. But considering race and gender preferences as reverse discrimination, Connerly thinks the positions are consistent.

Gay and lesbian students at the university have sought domestic partner housing benefits for years, while employees have focused on gaining health benefits. UC administrators have quietly told student and staff representatives that they support the idea. But the university is still recovering from a fractious debate over affirmative action, and UC President Richard Atkinson has kept the subject off the board's agenda.

Senior UC administrators refused interviews on the subject. "They want to keep it as quiet as possible because if any of the regents were to oppose it, it would be another civil-rights scandal," said Kimi Lee, executive director of the UC Students
Association. "They've been pressuring us not to say anything." Lee said she has been assured by the university that there are no legal obstacles to starting a new policy and that the cost would

not exceed \$2 million.

The issue was put on the back burner because of the affirmative action controversy, but student groups raised it again after the November election. They say they were promised the regents would consider the domestic partner issue by May. But a UC spokesman said there are no plans to bring it up then, or at any other time. If the issue comes to the fore, it could force a shift in political alignments in the university.

"Personally, I do not see a reason for waiting," says Connerly. "The only guy who's willing to go out front and be public on it seems to be this bad non-inclusive guy Connerly. Irony of all ironies."

Regent Roy Brophy, a Sacramento real estate developer who opposed the regents' stand on affirmative action, finds himself on the other side from Connerly once again. Same-sex partners shouldn't live in married student housing where children live, because "the lifestyle would be a form of indoctrination," he said. "Maybe it's a moral issue," he says, but I don't believe (benefits) should be extended to same-sex partners, and I don't agree with the stand the city of San Francisco has taken."

Neither does regent Howard Leach, apparently. The San Francisco businessman and GOP fund-raiser could not be reached for comment yesterday, but he complained publicly last month about the San Francisco restriction when the regents were reviewing a planned UCSF site at Mission Bay.

Most of UCSF's contracts with the city, mainly affiliation agreements to provide physician services at San Francisco General Hospital, need to be renewed by July 1, said Monique Zmuda, chief financial officer for the Department of Health.

"The issue of domestic partnership has come up. Our position is that all of our contractors have to comply," said Zmuda. "We do have a precedent of getting agencies to comply." Early this year, the city threatened to hold up a United Airlines lease at San Francisco International Airport over the law. After weeks of tension, the airline was given a two-year grace period to begin providing benefits for domestic partners.

Said San Francisco supervisor Leslie Katz, one of the ordinance's sponsors, "As a Cal alum, I would hope UC starts following the ordinance. "I think the Board of Regents is certainly cognizant of the dollar value associated with their contract with the city, and I'm sure they would look strongly toward coming into compliance."

UCSF spokesman Bill Gordon said that the school's negotiators are working with the city to find a resolution. But he added, "University policy is established by the regents."

UC has been studying the issue since the late 1980s, when David Gardner was president. A Mormon, Gardner made his opposition known -- even blocking moves by Jack Peltason, then the Chancellor of UC Irvine, to provide some benefits to domestic partners. Since that time, however, Stanford University has become one of the first universities to offer the full range of benefits to domestic partners. Private schools like Harvard and Duke as well as public schools in Michigan and Wisconsin have followed suit. San Francisco Chronicle April 5, 1997, Pamela Burdman, Chronicle Staff Writer

SPECIALGLAAD Alert UPDATE: Oprah Needs Emergency Support

submitted by glaad@glaad.org
Folks, a simple E-mail of SUPPORT
is all that is needed; or if you prefer, a
FAX or letter. C'mon, let's all put
together a quick paragraph or two and

tell Oprah thanks! GLAAD has learned that Oprah Winfrey still needs your support! Over the past week, she has received an overwhelming amount of mail criticizing her for appearing on the history making coming out Ellen episode. Please let Oprah know how much you appreciate her history of strong support for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.

Contact: Oprah Winfrey, Harpo Studios, 110 N. Carpenter Road, Chicago, Illinois 60607-2146, fax: 312.633.1976, E-mail: oprah@aol.com

Umbrella Contacts:

Umbrella Group Co-Chairs:

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rzoehrer@ucsd.edu

Gabriella Tako 534-1217 0175E
gtako@ucsd.edu

Social Co- Chairs:

Sam Dunlap 534-6443 0175R sdunlap@ucsd.edu

Jack Neves 534-1219 0175E jneves@ucsd.edu

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Umbrella Group c/o Richard Zoehrer UCSD 9500 Gilman Dr. 0308 La Jolla, CA 92093-0308 Addressee Only happy to give you more information if you e-mail her at rcoyote@ucsd.edu or call her at 534-2261.

In addition there is an opening for a Social Chair or Co-Chairs, Jack Neves and Sam Dunlap have arranged a great assortment of get-togethers this past year, with more still to come. If you have an interest in seeking out what activities interest members and then setting a calendar of dates/times please let us know. You would just need to send out a social calendar on e-mail to the members along with updates to the newsletter editor and a reminder of upcoming events a few days in advance of them. You can seek out individuals to make the arrangements for the actual activities.

If you have a special knack for fundraising, perhaps you would like to serve as the Fundraiser for the organization. The Umbrella Group is supported entirely by private donations. Maybe you want to arrange a raffle, a car wash, a garage sale, a bingo night, a beer bust, a movie night, or solicit donations from lgb organizations. This very important position is what enables us to produce a newsletter, have entries into Parades, make flyers and advertise through other media.

Another informal position is to maintain and mail out to the lgbt mailing list educational and political information online. This person receives e-mail from anyone who contributes to her or him and then forwards the information to the mailing list both informational or and urgent messages. It is helpful to maintain membership on at least one lgbt listserv. The Umbrella Group mailing list currently consists of about 75 names.

The Umbrella Group is also looking for a new Co-Chair to serve as the liaison to other Staff Associations on campus and the Med Center, to attend monthly Staff Association Chairs meetings, and ensure that all areas of the Group run smoothly.

If none of these positions appeal to you, but you just want to help out or you can think of another position that could use your efforts, PLEASE let us know. The organization will not exist without you. If you have any questions please contact current Co-Chairs Richard Zoehrer <racedorer@ucsd.edu> or Gaby Tako <gtako@ucsd.edu>.

In addition, a couple of autonomous organizations under the banner of the Umbrella Group are looking for new contacts should UCSD persons want more information. Your name will be listed in literature as being the contact person. The UCSD Med Center's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Network needs a replacement for Patrick Dowd and Queer University Employees needs a replacement for Fred Atchison. If you can be a contact please let the officers above know as well.

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Paul Harris

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