

UCSD task force appointed to develop outreach proposal

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UCSD TASK FORCE APPOINTED TO DEVELOP OUTREACH PROPOSAL

A Task Force on K-12 Outreach has been appointed by UCSD Chancellor Robert C. Dynes and UCSD Academic Senate Chair Georgios Anagnostopoulos, with the charge of developing "a proposal for a new, comprehensive initiative that targets economically and educationally underserved K-12 students."

The 19-member task force consists of UCSD faculty, administration, students and staff, and is co-chaired by Dean of Social Sciences and Professor of Political Science Paul Drake, and Professor of Biology Nicholas Spitzer.

In a letter appointing task force members, Dynes and Anagnostopoulos stated that "Although we have established numerous educational outreach programs, many of which target economically and educationally underserved children, it is widely agreed that we need to become more involved in primary and secondary education and that our efforts need to be more coherent and visible." They have requested a proposal by September.

"There is tremendous support by the faculty for increased outreach by UCSD to enhance the education of K-12 students," said Spitzer. "By working together with the administration and community, I am certain we will develop a proposal for a bold, imaginative new outreach initiative that will serve as a beacon, both to draw attention to the benefit of broad collaboration and to illuminate solutions as we address the pressing social problem of ensuring educational opportunity for our youth."

"We accept the challenge presented by Chancellor Dynes and will meet throughout the summer in order to have a proposal ready for review in the fall," said Drake. "This is a high-powered group with broad and diverse campus representation, and I am very optimistic that what we develop will be widely endorsed as an effective new model for university outreach."

The task force is developing a web page to provide updates on its progress and to receive comments and suggestions. Comments also can be sent to pdrake@weber.ucsd.edu.

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