

UCSD hosts teacher of the year ceremony at Scripps Ranch High School December 5

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UCSD HOSTS TEACHER OF THE YEAR CEREMONY AT SCRIPPS RANCH HIGH SCHOOL DECEMBER 5

"He is the most inspirational teacher I have ever had." "He is phenomenal." "He gave me confidence in myself." These words of praise by former students describe Scripps Ranch High School teacher Brady Kelso, who has been named High School Teacher of the Year by the University of California, San Diego.

Kelso, a teacher of English, will be honored in a ceremony led by UCSD Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Joseph W. Watson and Scripps Ranch school principal David LeMay at the high school, 10410 Treena St., at 7:30 a.m. Dec. 5.

Kelso is one of four teachers to receive the 1997 High School Teacher of the Year, each having been selected by their former students who now are enrolled at UCSD. Other educators cited are Marilyn Baer of Mira Mesa High School, Steve Murray of Cerritos High School and Brett Weiss of University City High School.

Kelso has taught high school English and World Literature for 16 years in the San Diego area. His accolades also include the Teacher of the Year award from the San Diego Unified School District in 1996-97. Known for his challenging, motivational and humorous teaching methods, students and parents alike point to his excellence. Says one parent, "You hope once in a lifetime to have a teacher like Brady Kelso."

UCSD's outstanding Teacher Recognition Program was initiated in the spring of 1996 by the Office of Admissions and Outreach as a way of showing appreciation to the high school teachers who work hard to instill a lifelong love of learning in their students. Each spring students who accept UCSD's offer of admission are given the opportunity to nominate a teacher who had a strong, positive academic influence on their lives.

This year the university received more than 2,700 nominations for 2,500 teachers from around the world. Each teacher was given a certificate of recognition and a letter from UCSD Chancellor Robert C. Dynes. Those teachers garnering the most nominations were named Teachers of the Year.

"We are very happy with how well this program has been received by teachers and school administrators," says Mae Brown, director of UCSD's Office of Admissions and Outreach. "This certainly is a program that we will continue, because we feel it is extremely important to thank those teachers who are preparing our most valuable asset, our youth."

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