

The Preuss School, One of “Best High Schools in America,” Names New Board Chair, Honors Impact of Retiring Chair

Dr. Sandra Daley to succeed current Preuss School chair Dr. Cecil Lytle

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Sandra Daley, M.D. Associate Chancellor and Chief Diversity Officer at the University of California, San Diego, has been named chair of The Preuss School Board of Directors, effective July 1, 2008. She succeeds Dr. Cecil W. Lytle, current chair of the Preuss Board, who will retire June 30, 2008.

Dr. Daley, who received her medical degree from UCSD's School of Medicine and did her training in pediatrics here, has played an active role in recruiting Latino/a and African-American students and faculty to UCSD. As assistant dean of Diversity and Community Partnerships since 1995 and a member of the School of Medicine faculty since 1990, Daley has crafted and implemented a number of academic enrichment programs aimed at helping disadvantaged middle, high school, community college and undergraduate students pursue health and science careers. In School of Medicine programs such as the Hispanic Center of Excellence, Dr. Daley has worked to retain and recruit students and faculty from underrepresented Hispanic ethnic groups.

"Sandra brings a diversity of skill, education, experience and community relations to this position that will serve Preuss well," Chancellor Marye Anne Fox stated. "Her experience working with a variety of communities, such as practicing medicine in San Diego community clinics for more than 13 years and teaching pediatric residents at a Tijuana hospital, exemplifies her unique ability to target a need and work to bring solutions," Fox added.

The Preuss School Board is composed of representatives from the community and from UCSD and Preuss School faculties.

Lytle currently serves as associate director of the Center for Research on Educational Equity, Assessment, and Teaching Excellence (CREATE). "Cecil was instrumental in founding The Preuss School, which opened in 1999. His heart and soul are in the overall fabric of Preuss," said Chancellor Fox. "He should be incredibly proud of the many students whose lives he has impacted and will continue to impact in the years to come as Preuss continues to graduate high school seniors who are the first in their family to attend a four-year college."

Dr. Lytle has served as Board chair since the school was founded. He joined the music faculty at UC San Diego in 1974 and was chair of the Music Department until his appointment as Provost of Thurgood Marshall College at UCSD in 1988. He has attracted international attention as a pianist, with a repertoire that ranges from jazz to classical. Dr. Lytle retired as Marshall College Provost in 2005.

The Preuss School is a college preparatory school jointly chartered by UC San Diego and the San Diego Unified School District. It uses an intensive college preparatory curriculum to educate low-income students who would be the first in their family to attend a four year college. As the school has established itself, it also has influenced a number of other schools. For example, Dr. Lytle helped to create and launch Gompers Charter Middle School (GCMS) in the Chollas View neighborhood of southeast San Diego, which was modeled after Preuss and incorporated advice from CREATE. And along with Bud Mehan, director of CREATE, he led a

university/community initiative to have the best practices of The Preuss School adopted by the new Lincoln High School in southeast San Diego.

The Preuss School currently has 756 students in grades six through 12 with a 2008 graduating class of 97 seniors. Of these, 93 members, or 96 percent, have been admitted to four-year schools. And of these, 72 percent were admitted to UC campuses.

Preuss was ranked sixth in the nation by *Newsweek* magazine among high schools regards as the "best high schools in America," and 10th best high school by *U.S. News and World Report*.

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