

## **UCSD designs bookcovers for eighth graders**

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Eighth graders in schools throughout San Diego and Imperial counties are receiving an unusual gift this week from the University of California, San Diego.

It's a specially designed book cover with tips on how to become a successful applicant to a University of California campus. The cover lists entrance requirements, UCSD advisors to contact for information, required and recommended junior high and high school courses, tips on how to prepare for a university education, and encouraging words about attaining a college degree.

According to Eustacio Benitez, coordinator of the project, UCSD is distributing the bookcovers to encourage students to plan toward a university education, and to underscore that eighth grade is the right time to start working toward that goal.

Thirty thousand bookcovers are being distributed through UCSD's Early Outreach Program. At 99 city and county schools, UCSD counselor aids and other outreach representatives are assisting school counselors coordinate the distribution.

Although the covers were the idea of UCSD's financial services director, Tom Rutter, his son Matthew, and friends, added their unique junior-high perspective to the project. Their suggestions regarding paper choice, design and a section for phone numbers were incorporated into the final design by Nancy Pittman, in the financial services office.

For more information contact:

Eustacio Benitez, Director of Early Outreach, 452-4250 Ann Klein, Early Outreach Program, 452-3800 Winifred Cox, Public Information, 452-3120

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