Spring is finally here and the students are all celebrating.

Some students are celebrating that this is their final quarter of their first year. Wow! Where did the time go?

Other students are celebrating their last quarter of college. They are finally done and can be proud of their huge accomplishment – a degree from UC San Diego!

Still, others are celebrating that spring quarter brings great weather and fun campus events. Students are excited to attend events like the Muir Musical, The Good Life Festival, Sun God Festival and the Triton 5K.

For those families who have students graduating - Congratulations! This special edition of the newsletter contains some helpful information about events that will happen on Commencement Weekend at UC San Diego, Grad Nite coming up on April 22nd, hotel information, and much more.

For all of our families, this newsletter is full of spring events and helpful information for your students.

Laci Weeden
Director, Parent & Family Programs

Commencement Information - June 13 – 15, 2014

Commencement will take place on June 14 & 15 and the All Campus Graduation Celebration will take place on Friday, June 13th. We encourage your family to celebrate all weekend long! Start by spending some quality time at the All Campus Graduation Celebration on RIMAC field on Friday night, then cheer for your student as they cross the stage on Saturday or Sunday at their College Commencement ceremony. Finally, enjoy sunny San Diego and all it has to offer while you are here.

Visit commencement.ucsd.edu for more information.

Saturday, June 14
- Roosevelt – 8 a.m.
- Revelle – 1 p.m.
- Warren – 5 p.m.

Sunday, June 15
- Marshall – 8 a.m.
- Muir – 1 p.m.
- Sixth- 5 p.m.
UC San Diego’s Grad Nite Party ‘14

UCSD Bookstore, 6:30pm-9:30pm.

Co-Hosted with the UCSD Alumni Association. This is UCSD’s red carpet, kick-off graduation party event for the class of 2014! Grads are invited to bring their family and friends to this not-to-be-missed event for all things graduation related. Free food, networking with alumni, find out about class rings, diploma frames, grad announcements, take senior portraits, sign the 2014 class plaque, thousands of dollars’ worth of drawings, plus discounts and sales exclusive to this night only. Triton Grad Packs will be on sale too.

Make Hotel Reservations Today!

Families are encouraged to make travel plans, hotel arrangements, and car rental reservations early. Approximately 4,000 undergraduate students graduate from UC San Diego each year, and therefore hotels in the area reach occupancy quickly.

UC San Diego Parent & Family Programs has partnered with Bartell Hotels to offer parents, students, families, alumni, and friends reduced hotel rates at some of the finest properties in San Diego. Every time you stay at one of the Bartell Hotels’ seven distinguished properties, they will donate a percentage of the total room cost to support student scholarships at UC San Diego and promote university events. To take advantage of these special rates and make a reservation for your family, call (800) 345-9995 or visit tritonfamilydestinations.com.

UCSD Triton Pride Grad Packs

Receive a free hoodie ($30 value) while supplies and sizes last. Check out the savings on all three Triton Grad Packs. Each one is bundled with varying levels of benefits and deals. Every Triton Grad Pack includes cap, gown and tassel you keep, commencement fee, alumni license frame, alumni benefits, coupons and more. The Ultra Triton Grad Pack provides the best value - saving you $1,567.78. Grad Packs are for sale online through midnight, June 1 and inside the store through June 15.

All Campus Graduation Celebration: The Happiest Hour!

Graduating seniors and their family and friends are invited to celebrate Commencement with a taste of San Diego on RIMAC Field the evening of Friday, June 13th. ACGC kicks off the UCSD Commencement Weekend by bringing together graduates from all six colleges to celebrate this amazing moment in their lives! Join Chancellor Khosla for local food, beverages, and live entertainment at UC San Diego’s only all-campus commencement event! Graduating senior tickets are FREE! Family and friends can purchase tickets for $5 or $10. More information is coming soon to seniors.ucsd.edu. Don’t miss out on this opportunity to celebrate the Class of 2014 in style!
Students and Families Get Ready for Graduation with Grad Night April 22

April marks the beginning of spring quarter at UC San Diego, and for graduating seniors that means the final stretch of their undergraduate careers. To help students prepare for the big day, UCSD Alumni and the UC San Diego Bookstore invite graduating students, families and friends to Grad Nite on April 22 from 6:30-9:30 p.m. in the Bookstore.

Grad Nite festivities will include music, refreshments and prizes as well as special discounts throughout the store on graduation items ranging from UC San Diego clothing and memorabilia to travel books and grad school guides. Students can also find out about class rings, graduation portraits, diploma frames and more from specialized vendors. In addition, university alumni will be present to network with students and share perspectives of ‘life after college.’

“Grad Nite provides an opportunity for seniors to come together and connect with their class, while accessing a variety of resources for commencement and beyond,” said Armin Afsahi, associate vice chancellor for advancement and chief alumni officer. “It is also about welcoming graduates to the Triton network, a powerful community of more than 150,000 alumni worldwide, and educating students about the alumni resources and benefits that will be available to them throughout their lives.”

One of those benefits is access to job search resources. For the first time, the Career Services Center is opening its online job and internship portal, PortTriton, to all UC San Diego alumni free of charge. In addition to accessing thousands of online job and internship listings, alumni will receive free entrance to job and graduate school fairs, employer info sessions, career workshop panels and networking mixers, as well as career assessment tools and more.

Along with Grad Nite, UC San Diego is again offering Triton Grad Packs, which help seniors save by combining commencement essentials and other popular graduation items into a single purchase. The packs are available in three options, each bundled with varying levels of benefits and deals. All packs include a cap, gown and tassel; commencement fee; alumni license plate frame and alumni benefits.

Triton Grad Packs are also a convenient way to make a contribution to the Senior Class Gift. A collective effort of the class of 2014, the Senior Class Gift provides support to incoming students in the form of $2,014 scholarship awards. A portion of senior gifts also go toward installation of the Class of 2014 plaque on Library Walk—a symbol of student philanthropy—and to the UC San Diego Senior Class Gift Endowed Scholarship Fund, which provides additional scholarships annually.

“I have had such a great experience at UC San Diego and I'm a little sad for it to be over, but mostly I'm thrilled to be the first in my family to graduate from college and excited for my next chapter to begin,” said Cassandra Randolph, a human development and political science double major who will graduate this June.

For Randolph, scholarship support made it possible to begin her journey at UC San Diego. Now, she plans to pay it forward with a contribution to the Senior Class Gift.

“Someone else’s gift made my dream come true,” she said. “Now, I want my legacy to be making someone else’s dream come true. I want to help give another student the incredible UC San Diego experience that I had.”

Whether your student is nearing graduation or just beginning his or her UC San Diego experience, parents and families can leave their legacy on campus by supporting student scholarships—or any area of campus that inspires you. Your contribution, especially when pooled with gifts from other Triton families, will enable UC San Diego to do more for your student and for future generations.

To learn more and make a gift, visit parentfamilygiving.ucsd.edu or contact Paulyne Becerra, senior director of development and community engagement, at (858) 534-7424 or pbecerra@ucsd.edu
The 3rd Annual Good Life Festival will take place on Thursday, May 1st from 5-9pm in the hub of campus at Towne Square & Matthew’s Quad. Hosted by the Health, Recreation & Well-being cluster, The Good Life Festival is an event focusing on promoting on-campus wellness resources, encouraging healthy living and engaging students in fun and exciting activities such as a climbing wall, photo booth, henna artists, aqua and land bubble rollers, face painting, chair massage, food, prizes, giveaways, and more! This event will be a night to remember, so come out and enjoy the good life! For more information, visit http://zone.ucsd.edu/goodlife/

Join us for the Triton 5K

Established in 1996, the Triton 5K has raised more than $3.5 million, benefitting more than 1,000 motivated and ambitious students. By participating in the Triton 5K, you are supporting student scholarships and helping UC San Diego students pursue their hopes and dreams. Register now. Last year, we broke every record—from student and alumni participation to funds raised for our students. This year, we’ve set our sights even higher. Together, we can change lives through the gift of scholarships. Learn more.

ALUMNI WEEKEND

Triton Families Welcome!

2014

Night at the Padres, June 6th
6 p.m. Western Metal Building, PETCO Park | 7:05 p.m. Game Starts
Cheer for the ol’ home team and join the Triton Family for an exclusive pre-game reception atop the historic Western Metal Building at PETCO Park. Nick Woodman, Muir ’95, founder and CEO of GoPro (and recipient of this year’s Outstanding Alumnus Award) will throw out the first pitch. Get...
Get Involved! The Alternative Breaks Experience

Every year while most students are off on vacation for spring break or summer break, small groups of UC San Diego students travel to different states and countries around the world, embarking on week-long or two-week-long trips. Over the course of the academic year, these students undergo interviews, applications, and weekly education and orientation to prepare for their respective trips. These students can be seen developing both soft and hard skills that enable them to succeed later on in life. They also return to campus with stories that inspire a chain of awareness and action not only in themselves, but in the local community.

Alternative Breaks are national and international service learning trips that use education of social justice issues combined with strong direct service to have a lasting impact on students and the communities they work alongside. The vision of Alternative Breaks@UCSD, a student-run, student-led campus organization is to create globally conscious active citizens who commit to lifelong service. Founded by Chapin Cole (UCSD '06) and Melissa Higgins (UCSD '06), this organization is a proud member of Break Away, www.alternativebreaks2014.org, a national nonprofit that trains leaders to organize Alternative Break programs nationwide.

Each Alternative Break incorporates 8 Quality Components, which include:

1. Strong Direct Service
2. Orientation
3. Education
4. Training
5. Reflection
6. Reorientation
7. Diversity
8. Alcohol and Other Drug-Free

This year, over 150 students of various backgrounds joined the 16 available Alternative Breaks trips, along with 16 community advisors. These trips focused on issues such as women’s rights, education, health and homelessness, youth empowerment, substance abuse, disabilities, urban poverty, and community development in Virginia, Hawaii, Detroit, Indiana, Alabama, New York, Costa Rica, Guyana, Nicaragua, Belize, Guatemala, Philippines, Dominican Republic, and Ecuador.

Alternative Breaks@UCSD is open to all students (undergraduate, graduate, alumni) and staff/community advisors. Information sessions and the annual application period to join an Alternative Break trip open in the middle of Fall Quarter of each academic year, and late applications are accepted only in certain cases. To learn more, please visit abatucsd.org or email abatucsd@gmail.com for more information.

In addition, Alternative Weekends, hosted by Alternative Breaks@UCSD, offer a chance for students and alumni who wish to make a local impact in the San Diego community to participate as a member of Alternative Breaks and learn about social justice issues. Weekend Trips occur once every quarter, and coordinators can be reached at abatucsd.weekendtrip@gmail.com for more information regarding the application process.

Finally, we cordially invite all students, alumni, and family members to attend our annual Alternative Breaks Benefit Dinner, which celebrates the achievements of current Alternative Breaks trips, and the movement of participants towards active citizenship. The dinner is held in the East Ballroom of Price Center on Sunday, April 27 from 5:30-9PM. Tickets will be available through the UC San Diego Box Office. Visit https://ucsdboxoffice.com
Muir Musical

UC San Diego’s annual Muir Musical Ensemble returns with a production of Gypsy: A Musical Fable! Based in the 1930s and preceding the rise of burlesque, Gypsy is a big, brawling, boisterous musical that follows the dreams and aspirations of Rose and two daughters she raises with the hope of their performing on stage. It’s a revealing look at showbiz life in which Rose pays a brutal price for her determination. With lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, music by Jule Styne, and book by Arthur Laurents, this is one musical you do not want to miss!

The Muir Musical was founded in 1991 by Muir sophomore Orren Webber, who envisioned the production to be an outlet for students interested in musical theatre who were not necessarily theatre majors. Performances are completely student-run by undergraduates from all six colleges and various majors. The end result is a full-scale Broadway production that showcases the creativity and talent of our students.

The Muir Musical is made possible thanks to support from various campus organizations and groups—including parents and families who give to the UC San Diego Parents’ Fund. Performances are in the Mandeville Auditorium on April 10, 11, & 12 at 8:00p.m. Tickets are available through the UC San Diego Box Office. For more information, visit https://ucsdboxoffice.com

2014-2015 Financial Aid Reminders

Update Estimated 2013 income after tax returns are filed. If estimated income was provided on your student’s 2014-15 FAFSA or California Dream Act Application, update the estimates once tax returns have been filed.

- FAFSA filers can update the income tax figures using the IRS Data Retrieval tool via FAFSA on the web

By May 21, 2014 if your student is selected for verification: Submit any requested financial aid documents or complete any required actions which may include using the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to verify 2013 IRS Tax information or provide IRS Tax Transcripts. If documents or actions are not completed by May 21st, only loans, Federal Pell Grant and/or Renewal Cal Grant funding would be available.

NEED HELP? Contact the UC San Diego Financial Aid Office if you have any questions at (858) 534-4480 or email finaid@ucsd.edu.
Coffee-with-a-Prof is a program sponsored by the Offices of the College Deans of Student Affairs’ and is funded by The Office of the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs. It allows students to invite a professor, faculty member, or graduate teaching assistant out to coffee or tea at one of the participating coffee vendors. It encourages students to cultivate a student-professor or T.A. relationship outside of the classroom in a more casual setting.

We will provide each student with a beverage voucher to be turned into any participating coffee vendor at the time of their visit. Each student may participate twice per quarter. Student must have verification that their invitation was accepted by their Professor or T.A., along with the date they have arranged to go (the week of it is fine) BEFORE they request a voucher.

**Participating Vendors:**
- Art of Espresso Café
- Cups Outdoor Café
- Fairbanks
- Perks
- Muir Woods Coffee House

If your student has questions, have them visit their College’s Student Affairs Office.
Check out our spring schedule for classes, workshops and programs. Registration is happening now and available online at recreation.ucsd.edu or in person at RIMAC, Main Gym, or Outback Surf shop. Experience all that Recreation has to offer!

**Informal Rec** – Just show your student ID at the access desk during open hours. Work out at RIMAC, Main Gym or Canyonview Aquatic Center weight rooms. You can also swim; plays basketball, tennis, racquetball, badminton, volleyball or table tennis.

**FitLife** – Focusing on fitness and well-being, FitLife offers classes and workshops in cardio and conditioning, aqua fitness, indoor cycling, strength training, yoga, Pilates and more.

**Intramural Sports** – Get a group together, form a team and ply against other informal, fun teams on campus. Spring intramurals include: softball, indoor soccer, volleyball, team tennis, basketball, dodge ball, inner tube water polo, kickball and beach volleyball.

**Outback Adventures** – Outback Adventures has everything you need for outdoor exploration and fun. Go on one of the many quarterly planned trips, grab a group of friends to tough out the Odyssey Ropes course or try out rock climbing at the Outback Climbing Center in Canyonview.

**Rec Classes** – Designed to bring you fun, Rec Classes offers non-credit instruction in aquatics, circus arts, dance, fun and games, gymnastics, martial arts, surfing, safety, sports and a variety of workshops.

**Sports Clubs** – Competitive and coached, Sports Clubs will give you the opportunity to compete against other universities on one of 29 men’s and women’s teams. Club sports include cycling, dance, equestrian, field hockey, ice hockey, lacrosse, rugby sailing, ski and snowboard, soccer, surf, triathlon, ultimate disc, water polo, waterski/wakeboarding and more.

See the entire schedule online visit: recreation.ucsd.edu

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**BECOME A TRITON PARENT & FAMILY AMBASSADOR!**

The Offices of Parent & Family Programs, Undergraduate Admissions, and UCSD Alumni are partnering to create a new program to help with recruitment, yield, involvement, retention, and philanthropic support. The newly created program, Triton Parent & Family Ambassadors, is housed under Parent & Family Programs. We are currently recruiting parents and family members to join this unique opportunity to help prospective and current UC San Diego families from around the world. Ambassadors are supporters of the University of California, San Diego. As a Triton Parent & Family Ambassador, you will:

- Assist in building the UC San Diego Triton Family both locally and regionally
- Engage with prospective students and families
- Connect with current students and families
- Serve as an informed agent of the university
- Assist with publicizing and supporting events

To learn more about the Triton Parent & Family Ambassador Program and to sign-up, click here.