



MORTAR BOARD ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

San Diego - California

MARCH 2017

Dr. Iris Engstrand and Ron Fowler to be honored by Mortar Board



Dr. Iris Engstrand

Iris Engstrand, Professor of History, is part of USD's history. In 1968, she was one of a few women faculty in the College for Men. She served on the committee that selected Dr. Author Hughes to become the first president of the University of San Diego in 1972. The new university merged the College of Men, the College of Women and the School of Law.

Iris, a native Californian, received her Ph.D. in history from the University of Southern California. She has authored 21 books and numerous separate book chapters and articles on Spain, California, and the West.

While she loves teaching, she is a recognized scholar of Latin American, Mexican and Spanish history. Recently, she was awarded the prestigious medal of the Order of Isabel la Católica (Isabel the Catholic - ruler of Spain in 1492) by Juan Carlos, King of Spain, for outstanding contributions to the history of Spain in the Americas.

Her academic honors include USD's distinguished University Professorship; the Davies Award for Faculty Achievement; Awards of Merit from the San Diego, Southern California, and California Historical Societies, Western History Association, and Orange Coast College; fellowships from the Fulbright Commission, American Philosophical Society and Huntington Library; and the California Design Award in Historic Preservation.

She is a trustee of the San Diego Natural History Museum and the San Diego Maritime Museum, past president of the American Historical Association Pacific Coast Branch and of the Western History Association. Engstrand has lived and traveled extensively in Spain and Mexico and lectures widely in both English and Spanish. She has degrees in history, with majors and minors in the fields of California, Mexico, Latin America and Spanish Southwest history, biology and Spanish.

Iris Engstrand will be retiring at the end of the academic year.

*The Twenty-Seventh
Annual Alumni Honors Reception
Honoring*

*Dr. Iris Engstrand
and
Ron Fowler*

*will be held on
Saturday,
March 18, 2017*

*at the
University of San Diego
Joan B. Kroc
Institute for Peace & Justice*

*Program 2:00 pm
Reception following*

Mortar Board 100 Years Old - 2018

Mortar Board will soon celebrate its founding 100 years ago in 1918. At the national conference in July 2016 National Mortar Board officially launched a major campaign to raise funds to keep it a top honor society for the next 100 years. The goal is to raise \$1,000,000 and after several years of a silent phase of fundraising, \$800,000 has been raised. The Board of Trustees and National Council have just completed their pledges, so longtime alumni and friends of Mortar Board are being invited to donate. Each donation will strengthen the foundation of Mortar Board for its second century!



At the same time, the San Diego Mortar Board Alumni Chapter is welcoming donations to raise \$10,000 to create a San Diego Mortar Board Alumni Endowment. You can support Mortar Board in the next century by helping raise \$10,000 to create a San Diego Mortar Board alumni endowment. The San Diego Alumni Chapter has been recognized as one of the most outstanding chapters in the country, and hopes to be the first alumni chapter to create an endowment in recognition of the Mortar Board Centennial.

Your help is needed! Every dollar counts. Please consider contributing to this important campaign, to secure Mortar Board's future. Please contact Jane Smith if you have questions and to receive a gift form jsmith@mail.sdsu.edu or cell 619-742-9713.



Ron Fowler

Ron Fowler, Executive Chairman and co-owner of the San Diego Padres, is Chairman and CEO of Liquid Investments, Inc. He is a principal and board member of Columbia Distributing in Oregon, Washington and California. He is recognized as a beverage industry leader.

Ron studied economics at St. Thomas College and earned his Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Minnesota.

Ron's special interest is higher education. Over the years, he has contributed to three universities both financially and through service. He is Chairman Emeritus of the University of San Diego's Board of Trustees and major contributor to USD Fowler Baseball Park. He was the primary financial contributor and chaired the successful campaign to create the Entrepreneurial Management Center in the Fowler College of Business at SDSU. He has served on the Board of Trustees of St. Thomas University - Minnesota, where he provides Fowler Business Challenge Competition Scholarships. His leadership skills and generosity have been greatly appreciated by all three universities and their students.

Ron Fowler is an avid sports enthusiast. He has served as Chair of the Executive Committee of the San Diego Hall of Champions, and he was the Owner/Managing General Partner of the San Diego Sockers professional soccer team. He was recognized as "San Diego Sports Businessman of the Year." He was founding chair of the San Diego International Sports Council.

Ron has been recognized many times for his leadership roles in athletics, entrepreneurship and community service. He recently received the first Chairman's Award from the San Diego County Board of Supervisors. He was named Herb Klein Civic Leadership Honoree by the San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation. He was the Big Brothers/Big Sisters of San Diego County's "Person of the Year" and he was honored by the San Diego Chamber of Commerce with the Herb Klein Spirit of San Diego Award.

SDSU Mortar Board

The Jane K. Smith Cap and Gown Chapter at San Diego State University had a great Fall semester. They started with promoting the 25th edition of the Daily Planner and Calendar of Events at summer freshmen and transfer orientations. On August 28, the chapter met at adviser Jane K. Smith's home for the annual summer picnic to get to know one another before the busy semester started. The chapter also offered, for the third time, the Mortar Board Merit Scholarship, open to juniors who excel in scholarship, leadership, and service. There was a 41% increase in applications from last year! On November 10, they held the Faculty/Staff Appreciation Dinner in the Aztec Student Union to honor those faculty and staff members that have most benefited Mortar Boarders on campus. The Dr. Henry L. Janssen Outstanding Teacher Award was awarded to Mrs. Brenda Chiuminata, AVID teacher at Temecula Valley High School, nominated by Mortar Boarder Okaro Shinn. The chapter also began a new Reading is Leading project this semester at the SDSU Children's Center. They donated new children's books and volunteered on five days reading to children in their classrooms. It was a great semester for SDSU Mortar Board!



SDSU Mortar Board Graduates and Mortar Board Advisers—Dec. 2016



USD Mortar Board



Robert Arca, Cassidy Donaldson, Harry Schmachtenberger, Simon Revlock, Mei-Li Hey leading the Mortar Board FOOD DRIVE Co-Sponsored with HOST.

The FOOD DRIVE was held before Thanksgiving and raised food and funds to create a pantry on campus for students who need it. Mortar Board volunteers worked quickly to accomplish the goal of providing students in need with food items for the holidays. The food drive included drop off bins where non-perishable goods were collected all over campus. There were donation tables in front of the Copley Library and Hahn University Center where donors dropped off nonperishable food. Some purchased various food items to donate or provided a monetary gift to purchase more food. The food drive was a success and gave USD Mortar Board members an opportunity to serve their peers in the broader campus community.



SDSU Mortar Board Faculty/Staff Appreciation Dinner Attendees

USD Mortar Board

President James T. Harris III was tapped for Honorary Mortar Board membership at the USD 17th Annual Faculty Appreciation Dinner and Initiated in October 2016. Through tapping and initiation, President Harris learned of the history of National Mortar Board and the history of the USD Mortar Board Chapter. National Mortar Board



Cassidy Donaldson, USD Mortar Board President and USD President, James T. Harris III



USD Chapter Advisor, Judith Lewis Logue and President Harris with USD Mortar Board members who conducted his Initiation.

installed the Mortar Board Chapter at the University of San Diego in Fall 2000. In 2006, the Alcalá Chapter of Mortar Board received the Ruth Weimer Mount Chapter Excellence Award. Each year at the National Mortar Board Conference, the honor is awarded to the most outstanding chapter in the United States.



Darlene Shiley, Honoree and USD President, James T. Harris III



Mary Ruth Carleton, Darlene Shiley, Honoree, Dr. Elliot Hirshman, SDSU President & Jerry Sanders, San Diego Mayor 2005-12



Cassandra Neel, Alumni Board President & Dr. Nancy Marlin, Honoree

San Diego Mortar Board Alumni 2016 Honors Reception Hosted by San Diego State University



Dr. Fred Kolkhorst and Dr. Nancy Marlin, Honoree



Cassandra Neel, Alumni Board President & Past Alumni Honors Recipients



Jerry Sanders introducing Darlene Shiley, Honoree



Dr. Timothy O'Malley, Darlene Shiley, Elizabeth Creech, Paloma Diaz, Dr. James T. Harris III, Dr. Andrew Allen, Judith Lewis Logue, Advisor



San Diego State University Dr. Henry L. Janssen Honors Council Awardees and Dr. Nancy Marlin, Honoree



Dr. Jane K. Smith and family, Mary Ruth Carleton, Makalya Bradford, Dr. Elliot Hirshman



Dr. James T. Harris III and Dr. Elliot Hirshman



Cassandra Neel, SDSU Mortar Board Adviser and SDSU Mortar Board Members



Dr. Seth Mallios, SDSU Faculty Adviser and Dr. Nancy Marlin, Honoree



Dr. Timothy O'Malley, Dr. Andrew Allen, USD Mortar Board Members, Dr. James T. Harris, Dr. Judith Liu, Judith Lewis Logue



Dr. Nancy Marlin, Dr. Kathryn Gabrielson, Darlene Shiley, Mary Ruth Carleton, Jake Goings, Dr. Elliot Hirshman



MORTAR BOARD

University of San Diego
Hughes Administration Center, Room 302
5998 Alcalá Park
San Diego, CA 92110-2492

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



San Diego Mortar Board Alumni Chapter Board Members



Mortar Board Alumni Board Board Members 2016-2017

*President - Cassandra Neel Vice President - Kayleigh Annett Recording Secretary - Angelica Killion
Treasurer - Dr. Jane K. Smith Historian - Marian Turner Scholarship Chair - Dr. Ronald Young
Photographer - Patty Bender SDSU Active Liaison - Brandon Pierce USD Active Liaison - Sarah Reynolds
USD Advisor - Judith Lewis Logue Immediate Past President - Patricia Bender
Scrapbook Chair - Madison Bala Administrative Liaison - Dr. Jane K. Smith*

Section 21 Coordinator and Adviser, Mortar Board Senior Honor Society - Megan Isaacson

Members at Large

*Erin Alton Dylan Banks Susan Basko Chris Burke Darlene Davies Dr. Kathryn Gabrielson
Emily Issler Victoria Kapper Robin Luby Evan Neel Dr. Ian Neel
Joyce Oliver Carol Sobek Joshua Wheeler Steven Youel*