



Our COMMUNITY



SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY

SCU Receives \$100M STEM Gift

A record-breaking gift establishes the Sobrato Campus for Discovery and Innovation

With a generous \$100 million gift—the most significant in SCU history and the second largest on record for a Catholic university—John A. '60 and Susan Sobrato will establish the Sobrato Campus for Discovery and Innovation. This “campus within a campus” will deepen Santa Clara’s commitment to enhance the study of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) and further promote cross-disciplinary exploration in these areas. The 300,000-square foot, state-of-the-art facility will enable students to engage in innovative, high-impact, team-based projects. When complete, the Campus will promote cross-disciplinary undergraduate teaching, research, and initiatives in areas such as neuroscience, bioengineering, sustainability, and environmental science.

“This gift is the largest in our family’s history,” said Mr. Sobrato. “We are especially pleased to support the University’s new strategic vision and the transformational STEM initiative at its core.” Mr. and Mrs. Sobrato have a long and deep history with Santa Clara. A graduate of SCU, Mr. Sobrato has been active on the University’s Board of Trustees for many years.

To learn more about this historic gift and to explore the future of STEM at SCU, visit www.scu.edu/stem.



Callie Rimpfel, SCU’s Office of Student Life; Captain Michael Sellers, Santa Clara Chief of Police; and Brandon Hernandez, a neighborhood ambassador.

A Continued Focus on Off Campus Living Initiatives designed for students living off campus make an impact

With one quarter left in the 16-17 academic year, Off Campus Living (OCL) reflects on a successful start and looks forward to what lies ahead.

Acknowledging the need for flexibility, OCL has been growing existing programs and mining ideas for new ones. “We are constantly looking to address the changing needs of our students and community,” says Callie Rimpfel, off campus area coordinator. “Our goal is to educate students about the impact they have, both positive and negative, on the city in which they live.”

While OCL has offered a variety of educational and community-focused programs, ranging from Adulting 101 workshops to Chat with the Chief, the most successful has been the expansion of Off Campus Housing

Orientation (OCHO). Initially designed as a stand-alone event, OCHO has grown to include four programs that every student living in a University-affiliated neighborhood house must attend. Topics include information on tenants’ rights, being a good neighbor, understanding city code compliance, and safety precautions for “educated partiers.” Offered on multiple occasions throughout the fall quarter, each program elicited attendance of more than 150 students. While these programs are required for students living in off-campus University housing, landlords of non-affiliated homes are urged to encourage their tenants to attend. “We want to be a resource to everyone in the neighborhood,” said Kim Gilkey-Wall, assistant dean for off campus student life.

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The Future of Bronco Athletics

Director of Athletics Renee Baumgartner discusses what's in store for SCU sports



Now in her second year as Director of Athletics, Renee Baumgartner joined SCU in 2015 with the goal of achieving national recognition for SCU's athletic programs. A dynamic administrator and former college coach and athlete, Renee brings bold vision, proven experience, and boundless energy to the task. In a recent conversation, Renee celebrated recent accomplishments and discussed what changes lie ahead.

What excites you the most about Santa Clara's athletic program?

Renee Baumgartner: I'm energized by the buy-in from all of our constituencies—whether it's Father Eng, the trustees, the community, or the alumni. Everybody is really excited about the investment SCU is making to ensure its athletic programs match its academic excellence.

What makes Santa Clara student athletes different from those at other universities?

RB: Our students are committed to both academic and athletic success. In fall quarter, 53% of our student

athletes achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or higher, which is unheard of in Division I athletics. Our students not only excel in the classroom, they are competing at a high level.

What improvements or changes would you like to make to the existing athletic facilities?

RB: In many ways, the work has already begun. We have a new floor in Leavey Center. We have new locker rooms for men's and women's basketball and upgraded locker rooms for other sports, increased operating budgets for all of our programs, and the new Stevens Soccer Training Center to name a few.

Currently, I'm working on a facilities master plan that would include additional upgrades such as creating a formal entrance to the Leavey Center and upgrading coaches' offices. We anticipate that the plan will be completed in June, and we're excited to unveil it in the near future.

How do you think athletics enhances student and community engagement here at SCU?

RB: Community engagement is key. Success in athletics can bring our community together and get them excited about something. One of our goals is to be successful so that alumni and our broader community can engage with and enjoy what we are doing.

What changes are in store in the coming year?

RB: One of my goals is to complete and execute the facilities master plan. We'll need to fundraise in order to

accomplish this goal and to ensure that our coaches have the resources they need to match the expectations that have been outlined for them.

I also want to change the culture. In order to be a successful Division I program, we need everyone to be engaged and to participate at one level or another. Santa Clara is a really special place. The University hasn't invested in intercollegiate athletics in over two decades, but now it has made a decision to do so. It's a really exciting moment for everyone involved.

What impact can the experience have on a young person who is interested in athletics?

RB: I have two daughters and I can say that experiencing the excitement of collegiate athletics from a young age had a tremendous impact on both of them. The culture at SCU is very fan-friendly. I think the fans who participate in these early stages will ultimately have a lot of fun watching what transpires as our program grows and changes in the coming years.

You were a student athlete and a coach. What advice do you have for parents or families who either have a student athlete, or hope to nurture a student athlete?

RB: My best advice to parents is to make sure you find the right fit for your son or daughter. If you want them to have nurturing and holistic experiences, then Santa Clara is a place where we provide that.

How do you measure success within the program?

RB: The quantitative stuff is easy. You can look at the win-

loss record and the academic achievements of the student athletes and know where you stand. But I'm measuring success by much more than the quantitative data. I'm looking at each program to assess where it started when I arrived and whether it is progressing at the right trajectory. Every program is measured independently.

I'm also evaluating the athletics program as a whole. We pay close attention to what our students go on to do after graduation. We want them to be successful. It's a very holistic view.

Do you have any final thoughts you'd like to share?

RB: I think about our athletic program like a baseball diamond. In the middle, on the pitcher's mound, is the student athlete. Every day we are trying to make decisions based on what's best for that individual. First base is academics. We're going to make sure that every student athlete at SCU graduates. Second base is about compliance. We're not going to cross lines, cheat, or break rules. Third base is about making sure our student athletes have the resources to meet the expectations that have been set forth. And, finally, these student athletes come to Santa Clara because they want to win championships and compete at the highest level—home plate. If we've done our job well, it circles back to the pitcher's mound and the individual athlete, who has had a great experience while here at SCU.

A New and Lively Season

The arts at SCU present compelling performances for every taste



Images dance performance.
Photo courtesy: Soski Photography.

The performing arts offer a rich outlet for education and entertainment, and nowhere is this truer than at SCU Presents, where programming is designed to enrich and enhance our understanding of each other and ourselves. This spring SCU Presents offers a rich combination of contemporary and classic theatre, music, dance, film, and poetry. The Theatre &

Dance Department begins its season with *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*, a hilarious musical revue that takes on the conundrum of the modern relationship and pays tribute to all of those who have struggled to find true love. *Measure for Measure*, presented this June, looks back to the roots of theatre with a classic Shakespearean story, while the *New Playwrights Festival* looks toward the future by highlighting original screenplays written by SCU students.

The Music Department presents stunning performances by SCU's wind symphony and the jazz band, as well as a combined appearance by SCU's Concert Choir, Chamber Singers, and Orchestra. These delightful productions are enhanced by additional musical programming, including a performance by Frank Sinatra Chair artist-in-residence Silk Road Ensemble and Music@Noon, which continues throughout the spring with free lunchtime performances most Wednesdays.



Santa Clara University Orchestra.
Photo courtesy: Chuck Barry.

This exciting season is punctuated with an excerpted performance of "Notes from the Field," written and performed by Frank Sinatra Chair scholar-artist-in-residence Anna Deavere Smith, and a poetry reading by award-winning writer Raina J. León. In collaboration with the Department of Communication and the Center for Student Involvement, SCU Presents Arts for Social Justice will also host screenings for *Life*, *Animated* and *The Way* in April and May.

With a mix of free and ticketed events, SCU Presents truly offers something for everyone this spring season.

For additional information and to reserve tickets visit scupresents.org.

SCU Presents invites you to enjoy 50% off tickets to:

Measure for Measure
June 2-10

Fusion: SCU Concert Choir & Chamber Singers and Orchestra
June 9

Using the code **COMMUNITY17** at **SCUPRESENTS.ORG**.

Achieving Excellence

The University Library receives 2017 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award



Staff of the Santa Clara University Library.

Just under a decade ago the Harrington Learning Commons, Sobrato Technology Center, and Orradre Library opened its doors, transforming the library-going experience at SCU. Since that time, the Library has worked to ensure that it meets the changing needs of its community. In 2013 the Library took its most proactive approach to date and solicited recommendations from students, faculty, and staff on ways to improve service and efficiency. Following a large-scale space assessment, the Library re-designed instructional areas, expanded study spaces, and refurbished worn-out furniture. They also developed a robust information literacy program, implemented a faculty workshop series, and made thoughtful improvements to organizational communication and culture. Their efforts in these areas paid off. In January, SCU won the university category in the 2017 Excellence in Academic Libraries award.

Sponsored by the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) and GOBI Library Solutions from EBSCO, SCU received accolades for its "intentional, user-centered, and data-driven approach to their services, collections, and spaces," according to Karen A. Williams, chair of the 2017 Excellence in Academic Libraries Committee.

"Having our transformation recognized through this award by ACRL is deeply meaningful," said Jennifer Nutefall, university librarian. "It is through our amazing staff that we truly live the Library's vision to be a vibrant and vital center for learning, inspiring both intellectual pursuits and community engagement."

Though most heavily utilized by the SCU campus, the University Library is also a vital resource for the local community. It maintains public hours from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. during the regular academic quarter, and encourages guests to use its multitude of cozy reading and study spaces. Free guest WiFi is available. Residents with a City of Santa Clara library card may check out books or utilize Link+ interlibrary loan services. Access to electronic resources such as online databases and scholarly journals is also available on site.

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Achieving Excellence

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Throughout the academic year, the Library offers a compelling schedule of public programs ranging from guest speakers, lectures, and presentation to monthly book discussions. A full list of events and available resources is available online at www.scu.edu/library.

“The Library is a vital resource for Santa Clara and the surrounding community,” said Nutefall. “We will continue to pursue opportunities to implement dynamic services and collections that support the intellectual, scholarly, and creative pursuits of our entire community.”

A Continued Focus... —Continued from Front page

In addition to the OCHO programs, four Neighborhood Ambassadors continue to be active. Their role includes helping OCL understand the needs of the community, facilitating communication with students, and encouraging their peers to attend events.

This spring, OCL will roll out additional programs that combine

social interaction, education, and information, as these seem to be the biggest draw for students. “We are here to help students successfully transition to living off campus and to be a resource for them,” says Gilkey-Wall. “We welcome input on how we can help make the experience of living in the neighborhoods surrounding campus increasingly positive for everyone.”

Graduation Exercises

The 166th undergraduate commencement will take place June 16 at 8:30 a.m. at Stevens Stadium. Juan Felipe Herrera, former poet laureate of the U.S., will be the speaker.

Former Secretary of Defense and CIA Director Leon Panetta '60, JD '63, will be the speaker at the Law commencement, which is scheduled for May 20 at 9:30 a.m. in the Mission Gardens.