

[View in browser](#)  
[ver en el navegador](#)

UC San Diego

OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT  
AND CAPITAL PROGRAMS

# Insights

## Staff News

January 08, 2025



## Climate Conversations | Shaping UC San Diego's Climate Action Future

On December 5, [Utilities and Sustainability](#) hosted a Climate Conversations event at the Climate Action Lab in Sixth College. The event brought together more than 30 members of the campus community to share perspectives, ideas and feedback on climate action planning and engagement. The event aimed to foster a collaborative and inclusive process to shape climate action priorities, initiatives and engagement strategies.

Students, staff and faculty shared their thoughts and ideas on what a decarbonized and climate-resilient UC San Diego looks like and how they would like to be involved in the planning process. A group discussion and reflection followed, allowing for open sharing and feedback.

Utilities and Sustainability will continue to host lunchtime events, providing opportunities for the campus community to contribute to a more sustainable and climate-resilient future. Join us for our next [Climate Conversations](#) event to continue the conversation!

## Triton Trivia

**How many utility meters are installed on the UC San Diego main campus? (This includes electricity, gas, chilled/hot water, potable water and reclaimed water meters.)**

Submit your answer [online](#) by Wednesday, January 29. The person with the correct, or closest, answer will win a \$25 Bookstore gift card.

*Eligible employees can submit one entry per month and win one \$25 Bookstore gift card per calendar year.*

**December Question: How many individual keys does Facilities Management maintain for the La Jolla campus?**

Answer: 130,000 | Winner: Elaine Nocito



## Sergeant John Alvarez | FBI NA Graduate

Sergeant John Alvarez was one of 257 law enforcement officers who graduated from the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. The 292nd session of the National Academy consisted of individuals from 48 states, the District of Columbia and Guam and included members of law enforcement agencies from 27 countries, eight military organizations and five federal civilian organizations.

The [FBI National Academy Associates, Inc.](#) (FBINAA) is a non-profit, international organization of 14,000+ senior law enforcement professionals dedicated to providing our communities, states, countries and profession with the highest degree of law enforcement expertise, training, education and information. Since

it began in 1935, 55,797 graduates have completed the FBI National Academy. Sergeant Alvarez joins Nina Jamsen, Accreditation Manager, and three other UC San Diego Police officers—Scott Gustafson, John Smart and Lamine Secka—who have graduated from this prestigious program.

Internationally known for its academic excellence, the National Academy in Quantico offers 11 weeks of advanced communication, leadership and fitness training. Participants must have proven records as professionals within their agencies to attend. Since 1972, National Academy students have been able to earn undergraduate and graduate credits from the University of Virginia, which accredits all the National Academy courses offered.

Join us in congratulating Sergeant Alvarez on this accomplishment!



## **Sandi | UC San Diego's First Police Therapy Dog**

In partnership with [Althea Canines](#), the UC San Diego Police welcomed its first therapy dog, Sandi, as part of the Canine Program in May 2024. Rob Meza, Physical Security Program Manager, is Sandi's main caretaker and handler. Rob is a UC San Diego alumnus (2002) who has worked on campus for more than 20 years.

Sandi provides psychological and physiological support to UC San Diego community members through direct engagement and interaction at community events. Daily, Sandi helps support Police Department staff by being at the station. When Sandi isn't participating in various campus activities in partnership with the University Libraries, School of Medicine and other groups, you can see her exploring the campus and conducting security assessments with Rob.

The department's second therapy dog, Diego, will arrive in early 2025, enhancing the program's ability to offer comfort, wellness and emotional support to our community. You can learn more about the [UC San Diego Police Canine Program](#) and follow Sandi on Instagram: [@ucsd\\_k9sandi](#)

---

## **Staffing Update | December 2024**

 20  
hired

 3  
promoted

 3  
retired

## Milestones

Recognizing Our Dedicated Staff with 20+ Years of Service – [See the July through December 2024 list.](#)

## OMCP Open Positions

Do you know anyone who may be interested in working us? We encourage you to refer qualified individuals to apply for our [open positions](#).



## 2024 Celebration of Cultures

**Thank you for helping to make the third annual Celebration of Cultures a success!** This event focuses on celebrating and amplifying the diverse cultures, perspectives and attributes across UC San Diego and is organized by the OMCP Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Action (IDEA) Task Group. You can read about it in the in UC San Diego Today article, [I am UC San Diego](#).

If you are interested in joining OMCP's IDEA Task Group to help make our community a more equitable and inclusive place, please email co-chairs [Alyson Hong](#) and [Valerie Vernon](#).

---

## Coming Up...

## Events and Announcements

- **NEW | General Compliance Briefing: UC Ethical Values and Conduct** training coming soon! This new course will be required for employees to complete every other year and is expected to rollout late January or early February. [Learn more](#)
- **Farmers Insurance Open:** Please be aware that the Torrey Pines Golf Course will be hosting the Farmers Insurance Open January 22–25. Staff may experience traffic delays that can affect travel and parking in the North Torrey Pines area. [Get details](#)
- **Staff Town Hall:** Staff Town Halls are held four times a year for UC San Diego campus staff to learn about relevant topics directly from campus leaders. Join the next Staff Town Hall on Tuesday, February 4, 2025, 1:30–3 p.m. [Register and submit your questions.](#)

## Reminders

- **Expansion of Paid Sick Leave:** Effective January 1, 2025, UC leave policies for staff and academic personnel have been revised to expand access to paid sick leave. For details, visit [UCnet](#).
- **Retirement Planning:** Thinking about retirement? Many resources are available on Blink to help you get started. To learn more, visit [Retirement Counseling](#).

## Share Feedback

If you have ideas, comments or concerns that you would like to share, send Niraj a note at [vc-omcp@ucsd.edu](mailto:vc-omcp@ucsd.edu).

View the [News Archive](#) for links to issues in English and Spanish.



---

UC San Diego

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Share Feedback](#)

This email was sent to.

*To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.*

9500 Gilman Drive | La Jolla, CA 92093 US

*Copyright 2024 Regents of the University of California. All rights reserved.*

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.