
College of Arts and Letters

Administration

Dean: Paul Wong
Associate Dean: Edward V. Heck
Associate Dean: Linda D. Holler
Assistant Dean for Student Affairs: Leslie S. Johnson
Director of Development: Nancy Lemkie
Director of Resource Management: Lesley Bryant

General Information

The College of Arts and Letters is at the very heart of liberal arts education at San Diego State University. Its programs in the humanities and social sciences are offered through 19 academic departments and several interdisciplinary programs, each of which is designed to help students to understand their role in society and to develop aesthetic sensibilities. Arts and Letters courses are offered to explore the experiences of men and women in society, their cultural expressions and practices, their languages, and their philosophical concepts. The college's highly trained, professionally active faculty seek to give students an awareness about the development of present knowledge and how to generate new knowledge. Students are encouraged to develop keen observation skills, the capacity to think critically, and the ability to express their views intelligently and sensitively as leaders.

Curricula Offered

Refer to the Courses and Curricula section of this catalog for a complete listing of program requirements and courses offered by departments within the College of Arts and Letters.

Doctoral Program

Geography

Master's Degrees

Anthropology (M.A.), Asian Studies (M.A.), Chicana and Chicano Studies (M.A.), Creative Writing (M.F.A.), Criminal Justice and Criminology (M.S.; jointly with the College of Professional Studies and Fine Arts), Economics (M.A.), English (M.A.), French (M.A.), Geography (M.A., M.S.), History (M.A.), Latin American Studies (M.A., M.B.A./M.A.; jointly with the College of Business Administration, M.P.H./M.A.; jointly with the College of Health and Human Services), Liberal Arts and Sciences (M.A.), Linguistics (M.A.), Philosophy (M.A.), Political Science (M.A.), Rhetoric and Writing Studies (M.A.), Sociology (M.A.), Spanish (M.A.), Women's Studies (M.A.).

Bachelor's Degrees

Afro-American Studies (B.A.), Anthropology (B.A.), Asian Studies (B.A.), Chicana and Chicano Studies (B.A.), Classics (B.A.), Comparative Literature (B.A.), Economics (B.A.), English (B.A.), European Studies (B.A.), French (B.A.), Geography (B.A., B.S.), German (B.A.), History (B.A.), Humanities (B.A.), International Business (B.A.; jointly with the College of Business Administration), International Security and Conflict Resolution (B.A.; jointly with the College of Professional Studies and Fine Arts and the College of Sciences), Japanese (B.A.), Latin American Studies (B.A.), Linguistics (B.A.), Philosophy (B.A.), Modern Jewish Studies (B.A.; consorsial within CSU), Political Science (B.A.), Religious Studies (B.A.), Russian (B.A.), Russian and Central European Studies (B.A.), Social Science (B.A.), Sociology (B.A.), Spanish (B.A.), Urban Studies (B.A.), Women's Studies (B.A.).

Minors

African Studies, Afro-American Studies, American Indian Studies, Anthropology, Asian Studies, Chicana and Chicano Studies, Chinese, Classics, Comparative Literature, Economics, English, Environment and Society, European Studies, French, Geography, German, History, Humanities, International Security and Conflict Resolution (jointly with the College of Professional Studies and Fine Arts and the College of Sciences), Islamic and Arabic Studies, Italian, Japanese, Jewish Studies, Latin American Studies, Linguistics, Philosophy, Political Science, Portuguese, Religious Studies, Rhetoric and Writing Studies, Russian, Sociology, Spanish, United States-Mexican Border Studies, Women's Studies.

Preprofessional Curriculum

Prelegal

Certificate Programs

Applied Linguistics and English as a Second Language (ESL), Children's/Adolescent Literature, Geographic Information Science, Spanish Court Interpreting (available at Imperial Valley Campus only), Spanish Translation Studies, Technical and Scientific Writing, United States-Mexico Border Studies.

Research Centers and Institutes

Africana Center for Cultural Literacy and Research

JoAnne Cornwell and Francis Nesbitt, Co-Directors

The Africana Center for Cultural Literacy and Research provides independent and collaborative projects (across a broad spectrum of academic disciplines) that create professional development opportunities with an Africana cultural focus for students, faculty and staff; research opportunities for students and faculty; and culturally enhanced teaching opportunities for SDSU faculty. The center's programs also provide venues for community service which focus on Africana cultural groups.

The Africana Center is housed in the Department of Africana Studies and can be reached by calling the department office at 619-594-6531 or Dr. Cornwell at 619-594-4131.

Bread and Roses Center

The Bread and Roses Center for the promotion of creativity, scholarship, and community action in support of the women's movement, is the first such center in the nation.

The center brings activists, artists, and scholars committed to feminist social change to SDSU to network with colleagues and students on the campus and in the San Diego community, and to reflect upon and reorient their practices. Visiting residents of the center benefit from the opportunity for rejuvenation. The center also supports a strong international community of artists, students, scholars, and community activists working to achieve equality for women. The center hosts such activities as colloquia, festivals, readings, exhibitions, and special events. For those wishing to expand their knowledge of women's movements, the center provides a forum for courses, guest lectures, and workshops. The center enhances two missions of SDSU: promoting internationalization of the curriculum and students' learning experiences, and reaching out to, and positively interacting with, the larger San Diego community.

The Bread and Roses Center is housed in the Department of Women's Studies and can be reached by calling the department office at 619-594-2952. The Web site is http://www-rohan.sdsu.edu/dept/wsweb/bread_roses.html.

Chinese Studies Institute**Li-Rong Lilly Cheng, Director**

The Chinese Studies Institute coordinates and supports on-campus teaching and research related to China. The institute develops and fosters faculty and student exchange programs with Chinese universities and institutions of higher learning. Various cultural programs on China and activities on campus and in the community promote cultural awareness and understanding. The development of Chinese publications, audiovisual materials, periodicals, newspapers, and other resources on campus fosters relationships between San Diego State University and the Chinese community, as well as nurtures friendship between the Chinese and American peoples. The Web site is <http://www-rohan.sdsu.edu/~csi/index.htm>.

Institute of Druze Studies (IDS)**Samy Swayd, Director**

The Institute of Druze Studies (IDS) is an academic non-profit organization dedicated to research and discourse on the Druzes and related topics. The Druzes are a Middle Eastern minority group that live predominantly in the mountainous regions of today's Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Israel, and with smaller numbers elsewhere around the world. More than 25,000 Druzes live in the United States with California as the main center of the American Druze Society (ADS). The Druze sect began in Cairo and has survived for almost one thousand years.

The IDS aims to 1) provide information on Druze history, society, and faith; 2) encourage research and studies on historical and contemporary Druze communities; and 3) promote academic discourse about other immigrant religious communities. The IDS pursues these objectives through an international multidisciplinary conference, an academic journal, and a newsletter. The IDS participates in professional conferences and provides guest lectures to interested organizations.

For more information, call the IDS office at 619-594-1880, the Department of Religious Studies at 619-594-5185, FAX 619-594-1004, or <http://www.druzestudies.org>.

Center for Earth Systems Analysis Research (CESAR)**Allen Hope and Douglas Stow, Co-Directors**

The Stephen and Mary Birch Foundation Center for Earth Systems Analysis Research (CESAR) was founded in 1986 as a computer-based facility for geographic information science research and instruction that is administered by the Department of Geography. The purpose of the center is to apply state-of-the-art, geo-spatial technology in geographic information systems (GIS), global positioning systems (GPS), remote sensing, image processing, automated cartography, spatial statistics, and spatial modeling to problems with geographic dimensions. As such, a number of Geography Department faculty are affiliated with the center. Research conducted by CESAR is directed at both applied and fundamental problems in fields ranging from urban and regional planning to earth system science. This research includes computer-based map and image data processing and spatial simulation modeling, as well as field-based data collection. CESAR has extensive hardware, software, imaging systems, and field equipment resources in its four laboratories: (1) Richard Wright Spatial Analysis Laboratory, (2) Regional Analysis Laboratory (REGAL), (3) William Finch Remote Sensing Laboratory, and (4) Stephen and Mary Birch Foundation GIS Laboratory.

For more information about on-going research projects or services provided by CESAR, or for a demonstration of its capabilities, call 619-594-8042 or 619-594-5437 or dave@geography.sdsu.edu.

Donald I. Eidemiller Weather Station**Edward Aguado, Director**

The Donald I. Eidemiller Weather Station serves as a teaching and research resource. The station also archives monthly and annual data published by the National Climatic Data Center and has been observing and recording local weather information for more than 45 years.

Institute for Ethics and Public Affairs**Darrel Moellendorf, Director**

The Institute for Ethics and Public Affairs at San Diego State University seeks to promote critical thinking about moral issues that are often complex in nature. It aims both to be a resource to members of the campus community, the larger community of scholars, and the greater San Diego community who wish to pursue thoughtful discussion and research as a means of clarifying moral problems. It also aims to raise the profile of the moral dimensions of contemporary issues. The institute is housed in the Department of Philosophy, but seeks interdisciplinary discussion and collaboration since clarity on contemporary moral problems often involves both the application of normative theorizing and empirical investigation. The institute organizes and sponsors a variety of programs on applied and theoretical moral issues. Among these programs are colloquia, community outreach talks, lectures, and student essay contests. The Web site is <http://ethics.sdsu.edu/>.

Center for European Studies**James L. Schorr, Director**

The Center for European Studies, through its associated faculty and students, is committed to the multidisciplinary study of Europe and its dynamic and evolving calculus of nations, cultures, languages, and perspectives. The center is a vehicle for fostering appreciation of Europe, the societies and cultures within its geographical boundaries, and the ideas that make up various European realities. The center will develop grant funded programs (e.g. colloquia, symposia, etc.), collaborative teaching and research opportunities, faculty exchanges, internship leads for partner programs, workshops, and related activities.

For more information regarding the Center for European Studies, contact James L. Schorr, Department of European Studies, 619-594-5111 or 594-5671; jschorr@mail.sdsu.edu.

Charles Hostler Institute on World Affairs**Paul Wong, Director**

The Charles Hostler Institute on World Affairs, founded in 1942, is beginning its 65th year at San Diego State University. It is the second oldest organization of its kind west of the Mississippi River. Its purpose is to make available to the SDSU community, and to the people of Southern California, a forum for the discussion of critical topics in international affairs. This purpose is accomplished primarily by inviting distinguished authorities to address the institute on issues of contemporary international import. The institute has hosted ambassadors to the U.S. from Australia, Belgium, Brazil, China, Czechoslovakia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Italy, Jordan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Singapore, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, and Yemen. Distinguished speakers have included Nobel Laureates Willard Libby, Linus Pauling, and Harold Urey, as well as Professors Hans Morgenthau and Robert Scalapino, British Ambassador to the United Nations Lord Caradon, American statesman Ralph Bunche, California Governor Pat Brown, French diplomat and author Romain Gary, Austrian Chancellor Kurt Schuschnigg, Russian Premier Alexander Kerensky, and USAF Chief of Staff and SDSU graduate General Merrill McPeak. American politicians, military and government officials, diplomatic and governmental representatives from Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East have also participated in institute sessions over the last 60 years.

Institute events are held on campus, in Hardy Tower 140 from 7:00-9:30 p.m. on Thursday evenings, during the spring semester.

For more than half a century, the institute has functioned according to the motto – *AUDIATUR ET ALTER A PARS* (Let The Other Side Be Heard). Given today's pressing problems of international affairs and the obligation of an excellent university to help inform students, faculty, and the wider community regarding these problems, the Charles Hostler Institute on World Affairs plays a critical role in the educational mission of SDSU.

Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER)

Mark J. Ballam, Managing Director

The Center for International Business Education and Research (SDSU CIBER) is one of 30 centers of excellence in the United States and was established in 1989 under a grant from the U.S. Department of Education and is administered by the College of Arts and Letters and the College of Business Administration.

CIBER promotes: (1) interdisciplinary programs which incorporate foreign language and international studies training into business, finance, management, communications systems, and other professional curricula; (2) interdisciplinary programs which provide business, finance, management, communications systems, and other professional training for foreign language and international studies faculty and advanced degree candidates; (3) evening or summer programs, such as intensive language programs, available to members of the business community and other professionals, which are designed to develop or enhance their international skills, awareness, and expertise; (4) collaborative programs, activities, or research involving other institutions of higher education, local educational agencies, professional associations, businesses, firms or combinations thereof, to promote the development of international skills, awareness, and expertise among current and prospective members of the business community and other professionals; (5) research designed to strengthen and improve the international aspects of business and professional education and to promote integrated curricula; and (6) research designed to promote the international competitiveness of American businesses and firms, including those not currently active in international trade.

The CIBER Web site is <http://www.sdsu.edu/ciber>.

International Population Center (InterPop)

John R. Weeks, Director

The International Population Center (InterPop) promotes applied demographic research and the provision of technical assistance and consulting, especially focusing on population issues and policy within the San Diego/Tijuana region and the Middle East.

Although it is located in the Department of Geography, InterPop is a multidisciplinary facility, linking center faculty from several departments on campus with center associates from other organizations and universities in the San Diego region. The telephone number for the center is 619-594-8040. The Web site is <http://geography.sdsu.edu/Facilities/Centers/ipc.html>.

Institute for International Security and Conflict Resolution (IISCOR)

Dipak K. Gupta, Director

The SDSU Institute for International Security and Conflict Resolution (IISCOR) encourages and facilitates teaching and research in the multidisciplinary area of international security and conflict resolution. Specifically, topics such as nuclear armaments, international and intranational conflict, sociopolitical violence, and global environmental issues as they relate to security are covered.

The institute is a joint effort of the College of Arts and Letters, the College of Professional Studies and Fine Arts, and the College of Sciences. IISCOR is administered by a director and advised by an executive committee consisting of faculty members representing the different disciplines that provide input into the study of international security and conflict resolution.

The institute promotes teaching and research by organizing public forums, faculty and student seminars, developing appropriate curricula for undergraduate and graduate instruction and facilitating research and scholarly activities. SDSU offers, through IISCOR, a multidisciplinary Bachelor of Arts degree in International Security and Conflict Resolution. The Web site is <http://www-rohan.sdsu.edu/~iiscor/>.

International Studies Education Project (ISTEP)

Elsie Begler, Director

The International Studies Education Project (ISTEP), located in the College of Arts and Letters, supports the twin SDSU priorities of community outreach and internationalization through the promotion of international studies education in our schools and community. Programs designed to improve teaching and learning at the pre-collegiate level are emphasized, with particular foci on the social sciences and humanities as they relate to international, cross-cultural and citizenship education within both the domestic American and wider global context.

ISTEP programs are multidisciplinary and collaborative in nature, involving partnerships with other SDSU academic departments, centers and institutes, as well as with other educational institutions and community groups. Programs include in-service teacher training and professional development workshops and institutes, curriculum development, student-focused programs, and partnerships with schools and districts. The project also provides assistance to College of Arts and Letters faculty interested in incorporating community service-learning into their classrooms through collaborations with K-12 schools. The ISTEP Instructional Resource Center is a "demonstration" collection of K-12 instructional materials in global issues, world areas and cultures, and cross-cultural education available to SDSU students and educators throughout San Diego County. Project activities and resources are publicized through the ISTEP newsletter, *Global Vistas*.

For more information, call 619- 594-2412 or 619-594-1105 or visit ISTEP's Web site at <http://istep.sdsu.edu>.

International Technology and Trade Network (ITTN)

Marc Siegel, Director

The International Technology and Trade Network (ITTN), an institute of San Diego State University's Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER), is a collaborative offering of the College of Arts and Letters and the College of Business Administration. The objective of the ITTN is to promote methods for creating a stable economic environment for transnational business, trade, and research. The institute will seek ways to use business as a catalyst for regional peace and cross-border economic development. This effort will focus on networking together business assistance organizations, academic institutions, and research centers in regions of conflict and emerging economies. We will establish a virtual business assistance network that will take advantage of the latest Internet, information, and telecommunications technologies to provide business-to-business and organizational links. We will use these technologies to share information as well as provide educational, training and distance learning opportunities to participating members of the network.

Center for Islamic and Arabic Studies

Paul Wong, Acting Director

The Center for Islamic and Arabic Studies administers the minor in Islamic and Arabic Studies. It is committed to supporting teaching and research focused on the lives of Muslim and Arabic-speaking peoples past and present. The center's study of the Islamic world focuses on the global context in which Islam emerged historically, the cultures and societies that it helped shape, most especially in Eurasia and Africa, and the current global condition in which people in the Islamic world situate themselves today. It sees the Arabic language as the cultural medium for diverse ways of life that are of world-historical significance.

The center is multi-disciplinary and includes in its scope of study the Arabic and Persian languages and literatures; the history of Muslim and Arabic-speaking peoples; political, economic, and social dynamics of contemporary societies; art and architecture; social, political, religious, and philosophic thought; and the experience of Muslim communities in the United States and around the world. For more information, contact Farid Abdel-Nour at 619-594-6598 or abdlnou@mail.sdsu.edu. The Web site is <http://www-rohan.sdsu.edu/~cias/index.htm>.

Center for Latin American Studies
James B. Gerber, Director
Ramona L. Pérez, Associate Director

The Center for Latin American Studies supports teaching and research related to Latin America. It has primary responsibility for the administration of the Latin American studies undergraduate and graduate degrees. It also participates in joint degree programs in international business, business administration, and public health. Since 1976, the Center for Latin American Studies has been designated a National Resource Center for Latin American Studies by the United States Department of Education and funded through a Title VI grant, in consortium with the Center for Iberian and Latin American Studies at the University of California, San Diego. CLAS, along with CIBER and LARC, is one of three Title VI funded centers on the San Diego State University campus. In conjunction with this award, the center administers programs that are interdisciplinary, drawing on the expertise of an outstanding Latin Americanist faculty from the following departments and schools: Anthropology; Art, Design, and Art History; English and Comparative Literature; Economics; Geography; History; Political Science; Public Administration and Urban Studies; Public Health; Social Work; Sociology; Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Literatures; Women's Studies; and the College of Business Administration. In addition, the center is involved with the development of innovative methods of instruction in Spanish, Portuguese, and Mixtec; the provision of information and in-service training programs for elementary and secondary school teachers; and the provision of services for the general public through the sponsorship of conferences, workshops, lectures, and films. The center also assists in the development of the university library's Latin American holdings. The center has cooperative agreements for research, faculty, and student exchanges with several Latin American universities, particularly in Mexico, Chile, and Costa Rica. The Web site is <http://www.rohan.sdsu.edu/dept/latamweb/latnw.html>.

Lipinsky Institute for Judaic Studies
Lawrence Baron, Director

The Lipinsky Institute for Judaic Studies, located in the College of Arts and Letters, serves to coordinate the CSU consortial major in Modern Jewish Studies and the Jewish Studies minor at SDSU. Established with contributions from the San Diego community, the institute provides financial support for an annual visiting professor from Israel, the annual Galinson-Glickman symposium on contemporary Israeli issues, the Robert Siegel Memorial Lecture, and the Jewish heritage video collection housed in the library's Media Center. It also complements regular course offerings by sponsoring lectures, acting as a community resource on Jewish studies, and housing the Jewish Historical Society of San Diego archives in the Snyder Judaic Studies reading room (Love Library 363). The Web site is <http://www-rohan.sdsu.edu/dept/lipinsky/whatis.html>.

**National Center for the Study of
 Children's Literature (NCSCL)**
Jerome J. Griswold, Director

Situated in the Department of English and Comparative Literature, the National Center for the Study of Children's Literature (NCSCL) reflects SDSU's long-term and extended commitment to the literary study of children's and adolescent literature. The largest in North America and one of the oldest, SDSU's children's literature program employs more than a dozen faculty (many with international reputations in the field) and garners more than 1100 student enrollments every year in its undergraduate classes and the M.A. Specialization in Children's Literature.

As a research center, the NCSCL hosts visiting scholars, sponsors annual lectures and festivals, and provides faculty with the wherewithal to engage in scholarship in a collegial environment. In terms of community outreach, NCSCL faculty conduct summer workshops and professional development seminars for K-12 teachers and university faculty offering classes in children's literature; they also discuss books for the young in various media outlets and speak to public and professional groups. Finally, in partnership with Parents' Choice, faculty from NCSCL review and evaluate contemporary children's books on the largest Web site of its kind in the country. For more information: see <http://childlit.sdsu.edu/> or e-mail childlit@mail.sdsu.edu.

**National Language Resource Center/
 Language Acquisition Resource Center (LARC)**
Mary Ann Lyman-Hager and Paul Wong, Co-Directors

SDSU created the Language Acquisition Resource Center (LARC) in 1989 to improve the capacity of the university to teach foreign languages more effectively. In 1990, LARC at SDSU became one of the first three national Language Resource Centers (LRCs), with funding from the U.S. Department of Education. LARC's authorized activities are to conduct research in second language acquisition, to develop new means of assessing language proficiency, to train foreign language teachers, to enhance cross-cultural competence, to develop high levels of language competence, particularly in critical less commonly-taught languages, and to explore advanced technologies to enhance language learning experiences. Currently the U.S. Department of Education funds 14 campus-based national centers. SDSU's center has one of the nation's finest multimedia collections and language laboratory facilities, with digitizing and desktop video conferencing capabilities, a research library, smart classrooms, and faculty offices. The laboratories also serve foreign language students in several departments (European Studies, Linguistics and Oriental Languages, and Spanish and Portuguese).

LARC has enhanced its infrastructure and internet capabilities in order to explore and develop models of distributed and distance learning. These models reflect the changing demographics of SDSU students and require new curricula to reflect student learning preferences. Our digital media archive houses learning objects, authentic materials, lesson plans, and courses and allows for online contributions from national and international collaborators.

LARC hosts a companion center, the Center for the Advancement of Distinguished Language Proficiency, whose major purpose is to create opportunities for learners of Arabic, Persian, Spanish, Chinese, and other important world languages to reach advanced, superior, and distinguished levels of proficiency through on-site intensive courses, follow-up online learning experiences, and study abroad. Another major emphasis of LARC faculty is to facilitate the learning of less commonly taught languages of Latin America, in collaboration with the Center for Latin American Studies and other national resource centers funded by the U.S. Department of Education. To evaluate students' progress through levels, we are developing online diagnostic assessment tools. The Web site is <http://larcnet.sdsu.edu/>.

Qualitative Research Center
Paul W. Sargent, Director

The Center for Qualitative Research, located within the Department of Sociology at San Diego State University, promotes the use of qualitative methods in the quest to understand and explain important aspects of social organization. Over 20 departments and programs from across the seven colleges of SDSU are represented in the center's core group of participants. Qualitative researchers utilize a wide range of methods to gather data including participant observation, in-depth interviews, content analysis, focus groups, photography, film, and videography to accomplish a holistic study of social meanings, social relations, and social institutions. The primary objectives of the center are to:

- Create and sustain an interdisciplinary community of scholars whose principal research focus is qualitative rather than quantitative.
- Organize and facilitate workshops and colloquia focusing on the key issues facing qualitative researchers such as methodological, epistemological, and ethical issues.
- Provide a forum for the dissemination of the products of qualitative research across all disciplines. In particular, the center sponsors several colloquia each academic year where faculty and students can showcase their work to an appreciative audience. In addition, the center archives and publicly displays samples of ethnographic work.
- Furnish a connection between the intellectual community of San Diego State University and surrounding communities by promoting locally relevant research.

For more information call 619-594-2783; CQR@sdsu.edu. The Web site is <http://www-rohan.sdsu.edu/~psargent/PaulHome.html>.

Institute for Regional Studies of the Californias (IRSC)

Paul Ganster, Director

The Institute for Regional Studies of the Californias (IRSC) provides San Diego State University with a forum for the investigation, discussion, and dissemination of information about the United States-Mexican border region. Although the institute focuses on the border region of California, Baja California, the United States, and Mexico, it is also concerned with important issues of border regions elsewhere in the world.

Created in 1983, the institute has undertaken multidisciplinary applied research projects on important regional concerns including transborder environmental issues, policy perspectives of the California-Mexico relationship, quality of life, and sustainable development. IRSC also plays an active role in Mexico-related professional organizations and is frequently consulted on transborder issues by the media, nongovernmental organizations, the public sector, and other border stakeholders.

Other institute activities include conducting binational symposia; improving communication between public and private sector representatives on both sides of the border; serving as a clearinghouse for information on transborder events, issues, and institutions; and encouraging the effective use of educational resources among the region's universities. The institute serves as a major link between SDSU and Mexican universities and institutions.

IRSC has an ongoing publications program that includes books, monographs, and shorter items. Many titles are co-published with SDSU Press.

IRSC conducts applied research projects on border environmental issues and policy, regional economic issues, and transborder planning issues. The institute serves as the SDSU link to the Southwest Consortium for Environmental Research and Policy, a congressionally established consortium of Mexican and U.S. universities for research and policy studies on border environmental issues. For more information, please visit the Web site at <http://irsc.sdsu.edu>.

Social Science Research Laboratory (SSRL)

Douglas S. Coe, Director

The Social Science Research Laboratory (SSRL) was founded in 1974 to support academic computing and social research within the College of Arts and Letters (CAL), the university and the regional community. SSRL is organized into six units: Instructional Services, Research Services, Data Services, Web Services, Systems Support Group, and CAL Help Desk. The department employs twelve full-time

staff complemented by other employees including lecturers, computer lab consultants, research assistants, and data collection specialists. The SSRL is located in Professional Studies and Fine Arts, Room 140 or at <http://ssrl.sdsu.edu>.

Instructional Services develops programs to assimilate technological resources into the curriculum and to support academic computing among students and faculty. This is accomplished through four programs: (1) one-unit social science courses on the use of statistical, database, spreadsheet, and presentation software; (2) workshops on the use of selected software applications; (3) class presentations requested by faculty to support computer-related instructional assignments; and (4) individual consultation for students using SSRL's open-access computing facilities.

Research Services offers a complete range of public opinion polling and survey research services, including instrument design, data collection, data reduction, graphic presentation of data, statistical analysis, and data archiving. The section maintains an 18 station computer-assisted-telephone-interviewing (CATI) system to support research projects. Undergraduate internships and research assistant positions are available. Typical research clients include government organizations, companies, community groups, SDSU faculty, and SDSU administrators.

Data Services provides support for the use of archived datasets. Sources of archived datasets include: the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), the Social Science Database Archive (SSDBA), the U.S. Census, Field Institute California Polls, the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, and LexisNexis Academic Universe. Assistance includes locating, downloading, installing, subsetting datasets, and providing class presentations for instructional or research applications.

Web Services provides support for Web site design for departments and faculty including information architecture, visual design, usability testing, compliance with accessibility standards, and site maintenance.

Systems Support Group provides technical support for College of Arts and Letters computing systems. Services include managing computer classrooms, network administration, installing operating systems, software applications, virus recovery, and procurement consultation.

CAL Help Desk serves as the initial point of entry and triage for College of Arts and Letters faculty and staff who require assistance with computer-related problems. An extensive software coaching program for individual faculty and staff is offered.