Defining the Future of the Public Research University

The University of California, San Diego is a student-centered, research-focused, service-oriented public institution that provides opportunity for all. Recognized as one of the top 15 research universities worldwide, a culture of collaboration sparks discoveries that advance society and drive economic impact. Our students, who learn from Nobel laureates, MacArthur fellows and National Academy members, are committed to public service. For the fifth consecutive year, UC San Diego has been ranked first in the nation based on research, civic engagement and social mobility. We are one campus with multiple pillars of excellence, a top ten public university that is transforming lives, shaping new disciplines and advancing the frontiers of knowledge.

By the Numbers

31,502  Total campus enrollment (as of Fall 2014)
78,056  Freshman applicants for 2015
4.13  Admitted freshman average high school GPA
$3.6 billion  Fiscal year 2013 revenues; 27 percent of this total is revenue from contracts and grants, most of which is from the federal government for research.
7.1%  Total revenue from the State of California; yet a small investment in UC San Diego results in significant impact to the region’s economy, workforce and businesses.
60%  Percentage of students that received financial aid (2013-14 academic year). 15 percent of graduate students received a fellowship award.
$1.1 billion  Research funding secured during fiscal year 2014 to support research in all fields. One of the nation’s 10 largest centers for science, engineering and medicine, UC San Diego’s research funding has surpassed $1 billion three times in the past five years.
8,133  Number of degrees conferred in 2014
74% received a bachelor’s degree  51.5% men
26% received a graduate degree  48.5% women
162,000+  Number of UC San Diego alumni worldwide; 29.9 percent live in San Diego County, contributing income, payroll, property and sales taxes to the region
76.9% live in California, with the highest percentage (29.9%) in San Diego
8.2% live in the United States (outside of California)
<1% live abroad
14.6% address data unavailable
16  Number of Nobel laureates that have taught on campus
161  Memberships held by current and emeriti faculty, including Chancellor Pradeep K. Khosla, in one or more of the three prestigious National Academies; the National Academy of Sciences (90), National Academy of Engineering (26) and Institute of Medicine (45).

Economic Impact

650+  Companies launched by and/or utilizing technology produced by UC San Diego faculty, staff and alumni, including many San Diego biotech and technology firms.
200+  Number of active local UC San Diego-related companies.
3,000  At fiscal year-end 2013, the UC San Diego Technology Transfer Office managed more than 3,000 innovations and approximately 400 active license agreements. During this period, 15 new start-up companies were formed with licensed UC San Diego technology.
399  The number of patents granted to the University of California in 2013, earning the UC system recognition as the top patent-producing university in the world by the Intellectual Property Owners Association. According to the UC Systemwide 2013 Annual Report, UC San Diego generated 62 patents and was top among all UCs in terms of total active inventions (3,103), total active U.S. patents (816) and total active foreign patents (836).
$31.6 billion  Total estimated annual sales of active UC San Diego-related companies in San Diego County, including those utilizing licensed technology.
$80 million The amount of wages that our region’s algae biotechnology industry generates each year according to a 2014 study conducted by the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG). The industry, which is integrally tied to collaborative research drive by UC San Diego’s California Center for Algae Biotechnology, has fostered approximately 1,020 jobs, contributing over $175 million to the San Diego economy.

29,200 Direct jobs attributable to active UC San Diego-related companies.

#1 Our campus is the largest employer based in San Diego County.

28,672 Total number of full and part-time academic and staff employees at UC San Diego (as of June 2013).

26th in the World for Alumni Venture Capital Funding UC San Diego is ranked 26th among the top 50 universities in the world for producing venture capital-backed business founders. The ranking by Pitchbook Data, Inc., a venture capital data provider, is based on funding acquired between 2009 and 2014 – during that time, 91 UC San Diego alumni entrepreneurs received $740 million in investment capital.

Private Support

$752 million Total combined endowment for the campus as of fiscal year 2014, managed by the UC San Diego Foundation and the UC Regents.

$148.3 million Over 45,000 gifts were made by nearly 30,000 unique donors in fiscal year 2014, helping to continue UC San Diego’s legacy of achievement. Nearly $92 million was from charitable gifts, with another $56 million from private grants. For more information or to offer support, visit giving.ucsd.edu.

Global and National Rankings

Campus Accolades

Among the Top 20 Best Universities in the World In the prestigious 2014 Academic Ranking of World Universities released by the Center for World-Class Universities at Shanghai Jiao Tong, UC San Diego was ranked the 14th best university in world. In their first-ever global ranking of universities, U.S. News and World Report named UC San Diego the 18th best university in the world in 2014 for research, global and regional reputation, international collaboration as well as number of highly-cited papers and doctorates awarded. In addition, the Center for the World University Rankings named UC San Diego the 20th best university in the world, 15th in the U.S. and third best public university in the nation in 2014.

14th in the World for Scientific Impact UC San Diego was named 14th best research university in the world by the Centre for Science and Technology Studies of Leiden University’s 2014 list that measured scientific impact of universities worldwide.

8th Best Public University in the Nation For more than a decade, U.S. News & World Report has included UC San Diego among the nation’s top 10 public universities. In the 2015 U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges guidebook, UC San Diego ranked 8th best public university in the nation and 37th best university in the U.S. among more than 200 public, private and for-profit institutions. The UC San Diego Jacobs School of Engineering’s undergraduate program was ranked 26th for the second consecutive year in the category for engineering schools that award doctorates.

6th Best for Happiest Freshmen Among the Top 20 Best High Schools in the Nation UC San Diego was ranked 6th in the nation for public universities with the “happiest” freshmen by CBSnews.com’s “Top 25 State Universities with the Happiest Freshmen” rankings for 2013.

The Preuss School UCSD, a charter middle and high school located on the campus of UC San Diego, was named the top transformative high school in the nation by Newsweek magazine in their 2013 “America’s Best High School.” In 2014, U.S. News and World Report named Preuss the best high school in San Diego County, 5th best in California and 10th best charter school in the nation in their annual “Best High Schools” list. The Daily Beast ranked Preuss as the top “change-making” school in their “America’s Top High Schools 2014” list.

1st for Positive Impact In 2014, for the fifth consecutive year, UC San Diego is ranked 1st in the nation by the Washington Monthly’s College Guide based on the positive impact the university has had on the country in terms of enabling social mobility, research productivity and civic engagement.

5th in Research Funding UC San Diego currently ranks 5th among top U.S. universities in total research and development expenditures by the National Science Foundation (NSF) for fiscal year 2013.

6th in the Nation for Research Output UC San Diego was ranked 6th in the nation, 2nd among all U.S. public institutions and 13th in the world for total research output by the journal Nature in their 2014 index.

1st Among Division II Sports In 2014, for the eighth consecutive year, UC San Diego has been ranked No. 1 among all NCAA Division II institutions nationwide in the National Collegiate Scouting Association (NCSA) Power Rankings. UC San Diego was ranked 12th place overall based on student-athlete graduation rates, academic strength and athletic prowess.
Transforming Health Care

Best Hospital in San Diego
The UC San Diego Health System is recognized as 1st among San Diego’s adult hospitals and 5th in California by the 2014-2015 U.S. News & World Report “America’s Best Hospitals” issue, and ranked among the best in the nation in eleven specialty areas including cancer, cardiology, diabetes, orthopedics, neurology, geriatrics and more.

Top 10 for Residency Training
UC San Diego School of Medicine was named one of the nation’s top residency training programs in the “2015 Top Medical Residency Programs” report by Doximity. Specialties placed in the top 10 for residency training in the West include internal medicine, anesthesiology, dermatology, obstetrics & gynecology, orthopaedic surgery, otolaryngology, pediatrics, psychiatry, radiology (diagnostic) and surgery.

Top 100
The UC San Diego Medical Center in Hillcrest was named among the top “100 Great Hospitals in America” by Becker’s Hospital Review in 2014. Becker’s also included the UC San Diego Health System in their “100 Hospitals with Great Women’s Health Programs” as well as the UC San Diego Sulpizio Cardiovascular Center among the top “100 Hospitals with Great Heart Programs” in 2014. In addition, the UC San Diego Health System was named among Becker’s 2013 list of “100 Hospitals with Great Neurosurgery and Spine Programs.”

National Achievement Award
UC San Diego Health System received the 2012 Outstanding Achievement Award from the American College of Surgeon’s Commission on Cancer for excellence in providing quality care to cancer patients.

Leapfrog Top Hospital
The Leapfrog Group named UC San Diego Health System to its 2014 list of Top Hospitals. Awarded to hospitals nationwide for demonstrating excellence in hospital safety and quality, the Leapfrog Top Hospital award is an elite distinction given to less than seven percent of all eligible hospitals.

“Top Docs”
More than 100 physicians from UC San Diego Health System were named “Top Docs” in the 2014 San Diego Magazine “Physicians of Exceptional Excellence” annual survey. These physicians represent 40 diverse specialties from internal medicine to oncology, obstetrics, cardiovascular and surgical care.

14th in the Nation
The School of Medicine is ranked 14th in research-intensive programs among 128 medical schools with the primary care program is ranked 38th out of 114 medical schools in the U.S. News and World Report Best Graduate Schools Guidebook, 2015 Edition.

First Comprehensive Stroke Center
UC San Diego Medical Center-Hillcrest is one of five facilities in the country—and the only center in San Diego County—to be recognized as one of the first Comprehensive Stroke Centers, the newest level of certification for advanced stroke care awarded by The Joint Commission.

Unmatched Value

10th Best Earning Potential
Graduates of UC San Diego were ranked 10th for salary earning potential in the 2013-2014 PayScale.com report measuring top state schools across the nation. UC San Diego was also ranked 4th best public university for its return on investment for alumni who are California residents in the 2012 College Salary Report by Payscale.com.

14th Best Value in the Nation
Kiplinger’s Personal Finance magazine ranks the University of California, San Diego the 14th best value public university in the nation based on its high four-year graduation rate, low average student debt at graduation, the availability of financial aid, low sticker price and overall great value.

15th Best Return on Investment
The 2015 college salary report by Payscale.com ranks UC San Diego the 15th best public university for its return on investment (ROI)—what students pay to attend versus what they get back in lifetime earnings—for alumni who are California residents. UC San Diego also is listed as the 11th best public university in the U.S. for mid-career (15 years of experience) salary of alumni, which averages $102,100 annually.

Top University for Return-On-Investment
UC San Diego has earned top recognition in The Princeton Review’s new 2015 rankings for the return-on-investment the campus offers to students. The campus was ranked the nation’s 31st best college for students seeking great academics, outstanding career preparation and generous financial aid.

Graduate Programs

Graduate Programs Ranked Top 25 in the Nation
Graduate programs at UC San Diego continue to rank highly as noted in the 2015 “America’s Best Graduate Schools” guidebook, released by U.S. News Media Group, publishers of U.S. News & World Report.

- Fine Arts: multimedia—visual communications (7th), fine arts (13th), sculpture (21st)
- Engineering: biomedical/bioengineering (2nd), best engineering school (17th)
- Health Sciences: biomedical sciences (7th), drug and alcohol abuse research (9th), AIDS
Additional Rankings

Best Algae Biofuel Research in the Nation
UC San Diego is home to the top two algae biofuel research programs in the nation, ranked by the U.S. Department of Energy’s Bioenergy Technologies Office (BETO) in 2014. Scripps Institution of Oceanography biofuel research team led by Mark Hildebrand ranked first, while the UC San Diego Consortium for Algal Biofuels Commercialization (CAB-Comm), led by Stephen Mayfield, took the number two spot. Both laboratories work to develop renewable fuels and bio-products from algae and promote sustainable energy resources.

Top 20 “Coolest Schools”
Sierra magazine named UC San Diego the 17th “Coolest School” in the nation in 2014 for displaying a deep and thorough commitment to protecting the environment, addressing climate issues and encouraging environmental responsibility.

#2 Best School for Biology
UC San Diego ranked No. 2 in the country for the best place to pursue an undergraduate degree in biology, according to USA TODAY. The ranking is based on data provided by College Factual and Payscale.

Top English Language Institute
The English Language Institute (ELI), which is led by UC San Diego Extension, was ranked 2nd in the world and first in the U.S. in 2014 by Ryugaku Journal—a Tokyo-based publication affiliated with Japan’s largest study-abroad program. Japanese students who have studied abroad provided survey input, giving outstanding marks for ELI’s variety of programs, improvement gained as well as international student services support.

#1 Best Surfing School in the Nation
In 2013 the global Web site Surfline ranked UC San Diego as the #1 campus in the nation for surfing based on our proximity to the world-renowned Black’s Beach, nationally ranked surf team, lively student life, affordable educational costs and extensive offering of surf classes.

Top 20 Best Food
The Daily Meal named UC San Diego 19th in the nation in their 2014 “75 Best Colleges for Food in America.” High marks were gained for the campus’s professionally-trained chefs, number of food-centered events on campus, sustainability education programs and award-wining dining services.

Top School for Peace Corps Service
UC San Diego ranks 15th nationally on the Peace Corps’ 2015 list of “Top Colleges and Universities,” marking the fifth consecutive year that UC San Diego has been named in the top 15. There are currently 39 UC San Diego undergraduate alumni serving as Peace Corps volunteers; in total, the campus has produced 790 volunteers.
Top Internet Clout
The Massachusetts Institute of Technology has ranked UC San Diego 19th in the nation for the most “buzzed about” university on the Internet.

Best Apps
USA Today included UC San Diego in its 2012 list of “5 Colleges with Great Mobile Apps.”

Best Vegan-Friendly School
In 2012, UC San Diego was ranked 1st in the nation as the most vegan-friendly university by peta2, a youth division of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.

Top Sustainable School
UC San Diego is one of only 10 campuses in the United States and Canada to earn a “gold” sustainability-performance rating in the prestigious Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System (STARS) 2011 survey.

Incomparable Art Collection
Mary Beebe won the 2011 Americans for the Arts’ Public Art Network Award for her work as director of the Stuart Collection, a unique program of site-specific works by leading artists on the campus of UC San Diego.

Current Faculty Honors

Nobel Prize
Harry Markowitz, economics (1990); Mario J. Molina, chemistry (1995); Roger Tsien, chemistry (2008). The 2007 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to former vice president Al Gore and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, whose roster of researchers lists nearly two dozen Scripps Institution of Oceanography scientists including Mario Molina, Veerabhadran Ramanathan, Richard Somerville and Lynne Talley.

Fields Medal
Michael Freedman, mathematics (1986); and Efim Zelmanov, mathematics (1994).

National Medal of Science
Margaret Burbidge, astrophysics (1983); Walter Munk, geophysics (1983); Craig Venter, pharmacology (2009); Marye Anne Fox, chemistry (2010); and Shu Chien, bioengineering (2011).

Presidential Medal of Freedom
Mario Molina (2013).

Pulitzer Prize
Roger Reynolds, music (1989); and Rae Armantrout, poetry (2010).

Kyoto Prize
Edwin Hutchins, cognitive science (1985); Nancy D. Cartwright, philosophy (1993); Kun-Liang Guan, pharmacology (1998); Guillermo Algaze, anthropology (2003); and Carol Padden, communication (2010).

Tony Award

Fields Medal
Michael Freedman, mathematics (1986); and Shing-Tung Yau, mathematics (1982).

Notable Former Faculty and Alumni Honors

Nobel Prize
Harold Urey, chemistry (1934); Francis Crick, physiology or medicine (1962); Maria Goeppert-Mayer, physics (1963); George Palade, physiology or medicine, (1974); Renato Dulbecco, physiology or medicine, (1975); Susumu Tonegawa, ’68, physiology or medicine, (1987); Paul Crutzen, chemistry, (1995); Sydney Brenner, physiology or medicine, (2002); Robert Engle, economic sciences, (2003); Olve Granger, economic sciences, (2003); and Bruce Beutler, ’76, physiology or medicine, (2011).

National Medal of Science
Harold Urey, chemistry (1964); Linus Carl Pauling, chemistry (1974); Roger Guillemin, medicine (1976); Margaret Burbidge, astrophysics (1983); George Palade, medicine (1986); Michael Freedman, mathematics (1987); Roger Revelle, oceanography (1990); Marshall Rosenbluth, physics (1997); Yuan-Cheng Fung, bioengineering (2000); Charles David Keeling, geosciences (2001); Andrew Viterbi, electrical and computer engineering (2007); and Craig Venter, ’72, pharmacology (2008).

National Medal of Technology and Innovation
Irwin Jacobs (1994).

Pulitzer Prize

Balzan Prize
Roger Driscoll, political science (1986); Roger Revelle, oceanography (1986); James Freeman Gilbert, geophysics (1990); Wolfgang Berger, geosciences (1993); and Harmon Craig, geophysics (1998).

Tony Award

Emmy Award

Presidential Medal of Freedom
Sally Ride (2013).

Fields Medal
Michael Freedman, mathematics (1986); and Shing-Tung Yau, mathematics (1982).
MacArthur Fellows  Elizabeth Bates, cognitive science (1983); Ramon Arturo Gutierrez, ethnic studies (1983); Richard Schoen, mathematics (1983); Michael Freedman, mathematics (1984); Arnold Mandell, psychiatry (1984); Shing-Tung Yau, mathematics (1985); David Rumelhart, psychology (1987); Michael Schudson, communications (1990); Patricia Smith Churchland, philosophy (1991); Russell Lande, biology (1997); George Lewis, music (2002); and Emily Ann Thompson, history (2005); and Carrie Mae Weems, photography and video art (2013).


See the “UC San Diego Campus Profile” at [http://ucpa.ucsd.edu/resources-and-information/campus-profile/](http://ucpa.ucsd.edu/resources-and-information/campus-profile/) for updated rankings, facts and statistics. This list is not comprehensive. We make every effort to keep these listings current and accurate. Please notify marcom@ucsd.edu if you notice a discrepancy. Revised 02 19 2015