

# Mortar Board

National College Senior Honor Society

*Scholars... Chosen for Leadership... United to Serve*



**NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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## **SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY MORTAR BOARD CHAPTER RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARDS**

SAN DIEGO – The Cap & Gown chapter at San Diego State University was among the outstanding chapters to be honored for their excellence at the 2008 Mortar Board National Conference, held July 25-27 in Columbus, Ohio.

The group was one of 27 chapters to take home the Golden Torch Award, presented to outstanding chapters that are superb, timely and go above and beyond throughout the academic year. Golden Torch Award recipients are selected by a committee based on their devotion to Mortar Board's three key ideals of scholarship, leadership and service throughout the year.

The chapter was among 23 groups to receive of 36 total Project Excellence Awards, granted by a selection committee to chapters with notable projects in the areas of: scholarship, leadership, fundraising, service, the national Reading is Leading literacy initiative, alumni involvement, or Mortar Board Week. The chapter was honored with seven Project Excellence Awards, more than any other chapter, for the following projects and initiatives: alumni relations, backpack stuffing, Emeritus Faculty and Staff Outstanding Service Awards, Faculty and Staff Appreciation Dinner, honors council, Last Lecture Series, and their Mortar Board Planner and calendar of events.

Chapter President Gene Gonzaga was present to accept the chapter's awards.

Mortar Board is a national honor society that recognizes college seniors for outstanding achievement in scholarship, leadership and service. Since its founding in 1918, the organization has grown from the four founding chapters to 226 chartered collegiate chapters with nearly a quarter of a million initiated members across the nation. The Cap & Gown chapter at San Diego State University was chartered in 1965 and currently has 40 members. The San Diego State University chapter of Mortar Board is a 2003 recipient of Mortar Board's highest honor for collegiate chapters: the Ruth Weimer Mount Chapter Excellence Award.

Mortar Board provides opportunities for continued leadership development, promotes service to colleges and universities and encourages lifelong contributions to the global community. Some notable Mortar Board members include former President Jimmy Carter, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Lance Armstrong and former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. Learn more about Mortar Board at [www.mortarboard.org](http://www.mortarboard.org).

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