

Fellow Alumni ~

As you have probably heard by now, SDSU is launching “The Great Give” on October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The Great Give is a 24-hour event to support the SDSU college, program, or scholarship of your choice. This event is a first for SDSU, who compared to other universities, has been relatively low key when it comes to fundraising. This year “The Great Give” is our chance to not only help further the success of the SDSU, but specifically support the Graduate School of Public Health (GSPH).

Did you know that SDSU’s Graduate School of Public Health is the only accredited school of Public Health in Southern California? However, we are starting to face competition from other non-accredited programs (that may seem equivalent in the eye of the prospective applicant) requiring us to improve our visibility in order to attract the quality level of students and research funding we so deserve.

I know that the GSPH has evolved in innumerable ways since I graduated, and would bet that some of its current goals are not well known by many of our Alumni. For example:

- The GSPH is pursuing enhancements to its curriculum and teaching methods including alternatives to classroom teaching that will better prepare students for the increasingly competitive job market and grow our global presence.
- Continuing education options are being explored for the local public health community such as online degree programs to ensure that our program remains competitive in the San Diego market as well as nationally.
- This year, the school will be actively seeking to establish additional partnerships and find new sources of external funding to support continued innovation, valuable research and provide the resources needed to train our students and support our faculty.

As “The Great Give” approaches, I hope you will join me in donating specifically to the GSPH on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Our goal is more about participation than it is a specific dollar amount. By sharing this information we hope to encourage everyone to participate and remind you that no amount is too small. Remember – many hands make small work!

Follow us on social media and visit [www.sdsugreatgive.org](http://www.sdsugreatgive.org) to get involved. Just remember that a small donation of even \$10 can have an impact on achieving our mission by supporting promising and underserved students, providing resources for urgent public health issues and continuously seeking innovation in our programming. Your donation will support all aspects of the school's curriculum and its operations.

Sincerely,

Barb Robinette

GSPH Alumni Association Chair