



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Michelle Slingerland
(858) 875-3331

San Diego Grantmakers Welcomes Four New Board Members

San Diego, CA (Jan. 10, 2012) – The San Diego Grantmakers (SDG) Board of Directors has elected four new members from the local philanthropic community.

Roque Barros, interim president of the Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation (JCNI), **John Fanestil**, executive director of the Foundation for Change, **David Lynn**, board member of San Diego Social Venture Partners (SDSVP), and **Briana Wagner**, executive director of the San Diego County Bar Foundation, will each serve on the Board for three years beginning this month.

“We are thrilled to have Roque, John, David and Briana join our leadership team,” said SDG Executive Director Nancy Jamison. “Each of them brings a unique set of talent and experience that will undoubtedly enhance SDG’s mission to connect, educate, develop and inspire organized philanthropy to be more effective.”

This year marks the departure of **Valerie Jacobs** and **Alan Sorkin** of the Jacobs Family Foundation/JCNI and SDSVP, respectively, who were termed out after many years of guidance to the organization.

Renata Hron Gomez, senior program officer with The Hitachi Foundation, replaces **Kathy Patoff**, vice president, foundation officer at Union Bank, as Board Chair. Other Board members include:

- **Christopher Weil**, Treasurer, The Patricia and Christopher Weil Family Foundation
- **Janine Mason**, Secretary, Fieldstone Foundation
- **Paula Cordeiro**, The James Irvine Foundation
- **Murray Galinson**, The Galinson Family Foundation
- **Mary Herron**, The Parker Foundation
- **Connie Matsui**, The San Diego Foundation
- **Charlene Seidle**, Jewish Community Foundation
- **Christy Wilson**, Rancho Santa Fe Foundation
- **Beatriz Palomino Young**, Sempra Energy

San Diego Grantmakers (SDG) is a leading convener and resource for organized philanthropy in the San Diego region. SDG is a membership association serving nearly 100 private foundations, corporate giving programs, public charities, giving circles, and government funders. SDG enhances the good work of its grantmaking members by providing opportunities for networking and collaboration, education, and advocacy.

(continued)

New SDG Board Member Biographies



Roque Barros is the interim president for the Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation (JCNI). Roque's career spans 25 years with roles in community organizing and community building. He is also a resident of the Diamond Neighborhoods, where the Jacobs Center focuses its work.

Prior to joining JCNI in 1997, Roque served as executive director of Los Niños, an international grassroots organization doing work in the United States, Mexico, and Canada. His work with both organizations has focused on developing and directing sustainable programs that assist communities in addressing their needs and developing solutions.

Roque has received awards and commendations from the San Diego Center for Mediation and the City of San Diego 4th District Councilman's office, and he was honored as an Hispanic leader by President Bill Clinton. He has served on the board of directors of the National Community Building Network, the Boys and Girls Club of Chula Vista, and the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. He is a founding member of "Friends of The Good Samaritan" Retirement Center and served on the San Diego Citizens Revenue Review and Economic Competitiveness Commission.

Mr. Barros holds a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from the University of Redlands.



John Fanestil is the executive director of the Foundation for Change, a 501c3 foundation supporting leaders, organizations and networks in under-served communities of the San Diego/Tijuana region.

Born and raised in La Jolla, Fanestil is a graduate of Dartmouth College, Oxford University, where he studied as a Rhodes Scholar, and the Claremont School of Theology. An ordained Elder in the California-Pacific Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, he served from 1992 to 2005 as the pastor of United Methodist Churches in Southern California, including four years at a bilingual congregation in the border town of Calexico.

Fanestil is also a writer (www.johnfanestil.com). In 2006, Doubleday released his first book, *Mrs. Hunter's Happy Death: Lessons on Living from People Preparing to Die*. His writing has been featured in *The Christian Century*, the *San Diego Union-Tribune* and many other publications.



David Lynn has a diverse background in information technology, finance, and philanthropy. He currently serves as Investment Manager for the Price Group, primarily managing philanthropic funds. His IT background includes extensive work with data analysis and web-based database applications in a variety of industries, including financial, distribution, and education. Lynn also provides back office accounting and data services to local mission-driven organizations as president of Mission Edge San Diego.

Lynn's primary philanthropic commitments include San Diego Social Venture Partners and San Diego Grantmakers. Lynn is a San Diego native with a Bachelor's in Mathematics from Whitman College.



Briana Wagner joined the San Diego County Bar Foundation as its first executive director in 2002. Prior to joining the Foundation, she worked in nonprofit management and fund development for the arts in San Diego, New York and Connecticut. Currently, she serves on the board of directors of Coming Home to Stay and San Diego Grantmakers. She is past president and board member of the National Conference of Bar Foundations. She received her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Connecticut in Women's Studies with a concentration in Art History.

###