

## Chair's Message

The Department had a great year in 2007. Our enrollment increased dramatically by 12%, and we enrolled 1300 full-time equivalent students in the Fall 2007 semester. Among all SDSU departments, we are #3 in student enrollment. The Department received 5 new research grants from the National Science Foundation. The Mathematics Education Division has intensive research activities. Their graduate programs were recently ranked #7 in the nation by the American Mathematical Society (AMS), and in February of 2007, they successfully hosted the 10th Annual Conference on Research in Undergraduate Mathematics Education. The Computational Statistics PhD program was started in the Fall of 2007. The Nonlinear Dynamics Group and Statistics Division had an enhanced collaboration with Space and Naval Warfare Center, San Diego. The collaboration launched the First International Conference on Applications in Nonlinear Dynamics in September of 2007. The Climate Mathematics and Statistics Group is a co-organizer of the 4-day climate mathematics program at the 2008 AMS' annual meeting to be held in San Diego in January. This will be the largest climate program ever to be held by the AMS. You'll find more exciting news elsewhere in this newsletter.

SDSU has created a development strategy of "Accent on Excellence" and is determined to become a top ten US urban research university in the 21st century. San Diego is the 8<sup>th</sup> largest city in the country. Its "best-in-the-US climate" is attracting more people to "America's Finest City". San Diego's huge volume of high-tech industries

and leadership in the knowledge-based economy generates demand for highly qualified personnel in the areas of applied mathematics, applied statistics, and mathematics education. We plan to build excellence in these areas, not only to become a research and teaching leader in San Diego in these areas, but also to build internationally competitive programs. Our mission and goals are:

1. To excel in teaching at all levels ranging from lower division undergraduate to PhD;
2. To be prominent in several research areas in mathematics, statistics, and mathematics education;
3. To offer flexibility and a variety of undergraduate programs;
4. To offer strong graduate programs, including PhD; and
5. To provide outstanding service to both SDSU and to outside communities.

Our award-winning faculty and our creative undergraduate and graduate students have the confidence to successfully complete our mission and achieve our goals.

SDSU Department of Mathematics and Statistics appreciates the support from our friends. With limited state funding, your donations have become more important than ever for our success. The existing donations have been used for student scholarships and for supporting the Department's teaching and research, including colloquiums, seminars, and research results releases.

You are welcome to visit the Department. I would be pleased to meet you in person to discuss your interests. I would also be delighted to visit you, your colleagues, and your family and friends. Please feel free to contact me at [shen@math.sdsu.edu](mailto:shen@math.sdsu.edu) or Tel: 619-594-6191.

Sincerely,  
**Sam Shen**



Professor and Chair  
SDSU Mathematics and Statistics