Environment and Sustainability Efforts at the University of California, San Diego
Summary of Accomplishments

The University of California, San Diego is one of the premier research universities in the nation. In June 2005, UC San Diego Chancellor Fox announced the formation of a campus-wide Environment and Sustainability Initiative (ESI) to bring together the intellectual resources of the campus around the challenges of sustainability. Building on more than 100 years of excellence, including pioneering work in climate sciences at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, the ESI incorporates UC San Diego's assets across campus. ESI has helped catalyze a variety of research, education, and outreach activities at UC San Diego and has created partnerships with the greater San Diego region. In addition, UC San Diego established a position for a UC San Diego Sustainability Coordinator who is responsible for coordinating internal campus sustainability efforts, including conducting campus sustainability assessments and promoting campus awareness and action related to sustainability.

UC San Diego has a comprehensive program designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, save energy and decrease reliance on fossil fuels, while maintaining the highest quality educational and research opportunities for students and faculty. Highlighted below are just a few examples of UC San Diego's contribution to climate protection for the City of San Diego and beyond. For a more comprehensive list of UC San Diego's programs, visit **http://esi.ucsd.edu** and **http://sustain.ucsd.edu**.

UC San Diego recently became the first campus on the West Coast to join the Chicago Climate Exchange, North America's only voluntary, legally binding trading system to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. As the first university in California to have been recognized by the California Climate Action Registry as a "Climate Action Leader," UC San Diego's goal is to become a living laboratory for climate solutions by being an early adopter of real-world tools and leading-edge technologies for San Diego and the global marketplace for successfully measuring, certifying and reporting its greenhouse gas emissions to the Registry and the public.

Working with private sector energy experts and in partnership with industry, UC San Diego is developing an alternative energy program to use the campus as a living laboratory of 40,000 inhabitants engaging students from multiple disciplines, working with campus operations staff in designing and deploying renewable energy systems to provide power for the university. In addition to a state-of-the-art cogeneration plant that supplies about 85% of the campus's electricity, plans are underway for expanded use of photovoltaic systems, enhanced energy efficiency programs, installation of stationary fuel cells, and creation of a comprehensive demand response plan to benefit the City of San Diego.

The Environment and Sustainability Initiative is integrating the talents of many UC San Diego experts to help the City of San Diego assess the likely impacts of climate change on our region, and to identify strategies, policies, and technologies that can reduce the impact and

prepare for the unavoidable changes. Working with the Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU), and representatives of local government, industry, and philanthropic organizations, ESI is leading a new project on climate change and sustainable cities. After applying an agreed set of sustainability metrics, teams will project climate impacts on their city-region, and then work on finding strategies to reduce or mitigate the projected impacts, sharing experiences and best practices. This initiative will also include educational programs for students, civic officials and business leaders around the Pacific Rim.