

The Campaign For  
UC San Diego

NONCONVENTIONAL EXCELLENCE

# TRITON ATHLETICS



At UC San Diego, our scholar-athletes are anything but ordinary. They see the world differently in the classroom, in our community, and on the fields of play.

Not only are our scholar-athletes skilled competitors, they are also some of our campus's most intellectually engaged minds, with an average cumulative GPA comparable to the rest of our student body. This uncompromising approach to how we define success has laid the groundwork for our most exciting opportunity to date: our move to Division I athletics.



For almost 60 years, UC San Diego has paved a new path: one founded on challenging expectations, engaging in experimentation, and taking risks. And UC San Diego Triton Athletics has been a critical part of our innovative spirit. Since we began competing as a member of the NCAA in the early 1960s, and continuing after our move to Division II in 2000, our scholar-athletes, coaches, and staff have contributed to a culture of excellence that values creative approaches to competition and disrupts convention and reinforces our commitment to diversity, inclusion, and integrity.





**It is our innovative outlook that defines UC San Diego's scholar-athletes: whether developing novel solutions to global problems or strategizing against a rival team, we pursue academic and athletic distinction that transforms our scholar-athletes into leaders for life.**

Our move to Division I increases our need for philanthropic partnership that unifies our Triton athletics teams with supporters under the banner of athletic excellence. Together through the Campaign for UC San Diego, we will transform our campus and our community — increasing athletic scholarships to support our most promising scholar-athletes, enriching campus life, strengthening alumni and community engagement, and launching our athletics program into the national and international spotlight.

**OUR TEAMS ARE ALREADY CHAMPIONS**

UC San Diego's 23 men's and women's teams have won 30 national championships and more than 1,300 All-American honors. These accolades have positioned UC San Diego for the move to NCAA Division I athletics beginning in the 2020-21 academic year. Most Triton teams compete in the Big West Conference, and all teams will be eligible for NCAA postseason championship play in 2024-25.

**A GROUNDBREAKING FUTURE**

2000-01	MAY 2016	DECEMBER 2016	FALL 2017	NOVEMBER 2017	FALL 2018	FALL 2019	MAY 2020	FALL 2020	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	FALL 2024
First Year of NCAA Division II Membership following transition from NCAA Division III	Student referendum vote for NCAA Division I passes (70%)	Academic senate endorses Division I reclassification (62%)	Men's Volleyball joins Big West Conference as Associate Member for 2017-18	Big West Conference invitation for membership received	Remain Division II for 2018-19	Remain Division II for 2019-20	Division I application submitted for Division I membership 2020-21	<b>Begin Division I reclassification and full Big West Conference schedule</b>	Division I – Reclassification Year 1	Division I – Reclassification Year 2	Division I – Reclassification Year 3	Division I – Reclassification Year 4	<b>Full Division I and Big West Membership and Championship Eligibility</b>

# TRITON ATHLETICS BY THE NUMBERS

23 HIGHLY COMPETITIVE MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TEAMS

**MEN'S TEAMS**

- Baseball
- Basketball
- Cross Country
- Fencing
- Golf
- Rowing
- Soccer
- Swimming and Diving
- Tennis
- Track and Field
- Volleyball
- Water Polo

**WOMEN'S TEAMS**

- Basketball
- Cross Country
- Fencing
- Rowing
- Soccer
- Softball
- Swimming and Diving
- Tennis
- Track and Field
- Volleyball
- Water Polo

30 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS IN TEAM SPORTS

276 CONFERENCE, REGIONAL, AND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

1,400 ALL-AMERICAN HONORS EARNED BY SCHOLAR-ATHLETES

91% SCHOLAR-ATHLETE GRADUATION RATE  
(Highest among NCAA DII institutions)



Moving to Division I as a member of the Big West Conference, UC San Diego faces competition with our academic and athletic peers — including four University of California campuses — institutions with robust undergraduate, graduate, and research enterprises that challenge students on and off the field.



CAL POLY



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII



CSU BAKERSFIELD



UC DAVIS



CSU FULLERTON



UC IRVINE



CSU LONG BEACH



UC RIVERSIDE



CSU NORTHRIDGE



UC SANTA BARBARA



UC SAN DIEGO

# visionary

Philanthropic support enables UC San Diego to provide a dynamic and immersive athletic experience for our fans and scholar-athletes, whether they are on the field, on the court, or in the water. As we move to the highest level of intercollegiate athletics, we will require additional resources for our sports programs, including scholarships, equipment, facilities, and leading-edge performance support that enable our scholar-athletes to reach their full potential athletically and academically.

at UCSD





# access and success

“The ability to provide young women with scholarships enables us to expand our recruiting base. There are no boundaries and no limits in recruiting the best individuals who can thrive in this environment of academic and athletic excellence.”

*Heidi VanDerveer  
Head Coach, Women’s Basketball*



## **ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS** EXPANDING ACCESS TO A WORLD-CLASS INSTITUTION

Triton Athletics must continue to attract the best and brightest to excel against our Division I opponents.

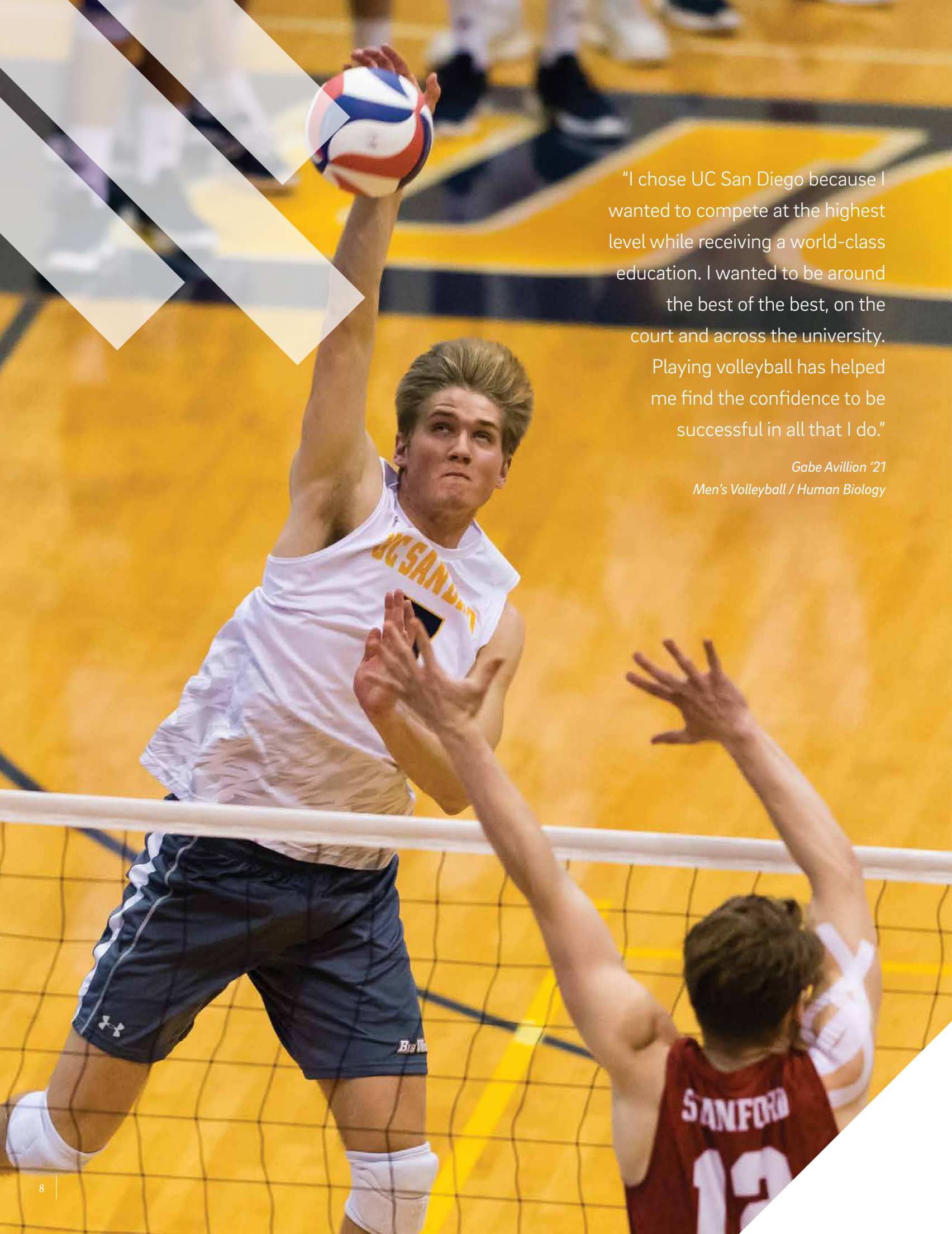
Support for athletic scholarships helps us recruit and retain outstanding scholar-athletes, build strong teams, and elevate our reputation as an academic and athletic powerhouse. As UC San Diego eyes the future, gifts to Triton scholarships will attract high-merit scholar-athletes who prioritize both education and competition.

## **WOMEN’S ATHLETICS INITIATIVES** CHAMPIONING WOMEN LEADERS

Our women’s teams are among the best in their conferences, having earned 42 conference championships and 24 national championships in 30 appearances in Division II and III competition. Initiatives that benefit our female scholar-athletes support outstanding scholar-athlete role models who inspire fellow and future Triton women and girls of all ages.

Support for our women scholar-athletes increases the visibility of women’s athletics at UC San Diego and ensures their continued success now and in the future. From scholarships and recruiting tools to special nutrition and training programs for women, these resources will empower our current and future female scholar-athletes to excel in their respective Division I sports.





"I chose UC San Diego because I wanted to compete at the highest level while receiving a world-class education. I wanted to be around the best of the best, on the court and across the university. Playing volleyball has helped me find the confidence to be successful in all that I do."

*Gabe Avillion '21  
Men's Volleyball / Human Biology*

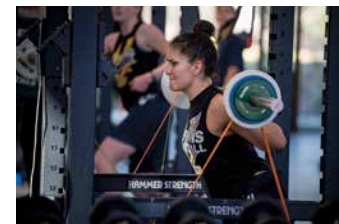
**ATHLETIC PERFORMANCE PROGRAMS  
UNITING SPORTS AND SCIENCE**

UC San Diego is a nexus of innovation, and our athletic performance programs are no different. Integrating data and athletics, our athletic performance department — housed within the newly renovated Alex G. Spanos Athletic Performance Center — is pushing the boundaries of science to better understand the role of nutrition, strength and conditioning, mental performance, athletics training, and other factors on collegiate athletics.

Support for these programs gives our scholar-athletes access to resources that enhance their performance and prevent injuries so they can continue to compete on and off the field.

**ALEX G. SPANOS  
TRAINING FACILITY**

The state-of-the-art Alex G. Spanos Athletic Performance Center increases access to strength and conditioning equipment and improves opportunities for team and individual training. The planned second phase of this project will renovate common spaces including new locker facilities for tennis, track, rowing, and cross country, along with offices and conference rooms.



**NUTRITION**

Proper nutrition ensures that our scholar-athletes perform at their best. Programming support can help us recruit additional nutritionists, use analytics to enhance tailored nutrition programs, and serve more of our talented scholar-athletes.

**STRENGTH TRAINING**

Year-round training for our athletes enables them to build strength and stamina, avoid injuries, and compete at the highest levels. Support for performance training allows our certified strength and conditioning specialists to employ evidence-based techniques and strategies that help our scholar-athletes realize their athletic potential.

**ATHLETICS TRAINING AND  
SPORTS MEDICINE**

Our athletic trainers are committed to helping scholar-athletes prevent, manage, and heal athletic injuries, while our sports psychologists ensure their mental well-being. As our teams move to increasingly competitive play and more rigorous training, support for additional trainers and other resources will help our athletes remain at the top of their game.

**DATA ANALYTICS**

Our data analytics integrates UC San Diego's data science and engineering expertise with athletics to help scholar-athletes reach peak performance. Funding for data-driven sports performance supports technology development, interdisciplinary partnerships, and accessibility for scholar-athletes, coaching staff, and teams.

"Donations give us flexibility with development of scholar-athletes and give us opportunities to invest in better technology to help them succeed on the field."

*Eric Newman  
Head Coach, Baseball*



**FACILITIES**

**CREATING AN INTERACTIVE FAN EXPERIENCE**

Our athletics facilities are the center of Triton spirit, community engagement, and campus entertainment at UC San Diego. Your support for upgrades to these facilities ensures that we are able to offer unique and engaging event experiences.

Ongoing renovations to RIMAC (Recreation, Intramural, and Athletic Complex) Arena — including all new seating, an enlarged “skybox” to accommodate nearly 125 guests, state-of-the-art fan amenities such as a new 50’ wide Daktronics video display, and LED display scorer’s tables — will improve the overall athletic experience and deliver dynamic new ways to enjoy games and events.

Video production will be controlled from the 300 square-foot Dana Chaiken Production Studio that will accommodate a multi-camera, high-definition live event broadcast suitable for various platforms, including ESPN. Further renovations will include updated basketball team locker rooms and other leading-edge upgrades that better meet the needs of our Division I teams.

**TEAM SUPPORT**

**SHAPING THE COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE**

Our 23 men’s and women’s teams are propelled by an indomitable fighting spirit. And it is this spirit that makes Triton athletes exceptional. Philanthropic support for the Triton Athletic Fund and team-specific funds ensures that our scholar-athletes have access to leading-edge equipment and opportunities for team travel and international competition that support their athletic development. Team funds also provide our coaches with travel resources to scout and recruit elite scholar-athletes to spend their collegiate years as Tritons.

**EQUIPMENT**

Our scholar-athletes compete at the highest levels of amateur athletics. And they require sophisticated, state-of-the-art training and fitness machines, safety equipment, and game-day gear to ensure their continued competitive excellence.

**TRAVEL**

Appropriate and efficient transportation to away games, including air travel and buses, allows students to better balance time spent on academic work and athletic preparation.

**INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE**

International competition provides our scholar-athletes with opportunities to hone their skills and push their performance against the very best on a global level as well as to provide an educational experience that lasts a lifetime.

**RECRUITING**

Competing in the Big West Conference places our men’s and women’s teams in an elite class. Philanthropic support can help us recruit scholar-athletes who will maintain our teams’ high standards in Division I play.

**ENDOWMENT**

**PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE**

UC San Diego has become a world leader in innovation and scientific discovery. Endowed support for talented scholar-athletes, world-class coaches, and leading-edge programming will help UC San Diego become equally dominant in athletics.

The permanent and sustained nature of endowed gifts makes them uniquely impactful by benefiting UC San Diego’s athletics initiatives now and creating a stable foundation for planning and future growth. The range of an endowment’s impact is unlimited, providing long-term, sustainable funding that helps ensure our athletic teams remain competitive far into the future. Endowment gift opportunities are available to support scholarships, programs (including nutrition and training), individual sports, coaches, and facilities.



“UC San Diego is a perfect combination of academics and athletics. I can pursue a degree at a top university while also playing soccer for an amazing team. Philanthropic support directly affects the lives of the scholar-athletes and helps build our program while in transition to Division I.”

*Michelle Baddour '21  
Women’s Soccer / Structural Engineering*

It takes a collective effort to ensure our success in Division I athletics. With your gift, we will continue to foster our students' growth and performance — as athletes, as learners, and as leaders. Our goal is simple: to ensure our Triton scholar-athletes are successful in competition, in the classroom, and in our world.

"The move to Division I enhances the experience for every student at UC San Diego, not just scholar-athletes. It makes us visible to the whole country in a way that impacts students, scholar-athletes, alumni, and our community."

*Kristen Jones*  
Head Coach, Women's Soccer



As we advance to the highest level of intercollegiate athletics, philanthropic support for the Campaign for UC San Diego and Triton Athletics will attract the best and brightest scholar-athletes to campus through scholarships, enhance training and nutrition programs, increase alumni and community engagement, and expand our state-of-the-art facilities — all serving to elevate the national and international reputation of our championship teams.

Together, these initiatives will provide our Triton family new opportunities for connection through unprecedented access to a vibrant, first-class sports experience and simultaneously ensure our scholar-athletes thrive in an environment that empowers their success.



Help us continue the  
nontradition.



## Continue the nontradition.

At the University of California San Diego, challenging convention is our most cherished tradition. Through the Campaign for UC San Diego — our university-wide comprehensive fundraising effort concluding in 2022 — we are enhancing student support, ensuring student success, transforming our campus, connecting our community, and redefining medicine and health care on a global scale.

Together with our philanthropic partners, we will continue to foster our scholar-athletes' success in the classroom and on the fields of play. We invite you to join us as we transition to Division I and the highest level of intercollegiate athletics.

**The Campaign For**  
UC San Diego

[campaign.ucsd.edu](https://campaign.ucsd.edu)