NEW KID ON THE BLOCK
When UC San Diego announced plans to open a campus downtown, Chancellor Pradeep K. Khosla said the goal was to “bring the university to the community, connecting us in new and profound ways.” UC San Diego Extension will lead the activation of the building, and has spent months connecting with community institutions and potential partners in the downtown and East Village neighborhoods about how to best utilize the space. “We’re not just coming in with a set of ideas and plans for this new campus presence downtown,” says Mary Walshok, associate vice chancellor of Public Programs and dean of Extension. “This is going to be a place of community gathering and cultural exchange. We want to add to the fabric of San Diego’s urban core and strengthen partnerships with its businesses and civic institutions, as well as the educational and cultural spaces. We can promise UC San Diego’s trademark commitment to innovation and discovery, but we wanted to hear from the neighbors. This will only work if there is community buy-in.” Walshok also noted the community was quick to embrace the university’s incoming presence. “The reaction we got from our many community conversations was positive and dynamic. The level of engagement the neighborhood has already expressed for this new project speaks to the progress of the region. San Diego is on its way to becoming a truly great American city.”
When Petco Park opened in 2004, it was a catalyst for transformation in the East Village and brought positive change to the immediate area. Fourteen years later, the neighborhood is thriving. The Padres are excited to welcome a leading research institution in UC San Diego as our East Village neighbor, and we look forward to seeing its educational influence on downtown San Diego.”

RON FOWLER
Executive Chairman, San Diego Padres
“UC San Diego’s new downtown facility will be a great benefit to the local community, in more ways than one. When leading organizations invest in downtown, that energy spills over into tourism and shows visitors that the region is a buzzing, vibrant community full of new growth and innovation. New education facilities can also help stimulate business travel to the area. Plus, the new venues will offer great cultural programming that visitors can enjoy, giving them a reason to stay longer and explore downtown more intimately.”

KERRI KAPICH
Chief Operating Officer,
San Diego Tourism Authority
We’re thrilled by the momentum created by UC San Diego’s new urban campus and excited to have been able to reposition The Ratner to respond to the growing need for urban, creative office space to house San Diego’s ever-growing tech sector. UCSD Urban brings the resources of a world-class institution to our downtown, including intellectual capital, research capabilities, and arts and culture. Great universities typically define great cities. It is a definitive move toward making San Diego a world-class city.”

ROBERTO JINICH
Cofounder, Paragon Real Estate Investments
UC San Diego transformed Torrey Pines Mesa into a vibrant hub of innovation. Downtown is already full of vibrant neighborhoods and culture, and bringing a place where innovation lives will spur the next transformation of downtown. East Village is a place of inventiveness, boldness and cutting-edge thinking. UC San Diego’s new presence will be a hub that catapults downtown innovation.”

DAVID GRAHAM
Former Deputy Chief Operating Officer, City of San Diego
When you think about downtown, it’s the hub for tech-minded things going on in San Diego. With UC San Diego—such a leader in research and education—now being downtown close to government and community institutions like the library, it’s going to be such a significant change. To be two blocks away from us—a dream!

MISTY JONES
Director, San Diego Central Library
The San Diego Symphony looks forward to welcoming an enhanced presence of UC San Diego in our downtown. Providing another point of contact for cultural and educational discourse adds to the vibrancy of our city, and we look forward to adding to our already dynamic connections.”

MARTHA GILMER
CEO, San Diego Symphony
UC San Diego’s downtown campus will put the university at the center of the city’s action for many decades to come. Not only will UCSD now be just a few blocks away from where some of the region’s biggest decisions get made, it will also be just a single bus stop away from the low-income families in City Heights that Reality Changers serves, too. UCSD has always played a major role in shaping San Diego, but soon UCSD will be more interconnected to neighborhoods and community groups than ever before. How exciting it is to think that we’re only just about to see what the university can truly accomplish.”

CHRISTOPHER YANOV
Founder and Senior Advisor, Reality Changers
We applaud UC San Diego’s efforts to extend the university into the downtown community and provide additional venue space for our destination customers. This new space will be a great advancement for downtown’s ecosystem of innovation and culture.”

CLIFFORD “RIP” RIPPETOE
President and CEO, San Diego Convention Center Corporation