Randy Philipp (Professor, STE) has been elected a Board Member-at-Large of the Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (AMTE), the largest organization of mathematics teacher educators in the nation. AMTE and its members work together to promote and improve the education of preservice and inservice teachers of mathematics. Dr. Philipp will begin his three-year term at the AMTE Annual Meeting in February 2009.

Charlie Littrell (full-time lecturer, STE) was recently honored at the Mortar Board 19th Annual Faculty and Staff Appreciation Dinner in Casa Real, representing the College of Education. Mortar Board is the national honor society for college seniors; at this event, the SDSU chapter honors persons who have made significant contributions to the education and academic achievement of its members, and individuals who represent Mortar Board’s ideals, including superior scholarship, outstanding leadership, and dedicated service.

Juliana Liebke of Pacific Beach Middle School (and EDTEC master’s student, graduating in 2009) was recently honored as one of 10 nominees for the “Educator of the Year” award by the California League of Middle Schools (CLMS), Region 9. CLMS solicits nominations for outstanding educators through recommendations submitted by each of the 11 regional panels representing the state. Juliana is part of COMET (Cohort Online Masters in Educational Technology), which includes K-12 teachers from all over California who complete their entire program of study online.

The James Irvine Foundation has awarded a 3-year grant in the amount of $1.5 million to the SDSU Foundation under the leadership of Dr. Nancy Farnan (Director, STE) to continue development of a Single Subject Credential Program with a Multiple Pathways lens, ultimately to involve seven additional teacher preparation institutions in California. The purpose of the grant is to prepare teachers with the professional skills and knowledge to succeed in the increasing number of Multiple Pathways schools and programs, where reform efforts include combining rigorous academics with Career Technical Education; interdisciplinary, problem-based curriculum with a focus on real-world problems; support services for all students; and work-based learning experiences. ConnectEd: The Center for College and Career will be a partner in this work. To highlight the importance of providing a Multiple Pathways lens for prospective teachers, San Diego Unified School District is embarking on a district-wide Multiple Pathways initiative; and the School of Teacher Education will work closely with its schools, as well as with other districts, in these reform efforts.

San Diego State University, with the support of The Sallie Mae Fund, has partnered with the Chula Vista Elementary School District to bring The Kids2College Program, a new component of the nationally-recognized Compact for Success Program, to over 400 sixth-graders. The Program will make sixth-graders more aware of the impact and value of education, as well as assist them in seeing postsecondary education as an attainable opportunity in their future. Kids2College is led by Dr. Lou Murillo, with the support of Ms. Sandra Villegas-Duvanich representing the Chula Vista Elementary School District, and Ms. Alexis Sanchez serving as the Kids2College Program Coordinator.

The EDTEC faculty recently sponsored an event titled “Career Engagement: Taking it to the Next Level, Even in These Difficult Times,” as a showcase for EDTEC alumni. About 40 former students met in panels and roundtables, exploring how to network more effectively via professional associations and online communities, move seamlessly into management, and leverage the newest technologies and systems. Facilitators (alumni themselves) represented a broad array of industries, including health and safety, higher education (both community college and 4-year institutions), corporate, and more. Attendees also connected with Karen Boyle (Principal, Learning Gurus) and SDSU’s Career Services about how to project themselves and get noticed -- and learn what applicant “attributes” attract prospective employers.