

At SDSU, our researchers are leading regional, national and binational projects with one purpose: improve lives, improve communities, and improve our world.

Our researchers are increasingly competitive in generating big research dollars, having secured more than \$64M in new external funding in the last three months alone.

Collectively, we are driven by innovation and transformation. We are helping to develop solutions to some of the biggest challenges of our time: health disparities, inequity and homelessness, climate change and the need to both protect and preserve our planet's resources. These and other challenges impact each of us – no matter our geography, our age, our socioeconomic level, and no matter who we are.

We envision a different future. Through Big Ideas, our faculty are developing and leading transformative and transdisciplinary projects that can and will have tangible benefits in the lives of the communities we serve.

I am happy to announce the six finalists for our inaugural Big Ideas competition:

Addressing Homelessness, led by a cross-disciplinary team of SDSU faculty researchers drawn from public affairs, public health, economics, anthropology, engineering and other fields. This team brings together solutions that work, and which address the underlying causes of sustained homelessness, and how to both prevent and actively reduce it.

AZTEC: Advancing Zero-Fossil Technologies for Engineered Carbon team will leverage expertise in renewable energy, GHG bioconversion and biomaterial engineering to develop renewable energies for everyday use and that help preserve the environment.

Comics and Social Justice brings together humanists, educators, librarians, scientists and artists who will create an internationally unique comic studies collaborative. The project will bring transformational experiences to students and fans wishing to explore stories of social justice through the unique medium of comics.

CCAN: Community Climate Action Network will draw on our expertise in public health, sciences, arts, education and business to create cutting-edge, actionable research and scholarship that will result in community driven transformation around climate impact.

The Digital Platform for Lung Health team is developing a transformative digital health platform that can monitor lung health status in real-time for large numbers of people. This project would contribute to lifelong or illness-specific health monitoring, improve tele-health and real time data to providers, and patient quality of

life improvements.

Reimagining Transboundary Water will involve a team of civil, construction, and environmental engineers, geographers and economists in San Diego and Imperial Valley. The team will build a transboundary community that will focus on solving critical water problems..and their impacts... in the U.S.-Mexico border region.

The Big Ideas finalists are bold, innovative, and the kinds of solutions our state, national and global society need.