The Community Engagement task force co-chairs shared the charge of the committee and explained the purpose of the open forum is to solicit input related to community engagement and how SDSU could connect further in the community.

SDSU Career Services and Student Life and Leadership gave an overview of SDSU’s current connections to the community through career fairs, professional development activities and events, and community service.

The task force asked how SDSU could leverage connections.

Feedback from campus departments included emphasizing the potential of the arts and the sciences in building connections.

Performing arts emphasis has grown but should continue to build. Suggest more creative ways to connect with students and off campus individuals, such as through use of the downtown gallery or more creative events on campus. Outreach events at off campus facilities, such as Coastal Marine Institute Lab, have been successful. Provide more campus support by streamlining processes, such as access to AS funding for student clubs, in order to grow connections between graduate students and local schools.

The task force asked for feedback regarding access to campus.

Feedback from community partners and campus departments included access to campus is often difficult, either due to regulations or physical barriers. Suggest streamlining facility and event processes to attract more activity on campus. Knowing whom to contact on campus is not easy. Consider a community relations office to facilitate outreach and inreach and/or an online tool in order to centralize the interface.

The task force asked what SDSU could do to engage the community.

SDSU Parents Association may be a way to connect. The organization has over 25,000 members who are connected to the campus and to the community through employment and other avenues.

San Diego County Live Well initiative may be a way to interact and network with community groups.
Networking events on campus, such as smaller versions of Explore SDSU, would help to initiate, facilitate and focus connections.

Greater and more consistent use of the SDSU Home page, Campus Events Calendar, and campus map by colleges and campus departments would promote campus activities and provide guidance to the community.

Consider a “one stop shop” or Ombudsman.

Provide faculty guidance for how to identify successful community partners.

Written comments were also collected. Suggestions for ways to connect with the on and off campus community included a community liaison, faculty speakers series, and a restructured front (Home page) to project an easier way to connect.