This report summarizes the activities that I have initiated or continued in conjunction with the college of engineering at the University of Pisa (UniPi) in Italy.

The program has been active since 2008. That was the first year when SDSU college of engineering students were able to go to the University of Pisa for five weeks during May/June.

The exchange program has now grown in three different areas:

A- SDSU students go to the University of Pisa for five weeks
B- UniPi students come to SDSU during August/September for five weeks
C- UniPi students come to SDSU for a period of 6-9 months to do their Master degree thesis

In this report I will address the activities in each of these area separately.

I arrived at the university of Pisa before the end of their spring semester and before our students. During that time I together with Professors Luca D’Agostino and Marcello Francesconi (responsible for the UniPi international programs) advertised the exchange program to the graduate students at Pisa. Three separate presentations were given to the engineering students.

A- Thirteen SDSU College of engineering students arrived in Pisa on May 20th. During the next five weeks our students had daily classes in E 280 and GenS 450 for which the students received the appropriate SDSU credits. During the weekends the students had escorted visits to
   a. Rome/Naples/Pompeii – Three day trip
b. Verona/Venice – three day trip

c. Cinque Terre – two day trip

In addition the students were also escorted to engineering facilities of

1. Geothermal plant in Volterra
2. Vespa scooter engineering facility in Piaggio
3. Nuclear power plant in Verona

The students were assisted by the UniPi engineering students that were scheduled to visit SDSU in late summer. They were able to also visit the following cities in Tuscany: Florence, Siena, Lucca, Viareggio

B- Fifteen UniPi students arrived at SDSU on August 25th. They were accompanied by one of the Pisa faculty members Professor Massimo De Sanctis. The students were housed at the Vantaggio hotel in San Diego. Professor De Sanctis was the instructor for the ME 695 class (Corrosion in Metallic systems). This class was attended by all fifteen UniPi students as well as seven master degree students from SDSU. The Pisa students also had a daily class aimed at improving their spoken and written use of the English language.

C- As a result of the presentations that were made at the University of Pisa, six graduate students from the Aerospace department and the Civil Engineering department were invited to do their MS thesis work at SDSU and they will work with Professors Katz, Jacobs, Demasi, Venkataraman and Buyuksonmez.