

SOKA SCHOOLS ALUMNI GATHER AT SUA, CALABASAS

Graduates of the Soka Schools in Japan and California came from Los Angeles, San Diego and Las Vegas for a reunion at Soka University of America, Calabasas on April 23 — their first gathering in nearly four years. During that time, the number of Soka graduates living in Southern California has dramatically increased, from around 90 to more than 160. (Nationwide, there are more than 450 Soka graduates.)

Ed Feasel, the dean of students at Soka University of America, Aliso Viejo, did a presentation for the graduates on the progress of the new campus. “The dedication ceremony for the Aliso Viejo campus will be on May 3, 2001, which will be exactly 50 years after President Toda became the second Soka Gakkai president,” he explained. “SGI President Ikeda recently shared that he established Soka University to realize Mr. Makiguchi’s dream and to reply to the pledge he made to Mr. Toda. I’ve learned that Soka University itself is a concrete manifestation of the mentor-and-disciple relationship.”

The Soka graduates broke up into groups by area to discuss how, with this spirit, they could promote students for the first class of SUA, Aliso Viejo (entering September 2001) and the SUA, Calabasas master’s degree program in second- and foreign- language education.