

SDSU NextGen's Third Annual

# EDUFAN SYMPOSIUM

The current food system drives climate change and biodiversity loss while failing global food security and livelihoods. Regenerative agriculture offers a holistic solution by restoring land, soil, water, biodiversity, and communities. The EDUFAN Symposium promotes interdisciplinary dialogue to advance sustainable food and natural resources development.



NextGen students present their research, explore career opportunities, network with regional experts in food, agriculture, and natural resources, and receive guidance to prepare for the future workforce.

## Event Details


 April 17, 2026

 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

 SDSU Campus Gold Auditorium, Bioscience Centre

**Lunch provided to attendees!**


## Special Guests

 **Career Pathways in Food, Agriculture, and Natural Resources (FAN) Panel Session**

With the participation of the following USDA specialists: **Roo Vandegrift**, PhD: Mycologist/Plant Pathologist; **Andrea Mikolon**, DVM, PhD: Veterinary Medical Officer; and **Alexis Randolph**, Accreditation Manager.

 **Feature Presentation**

**Deborah G. De La Riva**, PhD: USDA APHIS PPQ, Entomologist presents “Applying to USDA Jobs and Job Opportunities.”

 **Plenary Lectures**

**Chef Tiago Battastini**, Executive Chef at SDSU Dining, presents “The Role of an SDSU Dining Chef and Food as a Tool for Change.”

**Dr. Wally Yokoyama**, Research Chemist at USDA Agricultural Research Service, presents “The USDA Agricultural Research Service: From Genes to Drones.”

