



**2010 National Alternative Break Awards**  
**Active Citizen of the Year**  
***Pongpunya Jack Korpob***

**Active Citizen:** *A person to whom community is a priority in their values and life choices.*

This prioritizing of community is evident through a concern about social problems, being well-intentioned and becoming well-educated about social issues, discovering root causes, and dedicating time and effort to action which benefits the community.

**Nominator:** Tiffany Rivera, UCSD Membership and Public Relations Chair 2010 – Alternative Breaks @ UCSD (University of California – San Diego)

**Background:** Jack is a senior at University of California – San Diego in La Jolla, California. He has completely dedicated himself to the alternative break program at UCSD: leading three trips, participating in two national Alternative Break Citizenship schools (2008 Biloxi, Rebuilding Democracy and 2009 Indianapolis, Invisibility of Disabilities), overseeing a 10 person executive board, serving for two years as one of three Co-Coordinator of Alternative Breaks @ UCSD, and managing their program’s website.

**Highlights:**

- Won the *Chapin Cole and Melissa Higgins Award for Sustainable Service* based on the commitment to continue and promote the goals of Alternative Breaks and a desire to represent Alternative Breaks (and the goals and mission of the program) in multiple arenas.
- Along with another coordinator, was successful in securing \$10,000 of need-based scholarship funding for alternative break participants from the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs.
- Serves as the Treasurer of the UCSD Student Foundation, a prominent on-campus organization that promotes philanthropy by students, for students. Jack helps raise money for merit-based scholarships through collecting pledges and coordinating large fundraiser events.
- [Alternative Breaks@UCSD: Service, Culture, Awakening video](#) – By: Jack Korpob
- In 2009, under Jack’s leadership, Alternative Breaks @ UCSD won the Triton Alumni Engagement Award because of the program commitment to provide opportunities for UCSD alumni to participate on alternative breaks and continue down a path of active citizenship.
- In 2008, when Jack became a Coordinator, he helped orchestrate a move towards programmatic quality by making education the prime focus for the year and instituted *Issue based* trips only.
- Practices active citizenship currently as a mentor and a tutor through the Trio/Upward Bound Program, where he provides tutoring services for low-achieving students and through UCSD OASIS, tutoring students and facilitating workshops to help peers succeed academically.
- With a deepened commitment to addressing the issues he’s become affected by during his time at UCSD, Jack has committed to a term with City Year Boston after he graduates.
- Jack is looked upon as the embodiment of the alternative break program on campus. Peers say, “Jack is the heart and soul of Alternative Breaks @ UCSD. He continually maintains our program’s mission and traditions while implementing ways to innovate our program as the organization grows.”

**“Alternative Breaks @ UCSD is much more than a student organization to me. It has been a way to empower myself and others to ‘be the change’ we all want to see in the world, whether it be on a local, national, or global scale. We are all citizens of this world, but to be an active citizen, it requires action.” – Pongpunya Jack Korpob**