

UCSD to conduct capital gift campaign toward construction of major cancer center

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The University of California, San Diego has announced plans to conduct a capital gift campaign to raise \$2.3 million toward the construction of a major cancer center and medical library to be located at the UC San Diego Medical Center in Hillcrest.

A four-story building has been designed for the cancer center with space for an interdisciplinary cancer outpatient clinic, research and clinical laboratories, offices and a classroom. The library is planned as a two-story building adjacent to the center with room for book stacks, study area and staff work.

Money raised through the campaign will be used to complete the funding of the \$6 million project. A federal grant from the National Institutes of Health is anticipated to cover \$3.1 million of the cost and \$956,000 has been appropriated for the library by the state. The balance will be sought from private community sources by the San Diego campus.

According to Dr. William D. McElroy, chancellor of UC San Diego, the campaign will be officially launched on February 28. George Gildred, president of the Gildred Building Company, will serve as general chairman of the campaign. Serving on the campaign steering committee are O. Morris Sievert, president of Solar Turbines International, and Richard Levi, president of the Richard C. Levi Insurance Company, along with officials of UC San Diego. Levi is also president of the UCSD School of Medicine Associates.

A \$500,000 grant from a local family foundation has been given to the university to give the campaign a running start, the chancellor said. The decision to conduct the campaign came as the result of a study conducted by the university last spring in which a cross section of community leaders were asked their views on the university in general and the medical center in particular.

McElroy said the cancer center will allow an interdisciplinary approach to patient care aimed at better patient recovery and better service to the family and social unit to which the patient belongs. The center will also increase the diagnostic and treatment capabilities of clinical cancer programs at the university, he said.

The center is designed to serve as a focus for increased interactions with physicians and other professionals in the San Diego community aimed at improving the general quality of cancer patient care through educational activities and other cooperative efforts, McElroy said.

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