

Final transfer of County Hospital

June 30, 1966

Final transfer of most of San Diego County General Hospital to the University of California, San Diego will take place Friday, July 1, completing a gradual transition which started 15 months ago.

The formal agreement for operation of the 623-bed hospital by UCSD was signed March 17, 1965 by Frank A. Gibson, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, and John S. Galbraith, UCSD Chancellor. Since then, planning for the transfer has been completed by University officials and Dr. William W. Stadel, Director of Medical Institutions for San Diego County.

Chancellor Galbraith said medical policies at the University County Hospital will be under the direction of Dr. Joseph Stokes III, Dean of the UCSD School of Medicine.

Business operation of the hospital will be under the direction of Robert H. Biron, UCSD Vice Chancellor - Business and Finance.

Dr. A. F. Crumley, M.D., who has been superintendent of the hospital for the past 11 years, will continue as administrator, Biron said.

The University will assume responsibility for all activities at the hospital except eligibility determination, processing of accounts receivable, Community Mental Health activities, the laundry, power plant, and maintenance departments.

Employees have a choice of remaining county workers at the hospital or transferring to University employment. More than 500 of some 800 employees will be on University employee status as of July 1. All new staff members will become University employees. All employees will be under supervision of UCSD.

Dr. Stokes said Dr. Richard A. Lockwood will coordinate professional activities between the School of Medicine and the hospital. The subject of professional fees is currently being discussed by University officials and the attending staff, Dr. Stokes said.

A formal ceremony to transfer the hospital will be held Wednesday, July 6 at 4 p.m. in the hospital auditorium. Dr. Lester Breslow, Director of the California State Department of Public Health, will speak at the ceremony on "The Changing Roles of County Hospitals in California."

(6/30/66)