

UCSD faculty members to be recognized for research, teaching and community service

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Media Contact: Pat JaCoby, 534-7404

UCSD FACULTY MEMBERS TO BE RECOGNIZED FOR RESEARCH, TEACHING AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Three University of California faculty members will receive Recognition Awards from the Chancellor's Associates during a 5-7 p.m. reception Feb. 6 in the Faculty Club.

William Beamer, president, will present an award for excellence in research to Farooz Azam of the Marine Biology Research Division, Scripps Institution of Oceanography; an award for excellence in teaching to Paul Churchland, Philosophy, and an award for outstanding community service to John Hansbrough, Surgery.

Azam is an international leader in the field of marine ecology, recognized for applying modern techniques of biochemistry and molecular biology to the study of the ecology of bacteria and viruses in the water column. His current work ranges from the importance of viruses in the marine environment to the role of bacteria in the cycling of carbon in the ocean. Having conducted studies of viruses in the Arctic Ocean, Arabian Sea and Southern Ocean, the next phase of his research will detect the penetration of sewage-derived bacterial viruses into the Arctic Ocean. Azam's research has changed the way people look at the ocean ecosystem and resulted in new ideas about how the system works, according to Wolfgang Berger, SIO interim director.

Churchland was cited for his excellence in teaching, derived from an intense dedication to his subject and a clear, analytical mind. Patricia Kitcher, Philosophy department chair, noted that Churchland has a gift for taking an absolutely ordinary example and using it to explain or illustrate an otherwise dry, abstract and often confusing philosophical point. Through his enthusiasm, warm manner, clear and compelling examples, Churchland makes his introductory philosophy course fun, as well as illuminating, for his UCSD students. Churchland also has made an unusually significant contribution to the teaching of philosophy across the educated population of the country through his book, "Matter and Consciousness," his popular writings and interviews in lay publications.

Hansbrough, cited for his outstanding community service, is director of the UCSD Regional Burn Center, where he is responsible for the care of approximately 500 patients admitted to the Burn Center annually, as well as hundreds more who are seen in an outpatient setting. One of his missions over the years has been to educate the professional and lay communities on the nature and treatment of burn injuries. In this capacity, he and his staff give numerous presentations each year to hospitals, physician groups, fire departments, emergency medical technician groups and others. In addition, he has introduced English and Spanish videotape series covering various aspects of burn injuries. These are provided to physicians, medical centers and other provider groups throughout the local community.

The selection committee included George Leisz, chair, Beamer, Jim Berglund, Joan Katz, Karen Bowden, Danah Fayman, Howard Goldfeder, Herb Greenberg and Norm Parker.

The Recognition Awards, a campus tradition since 1974, are highly coveted by UCSD faculty members as an indicator of community support.

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