

Frances Fitzgerald named Regents' Lecturer at UCSD

January 30, 1986

Frances Fitzgerald, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of "Fire in the Lake: The Vietnamese and the Americans in Vietnam," will be a Regents' Lecturer at the University of California, San Diego the week of Feb. 10-14.

Ms. Fitzgerald is scheduled to give two public talks, on Feb. 11 and 13, at 8 p.m. in Peterson Hall. Admission is free. As a Regents' Lecturer, she will also speak in various classes on campus.

Her topic, which will cover both lectures, will be "New American Social Experiments" and is derived from her latest work which examines a series of nontraditional human communities which evolved in this country during the past two decades.

"Fire in the Lake" won every important book award when it was published in 1972, including the National Book Award and the Bancroft Prize from the American Historical Association.

"The Department of History and the entire UCSD campus is extremely fortunate to attract Ms. Fitzgerald as a Regents' Lecturer," said department chairman Michael Parrish. "She is a scholar and writer of great originality and matchless style who has set the highest standards for careful research and eloquent prose writing."

In 1979, she wrote another highly acclaimed book, "America Revisited," which examined the changing intellectual fashions in the writing of American history from the late 18th century to the present.

Ms. Fitzgerald is a magna cum laude graduate of Radcliffe and a student of Chinese and Vietnamese history, religion and culture. She was a freelance writer in Vietnam in 1966 and won the Overseas Press Club Award for interpretative reporting in 1967. Her other awards include the National Institute of Arts and Letters Award, the Sidney Hillman Award and the George Polk Award, all in 1973.

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