

Roy Pearce receives Hubbell Medal

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A literature professor who six years ago proposed to his committee that its high-level literature award be given for purely intellectual achievement, and not solely for service to the profession, is now the recipient of that prize.

Professor Roy Harvey Pearce, a faculty member in the Department of Literature at the University of California, San Diego, was awarded the Hubbell Medal of the American Literature Section of the Modern Language Association. The medal is awarded "to recognize a person whose total body of work has been a major influence on the study and teaching of American literature."

Others who have won the prize include Malcolm Cowley, Alfred Kazin, R.W.B. Lewis, Lewis Mumford and Robert Penn Warren.

For the past 30 years Pearce has made a steady contribution to the field of American literature. Jay Martin, chairman of the committee which bestows the prize, has said of Pearce: "He has written intellectual history at its very highest level; his works have illuminated every phase of American literature, from the Colonial period onward. He has written numerous articles on literary theory, as well as making signal contributions to the establishment of scholarly text by American writers. His work on American poetry ("The Continuity of American Poetry," 1961) commands the field."

Pearce is the author of "The Savages of America: A Study of the Indian and the American Mind," and "Historicism Once More: Problems and Occasions for the American Scholar." He has edited numerous collections of essays and co-edited "The Growth of American Literature," and "The Act of the Mind: Essays on the Poetry of Wallace Stevens."

Pearce joined the UCSD faculty in 1963 as Professor of American Literature and chairman of the literature department. He received his B.A. and M.A. degrees from UCLA and his Ph.D. degree from Johns Hopkins University.

(January 31, 1985) For more information contact: Alixandra Williams, 452-3120