

Edward E. Penhoet, a leading biotechnology researcher & businessman, gives presentation, Oct. 6 at Institute of the Americas

September 27, 1994

MEDIA ADVISORY

EVENT: Edward E. Penhoet, a leading biotechnology researcher and businessman, will discuss "how universities, government, investors, companies, physicians and the public are creating the biotechnology industry."

DATE/TIME: Thursday, October 6, 1994

5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Hojel Auditorium

Institute of the Americas

University of California, San Diego

BACKGROUND: Penhoet, president and chief executive officer of Edward E. Penhoet, a leading biotechnology researcher & businessman, gives presentation, Oct. 6 at Institute of the Americas. Chiron, one of the world's leading biotechnology companies based in Emeryville, Calif., has been selected to serve as Regents' Lecturer at UCSD-- the first person to receive this honor from the campus' biology department.

As part of the occasion, Penhoet will deliver a public lecture on the biotechnology industry and how the various sectors of society must work together for the industry to succeed.

The media is invited to attend this presentation. Interviews with Penhoet may be arranged in advance.

BIOGRAPHY: Penhoet, who with William J. Rutter co-founded Chiron in 1981, shared with Rutter the Entrepreneur of the Year award in 1992, presented by Ernst & Young and Inc. Magazine. Chiron, with about 2,300 employees on three continents, is best known for its discovery of the hepatitis C virus and the development of a hepatitis C virus antibody test used to screen donated blood and plasma. Chiron also developed the first genetically engineered vaccine, for hepatitis B virus.

For ten years prior to founding Chiron, Penhoet was a faculty member in the Biochemistry Department at UC Berkeley and continues as an adjunct member of the faculty. In 1991, he received the first Distinguished Faculty Award from the Life Sciences Department of Molecular and Cell Biology at UC Berkeley.

Penhoet earned his bachelor's degree in biology from Stanford University in 1963 and his Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of Washington in 1968. He was a postdoctoral fellow at UCSD from 1968 to 1970.

Penhoet is a member of the Scientific Advisory Board to the U.S. Congress Subcommittee on Science and has testified before Congress on the biotechnology industry and the role of federal funding in support of basic research.

He also serves on the Boards of Directors of the Industrial Biotechnology Association, the Bay Area Bioscience Center, the Bay Area Council, the California Public Health Foundation, the Chabot Observatory and Science Center Foundation, the UC System Biotech Advisory Committee, the UC Berkeley Chancellor's Biotechnology Planning Board and the Advisory Board for the Lester Center for Entrepreneurship and innovation at UC Berkeley.

Penhoet is a member of the American Society of Biological Chemists, and has published more than 50 scientific articles and papers.

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