

UC Board of Regents approve Endowed Chair in Aging for UCSD School of Medicine

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Contact: Leslie Franz, (619)534-1505

REGENTS APPROVE ENDOWED CHAIR IN AGING FOR UCSD SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

The University of California Board of Regents today approved the establishment of the Estelle and Edgar Levi Memorial Endowed Chair in Aging at the UCSD School of Medicine. The chair is funded with a gift from Ruth Levi Shulman, Norman G. Levi and Richard C. Levi, in memory of their parents.

"The Levi family has graciously committed itself to the development of UCSD for many years," said UCSD Chancellor Richard C. Atkinson. "This endowment is a fitting tribute to their parents, and is yet another example of the Levi family's generosity to UCSD and San Diego."

The Levi Chair will support research, teaching and patient care in geriatrics. In particular, the chair will provide an important link between basic research and the treatment of medical conditions of the elderly, leading to a greater understanding of the aging process for the benefit of individuals of all ages.

"My sister Ruth, my brother Norman and I are pleased to establish the Levi Memorial Chair in Aging in honor of our parents," said Richard C. Levi. "Certainly, additional research is needed to better understand the aging process and to develop new methods of treating diseases associated with aging.

"Our family has been associated with UCSD for many years and we have the highest regard for its contributions to our community. The university has established itself as one of the national leaders in research on aging, with the UCSD Institute for Research on Aging widely recognized for its excellence. This chair will enable UCSD to further strengthen an exceptional program," he said.

Estelle Levi was born in San Francisco in 1890, and lived there until her marriage. In San Diego, she was active in civic affairs, serving as president of the sisterhood of Congregation Beth Israel, and as a member of the Council of Jewish Women and the Big Sister League.

Edgar Levi was born in San Diego in 1886 and after completing his education joined his father's livestock and real estate business. He was a founder and president of Congregation Beth Israel, one of the earliest reformed congregations on the West Coast. In addition, he was a violinist in a theatre orchestra, an officer of the United Jewish Federation and an active member of the Shriners and Masons.

Their children were all born in San Diego, and all attended San Diego High School and San Diego State College (now San Diego State University).

Ruth Levi Shulman, who also attended the University of California, Berkeley, has been a board member of the Mental Health Association, the Friendship Center and the American Cancer Society Auxiliary. She and her husband Victor were involved with the formation of the UCSD Institute for Research on Aging, and have

been members of its board since its inception. The Shulmans are co-owners of House of Heirlooms, an antique business in San Diego.

Norman G. Levi was the owner of Furniture Fair, a successful retail home furnishings business, and subsequently became involved in real estate development. He is an active member of the Service Core of Retired Executives.

In 1941, Richard C. Levi founded Richard C. Levi Insurance Inc., which he owned until this past year. He founded the San Diego-Yokohama Sister City Society and the San Diego County Child Protection Board, and has been active with numerous civic organizations, such as Boy Scouts and Rotary.

At UCSD he is president of the UC San Diego Foundation, and an active member of the Board of Overseers and the Development Council. He is a longtime member of the Chancellor's Associates, and is past president of the UCSD Cancer Center Foundation Board and the UCSD School of Medicine Associates. He is a recipient of the Chancellor's Associates Distinguished Service Award and the Golden Man Award of the Boys Clubs of San Diego.

Contact: Paul Lowenberg, (619) 534-3120

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