

Dr. A. Baird Hastings joins Department of Neurosciences in School of Medicine

August 11, 1966

Dr. A. Baird Hastings has been appointed Research Associate in the Department of Neurosciences, in the School of Medicine, at the University of California, San Diego, Dr. John S. Galbraith, Chancellor, has announced. The appointment will be effective September 1.

Dr. Hastings was a member of the Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation from 1959 to 1965. During this period he was also associated with the Department of Marine Biology at Scripps Institution of Oceanography. He is a member and was the first chairman of the National Advisory Board, which advises on the activities of the Physiological Research Laboratory located at Scripps.

A graduate of the University of Michigan, with a Ph.D. in Physiology from Columbia University, Dr. Hastings holds honorary Sc.D. degrees from five institutions: University of Michigan, Harvard University, Boston University, Oxford University and St. Louis University. He was made an honorary professor of the Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos de Lima, Peru in 1957.

Dr. Hastings began his research work in 1921 at the Rockefeller Institute as an Associate. He spent a year at the Peiping Union Medical College in Peiping, China, as Visiting Professor of Biochemistry. For nine years, he was, first, Professor of Physiological Chemistry and then Professor of Biochemistry in the Department of Medicine at the University of Chicago, which recognized him in 1961 with the Distinguished Service Award from the Medical Alumni Association. Before coming to La Jolla, he was Hamilton Kuhn Professor and Head of the Department of Biological Chemistry in the Harvard Medical School from 1935 to 1958, when he became Professor Emeritus.

Professor Hastings is further distinguished by his international background. In 1925 he worked in Berlin at the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for Biology. In 1950 he was a Visiting Scientist to the Carlsberg Laboratory in Copenhagen. Two years later he went to Oxford University where he was a Fulbright Professor. He attended the 1954 International Conference on Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy in Geneva as a member of the United States delegation. He was a Visiting Professor during 1957 at the John Curtin School of Medical Research in Canberra, Australia.

Dr. Hastings, who received the President's Medal for Merit for wartime service to the nation in 1948, holds membership in many scientific civic, state national and international organizations. Among these are: the American Association for the Advancement of Science (vice president 1965), the Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters, the Biochemical Society of Great Britain, the American Physiological Society, the National Academy of Sciences, the American Philosophical Society, the American Society of Biological Chemists (president 1945-1947). He also belongs to the Biological and Medical Science Research Club of San Diego (president 1963-1964) and the Research Council of the San Diego Zoological Society.

Dr. Hastings is known and has been honored by institutions across the nation for his contributions to medicine through biochemistry.

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