

## **The establishment of the Victor C. Alderson Chair of Applied Ocean Science in the Division of Engineering approved by the UC Regents**

**October 28, 1982**

The establishment of the Victor C. Alderson Chair of Applied Ocean Science in the Division of Engineering at the University of California, San Diego has been approved by the University's Board of Regents.

The endowed chair, funded by a \$250,000 gift from two anonymous donors, is the sixth such chair established on the UCSD campus. Income from the endowment will go to support the teaching and research of a UCSD faculty member who is actively engaged in applied ocean science research. Applied ocean science covers a broad range of topics including oceanic remote sensing, signal processing, materials science, control systems, computer engineering and electronic instrumentation.

The appointment of the holder of the Alderson Chair of Applied Ocean Science is expected to be made during the current 1982-83 academic year.

In acknowledging the acceptance of the Victor C. Alderson Chair, UCSD Chancellor Richard C. Atkinson said that he was pleased that the campus now has six endowed chairs with two of them in the newly formed Division of Engineering.

"The generous gift of the chair will strengthen our ability to recruit outstanding faculty in one of the original components of our engineering and applied sciences program," Atkinson said.

Victor C. Alderson, born in Plymouth, Massachusetts in 1862 of a family descended from the original Mayflower pilgrims, graduated summa cum laude from Harvard University in 1885. From 1893 to 1899 Alderson was professor of mathematics at the Armour Institute of Technology in Chicago and, following a term as dean, served as acting president of the institute in 1900.

He was twice president of the Colorado School of Mines, from 1903 to 1913 and again from 1917 to 1925, and was a pioneer educator in the oil industry, writing one of the first textbooks on oil shale and establishing the petroleum engineering curriculum at the school in 1921.

Alderson was awarded the Doctor of Engineering degree from the Colorado School of Mines in 1939 in appreciation of his many services to that institution. Following retirement, he resided in La Jolla until his death in 1946.

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