

Dr. William B. Thompson receives a Fulbright grant

April 10, 1981

Dr. William B. Thompson, professor of physics at the University of California, San Diego, has been named to receive a Fulbright grant for university teaching and advanced research for 1981-82.

Thompson, who joined the UC San Diego faculty in 1966, will lecture on the theory of relationship between wave generation and diffusion processes at the University of Innsbruck, Austria, from September 1981 to January 1982. His award is one of more than 500 Fulbright grants for teaching and research to be used in more than 100 countries during 1981-82.

The awards were announced by the U.S. International Communication Agency and the Board of Foreign Scholarships. The purpose of the Fulbright Program, now in its 35th year, is "to enable the government of the United States to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries."

Thompson received a B.A. degree in physics and mathematics in 1944 and a M.A. degree in physics in 1947 from the University of British Columbia, Vancouver. In 1950 he received a Ph.D. in applied mathematics from the University of Toronto, Ontario.

Thompson's career has been devoted to the development of the theory of plasma physics and its applications in controlled thermonuclear research. He was the theoretical member of the small group that started this research in England in 1950 a group that finally developed into the Culham Laboratory for Controlled Thermonuclear Fusion.

He served as professor of plasma physics at Oxford University for three years before joining the UC San Diego faculty.

For more information contact: Paul West, 452-3120

(April 10, 1981)