

## **Bronze bust of Harold Urey has been placed in the Science and Engineering Library**

**March 23, 1976**

A bronze bust of University of California, San Diego Nobel Laureate chemist Dr. Harold C. Urey has been placed in the university's Science and Engineering Library, Urey Hall, on the Revelle campus.

The bust, a gift from Dr. Keith A. Brueckner, professor of physics, was created by Anna Dekking van Haften of Groningen, Holland, mother of Mrs. Brueckner. Mrs. Dekking traveled to San Diego in February when ceremonies were to have taken place to signal the donation of the sculpture but illness forced Dr. Urey to be hospitalized and the ceremonies were waived.

Urey, university professor emeritus, has been honored by governments, learned societies and scientific organizations throughout the world. He has received more than 30 medals, nearly twenty honorary degrees from universities in the United States and several honorary degrees from foreign countries. In 1973, he was given both the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the American Chemical Society awards.

At many times during his life, Urey has spoken out against war and injustice while maintaining the scientist's international point of view and a conviction that a union of democratic countries is a necessity in a highly technological world. Most recently, he has been involved in the debate over the upcoming California nuclear initiative vote.

In announcing the gift of the Urey bust, Brueckner said it expressed his "long-term admiration and respect for Professor Urey."

Urey has agreed to turn his papers over to UC San Diego, noting that it has been his "intention to do this for a long time." University Librarian Melvin Voigt has made an effort to acquire the books, records and papers of UC San Diego's many distinguished scientist-professors, among them Drs. Joseph E. and Maria Goeppert Mayer after whom Mayer Hall is named.

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