

Regents authorize naming of "John Muir College"

April 22, 1966

The Regents of the University of California, meeting on the Santa Cruz campus, have authorized the naming of the second college at the San Diego campus, John Muir College in honor of the famed California naturalist. The announcement was made by University President Clark Kerr and UCSD Chancellor John Galbraith.

John Muir College, which is now being formed at San Diego, will accept its first undergraduates in the fall of 1967. The college will place emphasis on the life sciences, the behavioral sciences and the fine arts.

Construction on the first building for John Muir College, a seven-story laboratory and classroom structure housing mathematics, electrophysics and the UCSD Computer Center, will begin in September directly north of Revelle College.

Provost of John Muir College is Dr. John L. Stewart, who in addition to this position is Professor of English Literature. Prior to joining the UCSD faculty in 1964, he was Associate Director of the Hopkins Center for Creative and Performing Arts at Dartmouth College.

In commenting on the naming of the college, Provost Stewart said, "The name of John Muir is particularly appropriate because of his California association and because he was, in a simple direct way, a naturalist and a scientist as well as a good writer. Thus, he embodied many of the disciplines on which the college named in his honor will place emphasis."

John Muir, geologist, explorer and naturalist, was born in Dunbar, Scotland, in 1833. He was educated in Scotland and at the University of Wisconsin. He pioneered in the exploration of the Sierra Nevada Mountains and also explored in Alaska and the Arctic regions. He labored many years in the cause of forest preservation and toward the establishment of national parks and forests. He was awarded an honorary degree from the University of California in 1913. During his career he edited a magazine titled "Picturesque California," and authored six books as well as many articles. He made his home in Martinez, California. Muir died in 1914.

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