

## **Dr Michael Cole and Dr Andrew A Benson elected as Fellows to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences**

**June 9, 1981**

Two University of California, San Diego professors were elected as Fellows of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences at the academy's 201st annual meeting.

They are Dr. Michael Cole, professor of psychology, and Dr. Andrew A. Benson, professor of biology in the Scripps Institution of Oceanography Marine Biology Research Division. They were among nine scholars from Southern California who were elected for fellowship. A total of 75 new Fellows of the academy were elected from throughout the United States.

Founded in 1780 by John Adams and other intellectual leaders prominent in the new American nation, the academy today is a national honorary society, headquartered in Cambridge, Massachusetts, with a membership of 2,300 scholars, artists and public figures.

Cole, who serves as director of the Laboratory of Comparative Human Cognition at UC San Diego, joined the San Diego faculty in 1978 after serving for nine years on the faculty at The Rockefeller University. He received a B.A. degree from UCLA in 1959 and a Ph.D. in psychology from Indiana University in 1962.

His major research interests have been the relation between culture and mind including the development of learning skills in children, cultural variations in learning skills, learning disabilities, and models of learning.

Benson joined the staff of Scripps in 1962 and was appointed chairman of the division and Department of Marine Biology three years later. He held the post for four years and again in 1970-71. From 1966 to March 1970, Benson was associate director of Scripps and as such was responsible for the coordination of biological research and teaching activities at the institution.

He relinquished the associate directorship to become director of the Physiological Research Laboratory, a position he held through 1976. Prior to his association with Scripps, Benson was an instructor in the Department of Chemistry and assistant director of the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory's Bio-organic Group at UC Berkeley.

His research work has been in the areas of photosynthesis, the synthesis of labeled organic compounds, isotope applications in agricultural research, new plant lipids, membrane, research, and the applications of neutron activation in biochemical analysis. Currently most of his scientific activities are directed toward understanding energy metabolism in marine organisms by focusing on production and utilization of wax.

For more information contact: Paul West, 452-3120

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