

First academic magnetic recording research center in U.S. to be located at UCSD

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FIRST ACADEMIC MAGNETIC RECORDING RESEARCH CENTER IN COUNTRY TO BE LOCATED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Richard C. Atkinson, Chancellor of the University of California, San Diego today (March 31) announced the creation of the first academic Center for Magnetic Recording Research in the United States, a \$12 million cooperative effort between UCSD and industry.

The Center is planned to become an Organized Research Unit within the University of California, and will be taken to the UC Board of Regents for approval.

UCSD will contribute \$1 million plus land for a building and four new faculty members who will occupy endowed chairs and who specialize in the field of magnetic recording research. The remaining \$11 million to start the Center will come from industry over a five year period. Major industrial contributors to date include IBM, Control Data, 3M and Eastman Kodak. Also contributing are Data Electronics, Inc., Pfizer, Inc. and Verbatim Corporation. Additional funding from other companies will be announced shortly.

"We are extremely pleased that UCSD has attracted the industrial support to establish the nation's first academic Center for Magnetic Recording Research," Atkinson said. "There is a clear national need for an academic research center to underpin the technological developments being pursued by industry in the field of magnetic recording.

"The Center is an exemplary model of industry-university relations," Atkinson continued. "There will be close interaction between UCSD and the sponsoring firms at the Center, and there will be no restrictions on the dissemination of research results, nor will any patent rights emerge from the Center's activities."

Dr. M. Lea Rudee, dean of the UCSD Division of Engineering, pointed out that the magnetic recording industry exceeds \$20 billion a year, but no academic center devoted to research in the field exists outside of Japan.

"The Center is being built to meet the acute national need for a major research and teaching effort in magnetic recording technology," Rudee said. "Leadership in computers and information processing systems will depend on the ability to lead in this technology."

The industry contributions will be used to build a 23,500 square-foot building, provide four endowed chairs, equipment for laboratories, research support, and to fund visitors, colloquia and national meetings.

UCSD is also delighted to announce that Dr. Albert S. Hoagland, an internationally recognized expert in magnetic recording, is being made available by IBM to assist in establishing the Center.

Hoagland said the industrial sponsors were "very impressed" with the proposal submitted by UCSD to create the Center.

"The UCSD proposal recognized magnetic recording as a high technology area appropriate for academic research," Hoagland said, "and one whose potential could best be realized by a multi-disciplinary approach."

Hoagland also cited UCSD's commitment to add four faculty members with expertise in magnetic recording research and the Center's ability to draw on the talent of other faculty at UCSD and other campuses of the university.

Hoagland noted that, although the field of digital magnetic recording research is some 30 years old, "there has been a tremendous rejuvenation in the field. The applications for data storage have significant future potential."

Although the UCSD campus is only 20 years old, it has already become one of the nation's premiere research institutions. It ranks fifth in the amount of federal research money received each year, and in 1982 was elected to the prestigious Association of American Universities. Currently UCSD ranks fifth among universities in the number of faculty elected to membership in the National Academy of Sciences.

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