

Dr. Warren L. Butler and Dr. Diego Catalan elected to membership in American Academy of Arts and Sciences

May 8, 1978

Two University of California, San Diego faculty members are among 107 scholars from throughout the United States elected to membership in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

They are: Dr. Warren L. Butler, professor of biology, and Dr. Diego Catalan, professor of Spanish literature. In addition, Dr. Floyd E. Bloom, research professor at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies and adjunct professor of neurosciences at UC San Diego, was also elected to the Academy.

UC San Diego currently has a total of 52 members in the American Academy of Art and Sciences. The Academy is a national honorary society of some 2,300 members including noted mathematicians, physical and biological scientists, members of the legal profession, social scientists, artists and humanists and those in public affairs, theology and administration.

The election of new members was held during the Academy's 198th annual meeting held in Boston.

Butler joined the UC San Diego faculty in 1964 after serving for eight years as a biophysicist in the Instrumentation Research Laboratory with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. His research has been concerned with developments in photosynthesis, the effects of lights on plants and chloroplast development.

Butler was the recipient of the Charles F. Kettering Research Award in 1963 to pursue research on photosynthesis for an indefinite period. He was elected to membership in the National Academy of Sciences in 1976 and is also a member of the American Chemical Society, the American Society of Plant Physiologists and the American Institute of Biological Sciences.

Catalan, a renowned hispanic scholar, is the fourth member of the UC San Diego Department of Literature to be elected to the Academy. He joined the San Diego faculty in 1971 after serving as professor of Spanish at UC Berkeley for two years and the University of Wisconsin for five years. During the 1970-71 academic year he came to the San Diego campus as a visiting professor.

He serves as director of the Center for Iberian and Latin American Studies (CILAS) at UC San Diego and as research director of the Menendez-Pidal Chair at the University of Madrid. He is currently at the University of Madrid on a two-year appointment as director of the Madrid Study Center for the Education Abroad program of the University of California.

Catalan was born in Madrid, Spain and received his Ph.D. degree in Romance languages from the University of Madrid in 1951. In 1954 he was named professor of hispanic linguistics at the University of La Laguna and served in that capacity for 10 years.

In 1968 he was elected as a corresponding member of the Hispanic Society of America.

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