

Richard Armitage submitted resignation

September 29, 1980

Dr. Richard H. Armitage, vice chancellor for student affairs and dean of students at the University of California, San Diego for the past two years, has submitted his resignation to Chancellor Richard C. Atkinson.

The resignation will be effective August 31, 1981 following the current 1980-81 academic year.

Armitage is a specialist in Spanish and Latin American studies and is the coauthor of two widely used textbooks, "Beginning Spanish, A Cultural Approach," published in 1953 and "Fundamentals of Spanish," published in 1975. He has written articles on foreign language methodology and Spanish American fiction.

He said a desire to return to teaching and to research in his academic field was a primary reason for giving up the UC San Diego administrative post. Armitage's wife, Mary Beth, is currently a doctoral candidate in the Educational Research Institute at UCLA. The couple has a home in the Mission Viejo area about half way between the UCLA and UC San Diego campuses.

"We plan to move closer to the UCLA campus next year and cut down on the driving time for both of us," Armitage said.

Armitage came to UC San Diego from Ohio State University where he had served as vice president for students' services for four years. He was associated with Ohio State from 1941 to 1970, serving the last seven years as dean of the graduate school. In 1970 he left to become provost and dean of faculties at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. He returned to Ohio State in 1971 where he served as the university's first ombudsman.

Armitage, who is 6 feet 8 inches tall and has the look and stride of a professional basketball player, has become an easily recognizable figure on the UC San Diego campus. During his tenure he has reorganized the student affairs offices into a more broadly based operation by cutting down on the number of administrators in the central office and by delegating several of the key functions of the office to top administrative aides.

"We have tried to bring the student affairs office into closer operation with the Associated Student Body offices and with the students themselves," Armitage said. "I think the decentralization has really enhanced the services for the students."

Chancellor Atkinson noted that the reorganization of the student affairs offices by Armitage will make the selection of his successor a much easier task.

"Dick Armitage has worked extremely hard for the best interests of the students," Atkinson said. "He will be missed on the campus but his efforts will be greatly appreciated for a long time to come."

A native of Ravenna, Ohio, Armitage received a B.A. degree from Oberlin College in 1939 and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Ohio State in 1940 and 1945. In 1967 Armitage served in South America as a consultant to the United States Department of State and the Institute of International Education and has been consultant on graduate education to several universities both in the United States and South America.

For more information contact: Paul West, 452-3120

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