

UC Board of Regents approved the renaming of UCSD's Fifth College for Eleanor Roosevelt

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UCSD'S FIFTH COLLEGE IS RENAMED FOR ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

The University of California Board of Regents has approved the renaming of UC San Diego's Fifth College for Eleanor Roosevelt, in recognition of her leadership in international affairs, and as a reformer in the areas of civil rights, human rights, labor and youth issues.

Fifth College, UCSD's newest college and its first college to be named for a woman, was founded in 1988. The college is distinctive in its international perspective, and in its mission to prepare students to understand and function effectively in the global community of the 21st Century. According to Fifth College Provost Jamie Lyon, Eleanor Roosevelt was selected for the new name because she best embodies the college's humanitarian spirit and its pioneering, international approach.

"After three years of effort to select a name, we're delighted that the Board of Regents approved the name of Eleanor Roosevelt for our college," said Jamie Lyon, Provost of UCSD's Fifth College. "Of several excellent candidates, we believe that her decades-long work in the international arena and her advocacy of global human rights best exemplify the ideals of Fifth College at UCSD."

The recommendation to name Fifth College in honor of Eleanor Roosevelt was the result of a lengthy discussion and nomination process, involving Fifth College students, staff, and faculty, that spanned more than three years. More than 60 proposals were considered before the Fifth College Executive and Policy Committee forwarded its recommendation of Eleanor Roosevelt to UCSD Chancellor Richard C. Atkinson. Approval by the UC Regents marks the final step in the renaming process.

A nationally recognized leader in women's reform and national politics before her marriage as well as in her subsequent role as First Lady, Roosevelt was one of the few national figures in the 1930s to publicly denounce racial and sexual discrimination. During her husband's presidency, the breadth of her activities as First Lady was unprecedented. During World War II, she helped establish the Fair Employment Practices Commission, intervened with the State Department on behalf of Jewish refugees from Europe, and argued against the internment of Japanese-Americans.

For 17 years after President Roosevelt's death in 1945, Eleanor Roosevelt was considered to be the most effective woman in American politics. Her early and enduring commitment to the United Nations and its guiding principles, led to her appointment as chair of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights and the subsequent adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Through Franklin Delano Roosevelt III of New York, UCSD has received the Roosevelt family's support for the renaming of Fifth College. Other support in the community for the renaming has come from the San Diego Chapter of the United Nations Association, of which Elizabeth Roosevelt, a great granddaughter of Mrs. Roosevelt

is an active member, and the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, which recently issued a proclamation commending Fifth College for its efforts to rename the college for Eleanor Roosevelt.

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