

Writer James Fallows to give free talk February 22 at UCSD

February 12, 1996

Media Contact: Brian Daly, (IR/PS), (619) 534-2777 Dolores Davies, (619) 534-5994

Award-winning writer, editor, and political commentator James Fallows will share insights from his new book, *Breaking the News: How the Media Undermine American Democracy*, in a free public lecture Feb. 22 at 4:30 p.m. in the Robinson Auditorium at the Graduate School of International Relations and Pacific Studies (IR/PS) at the University of California, San Diego.

In his talk, Fallows will discuss what he believes has gone wrong with the American media establishment and what can be done about it. "The institution of journalism," he says, "is irresponsible with its power...the damage can be corrected, but not until journalism comes to terms with what it has lost." Fallows' talk will be followed by a question and answer session, a book signing, and commentary by UCSD political scientist Samuel Popkin and UCSD communication department faculty members Daniel Hallin, an authority on media coverage and chair of the department, and Michael Schudson, an expert on the journalism profession.

Fallows is the Washington editor of the *Atlantic Monthly* and the author of *Looking at the Sun* and *National Defense*, the latter for which he won the National Book Award. He is also a well-known political commentator, and provides weekly commentaries on National Public Radio's "Morning Edition."

Fallows' visit to UCSD is being sponsored by the Graduate School of International Relations and Pacific Studies (IR/PS), the American Political Institutions Project, and the department of communication. Because seating is limited, reservations are recommended. To reserve a seat, please call (619) 534-1465 by Feb. 20.

(February 12, 1996)