

## **James U. Lemke, founder of the UCSD's Center for Magnetic Recording Research was awarded the Reville Medal May 4**

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Founder of UCSD's Center For Magnetic Recording Research Awarded Reville Medal

James U. Lemke, founder of UCSD's Center For Magnetic Recording Research (CMRR), was awarded the Reville Medal May 4 during a symposium marking the center's 10th anniversary.

Lemke, chief executive officer of Recording Physics, Inc., and an adjunct professor of electrical engineering at UCSD, was presented the award by Chancellor Richard C. Atkinson and George E. Backus, chair of the Academic Senate. The medal is UCSD's highest honor given in recognition of distinguished and sustained service to UCSD.

A physicist, inventor and entrepreneur, Lemke was cited for his vision, guidance and dedication to the university. Prompted by his innovative research in magnetic recording technology, Lemke envisioned a center that would educate students and support interdisciplinary research related to magnetic recording.

"Jim was really the nucleating force that founded the center," said Sheldon Schultz, director of CMRR. "It was his initial efforts that got the industries together and raised the issue that there should be an industry-funded center."

Lemke was instrumental not only in obtaining corporate donations for construction of the center, but also in securing funding for four endowed professorships and acquiring scientific equipment for the new facility.

The Reville Medal commemorates Roger Reville's role in establishing a general campus of the University of California in San Diego as well as his contributions to science. The image on the medal depicts Reville looking out over the Pacific and symbolizes his global vision.

The medal was conferred for the first time in 1981. It is awarded by the chancellor and the chairman of the Academic Senate on behalf of the university. Past recipients of the medal include: DeWitt A. Higgs, Oct. 22, 1981; Clark Kerr, Nov. 18, 1985; Kenneth Hill, Sept. 16, 1986; Cecil H. Green, April 14, 1988; Mandell Weiss, April 22, 1991 and James S. DeSilva, Jr., Feb. 25, 1993.

Lemke received his Ph.D. from the University of California, Santa Barbara and spent several years as director of Magnetic Research at the Bell and Howell Research Center. He started his own company, Spin Physics, Inc., in 1968 and sold it to Eastman Kodak in 1973, remaining as chief executive officer and vice president of Eastman Technologies. In 1982, he was appointed Fellow of the Eastman Kodak Research Labs. He subsequently started Recording Physics, Inc. and VISqUS, Corp. VISqUS was recently sold to Conner Peripherals, Inc.

Lemke holds many patents on his inventions involving magnetic recording methodology and devices as well as other areas of technology. In addition to continuing his research, Lemke creates and obtains capitalization for new

companies to develop magnetic recording products. He is a member of the National Academy of Engineering and the IEEE.

CMRR was founded in 1983 by a consortium of the U.S. magnetic recording industry who envisioned a leading edge focus on magnetic disk and tape storage. The initial funding provided for the construction of the building, equipment, research funding, an information center and the endowment of four chaired professorships.

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