

Approval received by the Regents on two endowed chairs in Information and Computer Sciences and in Judaic Studies

September 17, 1981

The University of California Board of Regents today (September 18) approved the establishment of the first two endowed chairs at the University of California, San Diego. The chairs will be in Information and Computer Sciences and the Judaic Studies Program.

Irwin Jacobs, a former UC San Diego engineering professor and currently president of the Linkabit Corporation, donated \$250,000 to the campus to set up the Irwin, Mark and Joan Klein Jacobs Chair in Information and Computer Sciences.

The endowed chair in Judaic Studies will be established with \$250,000 of the \$700,000 being raised from a group of San Diego residents by a committee chaired by Mr. Jerome Katzin and Mrs. David Garfield, both of La Jolla. The remainder of the endowment income will be used to support scholarships and fellowships, lecture programs and library acquisitions.

With the establishment of the chair in Judaic Studies, a search will commence for a distinguished scholar to fill the post. He or she will receive an appointment in the Department of History.

Judaic Studies, an interdisciplinary program which annually enrolls some 600 students, formally began in 1974 although courses in Jewish cultural traditions had been offered as early as 1970-71.

Faculty from history, philosophy and literature are joined each year by distinguished visiting professors from campuses throughout the world to teach Judaic Studies courses.

Professor Richard Friedman, a highly respected biblical scholar, has been director of the program since 1976.

Jacobs served as professor of information and computer sciences at UC San Diego from 1966 until 1972 when he left to devote full time to Linkabit Corporation, which he co-founded.

A graduate of Cornell University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Jacobs was on the faculty of MIT and served as a research fellow at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory before coming to UC San Diego.

Joan Jacobs, also a Cornell graduate, has been active in the San Diego community and is currently president of the Friends of the International Center on the campus.

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