

Robert H. Smith has been elected chairman of the Far West District of the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE)

June 2, 1975

Robert H. Smith, Assistant to the Chancellor for Alumni and Development at the University of California, San Diego, has been elected chairman of the Far West District of the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) for 1975-76. His term begins July 1.

CASE was formed one year ago through a merger of the American College Public Relations Association and the American Alumni Council, two of the largest educational support groups in the United States. Individual members of CASE come from public information offices, alumni offices and development offices of public and private four-year colleges and universities, community colleges, professional schools, and private secondary schools.

The far west district includes schools, colleges and universities in California, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah and Arizona.

As chairman of the district, one of seven in the U.S., Smith will be responsible for the development and coordination of the regional conference to be held next January. The chairman will also serve on the Board of Directors of the national CASE organization.

A native of Oak Park, Illinois, Smith graduated from the University of Denver in 1953 with a Bachelor of Law degree. Prior to joining UCSD in 1969 he was Director of Deferred Giving and Associate Director of Development for Illinois Wesleyan University of Bloomington, Illinois.

Smith and his wife Helen have 4 children and reside in La Jolla.

For information, call: Paul West, 452-3120

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It's really an honor to be speaking to all of you today, especially because I am not the smartest person here. So often in graduation ceremonies, whether it be in grade school, high school, or college, you hear the person with the 4.00 GPA (and who seems to know everything) speak. I don't know everything. But there are some things that I do know. A few of those things are that I love to read, write, and edit. They are my passion; they are in my blood-- I get it from my grandfather who was an avid writer and reader. As a result, ever since I was in elementary school, I have wanted to get into the publishing world because it is a career immersed in the written word.

However, this isn't about me; this is about you. And for those of you who don't know what kind of career you want to have, all I have to say is... it's okay. It really is. You can't expect four years as an undergraduate to determine what you want to do for the rest of your life. I mean, in high school you are just worried about getting into college that people consider me a nerd

Besides asking "Where do babies come from?", the question that dominated our childhoods was "What do you want to be when you grow up?" Whenever we would answer, we would say something like a teacher, a singer, an

actor, and artist, a doctor, a scientist, a chef, a lawyer, a pro athlete, a writer...the President of the United States. We would say such answers confidently, unhesitatingly, and without fear of consequence. It's as if someone asked us, "What is your favorite color?" As the years passed and we got older, we let go of some or all of those dreams. Some of us formed new ones; others of us are still looking for their replacements.

Probably starting around high school, the dominant question we ask now is "When am I ever going to use this?" Notice how different this question is from the first one. While this is similar to "What do you want to be when you grow up?" in that it's looking into our futures, but it's starkly different Practicality, reason, and the real world In either case, for many of us stopped us from dreaming without limitation