

Dr. Clifford Grobstein, appointed Professor of Biology and Chairman of the Department

April 30, 1965

Dr. Clifford Grobstein, Professor of Biology at Stanford University and one of the nation's leading scholars dealing with the biology of development, has accepted an appointment as Professor of Biology and Chairman of the Department on the San Diego campus of the University of California. The appointment was announced today by University President Clark Kerr and San Diego Chancellor John S. Galbraith.

Dr. Grobstein, Chairman of the Department of Biological Sciences at Stanford since 1963, will begin his duties at UCSD July 1. He succeeds Dr. S. J. Singer who has served as Chairman of the Department of Biology at UCSD for the past 10 months.

Born in New York City in 1916, Dr. Grobstein attended City College of New York receiving a B.S. degree in biology in 1936. He transferred to the Los Angeles campus of the University of California for graduate work and received an M.A. degree in zoology in 1938 and a Ph.D. degree in zoology two years later.

He began his teaching career at Oregon State College in 1940 as an Instructor in Zoology. During the war he served as an officer in the U.S. Army Air Force and returned in 1946 to a position as Senior Research Fellow with the National Institutes of Health. He later served as a Biologist with the National Institutes of Health.

Dr. Grobstein is in the unique position of being able to work and communicate in both the organismal and molecular areas of biology. His studies have been in the biology of development, particularly in mammals and particularly relating to the interaction between cells and tissues in controlling the appearance of specialized cell types.

He deals with embryos and how embryos come to be adults, or rather how genetics instructions are translated into the characteristics of adult organisms. In recent years Dr. Grobstein's studies have dealt with the pancreas and have been focused on how digestive cells are formed in cultured embryonic mouse pancreas.

Dr. Grobstein is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Sciences. He is a member of the International Institute of Embryology, the International Society of Cell Biology, the American Society of Cell Biology and the Special Program Planning Committee of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, USPHS.

He is a past president of the Society for the Study of Development and Growth and president-elect of the American Society of Zoologists. He is a member of the executive committees of the American Institute of Biological Sciences and of the Commission on Undergraduate Education in the Biological Sciences.