

UCSD Medal to be presented in honor of late journalist John Chancellor

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UCSD MEDAL TO BE PRESENTED IN HONOR OF LATE JOURNALIST JOHN CHANCELLOR

An award ceremony and commemorative luncheon honoring the late John Chancellor, world renowned news correspondent, will be held by the University of California, San Diego April 8 at University House.

The UCSD Medal will be presented to Chancellor's daughter, Mary Chancellor of Santa Monica, by UCSD Chancellor Robert C. Dynes. The medal is the highest honor given by UCSD in recognition of significant accomplishments in public life and is presented, in place of an honorary degree, to distinguished persons who have visited the campus.

The citation to be awarded recognizes Chancellor's "exemplary contributions to public understanding of world affairs as a distinguished NBC news correspondent, journalist and book author, and in sincere appreciation for his contributions to the University of California, San Diego, for more than a decade, including his involvement with three nationally recognized symposia on the U.S. Presidency."

Chancellor's 43-year career at NBC embraced almost the entire history of television network news. After a brief newspaper career in Chicago, he came to NBC News in 1950.

His first big story was the integration of Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, where he was the first network newsman ever to contribute actual reporting to a major news event.

He subsequently worked as an NBC correspondent in London, Moscow, Brussels, Vienna and the White House, and interviewed every U.S. president from Truman to Clinton. He was host of the Today show, anchor and later commentator for NBC Nightly News, and served for two years as director of the Voice of America.

An associate of UCSD for more than a decade, he served three times as moderator of UCSD's Symposia on the U.S. Presidency. These Emmy award winning programs, televised nationally on PBS, brought distinguished and internationally recognized political and media figures to the UCSD campus. The programs resulted in two significant books, Chief of Staff Twenty-Five Years of the Presidency, published by UC Press, and The New News Business, published by Harper Collins.

John Chancellor died last summer at his home in Princeton, N.J.

Previous recipients of the UCSD Medal include Raul Alfonsin, president of Argentina; Yutaka Nakaoki, governor, Toyama Prefecture, Japan; Carlos Salinas de Gortari, president of Mexico; N. Scott Momaday, Pulitzer Prize winning poet, and Walter E. Massey, president, Morehouse College, and former UC vice president for Academic Affairs.

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