

## **New Institute on Environmental Technology to be established at UCSD's Scripps Institution of Oceanography**

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### **NEW INSTITUTE ON ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY TO BE ESTABLISHED AT UCSD'S SCRIPPS INSTITUTION OF OCEANOGRAPHY**

The state of California will open a new institute at UCSD's Scripps Institution of Oceanography that will establish San Diego as the hub of environmental technology research within the state, Gov. Pete Wilson announced today.

The Institute, to be established by a partnership between the California Environmental Protection Agency and the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UCSD, will advance the development and commercialization of innovative technologies to protect, monitor and restore the environment.

Called the California Institute for Environmental Technology (CIET), the center will coalesce environmental technology work under way at campuses within the University of California system and state environmental agencies, as well as establish links with other universities, industry, national laboratories, and state and federal agencies.

CIET will be managed by Scripps, an acknowledged world leader in the field of environmental research. The state of California is providing \$1.5 million in seed money to fund a one-year planning and implementation period for the Institute that begins July 1, 1994. The center is anticipated to be fully operational by July 1, 1995.

The Institute will perform a variety of research functions to enhance the state's ability to identify and address environmental problems in California, leading to the creation of new jobs within the state. Research efforts will focus on water quality, air quality, resource use and management, energy efficiency, and land quality.

Center activities will be directed in three areas: basic research, applied research and commercialization.

"The accelerated development of innovative environmental technologies is critical to protecting California's environment and to promoting sustainable economic development within the state," said Edward Frieman, director of Scripps Institution of Oceanography. "This new center will establish a strategic partnership between the California Environmental Protection Agency and the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UCSD to ensure that we have the expertise and facilities needed to be at the forefront of this emerging industry."

"UCSD and San Diego are extremely fortunate to be a part of this exciting Institute," said Richard C. Atkinson, Chancellor of UCSD. "Through CIET, the university will link leading scientists in environmental sciences, engineering and computer sciences with high-tech developing industries. UCSD will also provide the high-tech infrastructure needed to ensure that the center serves as a resource for the state and nation. The development of

environmental technologies, estimated to be a multi-billion dollar industry, will be a boon to the competitiveness of our nation and the future economy of San Diego."

Among its basic research functions, the center will facilitate state support of grants directed at understanding the environment and developing strategies to protect and restore it. Existing statewide basic environmental research efforts will be supported with an emphasis on encouraging industry-university-government interactions directed toward the goal of sustainable development.

"The California Institute for Environmental Technology will combine the creativity of small business with the strategic capabilities of a large university," said University of California President Jack W. Peltason. "This unique combination will enable us to direct the vast creative resources of our nation's greatest land-grant university to develop innovative environmental technologies, spurring growth in this critical industry for the state and the nation."

In order to promote the development of environmental technologies that have significant commercial potential, CIET will allocate matching funds through a competitive selection process administered on the basis of technical and business merit, as well as support technology demonstration facilities.

CONNECT, UCSD's successful statewide program in technology and entrepreneurship, will assure ongoing interactions between researchers, high technology firms, venture capitalists, and entrepreneurs. The organization has established an Enviro-CONNECT Special Industry Group that will work closely with other state and national environmental industry associations.

"This is a wonderful example of all of San Diego, from the Sierra Club to the University to the Mayor, working together to bring this important project to San Diego," said Mary L. Walshok, associate vice chancellor for extended studies at UCSD. "The thrust of this new Institute will be to link research products that have direct social benefits to environmental technology throughout the state. CONNECT is uniquely qualified to do just that."

CONNECT is one of many resources that UCSD will provide to ensure CIET's success. The university receives nearly \$300 million in research and development contracts and grants each year. It ranks first in the nation in total expenditures for research and development in the environmental sciences, according to the National Science Foundation.

Scripps will provide the center with expertise in the areas of environmental remote sensing, monitoring, assessment, data assimilation and remediation, complementing California's industrial resources in the fields of electronics, biotechnology, advanced materials, and advanced computing and information systems.

CIET also will be supported by the high-performance computing resources of the San Diego Supercomputer Center, which houses a CRAY C-90 and a Paragon, a massively parallel supercomputer. Located on the UCSD campus, SDSC provides computational and visualization needs for research into computational ecology and biology.

CIET will be linked via computer information networks to the state's research, technology development, commercialization and education communities to ensure access to the center's products and services.

The UCSD School of Engineering will offer the center expertise in fields such as combustion science, fluid dynamics, computer science and chemical engineering.

The San Diego area already is home to a network of environmental business and technology organizations. The Environmental Technology Export Council (ETEC), is a private sector initiative of corporations, trade associations and government laboratories formed to expand the export promotion of goods and services offered by the U.S. environmental technology industry. The Industrial Environmental Association (IEA) was formed in 1983 to promote responsible, cost-effective environmental laws and regulations and to facilitate environmental

compliance among member companies. The California Environmental Business Council (CEBC) is a private sector initiative to provide a major environmental industry focus for public/private cooperation on California environmental technologies, products and services. The Environmental Cluster Incubator Border Environmental Commerce Zone (BECZ-Chula Vista) was recently endorsed by the State of California as one of three regional "incubators" to serve as test centers for new environmental technologies.

CIET is being established through the California Environmental Technology Partnership (CETP), a cooperative effort between California's public and private sectors to preserve and promote high environmental standards for the state, pursue pollution prevention, and assist California-based companies that develop and market environmental technologies, goods and services.

Gov. Pete Wilson charged the Cal/EPA, working with the Trade and Commerce Agency, to create CETP in Sept. 1992 to act as a vigorous catalyst for environmental technology development and commercialization.

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