

Superior Students to UCSD Campus for NSF Summer "Trainee" Program Control of the By-products of Growth-- Panel at UCSD Campus

June 7, 1963

Four dozen high school scientists who will spend their summer engaged in study and research at the University of California's San Diego campus were described today by Chancellor Herbert York as "an extraordinary group indeed."

His reasons:

One student has compiled the highest academic record in his school's history. Another-- a girl-- received the highest score in the United States on a college placement examination in mathematics.

One summer "trainee," who is 17, has published an article in the American Medical Association Journal. Another has completed, in his spare time, a lengthy investigation of the sounds produced by various species of fish in the Northern Atlantic.

The youths, who hail from 11 states, will arrive on the San Diego campus June 24 to participate in the National Science Foundation summer training program for superior students.

"These students are extremely gifted young men and women," Chancellor York said, writing in his Newsletter, "If we had to choose the one quality which distinguishes them from other youths their age, it would be that they possess a burning sense of intellectual curiosity, and an apparent desire to channel this curiosity toward a modern field in science and technology."

Chosen from more than 1,600 original applicants, the students will work side-by-side with 21 marine biologists, chemists, mathematicians, geologists, oceanographers, and physicists, as junior partners in significant research projects in progress at UCSD.

"The purpose of the program is simple," York noted, "It is to afford the students an opportunity to learn at first hand about the attractions; the disappointments, the inspiration and the methods of scientific research.

"It is well known he said, "that in many scientific and technological fields there is, and will continue to be, a shortage of highly-trained teaching and research specialists. The future of science-- and how we cope with the challenge of the future-- depends greatly on the extent to which superior talent is discovered and nurtured today.

"We feel we have 48 exceptional young talents joining us this summer," York stated.

Nineteen of the students are from the San Diego area. Others are from as far away as New York, New Jersey, and Florida. One young lady, whose hometown in Montana is only a few miles from the Canadian border, is in a graduating class which numbers nine students.

The "trainees" were selected by Dean of Student Affairs Ted Forbes and his staff on the basis of scholastic ability, scientific motivation, and completion of specified high school courses in science and mathematics.

The National Science Foundation supports the program at UCSD, and at 166 other educational and research institutions in 41 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. From NSF grants of more than two million dollars, about 6,500 superior secondary-school students will receive accelerated college training in science and math this summer.