

## UCSD receives two more major gifts for new model school

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### UCSD RECEIVES TWO MORE MAJOR GIFTS FOR NEW MODEL SCHOOL

Two \$1 million gifts, one from Publisher Helen K. Copley and the other from Padres owner John J. Moores and his wife, Becky, have been contributed to a fund to establish the University of California, San Diego's innovative Model School.

The Copley and Moores contributions will bring UCSD to within \$3 million of the \$13.1 million needed to build and equip the school so that it can admit its first class of students in the fall of 1999. Major gifts also were made recently by Peter and Peggy Preuss, for whom the school will be named, and the Walton Family Foundation.

"The Model School being developed by UCSD is an ambitious plan to reach out to students from low income families who possess the talent to succeed if given the opportunity," said Mrs. Copley. "I wholeheartedly support the university's efforts to create this unique school, and sincerely hope UCSD is able to have the first classes begin by the fall of 1999."

Mrs. Copley, a long time benefactor of a variety of San Diego organizations and institutions, has been a strong supporter of UCSD and other educational and literacy efforts over the years. Her late husband, Jim, was one of the founding supporters of UCSD. Chairman of the Copley Press, Inc. and publisher of the San Diego Union-Tribune since 1974, she has donated funds in the past for student scholarships as well as for the UCSD Cancer Center, the Mandell Weiss Theater, and the UCSD-based Institute of the Americas. A member of the UCSD Friends of the Library, E.W. Scripps Associates, and a former member of the UCSD Board of Overseers, she most recently made a major gift in support of the Richard and Rita Atkinson Endowed Chairs fund. She has been a major contributor to numerous other San Diego projects.

"Becky and I expect the UCSD Model School to play a significant role in improving the prospects for educationally disadvantaged youth in San Diego," said Moores. "We know personally that a good education can make all the difference in a young person's life. Therefore, we are honored to play a role in making this effort succeed."

Moores, the majority owner of the Padres baseball team, is chairman of Peregrine Systems, Inc., a San Diego-based computer company, and head of the investment firm, JMI, Inc. The Moores are generous supporters of education, athletics, and medicine. John Moores is a former regent of the University of Houston, and with the Padres, is refurbishing more than 60 ball fields for the use of San Diego youth throughout the county. They also have contributed landmark gifts to build a new San Diego Hall of Champions, to the San Diego Symphony Orchestra, to San Diego State University to build new athletic facilities, and to The Scripps Research Institute.

"Helen Copley and John and Becky Moores have done the university a great honor in contributing these generous gifts toward our Model School," said UCSD Chancellor Robert C. Dynes. "With these gifts, we are now very, very close to our ultimate goal, which, when achieved, will allow us to begin reviewing and admitting the first

class of students next fall. I am hopeful that the generosity displayed here will encourage others in San Diego to come forward."

According to Dynes, if the fundraising goal is met by Sept. 30 of this year, UCSD will enroll the Model School's first 100 students by the fall of 1999, and complete the school buildings by the fall of 2000. At steady state, in the year 2003, the Model School will accommodate 700 sixth through twelfth graders. The school will be located on an eight-acre parcel of land on the east side of campus.

The Model School is one of several major new initiatives UCSD is undertaking to broaden its involvement in K-12 education. A primary goal of the school is to enable students from educationally disadvantaged families to qualify for admission to UCSD and comparable universities. The Model School will offer a college preparatory curriculum, and will be targeted to underachieving but talented students from low-income families who would be the first generation to graduate from college.

Last month, UCSD was authorized by the UC Board of Regents to petition the San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD) Board for a charter and operating funds for the school. A decision by the SDUSD Board is expected next month.

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