

Dedication of Thurgood Marshall College at UCSD set for Oct. 22

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DEDICATION OF THURGOOD MARSHALL COLLEGE AT UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO SET FOR OCT. 22

The University of California, San Diego will hold a dedication ceremony Oct. 22 at 3 p.m. for Thurgood Marshall College, formerly known as Third College. The keynote speaker for the ceremony, which will take place in the Solis Quad of Thurgood Marshall College, will be Marian Wright Edelman, president and founder of the Washington, D.C.-based Children's Defense Fund.

"The dedication of Thurgood Marshall College will be a historic occasion for UCSD," said Cecil Lytle, provost of Thurgood Marshall College. "Thurgood Marshall was, at all times, a champion of constitutionally-guaranteed rights for all Americans. While it is important to recognize that he was a lawyer and jurist, his crowning achievement was in breaking down access barriers to education. This dedication will help convey to the public the university's commitment to the twin virtues of academic excellence and social responsibility."

The one-hour ceremony will include remarks by: UCSD Chancellor Richard C. Atkinson; Provost Lytle, as well as the past provosts of the college; and students, faculty, and alumni of the college. In addition, Provost Lytle will present a Lifetime Achievement Award to Professor Carlos Blanco, one of the college's founding faculty.

During the week preceding the Oct.22 ceremony, a number of special events and activities will take place at the UCSD campus in conjunction with the dedication of Thurgood Marshall College. These events include a Helen Edison Lecture by Nobel Laureate Derek Walcott, the highly acclaimed Caribbean poet, painter and playwright, Oct. 21 at 7 p.m. at UCSD's Mandeville Auditorium. Walcott, who won the 1992 Nobel Prize in Literature for his melodious and sensitive style of poetry reflecting West Indian culture, is the author of ten books of poetry and 12 plays. His latest work, a verse play based on Homer's "Odyssey", was commissioned by Britain's Royal Shakespeare Company.

In addition, Marian Wright Edelman will deliver a public lecture on "The Modern American Family," Oct. 22 at 7 p.m. in the Price Center Ballroom. Under Edelman's leadership, the Children's Defense Fund has become one of the most active and effective organizations in the country working to educate the nation about the educational, social, and health needs of children. Her talk is being sponsored by the Price Public Affairs Forum. Both the Edelman and the Walcott lectures are free and open to the public.

Other activities planned for the week include a Reggae Festival at UCSD's Price Center, Oct.23 from 12 noon to 6 p.m.

Third College, one of five undergraduate colleges at UCSD, was officially renamed for the late Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall in May 1993, when the renaming was approved by the UC Board of Regents. The college, founded in 1970, was founded on the principles embodied in the civil rights movement -- justice, equality and social responsibility -- all qualities which reflect Thurgood Marshall's social philosophy.

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