

## **UCSD marks rededication of Central Library today with official visit of UC President Jack Peltason**

**February 24, 1993**

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UCSD MARKS REDEDICATION OF CENTRAL LIBRARY TODAY WITH OFFICIAL VISIT OF LTC PRESIDENT JACK PELTASON

"This library rededication is an opportunity to rededicate ourselves to the welfare of the unparalleled intellectual treasure that is the University of California," UC President Jack W. Peltason noted today in remarks prepared for ceremonies held at the University of California, San Diego, Central Library.

"The university is California's single best hope of surviving and thriving in the twenty-first century, which is right around the corner," he told some 300 members of the community and UCSD faculty, staff and students assembled on the library's Forum level.

Also participating in the library rededication ceremony--which additionally marked the University of California's 125th anniversary--was Meredith J. Khachigian, chairman of the Board of Regents. In prepared remarks, she noted that "In my view, this building stands as a symbol of the entire University of California and its history of achievement and service to our state, our national, and the world. Perched as it is on the Pacific Rim, and part of the world's greatest public university, it also is a symbol of what remains to be achieved and how this campus and this university can, and must, continue to serve."

The speakers were introduced by UCSD Chancellor Richard C. Atkinson and also included remarks by Phyllis S. Mirsky, Acting University Librarian; Mary Fair Berglund, president, Friends of the UCSD Library; George E. Backus, chair of the Academic Senate, San Diego Division; Michael Holmes, president of the UCSD Associated Students, and N. Scott Momaday, Pulitzer prize winning poet, novelist and artist.

Prior to his address Momaday received the "UCSD Medal" from Chancellor Atkinson with a citation which noted: "The University of California, San Diego, is honored to present the UCSD Medal to Dr. N. Scott Momaday in recognition of the gift of his imagination as a poet, a storyteller, and an artist; for his contribution to American arts and letters; for his part in the recovery of the American Indian vision, connecting us to the land and to one another, and for the rededication of our great Southwestern landscape in his writing and his art."

Momaday, considered the dean of American Indian writers, is scheduled to give a public lecture sponsored by the Friends of the Library tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. in the Price Center Theater.

Past recipients of the UCSD Medal, awarded in recognition of significant accomplishments in public life, have been Raul Alfonsin, president of the Republic of Argentina; Yutaka Nakaoki, governor of the Toyama Prefecture, Japan, and Carlos Salinas de Gortari, president of Mexico.

Honored as recipient of the "Revelle Medal" was James Stuart DeSilva of Rancho Santa Fe, president of the Stuart Foundation and the visionary force behind the famed Stuart Collection of outdoor sculpture.

In presenting the medal Backus commented: "In 1980 the Board of Regents of the University of California and the Stuart Foundation entered into a unique and farseeing agreement for the placement of contemporary sculpture at UCSD. Under Jim DeSilva's guidance the entire UCSD campus has become a site for works commissioned from internationally acclaimed artists.

"Today the extraordinary Stuart Collection consists of 12 sculptures. It is world famous for its scope, for the quality of its individual works, and for its collective impact. The Stuart Collection stands as a permanent testament to James DeSilva's generosity of spirit, exceptional commitment, and dedication to quality."

The Revelle Medal is awarded in recognition of distinguished and sustained service to UCSD by persons who are not members of its faculty or staff. Previous awardees were DeWitt Higgs, Clark Kerr, Kenneth Hill, Cecil Green and Mandell Weiss.

In other activities during the day, President Peltason met this morning with student leaders, will meet this afternoon with members of the Academic Senate, and tonight will meet some 350 community members at a University House reception.

The library rededication celebration marked completion of a unique underground addition to the Central Library which nearly doubles its original size. Designed by Michigan architect Gunnar Birkets with BSHA and Associates of San Diego, the underground addition surrounds the landmark central pedestal on three sides. The canyon in which the library sits is recreated underground by opening the seam between the old and new structures to form "daylight canyons" which bring natural light into the underground spaces of the addition. The roof of the addition has an earthen mantle of ground cover and plants.

The original library was designed in the late 1960's by William Pereira, and has become a visual symbol for the university. The addition totals 136,850 assignable square feet, and was constructed at a cost of \$36.4 million.

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