

## **UCSD to present James Burke, host of PBS' "Connections" on October 15 in Mandeville Auditorium**

**September 29, 1992**

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UCSD TO PRESENT JAMES BURKE, HOST OF PBS' "CONNECTIONS"

James Burke, Britain's foremost commentator on science and technology, who has created a string of successful weekly and documentary series, including PBS's "Connections," will speak at 8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 15, in the University of California, San Diego Mandeville Auditorium.

Ticket prices are \$15/17 general admission and \$12/14 student, and may be purchased at the UCSD Price Center Box Office or from TicketMaster outlets.

Burke's entry into broadcasting began with his work on Italian radio as an interpreter to the B'nai B'rith representative at Vatican II. He had served as director of the English schools at Bologna and Rome, while also collaborating on the Zanichelli Italian-English dictionary. He later signed with Granada Television (United Kingdom), as a political reporter for their Rome bureau.

It was during his year with Granada that he caught the eye of British Broadcasting (BBC). They were in the market for an Italian-speaking Englishman who could talk about science--behind the camera. That was in 1966. Since then, Burke has been with the BBC, first as co-host with the science "magazine" program, "Tomorrow's World," then as chief reporter on the U.S. and Russian spaceflight programs, and later as host of his own prime-time weekly science show, "The Burke Special."

In "Connections," a 10-part series that first aired in 1979, Burke explored the evolution of technology. In his next series, "The Day the Universe Changed," which aired in 1986, Burke examined selected discoveries and innovations that have had an irrevocable effect on society. His latest television project was "After the Warming," for PBS, which took a look at the Greenhouse Effect from a hypothetical future.

Burke is currently working on a mini-series on the population explosion and a seven-hour series on the nature and effect of information, titled, "The Complexity Effect."

Parking permits are required on the UCSD campus and may be purchased at the Gilman Drive and Northview Drive information pavilions. For information call University Events at 534-4090.

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