

Dedication for Bonner Hall to be held May 7

April 28, 1965

The work of the late Dr. David M. Bonner, Professor of Biology and first chairman of the Department of Biology at the University of California, San Diego, will be honored Friday, May 7, at the dedication of a science building, on the UCSD campus in his name.

The four-story laboratory-classroom-office building, which houses the Department of Biology and is also the temporary home of the UCSD School of Medicine, is located at the northeast corner of the Revelle College complex at the intersection of U.S. Highway 101 and La Jolla Shores Drive. It will officially be named David M. Bonner Hall at 11 a.m., May 7 in a ceremony in the Building B Plaza just to the west.

Dr. S. J. Singer, present Chairman of the Biology Department will officiate at the ceremony and Dr. James R. Arnold, Professor of Chemistry, will be the main speaker. Members of Dr. Bonner's family will also take part in the ceremony. The public has been invited to visit the UCSD campus and attend the dedication ceremony.

Bonner Hall will be the first of the Revelle College buildings to be named. There are presently four buildings in use with three others under construction. Student dormitories are also currently under construction.

Dr. Bonner was born in Salt Lake City, Utah, and received his A.B. degree from the University of Utah. At the California Institute of Technology, where he received his Ph.D., Dr. Bonner worked with George W. Beadle and Edward L. Tatum who in 1958 won the Nobel prize for their studies in genetics.

After a period as Research Assistant at Stanford University from 1942 to 1946, Dr. Bonner became successively Assistant Professor and Associate Professor of Microbiology at Yale University, and was promoted to full professorship in 1956.

He came to the UCSD faculty from Yale in 1960 and was the first biologist appointed to Revelle College, at that time called the School of Science and Engineering.

According to associates Dr. Bonner was one of the foremost biochemical geneticists in the United States. His work, elucidating the biosynthetic pathway of niacin and the concept of genetic control of enzyme synthesis, resulted in his receiving the Eli Lilly Award in 1954. He was in the forefront of genetic research for some 17 years before his death in 1964.

While at UCSD, Dr. Bonner helped to organize a Short Course in Genetics for Medical School Faculty. The course-- the first of its kind to be organized in the west and which has been continued by several of Dr. Bonner's colleagues at UCSD-- provides a forum for communication of basic science research in genetics to members of medical school faculties, and is planned to enhance existing genetics education in the various medical schools.

Dr. Bonner's book, "Heredity," was published by Prentice-Hall in 1961 as a part of its "Foundations of Modern Biology" series.