

UCSD receives Keck Foundation grant for interactive teaching laboratory

August 13, 1992

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UCSD RECEIVES KECK FOUNDATION GRANT FOR TEACHING LABORATORY

The W.M. Keck Foundation has awarded a grant to the University of California, San Diego for an Interactive Technology Teaching Laboratory to be used by the university's Teacher Education Program (TEP). The state-of-the-art facility will replace TEP's existing lab, which has become outmoded and inadequate to meet the program's diverse needs.

The \$200,000 grant will help fund a computer teaching laboratory to be used by TEP in training its students and in outreach programs for practicing teachers in K-12. The lab will provide a modern computer facility for training students and teachers as well as for developing innovative K-12 science and math curriculum, and outreach programs to K-12 classrooms.

TEP's outreach programs to K-12 schools, which include joint projects with school districts, summer teacher institutes, and programs for minority high school students, are designed to enhance and encourage student and teacher interest in science and math, while also increasing computer literacy. TEP currently has a joint project with the Ramona Unified School District, and with the additional funding from the W. M. Keck Foundation, is hoping to add three more school districts to its outreach efforts.

TEP, a science and math credential program, has been a leader in developing innovative and effective uses for computers in K-12 education. Programs and techniques developed by TEP will allow K-12 students at all levels to learn math, science and writing using novel interactive computing.

According to TEP associate coordinator Randall Souviney, the facility will feature workstations with interactive video-disk capability and a local area network that includes electronic mail for students and faculty with connections to K-12 schools. This capability will be expanded to include digital sound and video- active messages within two years.

The W.M. Keck Foundation was established in 1954 by the late William Myron Keck, founder of The Superior Oil Company, one of the nation's largest and most successful independent oil companies. Originally created to support accredited colleges and universities with particular emphasis on the sciences, engineering and medical research, the Foundation has grown considerably under the leadership of the founder's son, Howard B. Keck, its current chairman, and is now one of the nation's largest charitable organizations.

(August 13, 1992)