

Regents approve Graduate School of International Relations and Pacific Studies

January 17, 1986

REGENTS APPROVE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND PACIFIC STUDIES AT UCSD

The University of California Board of Regents today (January 17) approved the establishment of a Graduate School of International Relations and Pacific Studies at the University of California, San Diego.

The UCSD school will be the first school of international relations within the University of California system and the first in the country to focus primarily on the Pacific region, an area rapidly emerging in economic, political, cultural and strategic importance.

The school will train students for professional careers in business and industry that operate in the Pacific Basin. Students may also pursue careers in diplomacy, policy analysis, and communications.

The Governor's proposed state budget, released January 10, includes \$480,000 in planning funds for the new school. It will be the first new graduate school created by the university since 1967.

"The growing importance of the Pacific Basin poses a significant challenge for our educational system," said UCSD Chancellor Richard C. Atkinson. "As part of (UC) President (David P.) Gardner's overall plan for international education, the new school represents an effective response to that challenge. The school will be an exciting development for UCSD, for the San Diego community, and for the State of California."

President Gardner has made one of his top priorities expansion and development of efforts to prepare students to meet the challenge of the emergence of the Pacific Rim nations.

"California is ideally situated to seize the obvious opportunities this presents in international relations, especially for cultural, scientific and technological exchange, trade, finance, education and mutual cooperation," Gardner said.

Plans call for the school to begin admitting a small number of graduate students in the fall of 1987, and grow to full strength of around 400 students within five years. Of these, 250 will be enrolled in the two-year master's program, another 130 in advanced career training programs, and 20 in a doctoral program. Several students may also be enrolled in advanced certificate programs of one year or less.

Research activities at the school will focus on key aspects such as trade, security, technology and development, while the public outreach component will include briefing sessions, meetings, public lectures, community oriented publications, and programs for primary and secondary schools.

When it reaches full strength in 1991, there will be 35 full-time faculty, some with joint appointments in other departments on campus. The faculty will be organized into departments headed by a dean.

The new school intends to emphasize the Pacific region as a distinctive area in the international system. This region runs from the southernmost tip of Latin America, northward across the United States and Canada, down through the USSR, Japan, China, and the other nations of East and Southeast Asia, including Australia, New Zealand, and the many island nations of Oceania.

The Pacific Rim countries are vitally important to the economy of California, as well as to the rest of the United States. Countries in the region contain 43 percent of the world's population and generate 47 percent of the world's economy, some three trillion dollars per year. Eighty-two percent of California's \$80 billion annual trade is with Pacific Rim countries, according to a recent economic report.

Economic issues are not the only ones of importance to the nations of the Pacific Rim. There are vital issues of mutual security, migration, cultural diversity, communication and policies concerning technology, the environment, and natural resources to be addressed as well.

The school intends to work closely with complementary programs at other UC campuses and elsewhere in California.

The UCSD campus is already home to a number of outstanding programs which focus on areas of the Pacific Basin. These include: Chinese Studies, Melanesian Studies Resource Center, the Center for Iberian and Latin American Studies, the Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies, the newly created Japanese Studies Program, the multicampus Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, and the privately funded Institute of the Americas.

The campus also has a rich array of programs and courses in related areas such as Third College, Third World Studies, ethnic studies, race and ethnicity in America, and languages such as Chinese, Japanese, Russian, Spanish and Portuguese, among others.

For more information contact: Paul Lowenberg, 452-3120

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