

Four separate commencement ceremonies and grad division held

June 3, 1976

Four separate commencement ceremonies honoring graduates from four colleges and the graduate division will be held Sunday, June 13, at the University of California, San Diego.

The commencement, the 10th for the San Diego campus, will honor some 1,500 undergraduate and graduate students who are eligible for degrees. UC San Diego's first formal commencement, held June 14, 1967, honored a total of 126 students in a single ceremony on Urey Hall Plaza. Prior to that the campus had awarded master degrees and doctoral degrees for some five years at "receptions" without caps and gowns and other academic regalia.

In 1973 the colleges voted to hold separate ceremonies in order to focus more attention on the students. While the individual ceremonies have made attendance by graduates and their families easier, they have meant a lot more work for San Diego Chancellor William McElroy who attends at least a portion of each ceremony, in cap and gown, to welcome visitors and congratulate the graduates.

This year, as in the past, the UC San Diego School of Medicine will hold its graduation one week prior to the college ceremonies. Some 65 new medical doctors are scheduled to graduate at ceremonies beginning at 11 a.m. Sunday, June 6, on the lawn and parking area west of the Basic Science Building.

The Third College will lead off the commencement series on the 13th with ceremonies set for 10 a.m. in the plaza area of the new Third College campus. The new academic buildings and dormitories were occupied in January at the start of the winter quarter.

California Assemblyman John Vasconcellos, chairman of the Assembly Education Committee's subcommittee on higher education, will be the main speaker. Two students, Otis Watson, an urban and rural development major, and Raymundo Gomeztagle, a history major, have been chosen as student speakers.

About 150 graduates are eligible to take part in the ceremony. As has become tradition for Third College, the graduates will be accompanied by members of their family as they march across the stage to shake hands with Provost Joseph Watson and other college officials. A reception for graduates and friends will follow the ceremony in the college snack bar area.

John Muir College will hold ceremonies for some 600 graduates beginning at 11 a.m. in the Muir Courtyard. Provost Patrick J. Ledden and two students, Bradley S. Lichtman, a history major, and Connie Lee Jeung-Mills, a sociology major, will speak. The annual Urey Prize for the outstanding senior chemistry major will be awarded to Fred S. Vernacchia.

A reception for graduates and friends will follow the ceremony in the Muir Cafeteria.

About 400 graduates are eligible to take part in the Revelle College ceremony scheduled for noon on Revelle Plaza. Revelle Provost Morris Friedkin and Vice Chancellor Paul Saltman are scheduled to speak. Two students, Myron Bethel, a biology major, and Ann Sandra Ellen, a history major, will offer concluding remarks. Several departmental awards and two outstanding teaching awards will be given during the ceremony.

A reception for graduates and guests will follow in the Revelle Cafeteria.

Fourth College and the Graduate Division will hold a joint commencement at 1:30 p.m. in the Mandeville Auditorium. Fourth College, in only its second year of operation, has some 30 students who are eligible to graduate. Some 300 graduate students are eligible to receive master and doctorate degrees.

A traditional and colorful part of the graduate ceremony will be the hooding of new Ph.D.s by Chancellor McElroy and Dr. Manuel Rotenberg, dean of graduate studies and research for UC San Diego.

A short recital of the music of Scott Joplin will be presented as part of the Fourth College-Graduate Division ceremony. The performers will include Cecil Lytle, piano; Mel Graves, bass; Nancy Turetzky, flute and piccolo, and Bert Turetzky, banjo.

A reception for Fourth College graduates and friends will follow the ceremony in the East Room of the Mandeville Center and a reception for graduate students and friends will follow in the West Room of the Center.

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