

Dr. Margaret Mead is final Mandeville series lecturer

March 27, 1972

Anthropologist Margaret Mead, author of the well known cultural study on the South Seas, "Coming of Age in Samoa," is scheduled to be the third and final speaker of the 1971-72 Mandeville Lectures at the University of California, San Diego.

Dr. Mead will speak Tuesday, April 4, in Room 2100 (second-floor auditorium) in the Basic Science Building at the UCSD School of Medicine. The lecture will begin at 8:00 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

The Mandeville Lectures, sponsored by The Mandeville Foundation, Inc. since 1966, bring speakers of world renown and importance to the UCSD campus. The focus of this year's lectures is: "The Human Condition: Man's Immediate Future."

Dr. Mead was born December 16, 1901, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She graduated from Barnard College in 1923 and did graduate work at Columbia University where she received a Ph.D. in 1929. A specialist in education and culture, Dr. Mead has studied the relationship between character structure and social forms, personality and culture, cultural aspects of problems of nutrition, mental health, family life, cross-national relations, national character, cultural change, and culture building.

She has spent many years living with various South Seas peoples, in the course of which she has had to learn to use seven primitive languages. In May, 1953, accompanied by two student assistants, Dr. Mead landed in the Admiralty Islands to do a restudy of a primitive community which she had studied twenty-five years before and which she described in "Growing Up in New Guinea."

She found the village in which she had lived twenty-five years before intact and the children she had studied grown, ready to reconstruct the intervening years, and to let her share in their present struggles to understand how to become a modern community. Her restudy was published in "New Lives for Old."

In 1964 and 1965 she returned for two further studies of the same village.

Dr. Mead has recently been involved in two other New Guinea field projects, A Study of Cultural Systematics in New Guinea, 1963-68, and Cultural Structure of Imagery, 1965-69. She is also involved in a new exhibition hall on Peoples of the Pacific which opened May, 1971, at The American Museum of Natural History located in New York City.

Dr. Mead is currently Curator of Ethnology at the American Museum and serves as Adjunct Professor of Anthropology at Columbia University in New York. She is the recipient of numerous honorary degrees and awards and is a Fellow of several scientific associations including the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Anthropological Association of which she was president in 1960.

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