

Alumni Association named Mia J. Tegner its Distinguished Alumna of the Year and David Luft its Distinguished Professor of the Year

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UCSD ALUMNI HONOR MARINE BIOLOGIST AND HISTORIAN

The University of California, San Diego Alumni Association has named Mia J. Tegner, a marine biologist at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, its Distinguished Alumna of the Year and UCSD historian David Luft its Distinguished Professor of the Year, association president John Cambon announced today.

Cambon will present the awards at the association's annual banquet at 8 p.m. on June 13 at the Westgate Hotel. Four outstanding UCSD seniors and two top senior athletes also will be honored at the banquet.

UCSD Chancellor Richard C. Atkinson will be the featured speaker, addressing the current state of UCSD. He also will present an award to Cambon, whose term ends at the end of the month.

The Alumni Association's recognition of Tegner is based on her "professional achievement and community involvement."

Tegner, an associate research marine biologist, graduated with honors from UCSD's Revelle College in 1969 and received her Ph.D. from Scripps in 1974. Her major research interests concern the giant kelp forests along the California coast and other nearshore marine resources. She is a certified SCUBA diver who has logged more than 1,800 dives since she began diving in 1971.

She is a consultant to numerous companies on marine resource management, aquaculture and fisheries and works closely with biologists from the California Department of Fish and Game who are implementing abalone enhancement techniques that she and colleagues developed.

Luft, an associate professor of history specializing in modern European intellectual history, is being recognized by the association for "his academic achievements and teaching excellence."

His extreme popularity with students was reflected in a recent student survey, in which more than 96 percent of those who had taken his classes indicated they could wholeheartedly recommend his courses to other students. He received the Chancellor's Associates Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1985, and Revelle College's Excellence in Teaching awards in 1975 and 1983.

Luft graduated from Wesleyan College magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa in 1966 and received his Ph.D. from Harvard in 1972. His major work, "Robert Musil and the Crisis of European Culture: 1880-1942," was published by the University of California Press in 1980 and came out in a paperback edition in 1984. He is currently at work on a book titled, "Eros and Mysticism in Vienna, 1890-1960."

The association's Outstanding Senior Awards will be presented to Associated Student President Mary Rose Alexander, a Muir College senior from Downey; Krista Kiger, Warren College, from Santa Ana; William Kuyper, Third College, from Thousand Oaks; and Sal Veas, Revelle College, from Los Angeles. These awards are based on the students' academic achievements and extracurricular activities.

The students who will be recognized as Senior Athletes of the Year are Allison Gilmore of Rockland and Michael O'Laughlin of Arcadia.

Mark Broughton of Encinitas will assume the presidency of the UCSD Alumni Association on July 1.

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