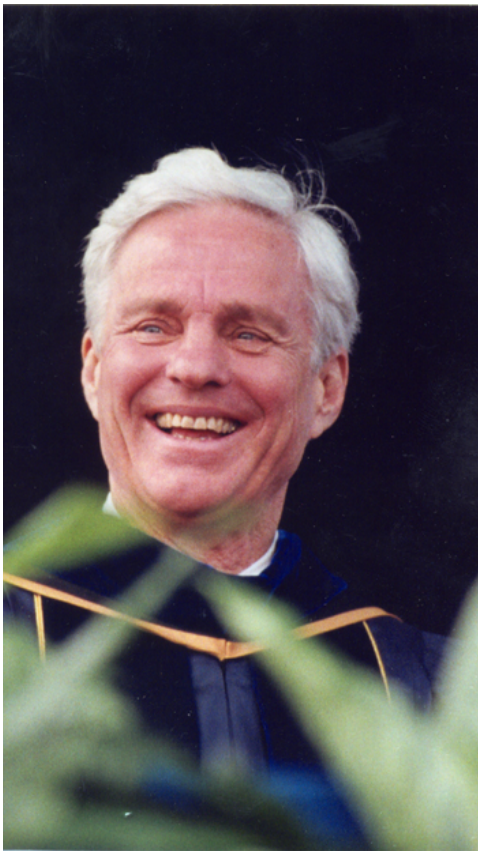


April 23, 2012 | By Judy Piercey

New “Entrepreneurial President” Book Features Former UC San Diego Chancellor Atkinson

May 2 book signing/reception planned at the UC San Diego Faculty Club



n was named president of the University of California '995.

Richard C. Atkinson, who served as chancellor of the University of California, San Diego for fifteen years, was barely four weeks into his tenure as president of the University of California system when the UC Regents voted to end affirmative action in August 1995. How he dealt with the admissions wars—the political, legal and academic consequences of that historic and controversial decision, as well as the issue of governance—is discussed in a new book by Patricia Pelfrey recently released by the University of California Press entitled “The Entrepreneurial President: Richard Atkinson and the University of California, 1995-2003.”

Another focus of the book is the entrepreneurial university, exploring the expansion of the University of California’s research enterprise into new forms of scientific research with industry during Atkinson’s presidency. The final crisis of his administration was the prolonged controversy over the UC’s management of the Los Alamos and Livermore nuclear weapons research laboratories that began with the arrest of Los Alamos scientist Wen Ho Lee on charges of espionage in 1999.

“Entrepreneurial President” explains what was at stake during each of these episodes, how Atkinson addressed the issues and why the outcomes matter to the UC system and to the people of California. Pelfrey’s book provides an analysis of the challenges, perils and limits of presidential leadership in the nation’s leading public university, while bringing a historical perspective to bear on the current serious threats to its future as a university.

Pelfrey will be featured at a book-signing/reception on Wednesday, May 2 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the UC San Diego Faculty Club’s Atkinson Pavilion; she is scheduled to offer brief remarks at 4:30 p.m. Atkinson will also be present at the event. For more information, please contact the Faculty Club at (858) 534-0876.

“Entrepreneurial President” is available for purchase at the [UC Press website](#).

UC San Diego’s [Studio Ten 300](#) offers radio and television connections for media interviews with our faculty, which can be coordinated via studio@ucsd.edu. To connect with a UC San Diego faculty expert on relevant issues and trending news stories, visit <https://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/media-resources/faculty-experts>.