UCSD celebrates Central University Library groundbreaking March 21

March 8, 1990

MAILED MARCH 8, 1990

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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UCSD will celebrate groundbreaking for the long-awaited addition to the Central University Library with a full day of special programs on Wednesday, 21 March 1990.

The groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled for 11:00 a.m. at Central University Library. Speakers at the ceremony will include Chancellor Richard C. Atkinson, University Librarian Dorothy Gregor, and the architect of the highly innovative design for the addition, Gunnar Birkerts. Members of The Friends of the UCSD Library will serve as ushers.

At 8:00 p.m. on the evening of 21 March, the expansion of San Diego's preeminent research library will be celebrated with a public lecture. EDWIN NEWMAN, noted journalist and author, will speak about "Preserving a Civil Tongue." The lecture will be held in the Ballroom of the Price Center; there will be no admission charge.

THE ADDITION...

Expansion and renovation of Central University Library, funded as a result of passage by the voters in 1988 of Proposition 78, is scheduled for completion in 1992.

The construction of a two-story addition on the west, south and east sides of Central Library will double the size of the existing structure by the addition of 136,850 ASF. Both floors will be built underground but will incorporate windows and skylights. An underground design was chosen so as not to detract from the commanding image of the original building whose concrete-and-glass tower has become an architectural landmark for both the campus and the community.

The design is by internationally renowned architect Gunnar Birkerts of Gunnar Birkerts & Associates, Inc., Birmingham, Michigan. Birkerts is working on the library addition in association with the San Diego architectural firm BSHA.

Plans and a model of the addition are on view on the second floor of Central University Library.

THE NEWMAN LECTURE....

Known to millions for his witty and incisive NBC newscasts for over a quarter of a century, Edwin Newman is, in addition, a champion of the cause of plain English, or, in the words of The Washington Post's Joseph McClellan, "The Don Quijote of the savour-language movement". "Wearing a gentle, deadpan expression, Newman, more than any other American, is fighting dehumanizing depersonalization." (The New York Times Book Review).
Newman opened his campaign with the publication of his bestseller Strictly Speaking: Will America Be the Death of English? (1974); he followed this success with a yet stronger indictment of the sloppiness with which Americans use their language, A Civil Tongue (1976), and his most recent salvo, I Must Say (1988).

In addition to his career with NBC News, Newman has been the narrator for numerous radio and television documentary specials; the moderator of two presidential debates; the winner of the Peabody Award (1966), and of numerous Emmy awards for dramatic criticism and reporting; during 1978-1979 he served as Chair of the New York State Commission on Libraries.

Possible PHOTO CAPTION:

EDWIN NEWMAN, who will speak on the UCSD campus at 8:00 p.m., Wednesday, 21 March, has been hailed by The New Yorker for his "...examination of the illiterate pomposities that are turning the American language into the linguistic equivalent of junk food."

(February 12, 1990)