

UCSD history professor Robert Marc Friedman is an expert on the behind-the-scene of the Nobel Prize

October 14, 1994

MEDIA ADVISORY

UCSD HISTORY PROFESSOR IS AN EXPERT

ON THE BEHIND-THE-SCENE OF THE NOBEL PRIZE

Robert Marc Friedman, Associate Professor of History, is well versed on the background of the Nobel Prize awards. He has written many papers on the subject, including, "Text, Context, and Quicksand: Method and Understanding in Studying the Nobel Science Prizes," "Americans as Candidates for the Nobel Prize: The Swedish Perspective," and others.

For instance, Americans in the 1940s represented 43 percent of all Nobel science winners. In the 1950s, there was a five percent increase, and by the 1980s, Americans took the majority position by representing 56 percent of all winners.

He can debunk a myth behind why the Nobel Committee omits bestowing a prize in mathematics. He is also disturbed by the competition among some scientists for the prize, which now includes a gift of \$1 million.

Media Contact: Alixandra Williams, 619/534-3120

(October 14, 1994)