

McElroy concludes trip to China- signs agreement to permit exchange of scholars between UCSD and two Chinese universities

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University of California, San Diego Chancellor William D. McElroy recently concluded a three-week trip to the People's Republic of China by signing an agreement which will permit an exchange of scholars between UC San Diego and two Chinese universities.

McElroy, accompanied by 10 faculty members, spent most of September touring China as a guest of the Chinese government.

During the trip, the group met with officials from Huazhong Institute of Technology and Chongqing (cq) University to work out details of the agreements.

The five year agreements will allow faculty members, post-doctoral students and graduate students to spend a year or more doing research at the host country's institution. All expenses, including travel, will be paid by the visitor's university of origin.

"Most of the visiting Chinese scholars will be from scientific fields," McElroy said. "Most of our scholars who go to China will probably be from the social sciences and the arts.

"The Chinese lost a tremendous amount of scientific ground during the cultural revolution, and are now eager to catch up with the rest of the world," McElroy continued. "We have little to learn from them scientifically, but there is much we want to know about Chinese history, art, music and social life.

Although some Chinese scholars from other universities are already in residence at UC San Diego, those coming under terms of the recently signed agreements will probably not arrive until sometime next year.

"There will probably be between 5 and 15 students in the first group to come to UC San Diego next year," he said.

At present there are no plans for exchanging undergraduate students between the two countries, according to McElroy.

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