

J. Robert Nelson to deliver the Burke Lecture

October 24, 1985

BURKE LECTURER TO DISCUSS BIOMEDICAL ETHICS

Dr. J. Robert Nelson, a leader in the worldwide ecumenical movement, will deliver the Burke Lecture at the University of California, San Diego, November 7.

Nelson, an ordained Methodist minister and Director of the Institute of Religion at the Texas Medical Center and professor of medicine at the Baylor College of Medicine, will discuss "Human Life as Criterion of Science." Among the subjects he will address are life and death, legal and moral aspects of euthanasia, the artificial heart, and the technologizing of human reproduction.

Nelson's talk will be at 8 p.m. in Peterson Hall, Third College, and admission is free.

Nelson was educated at the Yale Divinity School and the University of Zurich. He has served as chair of the Commission of Faith and Order of the World Council of Churches, and president of the American Theological Society.

As a resident fellow of the Kennedy Institute of Ethics at Georgetown University he wrote the book "Science and Our Troubled Conscience." He was a co-author of the report on genetic engineering for the National Council of Churches and was a consultant on this subject to the President's Commission for the Study of Ethical Problems in Medicine and Biomedical and Behavioral Research.

His most recent book is "Human Life: A Biblical Perspective for Bioethics".

The intention of the Burke Lectureship is to sponsor a permanent series of lectures on campus by distinguished scholars who will explore the functions and responsibilities of religion in society and its role in shaping social and moral values.

The lectureship is named in honor of Eugene M. Burke, C.S.P., who was closely associated with UCSD during the last seven years of his life as a member of the Paulist ministry and Catholic community. Burke died January 29, 1984, after a distinguished career as a teacher, theologian, scholar, church historian and ecumenist.

(October 24, 1985) For more information contact: Paul Lowenberg, 452-3120