

Dr. Jeff Bada and Dr. Oscar Lumpkin Jr. to receive Sloan Research Fellowships by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation

June 18, 1975

Two faculty members at the University of California, San Diego are among 86 young scientists in the United States and Canada named to receive Sloan Research Fellowships by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.

They are Dr. Jeffrey L. Bada, of Clairemont, associate professor of marine chemistry at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, and Dr. Oscar J. Lumpkin Jr., of La Jolla, assistant professor of physics at the Third College.

Sloan fellows are selected on the basis of nominations from senior colleagues familiar with their capacity to perform outstanding and creative basic research.

A committee of distinguished senior scientists reviewed nearly 600 nominations in arriving at the final selection of 86 fellows in 53 colleges, universities and research institutions.

The Sloan grants are designed to make possible advances in fundamental research by young scientists at an early stage in their careers.

Bada, 32, developed the amino-acid dating technique which is used to determine the age of materials several hundred thousand years old. The process fills the gap between the 40,000-year limit of the carbon-14 dating system and the capacity of other radioactive elements which estimate ages figured in the millions of years.

Bada will use his \$16,000 Sloan grant to explore possible new applications for his dating technique.

The amino-acid technique has already been used to date human fossils from the San Diego area at nearly 50,000 years old, more than twice that of any previous New World recorded dates.

Bada, a native San Diegan, received his B.S. degree in 1965 from San Diego State University and his Ph.D. degree in chemistry in 1968 from UCSD. While studying for his Ph.D., he was a National Aeronautics and Space Administration Fellow during 1967-68.

Before joining the Scripps faculty in 1969, Bada was an instructor for one year in the UCSD Department of Chemistry. He then served as a research fellow in geophysics and environmental chemistry at Harvard University during 1969-70 while on leave from Scripps.

Lumpkin, 37, is involved in the study of biophysics, the application of physical techniques to the study of biological systems.

He will use his \$20,000 Sloan grant to continue his research on the electronic structure of proteins. Lumpkin currently is using nuclear magnetic resonance to study oxygen binding properties of myoglobin and hemoglobin, two proteins found in mammals.

A member of the UCSD faculty since 1972, Lumpkin previously was an assistant professor of physics at the City College of the City University of New York for three years. He also served as a research physicist for International Business Machines in Yorktown Heights, N.Y. for one and a half years.

Lumpkin received his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in physics from Columbia University in 1962 and 1966 respectively. He was graduated magna cum laude from St. Mary's College in Moraga, Calif. in 1959 with a B.S. degree in physics.

Lumpkin was a National Science Foundation postdoctoral fellow during 1966-67 at the Center for Nuclear Studies in Saclay, France.

(June 18, 1975) For information contact: Joan Rasmussen, 452-3120