

UC Regents approves \$500,000 endowed chair in engineering

May 19, 1995

Media Contact: Warren R. Froelich, (619) 534-8564

UC REGENTS APPROVES \$500,000 ENDOWED CHAIR IN ENGINEERING

A \$500,000 endowed chair for the University of California, San Diego School of Engineering has been approved today by the University of California Board of Regents..

The chair, to be named the Science Applications International Corporation Chair in Engineering, was established through SAIC and J. Robert Beyster, chief executive officer, founder and chairman of the high-tech research and engineering company based on La Jolla, Calif.

Income from the endowment will be made available to the chair holder in support of his/her teaching, research, and administrative responsibilities in accordance with University policy.

Beyster has personally pledged \$100,000 toward the endowment, with the remaining \$400,000 coming from SAIC.

Robert Conn, dean of the School of Engineering, said the unrestricted nature of the endowment will offer him flexibility on how it can be used.

"Endowments are wonderful tools that help recruit new faculty and we will use this gift in areas that have high priority to the School," he said. "We are grateful to SAIC, and we hope to continue to work with them in the future to maintain and build excellence in the School."

In the past, SAIC has sponsored a variety of programs with UC San Diego, including joint research projects, scholarships, the CONNECT organization, graduate internships, technical paper contributions, and student projects.

"I felt it was time to recognize the importance of educating engineers in order to maintain the U.S. technology base," Beyster said. "By endowing a chair at UCSD, we can help the San Diego educational community attract the very level best educators in this crucial field. We are proud to make this contribution to keep San Diego a center for engineering excellence and keep America a world leader in high technology."

Beyster, a native of Michigan, graduated from the University of Michigan in 1945 with a B.S. in engineering. Following a stint in the navy as a lieutenant commander, he received his M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of Michigan.

After graduation, Beyster began his career in 1951 at the Los Alamos National Laboratory where he remained for about five years. He left Los Alamos in 1956 to become Chairman of the Department of Accelerated Physics at Gulf General Atomic Company in San Diego. In 1969, he left General Atomics to found SAIC, a high-tech research and engineering company that provides services in the areas of national security, energy, the environment, transportation, system integration and medical research. Beyster currently serves on the boards

of the U.C. Foundation and the UCSD Connect Program. SAIC is a member of the UCSD Scripps Institution of Oceanography Industrial Associates. Beyster and his wife, Betty Jean Brock, have been Chancellor's Associates since 1977.

(May 19, 1995)