

Ursula Le Guin to give first Robert C. Elliott Memorial Lecture

April 7, 1982

Ursula Le Guin, author of the award-winning novels "The Left Hand of Darkness" and "The Dispossessed," is scheduled to give the first Robert C. Elliott Memorial Lecture Wednesday, April 21, at the University of California, San Diego.

The lecture, which is free and open to the public, is titled "A Non-Euclidean View of California as a Cold Place to Be." It will begin at 8 p.m. in room 107 of the Third College Lecture Hall. Le Guin will also hold an informal question and answer session covering her work at 3 p.m. Thursday, April 22, in room 111A of the Administrative Complex at UC San Diego.

The Robert C. Elliott Memorial Lecture has been made possible by gifts from colleagues and friends of Elliott, a professor of English literature who died a year ago while hiking in the Anza-Borrego Desert. Elliott, one of the founders of the UC San Diego Department of Literature, joined the university faculty in 1964 and served as chairman of the literature department from 1968 through 1971.

Le Guin has written 15 novels as well as a book for children, two collections of short stories and two books of poetry. Born in Berkeley, she received a B.A. degree from Radcliffe College in 1951 and an M.A. degree in French and Italian Renaissance literature from Columbia University in 1952.

She received a Fulbright fellowship in 1953 and has received honorary degrees from Bucknell University and Lawrence University and an award for distinguished service from the University of Oregon. "The Left Hand of Darkness," published in 1969, received the Nebula Award from the Science Fiction Writers Association and the Hugo Award from the International Science Fiction Association as best novel in 1969. "The Dispossessed" was awarded the Nebula Award and the Hugo Award as best novel in 1974.

Le Guin also received a Hugo Award for the best novella with "The Word for World is Forest" in 1972, a National Book Award for childrens' books with "The Farthest Shore" in 1972, a Hugo Award for best story with "The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas" in 1973 and a Nebula Award for best story with "The Day Before the Revolution" in 1975.

She has served as a teaching participant in a number of writing workshops both in this country and in England and served as resident writer at the first Australian workshop in speculative fiction in 1975. She was a participant in the UC San Diego Writers Conference in 1977 and the Indiana University Writers Conference in 1978.

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