

NSF names UCSD as site for Supercomputer

February 28, 1985

The National Science Foundation has named the University of California, San Diego, as one of four sites for a national supercomputer center.

The proposal for the site was developed by neighboring GA Technologies, Inc., in conjunction with an 18-member consortium which included UCSD, UC San Francisco, UCLA, Stanford, California Institute of Technology, San Diego State University, as well as other universities and research institutions.

The San Diego supercomputer will be a Cray X-MP/48, a state-of-the-art computer capable of handling up to one billion calculations per second, about one thousand times faster than the average office computer. It will be able to accommodate up to 200 users at one time, all with access from their own terminals wherever they may be located.

NSF announced that the University of Illinois, Princeton and Cornell would be the other sites selected as national supercomputer centers.

UC President David P. Gardner praised the NSF action. "Selection of the San Diego campus as a regional center for super computing further confirms UCSD's already established reputation for world class scientific research," Gardner said. "We are especially pleased that UC's faculty on all nine of our campuses will now have available to them at UCSD the high performance computing capability required to remain at the cutting edge of research in a variety of disciplines."

UCSD Chancellor Richard C. Atkinson said the new center "will accelerate basic research that underpins American technological and industrial progress.

"Moreover," he added, "This project will make San Diego a national center for academic research using supercomputers."

The National Science Foundation is expected to provide \$200 million during the next five years to fund the centers. The San Diego facility is expected to be in operation by early 1986.

(February 28, 1985) For more information contact: Paul Lowenberg, 452-3120