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## \$25,000 FEDERAL GRANT AWARDED TO USD

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

San Diego, California

A Federal grant of \$25,000 for graduate traineeships for training of the education of the mentally retarded was awarded to the University of San Diego, School of Education, Division of Special Education.

The Federal grant, directed by the Office of the Handicapped of the U.S. Office of Education, is for professional preparation of teachers of the mentally retarded of both public and private schools. This grant is part of the program in the area of special education at USD.

Monies awarded under the grant include funds for master level traineeships, which provide both tuition and tax-free living stipends for the academic year.

According to Dr. DeForest L. Strunk, Director of Special Education at USD, "These funds assist the already excellent program at the University of San Diego to train teachers for the mentally retarded and handicapped. The need for properly trained personnel to teach the mentally retarded and developmentally disabled is readily apparent.

"Our division," Strunk explains, "has the responsibility of providing training, not only in classroom settings, but also in actual field situations. As a result, this produces a teacher with the competency to deal with children with reduced intellectual abilities and a variety of developmental problems."

Information concerning the program may be received from DeForest L. Strunk, Ed.D., Director of Special Education, University of San Diego.

USD's School of Education places special emphasis on the training of teachers for exceptional children through classes held on campus and field training. Course offerings include the study of learning disabilities, mentally retarded, and emotionally disturbed children.

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