

1982-05-20

Helen Copley Receives Honorary Degree at USD Commencement

Office of Public Information

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digital.sandiego.edu/newsreleases>

Digital USD Citation

Office of Public Information, "Helen Copley Receives Honorary Degree at USD Commencement" (1982). *News Releases*. 2926.
<http://digital.sandiego.edu/newsreleases/2926>

This Press Release is brought to you for free and open access by the USD News at Digital USD. It has been accepted for inclusion in News Releases by an authorized administrator of Digital USD. For more information, please contact digital@sandiego.edu.



OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
DIRECTOR: SARA FINN, APR
PUBLICATIONS AND INFORMATION OFFICER: SANDRA A. EDELMAN
TELEPHONE: 714-291-6480 / EXT. 4296
ADDRESS: RM. 266 DE SALES HALL, ALCALA PARK, SAN DIEGO, CA 92110

release after 3 p.m., May 23, 1982

HELEN COPLEY RECEIVES HONORARY DEGREE AT USD COMMENCEMENT

Mrs. Helen K. Copley, chairman and chief executive officer of Copley Newspapers, received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree on May 23 from the University of San Diego, where she is vice chairman of the Board of Trustees. Dr. Author E. Hughes, USD president, presented the degree at commencement exercises, where 520 graduates received baccalaureate degrees, 126 received Master's degrees, and one received the University's first doctoral degree in educational leadership.

Mrs. Copley was cited for her many contributions to the University, to the community of San Diego, and to the profession of journalism. She is director of the American Newspaper Publishers Association, vice chairman of the American Newspaper Publishers Association Foundation, and trustee of Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation. The first woman elected to the board of directors of the California Chamber of Commerce, she was appointed in 1975 by President Gerald Ford to the National Commission on the Observance of International Woman's Year, and in 1978 by Governor Jerry Brown to the Commission on Government Reform. In 1980 she received the Thomas Jefferson American of the Year Award "for exemplary strength and character, personal and business ethics, sound human relations, service to the community, and responsible leadership." In 1981 the International Toastmistress Club, Golden West Regional Chapter, selected Mrs. Copley to receive the Excellence in Achievement Award in recognition of her accomplishments in the

- more -

UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO
Helen Copley receives honorary degree 2- 2 - 2 - 2

communications field and for her humanitarian efforts.

At USD, Mrs. Copley serves as vice chairman of the Board of Trustees and chairman of the Discovery Campaign.

#

May 20, 1982

CITATION

It is the prerogative of a university exercised with deliberate care to take note of individuals who through their lives and accomplishments give testimony of outstanding contributions to the world and to the community in which the institution itself has life and existence. Today, in accordance with its announced goal of fostering the ideal of service to the community, the University of San Diego is particularly cognizant of its privilege and its responsibility by acknowledging the singular achievements of Helen K. Copley.

A native of the Middle West, Mrs. Copley has become an integral part of the lifestream of metropolitan San Diego and the State of California. Her association with the Copley Press as its chairman and chief executive officer, and with the San Diego Union and The Tribune as their publisher and editorial board chairman, are a most significant part of her life and of her involvement in the furtherance of vital community, state, and nationwide concerns.

Helen Copley has earned the gratitude and respect of countless individuals through her tireless efforts on behalf of a multitude of professional newspaper and press organizations; charitable, patriotic, and humanitarian interests; and civic and cultural projects and institutions. A representative selection of these activities includes the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation, the American Newspaper Publishers Association, and the Zoological Society of San Diego. Of particular significance to this University is her service as vice chair of its Board of Trustees where her leadership, friendliness, and understanding are so highly valued.

It is quite natural that Mrs. Copley should have been honored many times, in many ways, by many different groups whose purpose is in part fulfilled by giving recognition to people who demonstrate outstanding merit. She has been the recipient of awards by the Salvation Army Door of Hope Women's Auxiliary, by the American Academy of Achievement, Youth for Christ, the Mexican American Foundation, and the San Diego Press Club.

It is, therefore, fitting, proper, and with a sense of allowable pride that the University of San Diego at this twenty-ninth annual ceremony confers upon Helen K. Copley the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa.