

From the Beginning: Revelle College, UC San Diego



November 18, 1960 ~ University of California, San Diego is officially established

1st students (graduate students in physics) enroll in 1960

UCSD history professor John Galbraith is named the university's 2nd chancellor

1st undergrad library is established in Building E (now known as Galbraith)

Groundbreaking for the Revelle Res Halls

1965 ~ Revelle College named in honor of Roger Revelle, considered the “father” of the university



Dr. Revelle gave the dedication speech for Revelle College on October 1, 1965

Ellen Revelle, Roger Revelle's wife, dedicated Scripps Institution of Oceanography's research vessel, “Ellen B. Scripps,” on the day he gave the dedication speech

The first Revelle class consisted of 181 total students, all but 30 with science majors

The 1st annual Watermelon Drop begins the tradition of dropping a watermelon from the top of Revelle College's Urey Hall to measure the velocity of a dropped object, an event that marks the end of the school year



DNA Bridge breezeway was built, connecting the Physics-Chemistry building and Bonner Hall. The structure is still standing today

1966 ~ The construction of the new dormitories (known today as Blake and Argo) completed Revelle College's resident halls



1968 ~ First graduating class consisted of 256 students, including 77 members of the original class who were eligible to take part in the commencement ceremony

A total of 119 seniors received a Bachelor of Arts degrees from Revelle College and five seniors received a Bachelor of Arts degrees from John Muir College

The Graduate Division will award 36 Master of Science degrees, 24 Master of Arts degrees and 72 Doctor of Philosophy degrees

Angela Davis and other protesters joined together to speak their minds and protest the Vietnam War on the Revelle College Plaza



Howard Warshaw, Surrealist, Organic Cubist, and Muralist paints the now-64 Degrees mural

1970 ~ The campus begins to move books from Galbraith into the new Central Library, later named Geisel Library

Sentiments against the war exploded after the invasion of Cambodia at the end of April 1970. As a way of showing their opposition to what they considered an unjust and widening war, students at UC San Diego joined nationwide student protests



1978 ~ Theodor (Dr. Seuss) Geisel gives the commencement address for Revelle College seniors

His speech is totally in verse, an excerpt:

“And I’ll say the one single good thing I can say

As you leap on your horses and enter the fray,

I just wish you good luck

And a hasta luego

From U.C. La Jolla....

....I mean San Diego.”