2008 Dickson Awardee: Sanford Lakoff

In 1974, Sanford "Sandy" Lakoff joined UC San Diego as a professor and founding chair of the Department of Political Science. Under his leadership, the department quickly established high-quality undergraduate and graduate degree programs. He recruited talented faculty members who helped him lead the department's impressive rise to become one of the best political science departments in the nation. Lakoff's contributions laid the groundwork for the establishment of the School of Global Policy



and Strategy (formerly the School of International Relations and Pacific Studies). In 1979 and 1980 he served as visiting professor for the month of May at the European University Institute in Florence, Italy, and from 1980 to 1982 he held two consecutive fellowships at the National Humanities Center in North Carolina, where he collaborated on the book Energy and American Values.

Off campus he played an active role on the Board of the World Affairs Council of San Diego and for many years, has lectured extensively in community civic forums, for the Oasis program, the San Diego Independent Scholars, the Vi and Pacific Regent retirement communities, etc. He also contributed op ed articles to the San Diego Union-Tribune and Los Angeles Times, and was frequently interviewed on local radio and television.

Throughout his years on campus, Lakoff also played a key role in establishing UC San Diego's presence in the San Diego community, for which he was recognized with a Chancellor's Associates' Faculty Excellence Award for Excellence in Community Service and an outstanding teaching award from from Warren College. Out of a grant he received in 1982, he wrote A Shield in Space? with Randy Willoughby. Other honors Sandy has won include the J.J. Corson Lectureship at the University of Ottaw. The award for the best student honors thesis in Political Science has been named in his honor and endowed by him. He has over 60 published books and reviewed essays, and has been awarded numerous other honors, along with various academic appointments.