

## **A Message from College's Founding Provost, Dr. Joseph W. Watson**



The opening of Third College in the Fall of 1970 was an occasion of great hope and high expectations for 176 students, 18 faculty, and a dozen staff. It represented not just the educational aspirations and excitement that accompany the opening of each new college at UC San Diego, but most importantly and uniquely, the hopes and aspirations of racial groups long excluded from full participation in American society. The public health and social crises confronting us today provide stark evidence that considerable progress still needs to be made to achieve a fair and equitable American society.

This 50th Anniversary is the ideal time to remember the past and celebrate past efforts and achievements, renew acquaintances and friendships, and express appreciation. It is also the perfect time to look to the future and set the course for Thurgood Marshall College for the next fifty years. The driving force for Third College in 1970 --- a demand for greater racial justice --- still remains unachieved today; how best to pursue that goal today cannot be the same as undertaken in 1970. This 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary provides the opportunity for the current faculty, staff, students, and alumni of Thurgood Marshall College to plan how its founding mission and goals will be expressed, pursued, and achieved over the coming decades.

Let's use this anniversary year to plan and ensure that the next 50 years of Thurgood Marshall College contributions and achievements will be as outstanding as those of its first 50 years.

Joseph W. Watson

Founding Provost

Professor of Chemistry and Emeritus Vice Chancellor

