

ScienceNews

EIS Says Goodbye to it's Beloved Founder, Tom Watts

Dear Friends,

We are saddened by the recent loss of our founder, Tom Watts, who passed away on Tuesday, Sept. 12, 2000. His vision and energy inspired us all. His enthusiasm encouraged us to tackle any challenge. A master teacher, always generous with his time and talent, Tom taught us many things.

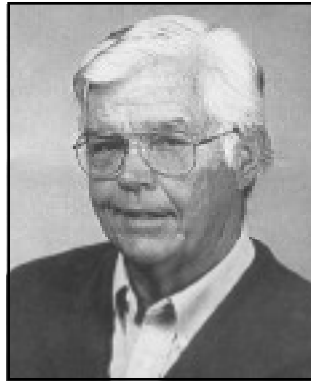
He was an avid gardener who always shared his harvest with his many friends. Like his work in his garden, Tom nurtured and cultivated the minds and imaginations of his students. In each child, the seed of discovery was planted, grew, and blossomed into an educated, talented student. Tom's dedication to providing learning opportunities for children continues to drive the mission and goals of the Elementary Institute of Science. The completion of our new facility will achieve Tom's dream for San Diego's children.

With heartfelt gratitude, we say good-bye to a beloved teacher, a passionate leader, and a community legend. May we keep his passion for learning alive and his love for his family and community in our hearts. May we keep his passion for learning alive and his love for his family, Doris, Jill, and Becky; as well as, his love for the community in our hearts.

The Elementary Institute of Science

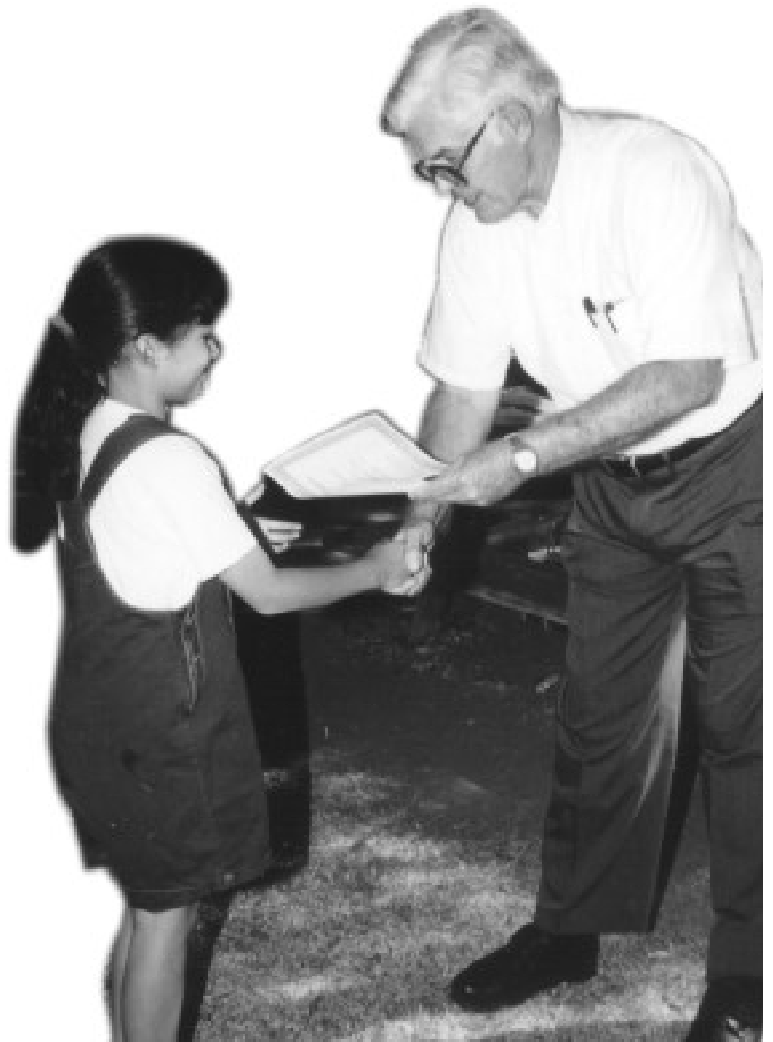


The newest addition to the Watts family, Sarah Marie Woo, came to visit EIS. Also present was (from left) Janis Jackson, EIS Executive Director Doris Anderson, Doris Watts, Rebecca Watts-Woo and Maxcine Stephens. Sarah was born October 7, 2000, and we look forward to the day she is old enough to attend EIS!



Our Humble Beginning

During Mr. Watts's first year teaching at Kennedy Elementary School, the school janitor gave him an old 10-gallon aquarium that no one else wanted. During the first year, the fish died and the students wanted to know — why did the fish die? Mr. Watts encouraged his students to learn more about fish diseases. This began the science club in the back of Mr. Watts' classroom that would later become the Elementary Institute of Science.



A Special Thank You to the Jacobs Family Foundation

In memory of our founder, Tom Watts, the Jacobs Family Foundation graciously awarded EIS a \$50,000 grant. In accordance with Doris Watts' wishes, the grant is designated for the EIS Endowment Fund to support ongoing program operations and offer discounted tuition fees to students from Kennedy Elementary School, where Mr. Watts taught. EIS is honored by the Jacobs Family Foundation's continued thoughtfulness.



Welcome New Staff

Karen Anisko has joined EIS as Development Director, replacing Gwen Robbins, who moved to Seattle, Washington, and now works at Senior Services of Seattle/King County. Karen is from Pennsylvania, where she taught middle school, worked in retail, politics, and higher education development. She has lived in San Diego for four years having previously worked in the development department at UCSD and The Neurosciences Institute.

Joniece R. Edwards joined the EIS team this year as administrative assistant. She is a San Diego native who graduated from Mission Bay High school in 1996 and earned an Associate degree in liberal arts from San Diego Mesa Community College. She obtained her undergraduate degree in cultural studies from the University of New Orleans last December. She hopes to begin work on her masters degree in Educational Administration this fall.

*Welcome, Karen and Joniece,
to the EIS family!*



All About

Instructors

Currently, 155 students are enrolled in our after-school and Saturday programs taught by college and university students. Thank you to all of our instructors who bring their love of science to us:

Jose Baquero — computer science, City College
Marcie Chelstowski — marine science, USD
Reatanak Kong — pharmacological chemistry, UCSD
Arturo Lozano — mechanical engineer, SDSU
Jaime Marso — geophysics, UCSD
Monique Stewart — biology, SDSU
Anne Tonkyro — biology, SDSU
David Trzeciak — computer science, City College

Summer Program

This year, our summer program will run June 18 - August 17. Registration began the second week of April, with a maximum of three weeks per student. If you would like to register, please call to request a registration form.

Summer field trips and presentations will be scheduled in the coming months. If you have ideas or suggestions, please let us know.



t Us

University Club

If you are 14 to 17 years-old, you can join 23 other students who are interested in receiving information and learning skills to better prepare themselves for college and careers. The EIS University Club has planned a field trip to UCLA and USC in May.

You can enroll in the Club at any time.



Southern Arizona Field Trip

Families will join EIS on a three-day trip at the end of April. The group will stay in Tucson and visit the Kartchner Caverns State Park, the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, Saguaro National Park, and Colossal Cave Mountain Park.

Computer Programming Class

Bob Kuczewski from EduGates taught a computer programming class last fall. Eight EIS students benefited from this exciting new class.



For more information or registration materials for any of these programs, please call Amelia Cacho.

Alumni News

Alejandra Fernandez and **Sasha Melnik** were volunteers at the San Diego Natural History Museum. "Teenagers in lab coats" were some of the museum's most enthusiastic and energetic ambassadors for good will. Visitors raved about how informative these "junior interpreters" are when it comes to dinosaurs.

Beto Vasquez has received a scholarship from an EIS supporter to attend Teton Science School, Middle School Field Ecology class in Jackson Hole, Wyoming! The class includes field research, hiking, canoeing, and backpacking. Beto will share his experiences with other EIS students during our summer program.

Keith Goosby and **Dylan Solomon** were honored as "Good Samaritans" by the National Council of Negro Women at their luncheon last October 2000.

Randy St. Hill will begin his first year at the University of Southern California Medical School this fall.

Calling All EIS Alumni!

EIS is proud of its alumni and would like to keep in touch with everyone.

If you attended EIS, please contact our office to update our information. By being on our mailing list you will receive our newsletter and information on programs and special events. We are also interested in keeping up with your many achievements...

so give us a call!

Tom Watts Society

**Paul and Wanda Mosher
Bessie Irene Smith Trust
Vivien M. Duncan**

Members of the Tom Watts Society have ensured that the EIS legacy continues far into the future by including EIS in their estate plans. Their generosity means the world to our students.

EIS Family, Friends Gather for Ground-breaking Ceremonies

EIS held a groundbreaking ceremony for our new state-of-the-art science and technology center on Oct. 5, 2000, with over 175 people in attendance. When complete, the \$6 million, 14,700-square-foot building will more than double our capacity and eliminate lengthy waiting lists for students interested in participating in our award winning programs.

The event was sponsored by CP Kelco with EIS ambassador **Walter Green** serving as master of ceremonies. **Deputy Mayor George Stevens**, a long-time supporter of EIS, recounted his experiences with the late founder, Tom Watts, and students from EIS. **Don Short**, president of the EIS Board of Directors, thanked the community, board, and staff for their support. **Jennifer Vanica**, executive

director of the Jacobs Family Foundation, assisted in presentations to board members.

Capital campaign donors present included **Meg Jacobs** of the Jacobs Family Foundation, **Julie Gibson** of Qualcomm, **Lisa Stouder** of the Walton Family Foundation, **Walter and Lola Green**, **JoAnn DePiano** of the Girard Foundation, **Manuel Rubio** of the San Diego Foundation, **Susan Cornell** of Nokia Mobile Phones, **Jacques Ballard** from the office of County Supervisor Ron Roberts, **Don Short** of the Short Family Trust, **Michael Hager** of the San Diego Natural History Museum, and **Joseph Kinard** from Malcolm Pirnie Inc.

Also in attendance were EIS board members **Rene Matison**, **Janis Jackson**, **Gregory Faulk**, **L.C. Smith**, **James Durfey**,

Fulberto Rodriguez, **Joseph Vasquez**, **Billy Vaughn**, **George Gaines**, **Michael Hager**, and **Kathy Hardie**. Past board members included **Vivien Duncan**, **Steve Conner**, **Rufus DeWitt**, **Evelyn Jackson**, **Vance Mills**, **Ardelle Matthews**, **Donald Brown**, **Bill and Maxcine Stephens**, **Freddie Jackson**, **Ben Holman**, and **George Coleman**. Past executive director **Elizabeth Thompson** was there, as well as advisory board members **Ingrid Chapman** and **Lola Green**, youth board members **Maya Solomon**, **Rance Thurston** and **Keith Goosby**, parents, volunteers, students, alumni, contributors, and leaders in business and the community. Representing the Watts family was Tom's brother, **William Watts**, from Arizona.



Special guests at the October 5 groundbreaking: (from left) Walter and Lola Green, Meg Jacobs, Deputy Mayor George Stevens, Jennifer Vanica, Julie Gibson, Lisa Stouder, Susan Cornell, Manuel Rubio, Jacques Ballard, and JoAnn DePiano.



Construction team members pose with EIS Executive Director Doris Anderson (center). They are (from left) Steve Groves, Francisco Garcia, Leon Brooks, Charles Lewis and Calvin Gipson.

Construction Begins!

Construction for our new home began the week of March 5 and is going full speed ahead! The rough grading is finished and the underground foundation is laid. The goal is to have the building complete for the summer 2002 program.

We would like to thank everyone involved for the great effort and hard work in constructing this special building project.

Project architects are **Frisco White and Leon Brooks** from **Westberg & White**, with interior design by **Jain Malkin Inc.** Project manager is **Calvin Gipson**, with **Jim Hammett** acting as project consultant and **Francisco Garcia** as project superintendent. Contractors include **Cats Excavating, Vic Ross Masonry, John Todd Construction, Trilogy Landscaping, Jose Pereira Plumbing & Fire Sprinklers, Rick Engineering, Quality Engineering & Inspection Inc., Bendix, and Geotechnics Inc.**

We are in the process of soliciting in-kind donations for construction goods and services that will help us reduce the rising construction costs. If you can help, please contact Karen Anisko.



Capital Campaign Update

Kresge Foundation Awards EIS a Challenge Grant

In December, the Kresge Foundation awarded EIS a challenge grant to help complete the construction of our state-of-the-art science and technology center. If we reach our capital campaign goal of \$6 million by April 1, 2002, the Kresge Foundation will contribute \$350,000 for new building costs. The Kresge Foundation is an independent, private foundation created by gifts from Sebastian S. Kresge, who founded Kmart. It issues grants to institutions involved in higher education, health and long-term care, arts and humanities, human services, science and the environment, and public affairs. Please join with us to meet the challenge by making a pledge to our capital campaign.

Planning in Process for Capital Campaign Community Phase

In February, we gathered new and old friends of EIS to begin planning the community phase of our capital campaign. Board member Dr. Janis Jackson and Mrs. Doris Watts are co-chairing the steering committee. Discussion focused on ways the community can help raise the funds to complete our \$6 million capital campaign goal as well as meet the challenge from The Kresge Foundation. We have now reached the \$5,100,000 mark and need your help to raise the remaining \$900,000. There are many opportunities available for those who would like to be involved in the steering committee or community phase: ambassadors/speakers bureau, organizing site visits for potential donors or friends, ScienceFest, circle of friends, or helping with mailings. If you are interested, contact Karen Anisko.

ScienceFest May 12, 2001 A Fun Way to Spend an Afternoon

Parents and families in the community are invited to visit EIS and see the exciting hands-on science activities our children are involved in. A special event called ScienceFest is planned **Saturday, May 12**, from 1-3 p.m. at our temporary facility located at 588 Euclid Avenue, across from our building site. A fun afternoon is planned for all who attend! Please call us if you are interested in attending or volunteering.

Special Thanks

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In Memory of Marita Saunders

On Oct. 10, 2000, San Diego lost one of its most treasured school administrators, Marita Saunders. She served successfully for 30 years with the San Diego City School District, ending her career at McKinley Elementary School.

Her legacy and memory will long be cherished by family and friends. EIS staff and students join Marita's family in thanking the many friends (listed at left) for their combined donation of \$10,705 to EIS. We thank them for helping us to continue to engage children in learning with all the enthusiasm and determination that Marita demonstrated in her lifetime.

A special thank you to Rose and Donald Odom for their major gift in honor of Marita.

— These gifts are from July 1, 2000 to press time —

Scholarships Provide Opportunities

The Teton Science School in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, provided a scholarship at the request of **John and Christy Walton** for a student to attend the Middle School Field Ecology class this summer.

Monsanto sponsored **Amelia Cacho**, EIS Education Director, at the National Science Teachers Association conference in St. Louis. Thank you to **Tony Gomes** for facilitating this donation.

MANY Thanks to Our Volunteers

Each year, dedicated hard-working EIS supporters step forward to help make our programs run smoothly. They contribute their time and talents in many ways, from attending meetings, to providing their input and ideas, to helping the staff in the office. We proudly recognize those who stepped forward this year and contributed so much.

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The Elementary Institute of Science is a premiere science enrichment program which nurtures the intellectual curiosity of San Diego's young people by providing "hands-on" experiences to stimulate an ongoing appreciation and understanding of science and technology.

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