

CONGRESSIONAL LUNCHEON OFFERS LAWMAKERS A SAMPLE OF THE LINUS PAULING EXHIBITION

The Linus Pauling exhibition on Oct. 21 received a special welcome to the nation's capital at a Congressional luncheon hosted today by California Representative David Dreier (R-CA). Congressman Dreier's district includes Pasadena, the home of Cal Tech, where Linus Pauling spent most of his academic career.

Addressing the guests, Representative Dreier welcomed everyone to Capitol Hill and encouraged them to visit the exhibition at the National Museum of Health and Medicine, a division of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology. He also expressed his appreciation to the Linus Pauling family, Oregon State University, and SGI for sponsoring the exhibition and extended a special thanks to Daisaku Ikeda for initiating the project.

On display at the event were specially made smaller panels that provided guests a sampling of what they will find when they visit the exhibition. Among the members of Congress and staff who attended the affair was Dan Pearson, a staff member of the House Science Committee. He worked closely with the late Congressman George Brown of California, who worked to help bring the exhibition to Washington, D.C.

Representative Brown, who died this past July after serving on the Science Committee for 34 years, had heard of the planned exhibition and offered his support of the endeavor in remarks on the House floor right before the opening in San Francisco last year. The Democratic Congressman from California admired SGI President Daisaku Ikeda. The two had corresponded after Congressman Brown learned of President Ikeda's work for peace, which Brown also embraced.

Representative Brown worked together with Linus Pauling to bring a halt to atmospheric nuclear testing in the 1960s and then a decade later strove to end U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War. The two traveled together, even venturing as far as Germany to conduct teach-ins about the horrors of war. Congressman Brown determined he wanted people in the national capital area to have the opportunity to learn about this great scientist and humanitarian, so he wrote the SGI directly, requesting that Washington, D.C., be included in the exhibit's touring schedule. In his last conversation with Dan Pearson, Brown expressed how eager he was for the exhibition's arrival.

The overwhelming positive response from participants at the congressional reception serves as a heartfelt tribute to Congressman Brown, who throughout his career embraced many of the same ideals as Linus Pauling.

—LINDA WRIGHT