

UCSC chancellor asks committee for alternatives to high-tech center

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SANTA CRUZ — UCSC Chancellor Robert Sinsheimer is giving a committee of professors and students a chance to come up with alternatives to the proposed campus high-technology center.

He's also asking the committee to see if it can suggest ways to improve the center — if it's built.

"I envision the following process," Sinsheimer said: "All students, faculty and staff are encouraged to submit proposals for income-producing endeavors to help broaden and stabilize the campus's resource base over the next 10-20 years."

UCSC has been pressed by the state to come up with a side business such as UC-Riverside's pure air resource center and UC-Davis' agricultural center.

Since the local campus' best resource is its rambling acres of open land, and since high-technology is seeking greener pastures in this direction, Sinsheimer and his advisors proposed a high-technology center.

Financial advisors say the campus could successfully build around 550,000 square feet of high-technology facilities by 1990 and it would be successful if

about 60 percent was given over to manufacturing.

A UCSC study committee announced the project in April, and campus officials said they wanted to hear from the Santa Cruz community.

Two panel hearings were held where local officials questioned UCSC officials and then a third meeting was postponed.

Project coordinator Dick Pierce said that questions were being asked that couldn't be answered at this stage of planning.

He said plans will go through state regents and the coastal commission for approval. The center could produce \$1 million a year in property taxes for Santa Cruz when completed, Pierce said.

Sinsheimer said it's not going to be possible to get the high-technology plans before the regents this year. It will probably be 1984 — if the project goes through — before the regents see it, he said.

The postponement of local hearings increased fears that someday it will be much like driving through 55 acres of Silicon Valley to get to UCSC.

The project is becoming an election issue in the city where council seats go to the polling block in November.

On campus, the project has strong support from many professors who see

in it an easing of purse strings and a symbiotic relationship of business and academic research.

In setting up the Campus Resource Development Committee, Sinsheimer points out it was recommended by students and faculty.

It includes Provost Herman Blake, Professor William Domhoff, Professor Henry Hilgard, Professor Norvid Roos, Professor Michael Warren and two students to be appointed by the Student Committee on Committees.

Proposals should include a description of the idea, how much income it would bring in, what changes it demands from the campus and how the university will go about developing the idea.

"In addition, I want to urge all members of the campus community to consider activities, enterprises, etc. that might become part of the research and Development Cneter.

"Although the market feasibility study recently completed by the Land Economics Group identifies private sector firms of high market potential, our development strategy, if we decide to proceed, would be to foster a wide range of research enterprises."

He said, "I would hope to see this process produce usable results by mid-April."