

Ground broken on new site for 'homeless' UCSC college

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SANTA CRUZ — UC Santa Cruz leaders and founders took up ribbon-festooned shovels Tuesday afternoon for the ceremonial ground-breaking of the \$21 million College Eight campus.

Former UCSC Chancellor Dean McHenry and former UC President Clark Kerr, both founders of UCSC, joined present Chancellor Robert Stevens and College Eight Provost Bruce Cooperstein to praise the start of work on the new college.

Under sunny skies cooled by a gentle bay breeze, they spoke from a podium perched on a gentle slope, showing the west campus site's commanding ocean view to its best advantage.

But despite the hopeful ceremony, planners acknowledged that construction may be delayed until September or later because all the bids came in at least 20 percent over the project budget.

Members of the College Eight Building Committee have been combing the building plans in search of changes that would reduce the project's cost by up to \$2 million, said John Gorman, assistant director of campus housing and a member of the committee.

While campus planners have been trying to find the most cost-effective ways to build the campus and maintain the project's quality, they have also been counting on the contractor to look more closely at their bids, Gorman said.

"Some of them made mistakes in their bids," he said. "Sometimes, if they've never done anything exactly like what you're asking for, they overestimate

a bit, to protect themselves," he said. "It's a guessing game. Hopefully some of the bidders will now be more familiar" with the project specifications."

Officials acknowledged the construction will have to move along swiftly to meet the targeted completion date of August 1989. Academic core buildings and dormitories and dining facilities for 360 residents are supposed to be done by then.

To speed things up, the university put some pre-construction work out to bid separately.

Bulldozers are expected to start moving dirt in mid-June, grading the 18-acre site and moving Heller Drive, which now cuts through the middle of the college site.

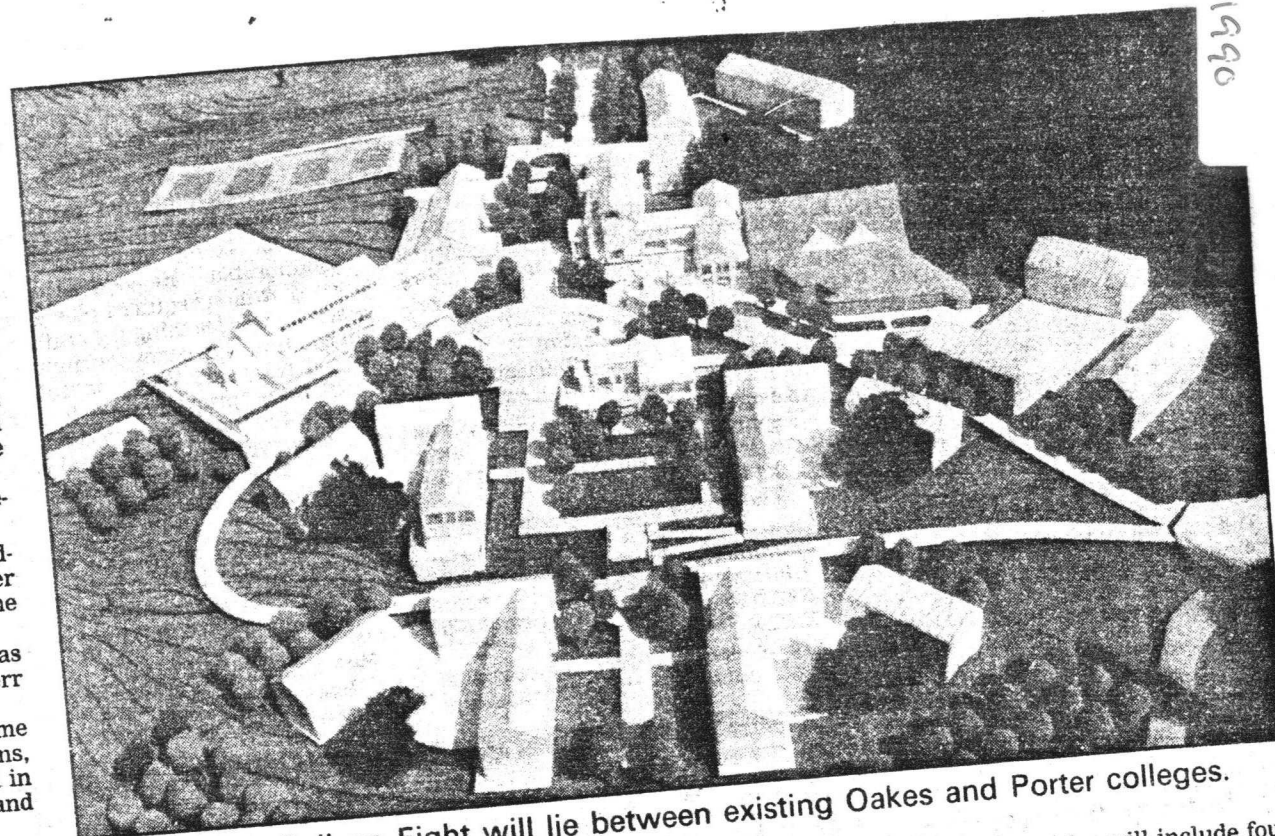
College Eight opened in 1973, occupying what was supposed to be temporary quarters in Clark Kerr Hall.

It never got a permanent home or formal name because state funding dried up for political reasons, and because UCSC's enrollment growth stagnated in the mid-'70s, McHenry told the students, faculty and supporters who had gathered for the ceremony.

It now serves more than 1,000 students, most of whom live in town or in the dorms at other colleges, and has its own faculty, administration, reference library and student activities.

The design of the new college is described as "California resort," said Janey Scardina, bursar of College Eight.

When planners first started envisioning the new college, "we were walking around with photos of the Ahwahnee," the beautiful hotel resort in Yosemite



UCSC's new College Eight will lie between existing Oakes and Porter colleges.

National Park, Scardina said. Naturally, such a design was way beyond the means of the university, she said, but planners and architects have striven to capture some of the style. Architect Cathy Simon, who designed the Elena Baskin Arts Studios at UCSC, is in charge of the design for Simon Martin-Vegue Winkels-tein Moris, a San Francisco architectural firm.

Phase One of the college complex will include four dorms that can house 90 people each, for a total of 360 residents. A second phase will add apartments to serve 240 more students.

Provost Cooperstein praised Chancellor Stevens for pushing along the college project and for supporting UCSC's unique college system.

REFERENCE



UCSC
to 1990