

UC-SANTA CRUZ EXPANDS WITH RESIDENTIAL COLLEGES



PATRICK TEHAN — MERCURY NEWS PHOTOGRAPHS

First-year students Ariel Goldman, left, and Monica Farnham begin decorating their room in College 9 at the University of California-Santa Cruz. *53mn*



On their first day at UC-Santa Cruz, students living in College 9 play a game to get acquainted.

Dormitories ease housing crunch

By David L. Beck
Mercury News

✓ As waves of students move in for Wednesday's start of school year No. 38 at the University of California-Santa Cruz, those sighs you may hear drifting down from the City on a Hill are coming from an administration relieved that the housing crunch seems to have abated and pleased with the latest addition to the campus, the brand-new College 10.

College 10 and its neighbor at the north edge of the campus, College 9,

which opened last year, bring UC-Santa Cruz's enrollment to an estimated 14,250 students this fall, all but 1,250 of them undergraduates.

The growth of the university has long been controversial in a city where housing is in short supply, thanks in part to slow-growth policies, and where the presence of thousands of presumably liberal students is believed to have helped keep local progressives in power for decades.

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UC-SANTA CRUZ BY THE NUMBERS

14,250 TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS **1,250** NUMBER OF GRADUATE STUDENTS
5,947 NUMBER OF ON-CAMPUS BEDS FOR STUDENT HOUSING
279 NUMBER OF OFF-CAMPUS BEDS DEDICATED FOR STUDENT HOUSING

SOURCE: UC-SANTA CRUZ

UCSC | Students get new home on campus

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The university probably can't do much about the political bent of its students — each college has a thematic focus, and College 10's is "Social Justice and Community" — but it does aim to house an increasing percentage of its undergraduates.

Colleges 9 and 10 come complete with 840 more beds, which university officials say bring the proportion of undergraduates housed on-campus to near 50 percent, highest in the UC system. That, coupled with the slump in the economy, may mean that the days when students hoped to find an off-campus sofa for \$200 a month or a laundry room to sleep in for \$500 a month are over.

Colleges 9 and 10 share a provost (the local administrative head) and are linked to the university's Division of Social Sciences. Since its inception, UC-Santa Cruz's college system has aimed at mingling students of like interests with one another, and students with faculty members as well.

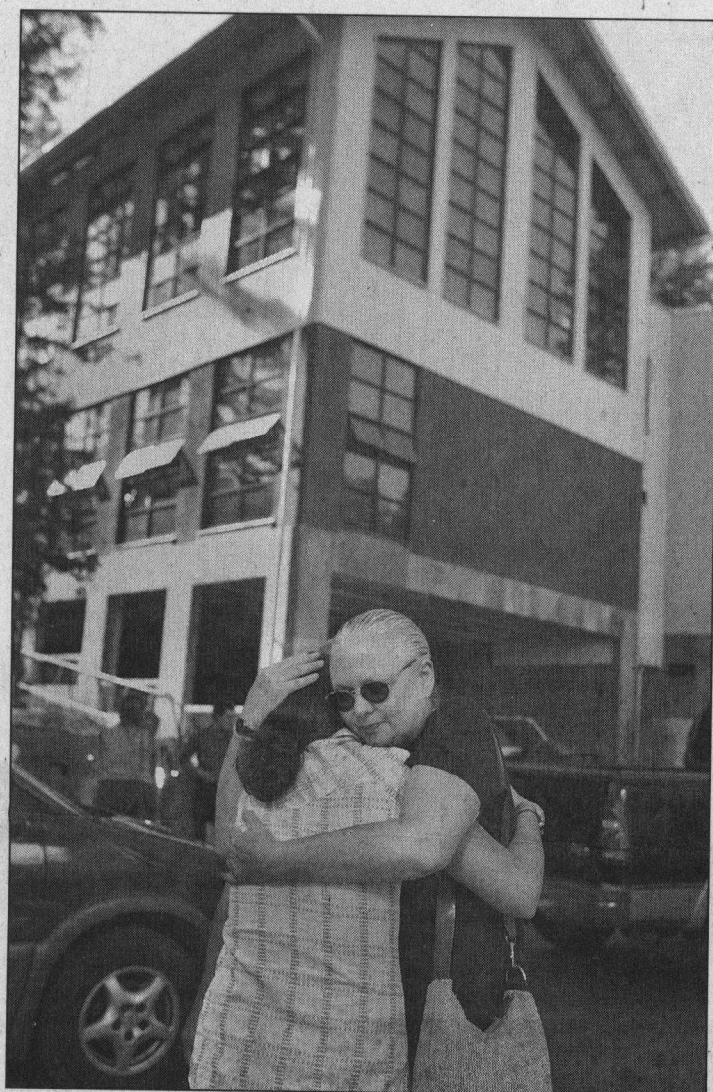
"We want our undergraduates to live in villages and to have backgrounds that will give them the tools to look at the world," said Chancellor M.R.C. Greenwood. "But we also want to make it easy for them to have ties to faculty research."

The two newest colleges share dining and other facilities in a large building of which Greenwood is particularly proud: Its second level accommodates the University Center, which on another campus might be called the faculty club.

UC-Santa Cruz has never had a place designated for faculty or alumni meetings, and Greenwood proudly showed guests last week through its rooms, its kitchen, its rotunda, its veranda. "And this," she said, "is the much-awaited — by our faculty and staff, certainly by our chancellor — bar."

The new buildings are steel-framed ("like miniature skyscrapers," said one construction worker) with exteriors of pale stucco and galvanized steel. They adhere to the campus rule that no building can be taller than the surrounding trees.

Trees were an issue before Colleges 9 and 10 were begun. About 70 trees were lost in the



PATRICK TEHAN — MERCURY NEWS

Patricia May of Garden Grove embraces her daughter Jordan, 17, after helping her move into UC-Santa Cruz's College 9.

building, despite the passionate efforts of UC-Santa Cruz students who claimed them as a sacred grove.

The new buildings and the site plan are the work of Esherick Homsey Dodge & Davis, the Bay Area architectural firm responsible for the Monterey Bay Aquarium, the Mountain View Public Library, a new law library at the University of San Francisco and, ranging farther afield, the additions to Chicago's Shedd Aquarium.

Dorm rooms include desks, beds, closet space, shelf space and other minimal furniture, all of it in light-colored wood and black steel "designed to survive 18- to 24-year-olds," said Greenwood. The women's bathrooms have tubs; the men's do not.

All the rooms are wired for high-speed Internet, cable TV and telephones. "We expect

that every student who comes here will need a computer," said Greenwood, although owning one is not a requirement.

Complete figures on the diversity of the student body are not yet available for the new school year. But officials said 1,276 members of the incoming freshman class identified themselves as African-American, American Indian, Asian or Asian-American, Latino or Chicano — up from 1,090 students in last year's freshman class.

Last year, of the 10,629 undergraduates who stated an ethnicity, 6,399 were "Euro-American."

But there is more to diversity than race. For every native Californian like Turner Spaulding, a 19-year-old sophomore from Sacramento who "always belonged here in my heart," there are others whose urban upbringing ill prepares them

for life in the redwoods.

"We get students who are terrified of deer," Greenwood said. "They've never seen a raccoon."

Spaulding lived in College 9 last year, as part of the only freshman class that will ever live in the College 9 apartments normally reserved for juniors and seniors. This year she has moved to a "tiny little single, up on the top floor" of 10.

Both colleges have similar leanings — 9 toward internationalism and the effects of globalization, and 10 toward social justice.

Spaulding said she was attracted by the focus of the new colleges. "I got into a bunch of different colleges," she said. But having visited Santa Cruz County often as a child, the choice of universities was an easy one. "I realized that I had actually been living in Santa Cruz in my head, like, the last two years" of high school.

After College 10, what?

The short answer is, Colleges 11 and 12. But when and where those two colleges will be built, nobody knows.

The campus was originally planned to accommodate the baby boom. When the first college, Cowell, opened in 1965, the long-range plan was for 20 colleges and 27,500 students. That has been scaled back over the years, so that the current long-range development plan, in place since 1988, calls for a dozen colleges and about 15,000 full-time students.

"We have other projections that are showing enrollment to 2010 of 16,900," said Charles Eadie, director of campus planning. "But it's expected that those can be accommodated with summer enrollment or off-campus."

The discussions now being held, according to Eadie and other campus officials, center on not just the eventual size of the student body but on the nature of the programs at UC-Santa Cruz. Greenwood, for example, speaks of a program she calls STEPS — Science, Technology and Engineering Policy for Society — whose synergy implies a melding of disciplines throughout the campus.

Those kinds of discussions will in turn influence what Colleges 11 and 12 turn out to be.

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