

COLLEGE

EIGHT

TRACTORS on the west side of campus are leveling land for construction of buildings for College Eight; new housing has begun to dot the university grounds, and a new \$16-million science building stands as testament to the proposed growth of UCSC as a major research institution

over the next 20 years.

The youngest and one of the smallest of the nine UC campuses, UCSC, hidden among 200 acres of redwoods, is struggling to control new enrollment pressures that have both plagued and blessed the campus for the past two years.

Sparks fly as university and city officials argue over the effects on housing, water and traffic by the proposed growth of UCSC from 9,100 students to 15,000 over the next 20 years. At the same time, campus officials are struggling to fund on-campus facilities that will meet the demands of a larger student body. Even without future growth, there is an immense need for on-campus construction, university officials claim.

While Chancellor Robert Stevens attempts to walk the tightrope between pressure for more growth from the UC

CAMPUS GROWTH: *The Real Story*

BY TRACIE WHITE



regents and pressure for limited growth from the community, his own campus staff and faculty are crying for new and better facilities.

With the increased popularity of the campus, where enrollment has grown from 6,800 to 9,100 in the last two years, many of these needs may finally be met.

"We've been able to get funding (for new projects) because of the demand," said Louis Fackler, assistant vice chancellor of facilities, who has helped plan construction on campus since the university opened in 1965.

In the past two years, 760 new housing units have been built on campus with an additional 370 currently under construction. A new \$3.7 million recreation center was completed in June. College Eight, since 1972 forced to borrow space from the other colleges on campus, is getting a permanent home between Porter and Oakes colleges, at a cost of \$16.6 million. Construction of a new student center is scheduled to begin within the next few months and funds have been approved for the \$16 million science building currently under construction in the center of the campus.

"UCSC has been starved for new buildings for too many of the years before you came," four university deans recently wrote in a letter to Stevens. "We have a critical need for

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Growth

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more space for our programs: more classrooms, laboratories, studios, faculty offices."

The dean's claim that this fall the campus will be more than 40 percent short of needed instruction and research space in the social science division, 25 percent short in the humanities department, 23 percent short in the arts and 30 percent short in the natural sciences division.

Head university librarian Allan Dyson, who is also chairman of the university's Land Use Planning Committee, said plans for the construction of a new science library are 20 years too late. "The campus science departments will finally be getting the facilities they've always needed," he added.

The unprecedented growth of the university by 1,000 students in 1986 left the campus farther behind in needed buildings for students and faculty, added Stephanie Hauk, special assistant to the chancellor. "For a little while," she said, "we'll be playing catch-up."

UCSC has been hit by the same increase in enrollment facing the entire UC system. The UC student body has grown 30 percent, to some 157,000 in the last eight years, and planners expect another 40,000 in the next two decades. In an effort to meet the demands, the university is considering building a tenth campus, an expensive proposition.

Last spring, UC President David Gardner made an appeal to all campuses with room to expand to plan long-term growth proposals which will be discussed at an October meeting of the regents. If the UC campuses can't hold the burgeoning student enrollment, the university might have to drop its historic commitment to admit all applicants from the top academic eighth of California high school graduates, UC officials say. With Berkeley and UCLA already overflowing, officials have turned their attention to Riverside, Irvine, Davis and Santa Cruz, where there is still space for growth on campus.

There are a variety of reasons for the increase in applications to the UC system which include the rising cost of private institutions, lack of financial aid, success in recruiting minorities, and the excellent reputation of the UC system. "There's no other public system that goes toe-to-toe with the Ivy League," Hauk said.

The unexpected jump in enrollment at UCSC has resulted in an increase of funds from the central office to help build facilities which were planned 20 years ago. With the improvements in campus facilities, Hauk said, there will be a renewed effort to attract the top faculty in the country to the university.

A growing reputation nationally, especially in the sciences, and accomplishments of UCSC graduates, are, in part, responsible for the recent increase in popularity of the campus, Fackler explained. In 1986, the UC system also changed its admissions policy, which allowed multiple applications to different campuses within the system for the first time.



Whatever the cause of the sudden growth, the result has been new planning on campus for facilities picking up where builders left off in the '70s.

"Because the campus was originally planned for 27,500 people, the buildings are pretty scattered," said Dyson, who also sits on the long range development committee. "In the new LRDP (Long Range Development Plan), we try to build on the inside (of the academic core of buildings rather than scattering the buildings across campus)."

"We did a lot of studies on how fast you can get from one side of the campus to the other. It's difficult to plan a campus this beautiful and have it practical at the same time," Dyson said. "We try to welcome the natural environment and strike a balance between being part of a community and emphasizing the beauty of the natural environment."

The final edition of the Long Range Development Plan, which has been under development for two years, will be released before the October meeting of the regents, according to university spokesman Tom O'Leary. The deadline for completion of the document has been repeatedly delayed.

"We're struggling with the new plan ... Our attorneys are fine-tuning it so that it would be a strong document in court," said Hauk, who added that city planners already know all the major projects planned in the document. Both the LRDP and an Environmental Impact Report must be approved by the regents before implementation. Cities and counties, often expressing frustration over the

ruling, have no zoning control over the state-run campuses.

As a means of pressuring the university, the Santa Cruz City Council unanimously supports a November ballot initiative, Measure C, insisting that UCSC slow its growth.

The several-hundred-page plan proposes to further develop the 200-acre "academic core," where most of the campus buildings are centered. It would leave about half the campus acreage undeveloped for at least 20 years and permanently protect some 200 of the most scenic and environmentally sensitive acres as "environmental reserves."

One of the key elements of the plan, which would result in substantial construction, is the goal to house 70 percent of the student body on campus. Housing for students and staff is one of the areas of contention between the university and the city. The city complains that increases in UC students and staff drive up off-campus rents, and that more housing should be provided on campus.

According to campus officials, UCSC houses more students on campus than any other UC campus, with 44 percent of the student body living on university grounds.

"Over the next two years, we will be opening up considerably more housing than the number of students added to the campus," Hauk said.

"Housing students on campus is part of the university's 'collegiate' philosophy, integral to that whole scheme of college community," Hauk added. "The problem is you can't tell students that they have to live on campus."

Fackler adds that campus housing can't be built too quickly because all housing is paid for by student fees. If there's a surplus of housing, and campus housing is more expensive than the city, the students will move into the city looking for lower rents.

By the end of 1989, there will be 1,130 new housing units on campus. Currently, there are 370 units under construction at College Eight. An additional 80 graduate housing units have been built in the past two years, 234 units have recently been completed at Oakes College, and there are 334 new units at Crown/Merrill. The controversial 112 housing units at Kresge were completed last year.

Concerned about the environmental impacts of the Kresge housing project, the city of Santa Cruz and a few students at UCSC brought a lawsuit against the university last year which stopped construction. The case was settled in December and construction proceeded after the university agreed to hold annual public meetings about growth.

"There has been a lack of communication (between the university and the city)," Hauk admits. But, she added, "It's in the best interest of the city and the university to work together. Nobody can afford not to."

Long-term housing plans over the next three to five years include building residence halls for a ninth college by 1992 and a tenth college by 1994, although these plans are still tentative, Fackler emphasized.

"To keep up with the planned growth, we're going to have to build housing almost every year," Fackler said. He added that the university may consider allowing private developers to build housing on campus land.

Over the next three to five years, the university's tentative plans are to build up the visual arts, physical education and science facilities, Fackler said. There are also long-term plans for a new music and performing arts facility. Actual construction of that project is dependent on gift funding, but the university has asked for money to begin designing the facility. It would be 1993 before any construction could begin, O'Leary said.

More immediate plans for construction include a \$26.9 million fourth major science building, and a \$2.1 million roadway from Meyer Drive east to Hagar Drive via a bridge over Jordan Gulch. That project has been on the planning table since the university opened, Fackler said.

The long-range plan also makes mention of the long-debated eastern access route through the scenic Pogonip property, which the city wants to buy as parkland. The route is not essential to the university's plans to grow to 15,000, Hauk said, but it's still a possibility.

With pressures from the community for controlled growth and continual struggles for funding at the state level, there isn't the possibility of unbridled growth on the UCSC campus, but it's undeniable that the university has changed its course.

"The community has been saying for two years that the campus is going to double in size," said Dyson. "It's already started to happen. We've grown from 6,000 to 9,000. Now it's only 50 percent more growth."

Major Construction Projects at UCSC, now Through June, 1989

College Eight: \$16.6 million, currently under construction.

Located between Porter and Oakes Colleges, the new permanent home of College Eight will include dormitories for 360 residents and 40 faculty offices. It's scheduled for occupancy in fall 1989.

Natural Sciences 3: \$16.1 million, now being built.

Scheduled for completion in June 1989, this four-story building provides 94,000 gross square feet for biology and chemistry with a connection to the existing Thimann Laboratories.

Natural Sciences Alterations: \$8.2 million, scheduled for construction following the completion of Natural Sciences 3.

This project provides renovations and additions to several science buildings, including a new greenhouse addition on the roof of Natural Sciences 3 and seismic upgrading for Thimann Laboratories.

Natural Sciences 4: \$26.9 million, scheduled for construction in 1989-91.

A new building within the central science complex for earth sciences, the Richter Seismology Laboratory, the Institute for Marine Sciences, biology programs and related marine sciences, general classrooms and an electron microscope suite.

Oakes College Housing Addition: \$3.5 million, opens this fall. This project provides four dormitory-style buildings to house 234 students.

Physical Education Facilities: \$3.7 million, completed June 1988. A major addition to the existing East Field House, it includes four new tennis courts, a 50-meter swimming pool with adjacent two-story locker room, surfaced jogging track and a new playing field.

Science Library: \$10.6 million, planned for construction in 1989.

Student Center: \$2 million, construction to begin fall 1988.

A two-story wood-frame building which will house student organization offices, student activities offices, a cafe, conference rooms and a small convenience store, all centered around a paved courtyard.

Meyer Drive Extension Phase I: \$2.1 million, construction schedule uncertain.

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