to shut down

Students, faculty in a state of shock

By KAREN CLARK Sentinel staff writer

SANTA CRUZ — Tears gave way to a massive and well-organized protest at UC Santa Cruz late Wednesday afternoon when word spread on campus that the attack

on Iraq had begun.

"We watched them pass by, it was really impressive," said Stephanie Hauk, assistant chancellor at UCSC, about the more than 2,000 students who formed on campus and began marching toward downtown.

"We just stood there and cried," she said. "It was a combination of the power of that group and the unity of the group; the fact these people's lives are being put on the line by an administration and they were protesting it."

UCSC Professor Richard Randolph, an expert in the cultures of the Middle East, said the reaction on campus was one of shock.

"I saw a lot of Ph.D.s on campus break down today and cry." said Randolph, adding that he will support the students' two-day shutdown of campus expected to begin this morning.

"I'll go to class to talk to students about this (but) it can't be

business as usual.'

Andrea Wilczynski, a member of Santa Cruz Students for Social Responsibility, which is organizing the shutdown, said Wednesday that students are being asked to meet at the quarry on campus today at 8 a.m.

She said the students have been preparing for the likelihood of war, but it still came as a surprise.

"The last few days I've sensed anticipation," she said. "And then today it seemed a lot more relaxed; I guess because the deadline had passed. . . . So I think it was really shocking to people."

Sherri Paris, a lecturer at UCSC who teaches a political movement class, said she has watched the mobilization of students coming together for two weeks.

"It's certainly evident to me ... we were going to war," said Paris. "The students sensed that, too. They have been organizing."

Paris, who has studied the political movements of the 1960s, said she has found students today to be "more impressive" in their skills and egalitarianism. "The movement of the '60s was run by white boys."

But even so, Sunday and today's demonstrations "really exceeded my expectation in terms of numbers and rage," said Paris.

Paris said she thinks students do believe they can make a difference

with their protests.

"The feeling is that the adults that are running their world are insane," said Paris. "They have to fight. What choice do they have? They feel their lives are on the line."

She said she will honor the twoday campus shutdown, noting, "It would be very difficult for the kids to find studying to be anything less than absurd. I know I'll find grading papers absurd."

Hauk said the university is asking faculty members to be flexible in allowing students to boycott

classes today and Friday.

The administration is providing support groups through health services for students who need a place to talk about their emotions.

"We've got 10,000 really upset people on that campus who are truly traumatized and away from home, some of them for the first time," said Hauk.

"I see very concerned and distressed young people who are well aware it's their generation who will have to deal with whatever outcome this has, and may even have to fight.

"What I see is a group of patriotic young Americans," she said.

Hauk said a live telephone hookup with UCSC Professor Alan Richards, who is working in Cairo this quarter, will be today at 9 a.m. in Studio C of the Communications Building.