

# BED BONANZA

New dorms at UCSC built to alleviate annual rental crunch



Bill Lovejoy/Sentinel

Construction workers enjoy lunch Thursday on the balcony of the dining hall at colleges Nine and Ten at UCSC.

UCSC Growth

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SANTA CRUZ — The rental crunch that typically accompanies returning UC Santa Cruz students may not materialize this fall, thanks to new residence halls providing 800 more on-campus beds.

Colleges Nine and Ten, in the northern section of campus, are nearing completion. Men in hard hats work daily on the skeleton of a dining hall that almost touches the redwoods. The buildings were designed by the San Francisco firm of Esherick Homsey Dodge & Davis, the same architect that designed the Monterey Bay Aquarium.

Administrators are excited to see the last pieces of the two colleges taking shape.

"It's a significant step," said Deana Slater, administrative officer for College Nine. "It really does symbolize the growth at UCSC."

With the new colleges, campus officials project enrollment could grow from 13,147 to 13,500 this fall.

Carol Douglas-Hammer, assistant director of student housing services, said the university has never provided so many new beds at once, and that should mean fewer students will be looking off-campus for housing.

But whether it will bring relief to the

rental market in Santa Cruz, however, is hard to say.

"There are always students who want to live off campus, so I don't know what the impact will be," said Rachel Schaffer of Bailey Property Management.

"The market is flooded with houses right now," added Denise Agosti of Shoreline Property Management. "I have no idea what will happen between now and fall."

UCSC has yet to set the cost of room and board for next fall, but the current going rate for a double room without a meal plan is \$6,321 for the school year.

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Bill Lovejoy/Sentinel photos

A worker in the superstructure of the new dining hall at colleges Nine and Ten at UCSC.

# Dorms

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One dorm, designated for College Nine, already is finished but there wasn't enough demand to open the building in the winter, according to campus spokesman Jim Burns. University officials had hoped it would be finished this past fall, but "the contractor couldn't make it happen," Burns said.

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JIM BURNS,  
UCSC  
SPOKESMAN

The two new colleges are part of the campus plan to accommodate more students.

"We're trying to do our part to house students on campus, and we're growing," Burns said.

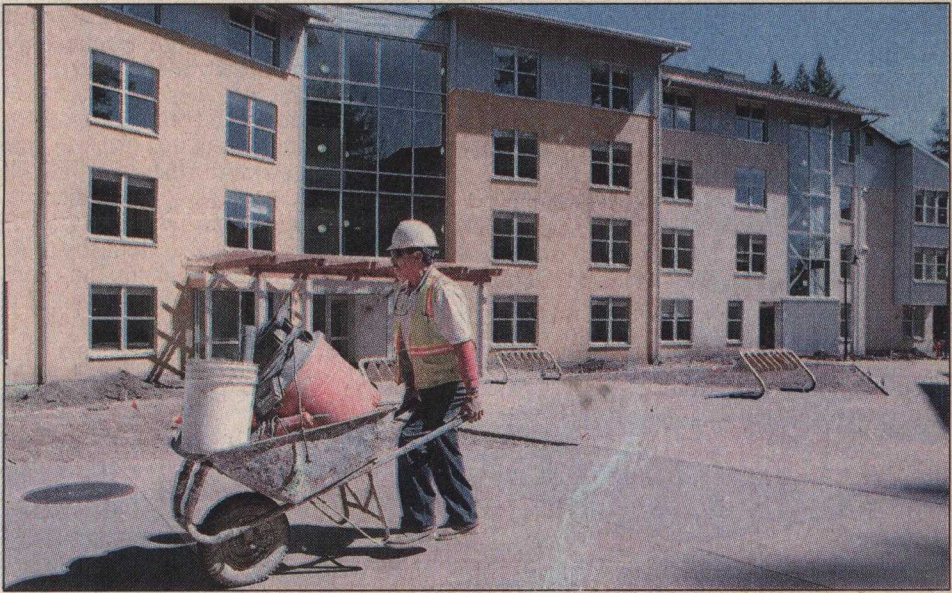
Campbell Leaper, a psychology professor, is provost for the new colleges.

Like the eight other colleges at UCSC, each of the new colleges has a special focus. College Nine, the first new college since 1972, actually opened in fall 2000 with 280 students attracted by a curriculum offering international and global perspectives. The enrollment now stands at 882 students.

"We hit the ground running," said Slater, pointing to an array of activities for students that include an a cappella singing group, a book club and a multicultural leadership retreat.

Once the new dining hall is ready, speakers and other events can be staged there, just a short walk from the dorms. The three-story building also will include a first-floor game room for students and a club for faculty and staff on the top floor.

Students call College Nine "the cornfields," said Bethany Hanson, a transfer student from Long Island University, referring to the yellow



A worker passes in front of the newly completed dormitory at College Nine at UCSC on Thursday.

low color of the four-story dorms.

The academic program, approved by the UC Regents this week, requires entering freshmen to take a writing course that addresses diversity and interconnections resulting from computers, media, travel and economic globalization. Juniors are required to study a foreign language, perform community service, travel abroad or work in Washington, D.C.

An "international living center" is planned to start next fall, setting aside 100 of the 300 places in the College Nine apartments for a mix of students from the United States and from other countries.

"Inevitably students end up making friends," said Slater, who worked on similar programs at UC San Diego and Cornell University.

Students can major in any field they wish

but should graduate with more understanding of other cultures, she added.

Jose Lemus, a junior from El Centro majoring in Latin American studies, chose College Nine because he wanted to meet people from all over the world.

"I'm living with a girl from China, a guy from Vietnam and a girl from Japan," he said.

College Ten curriculum, which will center on social justice and community, is still being developed, but the program is expected to be presented to the UCSC Academic Senate for approval this spring.

The college will be affiliated with the Center for Justice, Tolerance and Community headed by Manuel Pastor, a professor of Latin American and Latino studies.

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