

Regents: UCSC has to grow

UCSC, the small campus

By JAMIE S. CACKLER
Sentinel staff writer

SAN FRANCISCO — When the year 2005 rolls around, UC Santa Cruz may be on its way to being the smallest general campus in the University of California system.

Despite the fact that UCSC ties for second place among UC campuses for amount of land possessed, UCSC emerged Thursday as the campus targeted by UC President David Gardner for special treatment during the coming UC growth surge.

Gardner plans to keep UCSC about half the size of Berkeley and Los Angeles. But that plan was greeted with dissent from the regents, who wondered why UCSC should be limited to 15,000.

Meanwhile, Gardner wants UC campuses at San Diego, Davis and Irvine to grow to 26,000, joining UCLA and Berkeley as "full-size" campuses.

Santa Barbara is targeted for 20,000. Riverside — where both the campus and community have actually been imploring the university to "grow them" to 27,000 — is set to jump from 7,000 to 15,000.

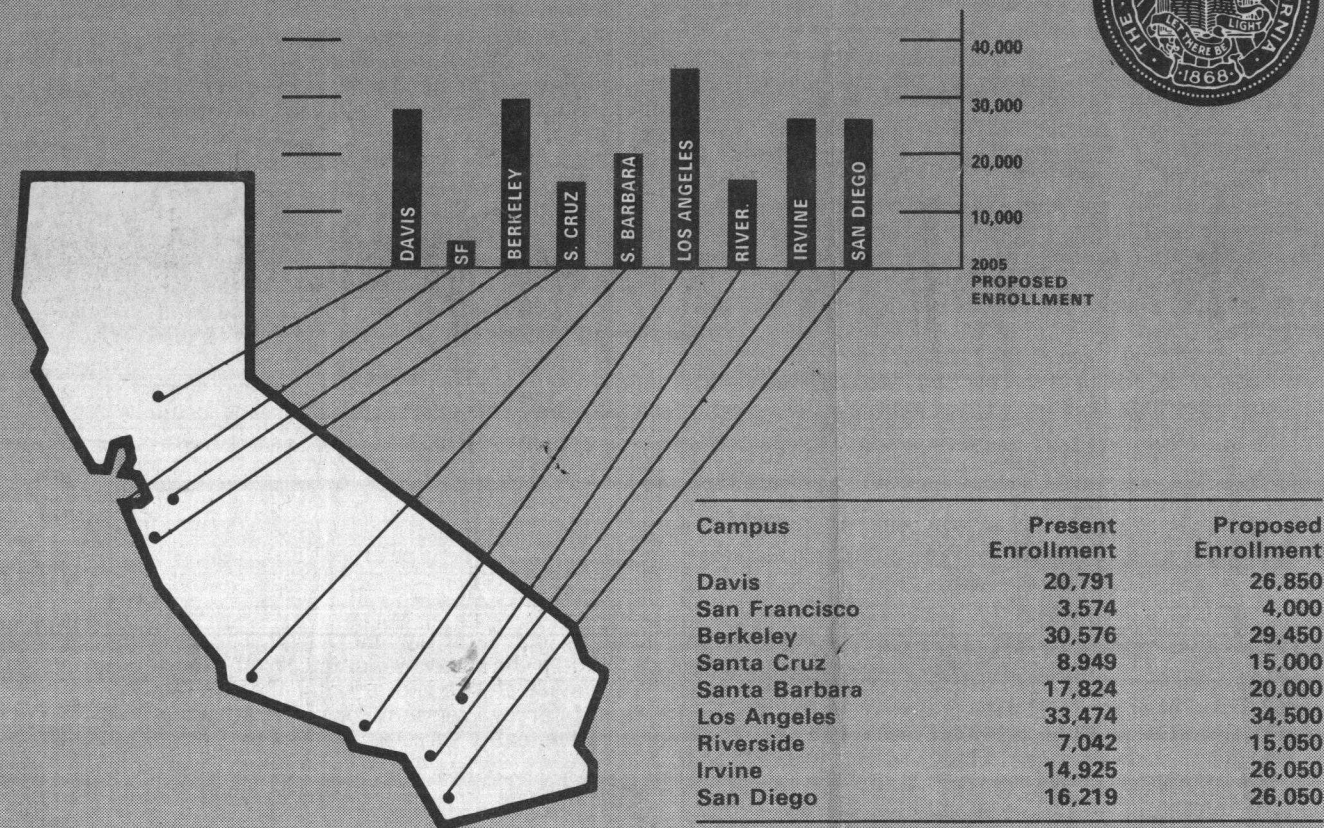
The difference between UCSC and Riverside is that after 2005, Gardner wants to let Riverside then start aiming for more. But UCSC, Gardner proposed, "does not need to grow beyond 15,000" to accomplish the goal of being a fully developed, top-flight campus.

Though his proposal to limit the size of the Santa Cruz campus was disparaged by a number of regents, Gardner said he would stick to his proposal during future board debates. He was apparently persuaded by Santa Cruz Chancellor Robert Stevens that Santa Cruz community could not abide more than 15,000 students.

Around Santa Cruz, Chancellor

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University of California Enrollment - present and proposed



Sentinel graphics

UC president requests three new campuses

By JAMIE S. CACKLER
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SAN FRANCISCO — A day ago, opponents of growth at UC Santa Cruz feared that the campus would grow to 15,000 students.

But after a UC Regents meeting here Thursday, the fear of 15,000 might suddenly seem like a small worry. In fact, 15,000 could seem more like something to hope for.

University of California President David Gardner told the regents the university needs to build three new UC campuses by the year 2000, and he projected that nearly all existing campuses would have more than 25,000 students by the year 2005. UC Santa Cruz, UC Riverside and UC Santa Barbara would be the exceptions among the eight general campuses — and regents indicated they may not support even those limitations.

Regents debated whether three campuses are needed, as Gardner suggests, or whether the existing campuses could be filled further, delaying the need for so many new ones. And some regents mentioned the 2,000-acre UCSC campus specifically as a campus that could accommodate more growth than Gardner called for.

Gardner made his recommendations in the face of predictions that at least 62,000 additional qualified students will be flooding into University of California by the year 2005, bringing systemwide enrollment to about 217,000 by that year.

No public comment was allowed at Thursday's discussion-only meeting on growth. Gardner successfully asked the regents to place the question of additional campuses on their next meeting's agenda, for more debate and possible action. He said he would like the regents to give their approval for the university to start planning an unspecified number of new campuses to open by the end of the century.

Although regents heard Gardner's advice on how large the existing campuses should grow, the regents will not actually set enrollment levels until they look at individual campus growth plans and required environmental studies. That will happen over the next 18 months, starting at the end of this year.

Gardner said he believes the existing campuses could "reasonably" handle 42,000 of those 62,000 additional students, but three new campuses will be needed by the end of the century to handle the rest, and more to come.

The new campuses should open up in 1998, 1999 and 2000, Gardner said, and each should accept about 880 students a year in their early years.

Gardner said Irvine, Davis and San Diego campuses

Please see **REGENTS** — A5

How will this play in Riverside?

SAN FRANCISCO — While some communities — including Santa Cruz — are shuddering at the prospect of their UC campuses growing, Riverside has an entirely different problem.

UC Riverside and its host city want the campus to bloom from its present 7,000 to 27,000 by the year 2005. But UC President David Gardner recommended to the regents Thursday that the campus take a more measured course and aim for 15,000 by that date.

"Would you help us know how we're going explain this at home?" asked Sue

Johnson, a regent representing the UC Alumni Association, who happens to hail from Riverside.

The campus and community wanted 10,000 more students proposed, and, she predicted, her community "will be disappointed when we bring this back.

"It just seems to be such a cost-effective way to add 10,000 more" students to the UC system during the coming growth crunch, Johnson argued.

Several other regents had the same question. Wouldn't putting 10,000 more at Riverside alleviate at least half the reason for building three new campuses?

But Gardner said he believes a higher growth rate might be more than any campus could chew. Riverside, for one thing, would have to recruit about 9 percent more faculty a year to serve the 1,000-plus students the campus would add each year if it were aiming for 27,000.

"But a 10th campus would have a 100-percent growth rate," one regent quipped.

"That's an entirely different situation," Gardner countered.

Riverside is a booming Southern California community which has grown substantially over the past few years.



City Councilwoman Mardi Wormhoudt, right, Supervisor Gary Patton, center, and Chancellor Robert Stevens meet regents.



Bill Lovejoy/Sentinel

UC President David Gardner at regents meeting.

Small/ UCSC limits are suggested by Gardner

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Robert Stevens may be seen as the personification of hated campus growth.

But elsewhere, including University Hall and the UC Regents' board room, Stevens is "the Slow-Growth Chancellor."

"I do sometimes feel that I'm being shot at from both sides," Stevens said. His blue-tie askew, the chancellor looked tired and anxious during the seventh-inning stretch at the Thursday meeting in which Gardner revealed his views on how Santa Cruz and the rest of the system should grow.

Because the university already has an investment in the core campus of UCSC, there is tremendous pressure on the campus to grow, Stevens said.

While the prospect of having 6,000 more students come to UCSC has evoked protest in Santa Cruz, the regents said they are leaning toward expanding the existing campuses before asking California taxpayers to build three new campuses at a cost of \$300 million each.

Regents/ UCSC told to grow

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should top out at about 26,000 enrollment, joining 30,000-plus Los Angeles and Berkeley as "full-size" campuses.

UC San Francisco — which is a medical school and not a general campus — would increase slightly from approximately 3,600 to 4,000.

Among the general campuses, Gardner proposed that UC Riverside grow to 15,000 by 2005, but aim to grow another 10,000 in ensuing years; and that UC Santa Barbara inch up to 20,000 from its present 17,900; and that UC Santa Cruz increase to 15,000.

For Santa Cruz, he also made a unique suggestion: that the campus not be expected to grow beyond 15,000.

Noting UCSC's large size land-wise, Gardner acknowledged that community anti-growth sentiment had played a part in his recommendation to hold UCSC back from its "natural growth rate" — the many students who would choose the campus if enrollment was "not otherwise constrained."

Several regents attacked the low targets for Santa Cruz, Riverside and Santa Barbara, and several expressed incredulity that Gardner would suggest building new ones without showing regents a range of

measure" giving city leaders a referendum to fight the university.

Asked whether he was surprised that regents were so skeptical of Stevens' and Gardner's call for 15,000, Patton said growth foes "obviously need to be thinking of the university as a statewide system," and should fight the push for more students at the regents' level.

Santa Cruz Mayor John Laird was subdued during an interview at the lunch break, and said he was disappointed that many regents spoke for more than 15,000 students at UCSC, a number which is already considered to be too many by many slow-growth activists.

Laird said he was disappointed that regents seemed to not know or care about the growth concerns in Santa Cruz. He said he was pleased that Gardner had called for a comparatively low number for Santa Cruz campus, but felt that Gardner was "too soft spoken" in his recommendation.

When several regents thumped and called for 30,000 or 40,000 or more, Gardner "didn't say 'You're crazy,' which is what I'm sure he was thinking," Laird said.

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"It seems we have made some rather arbitrary caps on some campuses," said Jeremiah Hallisey, one regent. Davis, for example, he said, could handle 40,000 or even 50,000 if needed.

"I think we should consider increasing these campuses rather than responding to local pressure not to grow," Hallisey said, apparently aiming his remark at Santa Cruz and Santa Barbara. Gardner acknowledged that he recommended lower growth goals because of community outcry and concerns about handling campus growth.

A least a handful of regents told Gardner they saw no reason why Santa Cruz, as well as other campuses with large land holdings, shouldn't be expected to take 30,000, or even 40,000 or more.

"We should explore putting more on the existing campuses," he said, unless slow-growth proponents in those communities "want to pay a half-cent more sales tax" to help pay for new campuses, Hallisey said.

"They raise a little hell down in Santa Cruz," grumbled another regent, "and we respond by proposing to build three more campuses."

But Gardner defended his suggestions, saying the enrollment projections were his best judgment based on many factors, not the least of which were the recommendations he had received from the chancellor of each campus.

At the insistence of several regents, Gardner agreed to bring the regents alternative plans showing how many more students could be sent to Riverside, Santa Cruz and Santa Barbara.

James E. Holst, general counsel to the regents, told the regents the university has become "painfully aware from recent experiences" that lawsuits based on compliance with environmental planning laws "are increasingly popular methods of forcing the university to accommodate community concerns."

At least some of the recent experience to which he was referring included a suit brought by the city of Santa Cruz, which attacked construction plans for College Eight, but sought to force UCSC to say how it would mitigate the campus' effect on the local community and the drain on services such as sewer and water.

Holst described some of the steps the university must take to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act as it plans to grow, to avoid lawsuits. "The university's response to public concerns will be important to avoiding litigation and successfully pursuing litigation we cannot avoid," Holst said.

The build-in-spite-of-them sentiment of some regents gave a new look at the collision course the regents may be on with Santa Cruz low-growth activists.

Santa Cruz County Supervisor Gary Patton, who attended the meeting along with two city representatives, said the regents' statement gave him renewed feelings that the city "needs to pass a slow-growth

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Though he was lambasted and questioned by regents, Gardner is committed to sticking by his recommendations and will argue them harder at future meetings, said Gardner aide Ron Kolb at the end of the meeting.

Besides predicting enrollment growth, Gardner and three of his vice presidents gave the regents other projections and future challenges to consider.

While it adds 62,000 students to its campuses, the university will need another 10,000 faculty members. Gardner said serious competition for top faculty is coming, nationwide.

To do its part to ward off a serious faculty shortage, Gardner said UC must start recruiting more graduate students and must encourage a solid share of top graduate students to consider academic careers.

UC also has many serious financial challenges ahead.

Gardner and many of the regents tagged the state spending limit, known as the Gann Limit, as a serious enemy of education and of university growth. "Gann must be repealed," said Regent Harold M. Williams, president and CEO of the J. Paul Getty Trust.

If built, the three new campuses would cost about \$300 million each to construct, UC Budget Vice President William B. Baker said. The campuses together would cost an additional \$200 million annually in operating funds, he added.

Cities throughout Northern and Central California have been lobbying to be considered as sites for campuses. The possibility of three new campuses is expected to enliven council and supervisor meetings in every corner of the state for years to come.

Gardner refused to talk about possible sites, or even what criteria might be applied in the search for homes for new campuses. But he made it clear that the university will be seeking cities with attitudes like Riverside, which has welcomed the campus with open arms, and was actually disappointed that Gardner didn't honor their request to be filled up with some 30,000 students by 2005.

"...Siting a campus in a given community and region has a much greater effect on that community and region ... than it does on the state as a whole," the university president said. "Therefore, we would seek to locate campuses only in those communities and regions that would welcome them and could accommodate them."

Riverside has about 7,000 students, and Gardner said he feared a goal higher than 15,000 would be too ambitious for the campus' own good. He said he worried that the campus would have too hard a time recruiting faculty at the rate of 9 percent a year to match a student enrollment goal of 20,000 or 30,000.

So far, the regents are reported to have had phone calls and letters from at least seven communities asking for consideration as a campus site, including, Ukiah, Redding, Lakeport, Roseville, Placerville, Coalinga and Los Banos.