

SC to 1990

Work Is Completed On UCSC Marine Lab

Work has been completed on the first phase of UCSC's Joseph M. Long Marine Laboratory near Natural Bridges State Park.

For the first time, UCSC faculty and students have access to their own onshore marine laboratory with a running seawater system to support controlled experiments with marine plants and animals.

The \$1.5 million facility is an extension of the university's Center for Coastal Marine Studies, which has its main offices and laboratories on campus.

"From the time UCSC opened, we have had a strong commitment to develop strengths in coastal and marine studies," says center director William Doyle. "Now we have the advantage of a first-rate facility within a 10-minute drive from the campus. It makes it possible for faculty and both graduate and undergraduate students to study and do marine research at the Long lab in the course of a normal day on campus."

UCSC will hold an open house at the lab from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Dec. 2. Signs will be posted

to guide visitors to the laboratory, which is located off Highway 1 near Natural Bridges.

The lab, named after a benefactor and supporter of UCSC, the Long lab is situated on 40 acres on the Terrace Point-Younger Lagoon property and comprises a lagoon and sandy beach bordered by cliffs and adjacent flat land. The parcel was donated to the university in 1972 by Marion Younger and her late husband, Donald.

The first phase of the laboratory complex includes three outdoor research tanks for the study of small marine mammals, an aquarium building and an outdoor holding facility for seals, sea lions and sea otters.

At the heart of the new lab is a saltwater pumping system that draws 250 gallons of seawater each minute from the ocean to circulate through the complex. The system supplies the life-supporting environment necessary for the marine plants and animals under study. The system also was designed to meet the

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needs of future additions.

Doyle, a graduate of Watsonville High, received his bachelor's degree and Ph.D. in botany from UC Berkeley. In 1965, Doyle was one of the founding faculty of UCSC during an era when national attention was focused on the ocean. Persistent pesticides, oil spills and overfishing were becoming worldwide issues of concern. Doyle and other faculty members made marine science education and research one of the university's high priorities in its earliest days.

Earlier this year, Doyle, together with biology professor John Pearse and a number of students, completed six years of study of the effects of sewage discharge on marine plants and animals at the now-defunct Pleasure Point outfall. Results of the study are helping in the long-range planning of a new sewage-outfall system.

The focus of the coastal studies program is to study the coastal zone — those coastal lands and rivers that are bordered by the ocean to the underwater edge of the continental shelf. A primary goal is to gather sufficient scientific data on which to base wise management of coastal zone

resources.

Doyle says the UCSC program is the only one of its kind in the country that has a fully-integrated coastal studies program ranging from lower-division undergraduate through graduate instruction and research in both the natural and social sciences.

The center has 26 faculty

members, about 30 graduate students and some 200 undergraduates who are enrolled in marine studies through programs in biology, anthropology, chemistry, earth sciences and environmental studies.

Funding for research is provided in part by the university with support from individuals and foundations.

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