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Chancellor Longed To Be Here

By WALLACE WOOD
Sentinel Staff Writer

By a strange twist of fate, Angus Taylor is where he once longed to be — "in a house in the redwoods, overlooking the sea, frequently having faculty and students in for tea or for an evening of talk."

In 1962, he didn't envision that house as the chancellor's house, and he didn't dream his office would be the corner office in the administration building, with a battery of staff outside the door marked "Chancellor."

"Dean (McHenry) and I talked about my coming to Santa Cruz as the lead person in mathematics," Taylor recalled in an address to the UCSC Academic Senate a few weeks ago. "But it didn't come off, largely because the timing wasn't quite right for me and my family."

That was in 1963, and Taylor went instead to Berkeley and the university-wide offices as a vice-president.

And the new university, with its vision of a new partnership in education between faculty and students, went on to grow into the reality of concrete, glass, and a living institution.

But they were somehow fated to re-join. Taylor's picture appeared in the first Sentinel "opening edition" tabloid of UCSC. Former UC President Clark Kerr is the only other university-wide person also pictured separately, and it was Kerr and McHenry, of course, who first conceived of UCSC.

Taylor's daughter graduated from the

Santa Cruz campus in 1972 and will be married in that house in the redwoods next week.

Things have changed in the meantime of those years. The UCSC campus was caught up not only in the tensions and unevenness of its own growth, but in the nationwide student unrest of the mid-1960s.

McHenry retired, and his successor as chancellor, Mark Christensen, could not resolve the administrative and leadership conflicts that were coming to a head at Santa Cruz after a decade.

So the mantle fell on acting chancellor Taylor, who at 64 is almost ready for retirement after a long university career, first as a mathematician and then as an administrator.

What he sees from his new viewpoint is still "a marvelous conception and opportunity" of residential colleges within a central university. But it is a truncated conception, cut short at an awkward stage of growth.

"The campus is incomplete," Taylor said a few days ago. "The change of scale from a campus planned for 27,500 students to about 7,500 by the 1980s is a major factor.

"I don't think it's a serious disappointment to most campus people that we're not going to be that big. But it was somewhat unexpected that there won't be a College 9 for some time, and that we can't even get funds to build College 8.

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Student-conceived and mostly student-built, the new Farm Center Building will be dedicated at 10:30 a.m. Saturday as a highlight of Community/Family Day for UCSC's Open House. The Friends of the Garden and Farm will give tours from 1 to 4 p.m. Chancellor Angus Taylor, Sunset magazine garden editor Joseph Williamson, and Ken-

neth S. and Phyllis Norris will be on hand, as well as Stephen Kaffka, manager of the Garden and Farm projects and Linda Jolly, a Cowell College senior biology major. A group of students headed by Kresge College senior biology major Marianne Walters, conceived and pushed through the project.

UCSC Chancellor Once Longed To Be In Area

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"There are imbalances and shortages, especially on having properly disposed space." (College 8, for instance, has to "borrow" office space, class space, and living space from other colleges and from social sciences. Oakes College will finally get its own space and buildings this fall. Even the university administration is borrowing space in other buildings, such as applied sciences.)

Taylor has to carry on the

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or the experts or the people who

struggle to convince the state and University Regents that UCSC has to have more space and more money in a time when the university is being cut back and squeezed in California and many universities nationwide are facing a student shortage.

At the same time, he has to resolve the peculiar administrative problems at UCSC. The college concept was not only for housing students, but for building a special kind of academic life. Yet the standard academic requirements in most universities are set by specialized boards in each educational area.

Taylor wants to pull the two sometimes-struggling factions together, and already has proposed the kind of administrative central authority to do this, probably through a campuswide Committee on Planning and Resources to decide

who gets what.

And, since so much has changed, the basic academic plan has to change, too, "given the fact we're not going to grow very much."

Even with the recent turmoil in this area, Taylor said that "all evidences are that we are doing well. We have very good students, very good faculty. I'm also pleased we are getting a greater variety of students, with more minorities and now more older students. The diversity of student body is desirable and good."

Taylor has been at his new job only since February. He seems pleased, though, at what he has found.

"I haven't been disillusioned at all. This campus has lived up to what I had heard about it. I've enjoyed the people I've met here, and I think it has made a mark on education."