

UCSC

## Sentinel Editorial

# A Chancellor Retires

The retirement of Chancellor Dean McHenry, effective next June, is bound to have some profound effects upon the University of California Santa Cruz campus.

For all practical purposes, McHenry was the founder of UCSC.

He was a key member of the university staff which was developing California's Master Plan for Higher Education back in the late 1950s. He was the state-wide dean of academic planning involved in the expansion of the university.

As a result of the long range planning, the University of California built three new campuses - Santa Cruz, San Diego and Irvine.

All were initially scheduled to become major campuses of the university, a plan which apparently has recently been scrapped.

McHenry was named chancellor of UCSC early in 1961 just after the regents selected the Cowell property in Santa Cruz at the site of the proposed new campus for central coastal California.

He was instrumental in planning the new campus which was a major change from other university campuses in that it was designed to be a series of small colleges within a large framework. The residential colleges were to follow the Oxford pattern.

It was a major innovation in university cam-

pus design for a university the size of the University of California. In the early planning there was some question whether you could build such a campus and keep costs in line with general university expenditures.

McHenry's ability to hold-the-line on costs allowed him to proceed with his plan for the Santa Cruz campus.

It was going to be different and it was different.

McHenry was opposed to intercollegiate athletics at the big game standards. As a result UCSC had no football, basketball, track, baseball, swimming or golf teams.

It was designed, too, to be without a central student body organization with the student interest designed to be at the college level.

The colleges were designed to be independent to a major degree under the direction of individual provosts, but using central classrooms and laboratories for some work.

In the eight years since the campus opened, the plan has had its successes and a few failures. It generally has been widely praised.

Perhaps the most pertinent problem has been the failure of the campus to become integrated with the entire community. The so-called town-and-gown relationship bloomed early, but it didn't last long.

Obviously, one of the problems was the vast political differences between students and many Santa Cruz residents. The difficulties were multiplied by housing competition as well as changing times.

The initial academic plans were changed in that all of the colleges were primarily designed into the liberal arts with a science background only at Crown College. Plans for an engineering school were scrapped when engineering went out of style at university campuses.

The same situation held true for development of a business school.

Initial plans for graduate school growth were hampered by varying plans at other campuses.

The physical development on the campus was planned for a minimum of automobile transportation, a program which didn't enhance a closer relationship between the campus and the community.

— It did, however, develop an outstanding transit plan.

In the meantime, the chancellor battled for budget approval as well as administering to the growth and development of the campus.

There has to be a great deal of satisfaction to look back for more than a decade and see the culmination of a dream as Dean McHenry has experienced.