

The Regents of the University of California

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE TENTH CAMPUS

January 15, 1998

The Special Committee on the Tenth Campus met on the above date at UCSF-Laurel Heights, San Francisco.

Members present: Regents Atkinson, Brophy, Davis, Khachigian, and Parsky; Advisory members McClymond, Weiss, and Willmon

In attendance: Regents Chandler, Davies, Gonzales, Hotchkis, Johnson, Levin, Montoya, Ochoa, Preuss, Sayles, and Soderquist, Regent-designate Miura, Faculty Representative Dorr, Secretary Trivette, General Counsel Holst, Treasurer Small, Provost King, Senior Vice President Kennedy, Vice Presidents Darling, Gomes, and Gurtner, Chancellors Berdahl, Carnesale, Debas, Dynes, Greenwood, Orbach, Vanderhoef, Wilkening, and Yang, and Recording Secretary Nietfeld

The meeting convened at 4:45 p.m. with Special Committee Chair Parsky presiding.

STATUS REPORT ON PLANNING FOR A TENTH UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA CAMPUS

Senior Vice President Kennedy observed that today's meeting represents the first formal meeting of the Special Committee that was established by The Regents to provide oversight on issues related to the development of the tenth campus. Mr. Kennedy reported that he and Special Committee Chair Parsky had discussed the schedule and format for future meetings of the Committee. Quarterly sessions are proposed, scheduled in connection with regular meetings of the Board of Regents, with each session featuring a written progress report and a more in-depth presentation on a specific and timely topic.

The two-day visit of the Board of Regents to the San Joaquin Valley on April 14-15 will provide an opportunity for a more comprehensive orientation. Among the events scheduled for the visit are a dinner with community, educational, and governmental leaders; a tour of the city of Merced; a briefing on UC Merced issues at Merced College; and a viewing of the campus site itself.

Vice President Kennedy recalled that the UC Merced site was selected by the Board of Regents on May 19, 1995, culminating a methodical site selection process that was first authorized in 1988. Last September, The Regents authorized continued planning for and development of a tenth campus for the purpose of enabling the University "...to maintain overall undergraduate access at the levels contemplated in the California Master Plan for Higher Education and to fulfill its teaching, research, and public service mission in the San Joaquin Valley." This latest authorization has been given more impetus with the provision of a permanent augmentation of \$4.9 million in the University's operating budget for the development of academic programs in the San Joaquin Valley and for planning, start-

up costs, and ongoing support for the tenth campus. In addition, the Governor has proposed a second augmentation of \$5 million in the 1998-99 State Budget.

Consistent with the Regents' resolution in September, exercise of the option agreement to acquire the campus site and commencement of construction continues to be contingent upon further action by The Regents and the provision of State resources adequate both to develop the new campus and to ensure the continued health and enrollment expansion of the University's existing campuses.

Vice President Kennedy then called upon Associate Vice President Tomlinson-Keasey and Special Assistant Samuelson to give an overview of current academic and physical planning activities.

Academic Principles

Associate Vice President Tomlinson-Keasey discussed the academic principles that are guiding the planning efforts for the tenth campus. A foundational academic principle is that the campus will achieve excellence in its missions of teaching, research, and public service. Secondly, it is expected that the campus will have strong graduate and undergraduate programs from its beginning.

A third principle reflects the fact that the campus will be built in the 21st century and hence must be technologically sophisticated. The campus will be linked technologically to other sites in the central valley, to other UC locations such as the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and the UC San Francisco Medical Center in Fresno, as well as to many K-12 schools, California State University campuses, and community colleges.

A fourth academic principle that builds on the third is cooperation with other higher education institutions located in the central valley and in particular with the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, which is the UC institution closest to the new site. A fifth principle is that the campus should reflect the uniqueness of the San Joaquin Valley without being seen as a regional campus. One feature of the San Joaquin Valley is the diversity of the cultures represented there, and one role of the tenth campus could be studying that diversity.

Academic Plan

Ms. Tomlinson-Keasey recalled that in 1996 Provost King charged a group of faculty to draft an academic plan for the new campus. This group worked throughout the 1996-97 academic year and presented a draft plan for the University's consideration in fall 1997. This plan and its recommendations are now being reviewed by the campus community as well as other interested parties. Some of the plan's major recommendations are as follows. UC Merced is perceived as the hub of an educational network that will extend up and down the valley. The faculty and residential component of the network will be at UC Merced, but there will be sites where programming can be offered in Fresno, Bakersfield, Visalia, Modesto, and perhaps other places in the valley.

The academic plan also suggests that the campus be technologically sophisticated. It will be necessary to plan in advance for the ways in which the campus will communicate with the other parts of the University's educational network.

The academic plan suggests three academic divisions, one in social science and public policy, one in science and technology, and one in arts and cultures. Each of these divisions covers a broad array of substantive areas, but within each division there will be programs that reflect the unique characteristics of the valley. The academic plan also recommends professional programs in some areas. Two that have received wide endorsement are engineering and business.

Transition Planning

Transition planning will focus on what needs to be done between now and 2005, when the campus is scheduled to open. The first task is to build on the educational resources that already exist in the valley, including resources in the areas of agriculture, veterinary medicine, health sciences, and education. The second task in the academic transition is to provide a foundation for research and teaching with graduate and professional programs. Considerable attention will be devoted to undergraduate student recruitment.

The most important task that the University will undertake during the transition period is to recruit the academic leadership and the faculty. The administration is considering what resources are necessary to attract faculty, what kinds of relationships they will form with other UC campuses, and other resource and quality-of-life issues that will help attract the best faculty to the new campus.

The academic transition team must plan the academic computing network and configure that network for use throughout the valley. Because the library is the heart of any educational institution, the library at UC Merced should be as flexible as the educational network being planned. The team will work closely with the California Digital Library to develop ways for students to gain access to materials from multiple sites.

In discussing the physical planning for the tenth campus, Special Assistant Samuelson emphasized the following points:

- The University is planning not only a campus but a community that is almost twice the size of the City of Berkeley in terms of acreage.
- Time is of the essence in order to meet the current expectation that the doors to UC Merced will open in the year 2005.

This planning is a collaborative effort involving six principal parties. The County of Merced has overall planning jurisdiction for the Specific Urban Development Plan (SUDP). The Virginia Smith Trust is an educational trust. All of the income derived from development of its land is committed to college scholarships. The Cyril Smith Trust is also an educational trust. The City of Merced

recently approved a revision of its General Plan. The Plan continues to reflect major growth to the north and towards the campus site. In revising its Plan, the City expanded its Sphere of Influence to include the campus site and the adjacent trust lands. This would permit the City to provide services to these areas if it is deemed appropriate at a later time. In 1996, the Merced Irrigation District and the City of Merced completed a joint long-term plan for providing water for both continuing agricultural use and urban expansion, including provision of water for the new campus. The final participant is the University of California.

Mr. Samuelson recalled that the campus site is located at the base of the Sierra foothills in an unincorporated area of Merced County, six miles northeast of downtown Merced and two miles from Lake Yosemite Regional Park. The 2,550-acre "University Area" from which the 2,000-acre campus site will ultimately be selected is flanked on the west by 4,000 acres owned by the Cyril Smith Trust and on the south and east by 5,000 acres owned by the Virginia Smith Trust. In 1996, the County of Merced established an SUDP boundary encompassing this entire acreage. This action reflected the commitment made by the County to the University during the course of the site selection process that it would comprehensively plan the area in cooperation with the University, the two Trusts, and other affected public agencies.

Time Line

Mr. Samuelson explained that the major task in 1998 is the "Joint Concept Planning Phase." In this phase, options will be explored at the broadest conceptual level for the development of a 21st-century community and its relationship to a new research university. An intended outcome of this planning is a common vision that will form the framework for the University's Long Range Development Plan and Environmental Impact Report, the County's University Community Plan and EIR, and the Trusts' Specific Plans. It is expected that a further outcome will be refinement of the respective roles and responsibilities of the parties and of a coordinated process for subsequent planning phases. The Joint Concept Planning Phase will be undertaken by a core team of representatives from the six planning participants. A consultant will be retained to help design and facilitate the process, and additional consultants will be engaged to conduct technical studies as the process evolves.

Design and construction of the infrastructure and buildings for UC Merced is scheduled to begin in late 2000, following completion of the University's LRDP and EIR.

Mr. Samuelson described the questions that will be raised during the Joint Concept Planning Phase, including the following:

- Community character: What type of community should it be? What will be size of the community? How will it grow?
- Campus and community interface: How should the campus and community be connected? How should development of the campus and community be phased so they will both be

successful? What are the prospects for joint use facilities? What should be the final boundaries of the 2,000-acre campus?

- Opportunities and constraints: What are the physical opportunities and constraints for future development? What areas should be reserved for open space uses? What areas have particularly good potential for views of the Sierra or of Lake Yosemite, for exposure to the winter sun, for protection from prevailing winds?
- Circulation and transportation: How should access corridors be linked to the community and regional network?
- Economic viability: What is the financial viability of proposed development concepts? How does proposed development relate to projected development elsewhere in the region? What can be done to attract business and industry?
- Environmental preservation: What part of the natural environment should be preserved? What joint environmental preservation and mitigation strategies might be pursued?
- Services and infrastructure: What level of services is needed and appropriate? What joint financial mechanisms for funding public services and infrastructure might be pursued?

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Attest:

Secretary