Update for Community Groups – October 2017

Please note the underlined text in the electronic version of this update contains active links that provide additional information on the subject matter.

PROJECTS

Location of instructional and research facilities, as well as necessary campus support facilities, such as housing and parking, is directed by UC San Diego’s Long Range Development Plan (LRDP), which is prepared in response to campus enrollment and population projections. Available on the Planning, Design and Construction website at http://plandesignbuild.ucsd.edu is the Campus Map which is an interactive map where major campus projects are identified by location and include a brief project description.

ENVIRONMENTAL NOTICE

Voigt Parking Structure Project

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines and University of California Procedures for Implementation of CEQA, a Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) and a Notice of Completion (NOC) for the Voigt Parking Structure Project have been posted to the following website:

http://plandesignbuild.ucsd.edu/planning/environmental.html

The public review period for the draft MND begins October 10, 2017 and closes at 5:00 PM on November 9, 2017. Please direct any comments on the project to: Alison Buckley, University of California, San Diego, Campus Planning Office, 9500 Gilman Drive, MC 0074, La Jolla, CA 92093-0074 Email: env-review@ucsd.edu

Brief Project Description

The proposed project consists of an approximately 365,697 GSF, four-story, two-bay parking structure that would support approximately 840 parking spaces for faculty, staff, and students – an increase of as many as 791 parking spaces from the current inventory at surface parking lot P503. In order to minimize the overall footprint of the proposed project and the associated encroachment into the undeveloped land to the west of surface parking lot P503, the parking structure would be built into the existing slope on the project site and would be no taller than 29 feet above the existing grade of Voigt Drive and 8 feet above Engineer Lane.

The concept of the parking structure is to design a parking structure that fits within the existing landscape in an aesthetic and functional manner, enhancing circulation within Warren College and the campus as a whole. This is achieved by means of the Live Roof that includes various multi-modal circulation improvements, such as pedestrian and bicycle pathways that would provide connections to surrounding areas within the Warren College Neighborhood.

The proposed project would also widen the existing narrow pedestrian path that runs east to west along the southern edge of the nearby canyon, in order to provide a dedicated bicycle lane and develop a more formalized multi-modal connection between Hopkins Lane and Warren Mall.
PUTTING STUDENTS FIRST

Campus Showcases New Services to Enrich Student Life

By Christine Clark

With the start of fall quarter on Sept. 28, UC San Diego is unveiling a number of initiatives and programs that will enhance the student experience, including new graduate student housing, degree programs, arcades, eateries and more. In addition, the campus is rolling out new traditions such as Changemaker Day on Oct. 25, which will support student social entrepreneurs to benefit the campus and surrounding communities.

UC San Diego expects to enroll a fall class of nearly 8,600 new students who are academically well prepared, talented, and represent a broad diversity of backgrounds, perspectives and cultures. The incoming freshman class has an overall grade-point average of 4.08, an average SAT score of 1858 and an average ACT score of 29. The new transfer student class has an average grade-point average of 3.46. The new students have declared majors across 41 academic departments in the Arts and Humanities, Social Sciences and STEM fields.

“We are pleased to welcome our dynamic new class of students to the campus community,” said Chancellor Pradeep K. Khosla. “With an unwavering commitment to enhance the student experience, we’ve developed new resources and opportunities to ensure our students are successful on campus and in their chosen fields, so they can go on to become alumni who will have a positive impact on our community and world.”

The campus estimates enrollment numbers for undergraduate and graduate students to be a record 36,400 this fall. To accommodate our growing student population, UC San Diego’s Mesa Nueva graduate housing project was recently completed and students have already moved in. With the addition of 1,350 beds, the residential community is one of the largest graduate and professional student housing programs in the University of California system and one of the biggest in the country.

The new Mesa Nueva units have a pool and surround an open space where students can gather to play volleyball, bocce ball or relax on the grass. In addition to being on track for LEED (Leadership in Energy and Efficient Design) Gold Certification, the Mesa Nueva units answer a demand for both housing space and a greater sense of community for students. The new developments north of La Jolla Village Drive and west of Regents Road replaced 86 older units, built nearly 50 years ago, with revitalized layouts and a number of new amenities, such as a small grocery store, coffee shop and other elements.

Additional campus housing projects on the horizon include the Torrey Pines Living and Learning Neighborhood, which will include 2,000 new beds and is expected to be completed by 2020.

The campus will accommodate more than 14,700 students living on campus this fall, including 11,264 undergraduates and 3,480 graduate/professional students, plus an additional 1,400 faculty and staff.

UC San Diego’s Long Range Development Plan goal is to house at least 50 percent of eligible students on campus. As of fall 2017, that number will be approximately 40 percent; with the additional housing projects underway, the campus expects to be at approximately 49 percent in fall 2020, with more anticipated student growth on the way.

New eateries and entertainment

The university continues to develop new campus entertainment venues and eateries that enrich student life. This fall, students will be able to enjoy a new arcade in the Price Center, the campus’ central hub. Open 24/7, the arcade to be located in the Price Center West, will feature vintage arcade games such as Miss Pac Man and Super Mario Bros. as well as grab-and-go food and drink options.

In addition, other new venues at Price Center East include Seed + Sprout, which specializes in macro-nutrient bowls. Another added dining place for students in the Student Center is Blue Pepper Asian Cuisine, which serves Thai food, Vietnamese banh mi, seasonal entrees and vegetarian meals.

New degree programs

UC San Diego is preparing students to succeed in today’s job market with additional degree programs in Data Science, Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences, as well as new specializations in Linguistics, Cognitive Science and International Business. In addition, the campus is now offering minors in Speech and Language Sciences, as well as Real Estate and Development, which will soon be offered as a new major.

New traditions

This past spring, UC San Diego was recognized for excellence in preparing students with interdisciplinary, entrepreneurial and solutions-oriented skillsets with an official Changemaker Campus designation from Ashoka U, the world’s largest network of social entrepreneurs. The recognition is the outcome of an extensive three-year selection process. Only 43 universities around the world have earned this distinction, and UC San Diego is the first University of California campus to receive this designation. On Oct. 25, the campus will celebrate the first Changemaker Day, where students will participate in workshops and learn about community service programs, social innovation initiatives and social impact investing.

For additional information and to read the complete article visit http://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/feature/putting-students-first?utm_campaign=thisweek&utm_medium=web&utm_source=tw--web