

FRESNO STATE COLLEGE

GENERAL INFORMATION

THE CALIFORNIA STATE COLLEGES

The California State Colleges are a unique development of the democratic concept of tuition-free public higher education for all qualified students.

Spanning the state from Humboldt County in the north to San Diego in the south, the 16 campuses of the California State Colleges (with two additional campuses in the planning stage) represent the largest system of public higher education in the Western Hemisphere, and one of the largest in the world. Current enrollment is some 118,000 full- and part-time students. The faculty and administrative staff numbers some 7000.

The individual colleges, each with a geographic, curricular and academic character of its own, offer a solid basic program in the liberal arts. Beyond this, each college is noted for its individuality in academic emphasis which makes for a diversified system. Course offerings leading to the bachelor's and master's degrees are designed to satisfy existing student interests and to serve the technical and professional manpower requirements of the state.

The California State Colleges are dedicated to rigorous academic standards. Constant striving for academic excellence is at the heart of the system. Each faculty within the system is a "teaching faculty" whose primary responsibility is the instructional process on the teacher-student level, with appropriate recognition of the necessary and constructive role of research in any institution of higher education.

Responsibility for the California State Colleges is vested in the Board of Trustees, which is appointed by the Governor, and the Board's administrative arm, the Chancellor. The Trustees and the Chancellor set broad policy for the colleges while delegating considerable independent responsibility for implementation at the college level.

Although the oldest of the colleges, San Jose State College, dates back a century, the California State College system under an independent Board of Trustees was created by the Donahoe Act of 1960. Formerly, the colleges were under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Education.

Today, the California State Colleges are in a particularly dynamic period of their development. Prior to World War II, there were seven State Colleges with a peak total enrollment of some 13,000. Since 1947, nine new campuses have been developed and two more are scheduled to begin operation within the next three years. Enrollment in the system is expected to reach 180,000 by 1970.

FUNCTIONS

The primary function of Fresno State College, as one of the California State Colleges, is to provide undergraduate and graduate instruction through the master's degree, in the liberal arts and sciences, in applied fields and in the professions, including the teaching profession. Faculty research is authorized to the extent that it is consistent with the primary function of the college and the facilities provided for that function.

At Fresno State College an effort has been made to provide the type of undergraduate and graduate program which will develop competence in an individual as a student, a citizen, and an effective leader. The program of studies provides curricula, including general and specialized courses, designed to prepare students in a wide variety of fields. The program offers educational opportunities in prepa-