

The University



The official seal of the university was designed by artist and California State University, Fresno Professor Emeritus Darwin Musselman, who also created the seal used by the California State University system. The Fresno State seal includes the “lamp of learning” and the “book of knowledge.” The Latin inscription “Lycem accipe vt reddas” translates “Receive the light that you may give it forth.” The date 1911 refers to the founding year of the school.

Between 1965 and 1968 an approximation of university organization was accomplished on the Fresno campus, and the transition to official university status in the state system became effective on June 1, 1972. The university is now comprised of the School of Agricultural

Sciences and Technology, the School of Arts and Humanities, the Sid Craig School of Business, the School of Education and Human Development, the School of Engineering and Computer Science, the School of Health and Human Services, the School of Natural Sciences, the School of Social Sciences, the Division of Extended Education, and the Division of Graduate Studies.

Fresno Normal School, in 1911, had an enrollment of 150 students, most of whom were women. By 1940 enrollment had increased to 2,000 students, and in 1968 enrollment surpassed 10,000. In the fall of 1997, more than 18,000 students registered at California State University, Fresno.

The presidents, in order of tenure:

Charles L. McLane (1911-27)
Frank W. Thomas (1927-48)
Arnold E. Joyal (1948-64)
Frederic W. Ness (1964-69)
Karl L. Falk (Acting) (1969-70)
Norman A. Baxter (1970-80)
Harold H. Haak (1980-91)
John D. Welty (1991-)

