

THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGES

On November 29, 1971, the Governor signed into law Assembly Bill 123 which created The California State University and Colleges, thereby redesignating the system previously known as the California State Colleges. This legislation provided legal recognition that the California State Colleges have achieved the status of universities in their first decade as a unified system of higher education.

First brought together as a system under an independent Board of Trustees by the Donahoe Higher Education Act in the early 1960's, the California State University and Colleges now consists of nineteen campuses, covering the state from Humboldt in the north to San Diego in the south. Current enrollment exceeds 263,000 full- and part-time students, with a faculty of approximately 14,500.

Responsibility for the California State University and Colleges is vested in the Board of Trustees, whose members are appointed by the Governor. The Trustees appoint the Chancellor, who is the chief executive officer of the system, and the Presidents, who are the chief executive officers on the respective campuses.

The Trustees, the Chancellor, and the Presidents develop systemwide policy, with actual implementation at the campus level taking place through broadly based consultative procedures. The Academic Senate of the California State University and Colleges, made up of elected representatives of the faculty from each campus, recommends academic policy to the Board of Trustees through the Chancellor.

Each campus in the system has its own geographic and curricular character, but all emphasize the liberal arts and sciences. Programs leading to the bachelor's and master's degrees are master planned to anticipate and accommodate student interest and the educational and professional needs of the State of California. A limited number of joint doctoral programs are also offered. Although there is increasing recognition of the importance of research to the maintenance of quality teaching, the primary responsibility of the faculty continues to be the instructional process.

While San Jose State College, the oldest, was founded over a century ago, prior to World War II only seven State Colleges were in existence, with a total enrollment of 13,000. Since 1947, twelve new colleges have been established, and sites have been selected for additional campuses in Ventura, San Mateo, and Contra Costa counties. California State College, Bakersfield, the newest, was opened to students in 1970. Enrollment in the system is expected to pass 300,000 by 1980.

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

The California State University, Fresno, a liberal arts college, is one of the 19 campuses administered by the Trustees of the California State University and Colleges. It is dedicated to academic excellence, integrity, and freedom. It is committed to developing competent students, citizens, and leaders and to serving the Fresno and Valley communities. The college offers programs of instruction through the master's degree in the liberal arts and sciences, in the professions, in applied fields, and in special and interdisciplinary areas. It also provides further educational opportunities to individuals, public agencies, school systems, private business, and agriculture through the continuing education, in-service education, and research programs of the college.

HISTORY

Fresno State is the sixth oldest in the California State University and College system. It has developed from the establishment of the first junior college in California in 1910 and a state normal school in 1911 which, under a single administration, offered two-year programs in general and vocational training and in teacher preparation. Between 1911 and 1921 a campus was built on University Avenue, then the northern border of Fresno. In 1921 the college became Fresno State Teachers College, authorized to offer a four-year program and to grant the bachelor of arts degree in teaching. In 1935, by act of the Legislature, the official designation became Fresno State College, and the college was authorized to offer a variety of degree programs in addition to those related to the teaching credential. Following World War II, expansion was accelerated, both academically and physically. The first master's