

THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGES

The individual California State Colleges were brought together as a system by the Donahoe Higher Education Act of 1960. In 1972 the system became The California State University and Colleges.

The oldest campus—San Jose State University—was founded in 1857 and became the first institution of public higher education in California. The newest campus—California State College, Bakersfield—began instruction in 1970.

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.

Academic excellence has been achieved by The California State University and Colleges through a distinguished faculty, whose primary responsibility is superior teaching. While each campus in the system has its own unique geographic and curricular character, all campuses, as multipurpose institutions, offer undergraduate and graduate instruction for professional and occupational goals as well as broad liberal education. All of the campuses require for graduation a basic program of "General Education-Breadth Requirements" regardless of the type of bachelor's degree or major field selected by the student. A limited number of doctoral degrees are offered jointly with the University of California.

Presently, under the system's "New Approach to Higher Education," the campuses are implementing a wide variety of innovative programs to meet the changing needs of students and society. Among pilot programs under way are instructional television projects, self-paced learning plans, minicourses, and credit-by-examination alternatives. *The Consortium of The California State University and Colleges* fosters and sponsors local, regional, and statewide external degree and certificate programs to meet the needs of individuals who find it difficult or impossible to attend classes on a campus.

Enrollments in fall 1977 totaled approximately 300,000 students, who were taught by a faculty of 17,000. Last year the system awarded over 54 percent of the bachelor's degrees and 34 percent of the master's degrees granted in California. Almost 625,000 persons have been graduated from the nineteen campuses since 1960.