Thousands of Prospective Freshmen Apply
Making of Historic ‘First Class’

University Is ‘Confident’ Fall Enrollment Targets Will Be Met

A

most 2,180 students are vying for a chance to make history at Cal State Channel Islands. That is the number of students who applied to be members of the first freshman class that will begin studying at the University in the fall.

“As a result of strategic recruitment endeavors, we feel confident Channel Islands will meet its enrollment targets for fall 2003,” said Linda MacMichael, recently retired Director of Admissions and Records.

More than 750 upper-division transfer students have applied for fall admission. “We remain open to upper-division transfer students who historically apply a little later in the cycle,” she added.

Dr. Wm. Gregory Sawyer, Vice President for Student Affairs, commended the recruitment team for its efforts. “We are a brand-new public institution and we had to get the word out: We’re here, we have programs students want.”

On their surveys, attendees noted that they loved the atmosphere,” said Nancy Covarrubias Gill, Associate Director in the Division of Student Affairs and coordinator of the event. “They liked that the faculty and staff were accessible and so friendly.”

Another event, “Instant Admissions Day for Freshmen,” brought more than 120 students and their parents to the campus. The by-appointment-only process resulted in 80 freshmen being admitted that day. “It was exciting,” said Veronica Cantu, Recruitment Counselor. “There was lots of emotion in my office as they got the word they were in.”

By early February, about 825 freshmen whose applications arrived before the Dec. 2 deadline had received letters of acceptance. Each prospective freshman also received a certificate signed by Dr. Rush welcoming them to the “First Class.”

Said one recipient to a counselor: “That’s cool. One day, that will be a collector’s item.”

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On-line Applications Via the Internet Soar

Students Send a ‘Loud and Clear’ Message That They Prefer Convenience, Flexibility of Web

On-line applications to Cal State University campuses via an Internet site dedicated to the process are up almost 50% over the same period a year earlier.

During the fall’s two-month enrollment period, CSUMentor received almost 233,000 on-line applications, an increase of more than 47% over the same time span in 2001.

The figure also reflects the widespread acceptance of on-line applications among potential Cal State University students. The number of people who applied during October and November is more than 45 times the number that applied during the same period a year earlier.

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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE, cont.

curriculum for the fall has been developed, as our campus continues to offer majors in art, biology, business, computer science, English, environmental science and resource management, liberal studies, and mathematics. Two new majors, history and psychology, will be added in the fall of 2003-04. In addition, students can continue to complete course work to earn their teaching credentials. Of course, all of this growth on campus means more space will be utilized for classrooms, labs, and faculty offices. Work continues on the new science building, which will be completed in time for the arrival of students this fall. This is the first of many buildings that will form a science complex offering courses with a strong focus on biotechnology.

Growth also continues in the University Glen housing areas as the next phase of construction starts for faculty and staff housing, and apartments are complete. Construction of the first phase of student housing is scheduled to begin in the summer and be completed by fall 2004. Of course, all of this growth on campus means more course work to earn their teaching credentials. Of course, all of this growth on campus means more space will be utilized for classrooms, labs, and faculty offices. Work continues on the new science building, which will be completed in time for the arrival of students this fall. This is the first of many buildings that will form a science complex offering courses with a strong focus on biotechnology.

Innovative Technology at the Forefront of CSUCI Library

Establishing a library at Cal State Channel Islands creates the unique challenge of offering the latest electronic resources and innovative services while enhancing the traditional library as a place for instruction, study, inquiry and learning.

The current library, adjacent to the Bell Tower, provides an attractive environment conducive to research and collaborative study groups. Refurbishing of the adjacent courtyard will expand individual and group study areas and provide students with the largest dedicated outdoor study facility on campus, big enough to accommodate 20 tables and 80 chairs.

“Developing a library program and services is an exciting adventure,” said Paul Adalian, University Librarian. “As we move toward establishing new library spaces, the library will continue to build a dynamic collection of books, electronic databases and journals, DVDs, CDs, video cassettes, and other media.”

As a center of student learning, the library has been designated a digital-teaching library, incorporating up-to-date technologies such as digital student resources, live chat with librarians, and the latest multimedia applications to create an innovative learning environment. The library staff will continue working with students and faculty on developing a collaborative learning environment where students, faculty, and library staff create digital collections.

The library will feature the latest technology to make the students’ academic experiences relevant to the ever-changing career landscape. For example, the library recently donated $25,000 toward the establishment of a state-of-the-art wireless lab classroom. The donation will be used to purchase a wireless computer complete with 20 laptop computers that can be rolled into classrooms as needed.

Beginning this spring, Adalian will conduct classes on how to use the laptops as a tool to find, evaluate, and apply resource information housed on the library shelves as well as on the World Wide Web. The wireless classroom will also be used to teach applications such as PowerPoint, Dreamweaver, and other multimedia programs.

“The Verizon grant really expands and enhances the planning and implementation of wireless technology not only in the University library but for the entire campus,” Adalian said.

The Campus Millennium News Center is another example of an innovative resource that will position the University as a leading-edge technology institution. During the spring semester, students will be able to access news from the campus and around the world via the center’s five-foot plasma touch screen that will be in the lobby of the library. Digital displays of student and faculty projects will also be available at the center.

This summer, construction will begin on the new John Spoor Broome Library, which will be built where the Administration building now stands. The two-story glass and steel structure, designed by renowned architect Norman Foster to blend with the University’s Spanish-style buildings, is expected to be completed in 2005.

Campus Is Alive With Art and Culture

The arts and culture experienced at Cal State Channel Islands exists not only in the rich history of the architecture and landscape, but also in the academic programs and auxiliary arts organizations. From the University’s CSUCI Art Complex building to Studio Channel Islands Art Center operated by local artists, CSUCI remains steadfast in its commitment to supporting the arts in Ventura County.

Art Major, Technology Link

The Art Program, which takes an interdisciplinary approach, combines traditional art with new technology to give students a broad range of exposure to the visual arts. A state-of-the-art computer lab is equipped with a wide range of digital and 3-D software and animation programs, and courses in painting, sculpture, and ceramics are also offered.

By integrating the latest digital technology into the art curriculum, the University can provide students with the expertise for careers in such growing fields as graphic design, game design, motion graphics, animation, and visual effects, said Jack Reilly, Art Professor and Program Coordinator.

Academics are also strongly emphasized as an important aspect of the art major. In addition to basic art history courses, many interdisciplinary art courses are offered in conjunction with other majors, including innovative topics such as the Business of Art, and Psychology of Art and Artists. Works by students, including large-scale self-portraits and welded-steel sculpture, will be exhibited during March in the CSUCI Library.

Two partnerships contribute

Public Partners Contribute

Two organizations that lease space on the campus also contribute much in the way of visual and performing arts.

Studio Channel Islands Art Center, on the west side of campus, curates exhibits in two major galleries that feature the work of regional and national artists and provide working studio space for more than 30 resident artists. Exhibits change regularly and feature art for sale.

March through March 16, the studio is presenting “The John Nava Tapestry Project,” its most significant exhibition yet. The exhibit explains how Nava, one of the largest in-edge tapestries for the new Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in downtown Los Angeles. Tapestry samples, portraits of saints and iconography, will be exhibited at the center.

In October, the University hosted the 12th annual Media Arts Festival, a film, video, and new media competition that celebrates the work of regional and national artists.

Several students are enrolled in the first music classes the University is offering this semester, with more classes planned for fall. “These courses are offered for the general student, but they form the core of what I hope will become a full-fledged music major,” said Carla Cavallaro, Music Chair. The Channel Islands String Quartet, in its third year, also regularly provides classical music for a number of University events and receptions.

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Philanthropist Claeyssens Gives $1 Million to Establish Presidential Scholarship

Claeyssens, continued from Page 1

great deal more than a significant amount of money. It will be the means by which many young men and women from this and surrounding communities will be able to take a new path in the future. It is a path that may not have been available to them without this funding, and that path will lead them to success.”

The Pierre Claeyssens Presidential Scholarship Program will underwrite the education of promising students who might have chosen to attend another college if they did not receive financial help from CSUCI or who might not go to college because they don’t have the money to pay for it.

Claeyssens, a constant supporter of higher education, moved to the United States from Belgium in 1938 and to Santa Barbara in 1973. That same year, he and his now-late wife founded The Wood-Claeyssens Foundation, a family-run philanthropic organization that has given money to many Santa Barbara and Ventura County charities.

In Memoriam: Salvador Michel

A memorial fund has been established to help support the family of Salvador Martinez Michel, an employee of California State University Channel Islands who was murdered in December at his El Rio home.

Michel, 27, was in his garage visiting with a neighbor when an unknown assailant fired shots at the pair in the early-morning hours of Dec. 7. Two days later, the member of the Operations, Planning and Construction team at CSUCI died of gunshot wounds. His friend, who was also shot, recovered.

“This event has shaken our campus family,” said Dr. Richard R. Rush, President of the University. “Salvador exemplified the best of this institution. He was well liked and respected by everyone who had the pleasure of knowing him. The pain this tragedy has brought to his family is unimaginable and our thoughts and prayers are with them at this difficult time.

Rush was among dozens of University representatives and colleagues who joined hundreds of mourners at the Dec. 14 funeral at Santa Clara Chapel in Oxnard.

Michel is survived by his wife Marisela and two young children, Marcos and Rogelio.

To make contributions to the memorial fund, contact Linda Covarrubias in the department of Operations, Planning and Construction at (805) 437-8960 or mail a donation in care of Ruby Bansaole to Washington Mutual, 350 Esplanade Drive, Oxnard, CA 93030.

CSUCI Benefits From In-Kind Gifts

Going Green With an Electric Car

The University’s commitment to good air quality received a boost with the donation of a 2001 two-seat Gem/Dodge electric car by Gerald and Ellen Goldman of Camarillo.

Mission Paintings

Twenty-one paintings of the California Missions and two paintings of Catholic padres associated with the missions were donated by Alice G. Adams. The collection will be displayed in the library.

Computer Power

The Computer Science Department and Digital Society were given a major computer upgrade when Ivona Grzegorczyk, Piotr Grzegorczyk, and Shahiart Mokhtarzi of Newbury Park donated a Clarion SCSI RAID computer that will enable students and faculty to build large databases and run simulations.

To make a gift in kind, or non-monetary contribution, to the University, call (805) 437-8420.

Your Gift to CSUCI Will Impact Important Areas:

Donors can select from the following funds in support of our University:

University’s Highest Priority Needs Fund

Provides support for the increasing needs of this growing campus.

Student Scholarship Fund

Increases students’ ability to meet their educational goals and could be the sole deciding factor in their ability to begin or continue their education.

Student Special Needs Fund

Provides essential items to enable underprivileged students to fully participate in the University environment.

Faculty Excellence and Innovation Fund

Enables faculty to serve students better by supporting advanced learning in their disciplines.

Library Resource Fund

Will assist in supplying the future library with reference materials and systems to ensure students up-to-date, quality educational resources.

Green Campus Project Fund

Supports creation of a green campus community that reduces transportation congestion and pollution, and ensures self-sustaining and waste-reduction facilities.

President’s Fund

Enables the President to respond in a timely manner to emerging opportunities for the benefit of the University.

University’s Endowment Fund

Will establish a strong foundation to ensure the long-term future of the University.

Jack O’Connell Archives Donated to CSUCI

Jack O’Connell, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and a pioneering supporter of Cal State Channel Islands, recently donated portions of his legislative papers to the University’s library archives.

“I am very pleased Cal State Channel Islands will be the repository of my professional papers, and I’m looking forward to a long working relationship with the campus,” said O’Connell, a member of the State Senate from 1994-2002 and the State Assembly from 1982-1994.

O’Connell wrote the bill establishing the endowment of a university in Ventura County at the Camarillo State Hospital site, and his family has championed bringing a public university to the county for more than 30 years. He said he decided to house his archives at the CSUCI campus because of his close local ties and faith in CSUCI as a first-rate institution of higher learning.

O’Connell’s archives will be in the Robert J. and Norma M. Lagomarsino Department of Archives and Special Collections in the University Library. O’Connell’s archives include book files, press releases and news clippings.

For more information about the CSUCI Archives, contact Evelyn Taylor, (805) 437-8830.

Fund Created to Support Innovative Teaching at the University

The best teachers never stop learning — or learning how to reach out to students. That’s the philosophy behind a new fund created to support innovative teaching at Cal State Channel Islands.

“To design and deliver the best educational programs, CSUCI relies on an outstanding group of faculty dedicated to advancing knowledge and learning in their disciplines. Supporting their work, as teachers and scholars, is essential,” said Carol Holder, Director of Faculty Development for the University.

“We have faculty who value learning — their own and that of their students. They support student scholarly and creative activities, and contribute to knowledge about teaching and learning in their disciplines. Our faculty want to take advantage of the best approaches to enhancing student learning,” she said.

Those approaches include developing new ways of working with students on writing, solving problems, and understanding complex issues, as well as using new technologies and mentoring students as partners in research and creative projects.

Initially, contributions to the Faculty Excellence and Innovation Fund may be used for:

• Faculty mentoring of student research and creative activities: Helping faculty develop and implement projects that give students an understanding of research and problem-solving in particular disciplines.

• Instructional innovation projects that enable faculty to learn about, experiment with, and share new ways of teaching, including integrating technology into teaching and learning.

• A “writing in the disciplines” program to support faculty efforts to improve student writing and learning in any course.

• Creating a resource center with the latest information on best practices for teaching University students.

For more information, or to donate to the Faculty Excellence and Innovation Fund, call (805) 437-8420.

Service-Learning Grant

CSUCI received a $46,000 grant in October as part of Governor Gray Davis’ commitment to service learning. The funds will help establish an office of community-university partnerships and service learning, which links academic study to community service. The grant will enable the office to help faculty develop courses, policies and procedures and to create a data-management system for implementing service learning with students and community partners.
Student Housing Construction Scheduled to Begin in Summer

Residences to Accommodate 350 in Apartment Suites That Will Mirror Spanish Architectural Style

With the first round of freshman enrollment complete, Cal State Channel Islands is gearing up to build a $16-million student housing project scheduled to be completed by fall 2004. The University intends to hire a contractor in March and begin construction by August on the residences that will house about 350 students in suite-style apartments.

“Student housing is an important component in meeting the needs of students who may not have access to nearby housing off campus,” said George Dutra, Associate Vice President of Operations, Planning and Construction for CSUCI. “We are working hard to complete construction by fall of 2004.”

The residences, designed to emulate the Spanish-style architecture of the other buildings on campus, will be the first buildings to house students on campus. Other housing planned for the future should accommodate another 1,650 students. Located along Potrero Road in Sino Park at the back corner of campus, the apartment-style facilities will include suites comprised of four bedrooms, a living area, a shared bath and an efficiency kitchen. The current design allows each student to have a private bedroom.

A food commons, a much-needed addition to the campus, will be built at the same time in an existing building in the south quad.

University Glen Residents Settle In to Campus-Close Community

Building of Town Center With Stores, Restaurants, and Fitness Facility to Start in Fall

An associate professor of Spanish and her family became the first residents of the University Glen development when they moved into their home in September. When completed, the housing project on the east end of campus will provide a mix of apartments, townhouses and single-family homes offered at affordable prices to Cal State Channel Islands faculty, staff, and other educational partners and allies.

Terry Ballman, Ph.D., said affordability was the main reason her family decided to purchase a home in University Glen. “It’s rare to find such high-quality homes at a relatively affordable price surrounded by a gorgeous backdrop of mountains,” said Dr. Ballman, who was a professor at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, N.C., before moving here with her husband and two children.

The first phase, which is sold out, offered 36 single-family homes that sold for approximately $225,000 to $307,000, about 65% of estimated market value. Another phase of homes is scheduled to open this summer in the community that will eventually have 900 housing units.

An initial phase of 100 apartments and 78 town homes also recently opened. Thirty of the town homes were sold at prices starting at $166,000. The remaining townhouses and apartments are open to the public to rent at rates ranging from $1,228 to $2,220 a month, an estimated 10% less than similar rentals off campus.

In the fall, construction will begin on a new town center that is expected to feature a bookstore, fitness facility, general store, two restaurants, and offices. Two floors of 38 apartments will also be built on top of retail space in the center scheduled to be completed in 2004.

University Glen is also a revenue source for the University. The housing project will generate money needed to help fund University programs and additional campus construction and renovation. It also provides needed housing to CSUCI employees and allies (employees of community colleges, public schools, and the Navy).

“We are excited to make this beautiful housing located just minutes from the ocean available to our faculty and staff as well as the Ventura County community,” said Joanne Covelle, Vice President for Finance and Administration at CSUCI. “The University Glen housing development represents a unique public/private partnership that will help the University grow and sustain.”

The development of University Glen is overseen by the CSUCI Site Authority, which is made up of members appointed by California State University, the County of Ventura, and a Ventura County city. The Site Authority is responsible for managing the purchase and sale of government bonds to fund construction as well as overseeing the aesthetic integrity of University Glen and setting the rules for use of the area by residents.

Among the benefits of University Glen, Dr. Ballman cites the attractive landscape and appealing architecture. But one aspect was especially appealing. “The convenience of not having to commute to work,” she said, “is another added bonus.”

For more information about the homes for sale in University Glen, call (805) 437-8896. To inquire about leasing an apartment or town home, call (805) 389-3324.

Student Spotlight

“I chose CSUCI because it just opened with the new business program. To me being at a new university means the opportunity to be a part of its growth and development. What I like most is that it feels like we can play a part in the new University’s life and culture. Fellow students and I have enjoyed working with the Office of Student Development in forming new organizations. The experience is like being a pioneer on a new journey.”

– Richard Garcia
Senior, Business
President, Business Student Association

“Receiving the Edison International Scholarship is an affirmation that I am on the right path. I believe children are our future, and this scholarship will help me make a difference. Also, being a mother the past 27 years to my three sons has been great preparation for me as a future teacher. CSUCI, with its student-oriented faculty, is the best school to help me fulfill one of my childhood dreams.”

– Martina Albert
Graduate student, Teaching Credential Program
Recipient, Edison International’s Scholarship for Teachers for Tomorrow, awarded by the CSU Foundation

Employment Opportunities

For information on employment opportunities at Cal State Channel Islands, visit the Web site at www.csuci.edu, and click the Employment link.