

CSUCI Increases Campus Size By 153 Acres

Camarillo, Calif., Oct. 15, 2007-California State University Channel Islands has acquired 153 acres of land adjacent to the northern boundary of campus. The 153-acre parcel was acquired in a land exchange and the deal closed on Thursday, Oct. 11. It increases CSUCI's size from 680 acres to 833 acres.

The newly acquired 153-acre parcel's southern boundary borders along the northern portion of the CSUCI campus closest to Santa Barbara Avenue. The western boundary of the parcel borders Lewis Road. The parcel's eastern border is University Drive, and its northern boundary borders agricultural land.

"This is an important addition for the future of the campus," said CSUCI President Richard R. Rush. "The campus core, while absolutely beautiful, does not afford us the space necessary to continue to provide appropriate access and opportunities for the University and the community."

The University will use this new land for a new entry roadway for campus, which is estimated to be completed by December 2009. The new entry roadway will be accessed from Lewis Road and will use the bridge located just south of Lewis Road that Ventura County presently is constructing. The new roadway will have two lanes to handle traffic traveling in each direction and have a landscaped and lighted median. Eventually there will be surface parking lots developed with the capacity of approximately 5,000 parking spaces that will be accessible from the new entry roadway. Bicycle lanes also will be part of the new roadway.

There will be a second bridge constructed over Long Grade Creek just north of the new roadway's intersection with existing Santa Barbara Avenue on campus. The entry road will reduce to a two lane roadway over the bridge with a bike lane and a sidewalk.

Along with surface parking, the University plans to construct playing fields on the 153-acre parcel. The timeline for completion of the playing fields has not yet been determined.

University Drive, the current access to campus from Lewis Road, will continue to be used for campus access and access to University Glen, the residential area just east of the University's main campus. Following the completion of the new entry roadway, University Drive primarily will be used as the access road for University Glen and serve as an additional entry-point for the CSUCI campus.

For media inquires about the newly acquired acreage contact Ceal Potts, communications specialist at CSUCI, 805-437-8940 or <u>cecilia.potts@csuci.edu</u>.