

Undergraduate Student Experience and Satisfaction Steering Committee Progress Report May, 2006

The Committee learned through its own work that the act of reaching out to members of the community — i.e., engaging them in a dialogue and asking for their opinions — has in itself the potential to affect campus climate positively.

Report of the Undergraduate Student Experience and Satisfaction Committee
September 2005

This document is a progress report on the campus response to the Undergraduate Student Experience and Satisfaction (USES) report issued in September, 2005. It summarizes actions taken to date and future plans for responding to the USES Report, its recommendations, and call for major changes in the campus culture of UCSD.

INTRODUCTION

In January 2005, Acting Senior Vice Chancellor-Academic Affairs David Miller, Vice Chancellor-Student Affairs Joseph Watson, and Vice Chancellor-External Relations James Langley charged the USES Committee "... to evaluate the general nature and quality of undergraduate life at UCSD, both within and outside the classroom, and make recommendations on how to improve the quality of the undergraduate experience and student satisfaction." The committee was co-chaired by Sixth College Provost Gabriele Wienhausen and UCSD Alumnus Joseph Leventhal and consisted of 16 members, including 8 students and representatives of the Alumni Association, Academic Affairs, the Academic Senate, and Student Affairs. In September 2005, the committee reported its findings and recommendations in the context of three key recommendations and nine guiding principles as listed below:

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

- To Address the Need for a Greater Physical, Social and Emotional Community
- To Build Strong Intellectual and Social Student-Faculty Connections
- To Create a Strong School Identity (Basking in Reflected Glory)

NINE PRINCIPLES

- Principle 1: Advancing Education through Curricular and Co-curricular Activities
- Principle 2: Supporting the Transition to Adulthood
- Principle 3: Valuing Students as Important Members and Stakeholders of the UCSD Community and Opening Avenues for Ongoing Interaction and Involvement with Alumni
- Principle 4: Building Pride through Promotion of the Institution's Accomplishments

- Principle 5: Increasing Coordination, Integration, and Communication
- Principle 6: Cultivating Community Spirit and Fostering the Roles of On-Campus and Off-Campus Communities
- Principle 7: Recognizing the Importance of the Physical Environment of the Campus
- Principle 8: Focusing on Student Housing Options That Build Community
- Principle 9: Allowing Access to the University and its Neighborhoods

In keeping with the urging of the USES Committee that its report be used to encourage wide discussion and collaboration among all segments of the campus community that will serve to inspire a campus culture reflective of the nine principles, the three charging vice chancellors formed a Steering Committee with representation from major campus constituencies to guide assessments and actions in response to the USES Committee findings and recommendations. The Steering Committee members are:

- Associate Vice Chancellor Mark Appelbaum, Academic Affairs
- Special Assistant Cynthia Davalos, Student Affairs
- Associate Vice Chancellor David Miller, Academic Affairs
- Chair Bernard Minster, Academic Senate
- Bryce Murray, ASUCSD Representative
- Associate Vice Chancellor Stacie Spector, University Communications
- Assistant Vice Chancellor Jeff Steindorf, Campus Planning
- Director John Valva, Alumni Relations
- Vice Chancellor Joseph Watson, Student Affairs

APPROACH TO REVIEWING AND ACTING UPON THE USES REPORT

The Steering Committee set the following objectives for the review and response to the USES Report for the 2005-06 academic year:

- a) Achieve wide distribution and discussion of the report among campus constituencies.
- b) Initiate approaches that result in the findings and broad principles being actively addressed as collaboratively as possible.
- c) Develop approaches that would evaluate each of the 163 recommendations in the report and assess how best to achieve their objectives.
- d) Prepare a Spring Quarter progress report to the Chancellor and the campus community.
- e) Continue to address the report over the next two academic years with the issuance of a final report in the Spring of 2008.

(a) Wide Distribution and Discussion

The USES Report was widely distributed to the campus community, discussed in a variety of settings, and posted on the Web at <http://studentresearch.ucsd.edu/satisfaction/>.

Academic Affairs discussed the report with the Divisional Deans, the Department Chairs, and the Council on Undergraduate Education. Academic Senate committees reviewed and reported on the report to the Senate Council and Chair. The Alumni Association included a link to the report in their electronic monthly newsletter to all alumni, held lengthy discussions of the report with its Board of Directors, and gave copies of the report to alumni who participated in the feedback sessions conducted by the USES Committee. The report was distributed to all Student Affairs units and was the topic of a Council Retreat and an All Student Affairs Staff meeting. The college councils and ASUCSD held extended discussions of the report and two student leaders' lunch meetings with Vice Chancellor Watson focused on the report and possible actions. Additionally, the ASUCSD featured the report and their responses in their inaugural "State of the Campus" address on March 22, 2006. There are numerous other examples of the wide distribution and discussion of the report which have occurred and continue to occur.

(b) A Collaborative Response to the Report

The Steering Committee firmly believes that efforts to improve the quality of undergraduate student experiences and satisfaction, and ultimately the campus culture, at UCSD will be most effective and long-lasting if they are broad-based, collaborative, and engage the active interest of all campus constituencies—faculty, students, academic and nonacademic administrators, and staff. To ensure that each of the nine principles in the report and its associated findings and recommendations are actively addressed in a manner that is coordinated with current programs and activities, the nine principle areas were assigned to Steering Committee members as follows:

- Principle 1: Associate Vice Chancellor Mark Appelbaum, Academic Affairs
- Principle 2: Vice Chancellor Joseph Watson, Student Affairs
- Principle 3: Vice Chancellor Joseph Watson, Student Affairs
- Principle 4: Director John Valva, Alumni Relations/External Relations
- Principle 5: Vice Chancellor Joseph Watson, Student Affairs
- Principle 6: Vice Chancellor Joseph Watson, Student Affairs
- Principle 7: Vice Chancellor Joseph Watson, Student Affairs
- Principle 8: Vice Chancellor Joseph Watson, Student Affairs
- Principle 9: Assistant Vice Chancellor Jeff Steindorf, Campus Planning

The intention of the assignments was to ensure that each principle has a proactive champion on the Steering Committee who will undertake initiatives to engage a breadth of constituencies to address each principle. To ensure communication and coordination, the Steering Committee meets monthly to review progress to date and discuss how best to collaborate in responding to the report.

(c) Actions on Principles, Findings, and Recommendations

The Steering Committee considers the three key recommendations in the USES Report and each of the nine principles as goals that can serve as effective means to enhance the

quality of student experiences and satisfaction at UCSD. We believe that the quality of student life at UCSD should and can match the excellence of teaching, research, and scholarship at UCSD. We agree wholeheartedly with the USES Committee that the key to such excellence is for all of our decisions and interactions to be guided by the overarching goal of treating students "...as lifelong members of a community" and pursuing each of the three key recommendations.

We strongly recommend that each unit of the campus consider adopting the goal of treating students as lifelong members of the UCSD community and adopting the three key recommendations as guiding principles for program development and decision-making.

The Steering Committee is in full agreement with the USES Committee that there are no silver bullets for enhancing student life and satisfaction at UCSD. It will require a variety of actions and changes in the culture and character of the campus and the behavior of its members over a significant period of time. Nevertheless, we have decided that, wherever possible, immediate actions should be taken in order to make some immediate progress—no matter how small—and to demonstrate a dedication to improving student life at UCSD. Consequently, the findings and each of the recommendations in the report were evaluated for appropriate actions ranging from immediate implementation as proposed to further evaluation and consideration of alternatives.

To illustrate the types of action taken on the recommendations, several examples follow:

- As a result of universal enthusiasm for the recommendation to encourage greater student-faculty informal interactions, a student-faculty lunch program, "Dine With A Prof.," was launched Winter Quarter 2006 with seed funding from the Vice Chancellor-Student Affairs, strong endorsement by Academic Affairs, and the operational leadership of the college deans. The response to the program has been enthusiastic by both students and faculty. During the first month of the program, 63 faculty and 130 students participated.
- The USES Committee's proposals that committees be formed to address in depth the strong student concerns regarding the RSO program and the "legalistic" administration of campus policies and regulations have been implemented.
- Preliminary discussions to assess the desirability of the USES Report recommendations for the creation of a "campus village" have begun and will be extended to the Campus Community Planning Committee.

The vast majority of the USES Report Recommendations are undergoing further study and evaluation. The USES Committee anticipated the need for more detailed evaluation of many of its recommendations by explicitly stating the need for more thorough analysis and grouping the recommendations into three categories: (1) immediately feasible, (2) straightforward, and (3) needs further development.

The following sections provide additional general information on actions taken in response to the findings and recommendations for each of the nine principles.

Principle 1: Advancing Education through Curricular and Co-Curricular Activities

Steering Committee Member Lead: Associate Vice Chancellor-Academic Affairs, Mark Appelbaum

The goals of this principle have been actively pursued by Academic Affairs in collaboration with the academic departments and the colleges. In response to the USES Report, Academic Affairs has met with the following groups in order to discuss mutual commitment to the principle of faculty-student interactions both inside and outside of the classroom:

- a. Divisional Deans
 - b. Department Chairs
 - c. Council on Undergraduate Education (departmental Vice-Chairs for Undergraduate Education)
- As a result of the discussions with these groups, Academic Affairs is confident that many units already have a number of activities that strengthen the relationship between student and faculty in the ways envisioned in the USES Report. The innovative and successful activities of the faculty and departments are not widely known however. To this end, Academic Affairs has begun to collect “Good Practices” and has both posted these practices to a Web site (<http://academicaffairs.ucsd.edu/r/survey.html>) and to circulate them to faculty in the form of e-mail “tips.”
 - In order to expand the small class experiences of students, Academic Affairs has expanded the Freshman Seminar program to include special one-unit seminars for Transfer Students and Senior Seminars. The new Senior Seminars, recently approved by the Academic Senate’s Committee on Educational Policy, will be available to seniors starting Fall of 2006.
 - Because of the extremely positive impact of undergraduate research on students’ learning, satisfaction, and aspirations, two key initiatives have been successfully launched:
 - The Academic Enrichment Program, Student Affairs, has undertaken a number of initiatives to facilitate such opportunities. In particular, it has launched the virtual Undergraduate Research Center (<http://ugresearch.ucsd.edu/>) on the Web in order to make it convenient for both students and faculty to learn about undergraduate research and how to participate in it and to post their interest and opportunities for undergraduate research. By the end of March, 2006, the site had 661 students and 109 faculty registrants.

- The Council of Provosts, in collaboration with the Blink Team, has created, as part of the new TritonLink, a research portal (<https://tritonlink.ucsd.edu/portal/site/tritonlink-preview/menuitem.b4448692267a11256ec5e210514b01ca?storyID=19325>). The portal is a comprehensive on-line resource for undergraduate and graduate students who are exploring research opportunities, research funding sources, and research conferences at UCSD.
- Responding to the special emphasis accorded to Transfer Students in the report, Academic Affairs has created a CD that will be sent to all newly admitted Transfer Students in order to help them get adapted to UCSD more rapidly and more successfully. The CD contains a welcome message from the Chancellor and from the Provosts and Deans of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs for the students' individual colleges. This CD will be distributed to new Transfer Students shortly after the statement of intent to register (SIR) deadline for Transfer Students, about June 1.
- In order to further the development of excellence in teaching a review of the Center for Teaching Development has been requested of VC Richard Attiyeh. It is hoped that the result of this review will allow Academic Affairs to effectively consider potential expansions to the program.
- In order to facilitate the out-of-classroom communication between student and faculty, the "Dine With A Prof" program was launched Winter Quarter 2006 with seed funding from the Vice Chancellor-Student Affairs, strong endorsement by Academic Affairs, and the operational leadership of the college deans. The response to the program has been enthusiastic by both students and faculty.

Finally, Principle 1 is seen as an ongoing theme in attempts by Academic Affairs to support and promote the highest quality undergraduate education that UCSD can provide.

Principle 2: Supporting the Transition to Adulthood

Steering Committee Member Lead: Vice Chancellor-Student Affairs, Joseph Watson

The college years are a period of student experimentation, growing independence, and the development of mature judgment and responsibility. The challenge for the campus is to achieve the proper balance between student freedom and experimentation and student safety and enforcement of campus regulations and the law. The USES Committee report of student unhappiness with the current balance between freedom and enforcement and resentment over the approach and methods of enforcement of campus regulations were taken seriously and acted upon as recommended in the report.

To address the USES Report concerns and recommendations regarding the approaches of the campus to maintaining a safe residential environment and enforcement of campus regulations, Vice Chancellor Watson established two workgroups:

- A Residential Security Officer Workgroup chaired by Revelle College Provost Wulbert was charged in the Fall Quarter of 2005 to evaluate and address the concerns stated in the USES Report. The committee, consisting of a resident dean, college dean, campus police representative, RSO, and three undergraduate students, will submit its report to the Vice Chancellor in Spring Quarter, 2006.
- The Student Misconduct Related to Substance and Alcohol Abuse Workgroup, composed of 10 members, and chaired by SPJA Director Valladolid, was charged to review all regulations and protocols which typically result in student misconduct charges, e.g. PPM's, the Student Conduct Code, as well as college-specific regulations and protocols. This workgroup was also requested to assess intervention protocols and education and prevention efforts and provide a final report by May 2007.
- The campus policies and procedures governing the serving of alcohol at campus events, including student-sponsored events, have been reviewed by a number of administrative offices and found to be satisfactory with respect to legal and safety considerations without being an inappropriate barrier to serving alcohol at campus events populated by individuals 21 and older. The complete PPM 510 Section XIII policy on serving alcohol may be accessed at <http://adminrecords.ucsd.edu/ppm/docs/510-1.13.HTML>
- The Associated Students have been informed that there is no campus barrier to their conducting TG's under the current regulations which are similar to those under which the ASUCSD safely conducted TG's in the past.
- Because faculty and community advisors can be an invaluable resource for students, all academic, pre-professional, and Greek registered student organizations are required to have a faculty, staff, or community advisor. This requirement for an advisor has not been extended to other student organizations. Whether such a requirement should be instituted will be discussed with students, student organizations, and the SOLO staff. Discussions will also be initiated on how best to encourage and recognize faculty and staff service as advisors to student organizations.

Principle 3: Valuing Students as Important Members and Stakeholders
Steering Committee Member Lead: Vice Chancellor-Student Affairs, Joseph Watson

The USES Report states “Student members of the Committee and other students expressed pride in the uniqueness of the college system and appreciation for the abilities of the colleges to personalize the university experience.” Thus, the individual colleges provide a solid foundation on which to build a lifelong affiliation by students with the campus.

- The Registration Fee Advisory Committee and Student Affairs recognize that the colleges need a reasonable level of funding and have committed to restoring in 2006-07 the budget cuts which the college student affairs and residential life programs received in the 2002-03 fiscal year.
- To increase positive interactions with the faculty, the colleges are looking into adding faculty names, emails, and URLs on college Web pages and providing quarterly e-letters from the Provost to faculty highlighting college themes, traditions, and invitations to college events. The colleges are also looking into new faculty receptions with the college deans, provosts, and key student representatives to orient them to the colleges and personally invite them to partake in college events. The college Deans of Students Affairs are also taking a lead role in implementing the “Dine with a Prof.” program.
- The Revelle College Council has recently launched a student-initiated faculty mentor program called “Next Step” with approximately 100 students and faculty involved. A kick-off was held at the Faculty Club Winter Quarter and a small mixer is planned for Spring Quarter. Students and faculty who meet discuss a range of topics including their professional careers and life outside the university.
- To expand student participation in campus affairs, all vice chancellors are encouraged to promote within their areas the involvement of students on workgroups and advisory and search committees wherever permissible.
- The Alumni Association has partnered with Student Affairs and the colleges to participate in student recruitment and yield activities for admitted students generally and Regents Scholars in particular. The Association will also be an active partner in programs for continuing students and graduating seniors such as Life 101.

Principle 4: Building Pride Through Promotion of the Institution’s Accomplishments

Steering Committee Member Lead: Director, Alumni Association, John Valva

The USES Committee reported that UCSD undergraduates “... wanted to feel ‘pride’ in UCSD and expressed frustration over UCSD being confused with USD and SDSU. Although UCSD has a stellar academic reputation, its public image is limited and, from the perspective of students, does not reflect the full range of achievements and characteristics that make our major competitors (UCLA, UCB,

Stanford, USC) so attractive. The following are a few examples of actions taken to foster student pride and public awareness of UCSD:

- A weekly “UCSD TOP 5 News You Can Use” Web announcement has been initiated to inform the campus community of recent achievements by the campus and its members.
- The online e-newsletter, *This Week @ UCSD*, is highlighting more students, faculty and staff with great stories of individual accomplishments.
- The Associated Students created “We Support the Tritons” posters and distributed them to campus departments and local businesses in La Jolla during Winter Quarter.
- A campuswide committee chaired by Associate Vice Chancellor Stacie Spector was formed in 2006 to develop a universitywide message development and branding initiative.
- The University Centers Advisory Board has formed an ad-hoc committee to make recommendations on the naming of the meeting rooms in the Price Center and Student Center. The committee has had two meetings and will submit its recommendations to the Director of the University Centers in the Spring of 2006.
- The concept of the historical marker program has been presented to the Alumni Association Director and the Associate Vice Chancellor of University Communications along with information on other universities’ marker programs. The next step is to collect information on fabricators of markers and financial information on the cost to create and install the markers. This information would be assembled by Student Life and disseminated to the Alumni Association. If the costs are determined to be feasible by the Alumni Association, a proposal will be submitted to Campus Planning.
- Student leaders have requested a workgroup be formed to discuss the idea of “book ends” events or ceremonies to address the two key transitions a student encounters in their university experience – as an entering young adult and a graduating adult – and possibly combining such activities in a Senior Week coordinated among the six colleges.

Principle 5: Increasing Coordination, Integration, and Communication

Steering Committee Member Lead: Vice Chancellor-Student Affairs, Joseph Watson

The Steering Committee concurs with the USES Committee view that there are three major entities that shape undergraduates’ views of their experiences and affiliations: their college, their academic department/major, and UCSD as a

campuswide entity. Although each can be seen as a competitor for the student's loyalty and affiliation, such conflict is not inherent and should be avoidable through communication, collaboration, and mutual support among the three entities to best serve the students and their needs and interests.

- To ensure that prospective and admitted students are provided with the most accurate and effective information about the campus, the 2005-06 Tour Guide Manual was reviewed and updated by the Council of Provosts, Deans of Student Affairs, Academic Advising, and others. Each year, the manual will be sent to these and other key campus administrators, as well as students, for review and proposed modification in order to ensure maximum accuracy and effectiveness in explaining the college system and the UCSD undergraduate experience. In addition, new arrangements have been instituted to host admitted students and their families who visit the campus in a manner that more efficiently introduces them to the campus and college staff.
- The colleges are exploring ways to strengthen their positive role in student lives during the first year and beyond, particularly at the upper division level, for both freshmen and transfer entrants.
- Chancellor Fox has appointed the Welcome Week and Beyond Planning Committee, chaired by Eleanor Roosevelt College Provost Ann Craig, to develop ways to provide a collective theme for the first-year experience for new Fall 2006 students.
- A number of initiatives have been undertaken to improve communications and marketing of campus events in order to give students a convenient unified picture of events and programs at UCSD. The Vice Chancellor-Student Affairs has initiated discussions with possible partners in University Events, University Communications, ACT, Admissions and Enrollment Services, the TritonLink Advisory Committee, College Deans, UCSD Library, and the Associated Students to develop a comprehensive campus events calendar that is interactive and can be tailored to individual student interests. The Manager of University Centers Technical Services is researching electronic marquees and possible locations for its placement. SOLO is updating its student organization handbook chapter on events publicity and marketing, plans to place it on the Web, and will offer, in partnership with LEAD, workshops for student organizations and others on how to effectively publicize events for students.
- Commuter Student Services maintains a commuter Web site (<http://commuter.ucsd.edu>) containing information about the location and hours of campus food outlets, lounges, computer labs, and links to information about parking and transportation. It also publishes a brochure that identifies the location of all lounge spaces on campus and their hours.

- Commuter Student Services is currently reviewing the Web site and brochure to determine if more information can be provided and also the feasibility of producing this information in a “map” for print and Web formats. This review should be complete by the start of the Spring Quarter. A map module is being developed for TritonLink with anticipated deployment by December 2006.

Principle 6: Cultivating Community Spirit and Fostering the Roles of On-Campus and Off-Campus Communities

Steering Committee Member Lead: Vice Chancellor-Student Affairs, Joseph Watson

UCSD is large institution of 26,000 students and more than 23,000 staff and faculty from diverse backgrounds drawn to the campus by its academic excellence. However, for students as well as staff and faculty, there is not the sense of belonging to a lively welcoming community. To quote the USES Committee Report, “... UCSD is lackluster: the sense of community is weak; the campus lacks spirit, the campus climate is cold and non-welcoming; and the campus does not have a commonly shared set of traditions and rituals.” The Steering Committee viewed this principle as particularly challenging because it concerns the behaviors, expectations and social norms of almost 50,000 people. Clearly the development of a strong sense of community will take time and a large number of incremental steps in a variety of settings.

- In order to enhance school spirit, Student Affairs is seeking to strengthen and build on existing events and traditions such as the 5K Run/Walk, Welcome Week, UnOlympics, the Chancellor’s participation in move-in, Revelle Watermelon and the Muir Pumpkin Drops, Spirit Night, and Sun God.
- Chancellor Fox has appointed a Welcome Week and Beyond Planning Committee to provide a unifying theme for first-year students and the campus community.
- The ASUCSD has proposed to bring back TG’s.
- The Assistant Vice Chancellor-Student Life has initiated discussions with Intercollegiate Athletics and the Associated Students to hold a campus and off-campus businesses spirit decoration contest during Triton Spirit Week. The full-campus and off-campus decoration contest will be incorporated into the Triton Spirit Week in February 2007. The University Centers is working with Athletics and Associated Students to draft the contest rules, marketing plan, and prizes.
- This year, the International House hosted soccer matches viewing events that drew international and domestic students together. The International House

plans to continue these community-building events during the upcoming FIFA World Cup Championship.

- A committee chaired by University Librarian Brian Schottlaender has been established to update the UCSD Web site so that it, along with TritonLink and Blink, provides more convenient and efficient access to UCSD information and a more coherent, unifying image of the campus community. The committee expects to complete its work and submit its recommendations by Spring 2006.
- The most effective action UCSD can take to enhance a sense of community and school spirit is to have more students live on campus, particularly for three to four years. In Winter Quarter, initial approval was granted by The Regents and UCOP to build the North Campus Housing Project. The project will enable the campus to take the first steps toward a two-year on-campus housing guarantee for new transfer students. Discussions are now underway to establish the next undergraduate housing project and a longer term plan for construction of the additional 3,000 bed spaces needed to meet the campus master plan goal of housing 50% of all students on campus. Once the plan for achieving the 50% goal has been addressed, the USES Report recommendation of a 4-year on-campus housing guarantee can be given consideration.
- Student centers serve the critical role of the living and dining rooms of a campus community – places where all members of the community comfortably break bread together, socialize, and dialogue. The University Centers at UCSD have played such a role and will do so even more effectively with the opening of the addition to the Student Center and its housing of the LGBTRC and Women’s Center and provision of additional meeting, lounge, and restaurant spaces. The planned expansion of the Price Center and its housing of the Cross-Cultural Center will further enhance student life and sense of community.

Principle 7: Recognizing the Importance of the Physical Environment of the Campus

Steering Committee Member Lead: Vice Chancellor-Student Affairs, Joseph Watson

Accessible facilities that are inviting and foster positive social interactions can contribute greatly to a sense of community and student satisfaction. There is clearly a need to step back and take a high level view of the master plan for the campus from the perspective of ensuring that it will adequately promote a sense of community and student satisfaction, as well as provide adequate space for a variety of student activities and services, e.g., on-campus housing, recreation, sports, and events. During this academic year, the focus has been principally on particular facilities.

- The expansions of the Student and Price Centers will significantly increase meeting, lounge, and dining spaces for students on campus. A Thai restaurant will soon open in the Student Center addition and the two requests for proposals will be issued for food services in the Student Academic Services Facility scheduled to open in April 2007.
- Round Table Pizza has had its license amended to permit live music which should significantly increase its attractiveness for student socializing. The University Centers room/event space on-line reservation system has recently been upgraded to make it more user friendly. In Spring Quarter 2006, the system will be integrated into the one-stop service center Web site for student organizations, which will be accessible through TritonLink.
- The University Centers administration, along with UCAB, is evaluating the cost/benefits of extending operating hours for various sections of the University Centers.
- Student Affairs is pursuing an ambitious plan of facilities renovation and new construction in order to provide the recreation and social spaces needed for high quality student life on a campus of 30,000 students. In addition to the already underway University Centers renovation and expansion, the planned projects include the RIMAC Annex and Softball Stadium, the Wellness Center, the expansion of the International Center, and the development of the East Campus Recreation Area.

Principle 8: Focusing on Student Housing Options That Build Community

Steering Committee Member Lead: Vice Chancellor-Student Affairs, Joseph Watson

As stated in Principle 6, the most effective action UCSD could take to enhance a sense of community and school spirit is to have more students live on campus, particularly for three to four years.

- In Winter Quarter, initial approval was given by The Regents and UCOP to build the North Campus Housing Project. The project will enable the campus to take the first steps toward a two-year on-campus housing guarantee for new transfer students. Discussions are now underway to establish the next undergraduate housing project and a longer term plan for construction of the additional 3,000 bed spaces needed to meet the campus master plan goal of housing 50% of all students on campus. Once the plan for achieving the 50% goal has been addressed, the USES Report recommendation of a 4-year on-campus housing guarantee can be given consideration.
- A workgroup convened by the Vice Chancellor-Student Affairs has been established to evaluate recent trends and the impacts of condominium

conversions on the availability of convenient and affordable off-campus rental housing for UCSD students. The committee is to report its findings and recommendations Spring Quarter 2006.

Principle 9: Allowing Access to the University of and Its Neighbors

Steering Committee Member Lead: Assistant Vice Chancellor-Campus Planning, Jeff Steindorf

The USES Committee recommendations to: (a) assess the viability of developing a College Village on the East Campus to enliven the campus community and (b) to expand convenient access to and from the campus to broaden opportunities to participate both in the life of the campus and events in the off-campus community, are being considered by a number of standing campus committees and administrative offices that are responsible for advising or managing operations related to those matters.

- The idea of developing a College Village has already been discussed with the Academic Senate Committee on Campus & Community Environment (CCCE) and is being referred to the Campus/Community Planning Committee (CCPC). Recognizing the merits of the College Village idea, staff are advising CCPC to support continued exploration of this concept when active planning and programming for a specific East Campus housing redevelopment project begins once the financial feasibility and a funding plan for that capital project has been validated. Given current debt capacity limitations that have been defined by the UC Office of the President, viable options for external financing of a College Village project are currently unavailable. However, pending CCPC support, Campus Planning will make certain that this concept is considered at that point in the future when a redevelopment plan for the Mesa Housing area is developed. In addition, Campus Planning has encouraged interested students to continue to flesh out the College Village concept by collecting and sharing programming ideas (and conveying those to Campus Planning) so that this information is available in the future when a College Village project is considered and physical planning options for the redevelopment of the Mesa Housing neighborhood are prepared.
- Given traffic congestion in the community surrounding the campus, limited mass transit service, and the limited supply of extremely convenient parking at UCSD, access to campus and parking on campus are challenges for both members of the UCSD community and the public. The USES Report provides a number of ideas ranging from implementing special shuttles and parking arrangements for events, to bringing the trolley to UCSD, to making La Jolla bicycle-friendly, for consideration. These ideas are being discussed with Transportation and Parking Services, the Transportation Policy Committee and several external agencies that are responsible for mass transit planning and operations, including SANDAG (San Diego Association of Government and the MTS (Metropolitan Transit Services).

The above listing of actions to date for each of the nine principle areas is intended to be illustrative. Many potential responses to the USES Report are in the initial stages of discussion and review, as are the evaluations of the majority of the 163 recommendations in the Report. The Steering Committee acknowledges that it may not be aware of a number of actions taken by others in response to the USES Report and its recommendations and invites reports of such actions for inclusion in our next progress report.

(d) Spring Progress Report

Once this Steering Committee progress report is approved, it will be widely distributed to campus constituencies and placed on the Web for convenient access. The Steering Committee plans to hold open forums with various campus constituencies and pursue other means of obtaining feedback and suggestions from the campus community on how best to continue to respond to the USES report and enhance the quality of student life. We envision this process as being an opportunity to learn what has been done, as well as a process for exchanging information on what actions have been taken by other campus entities.

(e) Next Steps

The Steering Committee will continue to meet on a monthly basis in order to coordinate broad-based efforts to make progress toward the nine principle goals and implement action plans. In addition, efforts will be made to promote the spirit of the report to create a strengthened campus culture that is reflective of the nine principle goals and to keep all campus constituencies actively engaged in the process.

The Steering Committee will issue a second progress report in April 2007 and plans to issue a final report in April 2008.

The Steering Committee welcomes comments and suggestions from members of the campus community. We especially welcome descriptions of actions taken by campus units that are responsive to the USES Report and Recommendations.

Submitted by:

Associate Vice Chancellor Mark Appelbaum, Academic Affairs
Special Assistant Cynthia Davalos, Student Affairs
Associate Vice Chancellor David Miller, Academic Affairs
Chair Bernard Minster, Academic Senate
Bryce Murray, ASUCSD Representative
Associate Vice Chancellor Stacie Spector, University Communications
Assistant Vice Chancellor Jeff Steindorf, Campus Planning
Director John Valva, Alumni Relations
Vice Chancellor Joseph Watson, Student Affairs

Addendum

The Steering Committee welcomes comments and suggestions, and updates on actions taken in response to the report. The campus community is encouraged to send suggestions to USESSteeringCommittee@ucsd.edu