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UC Merced growth plan gets approval from regents

July 21, 2016

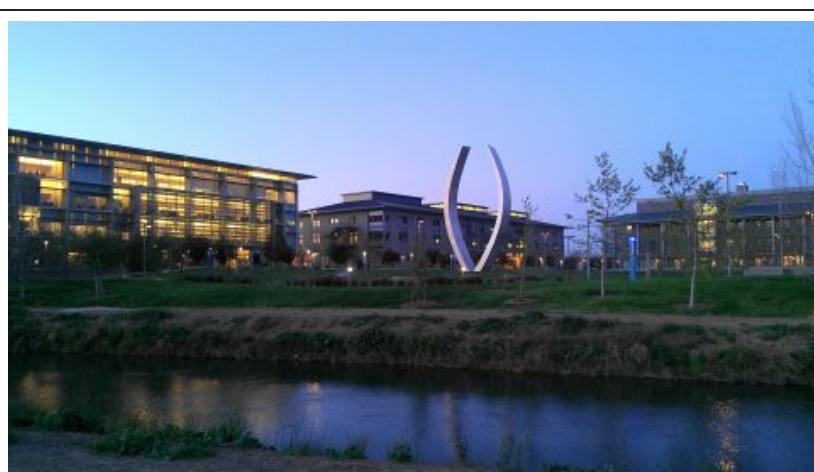


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MERCED — UC Merced’s ambitious growth plan was approved by the UC Board of Regents on Thursday. The plan will nearly double the physical capacity of campus by 2020 and increase enrollment to 10,000.

The plan was approved unanimously. Plenary Properties Merced will lead the obstruction phase. The plan also included proposed external financing, amendments to the project’s budget and scope and revisions of the commercial terms of the project agreement.

“This is a historic step forward for UC Merced, the UC system, and the growing numbers of talented students throughout California who want and deserve a UC education,” said Dorothy Leland, UC Merced chancellor. “By significantly expanding the newest UC campus, we are redoubling our commitment to the San Joaquin Valley, the fastest-growing but most underserved region of the state, while providing critically needed access to many more qualified students throughout California.”

The school has grown from 875 students in its first year in 2005 to more than 6,700 today.

Groundbreaking on the new facilities is expected to take place in October. The plan will add approximately 1.2 million square feet of teaching, research, residential and student-support facilities adjacent to the existing campus. The first buildings are planned to be completed by 2018 with most construction being finished by 2020.

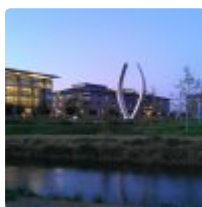
The project will create more than 10,000 construction jobs in the San Joaquin Valley in the next four years. The one-time economic benefit to the region is estimated at \$1.9 billion (\$2.4 billion statewide).

The project has \$1.338 billion budgeted for design and construction.

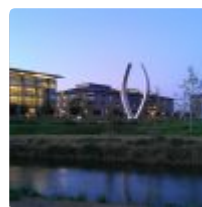
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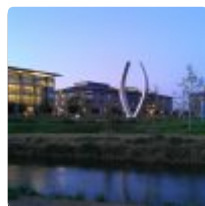
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