



UC Merced Campus Update September 2015

Downtown Center Approved – July Regents Meeting

The UC Regents approved the construction of the 67,400-gross-square-foot building. The \$45 million project would also provide mixed-use collaborative space, conference and seminar rooms and a work café.

Administrative staff members now on campus and at various off-campus sites like the Castle Research Facility, the Promenade and the Mondo Building, will be consolidated at the new center, bringing an economic boost to downtown Merced and connecting the campus more closely with the community.

Project 2020 – Pending Regents Decision in November

Project 2020 will more than double the physical capacity of campus facilities by 2020 in an effort to accommodate record numbers of student applicants, increase regional and statewide access to a UC education and support the university's most critical academic and research priorities.

The 2020 Project's approach, a form of public-private partnership known as a Design-Build-Finance-Operate-Maintain (DBFOM) model, is designed to take advantage of private-sector financing and operating efficiencies while making the most prudent use of limited public dollars. While other UC campuses have used simpler variations of the model, this will be the UC system's first large-scale DBFOM project.

Fall Convocation

Chancellor Leland and Staff Assembly hosted an inaugural convocation for staff in August to kick off the new academic year. The event was well attended and the Chancellor's state-of-the-campus message about growth and challenges was well received. New Staff members were recognized as were staff awardees. The new Chief of Police and Assistant Vice Chancellor for Campus and Public Safety, Albert Vasquez was sworn in during the ceremony.

Campus update contact: Kim Garner – kgarner@ucmerced.edu