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OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

January 2002

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, MERCED  
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To Friends of UC Merced

I am pleased to present this **Long Range Development Plan** (LRDP) for the University of California, Merced, the tenth campus of the University of California and the first to be located in the Central Valley. Almost 40 years have passed since the University of California last planned a new campus. The search for a site for this campus has taken more than a decade and has recently concluded with the selection of a beautiful location on the rolling grasslands east of Lake Yosemite and near the northern edge of the city of Merced.

The LRDP incorporates a general blueprint for a campus to last far into the future. It is intended to reflect new technologies, to reach out and welcome students who previously have not had the advantage of a University of California campus in their local region, to set standards for sustainable use of energy and other scarce resources, to be a model of development in the great San Joaquin Valley, and to serve as an economic engine for the region. The final section of the LRDP also provides a detailed plan for the first buildings and infrastructure for the campus when it opens in 2004.

The LRDP represents more than a year's work by many planners, architects, engineers, and environmental scientists as well as thoughtful discussions with many people both within and without the University. The University also is presenting the associated *Final Environmental Impact Report* (FEIR) which includes responses to comments submitted during the course of the public review period on the Draft EIR from August 13, 2001 to October 4, 2001.

The configuration of the campus was developed in collaboration with the County of Merced, which is planning a new community adjacent to the campus. The County intends to release its final plan and accompanying Final Environmental Impact Report in early 2002. In January 2002, the UC Merced campus LRDP and associated FEIR will be submitted to the University's governing Board of Regents for approval.

We appreciate your interest and participation in our planning process and look forward to welcoming you to our campus in 2004.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carol Tomlinson-Keasey".

Carol Tomlinson-Keasey  
Chancellor



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