

Education in the San Francisco Bay Area

Carl Irving

California's three-segment system of public campuses is noteworthy for structure and survival through 13 years that have been, successively, flourishing, turbulent, and depressing for higher education.

The California campuses have been subjected to the "cut, squeeze, and trim" policies of Governor Ronald Reagan since 1967; yet the 13-year-old master plan for higher education survives almost intact. The governor's old political target, Clark Kerr, helped write the plan while he was president of the University of California. Just after taking office, Governor Reagan helped fire Dr. Kerr, who now is better known outside California as chairman of the Carnegie Commission on Higher Education.

But the structure Dr. Kerr helped to invent survives as Californians begin to value college graduates south as well as north of the Tehachapis—that barren range of mountains which signifies the boundary between Los Angeles and San Francisco.

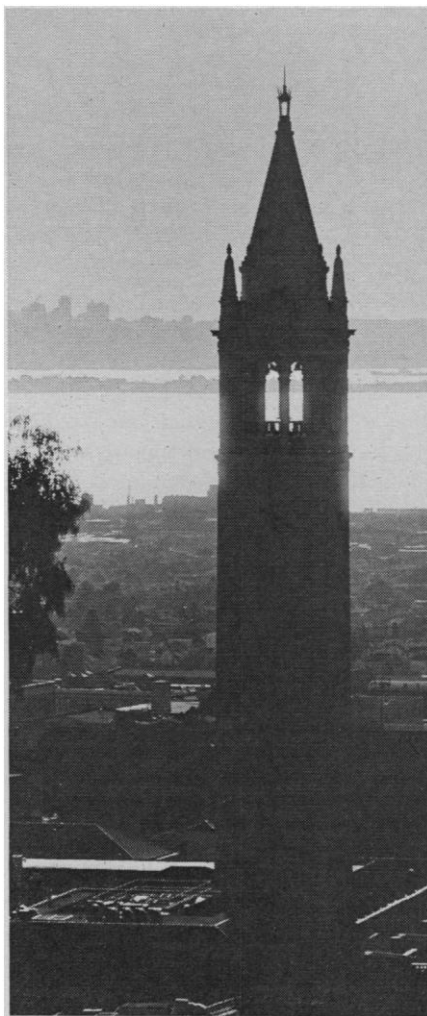
The 97 2-year community colleges are free to California high school graduates, giving them opportunities to make longer range transitions to universities or to learn vocations.

The 19 California state university campuses accept students from among the top one-third of state high school graduates while the nine UC campuses select their students from among the top 12.5 percent. Both systems make room for limited numbers of promising students who may lack qualifying grades because of economic or social handicaps.

Both the California State University system and the University of California accept transfers from the community colleges, if they have been earning qualifying grades. It adds up to well over one million students—three of every four California high school graduates take college studies—and a fluid college system providing second and third chances for academic comeback.

The Bay Area is the birthplace for university education in California. UC's oldest campus, Berkeley, situated across the Bay from San Francisco, gained international stature during and after World War II, as a number of its scientists received honors—especially in the fields of physics and chemistry. The campus has 27,000 students now, one-third of them at graduate level.

Southwest, on the Peninsula side of the Bay, below San Francisco, stands the state's leading private university, Stanford, with some 11,000 students,



Sather Tower rising 300 feet from the center of the campus is Berkeley's familiar landmark. Natives call it "the campanile."

about half of them at graduate level.

The two campuses were honored in 1970 by a national survey conducted for the American Council on Education by Allan Cartter. The evaluation, by 6300 scholars, rated 26 graduate schools at Berkeley and 8 at Stanford among the best three in their respective fields.

Last October, a survey of graduate professional schools gave high ratings to a number at both Berkeley and Stanford—medicine at Stanford was ranked third only to Harvard and Johns Hopkins, and Stanford engineering was rated second to Harvard.

UC has a health sciences campus in San Francisco, which received high marks in pharmacy and nursing, and the campus at Davis, north of the Bay Area, was judged to have the nation's best school of veterinary medicine.

The Bay Area also has a number of other less well-known nationally but highly respected campuses. Several were founded by religious orders of the Roman Catholic Church and are situated around the Bay: Santa Clara just south of Stanford; St. Mary's College east of Oakland; Holy Names College in Oakland; Dominican in San Rafael, across the Bay from San Francisco; University of San Francisco and Lone Mountain College, both in San Francisco; and College of Notre Dame on the peninsula.

Santa Clara, founded in 1851 beside a mission that had been in use since 1777, has more state scholarship winners enrolling than any other California campus of comparable size.

There are few first-rate nondenominational campuses in California, but two of them, besides Stanford, that are located in the Bay Area are the University of the Pacific at Stockton, and Mills College (the only single-sex campus left in the area) in Oakland.

Four California state universities are located around the Bay, at Sonoma, San Francisco, Hayward, and San Jose. San Francisco, in particular, is noted outside the area for its liberal arts program.

The recession has led to considerable discussion among these campuses about sharing books, faculties, facilities, and cross-registering students. Nothing substantial has emerged so far, but Stan-

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ford and Berkeley nuclear physicists are planning a joint appeal for federal funds to construct a \$150 million colliding beam machine on the Stanford campus.

The UC campuses at Berkeley, Davis, San Francisco, and Santa Cruz are discussing a more integrated library system, while cross-registration is a goal among several of the campuses in San Francisco.

Costs for students range from over \$3000 tuition at Stanford to \$125 at San Francisco State. A year at Berkeley runs the average student \$2500; a year at Stanford is estimated at well over \$5000. However, more state scholarship funds have been made available to help the private sector since Governor Reagan took office. Stanford's President Richard Lyman has called for more public funds for scholarships to let students choose and indirectly support the relatively small private segment of California's higher education.

Most of the public northern Cali-

fornia campuses are crowded and now charge high rates of tuition to out-of-state students; relatively few northern California high school graduates enroll outside the region. On the other hand, large numbers of high school graduates from southern California flock to northern California campuses, leaving empty classrooms south of the Tehachapis.

There are few private prep schools in the Bay Area, but the residential patterns tend to be typical of national patterns. The best public high schools, as a result, are located in the most affluent suburbs. The schools in the heavily urban areas where the poor are concentrated, in Oakland and San Francisco, rate lowest among Bay Area school districts in statewide reading tests.

Busing is mandatory in San Francisco, but the latest survey showed that the schools had "lost" 3000 white students during the past year. The Berkeley school system, one of the first to begin busing, has more white

students than when integration began, but Berkeley does not seem to have inspired nearby school districts.

Berkeley's school population is half black, less proportionately than in adjacent Oakland, but far more than in San Francisco. School teachers in Berkeley are among the best paid in California, and the city's population is strongly liberal on voting issues. A large black middle-class population and the presence of a great university seem to help account for the high reading scores that Berkeley students achieve.

As elsewhere in the nation, the student activism which terrified and exhilarated the citizenry in years past has disappeared. The Berkeley campus, where the Free Speech Movement was born in 1964, has calmed to the point where its "atmosphere" is almost indistinguishable from that of any large campus in the Midwest. The latest news at Stanford, where violence threatened to halt operations a couple of years ago, is that students want to reinstate the yearbook.

SCIENCEPHERE '74

We found that a large number of our attendees missed the chance to meet those who produced and distributed the tools and materials of science at our 1972 Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. Because of the overwhelming number of requests from the registrants, the Association is pleased to initiate "SCIENCEPHERE '74."

In the future, SCIENCEPHERE will provide us with the means of expanding the formal symposia by providing visual structures illustrating various aspects of the program. Many of the special exhibits have been specifically designed and built just for SCIENCEPHERE.

The exhibit opens on Monday morning, 25 February, at 10:00 a.m. If you cannot visit us on Monday, come early on Tuesday morning, 26 February, and enjoy a complimentary continental breakfast in the Hilton Plaza Hall, and plan to visit with the representatives of the following companies:

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