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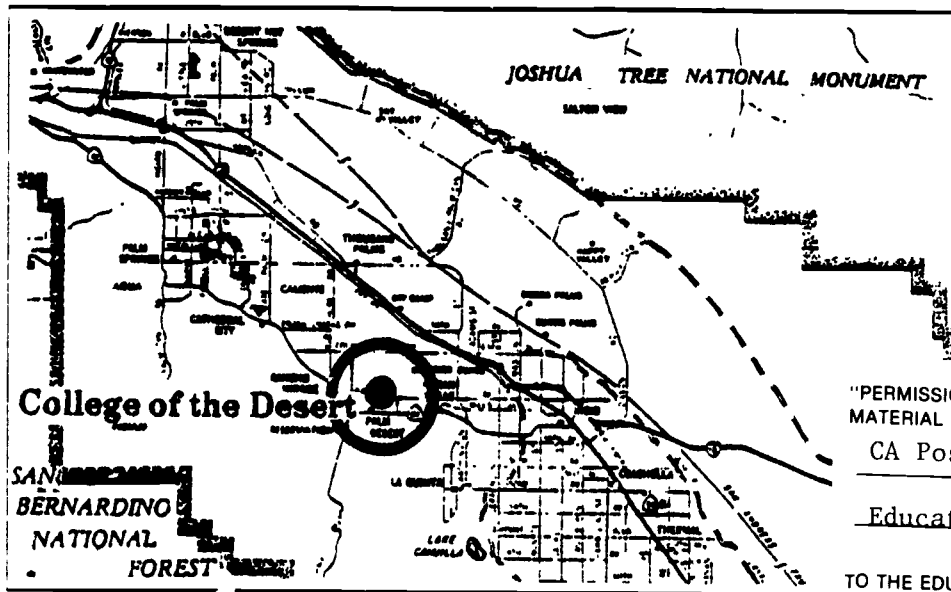
ABSTRACT

A proposal to establish an off-campus center in the Coachella Valley for California State University, San Bernardino, is presented, along with recommendations of the California Postsecondary Education Commission. The background to the development of the proposal is discussed, including demographic information, proposed facilities, degree offerings, and enrollment projections. The adequacy of documentation provided by the university for the establishment of the center is assessed, along with the degree to which the need for the center is demonstrated. Attention is directed to 11 criteria for the establishment of off-campus centers that are specified in the Commission's "Guidelines and Procedures for the Review of New Campuses and Off-Campus Centers." Factors that demonstrate need for the off-campus center include: the geographic isolation of the valley and lack of convenient and inexpensive four-year and graduate programs, the growing population of the valley, community interest in the proposed center, and a lack of cost-effective alternatives to the distinctive educational needs of the area. The Commission recommends that the off-campus center be established. (SW)

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PROPOSED CREATION OF A CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN BERNARDINO, OFF-CAMPUS CENTER IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY



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CALIFORNIA POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION



Summary

In October 1985, the California Postsecondary Education Commission received a request from the California State University to approve creation of a proposed off-campus center at the College of the Desert in the Coachella Valley, to be operated by California State University, San Bernardino. The State University has included \$307,938 in operating funds for the center in its 1986-87 budget request to the Legislature.

This response consists of three parts:

Part One provides background on the development of the State University's proposal for the center, including demographic information, proposed facilities, degree offerings, and enrollment projections (pages 3-5).

Part Two assesses the need for the proposed center and the documentation provided by the State University for this need in light of the 11 criteria in the Commission's *Guidelines and Procedures for the Review of New Campuses and Off-Campus Centers* (pages 7-10).

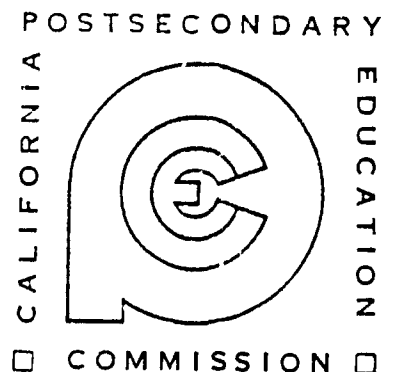
Finally, Part Three on page 11 contains the Commission's two recommendations regarding the center:

1. That the California State University establish its proposed off-campus center at the College of the Desert in the Coachella Valley.
2. That the California State University submit enrollment data for the center to the Commission for a three-year period beginning in the fall of 1986 and ending with the 1988-89 academic year in the following categories: (1) actual and projected headcount and full-time-equivalent enrollment by degree program, and (2) actual headcount enrollment by ethnicity and estimated level of family income.

The Commission adopted the report on December 16, 1985, for transmittal to the State University and other interested parties. Additional copies may be obtained from the Publications Office of the Commission. Further information about the report may be obtained from the Commission staff.

PROPOSED CREATION
OF A CALIFORNIA
STATE UNIVERSITY,
SAN BERNARDINO,
OFF-CAMPUS CENTER
IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY

CALIFORNIA POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION
Second Floor • 1020 Twelfth Street • Sacramento, California 95814



**COMMISSION REPORT 85-40
DECEMBER 1985**

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Introduction

RESPONSIBILITY for the review of new campuses and off-campus centers by the Postsecondary Education Commission is given in two sections of the *California Education Code*:

Section 66903(5). The Commission shall advise the Legislature and the Governor regarding the need for and location of new institutions and campuses of public higher education.

Section 66904. It is the intent of the Legislature that sites for new institutions or branches of the University of California and the California State University, and such classes of off-campus centers as the commission shall determine, shall not be authorized or acquired unless recommended by the commission.

Proposals subject to Commission review include off-campus educational operations that provide instruction in programs leading to degrees and that require State funding for construction, acquisition, remodeling, or lease.

In April 1975, the Commission adopted its *Guidelines and Procedures for the Review of New Campuses and Off-Campus Centers*, which outlines

those proposals subject to Commission review, criteria for reviewing them, and the procedures for submitting them. The Commission has updated these guidelines several times, most recently in September 1982, and has used them as the basis for evaluating the proposal from California State University, San Bernardino, for a Coachella Valley off-campus center, which it received from the State University in October 1985. (The location of the proposed center is indicated below.)

The report consists of three parts:

Part One provides background on the development of the Coachella Valley proposal, including demographic information, proposed facilities, degree offerings, and enrollment projections.

Part Two uses the criteria in the *Guidelines and Procedures* as the basis for assessing the documentation provided by the State University for the establishment of the center. Included in this section are Commission comments on the adequacy of the documentation itself and the degree to which it demonstrates the need for the center.

Finally, Part Three contains the Commission's recommendations regarding the center.

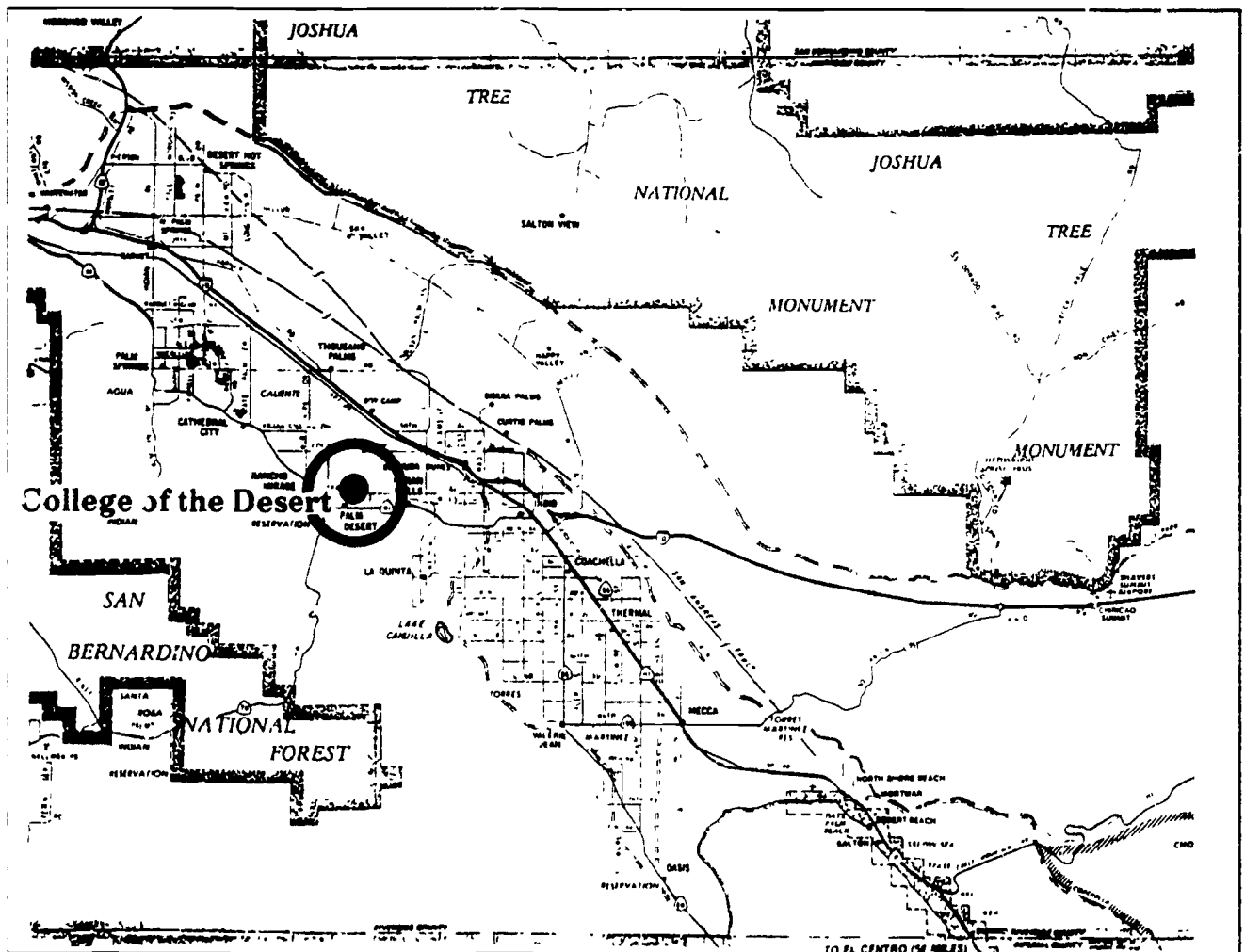


Background to the Proposal

CALIFORNIA State University, San Bernardino, proposes to establish an off-campus center in the Coachella Valley beginning in Fall 1986. The center is intended to serve an area bounded by Palm Springs in the northwest to approximately the city of Coachella in the southeast, including those cities adjacent to Interstate 10 and State Highway 111 (see map below). It will be located on the campus of the College of the Desert which is situated at the midpoint of the Coachella Valley near the city of Palm Desert and approximately 70 miles east of the State University campus at San Bernardino.

The impetus for the development of the center derived from the State University's success in offer-

ing small State-supported degree programs in high school and Community College classrooms at leased sites in the area for some 50 full-time-equivalent students a year, and from the increasing demand for such programs. In addition, College of the Desert President Fern D. Stout wrote to State University Chancellor W. Aris Reynolds regarding the possibility of establishing a four-year campus in the Coachella Valley. Chancellor Reynolds suggested that the immediate needs of the Valley could best be met by the establishment of an off-campus center in the area and directed that a needs assessment be undertaken to determine if sufficient demand existed to establish such a center.



Demographic Data

Total current population for the center's service area is approximately 133,000, with population in the year 2000 projected to be about 273,000. Demographic data, including Department of Finance and regional government projections, indicate continued and accelerated growth for the area. Approximately 30 percent of the total population is of Hispanic origin, the majority of whom live southeast of Palm Desert in or near the city of Coachella, according to 1980 Census data.

Two Community College campuses now serve this area: the College of the Desert, which has been serving students since 1962, and the Copper Mountain campus located in the Morongo Valley northeast of the Coachella Valley, which opened in 1984. Approximately 7,000 students are currently enrolled at these two campuses.

The proposed center is intended to provide upper-division programs for those Coachella Valley residents served by these colleges as well as those who have completed lower-division education elsewhere.

Enrollment projections

Table 1 below shows headcount enrollment, unit loads, and full-time-equivalent enrollment projected for the first five years of the center's operation. These estimates are based on a needs assessment study done by the State University, which included a random survey of the community at large, and surveys of students currently attending the College

DISPLAY 1 Five-Year Enrollment and Average Unit Load Projections for the Proposed Center, 1986-87 Through 1990-91

<u>Year</u>	<u>Headcount Enrollment</u>	<u>Average Unit Load</u>	<u>Full-Time Equivalent Enrollment</u>
1986-87	214	7.0	100
1987-88	300	7.5	150
1988-89	375	8.0	200
1989-90	416	9.0	250
1990-91	474	9.5	300

Source: Proposed Coachella Valley Center Needs Assessment Report, May 1985

of the Desert and the three Coachella Valley secondary schools -- Coachella Valley, Indio, and Palm Springs High Schools.

The long-term enrollment projections in Table 2 below are taken from data provided by the Southern California Association of Governments and approved by the State Department of Finance for that portion of the Coachella Valley to be served by the off-campus center.

DISPLAY 2 Enrollment Projections for the Proposed Center, 1990, 1995, and 2000

<u>Year</u>	<u>Headcount Enrollment</u>	<u>Full-Time Equivalent Enrollment</u>
1990	720	336
1995	794	371
2000	856	400

Source: State University memorandum concerning enrollment estimates for off-campus center in Coachella Valley, September 23, 1985.

Current participation in four-year colleges by Coachella Valley high school students has been low, with less than six students out of 1,200 graduates a year (0.48 percent) enrolling at California State University, San Bernardino, from the three Coachella Valley high schools. The center is expected to serve the needs of students for a more convenient location for upper-division and graduate work

Academic Programs

The new center would offer a central location for a limited number of currently available State University academic programs, as well as library and student support services currently unavailable in the area. The proposed academic master plan for the center includes four programs -- three degree and one credential -- based on likely demand indicated in the survey of the community at large, the College of the Desert, and area high schools:

- BA, Applied Social Science (with business minor)
- BA, Liberal Studies
- MA, Education, with counselor education option
- Multiple Subjects Credential

The applied social science degree will provide a broad education for students interested in a number of occupational pursuits, including government employment, social service jobs, and applied business. The BA in liberal studies program will serve the needs of students who have completed two or more years of college in a liberal arts program and who seek a bachelor's degree in order to enter the job market or advance their careers. Areas of concentration will include social sciences, business, and humanities.

The MA in education results from existing off-campus offerings and survey findings which indicate that teachers in the area have a high degree of interest in enrolling in this program. The counselor education option broadens this program to include potential elementary and secondary school counselors as well as social service and private counselors.

The demand for the multiple subjects credential is projected to result from enrollment in the liberal studies degree program; it will consist of professional education courses.

Future academic program development anticipates additional master's programs in education as well as baccalaureate programs in nursing, business, computer science, health science, fine arts, and communications.

Facilities

The proposed center will be housed in portable classrooms on land provided by the College of the Desert

in Palm Desert. According to the State University's proposal, this location has several important advantages:

1. The campus is located at the mid-point of the Coachella Valley service area, is easily accessible by car and public transportation, has ample parking and good security, and is well-known to Valley residents.
2. It offers a basic library collection that California State University, San Bernardino can augment inexpensively.
3. It will serve as a "down-link" for the State University's instructional television system.
4. It provides desirable permanence, stability, and visibility for the center.

The majority of the courses will be offered as in-person lectures and seminars, but currently available instructional television capabilities will permit the center to offer approximately one-third of its courses as live interactive broadcasts from the San Bernardino campus.

Classes will be held on weekday nights and will be taught by one-third regular full-time faculty, one-third part-time faculty and one-third television instructors. The proposed budget of \$307,938 for fiscal year 1986-87 includes 4.2 positions for administrative and support staff (\$130,458), with operating and equipment expenses of \$177,480. Faculty positions have been budgeted through the San Bernardino campus, so these costs are not reflected in the center's budget.

Assumptions

In reviewing proposals for new State University campuses and off-campus centers, the Commission considers two assumptions in its *Guidelines and Procedures* to be central:

The State University plans and develops its campuses and off-campus centers on the basis of statewide needs and special regional considerations.

Planned enrollment capacities are established for and observed by all campuses of public post-secondary education. These capacities are determined on the basis of statewide and institutional economies, campus environment, limitations on campus size, program and student mix, and internal organization. Planned capacities are established by . . . the Board of Trustees of the California State University. . . . These capacities are subject to review and recommendation by the Commission.

Criteria for review

The Commission requires that all proposals for off-campus centers include a comprehensive needs study that satisfies the 11 criteria for the establishment of off-campus centers specified in its *Guidelines and Procedures*. The needs analysis and supporting documents submitted by the State University for the establishment of the Coachella Valley off-campus center provide the basis for the Commission's evaluation of this proposal.

The following paragraphs enumerate each criterion and then evaluate the relevant information provided by the State University in the needs analysis and other documents.

Criterion 1: "Enrollment projections should be sufficient to justify the establishment of the new off-campus center. Five-year projections must be provided for the center, with enrollments indicated to be sufficient to justify its establishment. For the State

University, five-year projections of the nearest campus of the segment proposing the center must also be provided. Department of Finance enrollment estimates must be included in any needs study."

Enrollment projections provided in the needs analysis indicate a sufficient pool of potential students for the establishment of the center. The five-year projections provided in Display 1 above were derived from existing enrollment figures in State-supported off-campus courses as well as a survey of potential students in the area's high schools, Community Colleges, and the community at large. A similar survey was used to predict potential enrollments at the State University's off-campus center in Contra Costa County, and actual enrollments there coincided very closely to those predicted by the survey.

Five-year projections for full-time-equivalent enrollments at the State University's San Bernardino campus are as follows:

1986-87	4,825
1987-88	5,150
1988-89	5,500
1989-90	5,875
1990-91	6,275

Beginning in the mid-1970s, California State University, San Bernardino offered courses in the Coachella Valley on a student-supported basis for students interested in obtaining an external degree. In recent years, sufficient interest has been shown so that three State-supported degree programs are being offered at leased sites. Continued growth and expansion of these offerings support the contention that establishment of a consolidated off-campus center would be responsive to an increasing demand for upper-division and graduate courses.

Original long-range population and enrollment projections for the center were based on data supplied by the Coachella Valley Association of Governments that indicated a tripling of the population in its service area by the year 2000. The Department of Finance indicated that Southern California Association of Governments projections should be used in-

stead, since they are the official population projections for air, water, and transportation planning. In southern California these projections were significantly lower than those provided by the Coachella Valley Association of Governments and indicate a doubling rather than a tripling of the population for the area by the year 2000. Even these revised figures, however, indicate substantial growth in the demand for educational opportunities in the area.

Other factors considered in the enrollment projections include:

1. A 6 to 7 percent annual growth rate in public school enrollments, as well as a 25 to 36 percent increase in Riverside County in the 30- to 39-year-old age group in the next five years;
2. Projected increases in transfer rates from Community Colleges;
3. Increased demand for upgrading of professional skills; and
4. Increased demand for staff development, baccalaureate and graduate degree personnel for management positions in the area's growing hotel, restaurant, and leisure industry.

In sum, both short-term and long-term enrollment projections appear to be based on a realistic assessment of the need for increased educational opportunities at a level not currently available to the residents of the area.

Criterion 2: "The segment proposing an off-campus center must submit a comprehensive cost/benefit analysis of all alternatives to establishment of the center. This analysis must include: (1) the expansion of existing campuses; (2) the expansion of existing off-campus centers in the area; (3) the increased utilization of existing campus and off-campus centers; and (4) the possibility of using leased or donated space in instances where the center is to be located in facilities proposed to be owned by the campus."

In relating this criterion to the State University's needs analysis, it is apparent that several of these alternatives are not immediately relevant to the proposed center.

- Regarding the first alternative of expanding the existing San Bernardino campus, the geographic isolation of the Coachella Valley is the primary reason for establishing the off-campus center.

The State University has examined the possibility of providing bus or van transportation to the campus at San Bernardino from the Coachella Valley. It concludes that commuting time, logistical difficulties, low community interest, high expense, and lack of sufficient vehicles preclude transportation assistance as a reasonable alternative to the center. The Commission concurs in this assessment.

- The second alternative -- expansion of existing off-campus centers -- does not exist because no other off-campus center is located in the area. The current leased classroom space in the Valley permits only a limited educational experience and cannot support the expanded academic programs envisioned in the proposal. Increased utilization of that space would not allow for student services such as academic advising, financial aid counseling, and career planning, nor for centralized instructional services and library facilities essential for adequate degree programs.
- The third alternative -- increased utilization of the main campus and off-campus centers -- will not solve the problem of geographic isolation.
- The fourth alternative -- use of leased or donated space -- is the one recommended by the State University. The proposed center will be housed in portable facilities on a site leased from the College of the Desert. Therefore the purchasing of land for its establishment is not at issue.

Beyond the four alternatives listed in Criterion 2, the State University has explored three additional alternatives:

- *Use of media and other devices:* Approximately one-third of the course offerings at the proposed center will be delivered through interactive electronic media, but studies have indicated that this form of instruction is most effective when combined with traditional classroom instruction.
- *Establishing a permanent off-campus center:* Current capital outlay and equipment purchase costs make this alternative prohibitive at this time.
- *Self-support external degree programs:* The need for low-cost instruction and the small enrollment in previous offerings of self-support external degree programs indicate that this is not an adequate alternative.

The State University did not undertake a comprehensive cost/benefit analysis of all such alternatives,

but such an analysis is not essential to a decision about alternatives to the center. The issue is not whether possible alternatives are slightly more or less cost effective than the proposed center, but whether they are substantially more cost effective. By that standard, the Commission concurs with the State University's view that creating the off-campus center at the site proposed is currently the most feasible alternative. The Commission suggests, however, that the State University eventually consider the possibility of a permanent off-campus center within the guidelines now being developed for the expansion of existing off-campus centers.

Criterion 3: "Other public segments and adjacent institutions, public or private, must be consulted during the planning process for the new off-campus center."

Letters included in the needs analysis indicate that all public and private two- and four-year institutions serving the Coachella Valley have been notified of the State University's plan to establish the Coachella Valley Center. These include Chapman College; College of the Desert and the Copper Mountain campus; National University; the University of California, Riverside; the University of La Verne; and the University of Redlands. These notifications elicited a negative response from Chapman College, which indicated that the center is not justified given current enrollment demands. National University commented that the Valley's primary educational needs are in the areas of engineering and science.

Criterion 4: "Programs to be offered at the proposed center must meet the needs of the community in which the center is to be located. Strong local or regional interest in the proposed facility must be demonstrated."

The State University's extensive needs assessment indicates that the most frequent reasons cited for choosing a postsecondary institution by residents and students of the area are convenient location, low cost, and special programs. The academic programs planned for the center -- administration, liberal studies, and the applied social sciences -- reflect to a large extent the preferences of survey respondents. Offering all courses in the evening will allow the flexibility necessary to respond to the needs of older, adult students.

The center appears to have widespread and enthusiastic support from residents of the service area. Numerous letters and resolutions of endorsement from legislators, educators, business leaders, professional organizations, local service agencies, and interested citizens are included in the proposal for the center.

Criterion 5: "The proposed off-campus center must not lead to an unnecessary duplication of programs at neighboring campuses or off-campus centers, regardless of segment or district boundaries."

Duplication of programs offered at other public institutions is not a serious problem. The proposed center's academic programs are designed to complement courses offered at the area's Community Colleges, and no other public postsecondary campus or off-campus center serves the area. The University of California, Riverside, offers courses to Coachella Valley residents only on a self-support basis, as do Chapman College, National University, the University of La Verne, and the University of Redlands.

Among independent or private postsecondary education institutions, only one -- National University -- has a campus located in the service area. Its Palm Springs campus opened in September 1984 and currently enrolls over 100 students in programs leading to the bachelor of arts in behavioral science or business administration and master's degrees in business administration and education. These programs do overlap with those of the proposed center both in terms of the degree offerings and instructional convenience, but they also involve considerable expense for tuition and fees and thus do not offer reasonable educational opportunities to large numbers of people in the proposed service area.

Criterion 6: "The establishment of University and State University off-campus centers should take into consideration existing and projected enrollment in adjacent institutions, regardless of segment."

To the extent that the entire service area is experiencing rapid growth, demand for postsecondary education will inevitably increase. Given that situation, it is probable that any independent institutions operating in the area will not be seriously affected by the establishment of the new center.

Criterion 7 deals only with the location of Community College off-campus centers and is therefore not relevant to this analysis.

Criterion 8: "The proposed off-campus center must be located within a reasonable commuting time for the majority of residents to be served."

The College of the Desert campus provides convenient access to all residents of the Coachella Valley by car and public transportation.

Criterion 9: "The programs projected for the new off-campus center must be described and justified."

As indicated in Chapter One, the center's initial offerings will include undergraduate degree programs in the social sciences and liberal studies as well as graduate degrees in education. The State University has described and justified these programs in its proposal.

Criterion 10: "The characteristics (physical, social, demographic, etc.) of the location proposed for the new off-campus center must be included."

The State University has included in its needs assessment considerable social, demographic, and economic data. These give a clear picture of the economic and ethnic diversity of the center's service area. While some areas of the Coachella Valley contain enormous wealth, a significant portion of the population does not share in this wealth. There is a distinct dividing line between those communities located northwest of Palm Desert, such as Palm Springs, which tend to be heavily "Anglo" and attract a great deal of wealth, and those southeast of Palm Desert, such as Coachella, which is almost 90 percent Hispanic and which suffers from a high degree of unemployment. Per capita income thus differs sharply in the two areas of the Valley, as does average educational attainment.

These economic and social disparities are significant both in terms of the uneven economic development of the area and the potential population to be served by the center. As noted above, the location of the center appears to be optimal for providing maximum access to all Valley residents. In addition, the modern facilities that house the College of the Des-

ert should provide a pleasant and productive environment for all students of the center.

Criterion 11: "The off-campus center must facilitate access for the economically, educationally, and socially disadvantaged."

The State University's initial proposal seemed deficient to Commission staff in that it failed to give specific attention to disadvantaged students, but a subsequent addendum to the proposal requested by the staff contains a more specific discussion of the proposed effect the center could have on minority students. This addendum indicates that one of the primary reasons for establishing the center is to provide geographically isolated students from lower socio-economic groups "convenient, accessible, and affordable opportunities for higher education in a visible, centralized location." It also describes the efforts of the California State University, San Bernardino, Student Affirmative Action Program to encourage high school and Community College students to take advantage of higher education opportunities. The center's student services, including academic advising, career planning and placement, and Extended Opportunity Programs, will pay particular attention to disadvantaged students.

This evidence of concern for access for low-income, disadvantaged, and minority residents appears to satisfy this criterion, but the Commission believes that efforts to attract minority students to the center should be given an especially high priority. Minority participation in higher education is extremely low in the area, as indicated by the fact that Hispanic enrollment at the College of the Desert is currently less than 15 percent -- less than half of their percentage of the Coachella Valley's population as a whole. According to the Commission's reports on college-going rates, 20 percent of the high school graduates in Riverside County are Hispanic, compared to only 1.4 percent of freshmen enrolled at University of California campuses and 0.7 percent at California State University campuses.

Programs of public higher education are meant to serve all sectors of the population, and thus the severe problem of minority underrepresentation in higher education in the Coachella Valley suggests both a major rationale for creating the center and a major task for its administrators.

3 *Conclusions and Recommendations*

CALIFORNIA State University, San Bernardino, as well as the Chancellor and Trustees of the California State University, believe that an off-campus center is the best solution for satisfying the four-year higher educational needs of the Coachella Valley. The most compelling arguments they offer are:

- The geographic isolation of the Valley and the lack of convenient and inexpensive access to four-year and graduate degree programs.
- The rapid and continuous growth of the population in the Valley and the corresponding probability of substantial enrollments at the center.
- The demonstrated interest in the center's proposed programs by community residents and students.
- The lack of cost-effective alternatives to the distinctive educational needs of the area.

The Commission concurs in this assessment of need and finds that the proposed center meets its criteria for approval.

However, the Commission also believes that four questions remain to be answered concerning the future operation of the center:

1. Have the local needs assessment and state-level population projections provided an accurate indication of actual enrollment demand?
2. Will course offerings and degree programs meet the greatest needs of transfer students and adults?
3. Will the proposed instructional programs, including those using interactive television, and student services be responsive to student needs?
4. Perhaps most importantly, will the educational needs of underrepresented groups in the area be met by the center as reflected in increased participation rates of these groups?

Answers to these questions must await the passage of time, but they are of particular importance if the center is to become permanent.

Based on these conclusions, the Commission recommends as follows:

1. That the California State University establish its proposed off-campus center at the College of the Desert in the Coachella Valley.
2. That the California State University submit enrollment data for the center to the Commission for a three-year period beginning in the fall of 1986 and ending with the 1988-89 academic year in the following categories: (1) actual and projected headcount and full-time equivalent enrollment by degree program, and (2) actual headcount enrollment by ethnicity and estimated level of family income.

CALIFORNIA POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION

THE California Postsecondary Education Commission is a citizen board established in 1974 by the Legislature and Governor to coordinate the efforts of California's colleges and universities and to provide independent, non-partisan policy analysis and recommendations to the Governor and Legislature.

Members of the Commission

The Commission consists of 15 members. Nine represent the general public, with three each appointed for six-year terms by the Governor, the Senate Rules Committee, and the Speaker of the Assembly. The other six represent the major segments of postsecondary education in California.

As of 1985, the Commissioners representing the general public are:

Seth P. Brunner, Sacramento, *Chairperson*
C. Thomas F. n, Long Beach
Seymour M. Ferber, M.D., San Francisco
Patricia Gandara, Sacramento
Ralph J. Kaplan, Los Angeles
Roger C. Pettitt, Los Angeles
Sharon N. Skog, Mountain View
Thomas E. Stang, Los Angeles, *Vice Chairperson*
Stephen P. Teale, M.D., Modesto

Representatives of the segments are:

Sheldon W. Andelson, Los Angeles; representing the Regents of the University of California

Claudia H. Hampton, Los Angeles; representing the Trustees of the California State University

Peter M. Finnegan, San Francisco; representing the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges

Jean M. Leonard, San Mateo; representing California's independent colleges and universities

Darlene M. Laval, Fresno; representing the Council for Private Postsecondary Educational Institutions

Angie Papadakis, Palos Verdes; representing the California State Board of Education

Functions of the Commission

The Commission is charged by the Legislature and Governor to "assure the effective utilization of public postsecondary education resources, thereby eliminating waste and unnecessary duplication, and to promote diversity, innovation, and responsiveness to student and societal needs."

To this end, the Commission conducts independent reviews of matters affecting the 2,600 institutions of postsecondary education in California, including Community Colleges, four-year colleges, universities, and professional and occupational schools.

As an advisory planning and coordinating body, the Commission does not administer or govern any institutions, nor does it approve, authorize, or accredit any of them. Instead, it cooperates with other state agencies and non-governmental groups that perform these functions, while operating as an independent board with its own staff and its own specific duties of evaluation, coordination, and planning.

Operation of the Commission

The Commission holds regular meetings throughout the year at which it debates and takes action on staff studies and takes positions on proposed legislation affecting education beyond the high school in California. By law, the Commission's meetings are open to the public. Requests to address the Commission may be made by writing the Commission in advance or by submitting a request prior to the start of a meeting.

The Commission's day-to-day work is carried out by its staff in Sacramento, under the guidance of its director, Patrick M. Callan, who is appointed by the Commission.

The Commission issues some 30 to 40 reports each year on major issues confronting California postsecondary education. Recent reports are listed on the back cover.

Further information about the Commission, its meetings, its staff, and its publications may be obtained from the Commission offices at 1020 Twelfth Street, Second Floor, Sacramento, CA 98514; telephone (916) 445-7933.

**PROPOSED CREATION OF A CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
SAN BERNARDINO, OFF-CAMPUS CENTER IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY**

California Postsecondary Education Commission Report 85-40

ONE of a series of reports published by the Commission as part of its planning and coordinating responsibilities. Additional copies may be obtained without charge from the Publications Office, California Postsecondary Education Commission, Second Floor, 1020 Twelfth Street, Sacramento, California 98514; telephone (916) 445-7933.

Other recent reports of the Commission include:

85-26 Policy Options for the Cal Grant Programs: The Second of Two Reports on California Student Aid Commission Grant Programs Requested by the Legislature in Supplemental Language to the 1984-85 Budget Act (April 1985)

85-27 Segmental Responses to Assembly Concurrent Resolution 71 Regarding Ethnic Awareness (April 1985)

85-28 Comments on the California Community Colleges' Library Space Study: A Report to the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges in Response to Budget Control Language in the 1984-85 Budget Act (April 1985)

85-29 Reauthorization of the Federal Higher Education Act of 1965: A Staff Report to the California Postsecondary Education Commission (July 1985)

85-30 Director's Report, July-August, 1985: Appropriations in the 1985-86 State Budget for the Public Segments of Postsecondary Education (August 1985)

85-31 Faculty Salaries and Related Matters in the California Community Colleges, 1984-85 (September 1985)

85-32 Annual Report on Program Review Activities, 1983-84 (September 1985)

85-33 Independent Higher Education in California, 1982-1984 (September 1985)

85-34 California College-Going Rates, 1984 Update (September 1985)

85-35 Oversight of Out-of-State Accredited Institutions Operating in California: A Report to the California Postsecondary Education Commission Pursuant to Senate Bill 1036 (December 1985)

85-36 Director's Report, December 1985: From Ninth Grade Through College Graduation: Who Makes It in California Education (December 1985)

85-37 Foreign Graduate Students in Engineering and Computer Science at California's Public Universities: A Report to the Legislature in Response to Supplemental Language in the 1985-86 Budget Act (December 1985)

85-38 Instructional Equipment Funding in California Public Higher Education: A Report to the Legislature in Response to Supplemental Language in the 1985-86 Budget Act (December 1985)

85-39 Self-Instruction Computer Laboratories in California's Public Universities: A Report to the Legislature in Response to Supplemental Language in the 1985-86 Budget Act (December 1985)

85-41 Progress of the California Academic Partnership Program: A Report to the Legislature in Response to Assembly Bill 2398 (Chapter 6020, Statutes of 1984) (December 1985)

85-42 Alternative Methods for Funding Community College Capital Outlay: A Report to the Legislature in Response to Supplemental Language in the 1985-86 Budget Act (December 1985)

85-43 Faculty Salaries in California's Public Universities, 1986-87: The Commission's 1985 Report to the Legislature and Governor in Response to Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 51 (1965) (December 1985)