ENVIROMENTAL AND COASTAL

**University House** — The UC Regents certified the Environmental Impact Report at their July meeting.

Located in La Jolla Farms, University House serves as both the Chancellor's official residence and as an important venue for campus and community meetings and social events. This project will rehabilitate the existing 11,400 gross square feet University House to correct facility and code deficiencies so that it may once again serve its important dual function. Necessary upgrades will be performed while maintaining the historic structure and respecting the archaeological and cultural values of the site. For additional information on the project visit [http://physicalplanning.ucsd.edu/PDF/ProjectSheets/University%20House.pdf](http://physicalplanning.ucsd.edu/PDF/ProjectSheets/University%20House.pdf)

The University House Project is on the agenda for the August 10th Coastal Commission meeting at Watsonville, California.

PROJECTS

Location of instructional and research facilities, as well as necessary campus support facilities, such as housing and parking, is directed by UCSD's Long Range Development Plan (LRDP), which is prepared in response to campus enrollment and population projections. Available on the Physical and Community Planning website at [http://physicalplanning.ucsd.edu/projects/index.html](http://physicalplanning.ucsd.edu/projects/index.html) is the Capital Improvements Status Map which is an interactive map where each project link leads to a detailed project information sheet.

UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION

**Marine Ecosystem Sensing, Observation, and Modeling (MESOM) Laboratory Project**

Construction is scheduled to begin during the third week of August on the MESOM project. The 1.2 acre project site is located at UCSD's Scripps Institution of Oceanography and is bound to the north and west by Biological Grade, to the south and west by Isaacs Hall and associated trailers and to the east by La Jolla Shores Drive. The proposed project consists of a three-story facility, approximately 10,000 feet of laboratory space and 30,000 feet of office, conference, and support space. Approximately 60 to 64 employees would staff the MESOM laboratory. The proposed project aims to integrate and consolidate existing students, faculty, staff and research equipment, and other associated academic resources into one building. The project was approved by the California Coastal Commission in April. Anticipated completion of the project is in October 2012.

NEWS

**UCSD Community Planning Newsletter and Website Information**

The Spring 2011 issue of the newsletter with a focus on Student Affairs, together with project information sheets and an interactive map of campus projects is available on the UCSD Physical and Community Planning website at [http://physicalplanning.ucsd.edu](http://physicalplanning.ucsd.edu) Visit the website to learn more about campus development with accompanying information on specific projects.

**UCSD News**

For UCSD News see [http://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu](http://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu)
BIRCH AQUARIUM OPENS BOUNDLESS ENERGY EXHIBIT

On July 9, Birch Aquarium at UCSD’s Scripps Institution of Oceanography opened Boundless Energy, an outdoor, interactive exhibit that explores how we can use natural forces to power our lives.

Boundless Energy, made possible through the support of lead sponsor Sempra Energy Foundation, showcases innovative ways to harness renewable energy from the sun, wind and ocean motion. The exhibit – located in the Robert Smargon Exhibit Court, with sweeping views of the Pacific Ocean – features highly educational, interactive elements that encourage learning through play.

The exhibit will deepen visitors’ understanding of how renewable energy sources can produce clean electricity, the benefits and challenges of deriving energy from these sources and the innovations making this energy increasingly available in the marketplace.

Visitors can:

- Explore renewable energy sources and decide how they would power the future.
- Get energized about new, cool technology that plugs into the power of the planet.
- Fuel their thinking with hands-on activities such as powering a mechanical fish with solar energy, comparing the latest wind turbine innovations, and creating green energy out of the blue at wave tanks and water tables.
- Expend their own “boundless energy” within a dynamic play area for children, where activity drives a kinetic water sculpture.
- Relax and recharge while discovering the sustainable practices in action all over the UC San Diego campus, including Birch Aquarium and Scripps Oceanography.

Boundless Energy is a natural extension of Feeling the Heat: The Climate Challenge, the aquarium’s award-winning exhibit that presents the science of global climate change. Dedicated by former Vice President Al Gore in 2007, Feeling the Heat highlights Scripps’ half-century of leadership in studying climate change and educates about current and projected environmental changes caused by society’s over-use of fossil fuels.

“We want to show our visitors – especially children – the exciting future that awaits us all,” said Nigella Hillgarth, aquarium executive director. “Through human ingenuity, we can create a future in which clean power comes from renewable sources, a future that supports our quality of life and protects the health of people and our planet.”

Boundless Energy is included with general aquarium admission and will be open through 2016.

Birch Aquarium at Scripps is open from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. daily. Visit aquarium.ucsd.edu for more information.