The concept of a major north-south pedestrian spine has existed within campus planning documents since the University’s beginnings. The concept was envisioned in the original Master Plan and continues to be an organizing and circulatory feature of future campus plans. As envisioned, this walk should be distinct and recognizable, utilizing unique benches, lighting, paving, and plantings to unify the feature and assist in pedestrian wayfinding. The Ridge Walk Plant Palette will be provided to consultants who are engaged in projects along Ridge Walk. This plant palette is not prescriptive, rather a concept for planting along Ridge Walk.

Campus Planning Documents envision a “Revelle Entry Quad at the south terminus of Ridge Walk. This will provide a pedestrian oriented campus entry at the southern end of the campus. The northern terminus of Ridge Walk serves as the eastern border of new housing developments on North Campus. These two locations provide the space and opportunity to establish a Ridge Walk Plant Palette. This palette can then be used in part or whole to reinforce the Ridge Walk design. Large specimen trees including California Live Oak will be used at these locations.

In concept, a palette of low water, low maintenance, yellow and blue flowering plant materials will be used. These plantings will help to create a unique landscape along the length of the walk and further will highlight the University’s commitment to conservation and sustainable development. The use of California native species will be encouraged to create a sense of place and to tie this landscape to the Coastal Scrub plant communities located just west of the campus.

Open Space Concept

Ridge Walk Plant Palette

physical planning office - open space plan - project detail

Plant Palette

Trees
- Acacia spp.
- Cercidium floridum
- Pinus Torreyana
- Quercus agrifolia
- Thevetia thevetioides

Groundcover
- Arctostaphylos spp.
- Ammophilia maritima
- Baccharis p. ‘Pigeon Point’
- Ceanothus griseus horizontalis
- Coprosma kirkii
- Muhlenbergia capillaris

Shrubs
- Agave attenuata
- Agave vilmoriniana
- Aloe striata
- Arctostaphylos ‘Howard McMinn’
- Arctostaphylos ‘Sunset’
- Ceanothus ‘Julia Phelps’
- Ceanothus spp.
- Dendromecon rigida
- Cistus spp.
- Echium fastuosum
- Fremontodendron californicum
- Heteromeles arbutifolia
- Lantana spp.
- Leonotis leonurus
- Mahonia aquifolium
- Mimus guttatus
- Rhamnus spp.
- Rhus integrefolia
- Rosmarinus ‘Tuscan Blue’
- Salvia clevelandii
- Salvia leucophylla
- Scenecio mandraliscae