

**Academic Council of Stanford University Annual Meeting – May 13, 2010
John A. & Cynthia Fry Gunn Building and Huang Engineering Center**

I. Call to Order – John A. & Cynthia Fry Gunn Building

President John Hennessy called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM. He called attention to the minutes of the annual meeting of the Academic Council, April 30, 2009, which were previously distributed to the faculty electronically and were on the faculty web site.

II. Report of the 42nd Senate of the Academic Council: Andrea Goldsmith, Chair

The president introduced Professor Andrea Goldsmith, Chair of the 42nd Senate, to give the annual report of the Senate activities.

A handout listing the activities of the Senate and the titles of reports to the Senate was distributed. The Senate Approved all the advanced and baccalaureate degrees conferred for candidates for the four quarters and heard 19 Memorial Resolutions. Fourteen recommendations from Academic Council Committees were acted upon. The Senate heard 29 reports.

Chair Goldsmith began by noting that at the beginning of the Fall Quarter of 2009, the university budget problems were on their way to being solved, clearing the deck for the Senate to focus on other issues. She singled out some that commanded widespread interest, including some yet to be heard in the two remaining sessions.

The electronic thesis and dissertation project was described. It enables PhD graduate students to submit their thesis electronically for storage by the library and eventual access via the Internet.

Dean Jim Plummer (Engineering) and Dean Richard Saller (Humanities and Sciences) highlighted activities and accomplishments of their respective Schools.

The Committee on Research, chaired by Professor Stephen Monismith will present a recommendation to expand the right to be a Principal Investigator of a Research Project.

The Committee on Undergraduate Standards and Policies, chaired by Professor Philippe Buc, has placed on next year's agenda grade inflation.

A report on the Honor Code and panel discussion was presented. A systematic study of the code was recommended.

Professors William Perry and David Kennedy gave a presentation about the ROTC that led to the Senate approval of an ad hoc committee to study the ramifications of the possible restoration ROTC on the Stanford campus.

Presentations by the Directors of Stanford's five Institutes were very interesting. Chair Goldsmith recommended that those who weren't familiar go to the referred the audience to the web site of these Institutes and Interdisciplinary Programs (IDP's).

The Co-Chairs of the Task Force to Study of Undergraduate Education at Stanford (SUES) gave the first progress report.

Professor Pat Jones, Vice Provost For Faculty Development and Diversity, gave the annual report and Professor Shelly Correll reported the results of a survey about the quality of faculty life at Stanford.

Provost John Etchemendy described the current retirement plan and the resistance of faculty to the idea of ever retiring.

Vice Provost for Graduate Education gave a progress report on diversity among Stanford's graduate students.

The Senate revised the list of university leadership positions entitled to ex officio membership in the Senate.

There were still two Senate sessions left with full and interesting agendas.

In closing Chair Goldsmith expressed her thanks to:

- The Senators and the very good attendance record this year
- The Senate Steering Committee for their energetic advice and opinions.
- Vice Chair Professor Andy Fire
- The Chairs of the seven Academic Council Committees
- President John Hennessy and Provost John Etchemendy and
- Academic Secretary Rex Jamison and Asst Academic Secretary Trish Del Pozzo.

The President thanked and commended Chair Andrea Goldsmith for her energetic and successful year as Chair of the 42nd Senate.

[Applause]

III. President Hennessy's address, "Positioning Stanford for the Future: New Places and Spaces"

The President thanked all the members of the faculty for their help in getting through what he called the worst of the budget crisis.

This was the close of his tenth year. He called this the "Third Stone Age" referring to the three eras of intense campus construction. He was pleased to point out that all the buildings are paid for, so faculty salaries are not at risk.

President Hennessy noted that, "Stanford has become a great research university because of our willingness to be bold and creative. Having the right facilities was very important."

A slide was shown of Frederick Olmstead's original plan of the campus. President Hennessy noted that in reply to a question by Jane and Leland Stanford, President Eliot of Harvard said that they should build both a memorial and a university in honor of their son.

In the initial construction of the buildings, President Hennessy commented that a few mistakes were made. "For example the church steeple blocked the majestic view created by God of the hills back of the university. Later God created an earthquake to correct this error."

Switching to the present time, the President said that the aim now is to return to the original Olmstead plan. Serra is the main axis, the extension of which bisects the Quad. On either side of this axis were "precincts".

The Business Precinct

The Stanford Institute for Economic Policy (SIEPER) was now housed in the new The John A. & Cynthia Fry Gunn building, which houses this auditorium.

[Applause for Mr. Gunn who was present.]

Graduate School of Business (GSB) new buildings [The Knight Management Center]. The president recounted, "Dean Robert Joss came to us with his view of a new structure to facilitate the new style of teaching business. We began with the idea of a single classroom building. But the GSB alumni, like Phil Knight, were so enthusiastic that the project has moved along much faster.

"We have saved a lot of money by building the GSB during the slump in the economy.

The President commented on the size of the project. "Even though it looks much bigger than the current GSB building, that's because the original building has two floors below ground level. The underground levels of the new building are devoted to parking.

The President said that he has resolved never again to build parking structures above ground level; such structures detract from the openness and beauty of the campus.

The Arts Precinct

This consists of Memorial Auditorium, Frost Amphitheater, and the Bing Concert Hall the construction of which just began.

The president commented, "The Bing Concert Hall is long overdue. After the concert Itzhak Perlman gave at Stanford in 2005, President Hennessy congratulated the great violinist who said, "President Hennessy, you have a great university and terrible concert facilities." Mr. Perlman's comment, " turned out to be a great quotation to use for fund raising."

The president showed slides of the proposed hall, inside and out, including a beautiful surrounding landscape.

Student Housing

The Munger Residences are the biggest student housing project since Wilbur Hall was built in 1950 and one of the biggest housing for graduate students. The units range from 4 bedroom suites to single bedrooms and studios. Two thirds of our graduate students have housing on the campus, the highest figure among U.S. universities.

Moreover the added capacity has allowed us to begin “unstuffing” [reducing the number of undergraduate beds per room from three to two].

The Munger Residences have also allowed more open spaces to be created around the Law School.

The new Law School Faculty and Clinics under construction will allow the new clinics curriculum teaching.

The President concluded this part of his address by showing a beautiful panoramic view of the campus from above Palm Drive across the Oval to the entire Quad. He commented that, “Each of these new buildings has had two goals: One, to enable faculty and students to thrive; and two, to preserve the architectural style and open places of this magnificent campus.”

[Applause]

IV. Adjournment of Part I

At 3:30 PM, Part I of the presentation was adjourned.

V. President Hennessy’s walk along Serra Mall

Outside the new Gunn building, the President put on a Panama hat and with Jeff Wachtel, Senior Assistant to the President, headed toward the Jen-Hsun Huang Engineering Center in the Science & Engineering Quad (SEQ). Most of the Academic Council assemblage preceded him, so he set a brisk pace.

The crowd walked on Serra Street past Memorial Hall. It was a beautiful sunny day. The Quadrangle with the magnificent Oval in front came into view. The crowd turned left at the History Corner and, at the opening between the Office of Slavic Languages and Literatures and Office of East Asian Languages and Cultures, entered the great courtyard of the Quad. The President and Senior Assistant Wachtel were now close to the lead. A young man walking with his bicycle began talking with the president. He may have been an undergraduate; he was heard to say that it was all right; he knew the President.

The throng reached the opening on the opposite side of the Quad by the Department of Philosophy, crossed Lomita Mall, and passed between the Physics and Astrophysics Building and the Moore Materials Research Building. Suddenly there it was--the splendid

new Jen-Hsun Huang Engineering Center. The travelers descended its broad steps and entered the new amphitheatre.

The Academic Secretary was pleased to see that this auditorium, like the first, was nearly full of people.

**VI. Part II of President Hennessy's remarks in the Huang Engineering Center
Science & Engineering Quad**

President Hennessy resumed his address by remarking that one of things he liked about the campus is the Quadrangle arcades. This architectural tradition will be continued in the Science & Engineering Quad (SEQ). The axis of SEQ is a straight line extension of the axis of the old Quad. It passes through a corridor formed by the Moore and Astrophysics Buildings.

Phase 2 of SEQ will consist of four buildings:

The Jerry Yang and Akiko Yamazaki Environment and Energy Building (Y2E2)

The Center for Nanoscale Science and Technology

The Jen-Hsun Huang Engineering Center, in the auditorium of which this audience was gathered.

The Bioengineering and Chemical Engineering Building, which when built will replace the Ginzton building.

On the other side of the Serra axis will be the Chemistry and Biology buildings and the School of Medicine.

School of Medicine

The first building in this series of new buildings was the Clark Center (Bio-X), completed in 2003, which was a bold experiment. It housed faculty not belonging to one department but from a cluster of many departments. The design of the building favored collaborative research. It also proved to be a successful architectural transition from the buildings in the old campus to the medical school.

The Li Ka Shing Center for Learning and Knowledge (LKSC) has just opened.

The President commented, "For the first time the School of Medicine will have a front door. New teaching rooms replace the old 'autopsy-like' rooms. The ground floor contains a center for virtual teaching, for example, for learning surgery."

The Lorry Lokey Stem Cell Research building is close to completion. It is thought to be the largest building devoted to stem cell research in the U.S.

The Panama Mall

The President returned to the older section of campus, the collection of buildings along the Panama Mall, which still contains some of the original two story buildings.

"It's where Bill Hewlett and David Packard worked and Frederick Terman had his office. In the early days we tried to convert these old buildings to high technology lab buildings. It

proved too difficult. But we stumbled on a new design—the renovation of the Peterson Lab. We created a large open center space by closing the outside. The result preserves the old architecture.”

The Automotive Innovation Facility. The President remarked with some bemusement that Stanford has become a leader in automotive racing and it now has a new facility in which this research will continue. “Stanley” [the name of an experimental robot drive vehicle] won a prize by traveling 120 miles through a desert without a driver. The vehicle is now in the Smithsonian.

“‘Junior’ has been able to figure out what no human has—what to do when coming to a 4-way stop sign.”

Faculty and Students

This concluded the President’s tour of the new buildings.

“We are preparing our campus and students to support the kind of research that the world needs. When you look at the breadth of what we are doing, it is remarkable how small the university is. The key to Stanford’s success is to recruit leaders.”

Two weeks ago, the President had been invited to China to speak about how to build a great university. His answer was “Excellence in everything we do—in the faculty and staff, in the students, and in the facilities that support them.”

He closed by listing accomplishments of Stanford’s faculty and students in the past year:

Faculty:

- Ten scholars and researchers were elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences;
- Eight Stanford scientists were named to the American Association for Advancement of Science;
- Five Stanford scientists were elected to the National Academy of Sciences;
- Five medical faculty were elected to the Institute of Medicine.
- Two scholars were elected to the National Academy of Engineering.
- 13 university researchers in the schools of Medicine and Engineering were awarded top honors from the National Institutes of Health;
- The American Chemical Society awarded the 2010 Priestley Medal to Richard Zare, the Margarite Blake Wilbur Professor in Natural Science.
- Linda Darling-Hammond, Charles E. Ducommun Professor in Education, won the 2009 Harold W. McGraw, Jr., Prize in Education, and the Distinguished Contributions to Research in Education from the American Educational Research Association.
- Paul Ehrlich, the Bing Professor of Population Studies, received the Ramon Marglef Prize for lifetime achievement in Ecology and Environmental Sciences.
- Peter Vitousek, Professor of Biology and the Clifford G. Morrison Professor in Population and Resource Studies, won the 2010 Japan Prize.

- Martin Hellman, Professor emeritus of Electrical Engineering, was named a 2010 Richard W. Hamming Medalist by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers for his pioneering work in encryption.
- Chris Field, Professor of Biology and Environmental Earth System Science and Senior Fellow at the Woods Institute for the Environment, was named a 2009 Heinz Award recipient.
- Siegfried Hecker, co-director of the Center for International Security, received the 2009 Enrico Fermi Award.
- President Emeritus Gerhard Casper and James Sheehan, the Dickson Professor in the Humanities, Emeritus, were awarded the Great Cross of the Order of Merit with Star for service to the Federal Republic of Germany (June 2009)
- Stephen Shenker, Professor of Physics and the Richard Herschel Weiland Professor in the School of Humanities and Sciences, was awarded the 2010 Lars Onsager Prize.

Students:

Stanford received a record number of applications for undergraduate admission. More than 32,000 students applied for admission to the Class of 2014 of which just 7.2 percent received offers (the lowest percent ever and on track to get the highest yield.)

- One student won a Truman Scholarship for graduate study in public service.
- Three students at the Stanford Medical School and three alumni received Soros fellowships, which recognize “extraordinarily creative and accomplished young immigrants or children of immigrants.”
- One student won a Rhodes scholarship to study at Oxford University.
- Four students won Marshall scholarships to study at a university in Britain and
- One student was awarded a Mitchell scholarship to study at a university in Ireland.
- Two were named Gates Scholars to study at Cambridge University
- One Stanford senior and an alumna were named Luce Scholars to pursue internships in Asia.

The President concluded his address by quoting Stanford’s first president, David Starr Jordan who said, in his address to the class, in 1895 said, “The best spent money is that for the future. The university stands for the future.”

[Applause]

VII. Question and Answer Period

President Hennessy invited questions.

1. “What about the “eyesore” Chemistry Building?” asked one member of the audience. “It’s not an eyesore!” cried another.

The President replied that in attempting to raise funds for a new Chemistry Building, he tried to find an alumnus who had had a wonderful experience there as a student. “That didn’t work. “The funds for this purpose were consumed by the fall in the economy. We will revive this project eventually.”

2. In answer to a question, the President replied that eventually the old Herrin Labs will disappear.
3. What about Stanford overseas campuses, particularly the Beijing campus? The President replied that there will be a new building on the Peking University campus to house Stanford faculty and students. "It's in a very historical area of the campus. It will have a courtyard, classic Chinese style, with a part of the building underground to provide enough space. It will serve not only undergraduates but faculty as well."
4. Will the medical school increase its class size? The President replied, "Well Dean Pizzo hasn't said anything to me about such an idea." Another person in the audience said the answer was probably no.
5. "What about the new hospital? Can you estimate when it will be ready and what will happen to the old hospital?" The President paused before answering. "When the hospital will be built depends on many parameters. We are increasing the area needed, so we have to get discretionary increased rezoning. There will be a small increase in the number of beds in both Stanford Hospital and Packard [The Lucille Packard Children's Hospital] [requiring approval]. Over time we will close the old Stone building and it will eventually disappear.

"Then there is the financial aspect. We have a fair amount of fund raising left to do. The cost of building a hospital is staggering—over one million dollars per bed! Special facilities, like the neonatal unit, drive the cost up further."

6. What about power on campus? The President answered by reminding the audience that Stanford was one of the first campuses to have co-generating facilities—producing electricity and steam. "We are looking at a new heating plant that will also be a cooling plant. The new plant will increase efficiency and reduce green house gasses. However, it will require buying more power outside campus (from PG&E). We are moving in the direction of a more flexible energy plan. This will require new piping of a large part of the campus."
7. A question was asked about faculty and diversity. The President answered, "Clearly our population of students has shifted, especially the graduate student population. In our undergraduate students there is no majority ethnicity any more. Caucasians comprise the plurality but not the majority. We have students with Asian, Latino, and African American backgrounds and one of the largest Native American student populations of any university.

Our graduate student population continues to rise; after the post 9/11 decline owing to visa problems, [it has risen to a new height.] Of the grad students, one third are international--and one half in engineering, math and science are from abroad. China and India are the largest contributors.

The challenge is to continue increasing diversity in the faculty. Biology is leading the way.

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further questions, the President thanked the audience and adjourned the meeting at 4:52 PM.

[Applause]

Respectfully submitted,

Rex L. Jamison, MD
Academic Secretary to the University