

**SUA's Calabasas Campus Approved
By JEFF FARR, Associate Editor
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Soka University of America's plans to further develop its Calabasas, Calif., campus were finally approved on April 9 by the California Coastal Commission. The final decision, reached after an eight-year battle, will allow SUA to expand enrollment at the Calabasas campus to 650 students. The active campus will be situated on 52 acres, and 456 acres of the property will be preserved as open space. Also, 383 acres of the open space will be donated to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.

SUA supporters had hoped the plans would be approved on March 12 at a Coastal Commission meeting in Monterey, Calif.

But when the president of the California state senate, John Burton, faxed a statement just prior to the hearing opposing the plans, SUA officials requested that the final vote be delayed until the commission's April 9 meeting. Following four hours of debate in Long Beach on April 9, the plans were approved with a 9-2 vote.

SUA in Calabasas is now offering a master's degree in second and foreign language education, foreign language courses, and English language classes to Japanese students. In September, the 5th class of the master's degree program begins classes.

SUA is now considering its long-range academic plans for the Calabasas campus. Ideas range from a high school program to an expanded graduate school. SUA's main campus, in Aliso Viejo, Calif., will be a full-scale liberal arts school and will open in 2001.

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