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Nova University

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Educational Concept

by

DR. WARREN J. WINSTEAD

In the development of a new institution of higher learning, the Board of Trustees usually has three alternatives: to develop an institution designed to fill existing voids in the current education programs in the State or locale; to become a general university or institution of general studies in competition with other institutions of general studies in an area; or to concentrate its resources in certain specific programs where other institutions are not placing their major emphasis.

Pursuing the first alternative is considered unwise because, in filling voids, it is usually necessary to go in a number of unrelated directions.

Adopting the second alternative is not considered feasible since there already exist two good general universities in the Southeast Florida area, the Florida Atlantic University and the University of Miami.

Election of the third alternative, therefore, seems to provide the most logical approach and the greatest long-range opportunity.

Members of the Executive Committee of the South Florida Education Center, Inc., have determined that they wish to have a university of advanced technology in Broward County, there being no institution of this type in Florida. Further, the Board of Trustees desires that, within this framework, an academic program of very high quality be created. In order to do this with the resources that are available and can be anticipated, it is considered necessary to concentrate initially in certain areas and at the Graduate level, specifically: a Graduate Center in the Physical Sciences to include mathematics; an Education Center, designed to prepare teachers of the physical sciences; and a Management Center, oriented toward the application of the physical sciences in management.

There are a number of reasons for starting at the graduate level in the Physical Sciences. First, a graduate program limited to a specific area does not require the diversion of resources in a number of directions to provide the balance needed in an undergraduate program. Secondly, graduate instruction inherently involves research; hence, an institution starting at the graduate level is in a better position to qualify for Research grants. Thirdly, a graduate program places the institution in a much better position to recruit quality faculty, since outstanding professors usually prefer to work with graduate students and to be involved in research with the kind of support that graduate students can provide. Fourth, a Graduate Center in the Physical Sciences would be immediately appealing to industry and should (a) generate industrial support of the research effort and (b) attract industrial attention to this area.

Establishment of an Education Center oriented in the field of the physical sciences is considered necessary in the initial phase of development to provide a continuing liaison with Nova High and Elementary Schools and the Junior College of Broward County. These institutions would provide an opportunity for graduate students to teach in the physical sciences. The Graduate Center could also fill a very vital need in the State by training teachers in the physical sciences and mathematics.
Establishment of a Graduate Center in Management, oriented to the application of advanced technology in management is also considered vital at this point to serve the multi-purpose of first, providing needed technical advice to business and industry in this area; secondly, conducting management seminars which would attract representatives from government, industry and education to the area; and thirdly, creating an added inducement for industry to locate in Broward County.

At this point it is considered that the ultimate enrollment in the Graduate School comprised of the three Centers would not exceed 1,000 students. An Undergraduate School and School of Engineering would be established in the second phase as an adjunct of the graduate center.

It is considered necessary that the School of Engineering be deferred until the second phase since it will relate to both the Undergraduate and the Graduate Divisions. Further, it is a program requiring a much longer planning period than the programs previously discussed. Equipment for an outstanding School of Engineering is quite costly and must be procured over an extended period.

The Undergraduate School will be a feeder to the Graduate School. Students accepted into the Undergraduate Division should be seeking entrance to our Graduate School and not entering the Undergraduate Division merely for the baccalaureate degree, although this degree will be offered in the Undergraduate Division. It is considered that ultimately the enrollment of the Undergraduate School would approximate 300 to 400 students, and be comprised of those students from this area desirous of entering the University to study for a graduate degree in the physical sciences and meeting the admission requirements of the University. Other students admitted to the Undergraduate Division would be students from other areas with an unusually high potential for study in the physical sciences and who have shown a high degree of creativity with a strong supporting background at the secondary or junior college level in the liberal arts. The Undergraduate Division will further serve to prepare students with special talents from other colleges who require specific additional preparation to meet the requirements established by the graduate faculty for entrance into the Graduate School.

Rather than develop an undergraduate faculty, it is considered quite appropriate that graduate professors teach at least one course in their field in the Undergraduate Department. Courses in the Humanities — the Social and Natural Sciences, Languages and the Arts — would be provided by members of Institutes, created as a part of the University which would service all elements of the Nova Complex. At the present time an Institute of Communications, an Institute of the Social and Natural Sciences and an Institute of the Arts and Humanities are under consideration for this purpose.

In summary, there would be an Undergraduate Division, but there would be no undergraduate faculty members as such. All instruction provided in the Undergraduate divisions would be provided by the Graduate faculty or members of interlinking institutes. The size of the Graduate Division initially will be determined by the amount of resources available for its development. It is considered highly desirable that the institution begin with fewer faculty members and students rather than water-down the quality of the program of the institution. It is entirely conceivable that if limited resources dictate, a Graduate Division could be established with a few faculty members and as few as 40 to 50
students. The initial image of quality is difficult to create and must be nurtured very carefully.

The initial image of the University must project student and faculty quality rather than quantity.

__Friends Invited To Visit Nova Planning Office__

The South Florida Education Center, Inc., recently opened a Planning and Development Office in the financial district of downtown Fort Lauderdale, immediately opposite the First National Bank Building. The address is 232 East Las Olas Boulevard — Telephone 523-5400 or 523-5409. This air-conditioned and attractively furnished office will serve as the focal point of Center and University activities for the next year.

In addition to providing a convenient room for Committee meetings, the office is large enough to accommodate the President, Development Director and a small administrative staff connected with the University. A cordial invitation is extended to the Trustees and other supporters of the University to visit these offices.

__Architect Volunteers__

Mr. James M. Hartley, prominent Hollywood Architect, has volunteered to act without fee as architectural consultant to the Executive Committee, South Florida Education Center, Inc., during the conceptual phase of planning for the Nova University of Advanced Technology. In this capacity, he is visiting educational and research activities throughout the United States, known to have modern and efficient physical plants, to obtain first-hand knowledge of design, materials, engineering and costs.

His professional advice will be of inestimable assistance to the Executive Committee in formulating initial building plans and estimating attendant costs for the development of the University property adjacent to the Nova High School and Junior College of Broward County.

Mr. Hartley served as architect for the Nova High School which has been the recipient of several national awards and honors not only for educational program but also for architectural design.

Nova University of Advanced Technology is being established in Broward County as a privately endowed university under the sponsorship of the South Florida Education Center, Inc. (a non profit foundation). It will be located at Forman Field, a former Air Force Base adjacent to the town of Davie where the South Florida Education Center in cooperation with the Board of Public Instruction of Broward County has established elementary, secondary and junior college facilities. The ultimate objective is to create an Education Center at Forman Field which will provide a continuum of education of unexcelled quality from kindergarten through graduate school, oriented toward the scientific age in which we live. Nova University will concentrate in the area of Advanced Technology and offer instruction initially at the graduate level.
### Planning Schedule

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<td>1.</td>
<td>Prepare Educational Concept</td>
<td>Initiate Local Fund Drive</td>
<td>Recruit Vice Presidents</td>
<td>Recruit Remaining Faculty</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Visit other universities, colleges &amp; institutes</td>
<td>Recruit Deans, skeletal faculty</td>
<td>Complete Educational plan</td>
<td>Assist in National Fund Drive</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Retain Architect</td>
<td>Prepare projects to obtain Foundation support</td>
<td>Establish Regional Offices to Assist in National Fund Drive</td>
<td>Recruit Faculty &amp; Students</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Form Advisory Board</td>
<td>Develop university charter and incorporate</td>
<td>Land Acquisition</td>
<td>Recruit Faculty &amp; Students</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Recruit Administrative Staff</td>
<td>Library Acquisition</td>
<td>Select Fund Raising Counsel</td>
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### Operational Schedule

- Initiate Local Fund Drive
- Recruit Vice Presidents, Deans, skeletal faculty
- Complete Educational plan
- Prepare projects to obtain Foundation support
- Establish Regional Offices to Assist in National Fund Drive
- Recruit Faculty & Students
- Assist in National Fund Drive

### Fund Raising Schedule

- Preparatory Phase
  - Advanced Gift
  - Special Gift
  - General Gift
- State and National Fund Campaign Phase
- University Center
- Student Housing Service Unit
- Physical Science Center
- Management Center
- Education Center
- Library
- Student Housing
- Student Hsg.
- Engrg. Schll
- Commun. Bldg
- Fac. Ctr
- Planetarium
- Gym
- Accelerator
- Athletic Fields
- Undergraduate Instruction

### Construction Schedule

- Phase I Step "A" ($4.3 Mil)
- Phase I Step "B" ($4.0 Mil)
- Phase II ($9.3 Mil)
- Phase III ($15.0 Mil)
- Phase IV ($15.0 Mil)
- Phase V ($5.0 Mil)

### Instruction Schedule

- Seminars & Conferences
- Teacher Institutes
- Graduate Instruction & Research
- Undergraduate Instruction
ADVANTAGES OF LOCATING NEAR A UNIVERSITY

1. Company can attract employees because of proximity to university with its cultural and academic environment.

2. Employees can conveniently work for degrees or take specialized courses.

3. University environment stimulates creative thinking.

4. Company can broaden scope of operation without significant capital outlay by utilizing faculty and facilities of university when bidding on contracts.

5. Facilities some companies cannot afford can frequently be made available through the university.

6. Universities serve as a centralizing point for all information and knowledge which few companies can afford on their own.

7. University faculty members are available as consultants.

8. Students are available for part-time or training jobs and full-time positions after graduation.

9. Families of employees are assured of high level educational facilities near home.

Source: Adapted from nationwide survey made by

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Albuquerque, New Mexico,
Industrial Development Service, Inc.
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