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PRESIDENT

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OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

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To Our Neighbors:

You may have read or heard, via news stories or rumors, that Chapman University is pursuing an amendment of its Specific Plan to further an active agenda of quick campus expansion in the City of Orange. We wanted to reach out to you directly to correct this misperception.

We recently had a very productive meeting with leaders of the Old Towne Preservation Association, and the results of this were highly positive. One result will be that Chapman will suspend processing of its Specific Plan amendment in order to spend more time working with you: our neighbors in the Orange community. We want to include as many viewpoints as possible, so everyone has a voice in the outcome, and we welcome this community participation.

We also want you to know directly from us that the claim, in recent news stories, saying that Chapman wants to “add” 17 acres of property in Orange to our campus is untrue. We have issued a correction to the editors of those outlets. The 17 acres referenced in the Specific Plan amendment are already owned by Chapman – in some cases, we have owned them for many years – and have already been approved by the City through conditional use permits developed over time. Please note that Chapman’s only property expansion is *taking place in Irvine, not here in Orange.*

Here are some of the initial steps Chapman will take:

- Suspension of the processing of Chapman’s next Specific Plan Amendment until 2016 or later. Based on advice from community leaders, Chapman will continue its ongoing plans for more on-campus housing (more students living on campus will result in fewer students living in off-campus housing, thus mitigating noise and traffic concerns).
- Formation of a Neighborhood Advisory Committee that meets regularly and that the University hopes will include members of the Old Towne Preservation Association,

the Orange Barrio Historical Society, representatives from the Mayor and City Council, the Orange Chamber of Commerce, and outspoken critics as well as supporters of the University, so all views can be heard.

- Creation of a single University point-of-contact for neighbors to simplify and clarify the process of communicating with the University.
- In order to share the ideas and results coming from the Advisory Committee as well as other activities, Chapman will enhance its communication with neighbors. The University will increase the frequency of its “Neighbor-to-Neighbor” newsletter (mailed to all nearby neighbors), and will create a new website focused on neighbor communication. Use of social media to communicate with and respond to neighbors will also be improved.

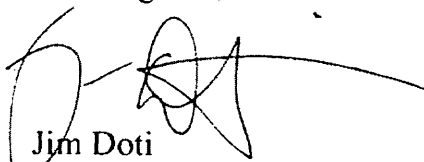
We know there are many other issues to discuss: student noise, traffic, party houses, etc. We’ll follow up soon with another letter discussing those issues in more depth.

Chapman University has been a proud and contributing member of the Orange community since 1954, and we value our role in the City and the region as an educator, employer and economic driver. Chapman is committed to partnering with our neighbors and friends to respond to your concerns and to build an ongoing successful relationship. After all, we are all neighbors and all in this together! Stay tuned for more information about how to get involved.

We also invite and sincerely hope you will join us on the Chapman campus to enjoy the many free and low-cost cultural, academic and athletic events coming up *this year*. Check the Events Calendar on Chapman’s website: www.chapman.edu.

We look forward to seeing you here, and please know that you are always welcome.

Kind regards,



Jim Doti
President



Daniele Struppa
Chancellor