What’s new at Sac State for the fall semester

The fall semester at Sacramento State gets underway Tuesday, Sept. 2, with lots of exciting changes and additions to the campus.

The University will welcome 44 new faculty members and two visiting professors, along with three new administrators:

- James “Jim” Prince, the vice provost for Academic Affairs, has served in the California State University system for 19 years, first at Fresno State and most recently at Chico State, where he was associate dean of the College of Natural Sciences. His doctorate in plant molecular biology is from Cornell University.

- Örn Bodvarsson, dean of the College of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies, came from St. Cloud State University in Minnesota, where he was dean of the School of Public Affairs. He earned his doctorate in economics at Simon Fraser University.

- Lorenzo Smith, dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Science, came to Sac State from Michigan’s Oakland University, where he was the associate dean of the School of Engineering and Computer Science. His doctorate in engineering mechanics is from Michigan State University.

Also new at Sacramento State this fall:

- The University has completed a network of bright green bicycle pathways around the campus and has designated the interior of the campus “pedestrian-only.” The project will encourage more students and staff to ride rather than drive.

- As a part of that project, Sac State has also built two new bike/board-parking compounds, which join the existing compound near the Guy West Bridge to offer nearly 700 bicycle parking spots. Community service officers (CSOs) usually are on duty at each compound weekdays during the academic year.

- The City of Sacramento continues its restoration and repainting of the Guy West Bridge across the American River. The span is a popular route for cyclists who commute to and from Sac State.

- As a part of its continuing sustainability efforts, Sac State is installing water-saving plumbing fixtures in bathrooms throughout the campus. A $78,000 Proposition 50 grant from the City of Sacramento will cover more than half of the estimated cost.
• A student-blazed path across the Main Quad lawn is now an official campus walkway laid out in decomposed granite.

• Sac State’s first Starbucks is open in the River Front Center, and Epicure, the full-service restaurant in the University Union, reopens Sept. 2 with a new menu.

For media assistance, contact Sacramento State’s Office of Public Affairs at (916) 278-6156. – Dixie Reid