3.3.5 Setting/Impacts/Mitigation Measures

This section constitutes the heart of the EIR analysis. This Handbook describes environmental impact information that is pertinent to the analysis of each technical environmental issue area, including the following:

- **Standards of Significance** which describe criteria used to determine whether the project has the potential of resulting in significant impacts to the environment. The standards are also used to determine which impacts need to be mitigated. (See *UC CEQA Handbook Section 2.1.6* and individual topical sections in *Chapter 3.3* for further discussion and examples of standards of significance.)

- **Analytical Methods** which describe the approach to be used in preparing the section, collecting baseline or setting information, analyzing potential impacts and determining levels of significance. The methods used should result in substantial analytical evidence to support conclusions about impacts that have been identified.

- **Generally Feasible Mitigation Measures** which describe measures that are generally acceptable to reduce impacts to less-than-significant levels.

Additionally, for each issue area, the campus or its consultant must evaluate whether the project, in combination with other campus and non-campus projects, would result in significant cumulative impacts. A discussion of cumulative impacts generally should be included in each topical section, rather than in one section at the back of the EIR.

The environmental setting, which establishes the baseline for the analysis, is the physical environmental conditions in the project vicinity at the time that the Notice of Preparation is filed (*CEQA Guidelines Section 15125(a)*).
http://ceres.ca.gov/topic/env_law/ceqa/guidelines/art9.html

Topical sections should generally be presented in alphabetical order as indicated below, unless another order is appropriate to the proposed project.

Issue areas described in this Handbook are as follows:

- Aesthetics

- Agriculture Resources

- Air Quality

- Biological Resources

- Cultural Resources

- Geology and Soils

- Hazards and Hazardous Materials

- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation/Traffic
- Utilities, Energy and Service Systems
- Growth-Inducing Impacts
- Cumulative Impacts
- Significant Irreversible Changes
- Alternatives