



California Faculty Association

Representing the faculty of the California State University
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Dear Colleagues,

In a number of recent public meetings, Chancellor Charles Reed and members of his administration have made intemperate and inaccurate statements about the impact the recently ratified faculty contract will have on local campus budgets.

The administration has claimed bringing salaries up to a level that will retain faculty members, align with the rising costs of living, and allow us to adequately support our families must result in funding cuts for classes and other instructional needs.

In effect, they are arguing that improving our salaries and maintaining instruction are mutually exclusive goals; either the faculty can be paid properly or sufficient class sections and services will be offered to our students, but not both. This is an unacceptable approach to what are essentially questions about budget priorities.

All of us had hoped the Chancellor would recognize that the new contract protects the main mission of the university—instruction—by making it easier to attract and retain our faculty. Now is the time when we should be healing the rifts and getting back to the business of stabilizing our teaching workforce, rebuilding our programs, and providing our students with the quality education they deserve.

We challenge the Chancellor, Trustees, and campus presidents to examine and reorder their budget priorities to protect the system's primary assets—our students and the faculty and staff who carry out the main mission of the university.

We hope you will read the enclosed statement that clarifies some of the confusion swirling around these issues. You also can locate the statement on the CFA web site at www.calfac.org/budget07-08.html

Thank you for your thoughtful attention to issues that affect every member of our CSU campus communities.

Lillian Taiz
President-Elect, California Faculty Association
CC: CSU Board of Trustees