

## **From the California Faculty Association**

cfa@calfac.org or <http://www.calfac.org>

**June 10, 2008 - Weekly news digest from CFA**

### **CONTRACT ENFORCEMENT**

- General Salary Increase effective June 30

### **THE STATE BUDGET AND THE CSU**

- Legislative budget committees adopt plans
- CPEC Study: Costs making college unaffordable

### **ALLIANCE FOR THE CSU**

- Alliance night at Chico Outlaws baseball game, June 21
- Report on San Jose Town Hall

### **OTHER NEWS**

- CFA supports TA fee waivers
- June 3 election results

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### **CONTRACT ENFORCEMENT**

#### **• GENERAL SALARY INCREASE EFFECTIVE JUNE 30**

CFA has been assured by the Chancellor's Office that on June 30, the CSU faculty will receive a 2% general salary increase as required under the Faculty's (Unit 3) Collective Bargaining Agreement. This will complete the salary increases for academic year 2007/08.

If you have questions about your paycheck, please contact your campus office of payroll.

Unit 3 members are scheduled to receive the first installment of the 2008/09 GSI of 3% on July 1. This would be reflected in the August 1 paychecks. Since the state budget has not been adopted this GSI may be delayed. It also may be subject to further negotiation depending on the final state budget.

### **THE STATE BUDGET AND THE CSU**

#### **• LEGISLATIVE BUDGET COMMITTEES ADOPT PLANS**

Budget committees in the state Assembly and Senate each passed 2008/09 budget plans last week. Although there are some differences between the two, both plans retain the additional \$97.6 million in CSU funding that was added to the governor's "May Revise" budget.

The governor added the extra CSU funding to his budget plan after receiving more than 25,000 calls and faxes from supporters of the Alliance for the CSU.

The plans restore funding for competitive Cal Grants for students, which the governor had deleted from higher education budget plan. The plans also retain the funding the governor added in his May Revise for the UC and Community Colleges. Both plans assume student fees will be raised 10% in the CSU and 7.5% in the UC.

The Senate plan contains "intent language," instructions on how the legislature would like the money to be spent, for both UC and CSU. This difference from the Assembly plan sets the stage for a conference committee to hammer out a common budget plan for both houses.

John Travis, CFA Political Action/Legislation Chair, said, "The budget is moving much faster than most observers expected, and that is good. But, we still are short \$288 million, the funding the CSU needs for instruction and to stop a student fee increase.

"So, we must keep building the Alliance for the CSU and we must keep reminding our state representatives that the CSU is the Solution to a budget crisis."

Alliance for the CSU members should be prepared to contact policy-makers at the appropriate time.

See the budget plan adopted by the Assembly Budget Subcommittee at:

<http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a27/pdf/SubcommitteeReportMay2008Overview.pdf>

## • CPEC STUDY: COSTS MAKING COLLEGE UNAFFORDABLE

The California Post-Secondary Education Commission said this week that fee hikes in the UC and CSU, especially since 2000, are making college an impossible dream for increasing numbers of Californians.

In a commission report just released, CPEC, which reports on higher education to the state legislature, wrote:

“Fee increases, compounded by high costs of living in California, and income stagnation, particularly for middle- and lower-income workers, have made paying for a college education impossible for many families.”

CPEC found that a low-income family must devote 29 weeks — or 56% — of total income to support one CSU student. In 1979 such a family had to devote 17 weeks of income to support a student. A middle income family must devote 11 weeks of income, up from 7 weeks in 1979, to support a student today.

Also CPEC found that financial aid often does not ensure access to higher education, writing, “Even recipients of substantial grant packages pay one-third to a half of their annual income on college costs.”

See the complete white paper at:

[http://www.cpec.ca.gov/agendas/agenda0806/item\\_06.pdf](http://www.cpec.ca.gov/agendas/agenda0806/item_06.pdf)

## **ALLIANCE FOR THE CSU**

### **• ALLIANCE NIGHT AT THE CHICO ‘OUTLAWS’ JUNE 21**

The “Alliance for the CSU” will be featured at the Chico Outlaws baseball game on Saturday evening June 21 with sign up tables, special prizes and contests, banners, and the mascot Rascal wearing the biggest Alliance for the CSU tee shirt ever made.

Game time is 7 pm; gates open at 6 pm at Nettleton Stadium on Warner St. on the Chico State campus.

The Outlaws, an independent Class-A professional baseball team is operated by CSU Alumni Trustee Bob Linscheid. He teamed up with Chico CFA chapter president Susan Green to develop the idea.

Free tickets are available to CSU students, alumni and members of these CSU and area unions: CFA, CSUEU, APC, SETC, UAPD, SUPA, IUOE, UAW, CTA/CUTA and SEIU-United Healthcare West.

To reserve your free ticket by this week's June 13 deadline:

1 – Send an email request to the CFA Chico chapter office at [cfa@csuchico.edu](mailto:cfa@csuchico.edu) including your name, home phone and address, affiliation, email address, and # of tickets, or

2 - Download a ticket request form with flyer at <http://www.allianceforthecsuo.org/Resources/outlaws.pdf>

Please note that by requesting tickets you add your name to the 37,000 people who have signed up for the Alliance for the CSU.

Now we're playin' ball.

## • **STRONG ALLIANCE SHOWING AT SAN JOSE TOWN HALL**

The Alliance for the CSU made a strong showing last week at a "Your Budget, Your Values" Town Hall meeting in San Jose organized by state Democratic Assemblymembers Jim Beall, Joe Coto, Alberto Torrico, Sally Lieber, and Ira Ruskin.

The large contingent of more than 35 wearing Alliance tee-shirts included CSU faculty members, administrators, staff, and students. Many, including CFA leaders Jonathan Karpf and Elena Dorabji, spoke on the need to fund the CSU to help solve the budget crisis and meet the needs of future generations.

“In my darkest moments, I feel that the governor’s budget is asking us to eat our children,” said Elena Dorabji, political action/legislation chair of the CFA chapter at San Jose State.

An overall theme of the town hall was that the state budget cannot be based entirely on cuts and that it is a mistake to try to balance the budget on the backs of the young and the most vulnerable in the society.

## **OTHER NEWS**

### **• CFA SUPPORTS TEACHING ASSISTANTS’ FEE WAIVER**

The CFA Board of Directors adopted a resolution last weekend expressing support for Bargaining Unit 11’s (UAW) efforts to win fee waivers for its members. Unit 11 represents teaching assistants, graduate assistants, and instructional student assistants.

### **- JUNE 3 ELECTION OUTCOMES**

In the June 3 primaries, 44 of the 48 CFA-endorsed candidates won. Check out which candidates CFA endorsed at <http://www.calfac.org/endorsement.html>

Prior to making decisions about endorsements, CFA members interview and evaluate the candidates. CFA considers their views on higher education, collective bargaining in general and collective bargaining rights specifically for the faculty, funding for the CSU, public accountability regarding use of CSU funds, their commitment to student and faculty diversity, and tax-reform measures. CFA’s Board of Directors makes endorsements on the recommendations of the Political Action/Legislation committees of the campus CFA chapters.

CFA will continue making endorsements for the November general election in those state races in which we don’t have a candidate.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **June 14-15, Sat-Sun**

Alliance for the CSU activities at CSU commencement ceremonies at East Bay, Pomona, San Bernardino and San Luis Obispo. For more information contact the campus CFA chapter.

### **June 15, Sun**

Constitutional deadline for a budget agreement in the legislature (this is rarely met)

### **June 21, Sat**

Alliance for the CSU night at Chico Outlaws baseball game. 6 pm gates open. 7 pm game time. Nettleton Stadium, CSU Chico. Tickets: [cfa@csuchico.edu](mailto:cfa@csuchico.edu)

### **June 26, Thu**

Sonoma State Wine Business event with Alliance for the CSU. For more info contact Sonoma CFA chapter at (707) 664-3946, [cfa@sonoma.edu](mailto:cfa@sonoma.edu)

### **July 4, Fri**

Independence Day. CFA offices closed.

### **July 15, Tue**

CSU Board of Trustees meeting. 401 Golden Shore, Long Beach.

### **August 8-9, Fri-Sun**

Coalition of Contingent Academic Labor bi-annual conference. COCAL is the organization of lecturers in North America. Workshops, keynotes, organizing training. Learn best practices for lecturers. Regional meetings of AAUP, CFA, AFT and others. Register online at <http://www.cocal-ca.org/viii/confhome.htm> (early bird fee before June 30)