

From the California Faculty Association

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**June 24, 2008 - Weekly news digest from CFA**

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

### **· STATE BUDGET COMING – SOONER OR LATER**

A conference committee of the state Assembly and Senate began meeting last week to hammer out a common budget plan between the two houses of the State Legislature. Funding for the CSU may come up in the conference this week.

So far, both the Assembly and Senate budget plans contain the governor's CSU funding proposal — which includes the \$97.6 million he added for the CSU in his 'May Revise' after he got 25,000-plus calls and faxes from the Alliance for the CSU.

Despite that partial victory for the Alliance, the two houses' budget plans still assume a 10% student fee hike and leave out about \$200 million in funds promised under the terms of the governor's Compact for Higher Education.

Estimates as to when the budget will be completed vary wildly, from sometime in July to Halloween. The new budget year is supposed to begin July 1. CFA Headlines will continue to provide updates through the summer.

CFA is working with other groups in the Alliance for the CSU to organize delegations to visit with legislators in their home districts this summer. At these visits, the Alliance will explain why the \$200 million shortfall below the promised Compact funding and fee increases is still a bad idea for California's economy and future overall.

To join a delegation this summer, contact the CFA chapter on your campus or write to: [info@alliancefortheesu.org](mailto:info@alliancefortheesu.org)

## **· WILLIE BROWN: CSU IS CALIFORNIA'S ECONOMIC ENGINE**

In an opinion piece published Monday in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, Willie Brown took the current legislature and governor to task for their proposed cuts to higher education.

Brown, a CSU alum, former two-term mayor of San Francisco and 31-year member of the California State Assembly, urged lawmakers to think twice before cutting higher education because of the long-term negative impact these cuts would have on the state's economy.

Brown wrote, "Now that we're facing another economic crisis, we will need the innovators, thinkers, entrepreneurs and well-trained workers that our CSU and UC systems have long produced to help see us out of it."

Brown continued, "And yet, it is at this same moment that we are considering closing the door to higher education for thousands of Californians. I'm here to tell you that is simply shortsighted."

To read the article in full, go to:

[http://calfac.org/allpdf/newspaper\\_articles/2008/SFChron\\_062308\\_WBrown.pdf?  
\\_r=1&oref=slogin](http://calfac.org/allpdf/newspaper_articles/2008/SFChron_062308_WBrown.pdf?_r=1&oref=slogin)

CFA encourages faculty members and CSU supporters to send a letter to the editor of the *Chronicle* about Brown's opinion piece. These letters can opine on views expressed in the article or be personal stories about the need for CSU funding.

Send your letter to [letters@sfchronicle.com](mailto:letters@sfchronicle.com)

To learn about sending a letter to the *Chronicle*, go to:

<http://www.sfgate.com/chronicle/submissions>

## **THE ALLIANCE FOR THE CSU**

## **- ALLIANCE GOES TO BAT FOR CSU**

The Alliance for the CSU continued its campaign to prevent budget cuts Saturday as more than 1,000 faculty members, students, staff, alumni, administrators, and CSU supporters attended "Alliance for the CSU night" at the Chico Outlaws baseball game.

The ball game attendees received Alliance "thunder sticks" and were given the opportunity to sign up to become members of the Alliance.

The event also featured CFA President Lillian Taiz and CSU Assistant Vice Chancellor Karen Zamarripa - each throwing out a ceremonial first pitch, Alliance shirts being shot into the crowd by an air cannon and Rascal the Raccoon – the team's mascot – wearing the largest Alliance T-shirt ever created - a 6X!

The Outlaws, an independent Class-A professional baseball team, are managed by CSU Alumni Trustee Bob Linscheid who said, "It's an honor to tie America's pastime in with education. Each plays an integral part in the United States and particularly in California."

Check out Trustee Linscheid's photos and report on the game at:  
<http://csualumnitrustee.blogspot.com/>

## **- ALUMNI SEND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ON BUDGET**

The Alliance for the CSU continues to draw public support from various constituencies. Last week, letters to the editor from CSU alumni appeared in two southern California newspapers.

On Thursday, the *Pasadena Star News* and the *Beacon Peninsula*, a San Diego-area community paper, each published articles from CSU alumni calling for the restoration of critical funding to the CSU system.

To view the letters, go to:  
[http://calfac.org/allpdf/newspaper\\_articles/2008/LTEs\\_061908\\_budget.pdf?\\_r=1&oref=slogin](http://calfac.org/allpdf/newspaper_articles/2008/LTEs_061908_budget.pdf?_r=1&oref=slogin)

The Alliance for the CSU encourages its supporters to send letters to the editors of local newspapers, blogs and other publications such as business magazines and professional society newsletters.

To learn more about sending a letter, go to:  
<http://www.alliancefortheesu.org/letter.html>

To view sample letters to the editor, go to:

<http://www.calfac.org/lettersample.html>

To learn about writing to a blog, go to:

<http://www.alliancefortheesu.org/blog.html>

## **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.

## **OTHER NEWS**

### **- FRESNO SETTLES SEX DISCRIMINATION LAWSUIT**

Last week Fresno State ended a three-year long gender discrimination and harassment lawsuit by reaching a \$9 million settlement with former women's basketball coach Stacy Johnson-Klein.

A jury originally awarded Johnson-Klein \$19.1 million in August. The CSU appealed and then reached a settlement.

According to the *Fresno Bee*, Johnson-Klein's settlement includes payment of attorneys' fees, a \$5.4 million cash lump sum, \$12,500 per month for 20 years, deferred, to begin in three years, and a \$100,000 annuity for each of her six children, payable at \$25,000 per year, when each child turns 18, to pay for their college educations.

Johnson-Klein's case was one of three recent Title IX-related discrimination cases in which Fresno State has had to pay damages totaling more than \$17 million.

In October, former associate athletics director Diane Milutinovich settled for \$3.5 million. In July 2007, former women's volleyball coach Lindy Vivas was awarded \$5.8 million in a verdict, later reduced to \$4.52 million.

These lawsuits have since prompted an investigation by the state legislature into Title IX abuse in the CSU led by state Senator Dean Flores.

## **- REGISTER TO ATTEND COCAL CONFERENCE**

The Coalition of Contingent Academic Labor (COCAL) will host its bi-annual conference on August 8-10 at San Diego State, and CFA is urging lecturers to attend.

COCAL is the organization of lecturers in North America.

The event will feature a number of informative workshops, keynotes, organizing training and offer attendees and opportunity to learn best practices for lecturers.

Regional meetings of AAUP, CFA, AFT and others will also be held at the event.

Register before June 30 to receive an early bird discount by going to:

<http://www.cocal-ca.org/viii/confhome.htm>

For more information about attending COCAL, contact your campus CFA office or Lecturer Representative. For a list of CFA Lecturer Reps with contact information go to: <http://www.calfac.org/lecturerscouncil.html>

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **July 4, Fri**

Independence Day. CFA offices closed.

### **July 15, Tue**

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

### **July 24-27, Thur-Sun**

AAUP Summer Institute

Kingston, Rhode Island

For more information, go to: <http://www.aaup.org/AAUP/about/events/SI/>

### **August 8-10, Fri-Sun**

COCAL International conference (see above)

Register online at <http://www.cocal-ca.org/viii/confhome.htm>

(Early bird fee before June 30)

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*See back issues of CFA Headlines, sent each Tuesday, at <http://www.calfac.org/headlines.html>  
Update your contact info in the CFA member database at the "Help Desk" at <http://www.calfac.org>*

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