

For Immediate Release
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MEDIA ADVISORY

CAL STATE UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES LAUNCH CAMPAIGN TO FIGHT THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED BUDGET CUTS

Faculty, Staff, Students, and Administration Join Forces to Prevent a \$386 Million Cut to the CSU Budget in 2008/09; Cuts Would Limit Access for Students, Further Damaging the State's Economy and Weakening California's Infrastructure

WHAT: All-Campus Budget Fight Back Meetings on all 23 California State University campuses to organize to win the necessary funding.

WHO: California Faculty Association, the Cal State University Administration, California State Student Association, staff unions, and other campus constituencies.

There will be a media availability 30 minutes prior to each campus meeting, and when the meetings start, the media is welcome to stay and cover the events.

WHY: The CSU community, a community that has been divided on many issues in recent history, has joined together for the most important fight it has ever faced: **protecting the future of California**. The Governor proposes to cut \$386 million from the CSU budget for the 2008/09 academic year at a time when the economy is lagging, businesses are desperate for skilled workers, the State's infrastructure needs massive improvements, and disadvantaged and middle-class students are finding it harder and harder to afford a college education.

Faculty, students, staff, and the Administration know that **the CSU is the solution to our State's economic challenges, not the problem**. The CSU educates the State's skilled workforce, graduates the majority of minority students in California, and contributes over \$7 billion to the State's economy. Cuts to the CSU would force the system to turn away students, hike student fees yet again, eliminate classes, lay off teachers and increase class sizes. In other words, **cuts to the CSU will further damage the economy**.

WHEN: The CSU community will informally launch its campaign to fight the budget cuts with All-Campus meetings on each of the 23 CSU campuses during March. The dates scheduled so far are:

- o March 3: CSU Dominguez Hills (Carson), Noon-12:50, Loker Student Union, Ballroom A
- o March 7: Sacramento State, 12-1 pm, University Theater
- o March 10: CSU San Marcos, 1-2 pm, Arts 111 (Theater)
- o March 11: CSU Channel Islands, details to be announced
- o March 17: San Francisco State, 12-1:30 pm, McKenna Theater
- o March 18: San Jose State, details to be announced

- o March 20: Sonoma State, 12-1:30 pm, Person Theater
- o April 2: CSU Monterey Bay, 12-2 pm, Location to be announced

Times, locations, and dates on other campuses to be announced.
Watch <http://www.calfac.org/releases.html>

HOW: The media is invited to attend the campus meetings and interview members of the CSU community about their concerns and the future plans to fight the budget cuts. There will be a media availability 30 minutes prior to each campus meeting, and when the meetings start, the media is welcome to stay and cover the events. For more information please contact Alice Sunshine 510-384-1967 or Lisa Cohen 310-395-2544.

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