Budget cuts hit university programs

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At Chico State University, since 2008, 13 programs have had admissions suspended. That means no new students could enroll until the programs were evaluated and decisions were made about whether they should be modified and continue, or be discontinued.

Since 2010, 16 programs at Chico State have either been discontinued or are proposed to be discontinued.

Sometimes programs are put on the suspended or discontinued lists because enrollment is low or there are no faculty able to teach in them.

Sometimes, as in the case of outdoor education, the reason is that there’s not enough money to keep programs going.

Since 2008, the California State University has lost $1.07 billion in state funding. More budget cuts are expected in the coming year.

Professor Russell Mills, chair of Chico State’s Academic Senate, wrote in response to an email from the Enterprise-Record, that he and other senate leaders are “concerned about the recent increase in program suspensions and terminations.”

Their main concern is that the administration may have initiated some suspensions and terminations without adequate consultation with faculty who were affected, he stated.

Senate leaders have discussed this and other concerns with Chico State’s administration, he wrote, adding he plans to ask the senate in the coming year to develop a new policy on suspensions and terminations.

Here are Chico State programs that have had admissions suspended since 2006:

* Master in geography and planning.
* Master in accountancy.
* Professional master in business administration.
* Bachelor and master through the online/off-campus program.

* Bachelor in manufacturing technology (was reinstated).

* Minor in manufacturing (was reinstated).

* Minor in leadership (planned for reinstatement).

* Bachelor in linguistics.

* Bachelor in outdoor education.

* Bachelor in music education.

* Master in botany.

* The program for registered nurses to earn a bachelor of science degree in nursing (it is now offered through Regional and Continuing Education).

* Master in science education.

* Bachelor for a special major in undergraduate education (it was decided to keep this alive for the present).

Programs that have been discontinued or are in the process of being discontinued are:

* Bachelor’s option in animal science.

* Credential in single-subject matter preparation in health science.

* Bachelor option in accounting information systems.

* Master in instructional design and technology.

* Bachelor in instructional design and technology.

* Certificate in employee services and recreation.

* Credential for reading language arts specialist.

* Credential in library media teacher services.

* Bachelor and minor in American studies.

* Master in creative writing.
* Certificate program in literary editing and publishing.

* Bachelor in modern Jewish studies.

* Master in music.

* LVN to bachelor in nursing.