



From: CFA Announce
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2009 7:11 AM
To: All Faculty (restricted)
Subject: [CFA Headlines] SPECIAL JUNE 11: Important Message to all faculty

From: Green, Susan
To: All Faculty
Subject:

FROM: THE CALIFORNIA FACULTY ASSOCIATION
cfa@calfac.org - <http://www.calfac.org>

CFA HEADLINES

June 11, 2009 - SPECIAL EDITION FROM CFA

SPECIAL MESSAGE TO CSU FACULTY

Dear CFA Members, Colleagues and California State University Supporters,

The Chancellor's Office has informed CFA that its working number for budget cuts to the CSU for the 2009/10 fiscal year is \$583.816 million.

Since the state legislature and governor have not yet finalized a 2009/10 budget, that number could change. Nevertheless, because of the severe state budget crisis, the cuts in the coming year will be deep.

Obviously, such a huge reduction will affect everyone on all 23 campuses. The ability to deliver a quality education to our students, already compromised by cuts in the past academic year, is in serious question. Rumors about these cuts and proposals to address them are circulating already.

The Chancellor's Labor Relations staff has discussed with CFA and the other CSU employee bargaining units the possibilities of furloughs and job losses. According to them, a two-day-a-month furlough of all CSU employees for one year would address about half of the cuts required.

We will be talking with our Board of Directors, Chapter Presidents and other groups about the information that we have received from the Chancellor's Office staff. We also plan to have another meeting with the Labor Relations staff sometime next week. We will keep in communication with the faculty in upcoming email messages.

Please check your email regularly so that we can keep you updated on the latest developments.

If you have received this email message from someone other than CFA Headlines or the CFA office, it may be that our office does not have your current email address. Please send your current email address to cfa@calfac.org letting us know that you would like to receive regular updates.

Also, CFA has been assured by the Chancellor's Office that until a state budget is signed into law by the governor, no steps will be taken on the campuses to implement 2009/10 academic year budget cuts. If you are a faculty member who has been told that such cuts will be made to your department or program, or if you have been told that you will not have a job next academic year, please let us know at budgetrumors@calfac.org. Your name will be held in confidence.

Obviously, we all have very strong feelings about this situation.

Since the state budget is still not finalized, we urge you to express your views in letters to the editor reminding the public, governor and legislature of the consequences of the cuts already being made to public higher education. Our university and our state needs a balanced approach to budgeting that does not rely only on deep cuts to necessary public services.

We have been through many difficult times together over the past years. We have always known that if we do not panic, avoid rash action, and methodically navigate our way through crises in a unified manner, the outcomes will be better. We must continue to find ways to support each other now.

The officers of the California Faculty Association

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From: CFA Announce

Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2009 7:17 AM

To: All Faculty (restricted)

Subject: June 11 SPECIAL EDITION: CFA Board holds call on budget cuts

From: Green, Susan

To: All Faculty

Subject: June 11 SPECIAL EDITION: CFA Board holds call on budget cuts

FROM: THE CALIFORNIA FACULTY ASSOCIATION

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

CFA SPECIAL HEADLINES

JUNE 12, 2009 - SPECIAL EDITION FROM CFA

CFA BOARD, BARGAINING TEAM HOLD JOINT MEETING ON CSU BUDGET CUTS

Board of Directors passes motion to hold membership vote on Chancellor's proposal for furloughs to deal with budget deficit

This afternoon, Friday June 12, the CFA Board of Directors and the CFA Bargaining Team held a joint conference call to discuss a response to the Chancellor's Office proposal for faculty furloughs in the face of huge funding cuts expected in the 2009/10 CSU budget.

As reported yesterday, the Chancellor's Office has informed CFA that its working number for budget cuts to the CSU for the 2009/10 fiscal year is \$583.816 million.

Further, the Chancellor's Office labor relations team has informed CFA and the other CSU employee bargaining units that these budget cuts will result in either furloughs or huge numbers of layoffs and other reductions in faculty and staff employment.

On the call, CFA leaders talked through the various courses of action – as laid out by the Chancellor's Office – and the tough decisions that must be made.

The CFA Board of Directors voted unanimously to hold a vote of CFA members on whether to agree to

two-day a month furlough or simply to accept large-scale layoffs.

Specific details of the vote must be worked out in the coming days, but the Board of Directors stressed the importance of involving all CFA members in the decision-making process.

More information is to come on this difficult, but critical decision that will affect the future of CFA and the CSU as a whole.

It is CFA's goal to make this process transparent and to keep faculty up to date on what is going on via a series of email communications over the coming days and weeks.

Please check your email regularly. You will get updates via CFA Headlines and/or emails to CFA members from the CFA office. Anyone may sign up for CFA Headlines at <http://www.calfac.org/maillist.html>

CORRECTION FROM YESTERDAY'S SPECIAL HEADLINES

According to Chancellor's Office staff, CFA's Special Headlines of yesterday misrepresented the Chancellor's Office timeline for implementing cuts for next year. We apologize for the error and for any confusion.

In response to a request to put their intentions in writing, the Chancellors office informed CFA that:

"...there will be a meeting of the Presidents on June 23 and that it is anticipated that Presidents will be requested to produce a plan to address the projected budget shortfall, which may or may not include the furlough option depending on the response of individual labor organizations. If no firm Budget reduction number is established prior to the June 23 Presidents' meeting, planning will begin based on the projected \$583,816,000 budget shortfall."

BOARD ENDORSES COMMON SENSE FOR CALIFORNIA

On Friday's call, the Board also adopted a motion of support for the Common Sense for California campaign which seeks to promote reform in the state budget process. The budget – as faculty members are all too well aware – is the root cause of these budget cuts.

To learn about that campaign, go to: <http://commonsense4ca.org/>

WHAT YOU CAN DO

CFA has begun a letter-to-the-editor writing effort to change the public discourse on the budget fight.

Polling carried out after the recent special election shows that more than two-thirds of Californians support various tax increases that would more fairly distribute responsibility for funding important public programs.

To get this message out through the media, CFA will begin emailing you newspaper articles that misrepresent the facts about the budget. >From now until June 30, your part in this is either to send a message yourself or forward the email to others who might send a letter to the editor.

We will include an email address to send your letter and some message points.

Sending letters to the editor is a simple, painless process that can be done in just a few minutes online. You many publications allow you to post a website comment on the article's webpage.

You do not have to respond to every article we send you, but we do ask that you forward the message to several of your colleagues urging them to send a response.

SEND A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Today's article comes to us from the Los Angeles Times, where the Governor delivered the following absurd quote that needs a response.

"Clearly alluding to labor unions that oppose the cuts, the governor said: 'Do they want to protect the workers that provide the services, or do they want to protect the people that get those services? The choice is up to them.'"

Letter's can be sent to: letters@latimes.com

Suggested messaging points:

- Students and faculty are in this together. You cannot separate the two.
- To solve the budget crisis, we need balance, cooperation and common sense.
- Any state budget solution must include revenue and the end of costly tax breaks for corporations.
- The Gov's proposed budget will deny some 300,000 students a college education and increase class sizes in our public schools, weakening education for our children and making California less competitive with other states.

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