

FROM: THE CALIFORNIA FACULTY ASSOCIATION  
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## **CFA INFORMATION UPDATE**

July 19, 2007

### **BUDGET IMPASSE THREATENS CSU FUNDING**

#### **YOUR CALLS URGENTLY NEEDED TO STATE SENATE & ASSEMBLY LEADERS**

**Please call today; tomorrow may be too late**

CFA today issues an urgent message to CSU faculty, students, staff and supporters to call on the phone State Senate Pro Tem Don Perata and State Assembly Speaker Fabian Núñez at their local district offices.

The message: Cutting 1% from the CSU's funding from the state is a terrible idea.

This cut would affect the faculty's and most CSU employees' collective bargaining agreements and undermine the labor peace that was so hard-won just a few months ago.

#### **NUMBERS**

State Senator Pro Tem Don Perata  
510-286-1333

State Assembly Speaker Fabian Núñez  
213-620-4646

#### **BACKGROUND**

CFA learned yesterday that a plan to resolve the state budget impasse with a 1% cut from the California State University compact funding is under serious consideration.

Abandonment of the promised funding under the so-called "Compact," already regarded by CFA as inadequate to fully support the mission of the CSU to provide broad access to higher education, would cause nearly all CSU employee contracts to be reopened.

The CSU faculty narrowly averted a strike this spring after a long, contentious contract battle that led to picket lines on the CSU's 23 campuses and a 94% strike vote.

Contracts with other employee bargaining units also would be affected. The impact on classes, students, student services, and the CSU overall would be enormous.

For more information, please call CFA's government relations office at 916-441-4848.

Please make calls today!

### **STATEMENT FROM CFA PRESIDENT LILLIAN TAIZ**

"The threatened 1% cut to the CSU budget fails to recognize that the California State University system has not yet recovered from the devastating \$500 million in cuts that it has suffered since 2002. Those cuts left a massive hole in the CSU budget at a time when the largest high school graduating class was moving toward college.

"These previous cuts have resulted in thousands of college-ready students being denied access to the university. The cuts meant that the system has not been able to ensure that students who are already enrolled get the classes they need to graduate on time.

The cuts also meant that those of us who have devoted our lives to teaching and working in the CSU have made significant sacrifices as we watched our salaries stagnate year after year. Hiring and retaining new faculty had become a nightmare. In 2005-06, for example, a campus like CSU Long Beach lost 14% and San Bernardino lost 13% of its recently hired Assistant Professors because they were unable to live in California on the salaries they had been receiving.

"This cut to the university budget sets up a crisis that we just narrowly averted this past May when we reached an agreement that restored peace and stability to the 23 campuses. None of us wants to return to the turmoil triggered by years of stagnant wages.

"It is imperative for the future of our university that faculty, staff and students work together to insure that adequate funding is restored to the state budget."

— End —

