CSUEU Receives Bakersfield Layoff Notices

Sacramento, CA (May 5, 2010)

This morning, California State University Bakersfield administration notified the CSU Employees Union that seven non-teaching staff positions will be subject to workforce reductions by layoffs effective July 6, 2010.

Six of the positions are in Bargaining Unit 7, which includes such classifications as administrative support coordinator, library assistant, payroll technician, stock clerk, and parking officer. The remaining position is in Bargaining Unit 9, which includes information technology consultants, equipment technicians, accountants, instructional support technicians, and interpreters. Two of the positions are probationary, and one is temporary.

This follows recent notifications of time reductions or layoffs at CSU East Bay, Humboldt State University, San Jose State University, Fresno State University, and the Office of the Chancellor in Long Beach.

"We're committed to protecting our members and saving jobs at CSU Bakersfield by exploring all mitigation options with management," says Ray Finnell, president of CSUEU's Bakersfield chapter. "We'll be in contact with all the impacted employees to better understand each person's situation and to assist them on an individual basis. Above all, we'll be ensuring that the campus administration abides by the CSUEU/CSU contract in all aspects of this move toward layoffs."

"Governor Schwarzenegger and the legislature ultimately hold the power to save the CSU from the kinds of announced cutbacks we've seen over these last few weeks," adds CSUEU President Pat Gantt. "They alone can provide the financial support necessary to save the CSU from cutting back on programs and personnel."

Since early January, the union has consistently sought guidance from CSU Chancellor Charles Reed on the impacts of Governor Schwarzenegger's proposed 2010-11 state budget, to no avail. The proposed budget restores \$305 million of the one-time cuts made to the CSU budget in FY 2009-10, additionally proposes \$60.6 million for increased student enrollment, and adds in \$11.9 million for technical adjustments. This would provide a total of \$377 million for the CSU. It's reasonable to expect that this proposed influx of funds might mitigate the need for staff layoffs or furloughs, but Chancellor Reed has failed to shed light on whether or not this is true.

<u>Article 24</u> of the CSUEU/CSU specifies conditions under which layoffs may occur. The union will pursue strict enforcement of this article.

About CSUEU

Incorporated in 2005 after serving its members as a division of the California State Employees Association for more than 70 years, the California State University Employees Union (www.csueu.org) has built up a rich record of achievements on behalf of its 16,000 represented employees. Today it represents classified staff members at the California State University's 23 campuses, as well as the Office of the Chancellor, encompassing such diverse job categories as registered nurses, custodians, groundsworkers, library assistants, graphic specialists, information technology consultants and performing arts technicians, among many others.