



980 9th St, Suite 2250  
Sacramento CA 95814  
Phone: (916) 441-484

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
May 11, 2009

Contact: Alice Sunshine, 510-384-1967  
Lisa Cohen 310-350-2544

**STATEMENT FROM THE CALIFORNIA FACULTY ASSOCIATION  
CSU TRUSTEES TO VOTE ON ANOTHER 10%  
STUDENT FEE INCREASE**

**TRUSTEES MEETING SCHEDULE:**

Address: CSU Chancellor's Office, 401 Golden Shore, Long Beach

Tuesday, May 12, CSU Trustees Finance Committee – Approx start 1 pm

Will discuss the fee increases and make a recommendation for a vote of the full board. All Trustees usually attend, and can make comments.

Wednesday, May 13, CSU Board of Trustees – Approximate start 10 am

The Trustees will vote on the fee increases. Students, faculty and staff members will speak on the fee hikes and other issues during public comment.

See the full agenda and schedule at:

<http://www.calstate.edu/bot/agendas/> or call the Trustees office at 562-951-4022

\*\*\*

LONG BEACH — The California State University Board of Trustees will take up another 10% fee increase for undergraduates, graduate students and teaching credential candidates at their meetings this Tues. and Wed., May 12-13.

This will be the seventh fee increase since 2002, when the Trustees began a policy of steep annual hikes in an attempt to increase the proportion of costs borne by students and their families. The only year without a fee hike occurred during the governor's re-election campaign.

Fees have more than doubled since 2002, and risen far faster than inflation.

"The California Faculty Association has long argued that it is wrong to keep raising fees in the public state university, especially when no work has been done to learn the impact of these fee increases on our students and our state," said CFA President Lillian Taiz. CFA has long called for the Trustees to examine openly the impact of steep fee hikes on CSU attendance and graduation rates.

Even before these fee hikes and recent budget cuts, California's economy has been headed for a one-million-person shortage of workers with Bachelor's degrees, according to the Public Policy Institute of California.

"This looming shortage of college-educated people is dire. It irresponsible for California's leaders to argue that other states have high fees, so ours can be increased," said CFA President Lillian Taiz in

response to statements that California tuition is lower than that of some other state's public universities.

Studies by PPIC and others show that the higher cost of living in California relative to most other states wipes out the savings on tuition for California families.

Besides, CFA argues, California's economy has different needs from other states.

"California needs to focus on what will make California great," Taiz said. "If we want to turn this state's economy around, we should be making it easier, not harder, to get a college degree."

See the Trustees' public notice on the fee hikes at <http://www.calstate.edu/bot/agendas/may09/FIN.pdf>

## **RELATED NEWS**

**PROP 1A ON SPECIAL ELECTION BALLOT IS NO EXCUSE FOR FEE HIKE:** Despite dire claims about what will happen to the CSU if Proposition 1A fails on May 19, in fact Prop 1A would have absolutely no impact on funding in the short term for the CSU. Taxes associated with Proposition 1A would not even go into effect until 2011, two years from now. What's worse, Prop 1A would have drastic, long-term impact on the CSU's budget by setting a spending cap based on the CSU's worst budget year when funding remains below that of 2002 in real dollars. See more at <http://calfac.org/ballot.html>

**CSU MBA PROGRAM ON THE ROAD TO PRIVATIZATION:** The CSU Trustees will take up at their meeting this week a plan to sharply increase the cost of getting an MBA from state universities, far more than the standard fee hikes. <http://www.calstate.edu/bot/agendas/may09/FIN.pdf>

**STATE ASSEMBLY BUDGET COMMITTEE TO HEAR GOV'S PLAN TO CUT BACK ON GRANTS TO LOW-INCOME STUDENTS:** The Assembly Budget Committee on Wed., May 13 will hear a plan in the governor's 2009/10 budget to unlink student fee hikes from increases in grants to low-income students. The plan would also cap Cal Grant availability and eliminate some new grants. Ironically, the hearing comes on the same day that the CSU Trustees will vote on a 10% fee hike that is defended with the claim that low-income students are protected by the link between fee hikes and grant increases.

**TRUSTEES TO HIRE AND SET PAY FOR NEW EXECUTIVES:** Following on the University of California Regents meeting last week, which has been criticized for handing large compensation increases to newly hired executives compared with pay to those they replaced, the CSU Trustees will take up the hiring of a new Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer. Critics of the practice are particularly troubled when big compensation packages are offered during a deep budget crisis in which the universities are turning away students, cutting class offerings, raising fees, freezing faculty and staff pay, and threatening furloughs and layoffs. The new hires will be considered in closed session. If hired, compensation will be discussed in open committee, as required by new state law. <http://www.calstate.edu/bot/agendas/may09/ufp.pdf>

*The California Faculty Association represents the 23,000 instructional faculty, librarians, counselors and coaches in the 23-campus California State University.*

*Dr. Lillian Taiz is a professor of history at Cal State Los Angeles and president of the California Faculty Association.*

*For interviews, please contact CFA Communications Director Alice Sunshine at 510-384-1967.*