Cabrillo projects $7.2M in cuts for 2011-12

Students statewide already struggle to get classes more than in other states

By TOWN LUPAN

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APARTS - As Cabrillo and other California community colleges prepare to deal with their portions of a $40 billion cut in state funding, survey results released in March found that twice as many California community college students are locked out of courses than the national average.

The Pearson Foundation Community College Student Survey found that 67 percent of California students, compared to 20 percent of the rest of the U.S., have been unable to enroll in courses because they were full.

The survey, conducted in fall 2010 by Harris Interactive, consisted of a 1,500 current or recent U.S. community college students, 400 of whom are from California college.

While funding mechanisms

Cabrillo (on A2)

Cabrillo will be preparing its 2011-2012 budget over the next few months, and Monday the Governing Board will be asked to approve budget parameters to guide the task.

Mid-range estimates put the cuts to Cabrillo's general operating budget at $7.2 million, which comes on the heels of a $4.4 million cut since 2005-06. Additionally, the school's restricted fund, which pays for various student services, has been reduced by $6.2 million since 2006-07. The general operating budget and restricted fund for 2011-11 for the 15,000-student campus are about $34 million and $3.9 million, respectively.

Reserves and the shifting of departmental funds will help keep immediate changes to a minimum, according to Cabrillo Vice President of Administrative Services Victoria Lewis, but the impacts will be felt in 2012 by students and employees.

Previously we've approached budget reductions by trimming programs and services, Lewis said. "But with the magnitude of numbers we're looking at now, it will require us to think how the college is structured and set priorities.""