

## BUDGET REDUCTIONS

# Cabrillo Board OKs \$1.4 million in cuts

14 full-time positions eliminated

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WATSONVILLE — In response to decreased state funding, the Board of Governors on Monday approved nearly \$1.4 million in cuts to the 2011-2012 budget for Cabrillo College.

The cuts included a \$252,623 reduction in bookstore funding and \$828,153 from the base budget. Other reductions came from the Children's Center and restricted funds.

As part of the cuts, the equivalent of 14 full-time positions have been eliminated, some of which were already unfilled. Cabrillo had already eliminated 14 full-time positions between 2008 and this most

recent round of cuts.

Additionally, the school cut 100 teaching units from the budget, which translates to the loss of about three adjunct faculty positions.

"We are one of the only (California community) colleges that are laying off contract faculty," said Deborah Bone of the Cabrillo College Federation of Teachers.

Both Bone and Cabrillo Classified Employees Union President Stephanie Stainback said it's important to provide as much of a safety net as possible for those losing their jobs, such as facilitating the movement of laid-off employees into other positions.

"In the course of laying off peo-

ple, the college has the opportunity to examine its core values," Stainback said. "Among those is how we treat the people who have dedicated their lives to the college and are being laid off. How do we assist in their training to transition to another part of their life? This college can never afford to lose the humanity that our reputation in this community is built on."

The magnitude of reductions for the coming school year was diminished by the use of \$3.4 million in reserves, or one-time funds, to help bridge the gap. Preliminary figures for the 2012-13 budget year, prepared by Victoria Lewis, Cabrillo's vice president

of administrative services, show a projected deficit of nearly \$6.5 million.

"I congratulate everybody that we've gotten through 11-21, but I think what worries all of the board and all of campus is 12-13 and 13-14. That's a huge number," board member Gary Reece said. "It will decimate programs and decimate people. We have a long history of treating people well, and the board is happy to look at how we can make the lives affected a little less affected."

The \$4.8 million reduction in state funding is in addition to a 6 percent cut in the number of full-time students the state will fund for Cabrillo,

or about \$3.3 million. That translates to about 1,500 students, out of a current population of approximately 20,000.

The state budget passed last month eliminated \$400 million in state funding for California community colleges.

If certain revenue projections included in the state budget are not met, midyear funding cuts could be triggered along with an additional \$10 increase in the student fee per credit unit, which was already increased \$10, to \$36 per unit, earlier this year.

The general operating budget at Cabrillo for 2010-2011 was \$59 million, down \$5.6 million since 2008.