**Comments Submitted to the Budget Planning Committee “Suggestion Box”**

**With BPC Response**

**09/17/2009 – 03/03/2010**

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| **Submitted 01/12:** Please do not cut Organic Chemistry class. I just found that CSM offers Organic chemistry course at night. I work full time and I cannot take this course during business hours. Please Keep offering next budget year - 2010 and beyond. I wish I had seen earlier that I could have taken Organic chemistry course during night time. I was planning to take it in the Fall of 2010 at night. My email is aminul.alikhan@gmail.com. I am a part time student. I pay my taxes and I want this class to be offered at night. |
| **BPC Response:****Thank you for your suggestion and our Deans of the individual divisions do carefully work to try and meet our student demands as best possible within this environment of limited resources.** |

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| **Submitted 12/22:** I am a graduate of the CSM AOD program and am currently enrolled in AA degree studies maintaining a 4.0 GPA. I work with developmentally disabled young adults full time with Hope Services [www.hopeservices.org](http://www.hopeservices.org) I am writing this letter in support of the Dance Without Limits Class (DWL) that CSM offers. The DWL is a vibrant and vital program for the developmentally disabled young adults that it serves. The classroom instruction along with various performance opportunities offers the students a chance to develop much needed self esteem and human value. My experience with instructor Sarah Bolton is nothing short of phenomenal. Sarah brings a passion and personal understanding to the developmentally disabled students of DWL that is a vital asset to our community and CSM. Sarah brings out the very best in her students while clearly enjoying her work as evidenced by her winning and contagious smile. I remain enrolled in classes at CSM and hope to continue to do so although my options here on the coast side are shrinking by the minute please do not minimize the opportunities for the developmentally disabled students of CSM and keep the DWL class available for them. Sadly in our times the people most in need always seem to be the first to be cut or forgotten. My hope is that CSM can continue to be a leader in teaching this population. I hope that CSM will maintain these vital programs for the developmentally disabled students, always seeking creative means to fund and keep these programs available. Please save DWL. Please contact me with any questions. Referrals are available upon request. Joseph R. ColellaHope Rehabilitation Services, Half Moon Bay, CA 94019jcolella@hopeservices.org |
| **BPC Response:****Thank you for responding to our suggestion box and your positive feedback. We will continue to look at all options available within our means and limited resources to serve our students and the community.**  |

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| **Submitted 12/15:** I noticed that the Community Education Program is offering gift cards in various denominations to use as gifts. Perhaps, CSM can adopt the same program. I'm sure that there are grandparents or other relatives that might want to help pay for a family member's education by purchasing gift cards that can apply toward a student's tuition and/or books. Just a thought along with using eScrip which is also a really great idea.  |
| **BPC Response:****Thank you for the good idea, we will forward this information to several places that hopefully will consider them.** |
| **Submitted 12/15:** I'm sure that this will not be a popular idea, but with only 10% of BSI students achieving success in terms of their educational goals and reaching college level skill, it seems that our resources could better be spent supporting those who are able to transfer, earn an AA degree or participate in work-force training programs. Perhaps those with test scores placing them in Math 811, Reading 825, or Engl 828 should be referred to Adult Ed (which apparently we did in the 1990s) until they are eligible for Math 110 or Engl 838/848 when they will have a better chance of succeeding. Then those who work with BSI students would really be able to make a difference. This will also reinforce our post-secondary academic standards, instead of being viewed as the high school on the hill. The CSUs have placed limits on incoming freshman by requiring them to be eligible for college level English and math within one year of entry. Setting similar limits regarding our expectations of students' readiness may send a similar message. Ideally, the best thing would be for local high schools to collaborate with our colleges so that students who graduate would actually be ready for college. Another thought, would be for students to take our placement tests in the 11th grade and those scoring below college level could start taking our lower level English and math courses while still in high school so that when they start college they will be college ready.  |
| **BPC Response:****Thank you for your suggestion. Our Board of Trustees has recently reaffirmed our core values at the three colleges which are transfer/career, technical education/basic skills. It should also be noted that Title V of the California Education Code does not allow concurrent enrolled students to take remedial courses. We will forward your suggestion to our subcommittee of the Institutional Planning Committee that will help us in setting a direction for CSM in the future.** |

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| **Submitted 12/06: (NEW)**It is crucial that we change the path Americans are currently on. It is a road of destruction. Our nation's health and our economy depend on Physical Education being a vital part of students' education. Without it, we are in for more not only a larger budget deficit, but also more illness and suffering. Please do not reduce Physical Education classes and do not eliminate the recuirement of PE for AA degrees. Thank you for considering my opinion and please read the article bellow so you understand the truth of this situation:By Nanci Hellmich, USA TODAY [www.americashealthrankings.org](http://www.americashealthrankings.org) |
| **BPC Response:****Thank you for your comments about physical education and to be assured we are not eliminating physical education courses.**  |
| **Submitted 12/01:** Efforts at informal fund-raising have been poo-poo'd, such as garage sales. Although the recent CCSF experience was not fruitful, there are still many other avenues of grass-roots fundraising to explore. Personally, I am aware of several "silent auctions" conducted by elementary and middle schools on the Peninsula that raise tens of thousands of dollars with each auction. I have first-hand seen a small elementary school with enrollment of less than 100 raise $14 K with a single silent auction--all with donated items, products, and services from a relatively small number of families. The turn-out for these events is tremendous, especially after they are established and the surrounding community is aware. For chrissakes, if a small number of people can raise that kind of money, what can we raise? Please don't dismiss it or say "we'll look into it." This is not a cutesy pie bake sale type of thing. |
| **BPC Response:**The door is not shut, there is a need for great ideas as well as involvement by the presenter of these questions.  Obviously these ideas presented must be well thought out and volunteers (presenters of the idea) are always welcome to develop a plan.  It should also be pointed out that this is an area where potential revenues can be generated but to do it in a timely efficient manner requires long term commitment with perhaps someone with professional experience to do the work if this is going to be done correctly. |
| **Submitted 12/01:** Please do not cut PE classes! They're affordable to people who can't pay for outside classes and raises the health of our students! |
| **BPC Response:**There will be many PE classes. |
| **Submitted 11/19:** What is the cost of having a health center at CSM? Do all CCC have a health center? Does the health center make money? In these tough times maybe the college should focus on the academic (transfer) and lifelong learning skills and do away with lavish departments like the health center. Providing immunizations, Tylenol, condoms, personal lubrications, and the like seem unnecessary for students and the college to be required to pay for when a majority of them don't use the health center, and the rest don't even know it exists. |
| **BPC Response:** The Health Center is a funded mandate by the state and is not funded from fund 1 monies (operating funds).  There have been some services cut, for example, we no longer have the services of a physician on call.The Health Center is a funded mandate by the state and is not funded from fund 1 monies (operating funds).  There have been some services cut, for example, we no longer have the services of a physician on call. |
| **Submitted 11/19:** What is the cost of the Nursing program? Does the college make money or lose money from this program? Have there been discussions about reducing nursing classes or mandating a different enrollment fee for nursing students? Since enrollment is limited for this program it seems like maybe nursing is not a moneymaker. I guess the same could be asked about fire science, EMT, police academy, KCSM. Are these money making programs? Thanks. |
| **BPC Response:**It was decided at this time not to respond to the question of the cost of Nursing Program.  Responses will come at a later date. |
| **Submitted 11/19:** The district should eliminate its car fleet. Additionally, it should stop giving  |
| **BPC Response:**Check with the District, Kathy Blackwood has very good at responding to questions asked by employees of the colleges and has attended a number of college-wide meetings to answer questions.  Currently, the college president's compensation includes car allowance.   |
| **Submitted 11/19:** Please get your facts correct. No one is suggesting taking PE away. In fact CSM is dramatically increasing access to physical education with the introduction of the Athletic Club. The only thing being discussed at this time is the removal of a 2-unit requirement for the AA/AS degree. Students who want PE will still be able to get it. |
| **BPC Response:**Again, many sections of PE will be offered in the spring. |
| **Submitted 11/12:** What is the cost of our International Student Program in terms of staffing (both classified and faculty)? And, how does that cost compare to the amount of revenue generated by the number of F1-Visa students' tuition? Is there a serious consideration of Districtwide consolidation of the International Student Program? |
| **BPC Response:**To begin, it is not terribly costly to operate. The District distributes 8% of the revenues to CSM to support the area. We currently have one classified staff position and one counselor (not full load related to advising international students). This can be a strong revenue generating area. CSM can’t get to much leaner, it might make us more efficient but not necessarily more cost savings would be realized. There has been discussion of consolidating the processing area for international students.  |
| **Submitted 11/12:** We need P.E. because physical exercise is the most effective medicine for the human body! I have personally experienced the benefits of exercise. I had a very weak health in my high school years into college years. then, I started swimming at CSM 3 times a week and walking every day after that, and my health got so much better!We need different exercise options for the students, because each is an individual with unique gifts and weaknesses. For example, one person cannot be in the water because they have an ear canal problem. They may not also be able to move around easily. So, they can dance, which is more forgiving and lenient. Throughout history, we have seen the benefits of exercise. This society is heading toward doing too little exercise, and too much work and sedentary activities.Please, keep P.E. at CSM! If we don't, many students and people in the community will be extremely upset. Also, CSM offers physical education to those who can't afford to join local gyms or recreation center classes. If it weren't for CSM, I wouldn't be in better health today. Thank you for your time! I hope and pray that you would listen to our voices! |
| **BPC Response:**As part of the big picture, Committee on Instruction is having discussion currently as to whether PE will be a graduation requirement for an AA/AS degree. A new health club will be opened in 2010 in our new Health and Wellness Building #5, called San Mateo Athletic Club at CSM. Opportunities for exercising will not disappear at CSM.  |
| **Submitted 11/10:** I applied to this school for the chance to be around very educated teachers. The chance to be enlightened by people. I had every Chance to go to city college but decided not to because CSM was the best choice for me. I understand that money is tight right now but please understand that taking away PE will hinder most students we enjoy it we look forward to playing football, Dancing, yoga, and other things as well. And it would be fair. To want to do PE outside of this school would cost a whole lot of money, money we don’t have right now in this bad country. Things will get better for us all but right now what we need is to keep programs like PE open to students who enjoy it, not take it away due to cutting funds. MY ideas have to been to take from the things that we over spend on and start cutting. Don’t cut the PE course tones of Students and older adults depend on this program. As do I.  |
| **BPC Response:**Again, PE at CSM is not going away, look at previous response. |
| **Submitted 11/10:** I believe and understand that some budget cuts are necessary, but I do not agree with all of them. This budget cut has impacted me next semester due to the lack of available classes. I registered at mid night in order to get my classes as soon as possible and have already been wait-listed for two of them, both vital for my educational goals. If the tuition has to be increased, that's more logical in my mind and would be happy to have paid a few dollars in order to have ease in selecting classes. The community college tuition alone is far less expensive than those of universities.  |
| **BPC Response:**The community college tuition alone is far less expensive than those of universities however; we have say in the amount of tuition that we can charge our students, that is determined by the state legislators.  |
| **Submitted 11/10:** At college level, eliminate the dean of Physical Education, and make the position a program director. The PE dean cannot begin to compare to the load of an instructional dean.At district level, eliminate Mr. Keller and Mr. Jing's positions. Mr. Jing has been totally ineffective in the committees he participated and participates. Mr. Keller has been working on his law degree most of the time he has been at the district office. Most faculty see all of these positions as "plum" positions.  |
| **BPC Response:**Eliminating the dean position of PE and making it an athletic director will be less of a reduction than you might think, especially when you compare it to the staggering amount of the total cuts we have to make.The District is doing its own cuts, look at the Chancellor’s recent email. |
| **Submitted 11/9:** If we can no longer provide the full range of instructional programs and services to students, will we also consider the contractual limits on maximum student enrollment in our English composition courses? I understand that contract limit is also used in other disciplines even without the contractual obligation. How is that justified? Do all community colleges have these enrollment limitations? |
| **BPC Response:**English class size is a contractual issue and would have to go through negotiations. Also, based on past practice, we will not unilaterally increase class sizes. |
| **Submitted 11/8:** PE is extremely important, and should not be cut. |
| **BPC Response:**Look at the previous response from 11/12. |
| **Submitted 11/5:** Who pays for KCSM TV and KCSM radio? Courses, faculty, and students come before these entities. From what I know, telecourses are like horse-drawn carriages and coal burning locomotives. If we give up telecourses and KCSM were are not really losing anything other than a dying mode of instruction. |
| **BPC Response:**Each division must be responsible for evaluating their own courses (TV, etc.) that may be out of date and decided to continue to offer or cut them. |
| **Submitted 11/5:** I am a firm believer that Physical Education at the community colleges plays a very important role in our nation's health care. It offers proactive approach to manage our physical and mental health effectively in this modern fast pace and stressful lives. PE at the community colleges is affordable and it is safe. No one should be deprived from this education. We all know what would happen when people lack of exercises. If you think health care and medicine cost are too expensive now, calculate it again with the impact of no PE. I exercise at least 4 to 5 times a week to maintain my well-being. I am very happy and grateful that CSM offers PE and that is where I want some of my tax money go to support this wonderful life-saving program.  |
| **BPC Response:**Again, PE is not going away. |
| **Submitted 11/5:** I am faculty in the Language Arts division. In our unhealthy budget situation, I am most appalled at the escalating attacks against the Physical Education Division! ! 1) To even consider doing so, we will severely weaken the campus community on so many levels. THINK! 2) We have a mission as a Liberal Arts institution, to educate and serve the WHOLE student. PLEASE - BROADEN YOUR PERSPECTIVE OF WHAT OUR INSTITUTION OF HIGHER LEARNING NEEDS TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE AS A STRONG COMMUNITY COLLEGE. Physical Education is a necessary partner to its academic counterparts. We are gears in the same mechanism. A healthy body is fundamental to the support and development of the healthy, productive mind. Even I, in Language Arts, know that! |
| **BPC Response:**Again, the Committee on Instruction is looking at PE and the need as to whether it should be a graduation requirement for our AA/AS degrees. |
| **Submitted 11/4:** The community college Physical Education Department provides a life-saving service to many who could not otherwise afford a gym membership or classes, which easily cost between four and one hundred times the price of enrollment.To profoundly reduce or eliminate Physical Education from the Community College system would be “pouring gas on the flames” of an already grossly unhealthy country. Sixty percent of our entire population in this country is overweight or obese. Diabetes is an epidemic. The 3 leading causes of death for men and women are heart disease, cancer, and stroke. All of these killer diseases are reduced significantly with exercise alone. Exercise is medicine! Not only do students learn lifelong wellness, they also learn about working with a group, self-discipline and gain a direct experience of hard work leading to success. Additionally, Physical Education is often the gateway to college for many students who would not otherwise have imagined themselves pursuing higher education.The Physical Education department garners high enrollment and is a benefit to our college. Please share the cuts equally! |
| **BPC Response:**Look at the previous response regarding PE. |
| **Submitted 11/3:** It is critical that as we consider these cuts, programs that are revenue producing (high load) remain intact. Once the pendulum of the state economy swings back, and colleges regain their pursuit of chasing FTES, if the high load programs are eliminated, we will reduce our ability to generate a sufficient portion of the district (and therefore the college) allocation model. This will ultimately cause a continued downward financial spiral and reduce the college to imposing more cuts. Additionally, we should consider what our sister colleges strategies are to understand comprehensively the nature and extent of our cuts on the curriculum and the impact on our portion of the allocation model. |
| **BPC Response:**We are definitely aware of the need to look at what the other colleges will recommend in their round of cuts. In future meetings of Budget Planning Committee we will begin discussion about where we want to put our resources and do we want to maintain a contingency reserve or put that reserve on hold for now in order to help soften cuts that will be require most likely in the future. Also, the Institutional Planning Committee has a responsibility to take a lead role in this discussion and give guidance as to what we want to be in the future, based on the college mission and educational master education. It is imperative that the process is transparent and that all constituencies will be involved in the discussion.  |
| **Submitted 11/3:** As a way to reduce expenditures in administrative salary, please eliminate the Physical Education dean and make the position a director of physical education. The PE deans have very small divisions, no comparison to Math/Science/Technology or Language/Arts/Humanities. |
| **BPC Response:**See previous response about the position change with not much impact on cost savings.  |
| **Submitted 11/2:** The District Office operation should be considered largely 'overhead'. Many faculty and staff want to see significant reduction in their operating expenses. Reductions far greater than that currently targeted for instructional programs, student services, and students. |
| **BPC Response:**Good question for the District to respond to. Attend the all college wide meeting with the Chancellor on 11/5, perhaps he could answer the question. |
| **Submitted 11/1:** Hello:KCSM Radio and Television are a complete mystery to most people on campus. Why are we supporting the Bay Area Jazz community at the expense of our students? It simply does not make sense. |
| **PC Response:**SMCCCD Board is looking closely at the viability of KCSM. There will be a study session of the Board and General Managerial of KCSM will be reporting on the issue of long-term viability. |
| **Submitted 10/29:** With respect to American Sign language, and the recommendation for reduction or elimination of hourly faculty, and/ or the  transfer of ASL classes over to Community Education, I just wanted to mention that I believe that the biggest reason for the high loads in the first two semesters of ASL is primary due to  the fact that ASL 111 & 112 meet the IGETC Area 6 - Language other than English requirement *(****LOTE***) for 1) UC transfer students, ***and*** for 2) high school students (*Concurrent Enrollment*) trying to meet the area “e” Language Other Than English requirement for CSU and/or UC admission. In other words, university bound students make up a good percentage of the students taking ASL classes, particularly ASL 112.    Normally, a student would need to complete a 120 or 122 Foreign Language level to meet the ***LOTE*** requirements, but for ASL, students only need to reach the 112 level. It is also not surprising to see students with learning disabilities, or students with Foreign Language learning issues, switching over to take ASL 111 & 112 to complete their language requirement.So it is important to appreciate the impact that removing ASL 111 & 112 from the curriculum offerings will have on future students, particularly those with foreign language learning issues. If ASL 111 & 112 is switched over to Community Education, students will no longer be able to use ASL course work (i.e., College Credit) to satisfy the ***LOTE*** requirement. So… perhaps, if ASL 111 & 112 are slated for elimination, then it is worth serious consideration to continue to offer these two courses on at least one of the campuses in the district.  OR…a possible “worst case” scenario might be to carry the ASL 111 (equivalent) in Community Education, while offering ASL 112 at the College(s), since it is the “competency level” and not the “6 units,” which determines when a student has met the ***LOTE*** requirement. I just don’t know many students would go **from** paying Community Ed for a non-college credit course, **to** then enrolling in the colleges ASL 112 course in an effort to satisfy the ***LOTE*** requirement.      Anyway, thank you for your consideration of these issues.   ***--Steve Morehouse*** |
| **BPC Response:**Academic Senate (AS) will be looking at ASL’s place in our curriculum before final recommendations are made to CSM President’s Cabinet. Of course, any responses to proposed course and program reductions should follow the established process by AS and use the course & program proposal form, elimination and or reduction.  |
| **Submitted 10/27:** CIS continually has low enrollment. Sections should be cut and the program should be centralized to just one campus. |
| **BPC Response:**It is important that centralization of courses and programs be given consideration and discussion will continue in the future, but until we know what the other campuses are proposing we cannot determine our budget impact and our schedule of classes. We do not want to error in the elimination of courses and or programs until the full picture is available. |
| **Submitted 10/26:** It is very troubling to see CSM turn into a one giant fitness center in the middle of what is likely to be serious cuts to academic and student support services. CSM has lost its vision and lost its way.How is it that with each semester the schedule expands with PE more classes?Will we support athletics--track, baseball, football, water polo, etc--in lieu of supporting academic programs? How many $$$ is spent yearly?Athletics have a big place in 4-year universities, but we are a community college that needs to stick to its mission. |
| **BPC Response:**Committee on Instruction will be reviewing general education requirements regarding this area, discussion will continue on curriculum and the Athletic Directors at the three campuses will be looking at consolidation. |
| **Submitted 10/26:** Why don't we sell off names for building & parking lots. Grant writing, fund raiserssell off prime parking spots, write to past graduates for donations, write to the famous football stars that came to the college of san mateo write to anyone famous that came to the college have a food raising event where you pay to eat at with famous people from the college have a golf event have a pledge drive. |
| **BPC Response:**The college will continue to exam all ideas and suggestions.  |
| **Submitted 10/25:** I would like to suggest that we lease space on the roof of our highest buildings to cell phone operators, GPS systems and repeater systems for a variety of communication companies. Many residential areas have a NIMBY response to these companies when approached to establish an antenna in their neighborhood (albeit camouflaged) so we may be very attractive to these companies. |
| **BPC Response:**We are already doing this. There is a split between CSM and the District on the leasing space.  |
| **Submitted 10/22:** Lengthen classes by 10-15 minutes and reduce the semester by a couple of weeks. I also teach at Cabrillo College in Aptos and they added 15 more minutes a day to the Studio Art classes (so they are now 3 hr. 15 minutes long). Because of this, their semester is 2 weeks shorter than CSM's. I'm not sure how much this would save the school, but it's something to look into. |
| **BPC Response:**Do not see any savings; we will still have to pay faculty for their time. Adding addition time and reducing the weeks does not reduce faculty time. In addition, a question and suggestion was submitted to Academic Senate )AS) on the course & program proposal form, elimination and/or reduction form that was forwarded to BPC. It asked if AS could reject all of the proposed program reductions/eliminations on the grounds that the administration has not first attempted new fund-raising efforts to cover the budget gap. There is currently a process going forward as we speak and it is being conducted by the Academic Senate looking at course and program reductions and eliminations. As to the suggestion of fund raising efforts, the college does need to look at all ideas and suggestions brought forward about fund raising and be more aggressive in this area. But fund raising requires time and to do it effectively might required the need for professional help.  |
| **Submitted 10/22:** BUDGET REDUCTION suggestions to the committee who is managing this issue:When all other academic classes have been cut WHY HAVE PE CLASSES INCREASED? I looked at the spring 2006 schedule and the spring 2010 schedule and there are MORE class sections now than then. Many of the PE classes are people who are not getting degrees but just using the classes for personal enrichment. Less PE more academic classes!!WHY do we have the same sports offered at all three colleges? Why BASEBALL at three colleges - this must be an expensive sport to manage. Why is soccer at CSM when it is at Skyline and Canada?Really - this must be a common complaint! |
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| **BPC Response:**Committee on Instruction will be reviewing general education requirements regarding this area, discussion will continue on curriculum and the Athletic Directors at the three campuses will be looking at consolidation. |
| **Comment Submitted 10/18:**My name is Tiziana Balestra and I teach Italian in CSM. As you know, the proposal for the next fiscal year is to eliminate all the foreign languages.I understand we are facing a difficult moment but I don't believe elimination is the right solution. Reducing makes sense even if Italian program has a very high enrollment with a LOAD of 925.I am in contact with Sandra and Susan Estes about the idea to open a fund supporting Italian program in this moment. I hope to have a positive answer in order to start to find donations. I was in the meeting last Friday and I supported the idea to have fundraisings but I am not sure my dear colleagues want to do it. I know it's a lot of work but it's a possible solution. I saw how schools with recycling, fundraisings, e-script, if you know it, saved and still save programs.We can learn a lot from them! Thank you for listening to my voice! Please let's work together and I am positive we will find a solution! |
| **BPC Response:**BPC Response: Fund raising could be a viable option, to do this however, for the amounts of money we need to remain fiscally sound takes developing an infrastructure to support a full time, long term position. This would be a position that is continuously looking for and seeking out funding opportunities. It would also require an investment of capital which in the near term, funds could perhaps be better spent at or near the classroom. It is unlikely that the state fiscal crisis is going away anytime soon and this would require funding a permanent position within our operating budget for the long term. |
| **Submitted 10/15:**Amongst other ideas, I suggest that we vigorously seek out private partnerships in the community. Something along the line of PAC BELL PARK or SBC or MONSTER. We need money. The State of California WILL NOT amend the requirement for the Super Majority or Prop 13 and we will not survive unless we find some private funding; if public isn't there..... |
| **BPC Response**: Raising funds through grants does work, however, they are very time consuming and take many months to bring to fruition. Grant monies work well for short term projects for a particular program/class, student needs, innovations, etc. and we do have an obligation to go after these monies which we do. However, we have a big deficit to fix right now and the problem has to be resolved before the end of this semester |
| **Submitted 09/24:**The 4-day work week works! See: <http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=four-day-workweek-energy-environment-economics-utah> |
| **BPC Response**: Have not had time to study the 4 day work-week, thank you for the Scientific American website. This is a collective bargaining issue. Currently have some classified employees working a modified work week. |
| **Submitted 09/21:**The key value to husband here is faculty teaching time. Teachers take time out of their teaching load to create programs which ultimately die for want of support; they spend too much time on administration; both lead to over-reliance on part-timers. Save money. Let administrators administer, and let's articulate planning of programs between faculty members. Maybe the AS should have some authority here actually to green-light specific programs, and to weigh their merits against other programs.  |
| **BPC Response**: The Academic Senate does have primacy as to the 10 +1 and does make recommendations per #4 of Title 5 by currently exercising that function through PIV. |
| **Submitted 09/18:**Who is going decide how budget cuts are implemented? Using what criteria? And when there are competing criteria and perspectives, who will decide which criteria are used? |
| **BPC Response:** During the summer the administration began to develop a list of recommended budget reduction strategies. This list was developed as a starting point for the Budget Planning Committee (BPC) to begin discussion and dialogue at the start of the fall semester. The BPC is made up of all constituencies. By general consensus the BPC approved the current budget reduction strategies that were presented to College Council on 10/9. The College Council will make their recommendation to the College President who ultimately makes the final decision.  |
| **Submitted 09/18:**If cuts are severe and deep, then ALL college programs and services must be on the table. That includes, counseling, psych services, KCSM, athletic teams, student activities, etc. |
| **BPC Response:** All areas are being considered. |
| **Submitted 09/17:**We should seriously consider block calendars at the three colleges, and have minimal campus services on Fridays. For classes like Math and ESl that need/want to meet five days a week, designate one building per campus for such classes. Close all other buildings on Fridays and encourage faculty not teaching Fridays to work from home, thus savings district utilities. Programs that for many years have had small classes need to be eliminated, journalism and Engineering at CSM come to mind, but there are others out there. If one of those small programs can make it, consolidate in one campus. Centralize admissions and records, and even counseling. Our students are really district students. More and more students take classes at all three institutions.  Ask the deans, VPs, and presidents to leave their preference for certain programs out the door, and think about the health of the district, not their preferences. I care about the college and the district and believe that we need to work together. |
| **BPC Response:** This issue of changing the calendar is being considered by the District Academic Senate. As to consolidating and centralizing programs/departments/services this is being considered by the Chancellor’s Council, the College Presidents and well as the VPs of Instruction and Student Services who are currently meeting and discussing the possibilities. Keep in mind ITS, Facilities and Security have already been consolidated and centralized under the District. |
| **Submitted 09/17:**What about the District Office? Who and what are they cutting? Before any cuts are made at the College-level, the District should cut itself to the bone. |
| **BPC Response:** Very good question and one that Kathy Blackwood should be able to answer better than the BPC. At the next District Budget meeting a request will be made for transparency by the District Office and what are they doing? |
| **Submitted 09/17:**Cuts made to instructional programs must be in keeping with our intuitional mission. I don't see how we can continue to offer conversational Spanish and salsa dance but cut math and English. |
| **BPC Response:** It is the responsibility of the Committee on Instruction is examining the curriculum offerings and looking at departments and courses that are closes to the core mission of this College. It would not make since to cut the same % across the board of all classes. |
| **Submitted 09/17:**This is the second time I have made this suggestion and I've not heard much of it, except that when I ask around many of the ""silent majority"" are very much in favor - or at least interested in pursuing the discussion. Once again, a 5-10% temporary pay reduction for all, i.e. administrators, faculty, and staff. I understand the AFT is mostly opposed to this suggestion, but I would say it is their responsibility to represent the faculty, and therefore should at the very least do an initial online poll of the faculty as they have before with many less significant issues.Even staff can participate in the temporary pay reduction since fortunately they just received a 3% pay increase, so it would really only amount to a 2% reduction. I also understand many may say that staff would suffer the most, but the only way I see reaching an agreement is for everyone to take the same reduction. (I believe this is the same as what Ron has proposed, and that 5% should be enough to solve the current budget crisis.)Please pursue this solution far enough to determine whether or not there is any possibility of reaching an agreement. (Can we all stop being quite so greedy long enough to help most everyone in the district stay employed. I've been on reduced load - 75% pay for so many years now I've lost track and all the bills still get paid, so what's the big deal over a measly 5%.) Hope this helps.  |
| **BPC Response:** This is a collective bargaining issue and the BPC suggests that it be taken up the respective bargaining agents. |
| **Submitted 09/17:** All faculty should take a pay decrease like so many other companies do throughout the state and country. It is time that we stand together and preserve our colleagues and hold strong for the students.  |
| **BPC Response:** This is a collective bargaining issue and the BPC suggests that it be taken up the respective bargaining agents. |