

Los Angeles Times

<http://www.latimes.com/news/education/la-me-fees15-2008may15,0,251785.story>

From the Los Angeles Times

Cal State, UC hike fall tuition fees

A university official calls the action 'painful.' Protests at UCLA lead to 16 arrests.

By Larry Gordon and Seema Mehta

Los Angeles Times Staff Writers

May 15, 2008

Despite angry protests from students that led to 16 arrests at UCLA, California's two public universities took actions Wednesday to charge higher fees for education in the fall.

The trustees of the Cal State University system voted to raise annual undergraduate student fees 10%, or \$276. A key committee of the University of California regents approved a 7.4%, or \$490, raise per year for undergraduates that is expected to be endorsed by the full Board of Regents today.

The actions would bring average statewide undergraduate costs to nearly \$3,800 at Cal State and to more than \$8,000 at UC, not including housing, books and other expenses, which can total \$12,000 to \$16,000. Graduate students will face even higher increases.

"This is one of the most painful things we do. None of us wants to raise fees," UC President Robert C. Dynes said at the regents meeting at UCLA. "We're between a rock and a hard place. The state doesn't support us the way they should support us."

University leaders said the fee hikes were necessary, even though a revised state budget proposal released by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger on Wednesday restored about \$196 million to the two systems. Officials said the state budget gap was causing enormous funding shortfalls at the 23 Cal State campuses, which enroll about 450,000 students, and the 10 UC campuses, with about 220,000 students.

Officials said that at least a third of the fee increases would be devoted to extra financial aid for needy students and that Cal State fees remained well below the average of comparable schools in other states. (UC is about average among other research universities.)

But that did not assuage students, who said the hikes would cause a few to drop out and many to take on larger loans and work more hours at low-wage jobs. They noted that fees had nearly doubled in the last six years.

About 60 students, many carrying placards that proclaimed "Education Is a Right" and "Fees = Taxes on Students," rallied against the fee hikes outside the regents meeting in the morning. Among them was Melvin Rico, a first-year UCLA biochemistry major from Ojai who wants to become a doctor. He said he helped pay for his education by working about 25 hours a week as a

cook and a caretaker for the elderly.

"I'm trying my best just to afford this education and achieve my dreams. And this would make it harder," he said of the fee hike.

Later, the regents finance committee approved the fee increase on a 7-2 vote. Lt. Gov. John Garamendi and regent Eddie Island voted no.

Then, about 80 students in the meeting room began chanting: "Regents, regents, don't you see, you're creating poverty." After warnings from campus police, 16 of the young people refused to leave the room, and officers handcuffed them and hustled them out. In at least one instance, a young man refused to go and was wrestled to the floor by several police officers.

UC officials later reported that the 16, including one who is not a UC student, were arrested on suspicion of disturbing a public meeting, a misdemeanor, and were released on their own recognizance. The one involved in the tussle also was cited for resisting arrest.

Things were calmer as the Cal State trustees met in their Long Beach office.

Board Chairwoman Roberta Achtenberg described the fee increases as "extremely painful" but added that the university had to "deal with the lot we have been dealt. We've done the best that we can."

She was among 15 trustees who voted to support the increase. Garamendi, trustee Melinda Guzman and student trustee Jennifer Reimer voted no.

Garamendi is an ex officio member of both governing boards and managed to attend parts of both meetings. At both, he proposed an alternative that would cap fees at and limit increases to the rate of inflation. Both his proposals failed.

Garamendi warned that the fee increases were another step toward what he said was the privatization of public higher education in California. "It is a vicious cycle," he said.

Cal State L.A. student Gabriela Serrato, 24, said that her parents had struggled with their mortgage and rising gas costs, food bills and college fees. So they are urging her sister, Adriana, a high school junior, to consider a trade school instead of college. But the Cal State system was created to provide an affordable college education for low-income families like hers, she said.

"We are seeing that being chipped away," the Salinas Valley native said. Standing in front of three students who wore caps and gowns from their upcoming graduation as symbolic protests, she added, "There are students perhaps who will never get to wear a cap and gown due to the current budget situation."

As economic troubles take their toll on state coffers nationwide, many public universities are enacting similar fee hikes this year, according to Paul Lingenfelter, president of the State Higher Education Executive Officers organization, based in Boulder, Colo.

During recessions, enrollments go up as people find it harder to land jobs and tuition tends to rise. "There are tough trade-offs here," he said in an interview.

Last year, the average fee increase was about 6.6% at four-year public universities, and the

expectation this year is for a range between 5% and 10%, according to the American Assn. of State Colleges and Universities.

larry.gordon@latimes.com

seema.mehta@latimes.com



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CSU raises student fees 10 percent; UC plans 7.4 percent hike

By Bill Lindelof - blindelof@sacbee.com

Published 12:30 am PDT Thursday, May 15, 2008

The cost of a university degree for the more than 500,000 undergraduate students at the state's public universities went up Wednesday.

Fees will increase 10 percent this fall for students in the California State University system, rising to nearly \$3,800 a year for undergraduate students.

On University of California campuses, fees will climb 7.4 percent, bringing resident undergraduate fees to more than \$8,000 a year, not including housing and books.

CSU trustees approved that system's fee hike Wednesday. The fee increase at UC was approved by a UC regents committee Wednesday, and the issue goes before the full board today.

The 23-campus CSU system was facing \$386 million in cuts because of the state budget shortfall. In his proposed budget revisions released Wednesday, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger restored \$97.6 million of that amount.

The 10-campus UC system also is facing cuts.

"It is too soon to tell what the effect will be of the state's budget crisis, long-term or near-term," said Kelly Ratliff, UC Davis associate vice chancellor for budget.

At UC Davis, officials have plans to cut budgets by 7 percent.

CSU Chancellor Charles B. Reed said CSU opted to address the fee increase now – even before the state budget is finalized – to provide students reasonable time to plan.

Student fees in California remain among the lowest in the country compared with similar universities.

"I am sure that a CSU fee increase will be a financial burden to some," said Bonnie MacArthur, a health care administration major at CSU Sacramento. "However, the benefit that students receive of their CSU education far outweighs the cost of the proposed increase."

She said in an e-mail that the state has generously contributed to higher education

institutions – and now it's time for students to chip in more toward what is still a steal of an education.

Kim Geron, vice president of the California Faculty Association, said the fee increase could not come at a worse time.

"The costs of housing, health care, food and gasoline are rising unchecked," Geron said.

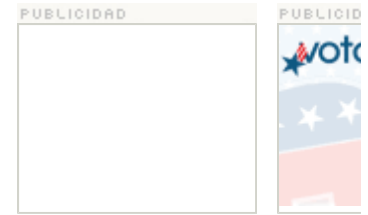
CSU will set aside about one-third of the revenue garnered from the fee increase – \$36 million – to bolster financial aid for students. UC also pledged to put more money into financial aid.

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Cerr

Aumentan colegiaturas en las universidades

Estudiantes protestan por la decisión de las autoridades; éstas justifican el alza

Róger Lindo | 2008-05-15 | La Opinión

La Universidad de California (UC) y la Universidad Estatal de California (CSU) aprobaron ayer nuevos incrementos a las colegiaturas en ambos sistemas de educación superior para responder a los recortes a la educación superior impuestos por el presupuesto fiscal del estado.

La Junta de Fideicomisarios de CSU tomó la delantera ayer decretando un alza de 276 dólares para los 23 recintos universitarios que opera en el estado, lo que elevará la colegiatura a 3,048 al año. El organismo también impuso un incremento de 324 para los estudiantes de docencia y de 342 para los de posgrado. Horas más tarde, el comité de finanzas de la Junta de Fideicomisarios de la Universidad de California (UC) aprobó por siete votos contra dos un incremento de 7.4% a las colegiaturas.

Esto representa una carga extra de 490 dólares para cada estudiante, que sumados a otras cuotas existentes elevará el costo anual de ir a una universidad en este sistema a aproximadamente ocho mil anuales.

UC administra nueve universidades públicas en el estado, entre ellas centros prestigiosos como UCLA, UC-Berkeley, UC-Irvine y UC-Davis.

"La decisión de subir las cuotas siempre nos duele mucho, pero dada la situación fiscal del estado necesitamos estos incrementos para mantener la calidad y accesibilidad de los programas universitarios", declaró el presidente de UC, Robert Dynes, al final de la votación.

Cynthia Flores, estudiante de tercer año de ciencias políticas, dijo afuera del edificio donde se votaba el aumento que ésta no es sino una "privatización descarada" de la universidad, además de calificar de "desproporcionada" la carga inflacionaria sobre los hombros de los estudiantes de bajos recursos como ella.

"En el estado tenemos una inflación de 4%, pero en la educación la tenemos de 40%; la gente no está ganando tanto como para absorber eso", dijo.

La decisión deberá ser ratificada hoy por el pleno de la Junta de Fideicomisarios de UC.

La subida de las colegiaturas desató una protesta estudiantil en el edificio donde se reunieron los fideicomisarios, la que se saldó con el arresto de 16 de ellos.

"Aunque el estado aún no ha adoptado su presupuesto para el próximo año, CSU ha decidido aumentar sus cuotas de colegiatura ahora para permitir que los estudiantes que se matricularon para el otoño cuenten con tiempo suficiente para planificar sus finanzas", declaró el rector del sistema, Charles Reed. Dijo que era importante que los estudiantes y sus familias sepan cuáles serán sus costos para que hagan los arreglos necesarios para el próximo año.

Anteriormente CSU cerró la admisión de estudiantes de primer año (freshmen) el 1 de marzo, lo que afecta a aproximadamente 10 mil estudiantes que esperaban ingresar en el ciclo de otoño.

Sólo tres de los 18 fideicomisarios de CSU que votaron ayer, John Garamendi, Melinda Guzmán y la representante estudiantil Jennifer Reimer, dijeron no al incremento.

Llegado el turno, Garamendi, vicegobernador del estado, también votó en contra del alza en el comité de finanzas de la Universidad de California.

Allí declaró que la subida votada ayer constituye en la práctica un impuesto a los estudiantes, advirtiendo que, de seguir por este camino, UC acabará privatizándose como la Universidad de Michigan, donde, según él, el 38% de la matrícula es de fuera del estado.

Ambas votaciones se produjeron el mismo día que el gobernador de California, Arnold Schwarzenegger, dio

a conocer su nueva versión del plan presupuestario para el año fiscal 2008-09, que restaura 98.5 millones para la universidad que habían sido eliminados en una versión anterior.

Según Dynes, la restitución de ese monto deja todavía al sistema que preside UC con un hueco —más de 200 millones de dólares— que se piensa llenar en parte con la subida a las colegiaturas.

CSU aseguró que más de un tercio de los estudiantes —aquellos cuyos ingresos familiares caen por debajo de los 60 mil dólares anuales— no tendrán que pagar el aumento, puesto que están amparados por becas federales.

Informó además que reservará un tercio de los ingresos que se deriven del alza de las cuotas, un total de 36 millones de dólares, para aumentar la ayuda a los estudiantes más necesitados. Según las autoridades de ese sistema, aproximadamente 143,475 estudiantes, el 75% de los de bajos ingresos de la universidad, recibirán ayuda financiera para amortiguar el impacto de las alzas.

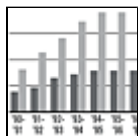
Estos incrementos tienen lugar en el contexto de la crisis fiscal que encara el estado, que tiene un faltante de más de 17,000 millones de dólares, según lo informado ayer por el gobernador.

SFGate.com

UC, CSU move to hike tuition amid protests

Tanya Schevitz, Chronicle Staff Writer

Thursday, May 15, 2008



(05-15) 04:00 PDT Los Angeles - --

California's 670,000 public university students got a double-barreled blast of bad news Wednesday when the governing boards for both the UC and the California State University systems took steps to raise tuition - for the sixth time in seven years.

In Los Angeles, where the UC Board of Regents was meeting on the UCLA campus, 16 students were arrested for unruly behavior after a regents committee voted to impose a 7.4 percent tuition increase for the next school year. That would raise the annual cost for UC undergraduates from \$6,571 to \$7,126. The full Board of Regents is expected to ratify the committee vote today.

Up the road at the CSU headquarters in Long Beach, the Board of Trustees took similar action, voting 15-3 to impose a 10 percent tuition increase on its 450,000 students this fall. That would push annual undergraduate tuition from \$2,772 to \$3,048.

The two institutions began raising tuition in 2002-03 and have done so every year since except in 2006-07, when an 8 percent increase approved by both boards was rescinded after the Legislature stepped in with additional state funding.

The regents' finance committee voted 7-2 to levy the increase, prompting outbursts from dozens of students who then locked arms and refused to leave the meeting.

Those arrested were surrounded by two dozen police, hand-cuffed and removed by force while the regents left the room.

Even after they were lined up in handcuffs, the protesters continued to chant in defiance, "Regents, regents, can't you see, you are creating poverty," and "Whose university? Our university!"

"This is the frustration of the students. We are not being heard," yelled Joshua Galan, a senior at UCLA, before he was arrested. "This is the only power that we have."

Most of the students were cited and released and could face misdemeanor charges of "willful disturbance of a public meeting."

The UC tuition increase includes a \$60 surcharge to cover a court-ordered multimillion-dollar tuition refund to professional school graduate students. It does not include campus fees that averaged \$881 this year.

Both university systems endorsed tuition increases Wednesday despite Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's restoration of \$98.5 million to UC and \$97.6 million to CSU in his proposed state budget.

"It would appear that the governor heard our concerns. However, we have a long way to go," Patrick Lenz, UC's vice president for budget, told the regents just minutes after the governor released his May budget revision. "This funding will not fully meet the mandatory costs, enrollment growth or compensation needs."

The governor had originally proposed cuts of \$332 million from UC's budget and \$312 million from CSU's budget.

Graduate students also would see tuition increases that would vary by professional field. In all, UC has about 220,000 students at nine campuses.

The regents also approved a provision allowing the undergraduate tuition to be raised again - to a total of 10 percent - if the state's budget situation worsens over the summer.

Tuition at CSU's 23 campuses will rise for undergraduates by \$276 a year, to \$3,048. The total does not include campus fees, which were an average of \$749 per student this year.

Tuition in the UC and CSU systems has nearly doubled since the 2002-03 school year. University officials said they had to act now before the state budget is final to let students know how much they will have to pay next year.

UC Santa Cruz sophomore John Williams complained to the regents that they are raising fees at a time when they continue to pay high salaries.

"If we actually cared about the students and workers on this campus, then we wouldn't be getting presidents who cost \$655,000 a year in salary and extra bonuses. Instead we would be getting presidents who have connections to students and workers," he said.

The regents heard from students who said they were barely getting by as it is.

UC San Diego sophomore Gracelynn West told the regents that she has struggled to put herself through school.

"I am holding two jobs that are nearly 30 hours a week, and my loan debt continues to grow and is now over \$20,000," West said. "It is hard to find time to be a student and focus on academics while

struggling to stay in this university financially."

During a break, 80 to 100 students and employees rallied noisily outside the meeting, chanting "Can't stop, won't stop," after Lt. Gov. John Garamendi, who sits on the boards of both universities by virtue of his elected office, told them: "You have to fight fiercely. Don't ever give up. You are the future. Make sure this state invests in you."

During the regents' discussion about the tuition increases, several regents said the universities were letting the governor and the Legislature off the hook by approving tuition increases.

"I very much worry that if we vote today to increase fees, the pressure is off as the Kabuki dance begins," said Regent Bonnie Reiss. "I hate to be constantly throwing up our hands and say there is a budget deficit and not doing our bit and keeping up the pressure on the Legislature."

But Regents Chairman Richard Blum told the students there was no other option at this point.

"We take what you say to heart. These are serious times with serious problems, and this board has an obligation to face the reality of the many problems this university has," he said. "Unless there is a major tax increase, the university is going to get hit pretty hard this year."

Online searchable database: Search for the top salaries at CSU and UC at sfgate.com/data.

E-mail Tanya Schevitz at tshevitz@sfgate.com.

<http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2008/05/15/MNTM10MFBC.DTL>

This article appeared on page **A - 1** of the San Francisco Chronicle

The Mercury News

MercuryNews.com

Fees raised at state universities, colleges

By Dana Hull and Lisa M. Krieger
Mercury News

Article Launched: 05/15/2008 01:35:50 AM PDT

The cost of attending college in the Golden State got more expensive Wednesday.

Facing rising costs, trustees for both the University of California and California State University systems raised student fees at campuses throughout the state.

The higher fees, which go into effect this fall, will affect more than 670,000 students.

Cal State's board of trustees authorized a 10 percent student fee hike. Fees would increase by \$276 for undergraduate students, \$324 for teacher credential students and \$342 for graduate students.

The higher fees will give the 23-campus system an additional \$110 million in revenue. About one-third of that will be set aside for financial aid for low-income students.

Many students and professors decried the rising education costs amid higher gas and grocery prices and a dearth of affordable rental housing near many campuses.

"I don't know how these students do it. A lot of our students work 25 to 30 hours a week already," said Scott Myers-Lipton, a sociology professor at San Jose State. "They're going to have to work more to cover their costs. It's going to have a terrible impact on students."

Myers-Lipton got his master's degree at San Francisco State in 1989 - when he paid just \$250 a semester in tuition and fees. The new fees mean that undergraduates will pay \$3,048 a year, up from \$2,772.

University of California regents also approved a 7.4 percent increase that would bring the average annual cost for undergraduates, including additional miscellaneous fees charged by individual campuses, to \$8,007 a year for the coming academic year, \$490 more than this year.

"The decision to raise student fees is always an agonizing one," said UC President Robert Dynes in a statement. "But given the current state budget situation, these increases are necessary as one part of our effort to preserve the quality and accessibility of the university's programs to the greatest extent possible." Dionne Jirachaikitti, a junior at UC-Berkeley, said the increase will be devastating. Her younger brother attends UC-San Diego, and her parents, who live in Union City, are struggling to pay for both children.

"Even though UC is a wonderful system, a lot of students might decide to go to private schools where there is more financial aid," said Jirachaikitti, 21, who is majoring in public health.

Lt. Gov. John Garamendi, who serves as a governing member of both university boards, unsuccessfully urged trustees to cap fees at their current levels to keep higher education affordable.

"Rather than making college available to more young people, fee hikes take California a step backward," he said in a statement.

Contact Dana Hull at dhull@mercurynews.com or (408) 920-2706.

[More California news](#)



Trustees raise Cal State system fees 10 percent

UNION-TRIBUNE

12:45 p.m. May 14, 2008

Undergraduate students at SDSU, Cal State San Marcos and other California State University system schools will be paying an additional \$276 in fees next year, CSU trustees decided Wednesday.

Trustees voted 15-3 to raise annual fees 10 percent for the system's 450,000 students. That brings systemwide and campus fees to an average of \$3,797 in 2008-09. Graduate students would see a \$342 spike, for an average of \$4,505 in fees.

Faculty trustee Craig Smith said the state doesn't fully fund the cost of educating each student. "We have no choice but to turn to other streams of revenue," he said.

Regents for the University of California will vote Thursday for a 7 percent increase in educational fees and a 10 percent increase in the registration fee for 2008-09. That would boost undergraduate costs for California residents by \$490 for an average total of \$8,007 per year.

In-state graduate fees would rise \$546 for an average cost of \$10,376 per year.

The figures do not include books, transportation and living expenses that can nearly triple the amount students effectively pay to get a public education in California.

The average tuition at four-year public universities nationwide this academic year is \$6,185, a 6.6 percent increase from last year, according to the College Board. In California, the average was \$4,971, a 9 percent increase.

College is going to cost more in California come fall

By LISA LEFF

The Associated Press

BERKELEY

The cost of a four-year college education went up again in California on Wednesday as leaders of the University of California and California State University systems approved their sixth round of student fee hikes in seven years.

Under orders from Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to reduce campus spending to help make up a statewide budget deficit, the governing boards of the two systems said they had to ask students and their families to shoulder some of the burden come fall.

"We are doing everything we can to persuade the governor and the Legislature that additional funding for the CSU ought to be viewed as an investment, not an expense," said CSU Trustee William Hauck. "We are going to continue to fight that fight, but as of today, we are left with not much in the way of alternatives."

Cal State trustees meeting in Long Beach voted 15-3 to raise yearly undergraduate fees by \$276, or 10 percent. The increase means that undergraduates will pay an average of \$3,797 next year twice as much as what a CSU school cost in the fall of 2000.

University of California board members, meanwhile, tentatively approved a 7.4 percent fee increase that would bring the average annual cost for undergraduates to \$8,007 for the 2008-09 academic year, which also represents a doubling in price from the start of the decade.

The extra \$496 UC undergraduates will be paying includes a \$60 per student surcharge to make up for money lost after a court ruled the university system improperly instituted midyear fee hikes five years ago. The surcharge includes money for the \$33.8 million in refunds UC has been ordered to issue.

The proposal approved by the Board of Regents' finance committee meeting at UCLA is scheduled to be considered by the 10-campus system's full board on Thursday. After the committee vote, students stood up and chanted "Regents, regents, can't you see, you're creating poverty!" and "Whose university? Our university!"

The two panels took up the fee issue on the same day that Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger released his revised budget for the fiscal year that begins July 1. Under his plan, higher education spending would increase from \$13.8 billion to \$14.2 billion.

The governor restored about \$200 million of the \$720 million he originally proposed cutting from UC and CSU's requests. But system officials said that even with the fee hikes they still would have to curtail enrollment, reduce course offerings and scale back campus services.

Both CSU and UC administrators said that up to one-third of the money generated by the higher fees would go toward boosting financial aid to offset the potential impact on low-income students.

Lt. Gov. John Garamendi, who serves as both a UC regent and a CSU trustee, said the financial aid set-aside only concealed the growing "privatization" of the state's public universities. He unsuccessfully urged colleagues on both boards to keep fees at their current levels next year and tie future fee hikes to the rate of inflation.

"What we are doing here is substituting a general tax on the population of California for a tax on students," Garamendi told his fellow trustees. "Relying on student taxes puts us on the wrong path, and it is a slippery slope we have been sliding on for 20 years."

UC Regent Eddie Island agreed with Garamendi and joined him in voting against the UC fee hikes. He said it was premature to increase the financial load on students when he thought more could be done to reduce administrative expenses.

Island also questioned whether it was fair for students to bear the brunt of the system's legal missteps over the 2003 midyear fee increases.

"We have embarked on a path we will long regret, the idea of supporting a great public university on the backs of the students and the parents," he said. "If we ought to raise fees, we ought to raise them when there is no other alternative."

But Regent Russell Gould, the finance committee's chairman, said it would be foolhardy to not raise fees in the hope that the Legislature would come through with more higher education money.

Schwarzenegger "has tried to stand up for higher education, but there is an expectation we stand up for ourselves, stand up and make a difficult decision in order to sustain this university," Gould said. "If we try to leverage the Legislature and play a game of chicken with them, it's not a game we win."

Members of both boards said that though they regretted approving another fee increase, they still regarded a UC or CSU education as a bargain compared to public universities in other states.

With 450,000 students, CSU is the nation's largest four-year college system. In anticipation of state budget cuts, it for the first time cut off freshman applications, which resulted in about 10,000 students not being admitted, according to CSU Chancellor Charles Reed.

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May 15, 2008

NATIONAL BRIEFING | WEST

California: Student Fees Going Up

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The cost of attending a [California State University](#) is going up again in the fall after a decision by the 23-campus system's governing board to authorize a 10 percent increase in student fees. California State's Board of Trustees voted 15 to 3 to raise yearly undergraduate tuition by \$276. Undergraduates will pay an average of \$3,797 next year, twice as much as what a California State University cost in the fall of 2000. The system is under orders from Gov. [Arnold Schwarzenegger](#) to reduce campus spending to help make up a state budget deficit.

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