



Local 1610

College of
MARIN

UPM's Tuesday Debriefing

January 29, 2008

“You Can't Always Get What You Want...”—*Rolling Stones*

These were the words used by **President Fran White** when she addressed faculty and staff at the spring semester opening day convocation. White also introduced **Vice-president of Fiscal Services Al Harrison**, who gave a presentation on the impact of the “Governator’s” proposed community college budget cuts. While stating that it is too early to know the specific impact on the College of Marin’s budget for next year, Harrison’s presentation, and later White’s, were peppered with questions from the audience, questions that challenged the veracity of what was presented and challenged the speakers to recognize “the elephant in the room”. One speaker from the audience dared Vice-president Harrison “to tell the truth for one time in your life!”

“...But If You Try Sometimes, You Might Just Find, You Get What You Need!”—*Rolling Stones*

Pay attention. This is the rest of the line above from the same song, and apparently faculty know they will need to come through if they are to get what they need, as over 110 full-time and part-time **Union members** attended the General Membership meeting held on the Friday of flex week. Note that there are about 112 full-time faculty. Where were you?

“Went Down to the Demonstration...”—*Rolling Stones*

This is a later line in the very same song, and it is what dozens of UPM members did at the end of the fall semester and the start of the spring semester. As previously announced, UPM members set up an informational picket on College Avenue the night the **Board of Trustees** were to have their December holiday dinner at the Pacific Restaurant.

Apparently the demonstration was too successful—the trustees claimed they had unfinished work and ordered dinners in to their conference room on campus. The proprietor of the restaurant, who was told in advance of the pickets, related to the faculty outside that he had received a call canceling the trustees’ reservation. Not to deprive the owner and workers of their livelihood because of their actions, about a dozen picketers went inside and had dinner. Perhaps fearing more public exposure, the End of Semester Holiday Get-together at Willie’s Cafe the next afternoon was also canceled by the administration.

Not wanting to miss an opportunity for a *collegial* gathering, UPM members appeared with their picket signs at the re-scheduled event the Thursday afternoon of flex week. As before, the purpose was to share with our faculty members the dire situations existing in the District and encourage them not to socialize with managers at this event. There was no intention or effort made to keep students and staff from partaking of the offerings. Apparently UPM’s efforts were successful—no full-time faculty attended and only two part-time non-credit faculty entered the event. Finally, over 40 faculty carried picket signs outside and inside the opening day convocation mentioned above.

Have a great week!

UPM Executive Council

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