



UPM's Tuesday Debriefing

April 1, 2008

Sign of the Times?

The due date for IR&D grant applications for next semester has come and gone (see Article 8.3.5(a)). There was only one request for the up to 15 teaching units and \$20,000. This means most of the money and units will go unused at the start of the next academic year. Usually there are more people applying than can be accommodated. Has our creative energy been drained? Has our academic innovation been stifled? To each his or her own, but do not let the situation get you down. We will all be here long after they are gone, still doing the great things that we do. IR&D is just one of the many ways we sustain our artistry.

Budget Redux

The last issue (March 24) of the "other briefing" included a "FAQ: Budget outlook". This publication, along with the *Union Press*, had previously provided much of the same information. However, **President Fran White's** statements require two points of emphasis:

- 1.) In spite of all the talk about reductions and declines, both from the State and from property taxes, revenue projections presented to the **Board of Trustees** by **Fiscal Vice-president Al Harrison** showed an overall *increase* of about ½% for next year over this current year.
- 2.) Because of uncertainties, to quote President White, "...and *a need to protect our reserves*, budget *reductions* will be necessary." [emphasis added] Since the reserves are a percentage of the general fund, this means that the money in the reserves will actually have to *increase*! And all this while allocations for the primary purpose of this institution *decrease*.

Senatorial Candidates Interviewed by UPM

Democratic candidates for the 3rd Senate District, which encompasses parts of San Francisco, Marin and Sonoma Counties, were interviewed by UPM and representatives from other CFT locals in the District. Incumbent **Senator Carol Migden**, **Assemblyperson Mark Leno** and former **Assemblyperson Joe Nation** were the candidates who appeared before the committee, seeking an endorsement from CFT. With an endorsement still forthcoming, here are sound bites from each of the candidates:

Migden: "I'm responsive and I'm good at the job. ... I work hard and bring results."

Leno: He won't be silent when he "sees something stupid". I am "inclusive and collaborative."

Nation: State government “can work better than it does now by using technology.”

As is always the case, become familiar with the issues, learn what the candidates have to say, and make your own decision!

New Union Membership Cards in the Mail

Based on membership roles provided by each CFT local, the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) is mailing to all UPM members a new membership card. These have already started arriving at individual’s homes. If you do not receive one by the end of this semester, make sure you are a UPM member. Membership is voluntary and you must choose to join. Contact membership@aft.org if you have any questions. The card provides many benefits and discounts. Don’t leave home without it.

Impasse

Have questions about impasse or anything else related to CoM or UPM? You can always e-mail or phone your comments and questions to **Chief Negotiator Paul Christensen** at x7635, paul@UnitedProfessorsofMarin.org; or **President Ira Lansing** at x7531, ira@UnitedProfessorsofMarin.org. For even closer contact, talk with one of the following UPM Building Representatives:

<u>Building:</u>	<u>Contact:</u>	<u>Extension</u>
Austin Science Center	Ira Lansing	7531
Business Center	Mike Ransom	7579
Dance, Landscape, Fine/Visual Arts	Deborah Graham	Deborah.graham@marin.edu
Dickson, Fusselman Hall	Paul Christensen	7635
Harlan Center	John Sutherland	7434
IVC Campus	Arthur Lutz	8518
<i>or</i>	Tom Behr	8541
Learning Resource Center	Carl Cox	7423
Part-time Faculty	Tom Behr	8541
<i>or</i>	Deborah Graham	see above
Physical Education	Ira Lansing	7531
Student Services	Theo Fung	7389

Have a Great Week!