Show Me the Money!

Over the last few weeks the local Marin Independent Journal and the Pacific Sun have seen fit to publicize the salaries of over 25 of our Union members. UPM President Ira Lansing and Academic Senate President Yolanda Bellisimo have had their earnings analyzed in great detail. It is only fair that a third institutional president not be left out from this scrutiny. So here are some of the details of the salary and compensation for Superintendent/President Francis White (all information from the current employment contract):

**Annual salary:** $214,000 (this represents a 6% increase over 2007-08 with a guaranteed increase of not less than 3% in subsequent years)

**Annual performance bonus:** $12,000 (this was for 2006-07, with annual determinations by the Board of Trustees)

**Annual tax deferred annuity contribution:** $2500 (fully vested after 5 years)

**Outside consulting and professional activities:** 5 days (presumably compensated by the contracting party)

**Monthly vehicle expenses:** $500 (plus reimbursement for travel outside the District)

**Monthly business expenses:** $250 (to cover reasonable activities and expenses related to her duties)

**Vacation days:** 22 days per year (up to 5 days may be converted to cash and all of it may be cashed out upon termination of the contract)

**Sick leave:** 12 days per year (accrueable as per California Education Code)
**Insurance coverage:** District provided health, dental vision; $350,000 term life insurance and full disability insurance

**Retiree benefits:** full medical supplemental coverage under Medicare
(after 10 years of service)

It is left to the reader to compare and contrast (pay close attention to guarantees) and to determine value for the money. Oh yes, as the other publications have pointed out, this is all Marin County Taxpayers’ money.

---

**Update**

And speaking of money, the Retirement Savings Incentive arbitration, that was ruled in favor of UPM, and that was ordered to be resolved within 60 days from mid-December of last year, has just been extended again. The attorney for the District, Larry Frierson, presumably with the knowledge and consent of President Fran White (remember previously she stated she is “doing all that she can” to bring this to a speedy resolution) has requested that additional information be considered.

This is information UPM maintains was either ruled on by the arbitrator or previously considered by the District not to be relevant to their arguments during the arbitration. Be that as it may, both parties will now address in writing this new/old issue. The parties will submit their briefs (what a misnomer that is!) by April 18 and the arbitrator will issue his opinion by May 22.

So who benefits from this? Not you, not even the District since they have to pay interest on the money owed until it is paid. Tick-tock, time on the clock.

Have a great week!