The California State University and CSUEU (Units 2, 5, 7, 9) reached a reopener agreement effective July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006. Updates to the benefits programs are outlined below:

**Rural Health Care Stipend**

CSUEU represented employees who meet all of the following requirements during the January 2006 pay period will be paid a one-time rural health care stipend during fiscal year 2005/06:

a. The employee must be eligible and enrolled for CalPERS health insurance benefits and reside in a zip code contained in the list of “California’s Proposed Eligible Rural Subsidy Zip Codes by County effective January 1, 2006” and

b. The employee must be enrolled in a non-Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) health plan.

The amount of the stipend is five hundred dollars ($500) for each eligible employee and payment of the stipend will be made prior to April 1, 2006. Please refer to HR/Salary 2005-19 for additional information.

**Police Dispatcher Uniform Reimbursement**

The maximum amount of the uniform reimbursement for Police Dispatchers (Classification Codes 8800-8802) appointed in excess of six (6) months who are required to wear a uniform as a condition of employment has increased to $250 (from $200) per calendar year.
1959 Survivor Benefit, Fifth Level, Premium Contribution Change

Pursuant to HR/Benefits 2005-16, premiums for the 1959 Survivor Benefit Program, Fifth Level, increased to a total of $11.30 per month per eligible CSU employee for fiscal year 2005/06. In accordance with Government Code (GC) 21581, the CSU contribution was set at $5.65 per month per eligible employee and the employee's contribution was set at $5.65 per month.

Assembly Bill (AB) 1166, recently signed by the Governor, amends GC 21582 which allows the premium contribution formula established in GC 21581 to be superseded through collective bargaining. Pursuant to an agreement reached with the CSUEU, effective January 1, 2006, eligible employees will pay a maximum monthly premium contribution of $2 for this benefit regardless of the total monthly premium amount. The CSU will pay the monthly premium in excess of the employee's $2 monthly contribution. Employee premium contributions in excess of $2 per month during the months of July 2005 through December 2005 will be reimbursed in February 2006.

Campuses are responsible for notifying employees participating in this benefit of the decrease in their monthly contributions. Employees are identified by Retirement Account Codes (PIMS Item 505) 00, 20, 51, 52, 53 or 54. The State Controller's Office (SCO) will make the necessary changes to ensure the premium decrease is reflected on the employees' pay warrants effective with the January 2006 pay period. Deduction Code 077 will be used to reflect the total employee monthly contribution.

Questions regarding this technical letter may be directed to Human Resources Administration at (562) 951-4411. This document is available on Human Resources Web site at: http://www.calstate.edu/HRAdm/memos.shtml.

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