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Report of the meeting of the Board of Trustees October 27, 2005

Craig Smith, Faculty Trustee

HEADLINE: The Board ratified the bargaining agreement with various employee groups. It was announced that the Board unanimously selected King Alexander of Murray State University as President of California State University, Long Beach.

The Board of Trustees met at the Office of the Chancellor on October 27. The full Board agenda can be viewed at www.calstate.edu/BOT/agendas. Full reports can be found there also. There was a closed meeting of the Board concerning bargaining (see above).

The public committee meetings then began with the CSU presidents, the Statewide Academic Senate's Chair and Vice Chair, members of the CSSA's executive committee, members of the Chancellor's staff, and the public in attendance.

The Committee on Collective Bargaining called for the ratification of the contract with various employee groups. The motion was passed.

The Committee on Finance reported the Trustees' Support Budget and State University Fee Increase proposal. The room was filled with students from all of the CSU campuses. After a review of the fiscal condition of the state, the Committee recommended a \$204 (8%) increase in undergraduate fees, a \$234 (8%) increase in credential student fees, and a \$310 (10%) fee increase for graduate students. This will take fees to \$2,724, \$3,156, and \$3,412 respectively. The committee proposed that nearly 30% be set aside for student aid. Currently, 190,000 students receive some form of aid. About 116,000 are supported from the fee set aside in terms of State University Grants. These and other students are eligible for work-study aid, Cal Grants, State University Grants (which have increased to \$265 million, more than double was available in 2002/3), Federal and other scholarships, and loans, which constitute about half of the financial aid to students. Cal Grants and State University Grants amount to \$430 million and fund over 155,000 students. That leaves about 40,000 needy students who need to find support elsewhere, that is, federal, work study, other scholarships, etc. CSU student fees will still be the lowest among our cohort universities. This situation needs to be seen in the context of \$1.5 BILLION in deficiencies in other areas, such as libraries, health benefits, faculty compensation, buildings, equipment, etc. CFA representatives then addressed the board with their concerns about affordability and quality. Student representatives addressed the board opposing the fee structure. The Committee approved the proposal.

The Lottery Budget proposal was then reviewed. It allocated \$35 million to the campuses and was approved.

The Committee then presented a compensation plan for all CSU employees. The 5-year plan was placed in the context of the Compact, including an increase in revenue from the state and continued rising student fees at 10% per year. In terms of compensation, the plan calls for an additional 2.5% (on average starting with .65% in 2006/7 and ending with 2.81% in 2010/11) to the committed 3% increase to close the gap.

The Committee on University and Faculty Personnel was convened to present a plan for executive compensation. Marshelle Thobaben has the schedule for presidents' raises and has put it out. CSU presidents lag 49% behind their cohort group. The plan attempts to narrow that gap and increase incidental costs for all executives. The budget calls for a \$700,000 increase in 2005/6.

The above recommendations were affirmed and the reports were accepted at the general board meeting after public comments were heard on various issues.

If I have not yet scheduled a visit to your campus, please feel free to request that your president schedule such a visit after January 1, 2006. The current schedule with past visits is listed below.

Scheduled Visits to CSU Campuses by Faculty Trustee Craig Smith for the Fall.

<u>Main Day</u>	<u>Campus</u>	<u>Best Quotation</u>
9/27	Humboldt	"You are in my car now, so you will listen to my agenda."
10/4	San Francisco	"The students only perch up there when the sun comes out."
10/10	Fresno	"Oh, that's just the acreage for the grapes."
10/18	S.L.O	"No one lives in that house; we use it for receptions."
11/1	San Bernardino	
11/11	Northridge	
11/29	East Bay	
11/30	San José	
12/6	Chico	
12/8	Sacramento	