



Alliance Successfully Restores \$97.6 Million to CSU Budget Governor signs budget protecting May revise

September 23, 2008

Following months of deliberation the Governor signed the 2008/09 state budget into law Tuesday.

While no new cuts to the CSU are included in the budget, the plan leaves the system underfunded by \$215 million from the amount of money promised under the "Higher Education Compact."

The \$215 million figure, however, could have been much worse if it were not for the advocacy efforts of the Alliance for the CSU.

From the beginning of this year's budget fight, it has been the goal of the Alliance to make it clear that higher education is the solution to a troubled economy. Cuts to the California State University undermine California's economy, undermine revenue to the state, and undermine our ability to compete in a global economy.

For our young people, in particular the 10,000 turned away from the CSU this year because of lack of state funding, the cuts are a harsh response to their hopes and dreams.

The importance of higher education to the state's future was made clear to legislators and the governor by the nearly 55,000 members of the Alliance who demonstrated this past year that there is hope to change California's fiscal priorities.

In response to intense pressure by these supporters of the CSU, the Governor restored some \$97 million to the CSU system in the May budget revision.

The Alliance for the CSU is grateful to all those who have participated in advocating for our state university system. Because of your hard work, the system was able to avoid an even greater budgetary setback.

The common action of faculty members, staff, administrators, students, parents, alumni and community supporters will remain strong going forward as even greater budgetary challenges lie ahead.

Please join with us in continuing to advocate for the CSU and for the future of our state!