CSU Northridge Enrollment Growth Halted

State Budget Crisis Forces Limits on Applications from Freshmen, Transfer Students and Others

Cal State Northridge experienced a drop in the number of students for the first time in five years due to budget cuts. This marks the first decline in enrollment in five years. The Office of Institutional Research reported recently that the university welcomed 35,198 students for fall 2009, 1,010 less than last year. The fall 2009 reduction is the first step in a series of enrollment cuts dictated by the state’s budget crisis. The campus’ operating budget for 2009–10 was cut $41.9 million as part of a $584 million reduction to the entire state budget.

CSUN President Jolene Koester has said CSUN will have to reduce campus enrollment by 6,000 students by the end of the 2010–11 academic year. “We are no longer going to be advancing aid and earlier admission dates,” said Harry Hellenbrand, provost and vice president for academic affairs. “It’s been a terribly difficult thing to do because the university’s always been about accessibility.”

The largest decline is in first-time freshmen students. Last year, the campus closed the application period early for fall 2009 freshmen. This summer, the Chancellor’s Office instructed all CSU campuses to accept no admission applications for the 2010 spring semester from freshmen or transfer students. Despite the overall decline in enrollment from last year, there were slight increases in the number of continuing, new post-baccalaureate and new transfer students. “We’re trying to focus as much as possible on students making good progress toward a degree and limiting the number of new students coming to the university,” said Cynthia Rawitch, associate vice president for undergraduate studies.

As for the increase in new post-baccalaureate students, Rawitch noted that during times of economic hardship, it’s not uncommon to find an increase in students returning to school for more education.

—Arman Sadri
The grease paint! The costumes! The characters and their stories! Cal State Northridge theatre professor Annie Cleveland and lecturer Ann Morrison are taking the magic of live theater around the world as the university’s two latest recipients of Fulbright awards.

Morrison will be traveling to Portugal next spring to develop and create a dance theater piece based on work by Portuguese poet Fernando Pessoa. Cleveland left last month for Taiwan to teach and receive a Fulbright teaching appointment in the Department of Theatre at National Taiwan University in Taipei.

When women said they were honored to receive Fulbrights, Morrison, who was a runner-up twice for a Fulbright while a graduate student, said she was particularly “happy to have finally become a recipient.”

Cleveland, 59, of Northridge, is teaching graduate and undergraduate students at the University of Porto in Portugal. Morrison, 40, of Santa Monica, will be teaching dance and costume design at National Taiwan University.

“Computer-aided costume design is a relatively new field and I was very gratified to see the faculty at NTU encouraging exploration in computer technology as it specifically relates to costume design,” she said before she left.

In addition to her teaching duties, Cleveland intends to collaborate with designers and professors from Taiwan and neighboring countries to evaluate the impact of computer-aided design on traditional pedagogy. Morrison, 40, of Santa Monica, will be leaving in March for the Instituto Politécnico de Laeria, where she will teach a course entitled “Performance and the Body.” While in Portugal, Morrison said she hopes to bring the movement piece she creates on Pessoa’s work back to CSUN. “I would love to see what our students here at CSUN would do with it,” she said.

Cleveland’s and Morrison’s honors bring to 49 the total of CSUN faculty members who have received the prestigious Fulbright award since 1980. The Fulbright Program, the U.S. government’s flagship program in international educational exchange, was approved by Congress and signed into law in 1946. The goal of the program, which is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, is to promote “mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries of the world.”

Fulbright grants are made to U.S. citizens and nationals of other countries for a variety of educational activities, primarily university lecturing, advanced research, graduate study and teaching in elementary and secondary schools. Since the program’s inception, approximately 279,500 participants—both in the academic merit and leadership potential—have had the opportunity to exchange ideas and to contribute to finding solutions to shared issues.

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Federal Grant Helps CSUN Prepare Students for Ph. D

Grant Program Targets Students from Disadvantaged Backgrounds with Strong Academic Potential

Cal State Northridge has been awarded $879,992 by the U.S. Department of Education for a program designed to give CSUN students the tools they need to succeed in graduate school.

The Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program will prepare students for doctoral studies through involvement in research and other scholarly activities. Northridge received a four-year grant that will fund support for 25 students each year of the award.

“This is a wonderful opportunity that we are happy to share with our students,” said McKee Johnson, CSUN’s associate vice president of graduate studies, research and international programs. “The doors this grant will open for students who might not have otherwise had the means to, or even thought of, attending graduate school is fantastic.”

The program, which began Oct. 1, targets students from disadvantaged backgrounds who have demonstrated strong academic potential. University personnel will work closely with the program’s participants as they complete their undergraduate requirements. Once they’ve received their bachelor’s degrees, the students will be encouraged to enroll in graduate school. Their progress will be tracked through their successful completion of advanced degrees.

“The goal is to increase the attainment of Ph.D. degrees by students from underrepresented segments of society,” Johnson said. The grant will be used to award students financial aid in the form of stipends, academic counseling, mentoring, research opportunities, seminars, internships and tutoring.

“We are going to do everything we can to make sure that they graduate from CSUN with the academic credentials to take them into some of the top graduate programs in the country,” Johnson said. “But we aren’t going to abandon them once they leave our campus. The grant gives us the means to keep tabs on these students so we can make sure they graduate.”

The Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program, also referred to as the McNair Scholars Program, is a Department of Education initiative with the goal of increasing the number of Ph.D. degrees attained by students from underrepresented segments of society, including low-income students, students from minority groups, and low-income college students.

The program is named after scientist Ronald McNair, who died in the space shuttle Challenger explosion in 1986.
For Your Information publishes announcements of events, public meetings, notices, classes and deadlines. Submission deadline is noon on Monday, one week before the next issue.

Catastrophic Leave Donations
Anita Kisermaan from Purchasing Contract Administration is currently out on medical leave of absence. She has exhausted her leave credits and is requesting catastrophic leave donations on her behalf. To make a voluntary donation, please forward a completed Catastrophic Leave Donation form to Payroll Administration, mail code 8228. Access form at http://www.adms.csun.edu/obrs/benefits/forms/plf Platt.

CSUN PD is on Facebook
As an additional tool for communicating with the CSUN community, the Department of Police Services can now be found on Facebook. The page includes information on department programs, services and crime trends.

New University Training Page
The Office of Human Resources has launched the University Training and Professional Development Home Page. The page will provide links to campus departments that offer training and classes. fmi- http://www.csun.edu/training/.

Northridge Magazine Going Online
Northridge Magazine, Cal State Northridge’s magazine for alumni, friends and community, will be available online starting this month. Readers may keep up with the activities and issues that engage the university, faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends by visiting www.northbridgepmagazine.com.

E-Learning Certificate Programs for CSU Employees
The CSU Chancellor’s Office Systemwide Professional Development will offer 20–40 live seminars now through Nov. 26. The fee-based courses include fundamentals of leadership and management, foundations of project management and foundations in customer service. fmi-Lynne Heltner, senior director of Systemwide Professional Development, (562) 951-4403 or visit www.TheSource.calstate.edu/learining.

CalPERS Retirement Seminar
Learn more about CalPERS retirement and strategic choices to maximize retirement benefits. The workshop will take place Tuesday, Oct. 6 from 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-3:30 p.m. in Oviatt Library, Presentation Room. To enroll go to http://www.calpers.ca.gov/ or register by phone at (800) 225-7577.

Basic Self Defense for Women
The Department of Police Services is offering Rape Aggression Defense (R.A.D.), a self-defense program for women. The four-day course will be held on Oct. 14, 15, 21 and 22, 5:30-8:30 p.m. It is $10 for faculty, staff and students and $20 for non-CSUN affiliates. fmi-Daniel Foster, crime prevention coordinator, at daniel.foster@csun.edu or x5820.

Building a Game Plan for Today’s Economy
The Office of Human Resources will present, “Paying for College When Money Is Tight,” Wednesday, Oct. 7, from 1-2 p.m., in the Oviatt Library, Presentation Room. fmi-Debra Rozanski at debra.rozanski@csun.edu or x261.

Benefits Information
The Office of Human Resources presents Benefits Information Workshops in the fall 2009 for all interested CSUN staff and faculty. fmi-Marianne Hutz, x5246.

Life One-on-One Retirement Consultations
Monday, Oct. 5 Human Resources Conference Room, UN 166
For appointments contact, Chris Malaise, (805) 371-4217 or (818) 650-0907. fmi-http://www.calstate.edu/hr/ benefitsportal/taa/.

VLC& and ING One-on-One Retirement Consultations
Monday, Oct. 12 HR Training Room, Oviatt Library 16
Appointments for VLC& contact, Peter Schwartz, (818) 517-6884 or peter.schwartz@valic.com or Ellen Gross, (818) 618-7418 or ellen.gross@valic.com. Appointments for ING contact, Kam Nasser, (818) 774-0719 or kam.nassir@ing.com.

Fidelity One-on-One Retirement Consultations
Thursday, Oct. 15 Human Resource Conference Room, UN 165
For appointments, call (800) 662-7131. fmi-http://www.calstate.edu/hr/ benefitsportal/taa/.

University Faculty Development
All-University Programs and Faculty Development Learning Communities.

Efective Techniques for Learning and Retention
Wednesday, Oct. 7 11-12:30 p.m.
Sierra Hall 439, CEIO Conference Room

Faculty Writing Circle
Wednesday, Oct. 7
3-4:30 p.m.
Sierra Hall 439, CEIO Conference Room

Faculty Book Group: Developing Learner-Centered Teaching
Tuesday, Oct. 13
12:30-1:30 p.m.
Sierra Hall 439, CEIO Conference Room

The Future of the University
Wednesday, Oct. 14
12-1:30 p.m.
Sierra Hall 439, CEIO Conference Room

Think, Pair, Share: Strategies for Engaging Students in the Classroom
Monday, Oct. 19
10-11:30 a.m.
Sierra Hall 451, Whitsett Room

Register for CERT Level 1 Training
Staff, faculty and Los Angeles County residents 18 years and older are eligible to take a six-week disaster-preparedness course offered by the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). Classes are scheduled every Thursday, Oct. 22-Dec. 3, 9-11 a.m., Oviatt Library, Music & Media Lecture Room. The last class on Dec. 3 will be from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Space is limited. fmi-Rudy Quitoriano, x2401.

Deadlines
2010 Faculty Retreat
The 2010 Faculty Retreat, “Educating Through Uncertain Times: Keep the Faith, Keep the Focus,” will be held on Jan. 12 and 13, 2010 at CSUN. The Senate Office is now accepting proposals for oral presentations and campus tours. The deadline is Friday, Oct. 23. For more information and proposal forms, visit www.csun.edu/senate/retreat.html. fmi-Heidi Wallbauer, bheiden@csun.edu or x2363.
The Oviatt Library’s Historic Holidays will be Highlighted
The historic treasures held in Cal State Northridge’s Oviatt Library will be celebrated at the fourth annual Los Angeles Archives Bazaar.

The bazaar will feature displays representing more than 50 historical collections and archives in the Los Angeles region, highlighting materials relating to the city and covering a full range of subjects, from the arts to politics. The bazaar is presented by L.A. as Subject, an alliance of research archives, libraries and collections dedicated to preserving the history of the Los Angeles region.

The free event will take place Saturday, Oct. 17, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the USC Davidson Conference Center at 3415 S. Figueroa St. in Los Angeles.

For more information about the bazaar, visit the Web site at www.usc.edu/libraries/lasubject.

**Art and Exhibits**

For gallery info, call (818) 677-2316. Museum hours: Mon. through Sat. 12-4 p.m. and Thursdays noon–8 p.m. Admission is free unless specified. For library exhibits, call (818) 677-2285.

**Student Advertising Graphics Association**
Adviser: Paulette Di Marco. Runs through Thu., Oct. 8. West Gallery, Art and Design Center

**The Soloist: Celebrating the Healing Power of Music**

Barri Lucci
Master of Arts candidate.
Fri., Oct. 9 through Thu., Oct. 15. West Gallery, Art and Design Center

**“Talk Turkey”**

**“Now Give Me Three Cheers”**
The Timeless Magic of Gilbert and Sullivan features Gilbert and Sullivan posters, music scores, books, letter programs and more, collected by David Trutt. Organized and installed by Tony Gardner, curator, with the assistance of staff and student assistants in the Library’s Special Collections and Archives Department. Sponsored by Gus and Erika Mandler, Friends of the Oviatt Library, and Stephen M. Dell’Aversano, DS Designs, Ltd.

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