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CSU Stanislaus makes \$6.4 million in budget cuts

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California State University Stanislaus announced Tuesday \$6.4 million in budget cuts Tuesday, resulting in 12 layoffs and possible future cuts to enrollment.

CSUS officials gave layoff notices to nine permanent staff members and three managers that will be effective on June 30, 2004. Out of the 12, four will lose

their jobs and the others will be reassigned to other positions. Some of the positions that were reassigned are part-time jobs. In the next 60 days the administration will work with the staff who received lay-off notices in order to find any alternative job placement opportunities for them.

Those were not the only job losses, 18 people were informed that their temporary positions would

end on the same date this June and six individuals will be switched to part-time. In addition to the lay-offs, 28 vacant positions in either management or staffing will not be refilled resulting from managing attrition on campus. CSUS is allowed to ask the staff for voluntary work-time reductions in accordance with their union agreements, also.

"We are doing all we can to pro-

tect the academic mission and soften the impact on the faculty. Currently, reductions are not planned for tenured or tenure-track faculty," President of CSUS Marvalene Hughes said in today's release.

This recent cut is not counting the \$3.6 million that was cut from last year's budget. Budget reductions are being made as an effect

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of Governor Schwarzenegger's request to cut \$239.6 million from the California State University budget. Details are still being worked out by the Governor and the California State Legislators.

This doesn't only effect the faculty but the students at the college might be hit with an increase in their tuition fees. The Board of Trustees of the California State University System are considering a differential student fee increase. The gover-

nor is asking for a 10 percent fee increase for undergraduate students and a 40 percent increase for graduate students.

Undergraduates fees would increase from the \$2,508 in annual fees to \$2,747 and graduate students fees would increase from \$2,718 to \$3,629.

For the 2004-2005 school year, 365 fewer students will be enrolled at the university as an effect of these reductions and the Board of trustees is considering a reduction in next year's student population of around 5 percent. During next year, fewer classes are anticipated, earlier cut-off dates for admission, larger classes, more selective admissions, reduced support programs and services, deferred maintenance

and shortening public office hours in some departments.

"Staffing cuts and program reductions are regrettable but unavoidable in the face of continuing state budget cuts. About 83 percent of the university's annual operating budget pays for faculty and staff salaries and benefits," she said.

The student fee increase and budget reductions are subject to review and approval by the CSU Board of Trustees. CSUS will hold an open Budget Forum on this Thursday for faculty, staff and students in Room 130 of the Mary Stuart Rogers Building from 11 a.m. to 2:30p.m. This meeting will be held to update the campus community and review all budgetary subjects.