The UC Budget Cuts

How are they represented?
How do they affect you?
How do they affect us?
Some Links to Media Coverage and Discussion of The Budget Cuts

• March 1: Sacramento Student Protest
• March 4: Protestors Block UCSC Entrance
• March 4: Rowdy Students
• March 4: Huffington Post Live Blog

• Sept 23: George Lakoff Talk
• Sept 23: Wendy Brown Talk

• President Yudof on Gov Schwarzenegger's proposal
Public?

What do we mean when we say an institution is public?

Why do we think some institutions, spaces, and, services should be public?

What is does it mean when something is called a “public good”?

Some math/media problems:
• “Priceless” Student PSA Video
• Math Lesson for the UC Regents Video
Basic Facts about UC

• Annual general operating budget of UC is $19 billion
  – -- a little less than the entire economy of countries like Panama, El Salvador or Jordan,
  – -- a little more than the entire economy of Bolivia, or Paraguay or Iceland
• The “Core Funds” that pay for the core mission of UC: instruction, research and public service is $5.6 billion
  – Originally, in 2008-2009, $3.2 billion of that was expected to come from the State of California
• UC has 220,000 student; CSU has 433,000; and CCC 1,628,000
• UC has 170,000 faculty and staff
  – size of Walgreen and Pepsi Co., it would be in the top 25 biggest US companies

UC has been defunded since 2001
  Slow, gradual cuts 2001-2008
  Dramatic, giant cuts 2009-2010
At the end of 2008-09 the state cut **$814.1 million**, but gave back **$716 million** from the stimulus package. After adjusting for cost increases on the expense and fee increases on the revenue side, the total cut to the core funds was **$240.7 million**.

This year, there will be another **$637.1 million** cut.

After adjusting for everything, including fee increases ( **$452.9 million**), in two years, **$776 million** was taken from the core funds.

This is **$3,500 per student** on top of the tuition increase.
California State Budget

• Higher education has been underfunded to compensate for increased funding needs in two main areas:
  
  – Healthcare
    • Rising healthcare costs, large uninsured population

  – Prisons
    • In 2009: 173,000 inmates
      – 1977 [before the War on Drugs] 20,000 inmates,
      – in 1994 [before the Three Strikes law] 125,000 inmates
    • 31,000 correctional officers – highly organized lobby
    • $46,000/year is spent on one inmate
      – Compare: $9,560/year spent on one UC student
    • Average gross pay of a correction officer is $72,000
      – This is the pay of an Associate Professor at UC
Did you know?: California is # 1 in prison spending and # 48 in education spending

The current economic priorities are creating a situation that contributes to the widening of significant “gaps”.
Social Diversity Gap: Racial emergencies, like the one currently underway at UCSD, exemplify that dismal diversity (1.3% African Americans, less than 0.4% Native American, 13% Chicano/Latino)—exacerbated by rising fees—has successfully barred already marginalized communities creating a hostile, racist climate on campus. Current plans to increase admissions of out of state students could negatively impact availability of education to underserved local students.

Equity Gap: A professoriate that is not representative of California’s population: 79% of UCSD faculty are men and only 21% women; 78% of UCSD faculty are white, 15% are Asian and only 7% combined are African American, Latino, or Native American--well below national averages.

Skills Gap: By 2025 41% of California jobs will require a bachelor’s degree but only 35% of adults will have one.
**Knowledge gap:** A public university more than a business that provides job training; it is a site of discovery for intellectual exchange and innovation that gives rise to knowledge and creativity for the future.

**Democracy gap:** Engaged, collective self-government by the people less possible; instead public welfare motivated by profit.

**Global gap:** A purely profit-minded university threatens open intellectual inquiry in both the sciences and the social and cultural fields. But diversity and a culture of inclusion are as crucial to education as they are to democratic society: learning with and from students in a racially, economically, and culturally mixed classroom prepares students to enter not only California’s multicultural society, but also the increasingly global society.
Some Statistics

- 80% of college degrees in California earned at public schools.

- State support for UC has plummeted 30% since 2001.

- 2010 in-state fees double that of 2005: $10,195 with additional $25,515 for room, board, insurance and other expenses (totaling $35,710) compared to $5298 for fees and $12660 room and board ($17,958) in 2005.

- UC campuses produced more Nobel Laureates than any other university in the country.

- 75% of 1.5 million UC alumni live and work in California contributing directly to state economic prosperity.
How the Cuts Will Affect Undergraduate Students?
Increased Tuition ("Fees")

Increased Class Sizes

- BioSci: 343 » 444, no discussion sections
- Engineering CEE60: class 30 » 60, lab 15 » 30
- Anthro 2C: 190 » 344
- Anthro10/Soc10: 125 » 160
- Dance 90a 24 » 60
- Econ, linguistics, poly sci: increasing students anywhere from 40 to 236 per class

Fewer Sections

- Math: 4/5 of the general education courses will have fewer sections
- Art1a: Going from 5 sections to just 1
- Hum core 45 » 32 sections
Fewer Writing Courses

• WR 39B
  o will not have space for 200 students this year
• WR 39C
  o will not have space for 71 students this year
• Summer courses (more $)
• Freshman class has 600 fewer students than last year
Reduction in Services

- Library - Reduced hours
  - Closes at 8 p.m M-Th
  - Closes at 5 p.m Friday
  - Half days on the weekend

- Less access to staff support

- Fewer custodial workers = unclean classrooms and labs
Undergraduate Education: Getting Less, Paying More

• Per student spending has fallen 40% since 1990
• State now spends $9,560 for each student per year
• State spends $49,000 per prison inmate
How Do the Cuts Affect Faculty and Staff?

• Faculty must take “furloughs,” or pay cuts, ranging from 4% - 10%

• Massive Staff Layoffs
Why Is This Happening?

A Short History of the UCs
History

- **1960: UC Master Plan**
  - Establishment of the “principle of universal access and choice
  - Reaffirmation of “California’s long-time commitment to the principle of **tuition-free** education to residents of the state

- **1978 Proposition 13**
  - Cut property taxes by 57%
  - Required 2/3 majority to pass a budget

- **2004: Compact on Higher education**
  - Shifts away from state funding of the UC system
Recent Events

• July 15 - UC Regents approve budget cuts

• President Mark Yudof granted “emergency powers” to cut programs without input or advice from the faculty
  o Academic Senates, Shared Governance ignored
Are the cuts absolutely necessary?

- UC has $5.3 Billion in unrestricted reserve funds
- UC has received $268 Million in federal stimulus funds
Meanwhile...

- Number of UC executives earning over $200,000 has tripled
- $390 Million in bonuses and perks paid to top UC administrators and staff last year
- Top 1.5% of UC employees make 11% of its total compensation
- “UC commission on the Future” includes no faculty from the arts and sciences
What’s At Stake
The Value of Your Degree

“The University of California will be at the top of your résumés for the rest of your life”
- Catherine Cole, Professor at UC Berkeley, in an open letter to undergraduates

• World-renowned faculty will leave
• Average faculty salary 30% lower than peer faculty salaries at other institutions
• “Texas Universities Should Capitalize on California’s Budget Crisis”
  -headline from a Texas newspaper in Austin
The Excellence of the UCs

• The UC has produced more Nobel laureates than any other university
• U.S. News ranking of universities based on their contributions to society:
  UCB (1), UCSD (2), UCLA (3), UC Davis (10), UCSB (21), UC Riverside, (26)
• UCI ranked as 12th best public university
• UCI: annual economic impact of $4.2 B in Orange County
What is the “public good”

- Both Excellence and Access

If the budget cuts continue:

- The value of a UC education will be devalued, and UC students will contribute less - economically and socially - to their communities
- Funding will shift to professional schools that can get corporate grants, patents, etc
- Student Body will be wealthier, with more students from out of state
What You Can Do

• Register to vote
• Educate yourself
• Get involved
• Write to the people at the top
  o UC President Mark Yudof
  o CA Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
  o Assembly Speaker Karen Bass
  o Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg
  o Assembly Minority Leader Sam Blakeslee
  o Senate Minority Leader Dennis Hollingsworth
Sources

- http://sites.google.com/site/ucbudgetcrisis/
- http://berkeleycuts.org/?p=21
- http://defenduci.blogspot.com/
- George Lakoff – “The UC Budget Crisis: Past History, Present Perils, and Future Implications”