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DIÁN DOLORES HASSON  
CALIFORNIA TEACHERS ASSOCIATION  
DIRECTOR  
SERVING CFA, CCA, ICCUFA AND SCTA  
-NEA AFFILIATE-

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## District J-Higher Ed Report

# Incarcerate or Educate?

Left to right: CTA recommended congressional candidate John Jacobson, CCA Secretary David Milroy and at the microphone CSU, Chico CFA Chapter President Susan Green



Her entire speech is on pages 1 & 2.

Speech delivered May 5:

Good Afternoon. My name is Susan Green. I am the president of the Chico chapter of the California Faculty Association. I represent the approximately 1200 faculty at California State University Chico. I am also on the California Faculty Association Board of Directors and the CFA represents over 24,000 faculty on the 23 campuses on the CSU system. We are teachers, librarians, counselors, and coaches. We are the largest public higher education union, in the largest [four-year] public higher education system in the United States. As such, what happens to the California State University system and its faculty, has significance for higher education across the country.

I am here today to say that the governor's proposed \$386 million cut to the CSU would be fatal. Between 2002 and 2004 we

Continued on page two



**CTA President David Sanchez gave an impassioned speech at the Butte Community College CTA Bus Tour stop. He emphasized the need to fully fund higher education. Community colleges (CCs) and the CSUs are the economic engines for the State and increased fees and tuition mean fewer of our students will reach their dreams. On one of the signs held: "Do we wish to spend money on incarceration or on education?"**

**From left to right: CTA Vice President Dean Vogel, CCA Director DeWayne Shaeffer, Butte Chief Negotiator Jan McKissick, CTA President David Sanchez, CTA Secretary-Treasurer Dan Vaughn, CFA Chapter President Susan Green, NEA Director Ann Shadwick, CFA Secretary John Halcón, CCA President Ron Norton Reel, CCA Vice President Lynette Nyaggah, NEA Resolution Committee Member Leo Kirchhoff, ABC Director Chaumonde Porterfield-Pyatt, CCA Treasurer Jim Weir, CTA Director Dana Dillon, CCA Director Phyllis Hall and CTA State Council Representative Mary Ann Pacheco.**

May 5 speech continues from page one:

“trimmed the fat,” we “cut to the bone,” losing \$500 million in funding to the CSU.

Now, when there is absolutely nothing left to cut, we are faced with the loss of the very life-blood of this institution: the students. The potential loss of over 10,000 students at the very moment when we need to *increase* the number of professionals in the state, *increase* their salaries and *increase* the tax base of the state, is devastating.

I want to thank CTA President David Sanchez for his extraordinary support of higher education in the state and in the California State University. This Bus Stop offers regions throughout the state the opportunity to shine light on the true impact of institutions like CSU Chico and Butte College to the surrounding community, where every dollar spent generates an additional \$4.41 in revenue for the local economy, and how our fate at CSU Chico is intimately tied to Butte College and K-12 education.

Each year the California State University graduates 90,000 students, conferring 51% of all four-year college degrees in the state each year. We confer four-year degrees on 51% of the state’s engineers, 87% of the teachers, 87% of social workers, 65% of the business professionals, and 64% of nurses. The CSU grants the majority of four-year degrees to students who are Latino (at 58%), African American (at 52%) and Native American (at 53%). The governor’s proposed cuts will make it harder for all these groups not only to get into a CSU, but to graduate at all, let alone in a timely fashion. It will make transfers and support of transfers from students at Butte more difficult.

The governor’s proposed \$386 million cut to the CSU [May Revise proposes to add back \$97.6 million in state funding to the CSU, reducing the proposed budget cuts from \$386 to \$288 million.] would directly affect the more than 200,000 employees across the state, and the over 2,000 employees here at CSU Chico. That is why we are urging all Californians to join the Alliance for the CSU at

<http://www.alliancefortheccsu.org> We *cannot* get the state out of its economic hole by further digging and cutting. Investment in the CSU *IS* THE SOLUTION. Investment in COMMUNITY COLLEGES is the SOLUTION. Investment in K-12 is the SOLUTION.

Editor’s note: Although this speech was delivered before the May Revise, the overall points are relevant. Key: [ ] indicate editor’s notes

## CCA’s Leadership on the Budget



CFA Chapter President Sue Green from CSU, Chico and CCA President Ron Norton Reel at a joint CCA/CFA function. Reel frequently informs people that the California community college system is the largest higher education institution in the world, serving over 2.6 million students in 109 colleges in 72 districts. ...Did you know that 60% of CSU graduates begin their college work in community colleges? Did you know that 73% of the UC graduates begin their college work in community colleges? As important as the CC transfer function is, CCs also provide much needed training for nurses, firefighters, police officers, paramedics and other vocational education programs.

President Reel never forgets that CC students often transfer to the CSUs where they earn their BS/BS/MA/MS and PhDs. That’s why you often find him inviting CFA representatives to CCA functions because higher education is more than one component. As he says, **“Support for higher education- CSUs and community colleges- is crucial.”**

Contact: [ronnortonreel@aol.com](mailto:ronnortonreel@aol.com)

# In My Opinion



**“If you keep us out, we will vote you out.”** —a chant heard at the April 21 student rally at the capitol. Cuts hurt....they hurt our students.

The CSU got a double whammy with the Governor’s May Revise which cut funding and with their Board of Trustees vote to increase tuition for the sixth time in seven years. That pushes tuition from \$2,772 to \$3,048. That amount does not include the average fees of \$749 each campus charges. Since 2004, tuition/fees at the CSU have more than doubled!

Lt. Governor John Garamendi, who serves as a CSU Trustee, said “What we are doing here is substituting a general tax on the population of California for a tax on students.”

The problem started in 1978 with the passage of Proposition 13 when we lowered property taxes and continues in the current administration with the Governor’s reduction of license fees. Voters and therefore politicians continue to want the impossible—good public services supported by less revenue.

Since the budget cannot do the impossible, politicians substitute gimmicks which do not address the structural imbalance in the budget. The lottery trigger, if passed by the people, allows us to borrow money for the next three years and postpone the problem until the Governor is out of office, but it does not provide the permanent funding the State needs. Short-term tax increases also don’t address the long-term problem.

**What is the solution?** A permanent tax increase dedicated to pre K-G. We cannot continue to expect a quality university education when we do not fund it. K-12 is in a similar situation. California is 46th in the nation in funding per pupil. And we expect what?

**Let’s remember the students’ chant when we vote.**

(This year CCs did fairly well. CCs had no tuition increase and received a 1.67% increase in funding but no COLA.)

Dr. Scott Bowen conducted the San Joaquin Delta College Concert Choir at the first California Community College Music Day held on May 12 this year at the State Capitol. Except in Leap Years, Music Day will be held on May 11.

ABC Director and music teacher at College of the Sequoias, Chaumonde Porterfield-Pyatt, Executive Board member and Legislation Advocacy Representative for the Music Association of the Community Colleges, worked to get the resolution through the State Legislature to create this special day. Congratulations!

Serving as our ABC Director, she taps into that same productive energy to represent community colleges on CTA’s Association for Better Citizenship Committee which distributes campaign funds to our chapters for the support of candidates for local officers and for and against local initiatives. **Deadlines:** The ABC Intent Form must be in 50 days in advance of the election and the Application Form must be in 35 days in advance of the election. No late forms are accepted.

Given the tremendous demands on the ABC money, Director Porterfield-Pyatt encouraged delegates to the CCA Spring Conference to **file their forms early**. The forms will be handled in the order they are received.

Contact information:  
bettercitizens@sbcglobal.net  
Fax number: 559-734-9465

Forms: [www.cta.org](http://www.cta.org)

DIÁN DOLORES HASSON  
CALIFORNIA TEACHERS  
ASSOCIATION  
DIRECTOR  
SERVING CFA, CCA,  
ICCUFA AND SCTA  
-NEA AFFILIATE-

5930 Fickett Ln  
Paradise CA  
95969

Phone: 530-518-3930  
Fax: 530-876-2327  
E-mail: hassondi@aol.com  
Web host: <http://www.ccafcfa.org>

### Newly Elected SCTA BD!

The newly elected SCTA Board is optimistic that the State of California can put its priorities in order and provide an education worthy of a State which once none could rival in the education of our students pre-K through graduate school.

SCTA will work this year to increase its membership and provide training for our future teachers. SCTA will provide their members with much needed information on how to overcome the many and often unnecessary hurdles to obtaining their credential and achieving their educational goals in the classroom.

**Below: SCTA 2007-08 President Vielka Eleback and one of her mentors, NEA Director Theresa Montaño.**



# Student CTA!



**Above: The 2008-09 SCTA Board from left to right, bottom row. SCTA Ethnic Minority Representatives Carmen Reyes (partially in the picture) from Mt. San Antonio College and Areli Dohner-Chavez from CSU Stanislaus, CTA State Council Representatives Saira Diaz Flores and Stephanie Devoy both from UCLA, SCTA President Corine Caloca from San Diego State University, Executive Vice President Jeremy De Nieva from UC Berkeley, Northern Regional Vice President Rachel Jarvis from CSU Monterey Bay, Communications Editor Heide Rico from CSU Fullerton, and CTA State Council Representative Maria Thompson from CSU Stanislaus.**

**Top row from left to right: SCTA former Secretary Chris Sumner, Northern Regional Vice President Christopher Pancoast from Sonoma State University, Southern Regional Vice Presidents Matthew Bateman from Riverside Community College and Karim Milbris from UC Riverside.**

**Not in picture: CTA State Council Representative Unica Llanes from UC Berkeley.**

**Vacant positions: Secretary-Treasurer, Past Officer and SCTA CCTC Liaison. Contact for SCTA: [gwatts@cta.org](mailto:gwatts@cta.org)**