

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

Spring, 2009

Volume 5
Issue 3



CTA Director Dián Dolores Hasson before rally with sign: Part-time Faculty and Lecturers Receive Invisible Pink Slips!

CTA District J-Higher Ed Report **Merger? CCA & CCC?**

By CCA President Ron Norton Reel

The weekend of Feb. 20-22, exploratory discussions began on unifying the Community College Council (CCC) of the California Federation of Teachers (CFT) and the Community College Association (CCA) of the California Teachers Association (CTA).

The parties are deeply concerned about preserving access and maintaining and improving the high quality of education provided in California's community colleges, and will be seeking opportunities to work together in close partnership on issues of mutual interest as the talks proceed. A set of general principles will guide the unification discussions was agreed upon.

The intention of the participants in the conversations is to build upon the strengths of the unions involved and to fully engage local leaders and members of both statewide organizations in discussion of the many issues involved. Additional meetings have been scheduled.

In addition to the officers of CCC and CCA, top elected leaders and key staff of CFT and CTA participated as well as representatives of the two organizations' respective national affiliates, the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) and the National Education Association (NEA).

In a written interview with the CCA President, Ron Norton Reel conveyed his passion for creating the perfect union:

"We always talk about what a **perfect union** might look like. I think we are at a time that might allow this to come about. If we sit down, talk, discuss, and create the best possibility available for the California Community College professors and students, we have an opportunity to make history!"



Above: CCA President Ron Norton Reel with CCC President Carl Friedlander at February Unity Meeting.

Below: The CTA Officers and CTA Executive Director visited the Unity Meeting and wished us well in our deliberations.

From left to right, standing : Keith Pratt, Dan Vaughn, Carolyn Doggett and David Sanchez.

Seated: Dean Vogel, DeWayne Sheaffer, Carl Friedlander, Tim Shea, Ann Shadwick and Armand Tiberio.



Meet



Your Your Colleagues Colleagues

Two of our colleagues on State Council are David Milroy, who teaches part time at Mira Costa Community College and Grossmont College, and Cecile Bendavid, who is a lecturer at CSU, Northridge. David started a new caucus, the **Non Tenured Track Caucus**, which Cecile and other State Council representatives, such as Cathy Jeppson, participate in at State Council during the Sunday lunch recess. The caucus promotes contingent faculty issues and solutions to those problems with pay parity, health benefits and job security

Both also serve on the State Council (SC) Political Involvement Committee and in that job have influence on the positions recommended to SC on propositions and other political matters. Both see politics as integral to achieving their goals for higher education. And they are involved! The following is a very brief limited summary of their activities.

Cecile knows almost every legislator on a first name basis. She attends meetings and is a member of the Malibu Democratic Club, Action Democrats (San Fernando Valley), Valley West Democratic Club, and Democrats for Israel. In 2008 Cecile won the **Woman of the Year** Award from Assembly member Lloyd Levine. Currently, Cecile is serving her third term on the Los Angeles County Committee which honored her at their Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Dinner. She is also serving on the CSU Statewide Academic Senate which is significant not only because of the work she can do for all of us in this position but also because she is one of the few lecturers who has ever been elected to this statewide body.

David currently serves as the CCA Secretary. He received the **Ted Bass Politics in Education Award** 2007. If that isn't enough, for the past 5 years David has served as the Chair of the California Part-time Faculty Association (CPFA) and helped pass AB 591 which increased the PT teaching load from 60% to 67%.

Bravo to them both for their high standard of professionalism and service!



On Left: David Milroy at the February Unity Meeting with CCA and CCC. He is the CCA Secretary and one of the two CCA officers who is a part-time faculty member. Both receive 60% reassigned time. There are a total of seven part-time faculty serving on the CCA Board.

To the right: Cecile Bendavid is pictured in the Seattle Underground. CTA sent her to the Pacific Region Conference because of her work at State Council and the NEA Women's Caucus.



May 19: Your vote is your voice!

Su voto es su voz!

Proposition 1A-Budget Stabilization Fund (BSF): Imposes a limit on the amount the State can spend each year based on State revenue over the previous 10-year period. Money above that amount would be saved in a rainy day fund. Money from the rainy day fund will be used, in part, to repay the \$9.3 billion owed to K-14. The BSF does not change Prop. 98 or give the Governor the authority to make midyear budget cuts. The March State Council will vote on positions for this and the other propositions. Our representatives on PIC-David Milroy, Cecile Bendavid and John Halcon-will be crucial in making the recommendation(s) PIC sends to State Council.

Prop. 1B-Education Repayment/Proposition 98 Maintenance Factor: Asks voters to approve repayment of \$9.3 billion owed to K-14 to restore recent budget cuts. (Payment is contingent upon passage of the BSF.) The CTA Board took an interim support on Prop. 1B. State Council will determine if the interim position remains the position CTA takes.

Prop. 1C-California State Lottery Modernization: Asks voters to approve a \$10 billion plan to borrow against the lottery's future revenues over the next two fiscal years.

Prop. 1D-Children's Services Funding (Prop. 10): Allows State to divert use of the First 5 money to other children's programs.

Prop. 1E-Mental Health Funding (Prop. 63): Allows State to divert some mental health moneys to pay for low-income child development programs.

Prop. 1F-Elected Official Salaries/Restricting Legislative Pay: Prevents legislators from getting pay raises in years when the State runs a budget deficit.

Prop. 13-Property Tax: New Construction Exclusion: Seismic Retrofitting. This measure would exclude from the definition of "newly constructed" any portion of a structure consisting of the construction or reconstruction of seismic retrofitting components.

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

5930 Fickett Lane
 Paradise CA
 95969

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



To right: SCTA President Corine Caloca, from San Diego State University, at the March CTA State Budget Meeting. CTA David Sanchez and CTA Secretary-Treasurer Dan Vaughn complimented Corine for her outstanding leadership of SCTA. (John Mockler is in background.)



Many SCTA members attend their local CSU for their BA degree and credential. In fact, most of California's teachers have been and are educated at a CSU campus. Cuts there hurt our future.

The Budget meeting covered the propositions on the May 19 Special Election (see page three).

The Legislature also adopted a "trigger" if the federal stimulus package does not reach \$10 billion, which if activated could lead up to an additional \$50 million cut to the CSU, \$50 m cut to the UC, \$171.4 m cut to the Judicial Branch, \$147 m cut in CalWORKs, an additional \$246 m from other Social Services and \$ 183 m from the Health Services 2009-10 budgets.

Want to help the CSU? Go to their website www.calfac.org. You can send a letter from there to our governor and legislators asking them to allocate to the **CSU their fair share** of the **federal stimulus funds** coming into the State.

Students in the CSU are being dramatically affected by the cuts in their campus budgets. For the first time in history, 10,000 eligible students will not be allowed to enter the CSU and students admitted will have fewer courses to choose from, will have more students in the classes they are in—not based upon a pedagogical cap but only on the fire code, will have faculty without raises or support for travel to their discipline conferences, etc. In short, they will find an education diminished in quality.

It is to all of our interests—short and long run—to protect the CSU.

Below: (top row) CTA Directors Cynthia Peña, Tyrone Cabell, Jim Rogers, and Bonnie Shatun.

(bottom row) Mikki Cichocki, Michael Stone, Jim Groth and George Melendez.

Each is wearing his/her "The CSU is the Solution!" button.

