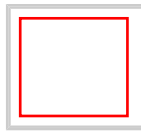


President's Monthly Message (archived)

May 2002

[Dare to Succeed!](#)  
[Cesar Chavez Memorial Fund](#)



< **Learn more** about the  
CCA Past President, Dián  
Dolores Hasson, [here](#).



*Picture of me BOG member Irene Menegas and Robert Moore.*

*My button reads, "Fund Community Colleges"*

### **Dare to Succeed!**

Although the state budget deficit is daunting, the May Revise is only the beginning of the budget process. On the bright side, the line item for part-time faculty compensation was left untouched and CCA/CTA fully expects the governor to continue to support this line item. As expected, the statutory COLA fell to 1.66% but to his credit, the governor applied that COLA only to categorical programs. He also applied a 2% COLA to general apportionment funding.

Although CCA/CTA wants CalWORKS fully funded, the matching system (one dollar from the state and one from the district) proposed by the governor means that districts will have to find funds within their own budgets to come up with the match. For some districts that will be easy but, coming up with the money for the match on many of our campuses will mean, other programs will suffer reductions.

CCA/CTA will work from May to whenever the budget process is over and some of us think that might be in August or September. Until that date, we must do all we can so that CalWORKS is fully funded from the state budget. We also will continue to support full funding for Matriculation and to preserve the line-item for Faculty and Staff Development. You can be sure of one thing; CCA/CTA will be at the table with the legislative leaders when the final budget is coming to rest and we will do all we can to preserve funding for community colleges.

To do otherwise would be defeatist in nature and defeat is a self-fulfilling prophecy. We can do better. After all, look at how daring to struggle and daring to succeed has worked during the past nine months.

When the governor cut base funding for instructional equipment and scheduled maintenance last year, some took a defeatist attitude. Instead CCA/CTA worked with a coalition, which included organizations such as the Board of Governors and the Community College League of California, to let the governor know that these cuts were unacceptable.

Under the leadership of Board of Governors members, such as Robert Moore who chairs the BOG Committee on Budget and Finance and Irene Menegas another champion of issues which impact our students, the coalition was able to restore \$32 million dollars to our base funding.

Coalitions fluctuate and some organizations that are with you on one issue are against you on another. The League proposed rescinding the requirement to hire full-time faculty even though all the conditions were met to trigger this requirement. CCA/CTA dared to oppose several BOG members, the League, CEOs (including the president of my college) and others who spoke in favor of the League position. Faculty won. The Board voted 7:6 to trigger full-time faculty hires!

As useful as coalitions are, sometimes CCA/CTA is the only organization that recognizes the problem. In these cases we must act alone. For example, the Chancellor's Office unilaterally changed the Annual Financial/Budget Report (CCFS-311) form that districts file, deleting the very important interfund transfer page. Such action would make it difficult, if not impossible, for our bargaining chapters to "follow the money" and determine actual surpluses. Acting on our own and working with the Chancellor, CCA was able to get the interfund transfer page restored to the CCFS-311 this year.

At other times, CCA/CTA takes a very active leadership role while working with others with a similar interest. For example, CCA/CTA was the lead in the state facilities bond proposals. It was our leadership that succeeded in getting 40% of the higher education portion of the bond reserved for community colleges. At first, we had to fight with the Chancellor's Office who initially did not want to offend CSU or UC by asking for more than the traditional 1/3 split. All the faculty organizations supported breaking that tradition but make no mistake about it. CCA/CTA was the organization at the table with legislative leaders when the agreement on the bond was made. Moreover, CCA/CTA has the money to fund the campaigns to pass the 2002 and 2004 facilities bond campaigns. All organizations in the education coalition are needed and appreciated, but we have CCA/CTA to thank for the 40% split and for much of the campaign money needed to pass the bonds.

The above is only a partial list of the wins that resulted from daring to act. When we realize that our students are our future, it is not hard to make them our priority. We do not always win or win to the degree we want but the alternative is certain defeat. CCA/CTA dares to succeed.



*Picture of me, to my left Leo Kirchhoff a member of the California Faculty Association that represents CSU faculty and Bob Nichols, CTA Board member.*

AB 2160 would allow K-12 teachers some of the same professional rights community college faculty already have. AB 2160 calls for the creation of Academic Partnerships composed of K-12 teachers, members of the community and administration. These partnerships will allow K-12 faculty to have input into textbook selection, curriculum development and staff development. Since the community is integral to their programs, they could not replicate the community college's academic senates but this law, if passed, would put K-12 faculty clearly on the right road by giving them a voice in their profession.

The Academic Senate took an "approve" position on AB 2160 at the May Executive Committee Meeting. Thank you President Hoke Simpson and Vice President Kate Clark and the others on the Academic Senate Executive Committee for your support of our K-12 colleagues.

AB 2160 passed out of the Assembly Education Committee in spite of intense opposition from administrative groups. Why are they so afraid of giving K-12 teachers a voice in their profession? After all, the rest of us know that any true reform of that system will come from the faculty. If they are to be held responsible for our kids' education, they must have professional responsibilities. Please write your legislators and governor, letting them know you support AB 2160. Thank you!



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**Cesar Chavez Memorial Fund** Two community college students won \$500 each to help with their education! The winner in the art contest was Phinit Cheamak from Chaffey Community College. The winner in the essay contest was Charlie Fedorka and Tom Masterson from Butte College.

When the students win so do their teachers Sindi Wasserman and Thomas Masterson each won \$500.

The following is a picture of the committee members involved in the judging this year and the staff who helped organize us:



From left to right: *Tony Duarte, Mary Ann Pacheco, Dolores Heisinger, Dorothy Chu, Diàn Hasson, Cynthia Peña and Sharon Luehs*

**Any questions? Call the CCA office at 916/726-4207.**

