

We the Students of the California State University, Sacramento, in order to form a better CSU, oppose the nonstop, yearly 6% CSU tuition increase.

The California State University (CSU), the nation's largest and most diverse public university system, wants to burden its nearly 460,000 students across 23 campuses by raising tuition by 6% every single year without a clear end date for all CSU students. The CSU Board of Trustees will vote on the tuition increase proposal on Wednesday, September 13, 2023, but public comments will be on Tuesday, September 12, 2023.

The majority of CSU students are from traditionally marginalized and underrepresented backgrounds, like students of color, first-generation college students, transfer students and low-income students. But Sacramento State, specifically, is the fourth most diverse campus in the western United States as both an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institution (AANAPISI) and a Hispanic-serving institution (HSI).

With enrollment already in decline, increasing tuition will only further turn away prospective students and make graduating more out-of-reach for current students. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation found that one of the top four factors causing people not to go to college or finish a degree was money. Gallup and the Lumina Foundation found that college costs are one of the top three factors driving current college students to consider dropping out — something 4 in 10 students said they've considered in the past six months. Furthermore, 1 in 10 CSU students experience homelessness during their time in college, with 40% of CSU students experiencing food insecurity and skipping meals so they can pay for books or rent.

The CSU is essentially asking students who are already at a disadvantage to pay for the CSU Chancellor's Office and Board of Trustees' decades of mismanagement and misuse of funds, increasing the likelihood of fewer marginalized and underrepresented students enrolling in and graduating from college. In other words, if tuition increases, we may start to see a less diverse Sac State and a worse CSU.

Increasing tuition hurts both California's and Sacramento's economies and innovation.

94% of CSU students are from California, and 84 percent of them remain in the state after graduation, applying the skills and knowledge they have learned to help the Golden State's economy thrive. The CSU drives California's economy in agriculture, information technology, business, hospitality, life sciences, healthcare, public administration, education, media and entertainment. In 2019, CSU alumni supported approximately 747,900 jobs, \$88.1 billion in industry activity, and \$5.9 billion in state and local tax revenue due to the increased spending power that came with having a CSU degree.

With nearly 130,000 annual graduates, the CSU is California's primary undergraduate teaching institution and the state's greatest producer of bachelor's degrees, awarding nearly half of the state's bachelor's degrees.

One in 20 adults in the Sacramento region is a graduate of Sac State, with nearly 60% of students attending Sac State each year coming from the Sacramento area. Sac State has an annual economic impact on the region of nearly \$900 million and more than \$1 billion on the statewide economy.

We are also in solidarity with our CSU faculty and staff fighting for fair contracts and better working conditions. Without our faculty and staff, the CSU is just a bunch of broke college students with high-paid administrators without anyone to help or guide us to our best selves. We will not allow CSU management to divide students, faculty and staff.

We are united as one for a better CSU.

The CSU can support students, faculty and staff but chooses to prioritize executive compensation instead. CSU chancellors and administrators continue to see pay increases as faculty, staff and student assistants pay stays stagnant while workload increases and the cost of attendance for students climb.

The new CSU Chancellor, Mildred García, has a base salary of \$795,000, coupled with \$80,000 in annual deferred comp, \$12,000 in yearly car allowance and \$96,000 in yearly housing allowance. The total is \$983,000. She will make more than the President of the United States and the Governor of California combined. The salary and total package represent an almost 30% increase from former Chancellor Joseph Castro, who resigned as chancellor due to his mishandling of sexual harassment cases as president of Fresno State.

Furthermore, CSU campus presidents received up to a nearly 30% raise in 2022. Seven of these presidents live rent-free in homes provided by the CSU. Others receive annual housing allowances of \$50,000 or \$60,000. Currently, the lowest CSU president base salary is \$362,210, with the highest being \$533,148. For reference, the base monthly salary for lecturers who teach five classes per semester and hold a PhD is \$5,400 or around \$64,800 a year.

We call upon Sac State President Luke Wood, campus administrators, community leaders and organizations, the CSU Chancellor's Office and Board of Trustees to join CSU students, faculty and staff in publicly OPPOSING the ABSURD, ENDLESS, MULTI-YEAR tuition increase proposal.

Sincerely,

Student/Campus Organizations & Leadership:

Leila Cormier and Michael Lee-Chang, Student Interns, on behalf of
Students for Quality Education (SQE) at Sac State

Nataly Andrade-Dominguez, President, on behalf of
Associated Students, Inc. (ASI), Sac State

California Faculty Association (CFA) Sacramento Chapter

Academic Professionals of California (APC) Sacramento State Chapter

Andrey Arreola, President, on behalf of
College of Health and Human Services Joint Council, Sac State

Andrey Arreola, President, on behalf of
American Association for Men in Nursing at Sac State

Ariana Tong, President, on behalf of
Girl Gains at Sac State

Department of Women's and Gender Studies, Sac State

Department of Political Science, Sac State

Department of Ethnic Studies, Sac State

Korey Jones, President, on behalf of
Allied Students for Justice at Sac State

Sacramento State Squirrels

Diverse Women in Political Science at Sac State

Dr. Sue Hobbs, Professor and Chair
Undergraduate Studies in Education, Sac State

Dr. Jenna Porter, Professor and Chair, on behalf of
Department of Teaching Credentials, Sac State

Sidra Nawaz, Legislative Affairs Coordinator

Associated Students, Inc. (ASI), Sac State

Students for Socialism at Sac State

Aya Mikbel, President, on behalf of
General Education Honors Program at Sac State

Kaifa Charles Yates, Sac State Graduate Student

United Students Against Sweatshops (USAS)

Max Zarzuela, President
Chio Saeyang, Vice President, on behalf of,
Samahang Pilipino (SP) at Sac State

Dr. Manuel Barajas, Professor and Director, on behalf of
Center On Race, Immigration & Social Justice

Dr. Joshua Pryor, Professor
Political Science, Sac State

Mia Vizcaino, President
Joselyn Ruiz, Director, on behalf of
Sac Modern Dance

Collegiate 100 at Sac State

Northern California Pilipinx American Student Alliance (NCPASA)

Mariah Eddings, President, on behalf of
Zeta Sigma Chi Multicultural Sorority Inc.

Emmanuel Garcia-Razo, Acting President, on behalf of
Competitive Robotics Club at Sac State

Dr. Andrea L. Smith-Moore, Director, on behalf of
Cooper-Woodson College Enhancement Program at Sac State

Dr. Martin L. Boston, Assistant Professor
Pan African Studies and Ethnic Studies, Sac State

Marietess Masulit, Community Advocate and Sac State Alum

Pacific Islanders United (PIU) at Sac State

Black Student Union (BSU) at Sac State

Asian Pacific Islander Desi American Faculty and Staff Association (APIDAFSA) at Sac State

Lucas Decker, Iota Chapter Vice President, on behalf of
Delta Lambda Phi Social Fraternity at Sac State

Healthcare Administration Club at Sac State

Pilipino Students of Arts and Culture at Sac State

Gabe Guerrero, President, on behalf of
Esports Club at Sac State

Nicole Ayyad, President, on behalf of
Women's Rugby Club at Sac State

Austin Busch-Estrada, President, on behalf of
College Democrats at Sac State

Community Organizations & Leadership:

NorCal Resist

Patrick Kennedy, Vice Chair
Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, District 2

Caity Maple, Councilmember
Sacramento City Council, District 5

Katie Valenzuela, Councilmember
Sacramento City Council, District 4

Karina Talamantes, Councilmember
Sacramento City Council, District 3

Aidan Lin, University of California San Diego Student and Commissioner
California Youth Empowerment Commission

Dr. Andrew Murphy, Assembly District Delegate
California Democratic Party

Black-N-Brown (BNB) Unity

Dr. Melina Abdullah, Professor and former Chair
Pan African Studies, Cal State LA

Alfred Melbourne, Director, on behalf of
Three Sisters Gardens

Emily Bukowski, CEO, on behalf of
Meander Bakery

Punks with Lunch - Sacramento

Sacramento Social Justice Events

Ana Taukolo, Associate Executive Director, on behalf of
Alliance for Education Solutions (AES)

Parents for Social Consciousness

Allies of Black Lives Matter Sacramento

Moiz Mir, Coordinator and Sac State Alum, on behalf of
Sunrise Movement Sacramento

Marissa Barrera, Director, on behalf of
Voices of Strength

Asian American Liberation Network

Voices of VV

Angela E. Herring, Community Advocate and Board Member
Link 21 Equity Advisory Council (EAC)

Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) Sacramento

Volma Volcy, Executive Director, on behalf of
The Ring of Democracy

Free69Sac