

CSULB CLASSROOM TEACH-IN, AUGUST **31-SEPT. 4**
"The Furlough Crisis--A Symptom of the Need for Change"

The CSULB COALITION hopes that all faculty will discuss the budget crisis in their classes during the first week of Fall Semester 2009. This is a campus-wide effort.

The following materials are available for your use on these two websites:

<http://www.savethecsu.com>

<http://www.csulb.edu/~cfa>

TEACH –IN MATERIALS

I. Why Is the CSU/CSULB important to the state?

- a. Power point presentation “ Our Future, Your Future: CSULB”;
- b. “Save the CSU” fact sheet.

II. What’s wrong and how to fix it.

- a. Straight Talk Program on California Budget Problems (Profs. Craig Smith and Arthur Levine <http://www.straighttalktv.com/video/410.shtml> .
DVDs of this program are available in the CFA office F04-180; please contact cfa@csulb.edu if you need one.
- b. “California’s Budget and the CSU” fact sheet and “The Economic Importance of the CSU.”

III. Critical Thinking module (pros and cons on budget cuts to higher education using Saree Makdisi’s Op Ed “California is cutting education funding at its own peril”). This was prepared by CSUN faculty.

Sample “furlough” paragraph for faculty syllabi:

Faculty across the 23-campus CSU system voted during July 2009 to take a 9.23% salary reduction by going on unpaid furloughs. They did this to reduce the negative impact of a \$584 mil. budget cut to the CSU for this academic year. The vote for furlough prevented many more faculty from being laid off and more courses from being cut. Furloughs mean that each faculty member must take nine academic days off per semester. This may result in fewer classes per course, reduced office hours and access to professors, or canceled events even though student tuition was increased 32%. Without the furlough savings, student tuition would have increased 100%. (You take action to prevent this from happening again next year by logging on to <http://savethecsu.com> and getting involved in campus actions against further budget cuts.)

What you need to know about faculty.

(By: Terre Allen, Professor and Director
Faculty Center for Professional Development, CSULB)

University faculty members are intellectual workers; their work is work of the mind and the mind never stops working. Faculty members are multi-taskers whose work is exemplified by a 21st century *worklife* model (see, Pink, 2006) which is continuous rather than discrete, not bound by time or space, and made up of many highly interdependent skills and activities. These interdependent skills and activities include (but are not limited to) **design** (e.g., course design, research design, and curriculum design); **story** (e.g., lectures, presentations, research, publications); **symphony** (e.g., synthesizing our research and the research of others for teaching, problem-solving, and decision-making); **empathy** (e.g., understanding the diverse backgrounds of our community and students), **play** (e.g., adding elements of fun to teaching, research, & service duties).

Faculty members, as intellectual workers, have a *worklife* that is characterized by constant work and constant change. In fact, they are charged with the central responsibility of advancing the overall understanding of a particular topic or subject through focused analysis, design and/or development, and original research. They use their skills to define problems and to identify alternatives. They apply their expertise and insight to solve problems, influence decision-making, and set priorities in the classroom, the department, college, university, community, and their academic disciplines. Today, more than ever, American worklife is information, knowledge, and intellectually based. As businesses increase their dependence on information technology, the number of fields in which intellectual workers must operate has expanded dramatically (e.g., teachers, lawyers, architects, doctors, nurses, engineers and scientists). More individuals than ever in our society will need become knowledge or intellectual workers. University faculty members provide a critical role in shaping the American workforce and American worklife.

We are workers of the mind and the mind never stops working.

The CSULB Coalition is a group of faculty, students, staff, alumni, administrators and friends of CSULB working together to prevent further budget cuts to CSULB and the CSU (<http://www.savethecsu.com>).

