The administration has proposed a series of measures to deal with the likelihood that our state funding will be further reduced. Though the magnitude of the cuts will not be known for some time, the district's projections range from 4 to 10 million dollars. The College Planning Council, the Academic Senate, and the Board of Trustees have all been asked to respond to the district's proposals. However, before faculty give their approval to any action, your Instructors' Association has a few words of caution.

The district proposes that the cuts be implemented over a three-year period, beginning in the 2011-12 academic year. This sounds like a sensible approach and yet next year is almost upon us. Why the pressure to act immediately? It is reminiscent of the situation in 2009, when the IA rejected the district's proposal to trim salaries by nearly 2%. Despite state reductions in funding, we have ended each of the last two years with surpluses in excess of $5 million dollars; we are projected to finish this year with a surplus of $4 million. By this summer our total reserves will top $40 million! We do not have to rush a decision. The next cuts will be critical—there is no more low-hanging fruit. Core programs are next to be trimmed back. If this happens, it will take us years to recover. This crippling action should not be undertaken until we are sure of the numbers and have no alternative.

The IA recommends that the anticipated surplus for this year be used to backfill any reduction in funding for 2011-12. This would buy us time to get real numbers and plan with absolute care.

The IA questions, for example, the wisdom of further cannibalizing the Adult Education program. Our community offerings have taken the brunt of the reductions in the last two years. Their total FTE has already been reduced by 20%. The non-enhanced courses in the arts and humanities have been made to absorb almost all of the cuts and yet further reductions to them are planned. We have ample evidence of the outrage this has already caused in our community.

The college’s decisions thus far have been dictated by the balance sheet. The courses that receive fewer dollars per student have been cut. This myopic approach overlooks the importance of serving all members of our community. It fails to value their loyalty and their support, things that cannot be quantified. Is the uncertain young parent or the passionate lifelong learner facing the considerable challenges of aging not worth the college’s time? This community has literally helped to build our college; they voted for Measure V; they donate to the Foundation; and they need our classes. If fairness is to be served, their needs must enter into our equation.

Any further reduction in course offerings should be preceded by thoughtful discussion and by informed, careful, long-range planning. If we use our reserves to buy time to enable such a process, it will be money well spent.

Lynne Elisabeth Stark
President/SBCC Instructors’ Association
Santa Barbara City College credit and Continuing Education (CE) divisions have a symbiotic relationship. Historically, the mutually beneficial relationship was, for the most part, taken for granted and not acknowledged to a noticeable degree. Recently, as happens with any relationship during times of stress, the pressure of money problems has strained the ties that bond the two divisions. Declarations based on incorrect information or prejudiced beliefs are put forth in order to place blame and assign culpability. This type of divisiveness is not healthy for the college. What is needed now more than ever is to reinforce the connection between the two entities and enhance the benefits that result from credit and CE supporting each other. SBCC can weather the budgetary storm much better when both sides work together towards the common goals of educational excellence, service to students, and responsiveness to the community.

One fundamental way for faculty to strengthen the credit/CE relationship is to establish and foster direct communication between key faculty members from both groups. CE instructors deal with many of the same core values of wanting respect, excellence, service to students, and responsiveness to the community.

A recent cost analysis which the District presented to CPC in the March budget meeting shows that in 2009/10 the CE provided a positive contribution margin of $1,174,314 which went towards the District’s common overhead cost.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**ATTENTION ALL ADJUNCT FACULTY**

Did you know…..

…that you may qualify for a college sponsored health insurance plan?

If you have taught at least three years at a minimum of 50% load, then you qualify for buy-in rights into the SBCC Adjunct Health Plan. If you have taught at least 6 years at 50% or above, then you qualify for a District contribution towards your monthly premium. Currently your out-of-pocket costs are $192/mo for 10 months, if you qualify for the District contribution. The monthly amount is $384, if you qualify for buy-in rights. This is a REAL health insurance, not one of the rather limited cheap plans out there. Enrollment is possible each year at the beginning of the fall semester. In order to get started, just stop by at our Human Resources office and talk to the wonderful staff and get the enrollment form. And – by the way – your IA team is currently negotiating with the District to make this health plan even better. Any questions? Please feel free to contact me.

Cornelia Alsheimer (alsheimer@sbcc.edu)

### A Healthy Relationship

**True or False [fact or fiction]**? “Continuing Education is being subsidized by the credit division.”

FALSE. “A recent cost analysis which the District presented to CPC in the March budget meeting shows that in 2009/10 the CE provided a positive contribution margin of $1,174,314 which went towards the District’s common overhead cost.”

### Your Union Needs You

Your union, not Uncle Sam, needs you! We are looking for a few good people to serve on the Instructors’ Association Executive Board for the 2011-2013 term. What has been happening in Wisconsin should rally us all to protect our collective bargaining rights and other hard earned union benefits. We have a great team that is working to strengthen our contract and protect our hard won rights as educators. Be a part of it!

**Please contact Gail Reynolds for further information (reymonds@sbcc.edu, x2696)**

### Coming This Spring: Online Elections!

The IA has been exploring the idea of online voting. This would greatly simplify our election and ratification processes and it would be much more convenient for faculty. The two critical features are anonymity and authentication. We need to insure that your vote is anonymous and that the voting is limited to IA membership with only one vote per member. With the generous help of David Wong in the FRC, we have found a way to do this using Authenticated Moodle Forms accessed through Pipeline. We will be testing this new procedure in our annual election of IA Board members to be held this spring. This is a significant step forward and it will allow the IA to more directly and effectively reach our membership. More detailed information on this will be sent out later this month.

### SBCC Instructors Association

**Annual Report: 2009-10**

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<tr>
<th>Account Balances Fwd: 8/1/09</th>
<th>Checking</th>
<th>Savings</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>39,241</td>
<td>134,801</td>
<td>174,042</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Account Balances**

- **Account Balances Fwd:** 8/1/09
- **Checking:** 39,241
- **Savings:** 134,801
- **Total:** 174,042

### Income:

- **Dues:** 74,593
- **Interest:** 2,578
- **Other:** 2,221
- **Total Income:** 77,171

### Expenses:

- **Payroll:** 26,886
- **Legal:** 17,681
- **Newsletter & Duplication:** 2,463
- **Conferences:** 6,120
- **Donations:** 574
- **Dues:** 2,200
- **Negotiations:** 7,348
- **Gifts:** 875
- **Mealing Expenses:** 723
- **Receptions:** 3,713
- **Total Expenses:** 68,583
- **Account Balances:** 8,588

**Total Expenses:** 68,583

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**Spring Party**

In Honor of Faculty Retirees:

- Dixie Budke
- Tom Carey
- M’Iss Garza
- Tim Gilles
- Janie Guillermo
- Susan Hamilton
- Susan Mantyla
- Janet Shapiro

When: Friday May 6 from 4:00 - 8:00 pm

Where: Kathy O’Connor’s Road Apple Farm, 800 Romero Canyon Road

What: Music, Food, Drink, and Fellowship (and perhaps a few speeches . . .)

Please plan on attending!