

The Facts About the 2010 Spring and Summer Sessions

Did You Know...

...as part of the Educational and Facilities Master Plan Process, an enrollment forecast was conducted, where College consultants (MAAS/LPA) issued a strong warning to the college by stating that “the college had embarked on a strategy of increasing FTES ... and this has been done without regard for the impact on productivity measures.” They added that the College “should be able to serve the same enrollment level (FTES) with ... fewer sections” by increasing the classroom efficiency.”

...in an article by the *SUN Newspaper* dated October 5, 2007, the newspaper indicated that “one reason for SWC’s increasing expenses and decreasing revenues was its lack of classroom efficiency.” And, when the educational consultants were asked by a Governing Board Member “if SWC would go bankrupt if it did not change its ways?” Mike Maas responded by stating that “if the College did not cut sections, it would always have a problem balancing the budget.”

...in August 2009, Southwestern College received a memo from the State Chancellor’s Office regarding the reduction of our enrollment by 593 Full Time Equivalent Students for the 2009/2010 Academic Year, for a total enrollment target of 15,481 Full Time Equivalent Students.

...SWC has decided, after consultation with students, faculty, and staff, to tap into its fund balance to continue to serve 16,074 Full Time Equivalent Students the same number as last year, 2008-2009, and this represents 593 more Full Time Equivalent Students than the state will finance.

...because our classes are full (95%), we will need to offer fewer sections for spring 2010 to serve the same number of students. For example, instead of 38 students enrolled in a class with a maximum of 45 students, we now have 42 students enrolled in a class with a maximum of 45 students. This is due to improved efficiency.

...priority registration will allow those students who are close to achieving a certificate, degree, or transfer to register early.

...the college is serving over 22,000 students this semester (includes full-time and part-time), and that number represents an increase of 10% headcount enrollment over last fall 2008 semester.

...the difference between FTES and headcount enrollment is the formula that is used for State funding. For example, FTES represents the number of Full Time Equivalent Students enrolled at the college (15 units), whereas headcount enrollment includes all students regardless of unit load. The State financial support for the college is based on FTES.

...according to a draft report on community college enrollment projections by the California Postsecondary Education Commission (September 2009), “California should prepare for 222,000 additional community college students by 2019.” Yet, “without adequate enrollment growth funding, as many as 400,000 prospective students might be denied access to community college education over the next two years.”



Sources:

California Community Colleges, Erick Skinner, Vice Chancellor for College Finance, and Facilities Planning, August 2009

2009-2010 Southwestern College Budget

2009-2010 Enrollment Capacity Data (Cummings Report), Office of Academic Affairs

2009-2010 Census Data, Office of Admissions/Records

SWC Enrollment Priorities Policy 5055

SUN Newspaper, October 5, 2007

Educational and Facilities Master Plan, January 2008

Program of Instruction and Space Needs Forecast, MAAS Companies/LPA, Inc. May 2007.

Community College Enrollment Demand Projections, 2009-2019 (CPEC, September 2009). Draft Report by California Postsecondary Education Commission.

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