Legislation could bring $1 billion to higher ed

Lauren Rabaino

Amid a $384 million budget deficit in the California State University system, an assemblyman is presenting legislation that, if passed, would bring a projected $1 billion in funds to state colleges and universities.

The legislation, Assembly Bill 656, introduced by Assemblyman Alberto Torrico (D-Newark) would put a 9.5 percent severance tax on oil and gas in California and give that money to California's higher education system. Of the money, 60 percent would go to the CSU, 30 percent to the UC and 10 percent to the community college system.

Although early versions of the bill were intended to provide money toward renewable energy education, the most recent revision would direct money toward any and all facets of higher education — including new buildings, faculty pay, classes and more.

"That change is a direct response to the 20 to 30 years of depleting funds for California public education," said Lillian Taieb, a professor at Cal State Fullerton and president of the California Faculty Association, which helped write the bill.

Although money raised from the tax wouldn't solve the CSU's current budget deficit immediately, it would prevent a future deficit.

"If it were in existence now, maybe we wouldn't be talking about a 30 percent [student] fee increase," Taieb said. "It's not a total problem-solver... but at a time like this, it would be a safety net."

To date, California is one of the few states in the U.S. that doesn't already impose a severance tax on oil and gas companies for exporting the state's fossil fuels — which has been a selling point for the bill.

And California is not alone. Large oil-producing states like Pennsylvania and Iowa have no severance taxes on oil either.

"The oil belongs to the state," Torrico said. "It's the people's money, not the oil companies."

This is the first time legislation has been pursued to tax oil companies.

Legislators have tried passing a severance tax in California dozens of times since 1930. However, Brian Ferguson, a spokesperson for the CFA, said that this time it's different.

"We think we've remedied the issues that have plagued this in the past," he said. For example, a provision in the bill makes it illegal to pass the severance costs onto taxpayers.

There is also a "make whole" provision to the bill to ensure that local municipalities don't lose money.

Although there is not a California severance tax, that's not to say that oil companies aren't paying. California oil companies pay taxes to the state and local government, corporation taxes, sales and use taxes and local property taxes, which constitute the sixth-heaviest tax burden among the 10 largest producing states in the U.S., according to a 2009 report from Law and Economics Consulting Group (LECG).

Ferguson said they've taken that fact into consideration.

BREAKDOWN OF FUNDS FROM AB656

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CSU</th>
<th>California State University</th>
<th>60 percent</th>
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<td>UC</td>
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CSU cuts enrollment
CFA struggles to vote

Enrollment Freeze
The chancellor's office announced July 9 in a press release that spring admission will be closed on all California State University (CSU) campuses in an effort to reduce the budget deficit.

The CSU system typically admits around 35,000 students in spring. The chancellor's office wants to reduce enrollment by a total of 40,000 students for the 2010-2011 academic year.

Cal Poly will not be affected by the spring admission freeze because the university had not planned on admitting students for the winter or spring quarters.

Enrollment cuts save the CSU system money because for every dollar that students pay in tuition, the state pays two, said Erik Falls, a representative from the chancellor's office. The Chancellor's office is also considering a 20 percent fee, increase for students as well as furloughs that would cut salaries for staff, faculty and administrators.

Furlough Vote
The California Faculty Association started voting on whether or not to approve furloughs Monday and has encountered a few technical difficulties. Due to a software glitch not all faculty members received the link to cast their ballot online or the votes that were cast were not counted.

CFA officers are re-running the election to make sure that all votes were counted and there is confidence in the results. In an email sent to CFA members, CFA officers said the company handling the online voting had fixed the error and explaining that all members that voted on the first link will need to recast them on the second.
CIA hits teams canceled

Adam Goldstein

WASHINGTON (AP) — An aide to former intelligence director Leon Panetta told The Associated Press on Monday that the CIA told him the agency had stopped using its program to kill al-Qaida leaders.

CIA Director Leon Panetta has asked the CIA to provide multiple sources — so that no one can know government officials often differ widely. The CIA's reliance on foreign intelligence services and on drone-launched missile strikes proved over time to be less risky yet effective in targeting al-Qaida leaders, for decades.

Another former official said that the CIA's reliance on foreign intelligence services and on drone-launched missile strikes proved over time to be less risky yet effective in targeting al-Qaida leaders for death or capture. Panetta has at least four reasons for a decrease in jobs as a result of the severance tax.

Trent ended the program because the CIA did not want to work out its condition of anonymity to discuss the classified program.

Trent ended the program because the CIA did not want to work out its condition of anonymity to discuss the classified program.

Porter Goss, who replaced Trent in 2005, restarted the program, the former official said. By the time Michael Hayden succeeded Goss as CIA chief in 2006 the effort was again flagging because of hard challenges. CIA Director Leon Panetta drove the final stake into the effort in June after learning about the program.

Goss, who replaced Trent in 2005, restarted the program, the former official said. By the time Michael Hayden succeeded Goss as CIA chief in 2006 the effort was again flagging because of hard challenges.

CIA Director Leon Panetta has at least four reasons for a decrease in jobs as a result of the severance tax.

San Diego Mayor Bob Filner has announced a Github-style database to inform voters about the soon-to-be-launched campaign to put medical marijuana on the ballot in November.

CIA Director Leon Panetta has at least four reasons for a decrease in jobs as a result of the severance tax.

"That's one reason why we look at multiple reports from different sources — so that no one agenda is considered to be the decisive one," said California State Senate leader Darrell Steinberg.

"Studies show that this would cost 10,000 jobs," Zierman said. "Those are jobs of 10,000 families in California that want to send their kids to higher education too. There are ramifications not just to the industry, but the people who work for it as well."

"When I go to the pump, I can tell they're doing well. They're getting a lot from us," she said. "They may think they're paying enough, but we all think we're paying enough."

CSU Reluctance to support "mystifies" faculty

Erik Falis, a CSU spokesman, said the chancellor's office doesn't have a position on the bill yet — a stance that frustrates Terrico and members of the CFA.

"It's dumbfounded," Terrico said. "It seems to me if anyone supports the bill it should be the CSU administration, since they're going to raise fees again."

" And the vote of the CFA's projected deficit of $584 million paves the way for an opportunity for the passage of AB 656."

"The state is spending more on prisons than education," Terrico said. "It's time for us to reverse that trend."

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Supreme Court nominee Sonia Sotomayor greets her mother Celina Sotomayor on Capitol Hill in Washington, Wednesday prior to the start of her confirmation hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee. Her brother Juan Luis Sotomayor looks on in the background.

Sotomayor sidesteps on abortion, guns in grilling

Julie Hirshfeld Davis

WASHINGTON (AP) — Supreme Court nominee Sonia Sotomayor determinedly sidestepped volleys of Republican questions on abortion and gun rights Wednesday, keeping her demeanor cool and her responses mostly private as she neared the end of a marathon Senate grilling on the road to all but sure confirmation.

After two long days of questioning by Judiciary Committee senators, Sotomayor had yet to make a slip — certainly not the gaffe that even Republican hard-liners would be necessary to detail her nomination to be the first Hispanic and third woman to serve on the high court. She was due back for still more questioning on Thursday.

The appeals court judge, 55, avoided weighing in on any major issue that could come before her as a justice, instead using legal doctrine, carefully worded deflections and even humor to wash off efforts to pin her down.

Appearing more at ease in the witness chair, Sotomayor defied a sense on gun rights by joking about shooting a GOP critic and charmed Democratic supporters with nostalgic praise for fictional attorney Perry Mason.

Republicans, frustrated in their attempts to undercut President Bar­ack Obama's first high court choice, said they were still worried Sotomayor would bring bias and a political agenda to the bench.

"It's muddling, confusing, back­tracking on issue after issue," complained Sen. Jim DeMint, R-S.C. "You can't do that, Senator Obama's first high court choice, said they were still worried Sotomayor would bring bias and a political agenda to the bench.

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Wildlife advocates claim off-roadsers endanger plover

Environmentalists want dune buggies banned from Ocean Dunes because they are claimed to be a danger to the bird above, a snowy plover.

Advocates for the threatened Western snowy plover want off-road vehicles totally banned from the Ocean Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area, saying the dune buggies and motorcycles are a danger to the tiny bird.

Environmentalists say bird monitors have observed places crushed and dune riders wearing horses. For more than 10 years, laws and other measures have cut down off-road areas used for recreation by thousands of acres. Fencing now borders the dune-nosing areas.

Still, a few of 40,000 visitors turn the dunes near Pismo Beach into an off-road mecca each summer weekend.

John Hodgson, parks manager at an ATV rental chain that thrives on park traffic, said employees go to City Council meetings to fight for beach off-roading. For others, keeping the few remaining dunes open is personal.

"It really does make a difference, people who can grow with their families and have fun, rather than some kind that we've never seen out here," said George Lopez, a visitor who has been coming to the park for a dozen years.

The California budget squeeze is forcing closure of some state parks. Funded by gasoline taxes, however, Ocean Dunes is not on the closure list.

Sotomayor continued from page 4

nancy in certain cases," Sotomayor told Sen. Tom Coburn, R-Okla., adding that she felt the rule could mean the court should consider whether any state regulation "has an undue burden on the woman's constitutional right.

But she refused to be drawn out by Coburn, a leading anti-abortion foe, on whether a late-term abortion would be appropriate, or whether technological advances that allow an early-term fetus to survive should have any bearing on the legal standard for ending a pregnancy.

"All I can say to you is what the court's done and the standard that the court has applied," Sotomayor said. "We don't make policy choices on the court; we look at the case before us.

Earlier, Sen. John Connyn, R-Fla., asked if the Obama administration could have known her position on the issue.

"I was asked no question by anyone including the president about my views on any specific legal issue," she said.

She was no more forthcoming on the issue when pressed by an abortion rights supporter, Sen. Arlen Specter, D-Pa. Asked whether the 1992 ruling reaffirming Roe was a kind of "super" precedent, she didn't respond directly.

The second day of questioning, Sotomayor sidestepped when Connyn asked whether she stood by a 2001 remark that a "wise Latina" judge often would make better decisions than a white male.

She said she stood by her exploration Tuesday that the words were a rhetorical flourish gone awry.

Coburn persisted, asking whether she would regret it if her audience of students understood her to be saying that the quality of a judge depended on gender or ethnicity.

"I would regret that," she said of any misunderstanding of remarks that have caused more pre-conference discussion than any other issue.

Sotomayor, appearing more relaxed on the third day of nationally televised Senate hearings, shared a few light moments with her interrogators while fielding questions on serious issues.

Asked by Coburn whether the Second Amendment confers a right to personal self-defense, Sotomayor posed a hypothetical in which the senator threatened her with bodily harm and she went home to get a gun and shoot him.

"I don't want to suggest I am, by the way," Sotomayor said, to laughter from the audience and Coburn.

Coburn responded with his own joke: "You'll have lots of "placards to die."" His remark echoed a refrain often heard on a 1990s situation comedy, "Frasier," in which the main character's Cuban-born husband, Dr. Frasier Crane, would often say with exaggeration: "Luis, you got some 'placards' to die.""

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WORD ON THE STREET

"Do you think the Senate will confirm Judge Sotomayor into the U.S. Supreme Court?"

"As far as I know, she is the first Hispanic lady to be appointed to the Supreme Court. I think she'll be confirmed because this country is getting more diverse."

-Nestor Gutierrez, microbiology senior

"I really don't know. I haven't been keeping up so I've only seen her in the headlines. I couldn't say either way."

-Carrie Jordan, political science senior

"I think they will confirm her because the Democrats are the majority party."

-Phil Pinedo, Poly Prints manager

"I think so because she's a fresh face and she seems to be making headlines."

-Gerard Siazon, Hispanic Studies senior

"I don't know. I haven't been keeping up so I've only seen her in the headlines. I couldn't say either way."

-Carrie Jordan, political science senior

"I think they will confirm her because the Democrats are the majority party."
Charity keeps daughter’s spirit alive

Daniel Triassi  
**ARTS**

Perhaps the closest view of Rita Goehner’s legacy of love can be found through the double doors of her family’s country home. Inside, one can’t help but see the endearment emanating from colorful works of art, framed pictures of Rita and her friends and multiple collages filled with memories.

In addition to keeping the memories of Rita alive, with these keepsakes, the Goehner family has turned tragedy around in the form of a nonprofit charity called Rita’s Rainbows. On July 23, 2008, Rita’s charity was approved by the Internal Revenue Service as a non-profit. Rita’s Rainbows uses the 100 percent of funds raised directly to those in need. Their officers receive no compensation, enabling children to get maximum benefit from donations.

The impetus for their charity was the death of 16-year-old Goehner in a car accident in April 2006. “My mom has really been the driving force behind this getting off the ground and being successful. We all pitch in but she really has done an amazing job of getting a lot done in a very short period of time,” Rita’s sister Sarah Goehner said.

Aside from Rita’s loving and compassionate personality, her mother Cassy remembers the quirky moments that made her daughter unique. At Starbucks “she created a drink where the beans were checked. She never gave her real name either, because she joked she didn’t want to give them her soul,” Cassy said.

Like Goehner herself, Rita’s Rainbows is distinct and different in its approach to helping children. Thinking outside the box, creativity is a cornerstone of their charity. The organization keeps Goehner’s spirit alive by the type of donations they honor.

A few weeks after Rita’s Rainbows was approved as a non-profit, Goehner’s grandmother died. The Goehner family requested that donations be made to Rita’s Rainbows in lieu of flowers, marking the start to Rita’s Rainbows.

Goehner had an expressive imagination. In March 2009, rather than donating plain pillows to the Hospice Partners Bereavement, Rita’s Rainbows opted for pillows that transform into stuffed animals.

Goehner celebrated and cherished the little acts her accident her parents contacted Photobucket, a photo-sharing Web site, for her password. Here all the beans were “in the bucket,” Rita’s Rainbows has helped better the lives of those less fortunate through the Maxine Lewis Memorial Shelter.

Goehner was an avid artist. In the face of increasing school cutbacks, families are being stretched even further to provide an arts education for their children. Rita’s Rainbows donated funds to help children in need with full and partial art camp scholarships at The Art Center.

“There are feel good moments that come unexpectedly in this kind of work. Moments that remind us why we provide the services that we do.Moments that reinforce our commitment to public service in the nonprofit sector,” executive director of the Art Center Karen Kile said. “Talking with Cassy Goehner about how Rita enjoyed coming to the Art Center for summer art camps and what her family is doing to help other children was one of those special moments.”

Various child pictures of Rita including her student of the week award. Each photograph captures a special moment.

**Love selflessly**

Dive into the unknown  
All you have is today  
Care about people  
Who don’t care back  
And hope that they will be okay

**“Untitled”**

Be yourself  
And no one else  
And know  
If you feel as if you’re in an empty room  
Arms stretched out  
I’ll be there to hug you  
-a poem by Rita Goehner

Hundreds lined the streets for Harry Potter premiere

More than 800 people lined the streets of downtown San Luis Obispo Tuesday to watch the midnight premiere of Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince, the sixth film in the series. Decked out in impressive costumes and huddled under blankets, some Potter fans waited in line as early as 6:30 a.m. Go online to mustangdaily.net for a full review of the premiere and video of the line.
Editor in chief: Emilie Egger
Managing Editor: Alex Kuck
mustangdaily@gmail.com

Summer parking on campus should be free

The dog days of summer are of­

icially upon us. Know that be­

cause I spend 15 minutes sweatin­

g on the walk to and from campus during the

warmer days.

If you’re wondering why it takes me so long to get to my building when parking is so abundant all around campus right now, the an­
nswer is simple — I refuse to pay the outrageous $115 for a parking pas­
during the summer quarter.

Call me a cheapo if you want, but I simply don’t have a hundred bucks to spend on something that in my opinion should be free or at least close to it.

Let’s be honest, Cal Poly is a ghost town during the summer. There’s no one here! When I walk onto campus I’m lucky to see five people walk­
ing around. For the normally crowded off-campus parking spots are mostly empty.

So a simple decision of supply and demand. During the school year students pay for the privilege of parking on campus and (suppos­
edly) bearing the rush and having the convenience of being close to class.

While we know that’s not exactly true, that’s another story for another day.

Nonetheless, it’s understandable that someone would pay this kind of money to avoid all that hassle. Yet during the summer there is no hassle.

According to the most recent Cal Poly summer census info released in 2006, fewer than 2,000 students en­
rolled in summer quarter.

Compare that to the most recently available full census data in 2007, where near­
ly 20,000 students were enrolled.

Based on that information it’s time to say that the summer crowd is about 20 percent the size of the normal school year.

Even if every single enrolled stu­
dent bought a pass and parked on campus at the exactly same time, still nearly half of the school’s reported 7,785 parking spots would remain empty.

So why doesn’t the school charge 20 percent of what we pay during the normal school year for a park­
ing pass?

The answer given surely would have something to do with the California State University system nearly $600 million debt.

But is overcharging for sum­
mer parking really worth going to get us out of such a gigantic debt? If 4,000 students bought a parking permit every summer the revenue wouldn’t still climb out of debt un­
til about July of the year 3279. But since we all know the world is end­
ing in 2012, that’s just not going to cut it.

Look, Cal Poly, I know you need the money but we do. While my student loan debt isn’t going to quite reach the $844 million mark, it sure feels like it. In two years of not parking on campus I’ve saved around $900.

You could have gotten half of that money if I didn’t feel like you were bending me over for the ‘privi­
eges’ of trying to find a parking space near my classroom then settling for the one that’s another 15 minute walk away.

So until you make these pernicious parking costs a little more reasonable I’ll be the one more student that shows up on campus strivey and disgruntled — and trust me, one more student that doesn’t care if we cut it.

Scott Silvers is a journalism senior at Mustang Daily and a writer for the Daily Californian.

Research enters realm of Hogwarts.

This week on the big screen, the world will be watching the latest adaptation of J.K.Rowl­
ing’s bestselling “Harry Potter” series. Defying reality, Harry Potter dons a magic invisibility cloak to create a technology that makes objects invisible has al­
ready crossed the imaginations of researchers around the world.

Researchers at the University of Utah. In 1994, Milton began his cloaking research using applied mathem­
atics in Australia.

His concept is simple, assum­
ing you know biology, calculus, engineering and physics. Mil­
ton’s super ellipse research describes the ability to hide or “cloak” an object through the manipulation of light. Rather than the cloaking region being contained within the device, Milton suggests that ability lies outside the device.

According to the National Science Foundation, the super­
ellipse theory “cloaks a nearby ob­ject by making light behave in an unusual way. Instead of having a positive refractive index that makes light bend in the same way as it does when passing from air into a medium like glass or wa­
ter, the superellipsoid has a negative refractive index that in certain cases causes light to reverse and travel backwards. When an object is placed next to the superellipse, the light bouncing off the object is canceled out by the light reflect­
ing off that object, rendering the object invisible. Milton said the phenomenon is somewhat analogous to the noise cancella­
tion headphones passengers wear on airplanes.”

Although the research has a long way to go before invis­
ibility devices can be applied in real-world situations, scientists are now testing the theory. Re­
searchers at the University of Tokyo have developed optical camou­
glouge technology while scientists at the University of California-Berkeley have created a “carpet cloak” from nanostruc­
tured silicon that conceals the presence of objects placed under it from optical detection.

Technology will continue to surprise us and achieve things we never thought possible. We won’t need to try to be a wizard to be­
come invisible. The invisibility application and other creations from science fiction novels will continue to come increasingly faster as we continue dreaming and developing the technologies to make them a reality. It’s nice to know there are people at the University doing such interesting work. Bravo to those at the uni­
versity, such as Milton, who put their time. If something must be communicated outside of class, an email is much simpler and better for technical purposes anyway.”

— Todd Wilbourn

Response to “Touting Tahoe. Should it be allowed in classrooms?”

“This is totally a shame! Tons of people pick up the NYT on campus here. If the campus truly didn’t want to get rid of it, they could have held fund­
raisers or at least asked for commu­
nity help before just agreeing to not carry it anymore.

I don’t understand why they can’t just put back things that set the campus apart while still paying President Baker so much. The students are what runs the college along with the teach­
ers. It’s ridiculous that this campus manages its money in such a hor­
dorable manner. We’re in 2012 and all the alumni around them could easily get money for things like keeping the NYT on campus. It’s all about akeing people pay. But unfortunately our school has gotten lazier and more restrictive over time. It’s ridiculous.”

— Melissa

Response to “NY Times ends campus distribution”

NOTE: The Mustang Daily features select comments that are written in re­

sponse to articles posted online. For all the responses and the Mustang Daily print comments that are columnent and feature intelligent dis­

cussion on a given subject.
Fullerton named preseason All-American

Fullerton is joined on the All-American team by three other Great West Conference players: junior wide receiver Tyson Poons of Southern Utah (Third Team), senior defensive tackle Ro Quaye of South Dakota (Third Team) and senior punter Trevor Ward of Southern Utah (Second Team).

Poons caught 16 passes for 247 yards and a touchdown while Ward averaged 27 yards on five punts in a 69-41 loss to Cal Poly last year.

Quaye had three tackles (one solo) in a 49-22 loss to the Mustangs last season.

The Mustangs are ranked No. 12 in the preseason Any Given Saturday poll. Defending national champion Richmond is No. 1, followed by Appalachian State and Montana.

Cal Poly will open practice on Aug. 17 in preparation of their season opener against Sacramento State at Alex G. Spanos Stadium.

SU DO KU TODAY’S SOLUTIONS

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9 2 8 6 4 3 1 5 7
1 3 5 8 7 2 6 4 6
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SU DO KU TODAY’S SOLUTIONS

4 7 6 1 9 5 2 3 8
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Mustang Daily Staff Report

Fresh off arguably their most successful season at the Division I level, the Cal Poly men’s soccer team released their 2009 season schedule Monday afternoon.

The Mustangs, who won their first Division I postseason game 1-0 over UCLA in the first round of the NCAA Tournament last year, will kick off their season Aug. 26 by hosting San Diego State in an exhibition match.

Cal Poly will compete in two preconference tournaments next season, including the Cal Legacy Classic where they will take on Cal and Stanford. The Golden Bears advanced to the third round of the NCAA Tournament last year, will kick off their season Aug. 26 by hosting San Diego State in an exhibition match.

Cal Poly would knock them out in the second round of the NCAA Tournament. The team’s next game will be in Irvine on Oct. 21.

If the Mustangs are to get back to the NCAA Tournament this year, they will have to do so with out some key members from last season.

Goalkeeper Eric Braga-Franco was a member of the Big West Conference first team and also named conference Goalkeeper of the Year last year.

Defensive midfielder Anton Peterlin also finished his eligibility last season. Peterlin recently made his Everton debut in a preseason loss to Burnley last Friday. The for mer Cal Poly star is the first former Mustang to play professionally for an English Premier League side.

While Cal Poly will lose several players, they will look to some returning faces to further improve on their game.

Junior forward David Zamora, a former conference Freshman of the Year and Freshman All-American, was fourth in the Big West last season with eight goals and also named conference Co-Most Valuable Player.

Sophomore midfielder Wes Feighner and defender Patrick Sigler will return looking to build on their success as freshman. Feighner scored four times for Cal Poly and trailed only Zamora with 38 shots while Sigler was named conference Co-Freshman of the Year and a conference first team member.

Cal Poly head coach Paul Ho­cker will return for his fourth season after guiding the Mustangs to an 11-6-6 record last season. He will welcome in his third full rec ruiting class that includes Fresno standout forward Paul Islas.

Islas was named the No. 34 rec ruit in the country by TopDrawer Soccer.com and has scored at least 20 goals the last two years at the high school level.

The Mustangs will official­ly kick off their season hosting UNLV at 7 p.m. on Sept. 1.

SPORTS DAILY

UCI, Cal, UCSB mark 2009 men’s soccer schedule

Andrew Santos-Johnson Special to Mustang Daily

Wes Feighner (Left) of Cal Poly takes a shot in front of a capacity crowd of 11,075 in Spanos Stadium when UCSB visited last fall.

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