

## Teach the Budget – Jan. 2012 version, UCR

Background: Master Plan: no tuition, just “fees”

“Fee” increase from less than \$5000 to over \$12000 since 2000

Admin. has projected without more state funding, it would have to go up 81% more in the next 4 years

University’s solution for students: Blue & Gold – UC covers full fees for household incomes up to \$80,000/year

Problems with Blue & Gold:

As many as 80% of students, based on national income levels, are eligible - see line graph,  
[http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-Dbt541GyTks/Tm\\_mBfk8hdI/AAAAAAAAAEa4/aDRuwm3Fphs/s1600/2010-cumulative-distribution-US-household-income-percentiles.png](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-Dbt541GyTks/Tm_mBfk8hdI/AAAAAAAAAEa4/aDRuwm3Fphs/s1600/2010-cumulative-distribution-US-household-income-percentiles.png)

So university is taking the money out of one account & putting it in another

When fees were low, fin. assistance helped with housing, books, and living expenses

Now, even Blue & Gold recipients have to work

More work, less study = grade inflation = decline in value of degree  
= increase in time to completion

Lenz says no increase in time to completion showing up yet in statistics –

But students may be changing their majors to graduate:

Decrease in STEM majors, increase in CHASS at UCR

Blue & Gold does not help undocumented students, or large households slightly over \$80K

Why is state funding decreasing?

Funding for prisons greater than funding for education

Voters want to keep 3 strikes despite locking up of nonviolent felons: why?

Prop 13 – meant for homeowner relief, but large corporate tax loopholes

2/3 tax increase req. in constitution has meant 35.8% of Republicans in assembly can block funding

Are voters anti-intellectual? Read comments to articles on student protests

Legislature perceives UC as rich compared to CSUs and CCCs, and mismanaging funds

Lack of Regents accountability to legislature

2011 state audit – lack of transparency

What are some of the budget management problems at UC?

Unequal funding per campus- UCLA, Berkeley get more

Most diverse campuses are the ones who get the least \$

Correlation of graduation rate/time to completion and campus diversity increasing  
“rebenching”

Administrative staffing: Ratio of managers to professors was 3-6 in 1994

Now there are more managers than professors as of 2010

Money-making branches of campus get to keep their own money:

medical centers, parking services, dorms and food services

Research grants do not pay their entire cost – overhead borne by tuition

The more research, more prestige, more tuition increases

Graduate students – cost way more than undergraduates

More grad students, more prestige, more tuition increases

UCR's strategic plan – UCR 2020 – implemented last year: goal of Research I status:  
More research, more grad students

Why pays? Undergraduates, especially lower division

Lecturers fired, no tenure protections

TA class sizes increased

Large lecturer model, professor + hundreds of students

Is it worth it? Would CCC plus transfer be better, or CSU?

What do students get out of this?

Educated public good for everybody, not just students: “public good” concept

But still...

High unemployment at all graduation levels: doctorate, masters, bachelors

Average student loan debt \$24,000 –Cauchon, USA Today 10-11=9-11

Result: Occupy movement

Solutions?? Brainstorm with students:

Millionaire Tax initiative

Urge legislators to pass oil severance tax

Contact your legislators about need for UC/higher ed funding & Prop 13 reform

Vote for candidates who aren't afraid to vote for a sensible revenue-generating policy

Join local actions on March 1

Join the rally in Sacramento on Monday, March 5

Details & bus signup: [www.occupyeducationca.org/march5](http://www.occupyeducationca.org/march5)

[www.refundcalifornia.org/march5](http://www.refundcalifornia.org/march5)