

DAILY SUNDIAL

FREE

IN TODAY'S
ISSUE

VOLUME 53 ISSUE 89 • A FINANCIALLY
INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

FEATURES

Director of DRES overcomes
injury to help others

p. 3

OPINION

Assem. Blumenfield
addresses education crisis

p. 6

SPORTS

Harvard gets weekend edge on
CSUN men's volleyball and softball

p. 8

Community colleges take further budget cuts

RAEWYN SMITH
DAILY SUNDIAL

In February, the revised California budget projections were released showing that community colleges will take another \$149 million reduction.

This was an unexpected cut and it has been nicknamed the "February surprise." Further cuts took place because of the higher demand for student fee waivers and low property tax revenues and community colleges, like Moorpark College, have had to scramble to find alternative ways to help transfer students stay on track.

"I think everyone is disappointed that we're having (budget cuts) but I think what we're doing is responding and trying to make improvements that will be good in the long run," said Judi Gould, director of transfer at Moorpark College.

With all of the budget cuts in the past few years, the National Center for Education Statistics stated that is difficult for students in community colleges and public universities to complete college in four years. They also said that of CSUN graduates, like Amanda Dellentash, only 10 percent graduate in four years.

"For me it was simple because I was really determined to get out of a community college after two years because it can kind of suck you in," said Dellentash, a communications major who graduates in fall. "I made sure that I found a major soon and made sure I stuck to the core classes."

Dellentash attended Moorpark College, where Gould said many



KEN SCARBORO / EDITOR IN CHIEF

Standing on tables and chanting to build energy, students from College of San Mateo display their signs. College of San Mateo was one of many community colleges who gathered with other California higher education students to march on the Capitol.

changes, like new transfer plans and workshops, are being made to optimize their learning environment.

"There's really nothing you can do about it so we're trying to make the best out of what it is with our goal to help students to succeed and

move onto their next step with transferring," Gould said.

Currently, Moorpark College has two approved major plans – psychology and sociology – that spell out classes for students to take for those majors. If the students follow

the plans, they are able to fulfill both GE requirements and some prerequisites for major classes at the universities.

While the colleges are doing what they can afford to do to help students, it is ultimately in the hands

of students to navigate the system, according to Gould.

"I think just overall the state of education in California is for stu-

See **BUDGET**, page 4

Mun2 visits campus for screening

Spanish-language channel offers students a chance to be on TV

LAURA DAVIS
DAILY SUNDIAL

Students will have an opportunity to be on TV, get free giveaways and participate in fun activities, like a sexy pie eating contest, when the Spanish-language cable television station, mun2, films an episode of its show, "18 & over," on campus today.

Mun2 is the sister network of Tel-emundo and "18 & over" is a program that counts down the top videos from Spanish music artists, according to Ara Matthewsian, a manager in specialized marketing at Allied Integrated Marketing.

"We rank the videos based on popularity in sales, charts and online presence," Matthewsian said. "The show is geared toward the 18 to 24 demographic so we thought Cal State Northridge would be a great campus to visit."

"18 & over" personalities, including actress Dania Ramirez (Losers, 2010) and VJs Guad, Crash and Pico, will be interviewing students and entertaining the crowd throughout the event, according to Matthewsian.

Along with being filmed and possibly appearing on the show, students will have the opportunity to participate in fun activities such as a sexy pie eating contest and free giveaways, Matthewsian said.

CSUN is the first of two college

campuses being filmed for this particular episode of the show. On March 27, mun2 will be taping at the University of Texas at San Antonio, Matthewsian said.

He added that the show will air in late March or early April.

The mun2 crew will begin setting up at 8 a.m. but will not begin their pre-filming activities until about 11 a.m., Matthewsian said.

"A good portion of Spanish-speaking CSUN students are already aware of our network and the show," Matthewsian said. "We hope to find even more of those students and we're expecting a good amount of people to come out to the event."

TELEVISION FILMING



When: Today from noon to 4 p.m.
Where: outside the University Student Union
Cost: free

BUDGET

Continued from page 1

dents to be far more flexible, aggressive and creative to reach their education goals,” said Dwayne Cantrell, director of CSUN’s Student Outreach and Recruitment Center.

Gould said their focus has switched more toward workshops on future planning to help focus students and form an education plan that fits their lifestyles.

“We’re hoping to get incoming students – the freshman – to take those workshops so they’re aware early on what some of the limitations are due to the budget cuts,” Gould said. “They can take the courses they need

so they can move on after a couple of years.”

When students move on, it’s up to Cantrell and each major department to help students on their path to graduation. Dellentash also thinks that guidance is a must to navigate the scheduling dilemma most students face because of budget cut changes.

“They helped me so much with transferring credits from my community college to CSUN and making sure the classes I did take would work for my major,” Dellentash said. “I took a bunch of liberal studies classes and they helped me so that my classes somehow fit into my major.”

Dellentash is one semester behind – graduating in four and a half years because

she switched majors for two semesters. Her CSUN advisers helped her to be able to graduate this fall.

While Dellentash was able to avoid a delay because of budget cuts at the community colleges, she thinks that all cuts to education funding will hurt the future of CSUN and all California schools and students.

“I think it’s going to hurt the image of CSUN because the budget cuts – while they’re not necessarily CSUN’s problem – are the state of California’s problem,” Dellentash said. “It makes it hard to wake up and go to school because the teachers are too tired and students are tired from working because they can’t afford tuition.”

CSUN claims first at nutrition bowl

ALEXANDRA RIGGLE
DAILY SUNDIAL

A team of nutrition, dietetics and food science students won first place in the 10th (Annual) Nutrition College Bowl, a trivia-style knowledge competition held on campus.

The event ran from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the University Student Union complex. Following CSUN in second and third place were Cal Poly and UC Davis.

The CSUN team competed with students from a total of 10 other schools, which included Arizona State University, Cal State Chico, Cal State Fresno, Cal State Los Angeles, Cal State San Bernardino, Central Washington University, Pepperdine and UC Berkeley.

“It was very nerve-wracking, but at the same time very focused,” said Carolina Herrera, one of four members of the 2012 CSUN Nutrition Bowl team and a nutrition, dietetics and food science major in her senior year.

“We’ve been studying for the competition since last December. As we’ve gotten closer (to the competition) we’ve been studying six to eight hours a week, four of those with

the coaches,” Herrera said.

Two schools at a time, with three students on each team, took to the stage to answer over 20 rounds of questions during the Nutrition Bowl. A moderator asked the students questions, and the team to press the buzzer first could answer.

Buzzing in was one of the biggest challenges, said Juliana Dao, a nutrition, dietetics and food science major on the CSUN team.

“You don’t want to buzz in too early and give it (the opportunity to answer) to the other team,” Dao said.

Tense moments were frequent, as students struggled for the answers to questions on topics ranging from nutrition program management to food sanitation and safety. A panel of three judges decided whether students sufficiently responded to the questions.

The CSUN students who participated in the competition were selected based on academic performance, GPA and faculty recommendations, said Dr. Joyce Gilbert, director of the Marilyn Magaram Center for nutrition, dietetics and food science at CSUN.

Gilbert said the annual competition fosters the development of skills that will benefit students in the future.

“CSUN students who have participated in the Nutrition Bowl have 100 percent pass rates on the RD (Registered Dietician) Exam. The Nutrition Bowl teaches leadership, teamwork and critical thinking skills,” Gilbert said.


Competing students were accompanied by coaches, and several additional tables were set up around the room for family and friends of the teams as well as other guests. iTunes gift cards, handmade slippers, books, movies and a digital recorder were given away during a raffle after lunch.

The Nutrition Bowl is more relevant today than ever, with obesity and related diseases at an all-time high in America, Gilbert said.

“The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics says that by 2015 there will be a shortage of dietitians,” he added.

The Nutrition Bowl, hosted every year at CSUN, is an effective way to prepare students for the RDE exam, said Danielle Crumble, a 2012 CSUN Nutrition Bowl team member and nutrition, dietetics and food science major.

“A lot of the material we had to study was new to me. We learned so much, it was really amazing,” Crumble said.



TWITTER DIRECTORY

Important campus groups to follow:

• @cfaCSUN	• @csunorthridge	• @OviattLibrary
• @CSUNASREC	• @CSUNSPACE	• @StudentTrustee
• @csunevents	• @csun_usu	• @SundialSports57
• @csunhelpdesk	• @GoMatadors	• @ValleyViewNews

CORRECTION POLICY

We aim to get it right, but when we get it wrong, let us know so we can make it right. Contact us to report any errors in news stories.

818-677-2915
or
editor@csun.edu



LOREN TOWNSLEY / CONTRIBUTOR
The CSUN team gets ready for the 10th annual Nutrition College Bowl at the Northridge Center in the University Student Union on Saturday.

VITA offers free tax preparation for students

STEFANIE DE LEON
TZIC
DAILY SUNDIAL

Free tax preparation for low-income students and residents of the San Fernando Valley area are available through a student-run program at CSUN.

CSUN’s Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) is designed to provide timely and relevant federal and state

information to low-income individuals, senior citizens, non-English speakers and the disabled.

The program, which emerged in 1971, aims to educate the culturally and linguistically diverse residents of the Valley of their tax rights and responsibilities.

“It’s a good chance to give back to society what you learned in school,” said Jaewoo Chung, 21, supervisor and junior majoring in accounting and finance. “You

get to actually meet a lot of different people and look at their tax returns so you learn a lot from that.”

VITA offers many basic income tax return services such as filing student loan interests, preparation of federal form 1040 and 1040A, filing out child tax credit and educator expenses.

Despite the wide range of assistance the program provides, it does set a \$50,000 maximum gross income (total) per income tax return because of the high demand

for the service.

According to Casey Binafard, 23, director of external publicity and a senior majoring in accounting, VITA has sites all over the Valley, including the Van Nuys Library, Sylmar Library, Panorama City Library and several more locations.

According to Binafard, many of the students who use VITA don’t always have the money to pay for a certified public accountant to file their taxes and the program alleviates some of that

stress.

“When I used to be a preparer three years ago, I remember a gentleman coming up to me and saying ‘If it wasn’t for your program I don’t know what I would do with my taxes,’” he said.

Besides aiding the community, the program also allows students to gain field experience preparing tax return forms. It is open to students from all majors with a sophomore standing. Before volunteering for the program, students must attend a 24-hour

training program during the month of January.

Volunteers with experience filing tax returns can take advance classes that would allow them to become site supervisors.

“A lot of people don’t know about tax returns, they think it’s really complicated,” Chung said. “It’s really simple, so what we try to do this year is try to teach them how to do it by themselves so next year they don’t have to come back to us.”