

Thursday, December 9, 2010

PHOTOS

Giving Back:

San Jose and Santa Clara photographers photograph children with illnesses.

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CAMPUS SUPPORTS AB540

By Mark Laluan
Politics Editor

Last Thursday, CSU East Bay's Associated Students (ASI) passed a resolution in support of AB540 students.

The text of the ASI resolution supports the creation of a "an intellectual discussion regarding the difficult experience of AB540 students and others so they may step out of the shadows and celebrate their identity as well as protected status, encouraging those who are eligible to register as soon as possible without fear of retribution to access the benefit of paying in-state tuition."

The text of the resolution further goes on to state, "ASI and its constituents support any future legislation that includes but is not limited to increased access to financial aid, inclusion to 'historically disadvantaged minority' classifications, and eventual avenues toward earned legalization."

While the resolution by the ASI does not indicate the immediate creation of new programs backed by new policies to aid AB540 students, the resolution indicates that the ASI taken the position to publicly align itself with the political forces in California that support AB540.

AB540 was passed by California's government in 2001, under the tenure of then-Democratic Governor Gray Davis. The bill



Students rally in Oakland for undocumented immigrants to have access to higher education, not just Californians. CSU East Bay's student government wants to open up a dialogue about the topic.

RICHARD DUBOC / THE PIONEER

allows illegal immigrants who meet certain requirements to pay in-state tuition while attending public institutions of higher learning in California.

The University of California, California State University and community college systems are

directed to grant in-state tuition to undocumented students who meet the following requirements.

Students must have attended high school for three academic years, from grades 9-12 (does not have to be consecutive); have

received a GED or an equivalent, such as completing the High School Proficiency Exam; registered or be currently enrolled in an accredited institution of

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Fee Hikes

CSU points finger at poor economy

By Bianca Llamas
Staff Writer

Unlike Mastercard commercials, the cost of an education at a California State University may not be "priceless" ending.

Students are currently facing a 15.5 percent increase in fees for the upcoming 2011-2012 school year.

While the nation's economic downturn did not affect the education of many CSU students initially, recent fee hikes resulting from the state government's attempts to resolve a growing deficit have many students feeling the financial crisis.

This year's fee hikes, which range from \$100 to \$400 depending on the campus, continue a trend of exponential fee increases over the last five years, according to the CSU online history of fee increases.

"At first I was looking to start at [Cal State] East Bay in 2005," said Jeremy Lew, an accounting major at CSU East Bay. "I decided to go to community college first. And now that I have transferred, I believe the fees have doubled."

In 2005, student fees were \$2,520. For the 2009-2010 school year, student's fees were up to \$4,026, according to the online history of fee increases.

Students at CSUEB will be facing a \$399 fee increase for the 2011-2012 school year, according to the Board of Trustees meeting minutes from Nov. 9, 2010.

"It is not just the only fee increase we face," said CSUEB sociology major Rachel Newsom. "When I first transferred in Fall 2009, the parking permits were \$90, I thought that was a lot, until I bought one for Fall 2010 for \$130. Combined with the cost of textbooks, the overall price is beginning to be hard to swallow."

These fee increases are a direct result of the failing economy of California, according to a press release from the CSU.

The funding that the CSU receives is directly related to the state's budget and has to work with the fiscal outlook of the state, according to the CSU website.

"The two primary sources of revenue for the CSU are funding from the state and revenue generated from student fees," said Mike Uhlenkamp, the CSU director of media relations and new media. "For the 2009-10 fiscal year, the CSU received approximately \$2.35 billion from

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"Scroogie" Opens in Time For The Holiday



The CSU East Bay Theatre and Dance Department puts a modern spin on a classic Christmas tale.

ALDRIN BULAYO / THE PIONEER

By Janelle London
Staff Writer

With the holiday season upon us, a joyful spirit is spreading across campus with CSU East Bay's Theatre & Dance department helping to usher in the season of good will with a modern version of a classic holiday tale.

"Scroogie", an au courant rendition of the Charles Diken's classic, A Christmas Carol, will be presented on Dec. 10 at 8 p.m. and Dec. 11 at 3 and 7 p.m. in the Hayward campus University Theatre.

The production puts a modern spin on the classic tale by adding a dash of hip-hop, rock n'roll and a teaspoon of pop culture. Together these changes create a recipe for a story that entertains audiences, while also delivering a message about compassion and taking your community into your own hands.

"We should all be proactive about the community that we live in and that we have the right and responsibility to make it a place that is hospitable," said Assistant Professor Ann Fajilan, who helped develop the show

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