

Trustees Grapple With Budget Crunch

The Cabrillo College Governing Board Tuesday will begin grappling with the problem of how to cut up to \$1 million more from an already lean spending plan for the new fiscal year.

A tentative 1982-83 budget approved by the board in early June called for expenditures totaling \$14.6 million, compared to \$15.2 million for the fiscal year which ended June 30.

The tentative budget contained no provision for equipment and replacement, significantly less funds to hire part-time instructors and staff and no provision for cost of living salary increases for college employees.

Since those early budget figures were presented, however, the college has learned that up to \$1 million more may still have to be cut.

According to Dr. John Petersen, Cabrillo president-superintendent, a cost of living adjustment for the community colleges provided for in Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr.'s original budget has been rejected by California lawmakers who are still wrestling with the education budget. Such a move would translate into a loss of

\$500,000 for Cabrillo. In addition, proposed budgets for the new fiscal year from college departments are \$300,000 more than expected.

The most controversial reduction will result from anticipated legislation that will move a number of courses from the graded credit curriculum to non-credit, self-supporting status. The curriculum change, which will affect all California community colleges, is expected to save the state some \$30 million in apportionment this year. To Cabrillo, it will mean another reduction of up to \$300,000, depending on how the cuts are applied to each college.

According to the legislation, avocational, self-help and recreational classes would no longer receive state apportionment beginning this fall. The areas affected most by the ruling will be art and physical education. At Cabrillo, such courses will be removed from the regular fall schedule of credit courses and placed under the Community Education Department, which offers non-credit classes that support themselves through registration fees paid by students. Although registration for fall semester credit courses is

only weeks away, the college has not yet received information on exactly which classes will be moved to Community Education.

In light of the financial implications facing the college, emergency meetings of Carbillo staff have been held during the past two weeks to advise Petersen on possible immediate and long-range strategies for making the necessary cuts.

Among the recommendations Petersen will take to the board next week are releasing part-time instructors and assigning contract faculty to high priority classes taught in the past by part-timers; further reductions in part-time hourly salary and supply accounts a firmer attrition and transfer policy to reduce staff wherever possible; selective cancellation of spring semester sabbatical leaves for faculty.

Offering a 1983 incentive package to faculty who are approaching, but have not yet reached retirement age; program and service review procedures; and possible cancellation of summer session next year.

Petersen would not rule out the possibility of staff layoffs should the college financial situation worsen.