

UC student fees to be increased

By The Associated Press

Student fees at the University of California and the California State University and Colleges systems will be raised this spring to help offset a 2 percent budget cut ordered by Gov. George Deukmejian, university officials say.

However the amount of the increases have not yet been determined. Cal State trustees have scheduled an emergency meeting Monday to decide how to cope with the budget cuts, and UC President David Saxon said he would propose student surcharges for consideration by UC regents at their next scheduled meeting Jan. 20-21.

Cal State will lose \$18.6 million because of the 2 percent cut, Chancellor W. Ann Reynolds said Tuesday. Saxon said UC's loss will be \$23 million.

Ms. Reynolds said the 19-campus Cal State system has had to absorb \$75 million in budget reductions over the past five years and was already facing a \$5.3 million budget shortfall before Deukmejian announced the further cutback.

"Our trustees have only limited alternatives," Ms. Reynolds said. "These (changes) are exceedingly difficult to implement at mid-year when faculty and staff are preparing for, or actually beginning, their academic terms and when students have already paid what they

expected to be their total fees for the new term."

She said that in addition to raising student fees — which at an average of \$441 a year are already double what they were in 1980 — Cal State will probably reduce course offerings, eliminate employee promotions and lay off part-time teachers, clerical and other non-teaching workers.

Saxon said UC will try to absorb the new cutback with student surcharges and other cost-cutting measures ordered by Deukmejian, including cancellation of out-of-state travel and a freeze on purchase of equipment and office supplies. UC's student charges are currently about \$1,200 a year for full-time students — 55 percent higher than they were two years ago.

Patrick M. Callan, director of the California Postsecondary Education Commission, said in a statement that the budget cut announced by Deukmejian only minutes after his inauguration will hurt state college and universities "more than any other part of state or local government."

Callan noted that while college and university budgets comprise less than 10 percent of the state's general fund, their budget cuts will make up 60 percent of the \$70 million savings expected from Deukmejian's order.

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That amount, in turn, is but a fraction of the total savings needed to eliminate the state's \$1.5 billion budget deficit.

"It appears that the governor's order is mainly symbolic in dealing with the state's fiscal crisis as a whole, but the effect on institutions of higher education will be much more than symbolic," Callan said.