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UC Regents Increase Fees, Cut Programs

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — University of California regents today approved a \$100 increase in student fees to help offset a \$33.5 million cut in the university's 1982-83 budget.

The increase was approved Thursday by a regent's committee that also reviewed plans for a \$9 million reduction in student programs.

"We have attempted to make the least harmful choices, but we clearly could not avoid painful choices," said university vice president William R. Frazer, who outlined the plan for the committee.

Student representatives went along with the proposals reluctantly.

"While we have strong objections to the necessity of the cuts in principle, we are forced ... to accept, in practice, the cuts that were made," said Louis Armmand, spokesman for the Student Body Presidents Council.

The enrollment cutbacks for the general student population are: Los Angeles, 235; Berkeley and Davis, 125; Santa Barbara, 95; Riverside, 80; Irvine, 60; and San Diego, 30. There will be no reductions at Santa Cruz.

Enrollment cuts for health science students were not broken down by campus, but involve 252 medical students, 100 nursing students, 93 dentistry students and 20 veterinary students.

Program reductions will be phased in over a four-year period so that they interfere as little as possible with students already enrolled in the university.

The fee hike will bring the yearly fees for an undergraduate to \$1,194 and, according to student representatives, will place a hardship on many students.

"Our assessment of the situation is that a lot of students are right on the edge," said Michael Johnson, as he presented the regents with a result of a survey of graduate students at Davis.

The survey showed 15 percent of the students felt they would have to drop out of school, at least temporarily, in order to meet the added cost. In all, 47 percent said they would be "significantly affected" by the fee hike.

However, Johnson predicted students would be more severely affected by impending cutbacks in federal loan programs.