

The recent series of events which led to the end of President Paulette Perfumo's term at PCC should be grounded in the historical complicity and incompetence of PCC's Board of Trustees. As of September 16th, the Board has slashed PCC's 2009/10 budget by 8% and we will all suffer the consequences.

Some disturbing issues:

The latest spin from Rick van Pelt and others is that the College on purpose made the error in assessing their own finances, as a result of 'Prudent spending for the year, we were able to add money to the General Fund reserves by about \$2.5 million' Perhaps appropriate if the college were a corporation based on profit. The college can hardly claim a grand strategy or

The ill advised hastily convened 'Round Table' discussions brought together a few campus leaders with Board members chairing.

For the first time in history the college has serious Accreditation issues to address.

Included is a not ethics for managers. The Bd's overall lack of oversight is appalling.

The District maintains approximately \$700,000 per year for elections. The problem is election for Board members are held every *two* years.

We always look at the global picture in which the Bush/Obama (really the Paulson/Geithner) Plan bailed out major banks allowed corporate bankruptcyies of corporations with historically prominent unions (notably auto). In California, since 2007, the prison system budget has exceeded that of higher education, and only a Federal Court order declaring the state's prisons to be essentially human rights abusive will push the most ardent penalists to bow to greater authority. Latest per prisoner costs to the state are \$49,000/year which compares to per student in K_12

Why hasn't the dist applye for loans? Was the Dist not telling the truth when it provided the puble with specific numbers? Whom are we to believe? Trust the Trustees? How can we? The leadership of the PCCFA, the faculty union, is not convinced that the Trustees understand the budget.

One of the great chants of the recent anti-war demonstrations—Whose streets, our streets! Whose education? Our education! Clearly, the struggle for education can not reduced to a rhetorical chant, but without a concerted effort of teachers, students, staff united in an Alliance against cuts and layoffs.

Era of concession and surveillance

Sacramento Crisis

