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SVSC BITES BULLET; LAYOFFS ANNOUNCED

As predicted at Monday's Board of Control meeting when administrators were told they must balance the College operating budget for 1978-79, a number of administrative-professional layoffs have been announced and are taking effect immediately. In addition, several other positions will not be filled where resignations have recently occurred. At this time, no faculty cuts are being made and no academic programs have been eliminated.

The situation will again be reevaluated as a final budget is prepared for the August Board meeting. More reductions in anticipated expenditures may be necessary in September once enrollment and credit hour figures are in. If earlier projections are not reached, the result could be a decrease in the amount of tuition and fee income received, which might necessitate additional reductions, said College administrators.

Effective July 15, the secretary to the President will be reassigned. This move was necessitated when it was decided not to replace a former secretary, who recently left the College.

The length of time for leave without pay presently in effect for the Director of Institutional Research will be increased to four months and a recently vacated secretarial position in that office will not be filled, said President Jack Ryder.

In the area of Development and College Relations, the position of Director of Alumni Relations has been elminated. In addition, the position of Information Specialist, created in May in the Office of Information Services, has been deleted.

In the Department of Athletics, a total of three positions are being eliminated.

The position of Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences has been eliminated, and the coordinator of Residence Halls post in the Department of Campus Life has also been eliminated. A secretarial position in the Office of Media Services and a controller clerk have been deleted.

Positions where two retirements and one resignation are occurring will also be left unfilled. These are the posts of Assistant to the President, Director of Academic Support Services, and Library Cataloger. The Administrative Assistant to the President for Affirmative Action position will be reduced from 3/4 to 1/2 time and a personal counselor will be assigned to half-time teaching duties, thus reducing administrative time to 50%.

President Ryder has also announced his intention to hold back where possible on replacements in clerical or custodial positions which may occur in forthcoming months. In order to continue providing services, student employees will be used to fill in where possible, but obviously services will have to be limited somewhat, he said.

"Our effort will be to try and maintain essential functions through a reorganization and a recognition of the limitations on services which will be required. I regret that we had no choice but to take the actions announced here.

"We will be continuing to reassess our financial situation with the expectations of going to the Board of Control in August with a balanced budget. This may well

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necessitate additional reductions in anticipated expenditures, both then, and after enrollment figures are in, by mid-September," Ryder stated.

A number of administrative changes will result from these layoffs. One decision already reached is that computer services will now report to Vice President for Business Affair Jerry A. Woodcock. Additional changes are anticipated shortly.

"The judgement of the administration was that we could reorganize to reduce expenditures while still providing minimal services in those areas affected. However, certain service aspects will undoubtedly be more severly diminished than in the past.

We are also not proceeding to fill five faculty positions that we had anticipated for this fall and which are clearly needed. Three of these were in the School of Business and management, while the others were in mathematics and physics.

If program cuts are deemed necessary, decisions on priorities are expected by mid-September. However, we still do not have final year-end results concerning expenditures during the 1977-78 fiscal year, and the new budget is still being analyzed.

Either additional revenue will have to be provided or there will have to be still more budget reductions," Ryder concluded.