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Clackamas Community College faculty accept pay cut

by Su-jin Yim, The Oregonian

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Full-time faculty at Clackamas Community College will take an estimated 4.5 percent pay cut next year as the school contends with economic realities.

The college's 162 full-time faculty members voted today to give up their cost-of-living increase next year, saving the school about \$450,000, said faculty president Bill Waters.

The vote follows administrators' decision six weeks ago to skip their cost-of-living increases.

Like educators statewide, Clackamas is bracing for dismal news from the state's economic forecast due out Friday. The school expects to absorb an \$11 million deficit in the next biennium as community colleges face a funding crunch.

Waters said the faculty approved the cut even though they know it will not prevent layoffs.

"It's very clear to me that the faculty at Clackamas understand that we hold this college in trust for the citizens of Clackamas County," he said. "That's reflected in the vote."

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