The Rogue Community College Board of Education adopted Tuesday the general fund budget of $27,016,604 for the 2006-07 fiscal year, which begins July 1.

RCC has cut about $2.7 million in expenses due to forecasts calling for the college’s revenue to decrease 4.3 percent below the current year’s level. Contributing to the revenue shortfall is a nearly $900,000 reduction in state funding, according to Lynda Warren, executive dean of College Services.

The college has reduced expenses and raised tuition to arrive at a balanced budget. Fourteen vacant positions are not being filled. Negotiations continue with faculty and classified staff associations over compensation-related issues, said Warren. The budget calls for no increase in materials and services, cuts to the district’s travel budget and unemployment reserves, and reduction in publication costs that will trim approximately $1 million dollars.

A $5 per credit increase in tuition, which raises the cost of one credit from $59 to $64 beginning summer term, will generate about $600,000 and represents approximately $60 per term additional costs for a full-time student. Additional information about RCC’s budget is online at www.roguecc.edu/budget/2006_07/

In other business the RCC Board:

• Elected Kevin Talbert to succeed Sharon Davidson as board chair for the coming year and Jim Dole to serve as vice-chair.

• Granted faculty emeritus status to Margaret Cunningham. She retired this June after teaching Adult Basic Education, GED and English as a Second Language at RCC since 1976. Emeritus standing is based on 15 years continuous, full-time, meritorious service, a recommendation by the instructor’s dean, and approval by the college president and board.

• Accepted a $15,000 grant from the Leightman Maxey Foundation. The grant will be used to provide career and personal finance counseling to low-income students and establish a lending library of textbooks for Discovery programs students.
• Approved RCC’s $1.2 million supplemental budget, which includes the college’s PERS fund.

• Awarded the contract for printing RCC’s 2006-07 schedule of classes to Valley Web Printing of Medford for a range of $62,211 to $70,440, depending on number of pages.

• Accepted a request for early retirement from Walter Peterson, art instructor since 1975. During his tenure at Rogue, Peterson served eight years as head of the Art Department.

• Accepted the resignation of James Lapp, math instructor.

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