Creative Solutions to Budgetary Challenges

Council of Graduate Schools
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Graduate Studies & Research
CSU Graduate Deans

California State University system
23 Universities:

- Urban, suburban, rural areas
- Range of sizes
- Two Polytechnics, 1 Research-intensive, and Comprehensives
- State-support prorated based on enrollment
CSU Graduate Deans

Fall meeting – prior to Nov election

Response = grow the “pie”

Election results –
  - Prop 30 passed
  - Worst fiscal trigger avoided
  - Systemic change also avoided?
CSU Graduate Deans’ responses

Grant proposal strategies:

- Use demographics and uniqueness of the institution
- Industry interest / funding of curricular programs
- Community-based partnerships / strengthen proposals [County agency partners]
CSU Graduate Deans’ responses

Targeted curricular programs – especially self-support or extended ed

- Executive MBAs – connected to health
- County agency interest – Social Work
- Ethnic studies – external funders
- Industry connections – with cohort model
- Program management – match recruiting with available capacity
Alumni outreach

- Target graduate students and create graduate identity.
- Get a broader identity.
- “Proud graduate student alum” - helping other graduate students.
- Create a more interdisciplinary graduate alum group.
CSU Graduate Deans’ responses

Cutting “pie slices” size

- Departments voluntarily close programs
- Internal realignment of resources and use wider range of “pots of money”.
SJSU strategies

Invest in Faculty – intellectual environment

- Center for Faculty Development reports to Graduate Studies & Research
- Faculty Learning Communities – research, teaching, pedagogies and technologies
- Writing Marathons
- Proposal development

Result: 4% increase in proposal submission [Others 20-30% decrease]
SJSU strategies

Changing campus culture:
More efficient use of technology
Be part of the solution
Listen to our students and our public