Imperial Valley College undergoing various big changes

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Though it’s too early to tell exactly how higher education cuts will finally trickle down to both Imperial Valley College and San Diego State University-Imperial Valley campus, IVC will already be making some other big changes.

The spring 2011 semester is the last time IVC will see classrooms crowded with “crashers” as it will do away with the lottery system of class registration, said IVC president and Superintendent Ed Gould.

Gould said students who missed the 25-student limit per class will be put on a waiting list, which is on more of a first-come, first-served basis.

He said the college is looking at putting a cap on the number of units that can be taken by students and change priority registration to be based on course choice “so that the people that are just here taking a lot of courses that are not degree-applicable will not get priority over those students who are just seeking transferable courses.”

Gould said the current talk of a unit cap is 90 or 100 units.

The college is also looking at changing the amount of units allowed to be taken by students per semester. Currently students can take up to 19 units without written permission; that will change to 15 units per semester, Gould said.

In addition, he said first-time students will now need to take core classes in their first semester.

Gould said IVC will also be implementing a cohort or block program, where freshman students will register for courses with their peers entering the college together, as modeled by SDSU-IV’s freshman program.

Lastly, as proposed by Gov. Jerry Brown’s budget, both IVC and SDSU-IV are looking at
student fees increases to help alleviate budget issues.

IVC is looking at an increase in parking fees while SDSU-IV could raise core tuition rates by another 10 percent.

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