

# AA Groups file legal brief supporting...

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UCLA student majoring in Asian American studies. "This is not just our battle as students but all of us with the faculty and employees."  
The walkout was part of a statewide campaign across all UC universities, and some CSU campuses.  
Holding picket signs which read "No fee hikes and layoffs" and chanting, "This is our university," students were angry about the recent nine percent

increase in their tuition and cuts in educational services.  
"Their cutting library hours and writing programs," said John Christian De Vera, a 19-year-old UCLA junior majoring in Sociology and Asian American studies. "There also talks of cutting foreign language classes and maybe Tagalog."  
Members of the UCLA faculty stood in solidarity with the students. Administrators have asked the faculty and other UC employees to take a 4 to 10 per-

cent reduction in pay and to take unpaid days off.  
Meanwhile, UCLA administrators stood ironically nearby.  
"We understand the students and teachers frustration," said Lawrence H. Lokman, Assistant Vice Chancellor University Communications.  
Lokman said the administration is trying to make cuts evenly.  
"California is cut to the bone," he said. (Joseph Pimentel/AJ-Press)

# US eyes...

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ing the figure to fall about \$282 million short of that prediction.  
"One of the things that we must consider is the potential to increase fees," Mayorkas said.  
The agency saw a surge in applications and hiring in 2007, ahead of a hefty increase that pushed the cost of applying for citizenship from \$400 to \$675.  
The fee-based agency was flooded with a record 7.7 million immigration applications in 2007. Filing dropped off after the spike, as it has historically with other fee increases.  
"When one does hire additional personnel, and revenues two years later drop, one must be able to address that," Mayorkas said.

Immigration officials are also looking to Congress for relief after requesting \$206 million to pay for fees for asylum seekers and refugees and for military naturalizations.  
Immigrant advocates said the agency shouldn't rely solely on fees to process immigration-related applications and the government should help fund the work much as it does immigration and border enforcement. Some also said more immigrants would aim to become citizens if filing fees weren't so high and this would translate into a steady volume of applications.  
"The fee is too high, especially in an economy like this one," said Angelica Salas, executive director of the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles.

Mayorkas would not say how much the filing fees could be raised or which services could be affected. He spoke with reporters in Los Angeles on a visit to western states to discuss immigration reform. (AP)

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