

# ACSA BUDGET SURVEY RESULTS

October 2010

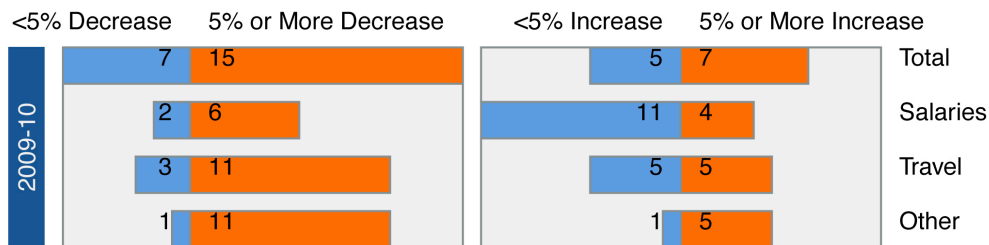
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## Survey Background

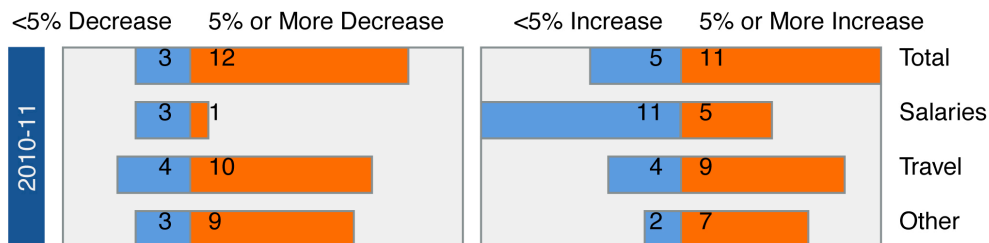
Emails were sent to all ACSA member schools in September 2010 soliciting response on budget information for the previous year, current year, and next year. Results below are from 46 separate schools: 37 accredited and in-candidacy schools, 3 of which are Canadian, 3 affiliate members and 5 schools that did not disclosed their names. The results reflect 28% of professional degree programs in the United States and Canada.

*The text of the summary story that appeared in the October 2010 ACSA News follows the detailed results.*

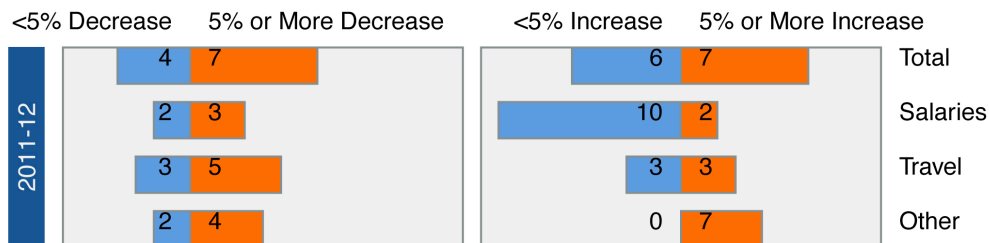
### 1. Please indicate the closest net change of the architecture program's budget from all sources for each of the following years (relative to the preceding year).



45 schools responded; 11 schools reported no change in total budget



42 schools responded; 11 schools reported no change in total budget



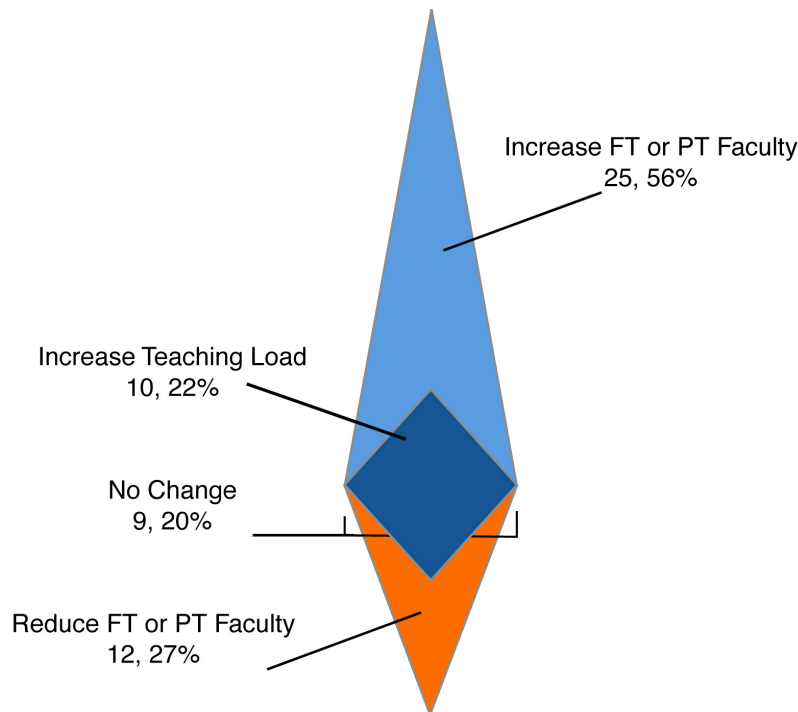
28 schools responded; 4 schools reported no change in total budget

Note: These data are corrected from those published in the October 2010 print edition of ACSA News.

## **Selected Comments From Respondents**

- 11-12 is estimated based upon state funding cuts yet undetermined
- Added a professional fee to tuition to offset these cuts and future anticipated cuts
- Have lost funding for faculty salaries through retirement and hiring at lower pay.
- Anticipated [cuts] for 11-12, based on governor's mandate to reduce recurring budgets by 10% in 11-12.
- Based on the state's use of federal stimulus funds the 2011-12 university budget will be cut by 4-6%
- Budget decreases in 2009-10, and small increases in 2010-11 have not accounted for large increases in enrollment, producing a yearly net decrease in funds.
- Budgets not in for 10/11 and 11/12.
- By far our biggest hit was in clerical staff, to protect the items above.
- Mandated furloughs [in previous years], which we do not anticipate for this year, although we do anticipate at least a 4% reduction from 2008-09. School-supported travel funds were cut last year, but were more than made up for by a private donation. The same donor provided funds for a lecture series for 2011-11. We do not anticipate receiving similar private travel funds for 2010-11.
- In 2009-10 we incurred a 5% budget reduction that was offset by a new student fee (\$650 per student assessed beginning with the 2008-09 freshman class. The fee will generate \$450,000 for
- Increased private monies to address 3% state budget reduction
- Lectures and publications are covered from private funds and not subject to reductions.
- The 2010-2011 budget has increased due to a recent merge with the School of Design Innovation, which includes graphic design, industrial design, and interior design. there has been no significant change to the architecture program within the school.
- The school had a deficit in 2009-10 and was underfunded by the university
- We have lost two vacant faculty line; 12% operating budget reduction 08-09; 10% + reduction in 09-10; These changes impact our ability to continue to offer scholarships/stipends to M.Arch candidates. We are a unionized faculty with standard salary increases.

**2. Which of the following do you anticipate for 2010-11: reduce FT or PT faculty, increase FT or PT faculty, increase teaching load of FT faculty, no change?**



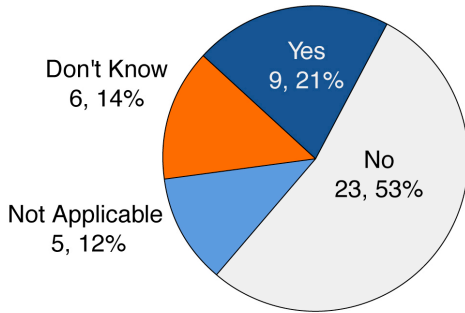
**Comments**

- After an adjustment in 09/10 to make up for missing staff, our situation is stable. The university asked for 5% cuts across the board. Our faculty ended up with lower cuts, mainly to support staff.
- Graduate student support and operation expenses will be dramatically reduced.
- Our union contract does not permit increased teaching load for FT faculty. Any budget cuts - in our case, reduced teaching resources - mean more students per professor per course, translating into fewer PT faculty. Our overall non-salary operating budget was halved at our request two years ago to protect teaching resources; but teaching resources were effectively reduced since an increase in our student population was not recognized by the addition of additional teaching resources.
- Trend is to increase the ratio of part-time faculty.
- We are also trying to reduce teaching load of FT faculty to encourage proposals for funded research, so they are teaching larger classes, but fewer of them.
- We are currently not able to fill vacancies based upon retirements or resignations.
- We charge a professional fee that comes directly to the college (approximately \$4,500 per student per year). We have used this fund to maintain faculty lines and avoid salary reductions, furloughs, or layoffs.
- We made reductions in PT positions (reducing the teaching assignments of part-time faculty, rather than reducing their numbers) and increases in teaching loads in 2009-10 due to the budget; this year we have several faculty members

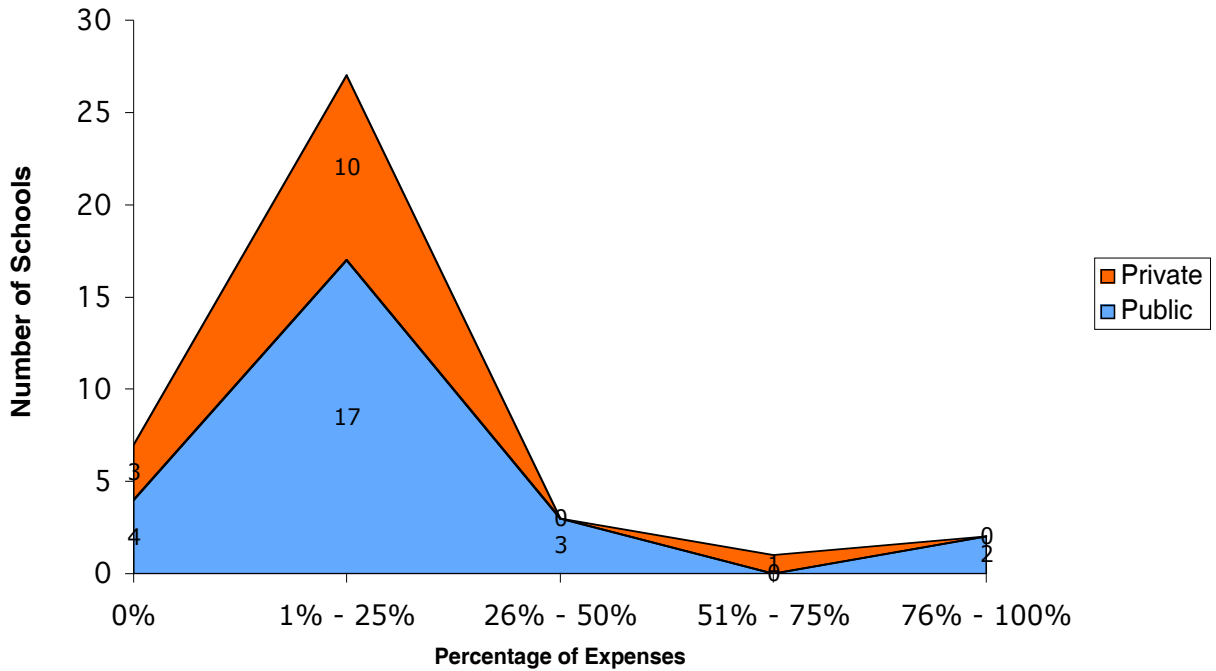
returning from sabbatical, which will reduce the teaching loads of part-time faculty further, although this will be balanced in part, by the final retirement of two senior faculty members who were teaching part-time. We expect a continued increase of teaching loads this year (over 2009-10).

- Will add one more full-time faculty

**3. Did the architecture program receive (directly or indirectly) federal American Reinvestment and Recovery Act funds at any time to help stabilize the budget?**



**4. What percentage of the architecture program's funds for travel and other discretionary funds come from foundation or gifts? N=41**



**Schools Responding**

Arizona State University  
 Auburn University  
 Boston Architectural College  
 California College of the Arts

California State Polytechnic University,  
 Pomona  
 Carleton University  
 Carnegie Mellon

Florida A & M University  
Florida International University  
Frank Lloyd Wright School of  
Architecture  
Judson University  
Kansas State University  
Kent State University  
Lawrence Tech  
Louisiana State University  
Miami University  
Mississippi State  
Montana State University  
NewSchool of Architecture and Design  
North Carolina State University  
Northeastern University  
Parsons the New School for Design  
Rhode Island School of Design

Savannah College of Art and Design  
Southern Polytechnic State University  
SUNY College of Technology at Alfred  
Tulane University  
UCLA  
Universite de Montreal  
University of Cincinnati  
University of Hartford  
University of Manitoba  
University of Memphis  
University of Tennessee  
University of Texas at Austin  
University of Texas at San Antonio  
Valencia Community College  
Virginia Tech  
Washington State University  
Wesleyan University

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### **Budget Cuts Hit Travel and Discretionary Budgets at ACSA Schools**

Michael J. Monti

Nearly half of ACSA member schools experienced reductions in their program budgets in 2009-10, while nearly equal numbers reported increases and decreases in total budget for 2010-11, according to a recent survey. However, the seemingly mixed messages about total program budgets stand in contrast to reports from administrators about decreases in budgets for travel and discretionary expenses.

The August 2010 survey asked all ACSA program administrators (full, candidate, and affiliate members) to respond on the status of budgets for 2009-10, 2010-11, and 2011-12. 46 schools, including 33% of ACSA accredited and candidacy programs, responded to the survey. (This survey is still available on the ACSA website.)

Nearly 25% of respondents reported decreases of 5% or more from the previous year in both travel and other discretionary expenses for 2009-10 and 2010-11. For travel expenses, 33% of responding programs reported some decrease in budget for each of the two years; nearly 30% reported some decrease in budget for other discretionary expenses, such as lecture series and publications.

More detailed responses to survey items helped illustrate the ways schools are working to close budget gaps or achieve budget increases. Multiple schools instituted additional fees or differential tuition to close gaps. Enrollment increases were another cited strategy, although the increased enrollment was not sufficient in offsetting additional expenses.

According to respondents, salary budgets were not closely following the pattern of other budget categories surveyed. Nearly half of respondents reported no change in salary budgets from 2009-10 to 2010-11, and more than 30% reported increases. One administrator commented that union contracts accounted for increases in salaries.