

## Introduction

As the Evergreen State College top administrators get richer and richer, budget cuts have been initiated to compensate for their unjustly high salaries. The enrollment crisis which began in 2010, largely due to the school's unaffordable tuition price despite it being reduced in 2015 and frozen for several years, has been utilized to redistribute wealth away from academic programs and communal facilities to the pockets of these top administrators. (1)

This wealth transfer only hurts the students and staff on campus by slashing jobs and educational opportunities for the sake of granting these top administrators lavish pay. However, by disrupting administrative operations on campus through organization (also known as direct action) and utilizing a variety of tactics, we can resist and reverse these unjust cuts.

**We call on students, staff, faculty, and community members to rally with us on Wednesday May 8th, 12:30 pm, on Red Square of the Evergreen State College, to demand for the restoration of the arts and the reopening of the Evergreen pool.** As the students of the 2012 Maple Spring in Quebec and teachers of the 2018 West Virginia teacher strike have proven through their relentless direct actions, all unjust budget cuts can be undone.

### Sources:

1. <https://www.theolympian.com/news/politics-government/article159533344.html>
2. <http://www.fiscal.wa.gov/Salaries.aspx> under the agency "Evergreen State College" and "Purce, Thomas"
3. <https://www.evergreen.edu/sites/default/files/budget/docs/17-19/2017-19-operating-budget-request.pdf> pg 9
4. <https://www.evergreen.edu/trustees/trustees>
5. <https://evergreen.edu/institutionalresearch/enrollment-counts>
6. <https://libcom.org/history/collectivizations-constructive-achievements-spanish-revolution-essays-documents-reports> pg 90, 91

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**Why Is the Pool  
Closed?**

**Why Are the Arts  
Facing Cuts?**

**We Can Do  
Something About It!**



## The Salaries of the Top Evergreen Administrators

When we talk about the Top Evergreen Administrators, we are referring to administrators that are covered under the "Agency Overhead" section of the school's budget. This includes the college president, provost, vice president of finance, and the board of trustees. This section of the budget also handles research for future budgets.

**The salary of the college president rose from \$242,100 in 2015 to \$305,400 in 2017.** Meanwhile, the provost's salary rose from \$80,000 in 2016 to \$146,500 in 2017. The salary of the VP of Finance also has increased, from \$123,100 in 2015 to \$145,800 in 2017. (2)

The administrator overhead budget is biennial, with it being \$1,816,770 in 2018 and \$2,148,950 in 2019. (3) If we assume that "budget research" is covered only with the 2019 budget, and subtract the salaries mentioned in the previous paragraph, **it appears that around \$1.2 million is allocated to the board of trustees yearly.** Most board members already have jobs that pay a hefty salary. (4)

## The Arts

The excuse that the Spring 2017 protests caused lower enrollment is simply not true. Enrollment had already dropped from 4,891 in Fall 2009 to 4,089 in Fall 2016, with the Fall 2017 headcount declining to only 3,907 students. **Enrollment took its steepest dive in the Fall of 2018, after the college laid off over 20 staff and faculty, primarily in the arts, which removed entire academic disciplines from the college such as metal works. In Fall 2018, enrollment dropped to 3,327 students.** (5)

Additionally, art facilities such as the color processor in Photoland, the costume shop, the experimental theater, and the scene shop were shut down in this process.

We believe that the pivot to business classes that began with George Bridge's tenure has only exacerbated the enrollment drop. These cuts to the arts are merely a way for the top administrators to squeeze money from the college before it theoretically collapses. **We are against this prospect.**

## The Pool

Using the hysteria of low-enrollment to conduct further wealth distribution, the top administration "suspended" the Evergreen Pool. This action is an insult to our working class community, for the top administration kept their exorbitant salaries while several minimum wage jobs were lost and one of Olympia's only public pools closed down.



**We demand the re-opening of the Evergreen Pool as a worker co-op.** Historically, service jobs have proven to be ran most efficiently when they are managed democratically by the workers, as shown by the CNT labor union when it ran trolleys and other industries in late 1930s Spain. (6) Evergreen has a history of worker co-ops, carried on today with its relationship to the worker-owned corporation Mondragon. Thus, a worker co-op pool is both possible and desirable.