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## CWI looks at possible levy hike

**President: Students paying way too much for community college**

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NAMPA — The College of Western Idaho is investigating ways to bring in more public funding, including the potential for an increased tax levy.



**Bert Glandon**  
CWI president

CWI trustees agreed Tuesday to contract a survey about Canyon and Ada county residents' willingness to financially support the college.

According to CWI president Bert Glandon, students are paying too much of the community college's revenues. About half of the school's budget comes from tuition and fees, while most public colleges receive about a third of their operating budgets from students.

Please see CWI, A3

## CWI

Continued from A1

Speaking at a meeting of the board of trustees Tuesday, Glandon also noted that CWI has higher

tuition than the state's two other community colleges. Meanwhile, he said, property owners in Ada and Canyon counties pay a smaller levy rate for CWI than do their counterparts for the College of Southern Idaho and North Idaho College.

In the current fiscal year,

### Tuition and fees per credit

**CWI:** resident \$136 (fulltime \$1632)

**NIC:** resident \$125 (fulltime \$1382)

**CSI:** \$110 (fulltime \$1320 per semester)

CWI requested a \$5,717,431 levy, which calculates to a rate of \$18.22 per \$100,000

of property value. Property owners supporting the other state community colleg-

es paid more than \$80 per \$100,000 of property value.

Trustee Mary Niland said CWI's relatively low levy rate could jeopardize the college's ability to win state support. In particular, she said, legislators might not support a proposed \$2.4 million extra in state funding for CWI.

Niland said members of the Joint Financial Appropriations Committee told her it's unfair for their constituents to pay higher levy rates for their community colleges.

"I don't think they're inclined to pass it," she said of the \$2.4 million proposed by Gov. Butch Otter.