

FROM: THE CALIFORNIA FACULTY ASSOCIATION  
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## **CFA HEADLINES**

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### **CSU FACULTY TO HOLD FIRST EVER STRIKE VOTE**

In what could be a turning point in the history of the California State University labor relations, the CFA Board of Directors voted unanimously last night to authorize a vote of union membership on whether or not to proceed with job actions including the possibility of a strike.

This will be the first time that the CSU faculty has taken a strike vote. If a strike does occur, it will be the largest strike of higher education teachers in U.S. history. The voting will take place March 5 through 8 on some campuses and March 12 through 15 on the remaining campuses.

“We have said all along that we do not want to strike, but we will if that is what is necessary; and more than ever it is beginning to look like it is,” said CFA president John Travis, a political science professor at Humboldt State University.

After more than 22 months of negotiations, talks between the two sides are at an impasse. A state-appointed neutral third party is overseeing the fact-finding process, after which a panel will submit a list of recommendations to CFA and the CSU administration on how to break the impasse.

If the Administration and the faculty do not accept these recommendations, the contract officially expires and the faculty would be free to conduct job actions.

“It is our responsibility both to our members and to the CSU to make these preparations because an acceptable resolution does not seem likely to be worked out,” said Travis.

To approve job actions, a majority of CFA members must vote in favor (50% plus one). If the faculty votes in favor of job actions the first stage will be “rolling walkouts,” in which faculty will strike for short durations on various campuses. Our initial goal is to minimize the negative impact on students while making a strong point to the Administration. That schedule will not be determined until there has actually been a vote in favor of job actions.

Voting will be conducted on site at the faculty’s respective campuses and by an electronic online mechanism. The votes will be counted by the League of Women Voters on March 19 through 20. Results of the voting will be announced March 21.

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