

For Immediate Release  
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## **FACULTY TO SUPPORT REFORM LEGISLATION THIS WEEK IN SACRAMENTO**

### **-- Faculty to Fight for Greater Accountability and Transparency from the CSU Administration --**

Sacramento, Ca. – On Tuesday, the California Faculty Association will be involved with a series of hearings at the Capitol, ranging from reform legislation and executive compensation legislation to fighting student fee increases and the overall CSU budget. The details for Tuesday are:

- **AB 1413: CSU Leadership Reform authored by Assemblymember Anthony Portantino**, Assembly Higher Ed Committee, **Apr 17 Tue @ 1:30 pm, Room 437** – Bill would bring oversight, transparency and public accountability to the CSU Board of Trustees. CFA spokespersons will be available for the media at 1 pm at the hearing room. For info., contact Alice Sunshine, 510-384-1967. To interview Assy. Portantino, contact Eduardo Martinez, 916-319-2044.
- **Senate Budget Subcommittee on Education Finance chaired by State Senator Jack Scott** Hearing on the CSU budget, Student Aid, and the California Post-Secondary Education Commission, **Apr 17 Tue @ 1:30 pm, Room 113**. A CFA representative will testify.
- **Joint Legislative Audit Committee** —Audit Request regarding CSU Executive Compensation, **Apr 17 Tue @ 3 pm, Room 126** – JLAC will decide whether it will audit the executive compensation practices of the California State University. Assemblymember Lori Saldaña will request the audit on behalf of Assembly Speaker Fabian Nuñez and Assemblymember Anthony Portantino. This is the first hearing since Nuñez called for an audit following news revelations in the *San Francisco Chronicle* last July. CFA will support the audit request.

On Wednesday, there will be a hearing involving student financial aid:

- **Assembly Education Finance Committee chaired by Assemblymember Julia Brownley** — Hearing on Student Financial Aid, **Apr 18 Wed @ 4 pm, Rm 126**.

“Tomorrow is an important day for the future of the CSU system,” said CSU San Bernardino English professor Susan Meisenhelder, CFA statewide chair for Political Action & Legislation. “We are fortunate that numerous policymakers are paying

attention to the problems that the CSU system faces. The leaders of the CSU operate in secrecy and do not make the needs of students and faculty their top priority. The hearings this week show that California's public higher education system is a priority for policymakers and that they are working to strengthen the system by demanding accountability, better policies, and fairness from the administration."

To listen to Assembly hearings via the internet, go to  
[http://www.assembly.ca.gov/committee\\_hearings/defaulttext.asp](http://www.assembly.ca.gov/committee_hearings/defaulttext.asp)

To listen to Senate hearings via the internet, go to  
[http://www.sen.ca.gov/htbin/testbin/noframe\\_raidio](http://www.sen.ca.gov/htbin/testbin/noframe_raidio)

Today, Lt. Governor John Garamendi railed against the CSU Administration's proposed 10 percent student fee increase in a speech to the California State Student Association's California Higher Education Student Summit (CHESS). He stated, "There is a theory swirling in the capital these days that students need to pay for a larger proportion of their education. This is backwards and dumb policy...a student fee increase is nothing but a tax on students."

This afternoon, CFA president John Travis, a political science professor at Humboldt State added, "We are dismayed that the CSU chancellor's office wants to blame fee increases on contracts with the faculty and other employees. It is wrong and not necessary to place greater burdens on students in order to give equitable pay to the people who provide and support student instruction in our public state universities.

He added, "In official settings the administration admits that our pay is a matter of 'budget priorities.' But to the news media they claim they don't have the money and need to squeeze more out of students. It's wrong. And it's disingenuous. We oppose any more fee increases. Instead, the Trustees need to study what damage has been done to students by more than 75% fee hikes over the last four years and deal with that."

CFA adamantly opposes student fee increases and urges the CSU leadership to press the Legislature to provide money in the budget that would cover the cost of the proposed 10% fee hike.

Students at CSU campuses are planning rallies and other actions this month to protest rising student fees, cuts to student outreach programs, and other challenges confronting student, particularly the difficulty in getting needed classes.

There will be an event this week at Cal State Bakersfield that media is welcome to attend:

**Cal State Bakersfield, April 18, Wednesday, Noon – 1pm**

Location: in front of student union

Contact Person: Erica Hernandez, 661- 586-5254

Next week, there will be numerous events statewide. Media should contact student organizers at their respective campuses as follows:

**CSU East Bay, Rally April 24, Tuesday, 11 am- 1 pm**

Location: Meiklejohn Hall

Contact: Lili Marquez, 916-397-9124

**CSU San Bernardino, April 24, Tuesday, 11:30am-3:00pm**

Location: Library Lawn

Contact Person: Raul Rodriguez, 951-445-1191

**Long Beach State, April 24, Tuesday 12:30-2:30 pm**

Location: Southwest Terrance

Contact: Nina Delavin, 626-329-9734

**San Jose State U., Rally April 25, Wednesday, Noon-2 pm**

Contact: Robert Gutierrez, 408-421-0284

**Cal State Los Angeles, April 25, Wednesday, 11:00am-2:00pm**

Location: In front of bookstore

Contact: Edgar Ibarria, 310-592-4761

**Cal State Dominguez Hills, April 25, Wednesday, 11:00a.m.-2:00p.m.**

Location: Sculpture Garden

Contact: Yesenia Diaz, 562-533-6143

**Cal Poly Pomona, April 25, Wednesday, 11:00am-3:00pm**

Location: University Quad

Contact: Oscar Marquez, 626-485-7494

**Cal State Northridge, April 25, Wednesday, 11:00am-2:00 pm**

Location: Bayramian Lawn

Contact: Justin Rivas, 818-284-2934

**San Francisco State U., Rally April 26, Thursday, Noon-2 pm**

Contact: Asella Donovan-Blood, 209-256-0870

**CSU Sacramento, Rally May 2, Wednesday, Noon-2 pm**

Contact: Lizbet Morales, 707-367-5146

In addition, students are organizing protests at other campuses in Southern California. For information, please contact Blanca Castañeda, 626-487-7462.

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