

From the California Faculty Association

CFA HEADLINES

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Faculty: We need you at the State Capitol on April 4 to say ‘Governor—Fund the CSU!’

As debate unfolds at legislative hearings on state funding for public higher education, CFA activists from San Diego to Humboldt are preparing for a day of action at the State Capitol on April 4.

That’s the day we will return to tell Gov. Brown and state legislators to [#FreeTheCSU](#) and [#FundTheDream](#).

- [RSVP here to attend](#)
- [See the April 4 #FreeTheCSU Facebook page](#) for event details.



Gov. Jerry Brown’s proposed 2018-19 state budget includes just \$92.1 million in additional funding for the California State University. That’s simply not enough. [CFA proposes the CSU budget augmentation be \\$422.6 million](#), which would increase access to the CSU for an additional 18,205 students.

At the [first legislative hearing on public higher education funding](#) last week, students and faculty described the setbacks that will be suffered both by students and California’s economy if our state’s leaders don’t reinvest in putting degrees into more students’ hands.

More legislative hearings are coming up, including on [March 1 in Fresno by the state Assembly’s Select Committee on the Master Plan for Higher Education in California](#).

State funding for the CSU will be a main topic of a hearing by the state Senate Budget Subcommittee 1 on Education on March 15 at 9:30 am at the State Capitol, Room 3191. CFA urges faculty and students to attend in support of funding for the CSU. [Email CFA’s Government Relations Office](#) to RSVP and get more information.

But speaking at hearings alone will not get the job done.

That is why CFA calls on you and other supporters of the CSU, of our students, our faculty and campus communities, of our mission to educate Californians, and of the future success of this state, to come to the State Capitol on April 4.

Campus CFA Chapters are organizing contingents to head to Sacramento, including buses from some CSU campuses.

We need you to show up and raise your voice to restore funding to the CSU so we can serve students and do our jobs. Your participation will help to drive home that message. [RSVP here to attend](#)

California Democratic Party adopts CFA resolution opposing student tuition hikes

CFA President Jennifer [Eagan's rousing call for a resolution to oppose tuition increases](#) in our public higher education systems met with broad support at the California Democratic Party convention last weekend.

Convention delegates adopted a sense-of-the-body resolution amid cheers to “oppose any tuition increases at the UC, CSU or community college systems.”

Over the weekend, key provisions favoring public higher education made their way into [the California Democratic Party's platform](#). CFA and other community allies have advocated for many of these including support for reinvestment in public higher education “to correct years of insufficient allocations.”

The platform takes a broad view of financial support for college students saying, “We must return to tuition-free public college and university for all Californians, funded by progressive taxation.” The platform says living expenses and books must be part of that equation to avoid forcing students into excessive work hours, debt or dropping out.

At the same time, it supports a continuation of and expansion of existing student financial aid programs, with particular help to very low-income students to eliminate homelessness and hunger.

The platform defends the rights of teachers and faculty to organize unions and “receive wages commensurate with their expertise and responsibility.” It calls for Lecturer faculty “who do the same work as full-time faculty and meet the same professional standards” to be “paid a comparable wage.”



CFA chapters say: ‘Stick with the Union to wield Faculty Power’

CFA members turned out on campuses Monday and Tuesday, wearing red, sporting stickers, and chatting up colleagues to express a simple concept—union power is faculty power. They greeted faculty colleagues and modeled solidarity.



Meantime, the U.S. Supreme Court began hearings in a case against public employee unions brought by wealthy—and class-conscious—extreme right-wing forces who realize that unions generate power for working people. That power shows up in contract negotiations at work and in advocacy for public policy that promotes the middle class, protects the vulnerable, and generally reduces income inequality—and these right-wing forces don't like it.

Interestingly, unions and worker advocates are not the only ones who understand that.

The Sacramento Bee Editorial Board, which is not always sympathetic to public employee unions, [wrote Monday](#), “The case at hand, *Janus v. AFSCME*, is a classic example of an ideological pet peeve posing as a public policy problem. Its backers are a network of conservative billionaires and their foundations whose views have been artificially amplified.”

CFA-affiliated unions including the American Association of University Professors, SEIU and NEA rallied for faculty's and other public employee's rights outside SCOTUS's building in Washington DC.

On Monday at Cal State L.A., CFA and CSU Employees Union members tabled and walked the halls of campus buildings, greeting people, distributing union-red stickers, and taking selfies with their hashtag #ImWithCFA. The same happened on many other of the CSU campuses.

This Thursday, Humboldt State CFA Chapter will launch “Union Thursdays” when faculty will wear red, and “What's at Stake?” buttons to symbolize that Union Power is Faculty Power.

[See a CFA Gallery of photos from CSU campuses](#)

Learn more:

- Jen Eagan, CFA President speaks about the case on KPFA-FM: [podcast & download](#)
- Kent Wong, UCLA Labor Center Director: [Janus v. AFSCME is a threat to all workers](#)

Stand with Your Colleagues—Join CFA

CFA is the union of all CSU faculty. If you are not a member, please [join CFA today](#). It's easy to join online or by printing out and completing a membership application.

If you are a CFA Member, [be in touch with the CFA Chapter on your campus](#) to learn how you can connect with union power.

In Other News

The schedule of the CFA Equity Conference is posted; Obama's Other Daughters to appear: As the conference dates March 16-17 approach, the biannual [2018 CFA Equity Conference schedule](#) is posted on the web of the [CFA Council for Affirmative Action](#). Obama's Other Daughters, an interactive improvisational comedy group will be there. See a preview of [their show at Chicago's Second City](#) and catch them live at the CFA Equity Conference on Saturday, March 17. Registration for the conference is done through [your campus CFA Chapter office](#).



CFA Supports #NeverAgain to stop gun violence in schools: CFA issued [a statement this week](#) to “bear witness to the moral leadership of the youth of Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School, and their many allies across the country, who are declaring that their safety at school matters more than the moneyed influence of the gun lobby, more than the cowardice of politicians, and more than the profits reaped from the reckless mass marketing of weapons of war in our communities.”

Teachers Unions call for action to stop the violence: The California Teachers Association, National Educators Association, American Federation of Teachers will protest for better gun control policy on March 14. They encourage educators throughout the country to wear orange that day. Survivors of the Florida school shooting plan a student-led “[March for Our Lives](#)” in Washington DC on [March 24](#). On April 20, the anniversary of the Columbine tragedy, NEA calls on communities to join in a [National Day of Action Against Gun Violence in Schools](#).

Faculty Rights Tip: Free speech for faculty in the CSU

The right to free speech is guaranteed in the First Amendment to the US Constitution. It's also guaranteed in Article 1 of the California Constitution. Moreover, faculty enjoy Academic Freedom to express ourselves in our work both on and off campus.

Our CFA Affiliate, AAUP, is the leading authority on the topic and passed the must-read [1940 State of Academic Freedom](#). For further reading, we recommend the [AAUP's article on Academic Freedom and the First Amendment](#).



The CSU Statewide Academic Senate published a [resolution on Academic Freedom and Free Speech](#).

If you have questions or concerns about free speech on your campus, please get in touch with your [CFA chapter](#).

See an [archive of Faculty Rights Tips](#)

If you have a faculty rights question, please contact your [campus CFA faculty rights representative](#)

If you have questions about a faculty rights tip or would like to suggest a tip [please write us](#) with the subject line “Faculty Rights Tip.”

Links of the Week

Judging Janus

[Capital & Main](#)

Capital & Main series looks at the forces behind *Janus*, the potentially devastating consequences of the case — and the possibility that *Janus* could galvanize unions in ways that their opponents never imagined.

Supreme Court extends relief for 'Dreamers,' refuses to rule now on Trump immigration plan

[Los Angeles Times](#) | [San Francisco Chronicle](#)

The Supreme Court handed President Trump a significant defeat Monday, turning down the administration's plea for a quick ruling on the president's power to end special protections for so-called Dreamers. The court's decision not to immediately hear the administration's appeal could keep in place a legal shield for nearly 700,000 young immigrants for the rest of this year, and perhaps longer.

The Urgent Plea of an Undocumented (CSU) Trustee

[Chronicle of Higher Education](#)

Fourteen years later, he is a student trustee for the CSU system, pursuing a master's in communication studies at the Northridge campus, and dreaming of a law degree or a Ph.D. What makes those dreams possible, he says, are the work permit and temporary protection from deportation he received ...

Facing a 'Looming Fiscal Emergency,' HSU Announces Plan to Slash Budget by \$9 million

[Lost Coast Outpost](#)

Humboldt State President Lisa A. Rossbacher announced plans to cut the school's annual budget by seven percent, or \$9 million. Cost-cutting measures include eliminating a number of staff and administrator positions, instituting hiring freezes in numerous departments, closing the [Third Street Gallery](#) and “determining alternative pathways” for the [Children's Center](#).

'Poorly Paid' Professors

[Inside Higher Ed](#)

Faculty members earn 15 percent less than others with advanced degrees, study finds. They work equally long hours.

'Teachers Are Educators, Not Security Guards': Educators Respond to Trump Proposal

[The New York Times](#)

The Lack of a College Degree Is a Public-Health Crisis. Here's What Higher Ed Can Do About It.

[Chronicle of Higher Education](#)

Get a college degree, and you're more likely to lead a healthier and more prosperous life. Go without, and, for a number of reasons, you're more likely to face a range of health problems. The health gulf between those who get a college degree and those who don't [is widening](#).

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Are you faculty at a CSU campus? [Join CFA today](#). It's our union!