

## From the California Faculty Association

### CFA HEADLINES

April 11, 2018 · Weekly news digest from CFA

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### Pressure continues to fund the CSU; next up CFA Lobby Days & The May Revise

The 1,000 California State University students, faculty and supporters who rallied for the CSU at the State Capitol last week generated a significant amount of energy and support for the CSU.

As reported in the [April 6 CFA Headlines](#), Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon and Senate pro Tem Toni Atkins, the CSU Chancellor and two CSU Trustees as well as faculty and students from campuses all over California called on Governor Jerry Brown to step up funding for the CSU in his proposed 2018-19 State Budget.

“We got the support of the top leaders of both houses of the state legislature. These are the people who will participate in the tough end-game negotiations in June over how much state funding will go to the CSU,” said Lillian Taiz, CFA Political Action and Legislation Committee Chair. “They get it. They want to reinvest in the CSU and that is essential.”

Other elected officials who spoke April 4 include Assembly members Jose Medina, Sharon Quirk-Silva, and Tony Thurmond.

Numerous April 4 rally speakers pointed out that in a moment when there is an enormous state surplus—roughly \$7 billion above the required contributions to the state’s “rainy day” emergency fund—making an investment in California’s future through public higher education is a sensible idea.

#### WHAT’S NEXT

The governor’s next public action will be May 14 when he releases his “May Revise”—adjustments to his state spending proposal based on tax receipts and a new understanding of Californian’s priorities.



“Our job between now and May 14 is to speak out everywhere we can about the need for increased CSU funding and to visit our elected state legislators to make sure we have their support when the time comes to vote on the state budget,” explains Taiz.

The legislature will hold more public hearings on the proposed budget, and supporters of the CSU will be able to visit legislators in their home district offices as well as during CFA Lobby Days in Sacramento, on April 30 and May 1. Faculty should [contact your campus CFA Chapter](#) to learn more, and watch for more information from CFA in the coming weeks.

## TRUSTEES & TUITION

Meantime, just one day after the Governor releases his May Revise, the CSU Board of Trustees is scheduled to meet, and they could be voting on a controversial tuition increase. In January, on the Chancellor’s recommendation, the Trustees put off a vote on tuition to “no sooner” than their May 15-16 meeting.

Some Trustees, including [Lateefah Simon](#) who addressed the April 4 Rally, have questioned the wisdom of a tuition hike this year. Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom, an ex-officio CSU Trustee, has pointed out it is unwise to adopt a tuition hike before state funding is known. Yet, there are those who may call for a vote in May. Most CSU campuses will be in finals when the Trustees meet.

*PHOTO: Students, along with faculty and supporters, rallied and marched at the State Capitol on April 4. Photo by Michael Henderson, faculty at CSU San Marcos. See his [image gallery](#) of the day.*

See the [#FreeTheCSU Photo Gallery](#) of images. See [video by the Sol Collective](#) featuring a speech at the April 4 Rally by Margarita Berta-Ávila, CFA Capitol Chapter President.

Find news reports at [CFA in the News](#). [#FreeTheCSU](#) [#FundTheDream](#)

## Transparency about crimes committed—SB 1421 would apply that principle to police officers

If a California public employee is found to have a committed a crime by an agency investigation, the results are public record. That makes sense. While due process rights *must* always be protected, most public employees found guilty of crimes are not protected from public scrutiny.

In 27 states, some form of transparency when they are found to have committed crimes also applies to police officers who are, after all, public servants. This is not the case in California.

California’s state law keeps the results of investigations and discipline of police officers secret, even in the case of deadly shootings, sexual assault, or cases of planting evidence.

[Senate Bill 1421](#), introduced by Sen. Nancy Skinner, would change this. If it becomes law, the public would have access to the findings of police investigations and the right to know the



discipline meted out in cases relating to “deadly and serious uses of force,” sexual assault against a civilian, and proven dishonesty in an investigation such as perjury and planting or destroying evidence.

CFA is a co-sponsor of SB 1421 along with the American Civil Liberties Union, Black Lives Matter, and other youth and community groups.

“CFA is supporting SB 1421 not only because we believe in transparency and good government, but because as an anti-racist organization, we want to ensure real public safety for our faculty, staff, and students of color,” explains CFA President Jennifer Eagan. “You can’t work or learn when you’re afraid, and it’s not fair for women and people of color to live in fear of the people entrusted to protect them.”

Police organizations, including police officer unions, [reportedly are looking at the bill](#); they are likely to oppose it as they have done in the case of similar bills in the past.

Cecil Canton, CFA Associate Vice President-Affirmative Action and a criminal justice professor at CSU Sacramento, said, “That law enforcement is dangerous work filled with uncertainty is not in question here. As a former law enforcement officer, I know it quite well.”

He adds, “But we need a great deal more openness about what is going on in police departments, like the one here in Sacramento, that lead to black adults and children getting shot as often as they do, guilty or innocent, no matter the offense. Covering up the facts of crime is unjust, and without justice there will be no trust and no peace in our communities.”

[See a Community Fact Sheet about SB 1421](#)  
[See all the bills on CFA’s 2018 Legislative Agenda](#)

## Reflecting on 1968

Campus Chapter delegates to CFA’s 2018 Spring Assembly are reflecting back 50 years, on the critical, history-shifting events of 1968.

Among those are the work and untimely assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the Chicano Student Walkout in East L.A., the labor movement then and now, and the present (and hopeful!) state of student activism inspired by movements of the past.

Everyone can share in these reflections with these films, recommended by CFA’s Officers.



***At the River I Stand*** (California Newsreel, 2015, 58 minutes) [Watch this film](#) at no cost on the website of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.

***Walkout*** (HBO films, 2006, 1hr, 51 minutes) is available at HBO On Demand or [HBO Go](#) You can see an interview with the filmmaker of *Walkout*, Moctesuma Esparza, and some clips from the film on [Democracy Now!](#), March 29, 2006.

***Chicano! Take Back the Schools*** (California Mexico Center, 56 minutes) is a documentary [on YouTube](#) with real footage of the walkouts.

Finally, [read about Students Deserve](#). They are an L.A.-based grassroots organization working toward justice in and beyond schools through political education, ending policing and privatization in schools, and funding *real* community schools.

## In Other News

### **THE JUNE PRIMARY IS COMING AND CFA WILL BE PHONE-BANKING TO #FreeTheCSU:**

The California Primary Election is June 5, meaning it's coming up fast. All statewide offices are open and the top two vote-getters, regardless of political party, will face off in the November General Election. CFA members will be invited to make phone calls through your campus CFA chapter. [CFA has endorsed](#) Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom for Governor, Assembly member Tony Thurmond for Superintendent of Public Instruction, Incumbent Betty Yee for State Controller, Incumbent Alex Padilla for Secretary of State, CPA Fiona Ma for Treasurer, and State Senator Ricardo Lara for Insurance Commissioner. [Learn more about CFA endorsements](#).



**APRIL 20 IS NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE IN SCHOOLS:** On the 19<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the massacre at Columbine High School in Colorado, the National Education Association, California Teachers Association, American Federation of Teachers, and organizations of students, parents, school administrators and many others are calling for a day of action. Supporters will wear orange, and at events they will read the names of victims as well as hold sit-ins and lobby elected officials. [Learn more and get tools](#) to help spread the word. See CFA's message of support for the #NeverAgain movement: "[Parkland Students, We Stand With You](#)."

**RADIO FREE CSU:** If you have not yet checked out [Radio Free CSU](#), [click here](#)! CFA's initial 10-part series, "Stronger Together," is taking listeners on a journey through CFA's Anti-Racism and Social Justice Transformation work. Union leaders and activists join host Audrena Redmond to discuss CFA's Guiding Principles, and how they are being enacted within CFA chapters and on campuses. The newest episode, featuring CFA Vice President Charles Toombs, will focus on being part of the solution by being intentionally committed to addressing racism; it will be available soon.

## Faculty Rights Tip: Evaluation Criteria



[Article 15.3](#) of the Collective Bargaining Agreement provides that once an evaluation process begins, there shall be no changes. We all know, however, that procedures and criteria change over time.

Evaluation changes usually trigger union rights to meet and confer over the changes, and CFA engages the administration to protect our members' rights.

There may be instances in which a change in evaluation criteria and procedures violates the collective bargaining agreement, as the change occurs during the evaluation process and impacts tenure and promotion decisions.

Often when evaluation policies change, faculty members make an explicit election to be evaluated either under the criteria in place when they were hired or the newer criteria.

If you have a question about evaluation criteria, [contact your campus CFA Chapter Faculty Rights Representative](#)

See [previous Faculty Rights Tips](#) on a range of topics in our contract.

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

### **HSU students call for education funding, justice for Josiah**

[Eureka Times Standard](#)

With the rally occurring on the 50th anniversary of the death of Martin Luther King Jr., HSU Communications major Lizzie Phillips, 25, said the efforts by students to take back their voices and push for economic and racial equality within the educational system had added significance for her. "His dream never died in all of us and we're all together in this," Phillips said. "I think that, out of today, that has been the most wonderful thing to take away; that our stories might be different, our struggles might be different, but our voices were collectively heard."

### **Remembering Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on 50th anniversary of his death**

[Fresno Bee](#)

Joining in a coalition were the NAACP, Fresno State, Fresno Police Department, FMTK Labor Council, CHP, Fresno City College, SEIU 1000, California Faculty Association and Fresno State CSUEU for an event called "Undoing Injustice, Doing Justice." It marked King's work in social and economic justice and his support for labor unions.

### **CSU Then and Now: As enrollment at California State University campuses has increased, state funding for the system has dramatically declined**

[Comstock's Magazine](#)

"We can ignore the facts showing that educational equity is declining and disparities by wealth and income widening," according to the CFA paper, "but the price of that denial is high." ... "As the student body of the CSU became darker, funding became lighter," testified Cecil Canton, a criminal justice professor at Sacramento State, at a state Capitol hearing in October 2016, as



noted in the report. ... The budget “shows a real-tone-deafness to the 30-year trend of defunding the CSU,” says California Faculty Association President Jennifer Eagan.

### **A Grand Plan for Public Higher Ed Is Aging. Can It Be Reinvented?**

[The Chronicle of Higher Education](#)

While California's research universities are still highly regarded, they are increasingly out of reach for students; each year, far more high-school graduates meet the academic qualifications for the UC and CSU systems than there are places allocated under the master plan.

### **Equity Gaps in College Spending**

[Inside Higher Ed](#)

Education spending for students of color who attend public colleges in the United States trails spending on white students by an average of more than \$1,000 per year, according to a [new analysis](#) from the Center for American Progress. Nationwide, the aggregate spending gap is roughly \$5 billion per year.

### **What all the states where teachers are striking have in common**

[Think Progress](#)

Yes, these states all went to Donald Trump in the presidential election — something many journalists and pundits have focused on. But more importantly, they are also all states with right-to-work laws who have cut public services.

### **N.Y. For-Profits Get Piece of Scholarship Pie**

[Inside Higher Ed](#)

For-profit colleges in New York can now participate in the tuition-free scholarship program that typically benefits nonprofit institutions alone.

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