

From the California Faculty Association

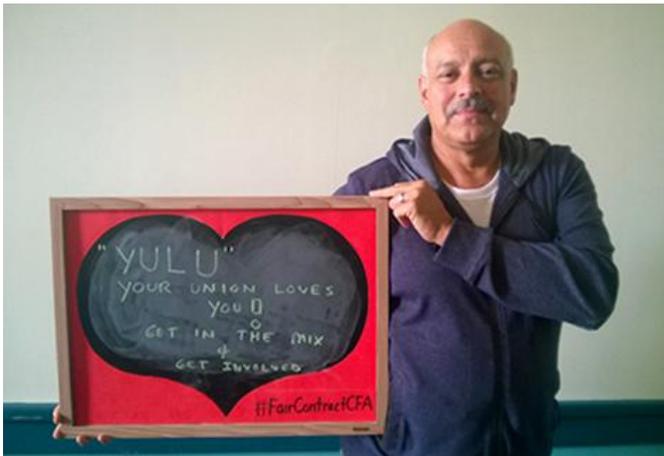
CFA HEADLINES

February 11, 2014 · Weekly news digest from CFA

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Valentine's week means "heartfelt" events statewide



Dozens of faculty flooded Java City in the library at Sacramento State to participate in a "Calfac-uccino" hosted by the CFA Capitol Chapter on Tuesday, Feb. 11.

Over free coffee, members chatted about the state budget and its impact on funding for the CSU, contract talks and faculty rights issues.

"The event was a real success," said Kevin Wehr, chapter president. "We

had two dozen faculty members gather to converse about current issues of politics and bargaining, as well as the campus climate. CFA can provide a substantial social benefit by offering places for faculty to socialize."

Similar events are happening throughout the state this week. Chapters on the Channel Islands, East Bay, Los Angeles, Maritime Academy, Northridge, San Diego, Sacramento and San Francisco campuses also held events Monday and Tuesday.

CFA members on every campus want fairness at the bargaining table. Our contract is set to expire June 30. Faculty members are urged to participate in these events to support our bargaining team and to spread that word that achieving a fair contract is important to *all* of us.

For a listing of events by campus, click here (<http://www.calfac.org/post/week-heartfelt-events-highlight-contract-bargaining>)

CFA Campus Chapters host All-Faculty Meetings on contract bargaining & CSU funding

This week, the CFA chapter at Dominguez Hills will hold the next All-Faculty Meetings, gatherings that are being organized on all 23 CSU campuses this spring.



The Capitol Chapter at Sac State held the first meeting in late January.

“Members of the bargaining team and CFA officers are traveling to all of the 23 campuses to brief CSU faculty on bargaining and update them on the status of the CSU budget,” said Andy Merrifield, Chair of the CFA Bargaining Team. “We urge all CSU faculty members to get informed by attending the meeting on your campus.”

Below, please see the details of the meetings scheduled to date. Watch the CFA web site as [meeting details](#) are announced on more campuses.

Dominguez Hills: Wed, Feb 12, 11:30 am-1 pm, Loker Student Union, Club 1910. For more info, please call Audrena Redmond 562-438-8182.

East Bay: Tue, Feb 25, 4-6 pm, University Union, Bay View Room. For more info, please call Maureen Loughran 510-206-1263.

Fullerton: Wed, Mar 19, 11:30 am-1:30 pm, Pollack Library North 130. For more info, please call Chuck Marchese 562-981-4584.

Los Angeles: Wed, Mar 5, 3:15-5 pm, Golden Eagle, Ballroom 2. RSVP to Jackie Teepen at jteepen@calfac.org or to the CFA chapter office at 323-343-5310. Show your support for our CFA Bargaining Team by wearing your Love for a Fair Contract t-shirt. Please call the office or email Jackie if you need a “love” t-shirt.

Pomona: Tue, Mar 4, 11:30 am-1pm, Kellogg West. RSVP to Jackie Teepen at jteepen@calfac.org or to CFA chapter office at 909-869-4818. Show your support to our CFA Bargaining Team by wearing your “Love for a Fair Contract t-shirt.” Please call the office or email Jackie if you need a “love” t-shirt.

San Francisco: Tue, Mar 18, 12:30-2:30 pm, Library, Room 121. For more info, please call Katherine General 415-728-8927.

San Jose: Tuesday, March. 11, 11:30 a.m.-1 pm, Library, Room 225.

San Luis Obispo: Thu, Mar 6, 11 am-1 pm, location TBA. For more info, please call CFA SLO Chapter President Glen Thorncroft, (805) 756-2118.

Sonoma: Wed, Feb 19, Noon-1:30 pm, Student Center, 2nd floor, Sonoma Valley Room. For more info, please call Sue Pak 510-290-4308.

HELP TO BUILD CFA MEMBERSHIP. CFA represents all faculty but each of us must say that we want to be counted in. [Please join CFA](#) if you are not already a member. Invite a colleague to join if you've already joined yourself.

Last call for budget messages to legislators



Over the past few weeks, thousands of faculty, students and CSU supporters have sent messages to their legislators advocating for more funding for the CSU than is contained in Gov. Jerry Brown's proposed budget.

While the governor is proposing a state budget that would increase funding for the CSU by about 5 percent, it still falls short of the much-needed funding the CSU Board of Trustees requested and that the system desperately needs.

We have sent more than 3,300 messages. Please take this opportunity to let your legislators hear your voice by filling out a message using CFA's automated alert system by **Friday, Feb. 14.**

To send a message using CFA's Take Action tool, click here (http://capwiz.com/calpac/issues/alert/?alertid=63053626&type=ST&show_alert=1)

California AAUP tackles strategies to strengthen faculty organizations

The California Conference of the American Association of University Professors held its [annual meeting last weekend](#) where long-time CFA leader Elizabeth Hoffman gave a keynote.



Hoffman, who taught in the CSU throughout the historic development of the faculty's union, related how CFA built the kind of unity among California State University faculty

that could get better contracts, better teaching conditions and a better public university overall.

In a conversation after her talk, which was titled "Organizing & Equity in a Two-Tier System: The Experience of the California Faculty System," Hoffman said she had wanted to "cover some of the strategies and tactics CFA used to build a unified union with the power to protect a stable faculty workforce and protect academic freedom for our profession."

Hoffman herself is a retired CSU Lecturer, a job category known nationally as "contingent faculty" and which recently has been the subject of unprecedented scrutiny by a Congressional committee and the news media.

One of the vexing difficulties for the faculty on some campuses is building common cause among tenure-line and contingent faculty. Hoffman recounted a new vision initiated in CFA during the late 1990s.

Hoffman said CFA began to articulate for the faculty a different kind of higher ed union, one that is "based upon the democratic role that professors must play in assuring the highest quality of education for all of America's citizens, especially the many first-generation college students. This broader vision of unionism required attempting to create one big union that could address concerns faced by a broad range of employees."

Among other events at the AAUP California meeting, Bob Samuels presented on "Making Public Education Free." Samuels, who teaches at UC San Diego, has on the same topic a recently released book and [a working paper circulated by the Campaign for the Future of Higher Education](#).

The meeting held at Santa Clara University included faculty from all three segments of California public higher ed as well as from private universities.

Equity Conference to be held March 7, 8



Helping create a more diversified CSU, combating assaults on effective teaching methods, and examining the challenges facing public education funding in California are among the main points of the Council for Affirmative Action's 2014 Equity Conference.

The conference will be held from 10 a.m. Friday, March 7 through 6 p.m. Saturday, March 8, at the Westin Hotel LAX.

This year's theme is "A Journey for Change: Re-visioning a Better CSU." The conference will feature Jackson Potter, staff coordinator for the Chicago Teachers Union as a keynote speaker. Multiple workshops and presentations from each caucus within CFA's Council for Affirmative Action, as well as the Academic Professionals of CA and the New Faculty Majority, will be held during the two-day event.

For more information, click here (<http://www.calfac.org/post/2014-equity-conference>)

PPIC Poll: Californians favor increased public higher ed funding

The Public
Policy Institute of



PPIC

PUBLIC POLICY
INSTITUTE OF CALIFORNIA

California has just released a new report with interesting poll results on Californian's spending priorities. The "Californians and Their Government" survey is conducted periodically to examine the social, economic, and political trends that influence public policy preferences and ballot choices.

According to the 35-page report:

When asked to consider increasing spending in the four major state budget areas, Californians are most likely to favor increasing spending on K–12 public education (81%), followed by higher education (75%) and health and human services (66%). An overwhelming majority oppose increasing spending on prisons and corrections (72%), while just 23 percent favor doing so.

Past surveys have shown that Californians prioritize K–12 education above other state spending areas. Strong majority support for increasing spending in higher education also exists across regions and demographic groups, and among likely voters (70%), Democrats (84%), and independents (74%); support is lower among Republicans (55%).

"Like all of us, Californians clearly understand the importance of public funding for higher education," remarked Kevin Wehr, chair of CFA's Political Action/Legislative Committee. "They know, as we do, that it is the key to a strong economy and a democratic society."

To read the full report, click here [[Read the report](#)] (PDF).

Faculty Rights Tip of the Week: Definitions Are Important

This weekly CFA Headlines feature offers a brief “Faculty Rights Tip” or short information piece about the faculty contract.



FACULTY RIGHTS TIP: Definitions Are Important

Article 2 of our Faculty Contract specifically defines certain terms used throughout the agreement.

For instance, a “day” is defined as a calendar day and the definition goes on to describe how to compute a day and how to deal with holidays. “Department” is defined as the faculty unit employees within an academic department or other equivalent administrative unit, and the “President” is defined as the chief executive officer of a University or college or his/her designee.

Definitions for terms such as these are crucial for correctly interpreting and enforcing provisions of the faculty contract. Arbitrators frequently cite specific definitions when issuing decisions on grievances.

If you have a question about the definitions found in Article 2 contact your local CFA Faculty Rights Representative. You can find your campus CFA Chapter Faculty Rights Representative here (www.calfac.org/faculty-rights-chapter-representatives).

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

A first for CSU Long Beach

Jane Close Conoley to be the first female president in CSU Long Beach history. — Long Beach Press Telegram (<http://www.presstelegram.com/social-affairs/20140129/jane-close-conoley-to-be-first-woman-to-lead-csulb>)

American dream turned American nightmare

Arik Greenberg, a theology instructor at Loyola Marymount University, shares his story of life as an adjunct. Greenberg had recently been asked by SEIU to brief congressional staffers in Washington, D.C. on working conditions of part-time faculty. — PBS Newshour (<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/making-sense/one-professors-american-dream-teaching-turned-american-nightmare/>)

Rutgers full-time adjuncts win contracts

Full-time, non-tenure track professors at Rutgers University win key bargaining goals in their new contract. — Inside Higher Education

(<http://www.insidehighered.com/quicktakes/2014/02/04/rutgers-full-time-adjuncts-win-long-term-contracts>)

PBS Newshour focuses on “adjunctivitis”

The nearly nine-minute segment focuses on the epidemic of low-paid adjunct professors in academia. — PBS Newshour (<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/is-academia-suffering-adjunctivitis/>)

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