

From the California Faculty Association

CFA HEADLINES

January 22, 2014 · Weekly news digest from CFA

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Governor's State of the State applauds California's financial comeback but largely ignores higher ed

Gov. Jerry Brown presented his annual State of the State this morning in front of a joint convention of the California State Legislature. It was his 11th such presentation, the most by any governor in California history.

The governor lauded California's "comeback," highlighting the budget surplus, the raising of the minimum wage and the growth of new jobs since 2010. He juxtaposed his excitement about California's revival with cautionary tales of the unfunded liabilities for the public employee and teacher retirement systems, the backlog of infrastructure repairs, and ongoing concern about climate change highlighted by the recent drought declaration the Governor made just last week.

Higher education received little attention in this year's State of the State. This was a departure from last year's speech in which the governor emphasized the need for California's three public higher ed systems to work together to improve four-year graduation rates and to facilitate the transfer process among the segments.

The governor included a \$50 million "Award for Innovation" grant program in this year's budget proposal to encourage the CSU, UC and Community Colleges to implement models of innovation that increase the number of people earning bachelor's degrees statewide, allow students to earn bachelor's degrees that can be completed within four years and ease transfer through the state's education system.

Click here to read the governor's State of the State address.

<http://gov.ca.gov/news.php?id=18373>

CFA asks members and all who are interested in preserving quality higher education in California to write their legislators and ask for more funding for the California State University.

While the governor's 2014/15 state budget proposal aims to increase CSU funding by about 4 percent, the plan falls short of the funding allocation that the CSU Board of Trustees requested and the system desperately needs.

[Click here \(http://capwiz.com/calpac/state/main/?state=CA\)](http://capwiz.com/calpac/state/main/?state=CA) to use CFA's "Take Action" tool and send your elected officials an email advocating for reinvestment in the CSU.



CFHE gains publicity coinciding with NYC meeting

More than 75 union leaders, educators and activists met in New York City Jan. 17 to 19 for the sixth national gathering of the Campaign for the Future of Higher Education.

Many CFA officers, including President Lillian Taiz, were on hand to share skills for grassroots campaigns, learn about each others' work and plan ways to involve more people in CFHE's May gathering in Albany, New York.

Many CFA officers, including

"We must amplify our message by connecting with community groups. We have to hear what they think. We can figure out ways that we can build this movement and make it even larger," Taiz told the group.

A few hours before the conference began Friday, The Huffington Post's HuffPost Live broadcast featured a 20-minute panel discussion regarding online education, posing the question— is the U.S. creating "Walmarts of Education."

Fred Kowal, president of United University Professions in the State University of New York, and Mike Fabricant, treasurer of the Professional Staff Congress in the City University of New York, which hosted the gathering, explained CFHE's concerns.

Among those are severe cuts in funding to public colleges and universities by states throughout the country, how quality education is and should be delivered, and that students deserve well-rounded educations, ultimately benefitting the country through a well-educated citizenry.

Click here to watch the broadcast. (<http://live.huffingtonpost.com/r/segment/cheaper-faster-and-dumber/52cc5c7602a7606b07000133>)

Also in time for the conference, The Huffington Post published a column highlighting the profit potential driving the push toward online higher ed. The blog post by Susan Meisenhelder, professor emeritus at CSU San Bernardino, springboards from CFHE's working paper on "The 'Promises' of Online Higher Education" and details the way corporations and investors have followed the money in this latest trend.

Click here to read the column. (http://www.huffingtonpost.com/susan-meisenhelder/online-higher-ed_b_4613191.html)

Faculty Rights Tip of the Week: Extension For-Credit Employment (Article 40)

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

FACULTY RIGHTS TIP: Extension For-Credit Employment

Article 40 of the faculty contract covers Extension For-Credit Employment. These are classes that are offered for university credit but not with state supported funds. The classes are offered through University Extension.

Not all provisions of the faculty contract apply to classes offered through University Extension. Article 40 specifically excludes 21 of the 40 articles in the collective bargaining agreement. For a list of those articles that do apply one may consult Article 40.5.

If you have any questions about faculty rights in for-credit courses offered through University Extension, you should contact your campus 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."



New book, essay highlight need for equality for contingent faculty

The Chronicle of Higher Education on Jan. 13 featured an essay by Richard Moser, adapted from his essay in “Equality for Contingent Faculty: Overcoming the Two-Tier System,” a newly released book from Vanderbilt University Press.

Moser, who has spoken several times at CFA meetings, makes a convincing case for why systemic inequality in higher education is a problem for everyone—faculty, students, and society in general.

Also included in the book is a case study describing CFA as a model of how a union with a principled commitment to equity, combined with a willingness to take action, can build the organizational strength to help rebuild the stable workforce that best meets student needs.

Click here to read Moser’s article in the Chronicle
(<http://chronicle.com/article/OveruseAbuse-of-Adjuncts/143951/>)

For a link to the new book from Vanderbilt University Press (edited by Keith Hoeller), click here (<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/university-press/book/9780826519504>)

Links of the week

Obama’s efforts for low-income students, government policies at odds

A piece by the Hechinger Report looks at the White House’s push to increase college enrollment of low-income students despite universities and government policies increasingly favoring high-income over low-income students. — CNNMoney
(<http://money.cnn.com/2014/01/17/pf/college/obama-students/>)

Pension cutters bet against prosperity may not pay off

CalPERS’ rebounding earnings comes as welcome news to millions of public employees, but the reports of prosperity pose trouble for San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed and his statewide retirement-slashing ballot initiative. — Capital & Main
(<http://capitalandmain.com/pension-cutters-bet-against-prosperity/>)

McGraw-Hill Education appoints tech-savvy CEO

McGraw-Hill Education recently announced David Levin as the company's president and chief executive officer. Levin, 51, is currently the chief executive of UBM, a multinational media company headquartered in London, and “brings a wealth of experience in leading public and private companies in the fields of media and technology.”— McGraw-Hill Education (<http://www.mheducation.com/about/news-room/mcgraw-hill-education-appoints-david-levin-chief-executive-officer>)

Credit for MOOCs effort hits snags

An experiment to help MOOC students gain credit for free online courses at traditional universities is running into snags, as students at the universities participating in the

exercise haven't been asking for credit for the courses. — The Chronicle of Higher Education (http://chronicle.com/blogs/wiredcampus/credit-for-moocs-effort-hits-a-snaq/49573?cid=at&utm_source=at&utm_medium=en)

Student loan practices at for-profits under scrutiny

ITT Educational Services is the latest for-profit operator to come under scrutiny for possible student loan violations. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, which warned the company that it might seek penalties and remedies for violations, is working to determine whether lenders and student loan servicers working with for-profit colleges “are engaging in unlawful acts or practices relating to the advertising, marketing or origination of private student loans.” — The New York Times

(<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/01/19/business/inspecting-a-student-loan-spigot.html>)

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