Student FAQs: Answering your questions about a faculty strike

**A:** Faculty care deeply about the education of our students, and the decision to strike is not made lightly.

If faculty are forced to strike based on the CSU administration’s unwillingness to budge on their unjust offer of 2%, the strike will be planned with the goal of impacting students as little as possible. At any time, Chancellor White and the Board of Trustees can end this by deciding to give faculty the 5% raise that we deserve after going years with little or no raises.

**Q:** How will a faculty strike impact my ability to graduate on time?

**A:** No.

The CSU has enough money to pay faculty a 5% raise without increasing student fees; it is a matter of priorities. This year the CSU received its full budget request from the state for the first time since the recession.

It has become clear over the past 10 years that student fees and faculty salary are not related, as fees have gone up drastically and faculty pay has stayed flat.

That said, the CSU administration can propose to increase fees at any time, and right now they are considering a plan to increase tuition, tied to inflation, every year starting next year.

**CFA has fought alongside students to oppose fee increases in the past, and we will continue to do so by opposing this plan.**
A: Faculty working conditions are student learning conditions. When we are not paid enough to support ourselves and our families, we cannot give students the support that you deserve.

When we are overworked, stressed, and often teaching at multiple campuses just to get by, we don’t get to spend enough time working with each student. Many professors have been forced to leave the CSU altogether because of low pay, which can impact the classes offered to students.

We want you to succeed and we want you to graduate on time, but with staggeringly low pay we cannot make this happen. By fighting for 5%, we are fighting not only for ourselves but for you to get a quality education.

Q: How will raising professors’ salaries impact my education?

A: Yes!

The average faculty salary on every campus is less than it was in 2004 (adjusted for inflation). The average salary is about $45,000 before taxes.

That’s not enough to support our families, and for many of us, not enough to pay back the student loans that we still have.

The pace of our salaries has fallen behind those of teachers in the UC system, the Community College system, and our public K-12 system.

To begin to turn this around, CSU faculty need and deserve a 5% raise and we need your support.

Q: Is faculty pay really that low?

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