

From the California Faculty Association
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CFA HEADLINES

February 12, 2013 · Weekly news digest from CFA

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· CFHE papers explore new ways to fund higher education

The Campaign for the Future of Higher Education (CFHE) has begun a drive to involve our nation's college and university faculty in the search for solutions to the seemingly unending cycle of funding cuts, privatization, soaring tuition and academic shut-downs.



On Tuesday, CFHE introduced three working papers with ideas on ways to fund higher education in America.

The CFHE working papers address the common assumption that funding higher education through public means rather than through skyrocketing tuition is simply impossible.

View the working papers and submit your comments at: www.futureofhighered.org

The briefing took place on Abraham Lincoln's birthday. Lincoln signed the 1862 Morrill Act that initiated America's public higher education system, starting with Land Grant Colleges. Today that system spans the nation but is on the road to elimination.

"What we are missing today is the commitment and the courage that Lincoln and Morrill had," said CFA President Lillian Taiz, in the opening of the news conference.

She continued, "With that in mind, CFHE decided to call on the faculty of this country to devote ourselves to tackling some of the really tough challenges confronting the future of higher education." [View the full text of her remarks.](#)

The three papers examined Tuesday explore new ways to provide public support for colleges and universities:

- One of the papers explores the notion of free higher education and examines what the actual cost to provide such an ideal would be.

Bob Samuels, a University of California Los Angeles faculty member, argues we could make big strides towards free public higher education by [reallocating current governmental expenditures for higher education and by eliminating regressive tax breaks](#).

- The second paper, using the state of California as a test case, looks at the real magnitude of returning to recent, more adequate levels of state funding for higher education. Stanton Glantz, a professor at UC San Francisco, describes that [“resetting” higher education funding](#) to more adequate past levels would require only very small adjustments in the median income tax return.
- The third paper [explores a currently unused tax revenue source](#) that could be tapped if there were the political will to provide adequate public funding for higher education. Rudy Fichtenbaum, an economics professor at Wright State University in Ohio and national president of the American Association of University Professors, explains how to achieve vastly improved funding for higher education through a miniscule tax on selected financial transactions.

See and post your comments on a report in the [Chronicle of Higher Education](#).

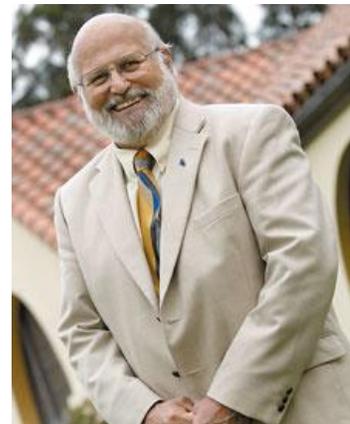
Join a national discussion among faculty members on the [CFHE web site](#) and on the [CFHE Facebook](#) page.

• A tribute to John Travis

It is with a heavy heart that CFA announces the passing of our former president and long-time union stalwart John Travis.

John passed away last week after a battle with multiple forms of cancer.

In addition to serving as CFA president and teaching political science at Humboldt for many years, John served as the chair of the CFA Bargaining Team, chair of CFA’s Political Action-Legislation Committee and CFA Liaison to the CSU Academic Senate.



[View a photo gallery of John’s activities with CFA.](#)

“Although we knew John’s condition, it is still hard to acknowledge the loss of such a dear friend and leader,” said CFA President Lillian Taiz. “As sad as I know we all are, we should take comfort knowing that he does live on in our memories and in our union, one he loved and strengthened in so many ways.”

If you would like to express your sympathies to John's wife Beth or to the rest of his family, you may send them to this address:

Beth Amen
2872 Freshwater Road
Eureka, CA 95503

For those of you who have been thinking about sending flowers, Beth asks that contributions be made instead to the American Cancer Society in John's name.

Here is the [web address for donations](#) as well as [instructions for donating by phone or mail](#).

· **Share your memories of John**

CFA has created a webpage where John's friends and colleagues can share stories, tributes and remembrances.

[Share your story about John here.](#)

· **Attend AAUP California meeting**

CSU faculty members are invited to attend the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) California annual meeting next month in San Diego.

The event will take place Saturday, March 9, at the University of California San Diego's Cross-Cultural Center (in the Price Center).

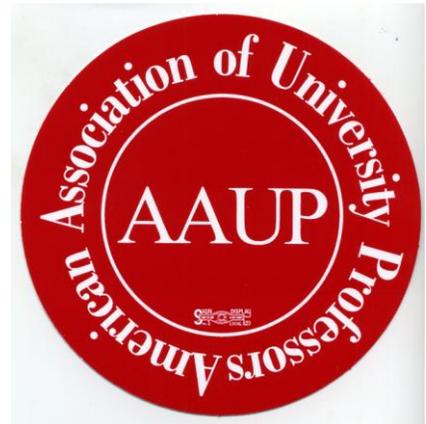
The theme of the event will be "The Financial Crisis in California and Its Impact on Higher Education," and workshops offered include:

- Building and Maintaining Participatory Governance
- Organizing Faculty to take the Offensive on the Crisis in Higher Education
- Preserving and Enhancing Academic Freedom
- The University of Oregon Story: Faculty Unionize and Fight for First Contract

For more details contact: westcoast@aaup.org

· **Links of the week**

Funding higher education: The search for possibilities



The Campaign for the Future of Higher Education calls on America's college & university faculty to join in the search for new ways to fund higher education. – [Academe Blog](#)

CSU Chancellor wants more accessible education

New CSU Chancellor Timothy P. White stressed the importance of creativity and collaboration to improve conditions for students, faculty and Californians Wednesday. At a press conference held at the CSU offices in Long Beach, he also addressed concerns about the state budget and ways to improve access for current and future students. – [Daily Sundial](#)

Online instruction destined to increase in California colleges

Gov. Jerry Brown and California university officials say it's inevitable. Targeting a tech-savvy generation, they are paving the way for more students to pass courses and obtain degrees without ever going to class. – [Sacramento Bee](#)

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