

From the California Faculty Association
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CFA HEADLINES

March 12, 2013 · Weekly news digest from CFA

- Special election is Today (Tuesday) in some areas. Go vote!
- Calls needed this week for commonsense immigration reform
- Correction and update on Shirvani situation
- Links of the Week

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· Special election is Today (Tuesday) in some areas. Go vote!

Today, voters will cast their ballots in two special election primaries to fill vacancies in the state Senate.

CFA has endorsed Norma Torres (Senate District 32, Inland Empire Area) and Ben Hueso (Senate District 40, Inland San Diego and Imperial County Area).

The elections are needed in these Democratic-leaning districts after Gloria Negrete McLeod and Juan Vargas vacated their seats after being elected to congress earlier this year.

[View CFA's endorsements for the March 12 special election.](#)

· Calls need this week for commonsense immigration reform

The time is now for commonsense immigration reform. Call Congress today, March 12, tomorrow, March 13, and Thursday, March 14 to let them know that legalization is not sufficient.

Call 1-877-848-8289 or text 'NOW' to 787753.

Let Congress know that we expect them to do what's right for the country. America's values oppose the notion of second-class people. Legalization without citizenship would relegate 11 million people to a permanent underclass.

CFA is joining with SEIU on a national campaign to drive hundreds of thousands of calls to Congress this week and your call can make the difference. Eleven million people will thank you if you call.

[Exercise your political muscle and join hundreds of thousands calling Congress to make their voices heard in support of fair immigration reform with a clear path to citizenship.](#)

· Correction and update on Shirvani situation

Last week's edition of CFA Headlines incorrectly stated that former Stanislaus president Hamid Shirvani has been removed from his post as North Dakota University System Chancellor.

While the North Dakota State Senate has passed an amendment to buyout Shirvani's contract, the measure still needs approval from the state's lower house. Additionally, while the legislature controls appropriations, only the board has the constitutional authority to dismiss Shirvani.

Board President Duaine Espegard [told the Jamestown Sun](#) the board plans to discuss the situation with Shirvani – [which grew even stranger last week](#) – probably at its May meeting.

· Links of the week

Faculty speaks out in support of campus bike safety

In the week and a half since the tragic passing of 21-year-old communication student Ivan Aguilar, the cries for safer roads and bicycle accommodations have become more fervent. Some of the staunchest supporters of the demand for increased road safety are Cal Poly Pomona professors, many of whom ride bikes to and from campus themselves. *(CFA activist Gwen Urey quoted)* – [Poly Post](#)

Education is Changing, Are You Ready?

The higher education landscape is changing, and for-profit education providers could wind up with a failing grade. With costs skyrocketing, and students turning to the fast-growing field of free online education services, let's see whether these traditional education companies look set to pass or flunk. – [San Francisco Chronicle](#)

Viral video for the 99%

This video on the distribution of wealth in America went viral this weekend but was uploaded to YouTube last November. The infographics in the video show the difference between what we perceive would be an ideal distribution of wealth and the actual numbers. The reality is often not what we think it is. – [YouTube](#)

It Takes a B.A. to Find a Job as a File Clerk

The college degree is becoming the new high school diploma: the new minimum requirement, albeit an expensive one, for getting even the lowest-level job. – [New York Times](#)

Cal State University's new leader is upbeat

It's hard to think of a higher education leader who faces more challenges than Timothy P. White. The new chancellor of the California State University system, who started in December, oversees 23 campuses in the nation's most populous state, with 44,000 faculty and staff and 427,000 students. The range of student backgrounds and needs is staggering, and the cutbacks in recent years in state funding have been immense. – [Washington Post](#)

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