

From the California Faculty Association
webmaster@calfac.org or www.calfac.org

CFA HEADLINES

August 20, 2013 · Weekly news digest from CFA

- Welcome back
- Building CFA: A poster for your door
- CFA testifies on behalf of Africana-Studies resolution in State Assembly
- Faculty rights tip of the week: Evaluation criteria & procedures
- Progress in push to save City College of San Francisco
- Links of the week

* * *

Welcome back to the new academic year

Greetings to faculty members and to members of the campus communities who are starting up the new Academic Year this week at San José, Fresno, Sonoma and Stanislaus.

If you are getting these CFA Headlines from someone else, please feel free to [subscribe](#) directly. Also, check out [CFA on Facebook](#) for more interesting links, events, updates and ideas about higher education.

Building CFA: A poster for your door

The more faculty who sign up as members of CFA, the stronger the union is at the bargaining table. Members are what make any union strong, and that includes ours.

If you are already a CFA member, there are easy ways to urge others to join.

One is to put on your campus office door a poster about why it's important for faculty members to sign a membership card. You can [download a poster](#) from the CFA web site.

And by the way, if you are a CSU faculty member who has not yet joined CFA, please [join now](#). Want to know more about being a CFA member? [Click to learn more](#).

CFA testifies on behalf of Africana-Studies resolution in State Assembly

**Forward Together! Because There Is...
Power in Numbers**

There is strength in numbers and it is only in solidarity with one another that we are going to get a better contract.
– Neil Hultgren
English, Long Beach

By joining the union NOW, you assure that we get the strongest and best contract possible.
– Lois Boulgarides
Kinesiology & Health Science, Sacramento

¡La lucha continúa! Being a member shows our solidarity with each other and commitment to public higher ed.
– Sharon Elise
Sociology, San Marcos

Building our membership demonstrates that faculty care about our students, the quality of the education we provide them and the work environment.
– Kell Fujimoto
Counseling Services, San José

CFA
California Faculty Association

Become a CFA Member Today
www.calfac.org/join

On August 13 CFA testified in support of ACR 71 (Weber) at the California State Assembly Higher Education Committee. This measure would formally endorse the invaluable work of California's Africana Studies programs and their faculty, staff, and students. The measure would recognize the leadership provided by the beneficiaries of those programs, and would support the continuation of Africana Studies programs in California's institutions of higher education.

Assemblywoman Shirley Weber opened her presentation with three lead witnesses, each of whom delivered extended remarks about the origins for Africana Studies programs at California universities, their link to the Civil Rights and student protest movements of the 1960s and 1970s, and the influence of these programs throughout the state and nationally.

The witnesses were: Dr. Dorothy Tsuruta, Department of Africana Studies Chair at San Francisco State University; Dr. Maulana Karenga, Department of Africana Studies Chair at California State University Long Beach; and Dr. Munashe Furusa, Acting Dean for the College of Arts and Humanities at California State University Dominguez Hills.

CFA's lobbyist Andrew Antwih testified in support. Antwih mentioned that, in addition to our support for ACR 71, CFA had already taken a position opposing actions at several CSU campuses to lower the status of the Africana Studies from a department to a program.

Antwih included a document prepared by Dr. Karenga outlining the potential negative impacts of changing the status of Africana Studies at Long Beach. As part of his professional and personal story, Antwih testified that he brought a group of students to hear Dr. Karenga speak many years ago. That personal anecdote served to underscore the fact that Africana Studies departments are more than just a campus resource; they often serve as cultural resources for the neighboring community.

The resolution was approved by a unanimous vote (13-0). Assemblywoman Weber expressed her appreciation CFA's support. Next stop...the Assembly Floor.

[Learn more about the resolution on the legislature's web site.](#)

Faculty Rights tip of the week: Evaluation criteria & procedures

This is a new feature for the CFA Headlines. CFA will regularly run a brief "faculty rights tip" or short information piece about the faculty contract.

**KNOW
YOUR
RIGHTS**

EVALUATION CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES

With the start of a new academic year, this Faculty Rights Tip should be of interest to all faculty including coaches, counselors, librarians, lecturers, probationary, and tenured faculty.

15.3 Evaluation criteria and procedures shall be made available to the faculty unit employee ***no later than 14 days after the first day of instruction of the academic term.*** Evaluation criteria and procedures shall be made available to the evaluation committee and the academic administrators prior to the commencement of the evaluation process. Once the evaluation process has begun, there shall be no changes in criteria and procedures used to evaluate the faculty unit employee during the evaluation process.

We urge all new faculty members to contact their chair or immediate supervisor to learn the evaluation criteria and procedures on your campus, college, and department.

Progress in push to save City College of San Francisco

City College of San Francisco, with more than 80,000 students, is the largest community college district in the state - and possibly the nation.

Last year the accrediting agency (the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) of the Western Association of Schools & Colleges) initiated a process to pull CCSF's accreditation, which most involved believe would force CCSF to close. Since then, CCSF's faculty union AFT 2121 and many students and community supporters have demonstrated and organized against that recommendation.

The CFA chapter at San Francisco State is supporting the effort to save the CCSF, and in July CFA's executive board passed [a statewide resolution](#) labeling the ACCJC's efforts as "arbitrary and punitive."

Over the summer, AFT 2121 filed a protest with the US Department of Education against the ACCJC alleging a variety of improprieties and biases. Last week the Department of Education agreed that the commission violated federal regulations in three key areas: concerns about conflicts of interest, insufficient faculty involvement on the accreditation teams, and failure to identify "deficiencies" in their 2006 evaluation.



This ruling does not undo the ACCJC's attempt to pull the plug at CCSF but it does strike a significant blow against the commission's credibility and, hopefully, will help the CCSF community campaign to maintain the accreditation.

Check out [this news report](#) in the San Francisco Chronicle.

· Links of the week

Is Online Education Widening the Digital Divide?

Overview of MOOCs quotes Lillian Taiz, CFA president: “We ... continue to be concerned that folks might imagine they are getting an Ivy League education, when in fact, they are watching other people get an Ivy League education.” — [KQED Radio](#)

Ripping Off Young America: The College-Loan Scandal

Rolling Stone magazine shows that the burden of student debt is even worse than most people realize. — [Rolling Stone](#)

College for free? America can afford it: Opinion

Bob Samuels, president of AFT at UC San Diego, wrote a paper for the [Campaign for the Future of Higher Ed](#) and a new book explaining that it is possible and important to provide free access to college degrees. — [New Jersey Star-Ledger](#)

* * *

Join CFA’s social network on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/californiafacultyassociation

For the latest news, follow CFA on Twitter at: www.twitter.com/CFA_News

See CFA and other great video on: www.youtube.com/CFAlocal1983