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# ***Union News***

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## **BOR Meeting Agenda**

The BOR will be meeting on Thursday, April 17 at WCSU at 10am. The agenda includes:

- Recognition of Faculty Award recipients
- Engagement of consultant (Boston Consulting Group) for Transform CSCU 2020
- Revision to Code of Student Conduct
- Appointment of management employees at salary above median: Dean of the School of Business at WCSU & BOR Director of Budgets and Planning
- Reimbursement of Retroactive Funding at CCSU

Please see the agenda packet for more details on these items and for the full agenda.

## **Save the Date: CT State Conference AAUP Spring Dinner**

The Connecticut State Conference AAUP Spring Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 8 from 5:30-9pm at the Graduate Club in New Haven. This year's Distinguished Presenter will be Dr Gerald Epstein, Professor of Economics and Co-Director of the Political Economy Research Institute (PERI) at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. The title of Dr. Epstein's presentation is "Are Economics Faculty Selling Out To Market Interests?"

More information will be distributed about this event from your chapters soon.

*Continued*

## **We Are Not Wisconsin Forum**

Several CSU-AAUP leaders and staff joined approximately 500 SEBAC members from across the state in Middletown on April 5 for the “We are not Wisconsin” Forum. Four union leaders from Wisconsin attended to discuss the devastating effects Act 10 has had on their livelihoods.

Due to Act 10, wages have been cut up to 15% for public sector workers and there are caps on future wage increases. Collective bargaining rights were devastated under Act 10, including the prohibition of negotiation on pension and healthcare. There have been massive increases in healthcare costs—one member said he was paying \$78 a month for his health plan and in less than two years it has skyrocketed to \$208 a month. Further, there has been increased employee contributions to their pensions.

### **But that would never happen in CT, right?**

There are many similarities between what happened to Wisconsin in 2010 and what could potentially happen to Connecticut in 2014. Prior to 2010, Wisconsin was firmly a “blue” state. However, Governor Scott Walker won his election in part because of his support for a conceal and carry gun law while his opponent did not favor the law.

The race for Connecticut Governor in 2012 was very close, with Governor Malloy winning by only a few thousand votes. What will be a major issue in the 2014 election? Guns. Gun rights activists have made it known that they are unhappy with the Governor and legislators for the gun laws passed in 2013.

It is possible that over a single issue such as gun control Connecticut could see major shifts in our political makeup—and those shifts could have devastating effects on public sector workers.

CSU-AAUP will be discussing these issues more as the election approaches.