



# Union News

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## **Carol Austad (CCSU) Appointed CSU-AAUP VP**

The CSU-AAUP Council approved the appointment of Carol Shaw Austad (CCSU, Psychology) as Vice President at its September 16, 2010 meeting. In addition to extensive academic and faculty governance experience, Dr. Austad has served as President of CCSU-AAUP (1999-2003), Chair of the Grievance and Contract Administration Committee of CCSU-AAUP (2003-2007), CCSU-AAUP Council member (1992-2005), and Contract Negotiations team member (2001-2002 and 2005-2006).

The office of Vice President was vacated by Vijay Nair when he assumed the Presidency upon the retirement of David Walsh. Elections for all CSU-AAUP officer positions (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer) will occur in the spring, and the newly elected officers will take office on June 1, 2011.

## **Restrictions on State Employees' Political Activity**

CSU-AAUP encourages our members to be politically active, however please keep in mind that there are special rules that restrict partisan political activities for state employees “while on duty or within any period of time during which such employee is expected to perform services for which he receives compensation from the State, and no such employee shall utilize state funds, supplies, vehicles, or facilities to secure support for or oppose any candidate, party, or issue in a political partisan election” (CGS § 5-266a(b)).

For example, while it is acceptable to have a bumper sticker supporting one candidate on your car in the university parking lot, it would violate the law to wear a button supporting a candidate in the classroom. We also remind faculty that it is best to use personal email addresses when emailing candidates or legislators from their home computers. If you have any questions about the restrictions, you may contact your HR office or the AAUP office at (860) 832-3790.

## **BOT Vote to Freeze Tuition at Current Levels/ Salary Freeze for Managers**

According to a press release from CSUS, the Board of Trustees Finance and Administration Committee recommended a salary freeze for managers (university presidents and vice presidents, deans of students, police chiefs, human resources, confidential administrative assistants and system-level management and confidential staff) and to keep tuition at current levels. The full Board of Trustees will consider the recommendations at their next meeting, scheduled for Sept. 23 at Eastern Connecticut State University. The press release also notes that “the Board may need to reexamine plans regarding tuition in light of actions taken by the Governor and state legislature next year that could further reduce state funding of CSUS.”

Have a question? [Get the answer!](#)

Call (860) 832-3790 or email us at [AaupDistList@ccsu.edu](mailto:AaupDistList@ccsu.edu)

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