

THIS WEEK'S POLL: Were you surprised by the results of the CSU-AAUP workload study ([Executive Summary](#))?



Union News

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Reorganization Bill Update

Governor Malloy and Representative Willis (co-chair of the Higher Education Committee) announced yesterday that they reached a compromise on the reorganization bill (SB 1011). However, few details of the compromise are known, except the following which was excerpted from a [press release](#) from the Governor's Office:

“The agreement’s main points include the following:

- The creation of a Board of Regents for the four CSU colleges, the community-technical colleges and Charter Oak effective July 1, 2011.
- The creation of an Advisory Commission to the Board of Regents which will be charged with, among other things, working with the Board to create and implement a strategic plan for higher education that will include the University of Connecticut.
- The Constituent Units – the community colleges, regional universities and Charter Oak – will remain separate with distinct missions. Each unit will have a lead individual designated by the Board of Regents.”

In a [Connecticut Mirror article](#) published today, Rep. Willis “said a top official for each institution will have a seat and vote at the Board of Regents to protect the interests of the schools, but the number of top administrators and central office employees is sure to decline. For example, Connecticut State University System has four presidents, one chancellor and numerous deputies.

‘They're not the top of the food chain anymore,’ Willis said. ‘Some of those positions will be eliminated.’”

Willis further stated that “the agreement still lacks specifics on how the consolidation will be structured, but said endorsing it was ‘a leap of faith worth taking.’”

It is difficult to support a plan that lacks specifics. CSU-AAUP does not oppose a reorganization, but we think it is critical to wait to reorganize until AFTER the strategic plan is formulated. The present proposal puts the cart before the horse and may predetermine the outcome of the strategic plan.

Please take a minute to email the Governor TODAY or TOMORROW through the following website <http://www.governor.ct.gov/malloy/cwp/view.asp?a=3998&q=471348> (using your personal computer and personal email address) and ask him to POSTPONE REORGANIZATION UNTIL THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION IS COMPLETE.

April CSU-AAUP Council Meeting

At its April 21 meeting, the CSU-AAUP Council:

- Discussed the results of the Workload Study performed by the New England Resource Center for Higher Education (NERCHE). The Executive Summary can be read [here](#). A copy of the complete workload study will be available soon for review by AaAUP members while in the respective campus union offices.
- Authorized the appointment of the negotiating team for the 2012 successor Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- Voted not to approve funding for the hiring of private legal counsel to investigate the delay in implementing the SEBAC ARP Grievance award.
- Approved sending up to 18 persons to the National AAUP Meeting in Washington, D.C.
- Voted to approve a survey to be distributed to members annually about working conditions.
- Authorized subsidizing the cost of the CT State Conference AAUP Annual Spring Meeting for each CSU-AAUP member and a guest (see more information below).

Reminders

ARP Award Implementation Meeting

SEBAC Attorney Dan Livingston gave a brief status update and answered questions regarding the ARP Grievance Award implementation. on Friday, April 15 at CCSU. The sound recording of the meeting is posted on our website ([WMA](#) | [MP3](#)).

Elections

There were 273 ballots cast in the CSU-AAUP Officer Election. The following candidates have been elected:

President – Vijay Nair

Vice President – Elena Tapia

Secretary – Rebecca Wood

Treasurer – Harlan Shakun

Connecticut State Conference AAUP Annual Spring Meeting Save the Date! Thursday, May 12 at the Graduate Club (155 Elm Street, New Haven) from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. The topic will be “[Community Colleges in the National Spotlight: Gateway to a Better Future](#)” and the presenters are President Dorsey L. Kendrick (Gateway Community College) and President Vijay Nair (Connecticut State University-AAUP). CSU-AAUP members should contact their [local AAUP Chapter office](#) for spring meeting registration information.

Have a question? Get the answer!

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