

THIS WEEK'S POLL: What are you more concerned with: the budget cut or the reorganization plan?



Union News

Reminder: There is a furlough day for full-time faculty, coaches, and counselors on Friday, May 13

Vol. 2, Issue 10 | May 5, 2011

SEBAC Statement on State Workers Cost-Savings Discussions & Delay in Union Layoff Notices

Today representatives of the State Employees Bargaining Agent Coalition (SEBAC) and the administration of Governor Dannel P. Malloy met to continue discussions on possible solutions to help close the budget deficit and put Connecticut on a stronger economic footing.

Malloy Administration representatives told coalition leaders that they will not be issuing layoff notices to unionized state employees before next week.

SEBAC leaders have long maintained that public sector layoffs will only reduce access to services and add more workers to the state's unemployment rolls. They will also further delay Connecticut's economic recovery by causing additional job losses in the private sector.

Coalition leaders remain committed to reaching a mutually agreeable settlement on the role of state workers in the current budget framework. SEBAC is continuing discussions with the Malloy Administration to ensure we create good jobs, protect vital services, and rebuild Connecticut's middle class.

State Budgets Passes with CSU Cuts and Approval for Reorganization

The state budget was passed by the Senate on Monday, the House on Tuesday, and was signed into law by the Governor on Wednesday. The budget contains a ten percent cut to CSU and combines CSU, the Community College System, and Charter Oak under one Board of Regents, a proposal that still contains little details. The only details reported is that the constituent units of public higher education will remain separate with distinct missions, and each unit will have a lead individual designated by the Board of Regents. It is expected that some of the central office staff will decline, but it is unknown what positions will be targeted.

CSU-AAUP will continue to press for details of the plan and lobby for the best possible outcome for the reorganization.

“Take Class Action” Campaign Events

The Campaign to Protect Public Higher Education began in California last year to bring awareness to the need for continued support for institutions of public learning and grew into a national movement.

CCSU-AAUP “Tree of Knowledge”

Why is Public Higher Education Important to You? Why Should Public Higher Education Be Protected? That’s what CCSU-AAUP asked the university community on April 29. Students, faculty, and staff were asked to write an answer down to these questions on a leaf, which was placed on a white oak tree that was later donated to the university. Here’s what some of the leaves read:

“It’s an investment in our future.”

“Ignorance is far more expensive...”

“...because higher education is the most important aspect in order to develop and sustain our nation in the future.”

“College has changed my life; I would like others to share in the experience I have enjoyed.”

“Higher Education produces curious, ethical, and problem-solving citizens of Connecticut.”

“Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach a man to fish, and he will eat for a lifetime.”

See more information and photos on the [CCSU-AAUP website](#).

SCSU-AAUP — CSI: CSU

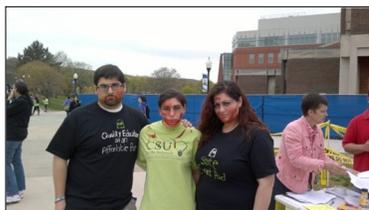
SCSU-AAUP set up a crime scene on campus on May 2. The perpetrator: drastic budget cuts to CSU. The victims: timely graduation, accessibility, available courses, and class sizes. Students, faculty and staff were asked to fill out “witness information forms,” identifying the consequences of budget cuts for each individual with options such as slowing my time to graduation, increasing the size of my classes, and adding to my student debt. Over 700 forms were filled out and later delivered to the Governor.

Students assisted in the events on both campuses.

Faculty and students hold the “Take Class Action” banner in front of the “Tree of Knowledge”



Top: Photo of the “Crime Scene”. Bottom: Three SCSU students pose as victims for the CSI: CSU event.



**SEBAC
comments on
state budget
agreement**

SEBAC leadership is actively engaged in discussions with the Malloy administration to identify mutually agreeable and fair solutions that will get Connecticut's economy moving for everyone and help rebuild the middle class. Connecticut cannot afford a 'Plan B' filled with layoffs, cuts in vital public services, and cuts to towns and cities that would only make things worse for everyone. We will continue to do whatever we can to be part of a fair solution.

But it's not fair or realistic to expect middle-class people who happen to work for the state to each cut \$22,000 a year from our family annual budgets. Especially when we, like all middle class families, are already paying 10% of our income in state and local taxes, while millionaires are only paying 5% of their income, and some of our largest corporations are paying little or no taxes at all.

Have a question? Get the answer!
Call (860) 832-3790 or email us at AaupDistList@ccsu.edu