

**THIS WEEK'S POLL:**

**Have you ever taken advantage of the CSU-AAUP Member Benefits?**



# ***Union News***

Vol. 2, Issue 11 | September 7, 2011

## **Implementation of the SEBAC 2011 Agreement**

### **Health Enhancement Plan (HEP)**

Healthcare Open Enrollment is being held through September 15, 2011. During this Open Enrollment period you must decide if you want to participate in the Health Enhancement Program for 2011-2012. ***Unless you enroll in the Health Enhancement Program, your premiums will be \$100 per month higher and you will have an annual \$350 per individual (\$1,400 per family) in-network medical deductible.***

If you do not enroll by September 15, 2011, you will not be allowed to participate in the Health Enhancement Program until the next Open Enrollment in 2012.

To date, over 40,000 of the approximately 52,000 eligible state employees have enrolled in the Health Enhancement Program. **To enroll or decline participation in the Health Enhancement Program, please visit [www.cthep.com](http://www.cthep.com) by September 15, 2011.** If you have any questions, please contact your local HR office.

### **Hybrid Retirement Plan**

The Hybrid Retirement Plan agreed to in the SEBAC 2011 Agreement gives participants the option upon leaving state service of accepting the defined benefit amount or electing to receive a return of employee contributions to the hybrid plan plus a 5% match, plus 4% interest. The benefits are identical to SERS Tier II/IIA but the plan requires an employee contribution that is 3% higher than Tier II/IIA plan. Union and state officials are still in the process of implementing this plan. Look for more information in the coming months.

### **Wages**

As a reminder, please remember that the *printed* Collective Bargaining Agreement between the CSU-AAUP and the CSUS Board of Trustees does not contain the correct salary tables. Please see the [CSU-AAUP/BOT Contract Modification](#) document for the appropriate wages through 2015-16.

## **Workload Study**

CSU-AAUP contracted with researchers from the New England Resource Center for Higher Education (NERCHE) to perform a workload study, which began fall 2008. NERCHE has completed its data gathering, concluding its surveys and site visits. NERCHE also worked diligently with the CSU System Office and the institutional research directors on each campus to obtain load credit data that are categorized in meaningful and consistent ways. NERCHE noted some data categorization issues and worked closely with the System office on these matters.

Copies of the complete workload study can now be viewed online. The CSU System report can be read [here](#), and individual campus reports can be found [here](#).

Principal Investigator Dr. Jay R. Dee will report on the findings from the comprehensive study at the following dates and times:

CCSU: September 19, 3-4:30, Vance 105

ECSU: September 21, 5:30-7:30, Webb Hall Faculty Lounge

SCSU: September 19, 12-2, Engleman B 121

WCSU: September 21, 12-2, Midtown Student Center, Room 201

## **Connecticut Lobbying Conference**

### **30th Annual Connecticut Lobbying Conference**

**Thursday, October 27, 2011**

**8:30 – 4:30 PM**

**The Lyceum, 227 Lawrence St., Hartford, CT**

As you know, CSU-AAUP advocates for our members at the General Assembly, but the best advocate for CSU-AAUP is YOU. This year alone, we are facing a major transition: the dissolution of the CSUS Board of Trustees as CSU, the Community Colleges, and Charter Oak are all now under purview of the Board of Regents.

Learn the nuts and bolts of advocacy at this conference! You will have the opportunity to learn more about how state government operates, improve your advocacy skills, or simply network with legislative leaders and influential lobbyists.

To view the program, see [www.bettygallo.com](http://www.bettygallo.com). If you are interested in attending the conference, please contact your local AAUP office.

## CSU-AAUP Member Benefits

For more information on any of these benefits, please contact your local AAUP office unless otherwise indicated.

**Academe:** As a CSU-AAUP member, you will receive *Academe*, the bimonthly magazine that analyzes higher education issues from a faculty perspective.

**Car Rental:** Alamo Rent-A-Car and National Car Rental provide discounts to CSU-AAUP members, including up to 20% off regular prices and unlimited mileage.

**Book Discounts.** AAUP members will receive a 25% discount on Wiley books, including the *Frommer's Guides* and *Betty Crocker cookbooks* as well as all subject and discipline areas.

**Adjunct Advocate.** This bimonthly magazine features articles pertaining to non-tenured and part-time faculty.

**Homeowners and Auto Insurance:** Automobile and homeowners insurance plans are available to CSU-AAUP members through the Met-Pay plan with payroll deduction or Liberty Mutual's Group Savings Plan Plus.

**Academic Regalia:** Oak Hall Cap & Gown Company offers AAUP members excellent prices on academic regalia. Robes are available in a variety of fabrics, as well as hoods, caps, tassels and garment bags.

**Adventure Club:** Through your membership with CSU-AAUP, you are entitled to discounts off general admission to Anheuser-Bush Adventure Parks. Parks include Bush Gardens and Water Country USA in Williamsburg, VA; Bush Gardens and Adventure Island in Tampa Bay, FL; Sea World Adventure Parks in Orlando, FL, San Diego, CA, and San Antonio, TX; and Sesame Place near Philadelphia, PA.

**Tires:** Town Fair Tire offers a 10% discount off any tire or wheel purchase at all 70 locations in CT, MA, RI, and NH. You will also receive free lifetime flat repair, mounting, and lifetime rotation. In addition, you will receive free front wheel alignment with any tire purchase, free installation mounting with every tire purchase, and free snow tire changeover.

**Legal/Tax Services:** For \$99, Legal Service Plans, Inc. will provide legal services for you and your family. Services include simple wills, legal letters and phone calls, and simple document review for no extra charge and special reduced fees for more extensive representation, including real estate closings. The plan is now offering CPA services as well for a fixed price.

**Cell Phone:** CSU-AAUP members can receive a 15% discount on Sprint/Nextel service plans (good for new and existing customers).

**Professional Liability and Other Insurance:** Other benefits are available through National AAUP such as Professional Liability Insurance, Accident Insurance, Group Term Life Insurance and more. To learn more about these benefits, please contact National AAUP at 1-800-424-2973.

**Credit Union:** The CT State Employees Credit Union is a cooperative thrift and loan association, owned and managed by active and retired State of Connecticut employees. They are a full service, state chartered financial institution with locations across Connecticut. CSE Credit Union provides excellent rates on savings while also offering competitively priced loan products.

**Wadsworth Museum:** Membership entitles you to free admission to the museum, discounts in the Museum Shop and the Museum Café, free subscription to *Atheneum* magazine, members-only programs and receptions, early notice of special museum events, discounts on lectures, films, family activities, workshops and much more.