



THIS WEEK'S POLL:

Which of Kennedy's comments are you most concerned about? Want to say more? Add your thoughts to our [Facebook](#) page.

Union News

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New Interim Board of Regents President Begins Campus Tours

Robert A. Kennedy, Interim President of the new Board of Regents for Higher Education, has stated that his goal is to visit all the campuses under his purview prior to January 1. He began last week with a visit to Housatonic Community College, where he received a campus tour and met with students, faculty, and staff.

According to a [Connecticut Post](#) article about his visit, when Kennedy was asked by a student whether the merger would cost faculty jobs, Kennedy's response was "If I say the merger is going to save money, 80 percent of our budget is personnel." Kennedy further commented that he hopes "the downsizing can happen through attrition, not wholesale elimination of programs."

"Further Kennedy said his goal is to build collaborations and reduce redundancy in the state's 12 community colleges and its four state universities."

Reprinted from www.aaup.org

Cincinnati State AAUP Strikes

As of September 23, the 200-member AAUP faculty union at Cincinnati State Technical and Community College went on strike.

The contract expired this summer, and very little progress was made in negotiations. Both parties agreed to fact-finding, which is not binding on the parties. The fact-finder's report awarded some raises to the faculty over the three years, but increased the workload by more than 20%, or to roughly six classes per term. This workload is higher than that of any community college in Ohio. Despite being offered raises, the faculty overwhelmingly (94%) rejected the fact-finder's report. When they returned to the bargaining table, the administration's team's proposal offered even less than the fact-finder's report and still held out on workload. After a week of further bargaining with no settlement in sight, the faculty felt they had no choice but to strike.

What the faculty members at Cincinnati State are supporting is quality education. They are standing up for their students, as the faculty understands that the teaching loads proposed by the administration will lead to a decline in the quality of education that the students receive—individualized attention, academic rigor, and challenging course material are hard to deliver in a factory setting.

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