The eighth negotiation session was held on Thursday, December 17, on the CCSU campus in New Britain.

The teams began with a continuation of the December 10th discussion of some of the finer points of article 5.18 (Programmatic Adjustment and Redeployment of Resources), focusing on the revised CSU-AAUP proposal. The BOR lead negotiator indicated that they would like to agree to our proposal, but would need to discuss it further in caucus. Later in the meeting, following a break to caucus, the BOR team accepted our counterproposal. Based on prior discussions of this issue, this also means that their proposal for Article 17 (Retrenchment) has been withdrawn as well. When asked if this agreement also removes the language in Article 4.5 regarding involuntary transfers, however, the BOR team indicated that this is not the case.

The next item on the agenda, our proposal for article 4.8.2, regarding evaluation of faculty on special appointments, was met with agreement.

Article 5.22, which calls for departments to provide access to agendas for department meetings to all department members and to keep minutes of those meetings, was the next item discussed. The BOR has agreed to our revised language for this article, as anticipated based on the December 10th discussion.

Article 9.4.3, on the provision of support services (esp. copying and printing) to part-time faculty, was next on the agenda. The BOR team agreed.
The ninth negotiation session was held on Thursday, January 14, 2016.

The meeting began with a lengthy discussion of article 10.8 (Part-Time Faculty Percentage), focusing on the particulars of the formula proposed by CSU-AAUP. No agreement was reached, but the sides agreed in principle that it is in neither’s interest to allow the proportion of classes taught by part-time faculty to increase further.

Next, there was discussion of whether the term of the new contract will be three years or four years. No agreement was reached, but the BOR team agreed that they will accept four years -- if there are no unforeseen “hurdles.”

Discussion then moved on to article 4.6 (Assignment of courses to part-time members). There are still elements of the language regarding which the BOR team will “have to do a little more thinking.”

Article 7 (Counseling Faculty)—in previous meetings, the BOR team has indicated that they wish to consider the entire article as a whole rather than discuss the substantive governance issues separately from the economic issues. In the latest discussion, they indicated a willingness to “bifurcate” it and consider the non-economic governance issues. This discussion (on their side) is expected to take place over the two weeks before the next negotiation session. They expect to have the same discussion regarding Article 8 (Librarians).

Article 10.2 (Instructional Load Credits). Regarding our proposed language that would provide a full load credit for a 1-credit lab or studio course (rather than the current, and long-standing, .75 FLC, the response was “We are going to agree to this.”

Article 10.15 (Distance Learning and Education Technology) and Appendix E (Approved University Computer Use Policy): As our proposals consist primarily of updating archaic language to reflect current technology, the BOR team doesn’t find anything in our proposals particularly objectionable, but they wish to discuss it further.

Some discussion of our 15.6.2 proposal occurred, without resolution.

Article 16.5.2: Our proposed language regarding suspension without pay prior to a full investigation and disciplinary action was discussed, with the BOR side
indicating fundamental agreement with our side, and feeling that we will be able to achieve resolution on this article. It will be discussed further.

Our team queried as to whether proposals involving money would be brought to the next session, a question raised previously. We were told that Pres. Ojakian had been “activated,” a response also given previously.

The next negotiation session will occur on Thursday, January 28, 2016.

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Caryl Schiff-Greatorex (CSU-AAUP, Director of Member Services)
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Aaron Clark (SCSU, Mathematics)
Susan Clerc (SCSU, Library Faculty)
John Kavanagh (SCSU, Mathematics)
Jay Brower (WCSU, Communication and Media Arts)
Patricia O’Neill (WCSU, Psychology)

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Carmen Cid (ECSU, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences)
Mark Rozewski (SCSU, Vice President for Finance)
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