Faculty and students took to the halls of the Legislative Office Building March 31 for the second Joint Lobby Day of the 2017 Legislative Session. Flanked by members of UConn-AAUP and the 4Cs, CSU-AAUP members and CSU students met with legislators to defend quality higher education, protect collective bargaining rights, and to speak out for undocumented students. Meetings with legislators and their aides were arranged after a morning reception and presentation from the three union presidents and CSU-AAUP lobbyist Joe Grazzini.

With the preponderance of negative bills that stand to rob employees of collective bargaining rights, affect the integrity of faculty working and student learning conditions, and risk the quality of public higher education, our continued advocacy at the Capitol is essential.

On the heels of almost a $1 billion cut from public services last year, the 2017 budget negotiations are shaping up to be riddled with even greater austerity as Connecticut sees revenues that fail to hit the mark and decreases in federal funding. The total proposed budget for FY18 is more than $19.36 billion and FY19 is more than $19.95 billion. Governor Malloy’s proposed budget closes the gap by making $1.36 billion in cuts and raising $321 million in revenue. This includes the governor’s proposed $700 million in collective bargaining concessions/cuts, $407.6 million in municipal contributions to the Teacher’s Retirement System, and $256.2 million in cuts.

For more information or to attend any of their events, please click here.