



Union News

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Holiday Message From CSU-AAUP President Elena Tapia:

Dear CSU-AAUP Members,

As the fall semester comes to a close, I wish you all happy holidays and a relaxing winter break. This is a long missive, but an important one. So, make yourself a cup of cocoa and prepare for a long read.

[Click here to read CSU-AAUP President Tapia's Holiday Message.](#)

In solidarity,

Elena



BOR Votes To Consolidate Community Colleges:

The Board of Regents met Dec. 14, 2017, and voted to approve President Ojakian's plan Students First, which will consolidate the 12 community colleges into one massive college. The new college will have 12 campuses and three regions and is expected to be operational summer 2019.

Since this plan was announced in April 2017, CSU-AAUP has stood in solidarity with our colleagues at the community colleges in opposition to the plan. Since May 2017, union leaders from CSU-AAUP, 4Cs, SUOAF, and

AFT have met consistently with members of the implementation teams to monitor the process.

CSU-AAUP members, wearing our signature red t-shirts, were present at the Dec. 14 BOR meeting and voiced opposition to the community college merger during the public comments portion. In addition to CSU-AAUP members, community college faculty, students, and community members also spoke out against the plan.

Despite such wide opposition, the Students First plan passed overwhelmingly with 12 Regents voting for and one Regent, William McGurk, abstaining.

CSU-AAUP members were quoted in much of the media coverage of the meeting.

[Visit the CSU-AAUP website for links to the various state-wide media coverage.](#)



Above, donned in their red t-shirts, CSU-AAUP members attended the December BOR meeting to speak out against the consolidation.

CSU-AAUP Is #ThrivingTogether:

In the lead-up to the 2018 legislative session and the state elections, CSU-AAUP is launching an organizing campaign to make our collective voice heard and hold lawmakers accountable. **Our message is positive: Thriving communities require investments in public higher education.**

Posters began making appearances around all four CSU campuses just before winter break with this thriving message. Thank you to all our members who found a "Thriving" flyer in their mailboxes and posted it on office doors or in busy classrooms where it could be seen by all on campus.

Over the winter break, if you are on [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#), please use the hashtag #ThrivingTogether to call attention to issues related to public higher education. If you see other #ThrivingTogether posts from CSU-AAUP colleagues, please retweet and share them widely.

These flyers are just the first step in preparing for the attacks on public higher education and the faculty voice that we are facing at both state and federal levels. Stay tuned for more information coming your way beginning January 2018.

To learn more or to join us in the planning process, please contact CSU-AAUP Organizing Committee Chair Cindy Stretch (English, SCSU) at stretch1053@gmail.com.



December Member Deals:

Did you know that becoming a registered member of CSU-AAUP not only helps protect things like your academic freedom, retirement security, and quality healthcare benefits, but it also brings you discounts on international vacations, cruises, ski lift tickets, Broadway shows, theme parks and more?

All you need to do is [become a registered member](#) and CSU-AAUP will provide you the log in details to [TicketsatWork](#). Then you can get busy over the break planning your next great adventure or a fantastic night out in New York City. Special December deals are going on now and include free stays at Disney resorts as well as deep discounts on ski lift tickets and Broadway shows.

AAUP Call For Papers On Free Speech:

National AAUP is calling for submissions to their Journal of Academic Freedom. In particular, they seek original, scholarly articles exploring current mobilizations of the term *free speech* and their connections to existing practices and concepts of constitutionally protected speech and academic freedom. Deadline for submissions is January 31, 2018.

If you are interested in submitting a paper, please [click here](#).