



**CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS**

**MEDIA ALERT
April 10, 2018**

CONTACT: Liz Newberg, CSU-AAUP
860-881-0805

**Statement from Elena Tapia, President of Connecticut State
University American Association of University Professors, on
Sexual Harassment:**

NEW BRITAIN – The Connecticut State University American Association of University Professors (CSU-AAUP) has zero tolerance for sexual misconduct, including harassment.

We agree with AAUP National’s [*Statement on Professional Ethics*](#) and [*Statement on Freedom and Responsibility*](#), which argue that that faculty members have “the ethical responsibility” to avoid “any exploitation of students for . . . private advantage” (including using the faculty member’s institutional position to seek unwanted sexual relations with students) and that “intimidation and harassment” of any kind are inconsistent with the maintenance of academic freedom on campus.

CSU-AAUP has a legal duty to provide fair and equal representation for all our members. CSU-AAUP works to ensure all faculty members are afforded due process when accused and that they receive a fair hearing according to the procedures agreed upon with the Board of Regents.

###

CSU-AAUP represents more than 3,000 faculty, coaches, trainers, counselors, and librarians at the four Connecticut State Universities. CSU-AAUP believes quality public higher education should be made affordable and accessible to all individuals who want to pursue a degree at an institution of higher learning. We see higher education as an essential roadway to developing students’ abilities to think critically and become more engaged citizens of their communities. Through mentorships and guidance from their professors, students gain exposure to all forms of viewpoints, opinions, and interpretations. These work to move the needle toward acceptance and understanding, which in turn creates well-informed, thoughtful leaders of the future.