Message From CSU-AAUP  
President  
Elena Tapia:  

My message for March is brief. Your AAUP has been hard at work since the summer of 2017 planning engaging activities to call attention to the State Legislature’s investment in public higher education. We believe that the thriving communities created by well-funded colleges and universities are one of the solutions to the problems our state faces. Read here and learn about what’s going on and to see where you and your students can become involved.

In solidarity,  
Elena

CSU-AAUP Chapters  
#ThriveTogether:  

Building on CSU-AAUP’s #ThriveTogether campaign launched earlier this year, all four CSU-AAUP chapters held their own versions of a Thrive In where faculty, students, and staff came together to talk about what they needed in public higher education to #ThriveTogether.

WCSU-AAUP held a Thrive In in four different locations across their two campuses over two days. Faculty are an enthusiastic resource from students and CSU-AAUP members alike, as folks in the university community joined to create their own messages about what they needed to thrive. According to CSU-AAUP Vice President Patty Poynter, each day was filled with what students reported needing centered around their higher education and financial assistance.

SCSU and ECSU-AAUP also held annual Thrive In events where dreams of students, faculty, and staff posed with signs detailing what they each need to #ThriveTogether. At ECSU, this activity was held earlier in the semester, involved involved legislators who met with faculty and students to discuss the need for greater investment in public higher education which means more monies and actions. Read here for more details in the coming days.

The Board of Regents’ “Policy Regarding Reporting Suspected Abuse or Neglect of a Student” adopted by the BOR January 17, 2014, is causing a disruption to student learning. According to CSU-AAUP members, teaching and learning are being compromised and impinging on academic freedom, just like all CSU-AAUP members in the Marriage and Family Therapy program. The BOR policy as it stands is more stringent than statutes require it to be.

CSU-AAUP is joining forces at the Capitol again with the 4Cs and UConn-AAUP on Wednesday, April 11, 2018, for the Second Annual Public Higher Education Lobby Day. The legislative Office Building Lobby Day will be held in the second floor atrium of the Legislative Office Building from 9 a.m. to noon. We will hear opening remarks from union leaders and lawmakers before heading out to meet with legislators and their aids. A light breakfast will be served. Stay tuned for more details in the coming days.

Because thriving communities require strong economic and political commitment to public higher education, CSU-AAUP has joined forces with UConn-AAUP and the 4Cs to launch an online petition calling on our elected officials to invest in public higher education.

The legislature will be in session on that day and we expect a lot of lawmakers to be in the building. Please mark your calendars and bring your students along as well.

Click here to sign and join our coalition’s petition calling for a renewed commitment to and increased investment in public higher education.

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Community that invest in their public higher education systems are communities that #ThriveTogether.

Save The Date  
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Check out CSU-AAUP’s Flickr page for more photos from all four campus Thrive In events!

CSU-AAUP Members  
Weigh In  
On Supporting  
Undocumented

Because they know every student matters, ECSU-AAUP members Ricardo Pérez and Patrick Vitale joined a large group of educators at Southern Connecticut State University for the bipartisan Connecticut Students for a Dream (CSFD) Educators Conference to learn how best to support undocumented students in and out of the classroom.

Considering that just this month, the state legislature’s Higher Education Committee passed HB5031, a bill that would allow undocumented students access to institutional financial aid, now is the perfect time to learn more on supporting undocumented students.

Click here to read a full report of what Professors Pérez and Vitale learned at the Educators Conference.

Several CSU-AAUP members also attended the conference, including Professors Jaemir Shatari, Andrew Smith and Kenneth Pettico. You can read what they had to say about the conference here.

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