



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

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

May 9, 2018

CONTACT: Liz Newberg

860-881-0805

Connecticut State University Faculty Call For End To Board Of Regents Fiascos

Leadership Group issues joint statement lambasting a “series of failures” by BOR and offering solutions for greater innovation, collaboration, and savings at the CSU system.

NEW BRITAIN – Riled from the latest in a series of bad ideas coming from the Board of Regents, the Connecticut State University Faculty Leadership Group will deliver [a statement](#) to the Board of Regents at its general meeting on Thurs., May 10, at 10 a.m. The statement takes to task a series of blunders performed by the Board of Regents since the governing body was formed in 2011, the latest of which is the panned “Students First” scheme. Faculty leaders will also read excerpts of the statement in the public comments portion of the meeting.

Aside from the board’s revolving door of presidents, justifying **a system office that costs on average \$35 million per year to operate** is untenable in this fiscal climate. As investment in public higher education continues to nose dive, the BOR is robbing students of funding that could go directly to supporting colleges and universities.

According to the statement: “We recommend following higher education systems in states like Oregon and Virginia that, in the face of reduced state funding, have moved in the direction of a reduction in outside financial and administrative controls.¹ We can do this by returning to a coordinating model of governance as existed before 2011.”

The statement also calls for greater savings by reducing administration bloat at the Board of Regents, considering a consortia model between universities and community colleges in the same region, and demanding more state investment in public higher education.

The Faculty Leadership Group, which includes faculty leaders from the four Connecticut State Universities, also give solutions on how the CSU system can move forward in a way that truly protects students and quality public higher education.

###

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.

¹ James A. Hyatt, “Restructuring Public Higher Education Governance to Succeed in a Highly Competitive Environment” (UC Berkeley: Berkeley Center for Studies in Higher Education, June 1, 2015), 8,