



CSU-AAUP President's Welcome Message:

Dear colleagues,

Welcome to another academic year! I hope your summer was productive and fulfilling. This year will be a busy one for CSU-AAUP. We will be preparing for the negotiations for a new contract; these negotiations are set to begin on October 1, 2020. This is a good time to start thinking about what you would like to see in a new contract. Over the course of this year, CSU-AAUP will be reaching out to you in different ways to obtain your input about what you would like to see in a new contract.

Public higher education is a public good, but these days, our legislators don't always seem to recognize that.

Therefore, CSU-AAUP will be reaching out to state lawmakers, visiting the Legislative Office Building, and testifying about the issues that matter to us. This is an ongoing fight and one worth having. Legislators and the System Office are unnecessarily devoted to an austerity approach to education, and that must be changed. Public higher education needs to be valued for the public good that it is. I hope you'll consider joining us in these efforts.

In solidarity,
- Patty O'Neill



Gearing Up For Campus Equity:

Campus Equity Week is a time to turn the spotlight onto part-time faculty and the struggles many of them face as adjuncts. CSU-AAUP chapters are planning luncheons, information sessions, launching surveys, and even an improv performance to highlight the plight of contingent faculty during this nationwide week of awareness from Oct. 21-25.

While CSU-AAUP has negotiated some significant contract gains for part-timers, including secure file storage, phone and voice mail use, office space, and department representation, the union is dedicated to securing increased equity for all our members.

To learn more about what chapters are planning for Campus Equity Week or if you have ideas to share, contact CSU-AAUP's [Liz Newberg](#).



CSU-AAUP Members Take On Washington:

Fourteen CSU-AAUP members joined colleagues from UCONN-AAUP to visit the offices of the Connecticut Delegation to the United States Senate and House of Representatives during AAUP's 105th Annual Meeting held at Arlington, Virginia, June 15.

Meeting with staff liaisons from these offices, CSU-AAUP members discussed issues facing higher education in Connecticut, including [Competency-based Education and Privatization](#), [Campus Free Speech](#), [Research Funding](#), and [state Senate Bill No. 749](#) that sought to provide oversight on the CSUS Board of Regents' initiatives in system consolidation.

The entire group met in Connecticut's Senators' offices with [Emily Smith](#), Legislative Assistant, Office of Senator Christopher Murphy; and [Eve Granatosky](#), Ph.D., Legislative Fellow, Office of Senator Richard Blumenthal. Afterwards, we visited as constituents with legislative staff from Representatives John Larson, Joe Courtney, Rosa DeLauro, Jim Himes and Jahana Hayes.

— Dr. David Stoloff
ECSU-AAUP Council Member



And on the business side of things...

During the 2019 Annual Meeting, CSU-AAUP leaders voted in favor of organizational changes that would bring the AAUP's Collective Bargaining Conference and the AAUP into one organization. Other changes included approving a new constitution and making the General Meeting a biennial affair instead of annual. For more information on these changes, [click here](#).

Amid much discussion, AAUP's Committee A on Academic Freedom and Tenure recommended censure be imposed on St. Edward's University and Nunez Community College. The AAUP's Committee on College and University Governance recommended that the administration of Vermont Law School be sanctioned, and that sanction be removed from Idaho State University.

For more information on AAUP's 2019 censures and sanctions, [click here](#).
To see photos of CSU-AAUP members at the Annual Meeting, [click here](#).

AAUP Summer Institute Meets The Windy City:

It might have been summer in the city, but school was in full session at the 2019 AAUP Summer Institute. Held at Roosevelt University in Chicago July 25-28, 2019, CSU-AAUP sent nine members from the four CSUs to attend.

A plethora of trainings and workshops were on offer, from reading the Red Book (a compilation of AAUP policy documents) to handling grievances, to legal updates post-Janus, to building cross-rank solidarity and many more.



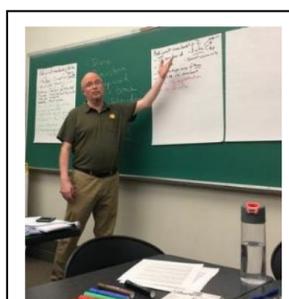
Pictured above are CSU-AAUP members from the four CSUs who attended the 2019 Summer Institute. The circular building in the background is The Marina City complex built in the 1960s and financed largely by Building Service Employees International Union, a union of janitors and elevator operators, who sought to reverse the pattern of white flight from downtown.

Participants also enjoyed a Chicago Labor History tour through historically ethnic neighborhoods on Chicago's South Side. As July 27 was the 100th anniversary of the 1919 Chicago Race Riots during which 38 people died, the tour took a look at the intersection of race and labor.

Ending the tour at Chicago's famous Union Stockyard Gate, now a national historic landmark, was a fitting reminder to the importance of unions in establishing fair wages, safe working conditions, and excellent benefits for workers both then and now.

The 1919 Chicago Race Riots also were the focus of a Plenary Session. Speakers included D. Bradford Hunt, of The Newberry; Cedric Johnson, of the University of Illinois; and Christopher Reed, of Roosevelt University.

Panelists discussed how Chicago's most violent week in its history continues to leave its mark on the city. The group also discussed how the 1919 Race Riots can help us understand and address the discrimination and racial marginalization on university campuses today.



AAUP Organizer David Kochemba leads a workshop on building cross-rank solidarity during the AAUP's 2019 Summer Institute at Roosevelt University.

Consolidation Push-back Continues:

Resistance to consolidation efforts by the Board of Regents continues to grow. A July letter to the BOR from the New England Commission on Higher Education detailed the Commission's concerns with the consolidation plan regarding the role of faculty in defining curriculum, the viability of sustaining quality academic programs across campuses, governance structure, and the role of regional vice presidents.

Despite this, in a system-wide announcement BOR President Mark Ojakian said NECHE "accepted our update." He categorized the NECHE letter as an encouraging communication with advice and recommendations to move full steam ahead and create one college by 2023.

In response, The [Reluctant Warriors](#) group submitted a letter of public comment to NECHE and sent a copy to the BOR and President Ojakian. The nine-page letter, which was signed by CSU-AAUP leaders and members, detailed violations of standards of accreditation, among other things.

[Click here to read the BOR's consolidation update.](#)

[Click here to read the July 12, 2019, NECHE Letter.](#)

[Click here to read the Reluctant Warriors Letter of Public Comment.](#)

Learn How To Lobby:

Would you like to gain advice directly from key state legislators on the best way to advocate for public higher education or protect collective bargaining rights? Would you like to hear from them on how to get legislators to protect quality, affordable, and accessible public higher education? You can do all that by joining CSU-AAUP members at the [39th Annual Connecticut Lobbying Conference](#) October 29 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:40 p.m. at the [Lyceum in Hartford](#).

Hosted every fall by veteran lobbying firm Gallo & Robinson, the conference offers unique opportunities to speak directly with legislators from both sides of the aisle on nearly any legislative matter. A host of workshops are on offer throughout the day, including [how to lobby](#), the budget, how to kill or pass a bill, how to testify at a hearing, and [many more](#). Whether you're a veteran to politics or a new advocate ready to get started, there is something for everyone.

Breakfast and lunch will be served during the conference and parking is free. To register for the conference, please email Erin Clark at clarke@ccsu.edu.