

## From the California Faculty Association

### CFA HEADLINES

May 30, 2018 · Weekly news digest from CFA

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## Faculty-student advocacy pushes CFA-sponsored bills to floor votes this week

Untiring advocacy by CFA members and CSU students this year is paying off as support grows for three CFA-sponsored bills, two of which passed through the Senate today and one more headed for a floor vote this week.

[SB 968](#) (Pan) to improve the number of mental health counselors serving CSU students on the 23 campuses passed unanimously 35-0 out of the Senate and is on its way to the Assembly.

As at universities across the country, the need for counseling services is increasing on CSU campuses, a development attributed to many causes. In particular there are deepening uncertainties faced by the CSU's immigrant student population and increased frequency of racist incidents and threats on and around CSU campuses, a system with more than 70% students of color.

Meantime, [SB 4121](#) (Skinner) was approved by the State Senate today on a bi-partisan a vote of 25-11 and is headed for the Assembly. This "Right to Know" law would make confirmed cases of police misconduct, including killings and sexual assault, more transparent. In a [statement](#), the coalition of bill sponsors noted "secrecy further increases distrust in law enforcement..."

On the other side of the legislature, [AB 2505](#) (Santiago), which would make CSU budgeting more transparent, got out of the Assembly Appropriations Committee on a 12-0-5 vote with all Republicans on the committee abstaining. It goes to a full Assembly vote this week.

AB 2505 requires the CSU to make public reports to the legislature on key issues CFA has been questioning for many years. These include how many student applicants were qualified but denied a seat in the CSU. It also would make public the ratio of executives and managers to faculty and support staff, with reporting and analysis to inform recommendations to improve hiring policies.



# One week from June 5 Primary, higher ed supporters campaigning hard

Public higher education supporters are working hard to remind voters that the California primary on June 5 could have a big impact on the future of public education, including the future of the CSU.

How we vote is changing, so campaigns are reminding voters to "make your plan to vote." The biggest changes this primary election are in the five counties on the forward edge of the new [California Voter's Choice Act](#), a ballot measure approved in 2016.



Voters in Madera, Napa, Nevada, Sacramento and San Mateo counties will no longer go to traditional precinct locations. Rather, all voters in those counties have received a ballot in the mail and can mail it back, drop it at [special Vote Dropboxes](#), or go to a nearby [Voting Center](#) where they can fill in their ballots and receive assistance. The centers are to open now—10 days before the June 5 Primary. These five counties are a pilot program; eventually the new voting methods will be extended to the remaining 53 counties across California.

In other counties, please be sure to [find your local voting place](#) on June 5. If you are voting by mail, make sure you post it on or before June 5, or deliver your ballot to your local voting place on Election Day.

## CFA ENDORSEMENTS

CFA members and campus CFA chapter leaders have been texting and making phone calls all over California for [CFA-endorsed candidates](#).

In Orange County, CFA is helping State Senator Josh Newman fend off a recall campaign after his upset win in 2016. Newman has strongly advocated in the Senate for reinvesting in public higher education and protecting public employee pensions. Leading up to his initial election, [Newman wrote in an issue paper](#), "The public university system in California belongs to all of us, and we must ensure that it continues to properly and affordably serve us all."

Statewide, CFA is campaigning for Gavin Newsom for governor and Tony Thurmond for state superintendent of education.

Noting heightened conflict in public schools and on campuses since late 2016, CFA President Jennifer Eagan said, "We believe that electing these two candidates is important to public higher education for many reasons, but their willingness to take on systemic racism and provide meaningful support for our diverse students is key among them."

That commitment weaves throughout Tony Thurmond's [policy statement](#) reflecting what he would do if elected. And, it shapes his personal history as an African American man striving to get his own education. He has dedicated much of his life as a social worker and elected official

in West Contra Costa County to teaching and to improving public education for students. “Public schools saved my life,” he writes.

Newsom has used his position as lieutenant governor to defend against racism in the schools. “With the recent surge of hate crimes, racial targeting and bullying in our schools, it’s imperative that we address and combat this uptick plaguing the very classrooms that should be safe havens,” he said in a [letter](#) that was sent to all the state’s 58 county superintendents of education.

**‘COURAGE FOR CHANGE’ BUS COMING TO TOWN:** [#TeamGavin](#) Newsom is campaigning old style, by bus up and down the state. Check it out this Friday in [Fresno](#), Saturday in [Davis](#), Sunday in [Hollywood](#), and Monday in [San Diego](#). Click the link on the city closest to you for more information and to RSVP. Please wear your CFA gear if you attend, and after [send a message](#) and/or photo to CFA’s Political Organizer who would love you to share about it.

**JOIN IN THE ACTION:** [Sign up on CFA’s web site](#) to campaign for public higher education. Opportunities to participate are now through Election Day next Tuesday June 5.

*PHOTO: Left to right, CFA Associate VP Cecil Canton, Capitol CFA Chapter President Margarita Berta-Ávila, Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom, CFA President Jennifer Eagan, CFA Secretary Kevin Wehr.*

## In Other News

**SLO STUDENT ANTI-WAR PROTESTORS FACE SANCTIONS:** After months of criticism for excusing racist behavior by fraternity men wearing blackface at campus parties and a campus Republicans “free speech wall” of racist and xenophobic remarks, the administration at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo has begun an investigation—into a protest by anti-war students against military contractor Raytheon at a campus jobs fair.



In [a letter to Cal Poly SLO President Armstrong](#) this week, SLO CFA Chapter President Lewis Call pointed out the obvious: “It appears that Cal Poly uses a double standard when evaluating free speech claims.”

Call wrote in the letter on behalf of the CFA chapter executive board, “Students at California’s public universities have been protesting the presence of military contractors on their campuses since the 1960s” and “formal university investigations of peaceful student demonstrations have a serious chilling effect on student free speech.”

Members of the SLO Peace Coalition, who now face academic sanctions, have launched a [petition](#) and a [statement on their Facebook page](#), and is garnering the attention of news media, including an insightful broadcast on [NPR’s California Report](#).

## SUMMER LISTENING & READING FOR JUSTICE

- **Radio Free CSU: The CFA's Podcast.** Join host Audrena Redmond and her guests as they examine our union's work against racism and the path to making this a socially just organization.  
[Episode 1](#): Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere  
[Episode 2](#): We intentionally center Anti-Racism as part of our mission  
[Episode 3](#): We acknowledge that even we in CFA are part of the problem of racism  
[Episode 4](#): We acknowledge that WE can be part of the solution by being intentionally committed to addressing it (racism).
- [The CFA Social Justice Study Hall](#). Links to online resources and books for those who want to delve more deeply into learning about anti-racism and social justice.

## Faculty Rights Tip: The Work Year

As summer nears, we are reminded that there is a yearly rhythm and cycle to our work.

There are three types of "Work Years" in our Collective Bargaining Agreement:

- Academic Year (AY)
- Ten (10)-Month Work Year
- Twelve (12)-Month Work Year

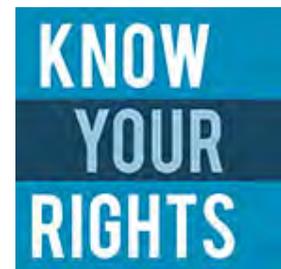
While the individual campuses have their own particular academic calendars, they must conform to the parameters set out in [Articles 20.4, 20.5, and 20.6](#) of our [Collective Bargaining Agreement](#).

Most faculty members are employed for Academic Years (AYs) not to exceed 180 days.

*If you have questions about faculty rights under the faculty contract, you can [contact your campus CFA Faculty Rights representative](#)*

*See [previous Faculty Rights Tips](#) on a range of topics in our contract.*

*If you have questions about a faculty rights tip or would like to suggest a tip [please write us](#) with the subject line "Faculty Rights Tip."*



## Links of the Week

### Upping the ratio

[Chico News & Review](#)

Legislature takes on dearth of mental health counselors on college campuses.

### Tony Thurmond says his journey makes him the best candidate to lead K-12 education in California

[EdSource](#)

Tony Thurmond wants students to know about his life. He knows adversity.

## **California's legislative budget writers must iron out differences with Gov. Jerry Brown, and each other**

[Los Angeles Times](#)

Members of the California Legislature's budget conference committee convene Wednesday (today) with one task above all others: reconcile the plans put forth by their two houses, both of which would be more costly than the proposal crafted by Gov. Jerry Brown.

## **California Gov. Jerry Brown Says Universities Could Take a Lesson from Chipotle**

[Capital Public Radio News](#)

The governor complimented the quality of the food and its low price point, and also the simplicity of the restaurant's meal choices. He went on to advise universities to pare down their course offerings the way Chipotle does its menu. "They have so damn many courses, 'cause all these professors want to teach their pet projects, but then you get thousands and thousands of courses," he said. "If they would go to a limited menu concept, everyone would graduate on time."

## **New chair of California State University system cites need to improve graduation rate, manage enrollment**

[San Diego Union-Tribune](#)

Adam Day, the new CSU board chairman, said the system needs to improve its graduation rate, more efficiently manage enrollment, find effective ways to use online courses, and carefully weed out academic majors that are no longer drawing significant numbers of students.

## **Why These Young Women Are Using Their Graduation Caps to Send a Powerful Message**

[Refinery29](#)

For many Dreamers graduating in 2018, it's an uncertain time. But that isn't stopping them from declaring their #Undocugrad status loud and proud

## **A Limit on Paying for Controversial Speakers**

[Inside Higher Ed](#)

For certain events, UCLA will only cover \$100,000 worth of security each year for speakers outside the university, a unique spending cap so far in higher education.

## **Court: Education Department Must Resume Debt Relief**

[Associated Press](#)

...for those previously found to have been defrauded by the defunct for-profit Corinthian Colleges.

## **Hospitals See Growing Numbers of Kids and Teens at Risk for Suicide**

[NPR](#)

The study found kids of all ages are affected though increases were greatest for older adolescents.

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