

Resolution Against Tuition Hikes

Whereas, state funding for public higher education in Connecticut has been cut by more than 15 percent in the last two years, shifting the cost of education to already over-burdened students and their families. These cuts follow decades in which the state has steadily decreased the share it contributes to higher education costs.

Whereas, the ConnSCU Board of Regents has proposed a 5.1 percent increase in tuition that will bring in-state costs at the four state universities, Central, Southern, Western and Eastern, to nearly \$9,000 a year. As recently as 2004, tuition and fees at these institutions remained at just more than \$5,000.

Whereas, affordable, quality education is a right and a public good. Tuition increases jeopardize the ability of Connecticut residents to attend college and threaten to increase economic and educational disparities in our state.

Whereas, rising tuition costs are undermining the value of education, forcing students to work long hours and compromising their ability to study and learn. After college, students face huge debts that deprive them of their choices and strap them to whatever job they can find.

Whereas, students across the ConnSCU system are organizing in opposition to planned tuition hikes.

Be it Resolved:

The Central Connecticut State University Senate stands in solidarity with students in opposition to proposed tuition increases by the ConnSCU Board of Regents. We endorse student protests against tuition hikes and encourage faculty participation in the rally planned for March 21, 2013 at 61 Woodland Street in Hartford. To that end, we also ask faculty to raise awareness of this issue in their classes and allow students to exercise their democratic rights of free speech by accommodating their participation in the March 21 rally.