

Central Connecticut State University

UNIVERSITY SENATE ACTION

Senate Motion Number FS 10.11.003R

TO: President Jack Miller

FROM: President of the University Senate

1. The attached resolution of the University Senate, dealing with: **Class Action to Save Higher Education** is presented to you for your consideration.
2. This resolution was adopted by the University Senate on **4/11/2011**.
3. After considering this resolution, please indicate your action on this form, and return it together with the original copy to the President of the University Senate.
4. Under the By-Laws of the University Senate, Section 3.8, the following schedule of action is to be observed.
 - a) By **4/18/2011**, Senate action reported to the President of the University. (Within five school days of the session in which they are adopted).
 - b) By **4/27/2011**, the President of the University to return the motion to the President of the Senate. (Within ten school days of its receipt).

4/13/2011

Date

BB for CB

Candace Barrington, President, University Senate

ENDORSEMENT:

TO: President of the University Senate

FROM: President Jack Miller

1. Motion Approved : _____
2. Motion Disapproved: _____ (Explanatory statement must be appended).
3. Action "is deferred": _____
4. Resolution Noted: _____ ✓
5. Other: _____

4/15/11
Date

John W. Miller
President Jack Miller

Justification

This resolution is drawn from one endorsed at the CCSU-AAUP chapter meeting in February. It calls for the Faculty Senate's support for *Class Action*, a national campaign to defend higher education.

Class Action came out of a meeting of over 70 higher education labor leaders in California, including those from CCSU. Faculty across the country recognized that attacks against public higher education under cover of the economic crisis have increased nationwide. In the CSU system, we are threatened with a hastily planned reorganization of our governance system and serious pay and benefit cuts for campus employees. A proposed 10% cut to the university's state funding appropriation will likely result in increases in student fees, higher tuition, fewer classes, increased faculty workload, and the further erosion of tenure-track faculty positions.

The purpose of *Class Action* is to organize protests, teach-ins, rallies, and other events to defend access to quality education and to a broad and diverse curriculum. CCSU-AAUP has formed a committee to organize events for *Class Action*. Information about their activities is available on the CCSU-AAUP blog: <http://ccsuaaup.wordpress.com/>

The Faculty Senate knows that resource shortages threaten this university. We have rejected attempts to curb internships and independent studies and have condemned the administration's failure to open positions currently staffed by short-term emergency hires to tenure-track searches. To defend our university, we must also expose the budget crisis for what it is—a deliberate decision to direct national resources to overseas wars and to relieve the wealthiest Americans from paying taxes. Already over a trillion dollars has been spent in wars and occupations in Iraq and Afghanistan. In fiscal year 2012, Connecticut taxpayers are projected to contribute \$13.5 billion for the proposed Department of Defense budget. Meanwhile, Connecticut maintains an inequitable tax system in which the wealthiest contribute at less than half the rate of the working and middle classes. *Class Action* provides us with an opportunity to demand that resources be redirected and that funding for public education be made a national priority.

Resolution

Be it Resolved:

The CCSU Faculty Senate seeks to advocate for students and funding for public education.

To do so, we endorse the spirit of *Class Action to Save Higher Education*, a national campaign initiated by the California Faculty Association to defend education. We encourage students and faculty to take part in *Class Action* events at CCSU.