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Union News

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View the Hybrid Retirement Plan Presentation

Upcoming Presentations on the Hybrid Retirement Plan with Dan Livingston:

SCSU: October 12 from 3-5pm in the Student Center Theatre

CCSU: October 23 from 3-5pm in Vance 105

WCSU: October 26 from 2:30-4:30 in the Midtown Student Center Theatre

The presentation took place at ECSU in September and the link to the video is now available [here](#). Even if you plan to attend one of the three remaining presentations, it may be beneficial to watch the video ahead of time to identify any questions you may have. (If you have any problems watching the video, you may need to download the Influxis Player software, available [here](#).)

Turmoil at the BOR:

Pay Raises for Top Administrators

Pay Raises for Top Administrators

The Board of Regents is holding a special meeting Friday, October 12 at 2:30 at 61 Woodland Street in Hartford to appoint members to “a special committee on administration which will immediately begin to gather information to formulate the policies and procedures necessary to govern the Board’s decision making process regarding compensation – including the salary adjustments –and other administrative matters” ([ConnSCU Statement](#)).

The announcement of the special meeting and formation of a new standing committee comes after days of turmoil at the BOR. It was reported on October 8, that BOR Executive Vice President Michael Meotti, was awarded a \$49,000 pay increase according to the [Connecticut Mirror](#). However, within twenty-four hours of that becoming public, Meotti offered to forfeit the raise and the BOR accepted his offer. Read more [here](#).

It was further learned a day later that twenty-one others in the ConnSCU office were awarded raises (see list [here](#)), including raises of

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An Accelerated Departure for some Community College Presidents

Turmoil at the BOR

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\$48,000 each for Elsa Nunez and David Levinson for performing additional responsibilities as Vice Presidents for CSU and the Community Colleges, respectively.

Dr. Kennedy admitted on Tuesday that “he was wrong to approve the raises unilaterally rather than bring them to the full board for a vote” (*Hartford Courant*). Dr. Kennedy has suspended all pay increases as of October 10.

It was also revealed at a press conference later that day that Kennedy had spent six weeks during the summer of 2012 working remotely from a home in Minnesota under the “professional development” clause in his contract.

[Malloy Promises Review of Higher Education Raises](#) (*CT Mirror*)

[Higher Ed Reform Shouldn't Mean More Raises](#) (*Hartford Courant*)

[You Know that Whole “Ignorance of the Law” Thing?](#) (Jonathon Pelto)

[New questions follow an educator's apology](#) (*CT Mirror*)

CSU-AAUP applauds the Board of Regents for identifying over \$5.5 million in savings and for directing most of these savings to the hiring of 47 new tenure-track faculty and direct student services personnel (among the 17 institutions). However, we agree with the outrage that has been expressed by legislators, the Governor’s office, and others about the raises, especially at a time when the faculty and staff at our universities have been asked and agreed to sacrifice two years of salary increases for the good of the state.

CSU-AAUP will continue to monitor this matter closely. For more regular updates on media reports about the BOR, CSU, or higher education in general, please “like” our [Facebook page](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

An Accelerated Departure for Some Community College Presidents?

Prior to the pay raises being the focus of the media, the BOR was the focus of *The Connecticut Mirror*, *The Hartford Courant*, *Inside Higher Education*, and *The Chronicle of Higher Education* due to a potential accelerated departure being offered to the Community College presidents at a private meeting on September 24. Following that meeting, Manchester Community College President Gena Glickman emailed her faculty notifying them that:

"1. All twelve community college presidents were offered a buy-out

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option that must be confirmed by October 31, 2012.

"2. Presidents contracts are in place until the end of June 2013.

"3. After October 31st, a decision will be made to renew or not renew contracts for those presidents who do not accept the buyout option."

At first, higher education officials and legislators dismissed the stories as rumor, but other presidents have begun coming forward confirming the details in Dr. Glickman's email.

The System released a statement, which can be viewed as part of the *Inside Higher Ed* story. In part, the statement reads, "Connecticut State Colleges & Universities (ConnSCU)'s central office leadership is trying to accommodate two goals at the same time to: 1) Provide Connecticut students with a high quality education that helps them meet tough career and life challenges in a very competitive world; and 2) Recognize that in order to do so will drive change that may be difficult for some to accept...Balancing these sometimes conflicting goals is what led to recent conversations with our community college presidents. This conversation started with a meeting of community college presidents where an explanation was provided of how these goals would be addressed in the regular presidential evaluation process that should precede a Board of Regents decision on reappointment. The explanation focused on the application of longstanding system presidential employment policies to this year's process. The meeting did not discuss the implications for any individual president."

Read more at:

[Top education officials refute MCC president's memo about buyouts](#)
(*CT Mirror*)

[Top Education Official Says Buyout Rumor Email May Reflect Turmoil Over Change](#) (*Hartford Courant*)

[Not a 'buyout' for college presidents, an 'expedited' separation process](#)
(*CT Mirror*)

[Second community college president: 'We're on the chopping block'](#) (*CT Mirror*)

[Contention in Connecticut](#) (*Inside Higher Ed*)

['Buyouts' for Conn. College Leaders? No, It's an 'Expedited Separation Process'](#) (*The Chronicle of Higher Education*)