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Union News

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ConnSCU 2013-2016 Strategic Initiatives

In his September 2013 *First Monday* newsletter, Dr. Gray writes, “As I traveled across the state and engaged in conversations with the ConnSCU community, I was encouraged to commence a comprehensive effort to plan for our future.” He further writes that, “All of our campus presidents are participating in the development of ConnSCU's comprehensive plan for the future and in the upcoming weeks they will be sharing with you the status of our collective thinking in order to obtain your feedback.”

In addition, the plan was the subject of several news articles:

New Higher Education Chief Lays Out Broad Vision For Change
(*Hartford Courant*)

New Regents President Has Ambitions For Charter Oak College
(*Hartford Courant*)

Recently, a written report, “2013-16 Strategic Initiatives, Connecticut State Universities, October 2013” has also been distributed. We believe this is still a draft and encourage our members to read it and provide their feedback to their campus presidents through the appropriate channels. Several faculty leaders met on November 9th and are working on a statement about this document.

In addition, please find the framework for the development of Dr. Gray's plan, entitled Excel CT. This document was shared with the BOR Executive Committee earlier this week.

www.aaup.org

Do you have something to say about current challenges to academic freedom? Online education? Pedagogical techniques that really work? Strategies for improving working conditions or academic freedom protections for contingent faculty? Furloughs, cutbacks, salary freezes? Collective bargaining? Or other timely topics in higher education? We are particularly encouraging proposals dealing with issues of campus equity.

**Deadline
Approaching:
Proposals for
Annual AAUP
Conference on the
State of Higher
Education**

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**Continued -
Proposals for
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If so, we invite you to submit a proposal for the AAUP Annual Conference on the State of Higher Education, to be held June 11–14, 2014, in Washington, D.C. **Proposals will be accepted through November 30.** Accepted presenters, including co-presenters and panelists, must register for the conference and pay applicable registration fees by March 14, 2014.

Proposal Guidelines

We encourage proposals that raise questions, engage conference participants in discussion, and foster dialogue.

You may propose either a complete session, with multiple participants, or an individual presentation, with one presenter. Individual presentations, if accepted, will be grouped into sessions with other related individual presentations.

Complete sessions may consist of a set of traditional presentations (a panel presentation), followed by Q&A, or may be structured as a roundtable discussion, designed to encourage more audience participation.

Possible topics include (but are not limited to):

- Equity on Campus
- Funding and defunding public education
- Collective bargaining in higher education
- The role of faculty in institutional decision making
- Faculty working off the tenure track
- The role of academic professionals in higher education
- Assessment and accountability
- The corporatization of teaching and research
- Race, gender, and sexual orientation in the academy
- The twenty-first-century curriculum
- Online education

Proposals on other topics of interest to a multidisciplinary audience are also welcome.

To submit a proposal, please download [the form](#), fill it out, and e-mail it to proposal@aaup.org.