

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contacts: John Watson (916) 996-3542 David Balla-Hawkins (916) 712-6243

Legislative Committee to Vote on Request for State Audit of CSU Management Growth

May 23, 2016 (Sacramento, Calif.) -- The California Joint Legislative Audit Committee, chaired by Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez (D-Chino), will vote on a request for a state audit of the California State University system at a committee hearing taking place this Wednesday, May 25, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 126 of the State Capitol.

In response to a long record of disproportionate growth in CSU management positions, exorbitant pay increases of CSU executives, and ineffective state oversight of the CSU budget, Assemblymember Shirley Weber (D-San Diego) will request the committee to direct the State Auditor to investigate these and related discrepancies.

Although a 2007 state audit was highly critical of CSU executive compensation levels (CSU: It Needs to Strengthen Its Oversight and Establish Stricter Policies for Compensating Current and Former Employees; Report #2007-102.1), CSU management has rebuffed legislative criticism of its executive compensation policies and salary increases. Excessive compensation increases continue to occur.

In addition, CSU mid- and upper-level management positions have grown disproportionately since the 1990s. Data from the State Controller's Office shows that CSU management positions increased systemwide by fully 24 percent from 2007-15, while classified staff positions increased by less than five percent during the same period.

As just one example of CSU's often upside-down organizational structure, these data also reveal that there are currently nearly 300 management and executive positions at the CSU Office of the Chancellor—but only some 250 support staff positions.

"During the Great Recession and beyond, CSU management has justified and rationalized an unconscionable growth in management personnel," said Pat Gantt, President of the CSU Employees Union, sponsor of Assemblymember Weber's audit request. "With Gov. Brown's May Revise predictions last week of stagnant or even reduced state revenues in coming years, now is the time for CSU management to get its priorities straight. We're convinced that a state audit will be a significant step in the right direction."



MEDIA ADVISORY

ABOUT CSUEU

Incorporated in 2005 after serving its members as a division of the California State Employees Association for more than 70 years, the California State University Employees Union (www.csueu.org) has built up a rich record of achievements on behalf of its more than 15,000 represented employees. Today it represents classified staff members at the California State University's 23 campuses, as well as the Office of the Chancellor, encompassing such diverse job categories as registered nurses, custodians, groundsworkers, library assistants, graphic specialists, information technology consultants and performing arts technicians, among many others.

###