

Good day. My name is Nancy Touba and I am the Student Government Association President at Gateway Community College.

The Connecticut Community College System Office and Connecticut State University governing board should not be consolidated. I fear that the loss of the decision making ability at a level that has only the community colleges in mind would be detrimental to the existence of the community college system.

The Community Colleges are already under-funded and there is a misperception of inferiority among some of the CSU. If the governing bodies were to combine, how can you guarantee that the 58,000 Community College students and our educational needs will be treated equally to the CSU and Charter Oak Students?

Has there even been any research into whether or not the consolidation will work and how it will affect students. Has there been any discussion about the planning and implementation of such a massive undertaking? Also, after a few years, will there be a review to assess its effectiveness?

It is bad enough that the Community Colleges feel that they are discriminated against for the majority of its students typically being lower income, but to take away the group of leaders who are responsible for looking out for the best interest of the Community College students will leave them even more oppressed.

Respectfully,

Nancy Touba,
Student Government Association President
Gateway Community College