

To the Connecticut State Legislature,

My name is Patrick Carbone and I am a Senior at Central Connecticut State University. I am currently training to be a Technology & Engineering Education Student and have one more semester until I complete my Student Teaching. I am excited that I will be able to take on the challenge, responsibility, and excitement of hopefully teaching at the high school level soon. On another subject, I have recently seen and heard in the news that a tuition hike is being proposed to balance CCSU's budget in reaction to the State's overall budget cuts.

I am writing to protest this measure not because I feel the tuition hike is excessive or illogical given the economic climate. The argument I assert is that a tuition hike is out of the question for CCSU students on these grounds: Governor Malloy currently sees fit to raise tuition on all ConnCSU students, meanwhile he feels that it was in poor judgment that he has not already approved passage of an additional \$2 billion in grants to UConn (on top of their existing 1.5 billion, which comes after other larger multi-billion dollar packages their University has received from the State over the past 20 years).

My strong and urgent complaint is that the CSU System has at best been given the bread crumbs of a feast given to UConn over the two decades. This is insulting to all non-UConn Connecticut colleges and universities, not just CCSU or ConnSCU. The only reasonable remedy is to allocate more money toward the ConnCSU network to remedy decades of neglect, buildings that should have been upgraded, teachers that should have been retained, and administrative and support staff who have been let go. We woefully need to increase our support staff, services, and equipment. Meanwhile UConn has been a perpetual expansion and building project for years. We need MORE from the State of Connecticut financially, not less.

Any tuition hike proposed or passed is a grave insult, and quite possibly even an in justice, to those who will, like me, soon serve your communities after graduating from the CSU System.

Thank you,
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