



University of Connecticut  
*School of Engineering*

Computer Science &  
Engineering

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Honorable Legislators  
Connecticut General Assembly

Dear Honorable Senators and Representatives,

The citizens of Connecticut and the Legislature have been generous to the University of Connecticut.

Literally, billions of dollars have been invested in its campuses to move from Quonset huts and a crumbling library to a compellingly attractive campus. President Austin was asked to halt the *Connecticut brain drain* and did so, admirably. I have been a resident of the state of Connecticut for over 50 years and the transformation of the institution has been remarkable – both in infrastructure and achievement.

The State of Connecticut now has budgetary difficulties. UConn will be asked to modify its dependency upon State funding as a means to continuing its ascendancy. Increased emphasis upon fund raising, particularly to increasing the endowment to competitive levels, is a viable alternative to support sustained excellence.

You will be charged to make difficult decisions. I don't envy you in that responsibility. There will be many advocacies – mine is that the primary emphasis should be to retain faculty and personnel, as the essential human infrastructure contributing soul and sacrifice to education and research. These employees have given generously in past concession agreements to sustain an institution in which they believe. I see all other priorities as secondary, by a wide margin.

I have been a proud member of the UConn community for over 25 years. I have served as president of the UConn AAUP and am currently a member of its Executive Committee and its contract negotiation team.

Sincerely,

*An Equal Opportunity Employer*

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