

Forbidden Topics: the Brown Bag Series
Monday, October 17, 12 noon - 1:30 p.m. in Sierra Hall 102.

Topic: What and how to think about professional representation and the public's perception of state employees?

Panel moderator: Carol Shubin, Professor of Mathematics

Panelists:

- Richard Moore, Professor of Management
- Nate Thomas, Professor of Cinema & Television Arts; CSUN CFA President
- Michael Neubauer, Professor of Mathematics; Director of Liberal Studies

This year, the CSU-CFA faculty bargaining process failed again. How can we, the faculty, represent our interests more effectively? ALL faculty members are invited to participate in this discussion centered on professional representation.

Q1. In a profession that values individual autonomy and diversity of opinion and views, what does "solidarity" mean? Faculty would like to work as if they were independent contractors, yet want to be represented according to an industrial labor model. As a profession we evaluate and participate in hiring, promotion and tenure decisions, which are traditionally management functions. What is the appropriate role for a union?

Q2. What is the faculty's position in times of decreasing state budgets with respect to this series of competing goods: quality education for our students versus revenue required to operate the CSU system versus access to higher education versus cuts to social services?

Q3. Is it possible for one union to represent both tenure/tenure-track faculty and lecturer faculty?

Q4: The union is perceived by many faculty as adversarial and ineffective. The Faculty Senate is focused on campus policy matters and appears weak. Both have failed to empower faculty. What steps can we take to improve our professional representation?

Co-hosts: Carol Shubin, Michael Hoggan, Nate Thomas, Shirley Svorny, Wayne Smith, Michael Neubauer, Sandra Chong, Cheryl Spector, and Melanie Williams

Any inquiries can be sent to Carol Shubin at: carol.shubin@csun.edu