

*NEWS FROM THE STUDENTS FOR QUALITY EDUCATION*

For Immediate Release: November 10, 2016

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*Media Advisory*

**Students Say Fight Proposed Tuition Increases: Occupy BOT**

*Long Beach* — At 6am Tuesday, Nov. 15 (PST), students will be holding back to back rallies to raise awareness about the serious impacts the privatization of higher education by the Board of Trustees, is causing on our state university students. Students presence at the Trustees building are part of a student movement to shut down Chancellor White’s plans to increase tuition by 5%.

Members of the campus and local news media are invited to attend:

**Student’s Occupy the Board of Trustees** starts@ 6am (PST)

CSU Board of Trustees Building

401 Golden Shore

Long Beach, CA 90802

**BACKGROUND**

The CSU Board of Trustees had originally planned to discuss raising tuition for students across the California State University system during its Nov. 15-16 Trustees meeting. With growing disapproval, the item was moved until next year; students say, cease any and all future conversations, when higher education should be free.

Between 2002-2012, tuition in the CSU went up 283%, making this generation of CSU students pay more for their education than ever before in history. This year marks the end of a CSU statewide tuition freeze that students fought for, and Chancellor White has already suggested a 5% tuition increase.

Students are already suffering from homelessness, hunger, and fair access and affordability to their higher education; tuition increases are not an option, as students and members SQE are advocating. The group is set to stage a die-in and hold a news conference, where they will announce plans to shut down any plans to increase student tuition that will force more students to drop out of college. They are calling for a movement that says “Enough!” with the privatization of higher education; students deserve free and quality higher education in California.

SQE also has launched an online effort to share stories from students, using [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/SQEStatewide/?fref=ts), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/CSUSQEstatewide) and the [SQE site](http://csusqe.org) to help students unite in the fight against tuition increases. Students, faculty and community members can submit their story at [http://csusqe.org/dearbot/](http://csusqe.org/dearbot/.) and follow the conversation on social media using #DearBOT, #TheWalkingDebt, and #ReclaimTheCSU.

**ABOUT STUDENTS FOR QUALITY EDUCATION (SQE)**: [Students for Quality Education](http://csusqe.org/) (SQE) is a statewide student coalition, with eighteen chapters throughout the California State University system. SQE believes education should be accessible and affordable to all students. Formed in 2007-2008 to build a student movement for educational rights in public higher education, they work closely with the California Faculty Association to #ReclaimTheCSU.

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