

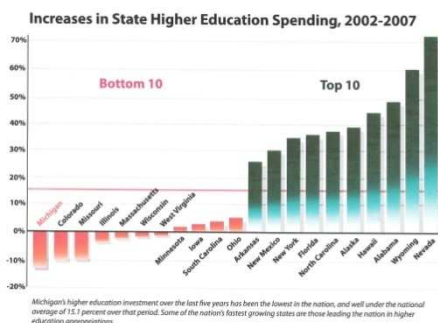
Add section on 'what profs do'

August 2008

## What's Inside:

Fall Membership Meeting  
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Words only

## MICHIGAN CHOOSES NOT TO INVEST IN HIGHER EDUCATION



## FALL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND RALLY

Mark your calendar for the Fall Membership Meeting and Rally to be held on Wednesday, September 3 from 6pm-8pm, at the Comfort Inn, 2424 S Mission St Mount Pleasant, MI 48858. The most important topic of course will be the bargaining of the new contract!

## NEW BOARD

A complete list of the current FA Board members can be found at this link: <http://www.cmufa.org/>

Most of us are concerned about Michigan's economy. Unfortunately for decades Michigan's economy has been based on manufacturing and manufacturing jobs are disappearing due to increased productivity and cheaper labor in foreign countries. Michigan is in a transition where it needs to diversify its economy.

However, the problem with higher education is that the government of Michigan has chosen not to invest in higher education and other services. In 2000-2001 Michiganders paid 9.49% of their personal income in state taxes. Today it is about 6.7%. (See [www.michigantaxtruth.org](http://www.michigantaxtruth.org)) This has translated into severe reductions in state per pupil allocations even though costs have risen.



# CMU FA Courier

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Since funding comes from two sources, the state and the student, it would appear that the cost from the student must increase. However, pressure exists to force the faculty to help pay for Michigan higher education through reduced salaries. This is unacceptable. While we deplore the lack of state funding for higher education the only alternative is increased private funding. (Note: some other sources do exist such as increasing donations and grants to the university).

make everyone feel included as you take stock of the events in your life together.

## AVERAGE SALARY

The following link will take you to the Chronicle of Higher Education's comparison of average salaries for faculty in Michigan:

[Chronicle comparison chart](#)

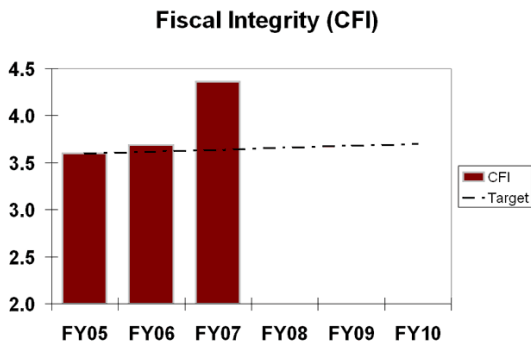
## WORDS ONLY

The recent Michigan budget contained a 1% increase in higher education budgets. Granholm says, "A well-trained workforce and affordable college for Michigan families are critical pieces of our economic plan for Michigan. By investing in our outstanding universities and community colleges and offering training for high-demand careers, we are investing in our economy and the future of every Michigan citizen."

However, we all know that at 1% increase does little to invest in an affordable college education or provide Michigan students for h-demand careers.

## CMU'S FISCAL INTEGRITY

Fortunately CMU is experiencing increased fiscal integrity, which is a credit to the administration. (See <http://www.planning.cmich.edu/kpi/kpi18/18def.shtml>)



Writing a family newsletter can also be a fun activity to do together as a family. You can