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## The Faculty Experience

“The faculty experience is really not a single experience.” This article considers adjunct job attitudes from surveys of adjuncts, tenure track faculty and administrators as part of its look at the decline of tenure track positions.

<http://www.insidehighered.com/layout/set/print/news/2007/12/31/mlajobs>

A second article, *Call to Arms for Academic Labor*, written by a former adjunct graduate student turned tenured professor, considers the history as well as the current state of the academic job market. <http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2008/01/10/bousquet>

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## HE Costs And Federal Funding

As costs rise dramatically for students, federal funding for higher

education is not keeping pace. “Democrats opted to cede to the president’s demands to stick to budgetary ceilings in the 2008 budget.” first article discusses the disappointing funding of federal programs important to colleges. The second article, commenting on the 2009 Education budget to be presented in early February, addresses other issues important to higher education including how textbook costs influence student choices, the impact of federal aid rules, HEA Reauthorization and the matter of education and the 2008 election.  
<http://www.insidehighered.com/layout/set/print/news/2007/12/28/approps>

[http://diverseeducation.com/artman/publish/article\\_10453.shtml](http://diverseeducation.com/artman/publish/article_10453.shtml)

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## State Appropriations for HE

State appropriations for higher education are up for the 2008 fiscal year, but don’t count on healthy increases to continue. Although overall appropriations are up, not all states have good news. Find your state’s 2008 fiscal year increase at:

<http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2008/01/11/grapevine>

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## Student Debt And Career Choice

“Many students.....are making career decisions based on the reality of having to repay loans.” This article from NEA Today discusses how teaching and other public service professions are being rejected by students. The reality is that students are recognizing that they will be unable to pay their student loans with the low-paying salaries common in these professions.

<http://www.neaorg/neatoday/0801/studentdebt.html>

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## Not So Free Speech

A student, criticizing his university’s plan to build two parking garages was “administratively withdrawn” – expelled – last May. He recently filed a federal lawsuit against the university. It appears that speech is getting less and less free.

<http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2008/01/11/valdosta>

## Emerging Leaders Academy

The NEA Higher Education Emerging Leaders Academy (ELA) is seeking applicants for the Class of 2009. Applications must be received by February 20, 2008. Eligibility requirements and other program details are available at: <http://www2.nea.org/he/leaders/emerging.html>

## 2008 NEA/AFT Higher Education Conference

The 2008 Higher Education Conference, a joint NEA/AFT conference, will be held at the Washington Hilton Hotel in Washington, D.C., March 28-30, with pre-conference events March 26-28. This year's theme is *Building Alliances for Higher Education and the Public Good*. Friday's Keynote Speaker will be John Podesta, president of the Center for American Progress. Professor Charles Ogletree, the Harvard Law School Jesse Climenko Professor of Law and Vice Dean for the Clinical Programs will be Saturday's luncheon speaker. **Early bird registration ends January 31.** Registration for the conference is online at: <http://www2.nea.org/he/conf.html>

## Thought and Action Review Panel

Three three-year positions are open on the *Thought & Action* Review Panel. Criteria for selection include experience with or knowledge of the editorial process, knowledge of or experience with NEA or its local affiliates, interest in issues facing higher education, NEA members and their unions. More details can be obtained by contacting Con Lehane at [clehane@nea.org](mailto:clehane@nea.org) or calling 202-822-7214. Manuscript guidelines for *Thought & Action* are available at <http://www2.nea.org/he/taguid.html>.

## NCSCBHEP Conference At Hunter College

The 35th National Conference of the National Center for the Study of Collective Bargaining in Higher Education and the Professions will be held April 6 – 8, 2008 at Hunter College in New York City. The preliminary program can be found at [www.hunter.cuny.edu/ncscbhep](http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/ncscbhep).

## 2008 Regional Leadership Conferences - Agendas

Click on the appropriate region for the conference agenda.

<a href="#">Mid-Atlantic</a>	Kentucky	January 25-27
<a href="#">Midwest</a>	Minnesota	January 18-20
<a href="#">Northeast</a>	New York	January 18-20
<a href="#">Pacific</a>	Idaho	February 15-17
<a href="#">Southeast</a>	South Carolina	February 1-3
<a href="#">West</a>	Texas	January 18-20

Additional details for all Regional Conferences are available on the NEA website at: <http://www.nea.org/members/rlc.html>

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## 2008 Dates To Remember And Tentative Deadlines

This New York Times article looks at concerns surrounding the decline of full-time tenure/tenure track professors and the significant increase of part-time and contract hires.

- January 15 - NCHE Constitution & Bylaws Amendments Due
- January 18 - Davenport Award Nominations Due
- March 27 - NEA Conference Leadership Day
- March 27-28 - NCHE RAM - TH 7-10pm /FRI 8-11:30am
- March 28 - NCHE Elections and NEA Candidate Endorsements
- March 28-30 - NEA/AFT HE Conference

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