



CLINTON VS TRUMP

ON THE **ISSUES THAT MATTER TO** NEA HIGHER ED MEMBERS

This fall, NEA Higher Ed members have a clear-cut choice in presidential candidates. On the one hand, there's the founder and owner of Trump University—"Yes, It Was a Massive Scam," a National Review headline blared. On the other, we have a candidate who told NEA members, "I'm with you," and received the endorsement of nearly nine out of 10 NEA Representative Assembly delegates. As NEA President Lily Eskelsen García reminds us, this choice comes with lasting implications for faculty, staff, and students: "In choosing our next president...you will have a voice in shaping the future of this country."

CLINTON VS TRUMP

“We will not sit quietly. We will unite our members and the nation to see which candidate will fight for students from preschool to graduate school; which one respects collective bargaining and retirement security, and Dreamers; and which one is an erratic, reckless demagogue who speaks from hate and ignorance. We are not afraid of demagogues and bullies... We are fearless. We are warriors.”

— NEA PRESIDENT LILY ESKELSEN GARCÍA.



Funding for Public Education

“When we invest in education, we invest in our country’s future, and we invest in making a stronger economy that works for all of us, not just those at the top.”

— Hillary Clinton, to the NEA Representative Assembly, on July 5.

Higher education funding makes up only about 2 percent of the total federal budget, and almost all of that money is directed to students to help them pay for college. State funding for higher education is another issue: Between 2000 and 2012, state funding to higher ed declined 37 percent. Those cuts have led to heftier tuitions, bigger class sizes, cuts in academic programs and staff, and greater reliance on poorly paid contingent or adjunct faculty. In July, Clinton acknowledged the issues around adjunct faculty, saying they “deserve to have a strong voice, with a union.”

“I’m going to cut spending big time. Department of Education. We’re going to cut Department of Education.” — Donald Trump during an MSNBC Town Hall in February.

Does Trump know that the DOE provided \$35.2 billion in Pell Grants to 9.4 million low-income Americans in 2013? Plus another \$71 billion in low-interest student loans to millions more? These are students who couldn’t afford to go to college without the grants and loans administered by the DOE.



College Affordability

“It is imperative...to make debt-free college available to all.” — Hillary Clinton, in a July 6 news release.

Clinton’s detailed college-affordability plan would offer free tuition at public

universities for families earning less than \$125,000 a year by 2021, and for those earning less than \$85,000 immediately. It also includes free tuition for all at community colleges, and a \$25 billion fund for minority-serving institutions. To address student debt, Clinton has called for borrowers to be able to refinance at lower interest rates. She also has pledged, as president, to take immediate executive action to implement a three-month moratorium on student loan repayment, so that all borrowers can take the time to investigate income-based repayment and public service forgiveness options.

“Community colleges are damn near free now, and almost anyone can afford community college.” — Sam Clovis, Trump’s education policy surrogate, to *Inside Higher Ed* in May.

Not quite! While average tuition at a community college is \$3,347 a year, tuition accounts for just 21 percent of the cost, according to the College Board. Add another \$7,705 for housing, \$1,328 for books, and \$1,735 for transportation for a total cost of \$14,115. Meanwhile, 36 percent of

\$1.38 TRILLION

The nation’s collective student debt, which grows by \$2,726 each second.

Source: MarketWatch

community college students come from families earning less than \$20,000 a year! So they work, and they work, and they work — and maybe it's not so surprising that just 14 percent of students from those poorest families finish their degrees.



For-Profit, Online Education

“I do believe we have an opportunity to cut the costs of education through quality online learning...But we're going to have to be careful to separate the fraudsters from the people who are providing a good service.”
— Clinton, Jan. 16, at a town hall meeting in N.H.

“I believe that Trump University was a fraudulent scheme, and that it preyed on the elderly and the uneducated to separate them from their money.”

— Ronald Schmackenberg, a former manager at Trump University, the for-profit, unaccredited school owned and promoted by Trump, in court testimony.

A class-action lawsuit, filed by the New York Attorney General in 2013, has accused Trump of running a “phony” university, and misleading students about its programs. An additional two class-action lawsuits have been filed in California. (In Florida, three days after the state's attorney announced she was considering joining the New York suit, the *Associated Press* reported that Trump's foundation donated \$25,000 to her re-election campaign. Florida did not join the suit.)

23

The number of shootings on college campuses in 2015.

Source: *TIME* magazine



Campus Safety

“You have these terrible incidents like we just had in Oregon. Children being killed in school, people in Bible study in a church being murdered... I'm determined to do something about it and I'll try every way to get those guns out of the hands of people who shouldn't have them.” — Clinton, Oct. 5, 2015, nine days after a gunman killed nine people at Umpqua Community College in Oregon.

More specifically, Clinton's plans to prevent gun violence include: expanding background checks and closing the gun-show and Internet sales loopholes, and supporting laws that keep

guns out of the hands of domestic abusers and people with severe mental illnesses.

“If some of those wonderful people had guns strapped right here, right to their waist or right to their ankle, and this son of a b*% comes out and starts shooting and one of the people in that room happened to have (a gun) and goes ‘boom, boom.’ You know what, that would have been a beautiful, beautiful sight, folks.” — Trump, after the Orlando

club shooting in June, to supporters in Texas.

Trump also suggested, during a call-in to *Fox & Friends* in May, that “in some cases, teachers should have guns in classrooms, frankly.” And, while Clinton has the ringing endorsement of Everytown for Gun Safety, Trump is the endorsed candidate of the National Rifle Association, which this summer spent \$7 million on TV ads for Trump.



Health Care

“Already, the Affordable Care Act has expanded coverage to 20 million Americans. As president, I will make sure Republicans never succeed in their attempts to strip away their care and that the remaining uninsured...get the affordable coverage they need to stay healthy.”

— Clinton, in a July 10 statement.

The Clinton health care plan also calls for lower out-of-pocket copays and deductibles, and reduced costs for prescription drugs, which grew from 2.5 percent in 2013 to 12.6 percent in 2014. She also has affirmed her support for a “public option” for all.

“Obamacare. We're going to repeal it!” — Trump, during a Texas speech on Sept. 14, 2015.

8 MILLION

The number of low-income children insured by the Children's Health Insurance Program, which Clinton fought to pass.

Source: PolitiFact



Science and Research

“I believe in science.” — Clinton, during her July convention speech.

The crowd’s relieved applause for Clinton’s pro-science statement “shows just how terrifying this election is,” writes a *Slate* author. “Stating a belief in science should not be a line in a presidential candidate’s speech.” Clinton also has promised to increase funding for agencies that support university-based research, including the National Institutes of Health and National Science Foundation, and has called previous investments in science and research “one of the great advantages we have had over the past 70 years.”

“Obama’s talking about all of this with the global warming and...a lot of it is a hoax. It’s a hoax.”
— Trump, at a Dec. 30, 2015, rally in South Carolina.

In 2012, Trump tweeted that climate change was invented by the Chinese.

linked vaccines to autism during a Republican debate last year, and his running mate, Mike Pence, doesn’t believe in evolution.



Women’s Workplace Issues

“Women all over America deserve a raise. There’s no discount for being a woman—groceries don’t cost us less, rent doesn’t cost us less, so why should we be paid less?” — Clinton, on April 12, in New York, noting that women still earn 79 cents for every dollar a man makes.

79¢

How much women earn for every \$1 earned by a man. And it’s worse for women of color.

Source: American Association of University Women

in every sector except private two-year colleges, and they constitute a higher proportion of low-paid contingent faculty, according to the *NEA Advocate*.) “I loved it the other day when the women’s soccer players sued,” said Clinton to the *New York Times*, referring to a wage discrimination suit filed this spring by the player’s union for the women’s national team.

“I would like to think she would find another career or find another company.” — Trump, in August to USA Today, on the question of what should happen if his daughter was sexually harassed at work.

Although Trump says he “cherishes women,” he hired Roger Ailes, the former Fox News chairman ousted this summer over charges of sexual harassment, to work for his campaign. Earlier this year, a *New York Times* investigation found women who work for Trump “reveal unwelcome romantic advances, unending commentary on the female form, a shrewd reliance on ambitious women, and unsettling workplace conduct.”



Unions

“I’m with you...and supporting educators means supporting unions. Unions helped create the strongest middle class in the history of the world.” — Clinton, to the NEA Representative Assembly, on July 5.

“Workers love me.” — Trump, on Feb. 8, and yet Trump-related businesses in Las Vegas alone have faced 25 investigations by the National Labor Relations Board since 2014.

“DONALD TRUMP IS A RACIST, SEXIST, HYPOCRITICAL, EGOTISTICAL THIN-SKINNED BULLY WHO MUST NEVER GET WITHIN 1000 MILES OF THE WHITE HOUSE.”

— NEA PRESIDENT LILY ESKELSEN GARCÍA, TO THE NEA RA, ON JULY 4.

Two years later, he asked: “Is our country still spending more on the GLOBAL WARMING HOAX?” More recently, he vowed to remove the U.S. from climate change accords. He also

As president, Clinton has promised to require all employers to review their employees’ pay for equity, and to use the Department of Labor to make this issue more transparent. (In higher education, women continue to earn less