

TEMPLE ASSOCIATION OF

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UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONALS

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Standing AGAINST Trump's Disastrous Budget and Marching FOR Science!

Like our national affiliate, [the American Federation of Teachers](#), TAUP rejects President Donald Trump's [catastrophic proposed budget](#). Below, we suggest some ways you can join us in fighting it, by contacting your congressional representatives and by participating in the March for Science.

Trump's budget plan inflicts grievous harm on the National Institutes of Health, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Education, and many others with double-digit percentage cuts, and it zeros out the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

These agencies provide irreplaceable research and programming support for faculty and librarians in TAUP and across our nation. This research money is also crucial to producing the basic science and applied knowledge, the drugs, the inventions, the artworks, the scholarly inquiries, and the innovative programs that address our most pressing problems.

Our students will also suffer greatly if this budget is adopted in part or whole, both those already at Temple and those we hope are on the way. Trump's proposed budget eliminates \$732 million in federal funding offered through the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant program. It raids the so-called Pell surplus, stripping \$3.9 billion from those reserves, which could be used to help more low-income students. It cuts \$2.4 billion for K-12 professional development and class-size reduction and \$1.2 billion in community schools, before- and after-school programs, and summer programs.

Then there's the blow it deals to hungry students. Pennsylvania is among the states that increases food stamp assistance to those who receive help from the Low Income Heating Assistance Program (LIHEAP), which Trump's budget eliminates. As Temple's and TAUP's own [Sara Goldrick-Rab](#) has shown, a shocking number of students in higher ed suffer from hunger and food insecurity. Fewer loans, more hunger, more public schools undercut by a push toward charter schools—this is terrible news for our students and for Temple.

Who else loses in this budget proposal, inside and outside higher ed? Those who need housing assistance, people with disabilities seeking employment, and everybody who needs clean air and clean water. Who wins? The only winners seem to be the wealthiest, who would enjoy a sizeable tax cut, defense contractors, and those whose job it is to track down and deport undocumented immigrants.

Of course, this budget is only a proposal; and it has elicited negative reactions from both Democrats and Republicans, one of the few things they seem to agree on! But we cannot be complacent in opposing it.

Here are two ways to do so:

First, contact your US House Representatives and Senators! As the recent victory over the American Health Care Act shows, legislators do respond to pressure from constituents. If you're not sure who your representatives on Capitol Hill are, see [this site](#) from Common Cause, which also lists bills they've sponsored and contributions they've received. You can find the list of the [House](#) and [Senate](#) Appropriations Committees, which is the one most central to formulating a federal budget here.

Second, consider joining the [March for Science](#), April 22nd, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in Washington, D. C., with a "satellite march" in [Philadelphia](#) at the same time (along with 513 other marches)! We're proud to say that TAUP has been accepted as a [partner](#) of the March for Science. TAUP is happy to embrace the March's mission to advocate for "robustly funded and publicly communicated science as a pillar of human freedom and prosperity" and its "five overarching goals: humanize science, support the scientific process and scientists, advocate for accessible and inclusive science, partner with the public, and enable the use of science to improve society." Please let us know at tapuافت@gmail.com if you plan to attend one of these marches. We are aiming to put together a TAUP contingent.

Of course, there are a great many more marches and other actions opposing President Trump's policies. In another e-bulletin, we'll be letting you know about some actions you can participate in on May 1st that call attention to the threat these policies pose to working people, especially those in unions, and to public education.

We are also eager to hear any suggestions you have. But whatever you decide to do about the proposed budget, please do **something**. It is in your self-interest as well as the interests of your colleagues, the United States, and the world as a whole. TAUP will be doing whatever we can to oppose this toxic proposal and fight for our colleagues, our students and our communities. Please join us!

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