

## NYS AAUP Conference Executive Director Report to the Fall Conference 2009

Welcome all. Our meeting will be smaller than usual this year but we are grateful for those who have traveled to attend and our keynote speaker, Sandra Cannon Scott as she has travelled the furthest. We want to thank Syracuse University for welcoming the NYS AAUP Conference to their campus for this meeting. We want to especially thank our Vice President Jeanette Jeneault for setting up and recommending the amenities for our conference. This report will chronicle the Executive Director's activities on our behalf since our Spring Conference in May, 2009.

### Activities:

- The NYS Conference membership is down slightly. National lists 4,812 down from 4,966 state members last spring. I am happy to report that through Katherine Isaac we continue to be able to contact the state AAUP membership via email but use this privilege sparingly.
- nysaaup.org has been maintained and been kept up-to-date.
- Contributed an article for the NY Academe Newspaper.
- Maintained contact with RPI about the status of the suspension of the Faculty Senate at RPI by President Shirley Jackson. Our holding this conference in Syracuse was in part motivated for us to be accessible to the RPI faculty as a resource. In our forum we will get an update from Jane Koretz of RPI and have an opportunity to offer our perspective and help to the RPI faculty attending.
- Continued to maintain contact with an Ithaca College Faculty member who was denied tenure for what appears to be discriminatory and Academic Freedom issues. So far AAUP has not chosen to join in but the fight continues. Her struggle continues and has broadened to her husband who has lost his position at a nearby college as well.
- We have initiated a process to amend our constitution voting procedures to be in full compliance with the laws as now interpreted that have put into question our current procedures. In this regard the President, Chair of Committee A, and myself have been in slow but continuous contact with AAUP's Martin Snyder, Rachael Levinson, and the new ASC Chair Judith Johnston about how to proceed. We immediately accepted the National AAUP offer made at the Annual Meeting to utilize their ability to contact and conduct voting via email securely and anonymously whether simultaneously with or separate from the national elections. Getting help with putting this together has been slow. However for our discussion and consideration, I have attached a draft of changes to the constitution that should satisfy our needs and that will allow us to use the National offer of help without specifically requiring us to do so.
- In the Rochester area we have been involved with four faculty at RIT and the University of Rochester related to non renewal of faculty positions.
- We have continued to support and raise awareness for the work conditions of adjuncts working at RIT.

- Assistance to several other state faculty members seeking information and contacts for support for tenure and job related issues have been provided.
- Assisted the At-Large Conference leadership in organizing this conference.

Respectfully submitted,

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