

Candidate Statement

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I was the founding President of the AAUP Chapter of the AAUP at Marymount Manhattan College 20 years ago during a time of financial crisis at the College. Since then I have remained the President or liaison to the state and national offices on behalf of faculty concerns and grievance research. At the local level I have succeeded in engineering the creation of a ground breaking faculty retirement incentive program and a wide variety of initiatives that expanded faculty participation in governance.

I currently serve as a Member at Large of the New York State Chapter of the AAUP and served on the national AAUP's ad-hoc committee that conducted research on retirement programs and submitted recommendations and findings regarding the various ways that institutions deal with retirement issues.

There are several issues that the AAUP must be vigilant about at every level: continuing threats to the integrity of tenure, declining membership, and political action. The rise of corporate models of management, distance learning, and increased employment of contingent faculty have resulted in a steady deterioration of tenure. We must address this problem vigorously if we are to protect the academic principles that the AAUP stands for. To bolster membership we need to reassess our recruitment and promotion practices at every level. And, to increase our political influence we need to build closer working relationships with other education unions as well as those non-education based organizations with which we share common cause.