

NEW YORK Academe

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From the President's Desk:



George Orwell Is With Us Still

By David Linton
(Marymount Manhattan College)

The recent uproar at Harvard over the revelation that administrators had been secretly searching the e-mail accounts of 16 resident deans in an attempt to find out who may have given the news media

details of a cheating scandal is just the latest revelation of administrative over-reaching. And, frankly, given the ways such incursions on privacy have been increasing in every aspect of life, it strikes me that the faculty members in that particular ivory tower are, well, acting as though they lived in an ivory tower.

Erosion of faculty voice, authority, privacy, and confidentiality are growing problems across the academic community. Whether it's the high-handed dismissal of a university president in Virginia, the railroading of a controversial professor in Colorado, snooping through e-mails at Harvard, the imposition of a new curriculum at the City University of New York or the myriad other ways that faculty rights and protections are being undermined, it is not a pretty picture.

While the big stories of firings and snooping get a lot of press, I am more concerned about the more subtle and sweeping institutional changes taking place across the academic landscape.

Largely driven by administrative efforts to gain ever-more control over their faculties, abetted by dubious legal arguments that faculty are often ill-prepared to refute, and foisted upon a faculty increasingly infantilized by years of subservience to an authoritarian system, we are witnessing the growth of what a colleague has described as "a culture of surveillance."

Consider the following:

1. Many institutions now require a background check for

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Faculty Votes No Confidence in NYU President

By David Linton

Despite some common misperceptions about college professors, as a group they tend to be reluctant to come to harsh judgments about those in positions of authority, particularly those in the positions of the Deans, Provosts, and Presidents of their own institutions.

That's why it is so rare and so significant that the faculty of the largest school unit in New York University, Arts and Sciences, voted in March by a significant margin to express their displeasure with the university leadership by passing a vote of no confidence in NYU President John Sexton. The vote was 298 to 224, a decisive outcome in a vote where 83 percent of the faculty members participated.



"We're not a corporation and we're being run like a corporation," history professor Mary Nolan said before the results were revealed. "It's this kind of very closed leadership on top that seems to go against what a top research university with a strong liberal arts complexion should be about."

At the time of this writing the full impact of the vote cannot yet be assessed. President Sexton issued a statement that, in summary, said that he'd try harder to involve the faculty in governance matters and the Chair of the NYU Board of Trustees reaffirmed the Board's continuing support for Sexton.

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NYS State AAUP Meeting April 19-20 at NYU

The New York State AAUP Conference Spring 2013 will be held at New York University, 20 Cooper Square, 4th floor on April 19th-20th, 2013. For details: www.nysaaup.org

An AAUP Room Block has been reserved at the Renaissance New York Hotel 57, located at 130 E 57th Street, New York, NY 10022-2726, (212) 753-8841.

You may register for the Conference on our website: http://www.nysaaup.org/conference_register_spring2013.htm

AAUP NATIONAL NEWS

New FMLA Handbook Published by the AAUP

The AAUP has announced the publication of a new edition of its Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) Handbook.

The Handbook was developed in response to the many inquiries from professors, administrators, and lawyers about the application of the federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)

to faculty members. To clarify how to apply the FMLA in academic settings, the AAUP has produced a guidebook, authored by attorney Kathi Westcott and economics professor Saranna Thornton. The new edition is now available online: <<http://www.aaup.org/reports-publications/publications/see-all/guidebooks-newsletters>>.

The guidebook is broken into sections in which specific mandates are introduced and explained through a series of questions and answers.

In 1993, Congress enacted the FMLA to promote family stability and

economic security by making it easier for employees to integrate work and family responsibilities.

Subsequent emendations of the law and associated regulations have added leave entitlements for qualifying military exigencies and for family members to care for military service members seriously injured in the line of duty.

Congress intended the FMLA to maximize workplace efficiency, to minimize employment discrimination based on gender and pregnancy, and to promote equal employment opportunities for women and men.

New AAUP Chapter at University of Virginia

The recent crisis at the University of Virginia (UVA) regarding governance was the impetus for the reactivation of a dormant local chapter of the AAUP. The chapter has adopted by-laws, elected officers, and received a charter from the national office, which recently sent an investigative team to UVA in the wake of the events of summer 2012.

On Friday, February 15, an executive

committee of the UVA chapter met with UVA President Teresa Sullivan and Provost John Simon, in order to introduce the chapter and administration to each other and build a working relationship between them. In a friendly and productive meeting, the group discussed academic freedom and the role of the faculty in shared governance: two issues that the AAUP has championed for decades, and that the chapter members presented as mutually reinforcing.

The UVA chapter offered to work with the Administration and the Faculty Senate in revising the Faculty Handbook, which governs faculty policies at UVA. The chapter also agreed to pro-

vide the president and provost with an annual report on the state of shared governance and academic freedom at UVA.

The chapter is reviewing results from a recent Senate survey of faculty satisfaction at UVA and will provide feedback about key issues in that report concerning shared governance and academic freedom.

The AAUP committee proposed the need for a statement from UVA's administration re-establishing faculty members' right to free speech in academic matters. The group agreed to review a statement on this topic, to be drafted by the chapter in accordance with AAUP guidelines.

AAUP Summer Institute Set for Seattle, July 25 to 28



The 2013 AAUP-CBC Summer Institute will be held at the University of Washington in Seattle. This year's institute will take place from July 25-28.

The Summer Institute is the premier resource for developing the faculty voice on campus. This intensive, four-day series of workshops and seminars will prepare you to organize your colleagues, stand up for academic freedom, and advocate for research and teaching as the core priority of higher education.

Learn from experts on faculty organizing, academic freedom and shared governance, university finances, contract bargaining and administration, media, government relations, and more.

Collaborate with colleagues from across the country in interactive workshops focused on building skills and practical knowledge.

The 2013 Summer Institute will include workshops on organizing your colleagues; organizing new collective bargaining chapters; strengthening shared governance and academic freedom protections on campus; analyzing institutions' audited financial statements; bargaining and administering contracts; building active, influential chapters and state conferences; creating successful contract campaigns; and planning creative mass actions in support of your issues, and more.

Renowned CUNY Faculty Speak Out in Ad Campaign Against Pathways

Dr. Blanche Wiesen Cook, distinguished professor of history at John Jay College, and Dr. Manfred Philipp, professor of chemistry at Lehman College, are featured in a new ad campaign opposing Pathways, CUNY's new core curriculum. The ads began running in the New York Times during the week of March 18 – 24.

Scheduled to begin with students entering CUNY in the fall of 2013, Pathways is a university-wide revamp of CUNY's general education curriculum—a policy governing the number and types of classes all students must complete. It was enacted by the CUNY Board of Trustees with the supposed purpose of smoothing transfer between CUNY colleges.

The real agenda behind Pathways, as Professional Staff Congress (PSC) President Barbara Bowen has shown, is about spending less per student and graduating more students in a shorter time at lower cost. Thousands of CUNY faculty members oppose Pathways because it diminishes the quality of a CUNY education and underestimates CUNY students.

Dr. Philipp, a twice-honored Senior Fulbright Scholar and

biochemist with significant biomedical patents to his name, is featured in the campaign alongside other faculty. His ad says: “[Pathways] limits students’ exposure to new ideas and robs them of opportunities to discover new talents and passions, cutting costs by sacrificing rigor and educational quality.”

Dr. Cook, a Distinguished Professor of History at the City University of New York and author of a prize-winning biography of Eleanor Roosevelt, says in her ad that: “I teach at CUNY because I believe a quality education should be within the reach of every New Yorker. I stay because I am inspired by my students.

It is critical that CUNY retain academic standards. That is why my colleagues and I oppose Pathways, the new core curriculum at CUNY. It means less time in writing classes, reduced foreign language study, and less rigorous basic science classes without lab work. It will weaken a CUNY education for the next generation. Pathways cuts costs by sacrificing educational excellence. **Listen to the faculty, CUNY: Don't sacrifice quality.**”

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PSC Supports Brooklyn College President in Her Defense of Academic Freedom

PSC President Barbara Bowen sent a letter supporting Brooklyn College President Karen Gould's defense of academic freedom and the Brooklyn College Political Science Department in their co-sponsorship of a forum on the BDS movement, which calls for boycott, divestment, and sanctions against Israel.

Rudy Fichtenbaum, president of the American Association of University Professors, also wrote to President Gould praising her “courageous defense of the principles of academic freedom.”

In her February 4 statement (Posted on the Brooklyn College Facebook page), President Gould said:

“Students and faculty, including academic departments, programs, and centers, have the right to invite speakers, engage in discussion, and present ideas to further educational

discussion and debate. The mere invitation to speak does not indicate an endorsement of any particular point of view, and there is no obligation, as some have suggested, to present multiple perspectives at any one event.”

Gould's defense of academic freedom drew fire from a group of politicians who equated the political science department's co-sponsorship of the forum with an endorsement of the views expressed by the BDS movement.

In a February 5 editorial, *The New York Times* said it “strongly defend[s] the decision by Brooklyn College President Karen Gould to proceed with the event, despite withering criticism by opponents and threats by at least 10 City Council

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State Nixes Bailout for SUNY Downstate

The budget enacted by the State Legislature does not include funding for the bailout of SUNY Downstate Medical Center, despite advocacy by community activists, hospital staff, and local politicians concerned about the future of health care in Brooklyn.

The state's new budget contains no new funds for the ailing Brooklyn hospital, despite warnings it could close without help. SUNY officials, under the budget, must submit a restructuring plan for the hospital by June.

needed a taxpayer infusion of up to \$150 million to survive the coming year.

"If we fail to keep Downstate Medical Center as a viable full-service public teaching hospital, many gaps will quickly develop in the health care services required by the Brooklyn community," said United University Professions (UUP) President Phillip H. Smith in submitted testimony for a state Assembly Health Committee hearing on "The Brooklyn health care crisis."

testified. "A significant loss of jobs at Downstate would have a horrific impact on Central Brooklyn – jobs will disappear, homes will be lost, and small businesses will shut down. Central Brooklyn is already suffering from one of the highest unemployment rates in New York City. It would take years for the Central Brooklyn economy to recover from the loss of more jobs at Downstate."

"It makes no sense for the state to take an action that will so negatively affect a community that needs more – not less – state assistance," he added.

Smith also warned that the survival of Downstate's College of Medicine is dependent on more than \$100 million in annual revenues from Downstate University Hospital, a revenue stream that would diminish if University Hospital became less than a full-service hospital.

"In time, the number of primary care physicians in the New York City region will be depleted since Downstate educates and trains the majority of the region's primary care physicians," Smith said.

The SUNY Board of Trustees voted on March 21 to close the Long Island College Hospital, which is part of the Downstate network.

The decision came despite protests from patients, community leaders, and staff that closure of the 506-bed Cobble Hill hospital founded in 1858 would overburden Brooklyn's remaining hospitals.

The decision was taken in a meeting held at SUNY-Purchase, more than 35 miles from Brooklyn in suburban Westchester. More than 1,800 of the hospital's employees received layoff notices the same day the SUNY Board made their decision.



The Daily News reported that an aide to Governor Cuomo said that: "Once they come up with a plan, then we will work them on a source of funding. It makes sense, before you plunk down money, you come up with a plan that works."

SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher warned earlier this year that Downstate was losing \$8 million a month and

Smith said a restructuring plan at Downstate has already put hundreds of UUP members there on notice they will be losing their jobs by the end of the summer. He warned the community could not withstand another blow to its economy.

"Over one quarter of the residents in Downstate's primary service area earn less than \$15,000 per year," Smith

NATIONAL AAUP ELECTION BALLOTS ARE OUT. THEY AGAIN INCLUDE OUR NYSC ELECTIONS. BALLOTS ARE DUE APRIL 15TH, 2013.

New Ways to Fund Higher Education

The Campaign for the Future of Higher Education, of which the AAUP is a part, has begun a drive to involve faculty in the search for solutions to the seemingly unending cycle of funding cuts, privatization, soaring tuition and academic shut-downs.

On February 12, the campaign introduced three working papers with ideas on ways to fund higher education.

The working papers address the common assumption that funding higher education through public means rather than through skyrocketing tuition is simply impossible.

View the working papers and submit your comments at: www.futureofhighered.org.

The briefing took place on Abraham Lincoln's birthday. Lincoln signed the 1862 Morrill Act that initiated America's public higher education system, starting with Land Grant Colleges. Today that system spans the nation but is on the road to elimination.

One of the papers, authored by Rudy Fichtenbaum, an economics professor at Wright State University in Ohio and AAUP president, explores a currently unused tax revenue source that could be tapped if there were the political will to provide adequate public funding for higher education.

In it, Fichtenbaum explains how to achieve vastly improved funding for higher education through a miniscule tax on selected financial transactions.

Another paper explores the notion of free higher education and examines what the actual cost to provide it would be.

Bob Samuels, a University of California Los Angeles faculty member, argues that we could make big strides towards free public higher education by reallocating current governmental expenditures for higher education and by eliminating regressive tax breaks.

The third paper, using the state of California as a test case, looks at the real magnitude of returning to recent, more adequate levels of state funding for higher education.

Stanton Glantz, a professor at UC San Francisco, describes that "resetting" higher education funding to more adequate past levels would require only very small adjustments in the median income tax return.

Add your voice to the conversation:

See and post your comments on stories about the working papers in the Chronicle of Higher Education and Inside Higher Ed.

Or join a national discussion among faculty members on the campaign's website, <http://futureofhighered.org/>.

New York State AAUP Executive Director's Report

By Tom Policano (Rochester Institute of Technology)

Our New York State AAUP Conference Spring 2013 will be held at New York University 20 Cooper Square, 4th floor, New York, NY 10003 on April 19th-20th, 2013. The conference agenda and registration can be found on the homepage of the New York State AAUP Conference website [<http://nysaaup.org>].

The conference at NYU focuses on supporting the NYU faculty in resolving issues with the NYU administration. With a vote of 298 to 224 and 47 abstentions the faculty of NYU's college of arts and sciences recently approved a vote of "no confidence" in John Sexton, the university's president.

The faculty are upset that President Sexton has ignored repeated requests concerning the plan known as NYU 2031 that will expand offices and dorms in Greenwich Village south of Manhattan's Washington Square Park. Another issue for faculty is the plan to expand NYU overseas in Abu Dhabi and Shanghai without adequate faculty involvement and oversight.

These issues have been compounded by large compensation increases for certain administrators, as well as payments to former administrators, including the \$685,000 "bonus" payment to new U.S. Treasury Secretary Jack Lew when he left NYU in 2006.

Lew, as the school's executive vice president between 2001 and 2006, helped break the union representing graduate assistants at the university. He also received a \$1.4 million mortgage loan from the school.

Please note that the National AAUP election ballots are out that again include our NYSC elections. **Return ballots are due April 15th, 2013 for the offices listed below.**

These positions are for the Executive Council of the NYSC Steering Committee and for the NYSC delegates to the AAUP Assembly of State Conferences 2013 meeting.

The following nominations were received:

NYSC Secretary 2013-2015: Cecelia McCall, PSC/CUNY

NYSC Treasurer 2013-2015: Pat Cihon, Syracuse University

NYSC At Large Member 2013-2015 and AAUP ASC Delegate 2013: Jeffrey Baker, Monroe Community College

NYSC At Large Member 2013-2015 and AAUP ASC Delegate 2013: Open

The candidate statements can be found on the nysaaup.org website.

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2013 AAUP Annual Conference

June 12-16 in Washington, DC

This year's Annual Conference on the State of Higher Education and the annual business meeting of the AAUP will take place June 12-16. The meeting will be held at the Mayflower Hotel, 1127 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington, DC.

The highlight of the Annual Conference on the State of Higher Education will be four days of presentations by faculty members and administrators from around the country. The presentations begin Wednesday, June 12, and continue through Saturday, June 15.

Issues to be addressed include: the role of faculty in institutional decision making; collective bargaining in higher education; faculty working off the tenure track; assessment and accountability; the corporatization of teaching and research; academic freedom; the twenty-first century curriculum; MOOCs and online education.

On Thursday, June 13, the AAUP will hold Capitol Hill Day, the annual grassroots lobbying event that provides members an opportunity to advocate for higher education. AAUP members visit their senators and representatives and speak up about the issues that matter most to academia. The day concludes with a congressional reception on Capitol Hill.

Friday will feature an afternoon state lobbying networking meeting and an evening reception for all attendees. The Annual Meeting plenary (Saturday, June 15) will consider important business items such as investigations of alleged violations of academic freedom and tenure. The awards banquet on Saturday evening, June 15, will wrap up the conference.

Registration Rates

The "early bird" rate for the meeting (for those who register by midnight, May 15) is \$350 for AAUP members and \$400 for non-members. The regular registration fee for attendees received May 16 through June 7 is \$400 for AAUP members and \$450 for non-members. Online registration for attendees will close by midnight on June 7.

After this date attendees must register on-site. On-site registration starts June 12 at the hotel. The on-site registration fee for AAUP members is \$425 and for non-members, \$475. The graduate student rate (must be currently enrolled in a graduate degree program) is \$200.00. To register online go to <http://www.aaup.org/get-involved/upcoming-events/2013-aaup-annual-conference/annual-conference-registration>.

The Hotel

The Mayflower Renaissance Washington, DC Hotel opened in 1925 and was quickly labeled as Washington, DC's "Second Best Address" by President Harry Truman. The Grand Ballroom has served as the backdrop for every Presidential Inaugural Ball from Coolidge through Reagan. It is the Progressive Grand Dame of the Nation's Capital and a 4-diamond luxury hotel. The Mayflower is listed with the National Registry of Historic

Places and is just 4 blocks from the White House. It is convenient to Georgetown and the Red Line (Farragut North).

The room rate is \$234 per night. Reservations may be made online: https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome_ei_new&eventID=9007553. To book by phone, call: 877-212-5752 or : 1-506-474-2009. Mention the group name - AAUP.

Reservations must be received before or by Wednesday, May 15, 2013, by midnight EDT. All reservations must be accompanied by a first night room deposit or guaranteed with a major credit card. Hotel rooms are subject to applicable taxes (currently 14.5%).

The AAUP rate will be honored three (3) days before and three (3) days after the conference, depending on availability. Check-in time is 3:00 p.m. and check-out time is 12:00 noon.

For more information about this year's meeting, check the website: <http://www.aaup.org/event/annual-conference13>

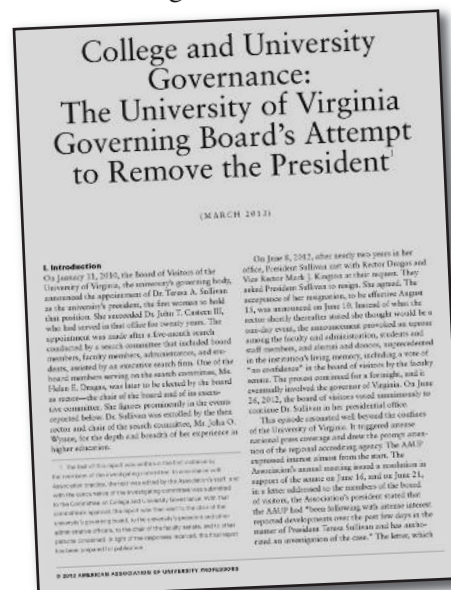
AAUP Releases Its Report on UVA

On March 14, 2013, the American Association of University Professors released the report of its investigation into the University of Virginia's attempt last June to remove Dr. Teresa Sullivan from the university presidency.

The report documents a major breakdown in governance at UVA, focusing on the role of the board of visitors and its rector,

Helen Dragas, who initiated the effort to force the president's resignation.

It finds that the events at the university resulted from "a failure by those charged with institutional oversight to understand the institution over which they presided and to engage with the administration and the faculty in an effort to be well informed."



The complete report is on the AAUP's website at www.aaup.org/report/college-and-university-governance-university-virginia-governing-board.

NYS AAUP Executive Director's Report

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The NYSC Election Committee has submitted the following amendment to the NYS AAUP Constitution [http://nysaaup.org/library/nysaaup_constitution.htm] Article IV Election of Officers and At-Large Executive Council Members, Section 4 in order to improve the election process:

All nominations must either 1) include statements with signatures or 2) be in e-mail form.

In the event that the nomination is in email form, the email heading (email address, date and time sent, and name of the nominator) must be copied into one email or file that will be sent to the elections committee. Nominations must be addressed to the Elections Committee, and should be sent to the Chair of the Elections Committee.

Nominations must include statements with signatures or e-mails from at least six (6) members of the Conference from no less than two (2) chapters or institutions. The Elections Committee may verify any nominating statement or e-mail.

All candidate statements and biographical information must be submitted prior to December 30. Candidates must follow the guidelines of the Election Committee concerning the form and length of these items. Candidate statements and biographical information will be distributed to the membership with the ballot.

Please get back to us with your comments and suggestions concerning their recommendation.

The NYSC AAUP continues to support the Campaign to Repeal Pathways [<http://www.psc-cuny.org/our-campaigns/faculty-staff-and-students-mobilize-pathways-town-hall>]. CUNY still expects to implement the Pathways initiative across its undergraduate college starting in Fall 2013.

On March 21st University Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Lexa Logue said the changes will allow for more individualized programming. She also indicated that implementation is on target for implementation this fall. English Professor Barbara Bowen, president of CUNY's Professional Staff Congress counters, "...that Pathways will dilute the curriculum at CUNY... reducing the existing requirements." She urges us to support the CUNY faculty in their ongoing attempt to have the initiative startup postponed to allow time for revisions involving CUNY faculty input.

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and State University of New York (SUNY) Chancellor Dr. Nancy L. Zimpher's NYSUNY 2020 Challenge Grant Program has been legislatively funded until 2016 [<http://www.suny.edu/sunynews/News.cfm?file-name=CuomoRelease.htm>].

Now in its second year, we have seen grant applications approved for SUNY Binghamton, Stony Brook, Albany, Buffalo, and Open SUNY a newly established centralized SUNY Online

program initiative based in Saratoga Springs.

Steve London, PSC CUNY First Vice President, in his February 11th testimony before the NYS Senate Finance and Assembly Ways & Means Committees states, "The Legislature should turn away from annual tuition hikes, rising tuition dependence and inadequate public support that are the products of NY-SUNY 2020 and recommit to increasing public support for CUNY."

He argues that the mandatory tuition increases over the next five years is having a devastating impact on the predominantly low income CUNY student population.

Meanwhile, Governor Cuomo's 2013-14 Executive Budget [http://www.budget.ny.gov/pubs/press/2013/pressRelease13_eBudget1.html] changes the approach to funding community college workforce and vocational programs.

Now instead of funding based on enrollment, in order to receive State support community colleges will be expected to partner with local employers and the Regional Economic Development Councils to identify job training needs. In addition, the Budget focuses new funding to community colleges on success measures like job placement.

Essentially this ties public support for education to initial job placement instead of on critical thinking and literacy skills essential for job mobility in a rapidly changing technological society.

Furthermore, if placement goes down due to economic downturns in the economy the funding for education will correspondingly be reduced? So education for students who lose or cannot find jobs in a difficult economy will be charged more for obtaining new job skills?

Good news at the University System of Maryland is working on a set of policies intended to improve the conditions for non-tenure track faculty.

A task force report before the senate is recommending change in four areas: appointment, rank, and promotion; evaluation, recognition, and compensation; governance; and policies [http://nysaaup.org/library/U_M_NTTF_Task_Force_Report.pdf]. This is a very comprehensive set of rational requests that we hope will be implemented.

It is an excellent guide for our NYS and all National Institutions of Higher Education in an age where tenure track faculty are more and more in the minority while non-tenure track faculty are contingent and powerless.

These are only a few of the major issues facing higher education in New York State. AAUP and the NYS Conference of AAUP need your support. Please maintain your membership and urge your colleagues to join as well.

Also, please do join us at our New York State AAUP Conference Spring 2013 at NYU in New York City!

The New York State AAUP web site is www.nysaaup.org

From the NYS AAUP President's Desk:

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every prospective hire. Conducted by outside firms, the process puts applicants at the mercy of their findings with little or no opportunity to respond to ambiguous or incorrect findings or in some cases, to even know what the findings were.

2. Few institutions have even adopted, let alone announced, what their policies are regarding the management and integrity of their campus e-mail and internet systems. The result is the use of arbitrary authority to invade at will what

some presume to be private exchanges.

3. At some institutions requirements have been imposed on all employees to complete lengthy on-line tutorial protocols on proper work place behavior, discrimination, diversity, FERPA regulations, and other topics involving potential legal liability. Unfortunately, it is rare that employees are given any information about how the results of their performance on the tutorials will be used or who will have access to them.

As the media theorist Neil Postman

pointed out even before we entered the present Internet Age, we are hovering between a world of crushing authority as depicted by George Orwell and one in which we blithely accept a life of passive obedience as depicted by Aldus Huxley.

Whichever bleak narrative prevails, academic freedom and the cherished tenets of shared governance are at grave risk.

Everyone who cares about the decaying state of higher education has reason for alarm.

Pathways

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The PSC and University Faculty Senate have launched a national petition calling for an immediate moratorium on all further implementation of Pathways.

The fight against the cheapening of a CUNY education is not just a local fight.

Higher education “reforms” similar to Pathways—some even with the same name—are moving forward throughout the nation.

The petition can be accessed at http://action.aft.org/c/521/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=5116.

NYU Vote

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However, given the result of a similar vote a few years ago at Harvard University - the President, Lawrence Summers, left after a brief face-saving period - it is now possible that, emboldened by the Arts and Sciences faculty's action, other units may take up the call for Sexton's removal.

Andrew Ross, the Chair of the AAUP Chapter at NYU, said he expects the struggle over the direction of the school will shift from faculty-against-president to faculty-against-trustees. "They represent the concentrated power of Wall Street," he said. "For us, I think that fight will be an opportunity to shine a light on the Trustees, which rarely happens."

PSC Support

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members to cut city funding for the college. Such intimidation chills debate and makes a mockery of the ideals of academic freedom."

Academic freedom is the "core ethos" of the university, according to resolution adopted on February 5 by the University Faculty Senate (UFS).

The UFS resolution explained the problem with politicians' and other detractors' misrepresentation of co-sponsorship.

"To assume that co-sponsoring a presentation means uncritical endorsement of one side or another would impose an ideological litmus test on all controversial debates," it said.

PSC President Bowen sent a second letter to this group of politicians saying "a college president who stands up for academic freedom at CUNY—where academic freedom has come under repeated assault in recent years—should be applauded by “progressive” politicians, not bullied."

NYS AAUP CONFERENCE MEETING APRIL 19-20th at NYU

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