Connecticut Conference • American Association of University Professors

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National AAUP: Upcoming Events

AAUP website announcements <www.aaup.org>

Faculty Handbook Webinar
April 14, 2015
How to Read a Faculty Handbook
The second webinar in our series on doing Committee A work at the chapter and conference level. (See the first in the series. See the third.)
Learn More

AAUP-CBC Spring Regional Meeting
April 18, 2015
University of Cincinnati
400B, Tangeman University Center
Cincinnati, Ohio 45220
The AAUP-CBC Spring Regional Meeting will be at the University of Cincinnati in 400B of the Tangeman University Center from 9:00am-4pm on Saturday, April 18th.
Learn More

Conference and Chapter Committee A Webinar
May 19, 2015
Conference and Chapter Committee A Matters
The final webinar in the series will review best practices for engaging in conference and chapter Committee A work, in particular when dealing with faculty who request assistance.
Learn More

2015 AAUP Annual Conference
June 10–14, 2015
Mayflower Hotel
1127 Connecticut Avenue NW
Washington, District Of Columbia 20036
Join your colleagues for the AAUP’s Annual Conference on the State of Higher Education, lobbying on Capitol Hill, and the annual business meeting of the AAUP.
Learn More

2015 Summer Institute
July 23–26, 2015
University of Denver
2199 S University Blvd
Denver, Colorado 80208
Please plan to join us at the University of Denver, July 23–26, 2015, for an intensive, four-day series of workshops and seminars that 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 More

Notes from the Conference Executive Committee:

Save the Date
Thursday, May 14: The Annual Spring Meeting of the Connecticut Conference will be held from 5 to 9 p.m. at the Graduate Club in New Haven. Katherine M. Franke, Isidor and Seville Sulzbacher Professor of Law at Columbia University and the Director of its Center for Gender and Sexuality Law, will be our distinguished guest, speaking on ethics, due process, and governance protocols in the hiring process. The evening includes a hospitality hour, the usual delicious dinner, a brief business meeting, the presentation of special awards, and the also-usual lively discussion.

AAUP Elections
The Connecticut State Conference–AAUP reminds all AAUP members-in-good-standing that ballots are being mailed from the National office for the 2015 AAUP elections; if you have not already received your ballot, watch your mail at your home address. This issue of Vanguard is dedicated to informing Connecticut voters of candidates for offices that represent them on both the National and Conference levels.

Ballot secrecy is ensured by the use of a double-envelope system for return of the voted ballots, with the necessary voter identification appearing only on the outer envelope in regular-mail elections. Ballot envelopes are coded to prevent double voting.

The ballot package will include information about how to request another ballot if the ballot package is not received or if a member has spoiled a ballot in the process of voting. This information will also be posted on the national AAUP website. Return envelopes containing replacement ballots are suitably coded to prevent double counting of ballots.

Details of the election process, including the procedures for opening and counting votes, are outlined on the AAUP website at www.aaup.org/about/elected-leaders/elections.

Please note that CSC–AAUP has changed its election cycle to coincide with the National schedule in order to participate in electronic voting. For that reason, this year’s Conference elections—and this year’s only—are for one-year terms.

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Ballot for the 2015 National AAUP and Connecticut Conference Elections

AAUP 2015 Election
All national Council and ASC Chair candidates were nominated by their respective nominating committees.

At-Large Council - Three-Year Term (Vote for no more than two.)

- Jeffrey Halpern, Rider University
- Cynthia Klekar, Western Michigan University
- Diana Rios, University of Connecticut
- Elias Taylor, Coppin State University

2015 ASC Chair - Three-year term (Vote for no more than one.)

- Angela Adkins, Stark State College
- Joerg Tieke, Illinois Wesleyan University

CSC-AAUP President (Vote for no more than one.)

- Ira Braus, University of Hartford
- CSC-AAUP Vice President (Vote for no more than one.)

- David L. Stolfo, Eastern Connecticut State University

CSC-AAUP Secretary (Vote for no more than one.)

- Susan Reinhart, Gateway Community College
- CSC-AAUP Treasurer (Vote for no more than one.)

- Diana Malinowski, University of New Haven
- Irene Mulvey, Fairfield University

CSC-AAUP At-Large Member (Vote for no more than four.)

- Ruth Anne Baumgartner, Central Connecticut State University
- Albert Buatti, Middlesex Community College/CT
- Andrew Fish, University of New Haven
- Jane Hikel, Central Connecticut State University

Biographical information and position statements for the National candidates are linked at the AAUP website, http://www.aaup.org/about/elected-leaders/elections/2015-election-information/2015-candidate-information.
Introducing the Connecticut Conference Candidates

Connecticut Conference Officers

Ira Braus, *Music*, The Hartt School/University of Hartford

I received my Ph.D. in Comparative and International Education from UCLA, my M.A. in Educational Technology from Concordia University in Montreal, and my B.S. in Biology/Secondary Education from SUNY, Brockport. I was a high school teacher at a Peace Corps volunteer in Zaire, in Israel at an American-style high school, and at Long Beach, CA, Polytechnic, and an educational researcher and curriculum developer in Montreal, Dallas, and Los Angeles. I am in my 30th year as a full-time university faculty member; I have also taught at SUNY-Plattsburgh, Cal. State–Los Angeles, and Sonoma State University, California’s member on the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC).

As a Professor in Eastern Connecticut State University’s Education Department, I facilitate courses in the online Master of Science degree program in Educational Technology and in our liberal arts program. The implementation and assessment of electronic portfolios, using technology for international education, and leading global field experiences are among my current research activities. I also serve on Eastern CSU–AAUP chapter’s executive committee, as a Connecticut State University–AAUP council representative alternate, and as media editor for the Connecticut State Conference e-newsletter, e-Vanguard.

As Vice-President of our state conference, I hope to continue to serve in the conversation on the appropriate uses of educational technology to advance our students’ learning and our profession.

Susan Reinhart, *Art (part-time)*, Gateway Community College

Candidate for CSC–AAUP Secretary

I hold an A.B. from Vassar College and an M.F.A. from the Tyler School of Art, Temple University. I was a member of the University of Bridgeport faculty from 1969 through 1990; I taught Sculpture, achieved the rank of full professor, and in the spring of 1990 became chair of the department. Since then I have taught part-time variously at Paier College of Art, Albertus Magnus College, and for the last 14 years Gateway Community College.

I joined the campus AAUP chapter (and National) in the late ’70s, when the faculty organized for collective bargaining. I served as Strike Captain for the last two of our several strikes.

I became involved with the Connecticut Conference in the 1980s, as a Chapter Delegate. In 1993 I was elected Treasurer of the Conference Executive Committee, and served in that office until 2011, when I ran for and was elected to serve as Secretary. As Treasurer I facilitated the establishment of and helped to administer three named funds (the Bard, the Tenzer, and the Lang funds) authorized by the Executive Committee for various purposes related to the work and outreach of the Conference.

Like many members of AAUP, I am very concerned about the extent to which the corporate model has overtaken the academy: in particular, the top-down structure, with faculty viewed as assembly-line workers and students as consumers of some quantifiable commodity while the administration serves the “bottom line.” This orientation undermines the whole purpose of higher education and is a danger to our future as a society and a country, as well as to our profession. The Conference is an important line of defense for colleges and universities in the state, and by means of support, consultation, and collaboration the Connecticut Conference has been a strong ally for individuals and chapters who have found themselves victimized by the corporate model.

To play an active part in the communications necessary for these kinds of efforts, I am seeking to continue in the the position of Secretary.

Irene Mulvey, *Mathematics*, Fairfield University

Candidate for CSC–AAUP Treasurer

I first got involved with the CT State Conference–AAUP in September 2007, when I was appointed by the President to be conference Secretary to fill the remaining term of our colleague George Lang, who had passed away suddenly after a brief illness. After that initial appointment, I was elected to two consecutive terms as conference President. I appreciated the important work of the conference for years, and my appreciation only deepened with my service on the Executive Committee.

The Conference is an invaluable resource to faculty and academic professionals in the state—whether they are part of a collective bargaining chapter or advocacy chapter, a member at an institution with no AAUP
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our annual lobbying day on Capitol Hill in D.C., and our award-winning
Defense fund, our Mort Tenzer Travel fund, our chapter service programs,
chapter, or not yet an AAUP member. The conference’s Robert Bard Legal
sional values and standards for higher education, and to ensure higher
academic freedom and shared governance, to define fundamental profes
$90,000) for some five years in the 1990s.

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zation and Governance for the 1989 NEASC accreditation self-study, and
University Senate Executive Committee, chair of the Standard on Organi
of my career. Since then I have taught part-time at a number of institutions,
Academic Ethics 1.3 (2003):295-322] describes the event that ended that phase
of my career. I believe my contributions as Secretary, as President, and then for the last two years as Treasurer have been of value to the organiza-
and I would like to continue this good work.

I am currently also Treasurer of my chapter at Fairfield University, the Faculty Welfare Committee—AAUP, and I served as Treasurer for the Wesley School PTO (a non-
profit with an annual budget of about

Executive Committee
At-Large Member Positions

Ruth Anne Baumgartner, English (part-
time), Central Connecticut State University

For the first two decades of my 40+-year teaching career I was a member of the English Department of the University of Bridgeport; my “Orientation in
Wonderland: Ethical Decision-Making by Faculty in the U.B. Strike” [Journal of
Academic Ethics 1.3 (2003):295-322] describes the event that ended that phase
of my career. Since then I have taught part-time at a number of institutions, currently at Central Connecticut State University. My B.A. is from Dickinson
College (Carlisle, PA); I hold an M.A. from the University of Rochester, where
I also did all work for the Ph.D. except the dissertation. I have been an AAUP member since 1970.

While at U.B. I served as President of Faculty Council, member of the
University Senate Executive Committee, chair of the Standard on Organiza-
and Governance for the 1989 NEASC accreditation self-study, and
member of the AAUP bargaining team for the 1990s contract negotiations. In the early ‘80s I also headed a UB-AAUP focus that wrote a contract ar-
ticle on Part-time Faculty proposed for inclusion in the collective-bargaining agreement. From 1990-1992 I served as Chapter Secretary, and assisted our
attorneys in preparing and presenting our severance claim in arbitration. Thus I have been deeply involved over the long term in issues of
governance, due process, academic freedom, and tenure, all fundamental to the mission of AAUP. At Fair-
field University in 2006–2008 I chaired an internal-grant-funded study of part-time faculty at Fair-
field, gathering various statistics on FU part-time, assembling lists of professional and instruc-
tional facilities and needs, and developing a unique proposal that at some point be a resource there for efforts to empower this faculty group.

I have been part of the Con-
necticut Conference Executive Committee since 1992; my princi-
pal contribution has been service as Editor of Vanguard (which has four
times received awards for excellence from National). In 1995 and 2000
I was the recipient of the Award for Distinguished Service to the Profes-
sion given by the Connecticut Conference of AAUP.

*Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty*: regardless of who said it first,

this phrase has been quoted and requoted for two hundred years. As we look
about us today, we must add a variant: Eternal vigilance is the price of educa-
tion. It seems as if the mission and practices of higher education are being
assaulted from every direction, as restructuring specialists, management spe-
cialists, “branding” specialists, budget mavens, political ideologues, religious
and moral crusaders, and number-crunchers of various stripes are joined by
the perennial intellectuals in trying to remake, or unmake, the profes-
sion and the institution. And just as the NLRB handed in a ruling on Pacific
Lutheran University in December 2014 that should enable many private
universities to organize for collective bargaining once again despite the 1980
Yeshiva ruling of the Supreme Court, legislatures in some states are seeking
to remove this right for state institutions.

Adversity, of various kinds, we have always faced. We will have to add
these newest battles to our ongoing efforts to protect tenure, empower and in-
tegrate contingent academic workers, and defend shared governance and due
process. Our disciplinary organizations can only continue their effectiveness
if our professional organization protects their working conditions and their
freedom to publish.

At the age of 100, the AAUP remains vital in every sense of the word. It
is the organization best suited for the battles we must wage, the only orga-
ization that represents the profession as a whole. Effective communication
among local chapters, state conferences, and National enables us to draw
on the intelligence and principled strength of faculty across the nation in
reasoned and coordinated resistance to the erosion of America’s most valu-
able resource, our educational institutions. Voting on issues that shape the
organization and support the profession is both a responsibility and an honor.
I hope you will allow me to continue the pleasurable duty of representing the
Connecticut Conference as a delegate to the Annual Meeting.

Albert Buatti, Information Systems (Professor Emeritus), Middlesex Community College

I was Middlesex Community College Science Department Chair for
4 years, and Coordinator for the Information Systems Program for
4 years. I served with the National Science Foundation Faculty Fellow-
ship Program, and was in the first class of Yale University fellowships
awarded for Connecticut faculty. I administered the creation of the Nuclear Medicine Technology Program at Middlesex Community College that
received AMA Accreditation, and that took medical imaging from film
to computer-generated images.

During my teaching career I created many courses in the Science Department and the Information Systems program of study.

Prior to teaching, I worked as an Engineer for Pratt & Whitney Air-
craft during the time they were attemp-
ting to build a nuclear-powered airplane, and later for GE. and the
Naval Reactors nuclear submarine program.

My Middlesex Community College service included Chapter Chair for 3 years, Delegate to the Community College Union, the Congress of the Con-
necticut Community Colleges, for
more than 30 years, and I served on the state-wide Governance and
Election Committees.

I have been a member of the Connecticut State Conference-AAUP for
10 years. Currently I serve as an At-Large Member and I chair the CSC-AAUP Committee on Community Colleges.

Andrew J. Fish, Jr., Electrical and Comput-
Engineering, University of New Haven

I have been a member of the academic profession for over forty
years—since 1987, at the university of New Haven. I earned a Ph.D. in
Electronic Engineering at the University of Connecticut in 1980. I hold an
M.S. in Mathematics (1974) from St. Mary’s University in San Antonio,
an M.S. in Electrical Engineering (1973) from The University of Iowa,
and a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute
(1966). I was a teaching assistant at the University of Connecticut and
University of Iowa, and have held tenure-track positions at the University
of Hartford and Western New England College.

At UNH I am currently Vice Chair of the Faculty Senate and Chair
of the Grievance Committee. Additional university service includes
membership on the Faculty Affairs Committee, which reviews poli-
cies related to faculty employment and discusses them with the university
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administration; on the Budget and Finance Committee, which assesses and makes recommendations about budget priorities and the allocation of financial resources; and on the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, which monitors, evaluates, and recommends changes to policies and operations pertaining to academics, including curriculum, courses, programs, methods of instruction, calendars, and standards. I have also served on the Faculty Disciplinary Committee, tenure and promotion committees, curriculum committees, and handbook committees, and I have chaired my Department.

When I was Chair of the Faculty Welfare Committee, I negotiated an equity agreement with the administration whose objective was to raise faculty salaries to CUPA averages by rank and discipline. When the University decided to close the aviation program, I worked with the Chair of the Faculty Senate to preserve tenure, rank, and salary for the affected faculty, thus strengthening tenure and academic freedom for the whole faculty. And as Chair of the Faculty Senate, I worked closely with the Connecticut Conference, and especially Bob Bard, to improve the faculty handbook.

I have been a member of the AAUP since 1995. My AAUP experience on a state level includes lengthy service on the Connecticut State Conference-AAUP Executive Committee as an At-large Delegate and University of New Haven Liaison.

My engineering friends in industry like to say, “what is the greatest threat the nation faces?” The educational system.” I would rather say the greatest threat to the nation is the threat to the educational system. As the corporate model is imposed upon university after university, as tenure is weakened, as academic freedom is weakened, so is our higher-educational system. Academic freedom is the foundation of our democracy, and we need to fight for it!

Jane Hikel, English (part-time), Central Connecticut State University

As a part-time faculty member since 1995 at CCSU and concurrently a member of the CCSU–AAUP Part-time Advisory Committee, I have been involved in many aspects of university and AAUP life. I have served several terms as a member of the CSU–AAUP Council and the CSU chapter’s Executive Committee, as Chair of the Part-time Advisory Committee, on the Chapter Grievance Committee, on CCSU’s Faculty Senate, and on the Committee for the Concerns of Women. As a member of the Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies faculty, I have experience in the variety of ways academic freedom, shared governance, or due process have been violated.

Recently I have been involved in a program exploring academic freedom and contingency. Two of my colleagues at CCSU and I presented a workshop on the topic at the 2014 AAUP Annual Conference. We are currently scheduling follow-up presentations on Academic Freedom with our CSU–AAUP chapters. It is my hope that by raising awareness of the hard and soft encroachments on Academic Freedom, we can strengthen adherence to the central tenets of this vital academic right.

If elected to the Connecticut Conference Executive Board, I pledge to uphold the ideals espoused by the AAUP and to be a voice for all faculty in our state AAUP Conference. One-faculty rules!

The protection and exercise of academic freedom is an ongoing mission. Join AAUP.