**NOTES FROM THE CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Call for Nominations: CSC–AAUP**

The 2018 CSC–AAUP Nominating Committee, comprising Chair Ira Braus (CSC–AAUP Past President), Jocelyn Boryczka (FWC–AAUP/Vice President), and Diana L. Rios (UConn–AAUP Past President), announces a Call for Officer Nominations.

Nominations are being solicited for:
- CSC–AAUP President
- CSC–AAUP Vice President
- CSC–AAUP Secretary
- CSC–AAUP Treasurer

Four (4) CSC–AAUP At-Large Members.

To make a nomination, or to self-nominate, please send candidate’s name, discipline, and institutional affiliation to

CSC–AAUP 2017 Nominating Committee
c/o Conference Office
P.O. Box 1597
New Milford, CT 06776

or by email to Flo Hatcher, Executive Director, CSC–AAUP

Nominees must be AAUP members in good standing.

December 15, 2017, is the deadline for receipt of nominations. Nominees shall indicate in writing their willingness to stand for office and shall supply contact information and a biographical statement for use by the CSC–AAUP. Candidate names will be included in the electronic ballot disseminated by the national AAUP office spring 2018.

**Call for Nominations: National AAUP**

The Association’s Nominating Committee seeks nominations for candidates for election as officers of the AAUP, and as members of the AAUP’s governing Council, in spring 2018. Nominations are due by Thursday, December 14, 2017.

The committee seeks a diverse group of candidates with experience in the AAUP at the local, state, or national level.

Four officer positions are open for election to two-year terms: President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, and Secretary–Treasurer

Fourteen Council positions are open for two-year terms, including District IX: Connecticut.

For more information, see the AAUP website.

**Call for Nominations: ASC**

The AAUP’s Assembly of State Conferences (ASC) is seeking nominations for the following positions on the ASC Executive Committee: Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary.

Completed nominations for the position of Chair are due by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 15, 2017. Completed nominations for the positions of Vice Chair and Secretary are due by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 19, 2018.

For more information, including nominations criteria and procedures, see the AAUP website, ASC.

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**AAUP Schedules Webinars in Advance of Janus Testimony at Supreme Court**

In early January the Supreme Court will hear testimony in the case Janus v. AFSCME, wherein two Illinois state workers are challenging the right of the union that has been representing them at their unionized place of work to mandate dues (or fees). Essentially, the decision could rule that mandatory dues violate the First Amendment; the aim is to end mandatory dues or fees for all public-sector workers, including faculties at state institutions. The lawsuit argues that public-sector collective bargaining and political lobbying are indistinguishable.

Obviously the end of mandatory dues means the crippling of unions, both in their ability to represent their members (they would still be obliged to represent all workers even if members cannot be compelled to pay dues) and in their ability to organize or engage in other actions; the result could be effectively a “right-to-work” situation for all workers.

AAUP naturally sees this ruling as potentially injurious to the organized professoriate and the work they do. AAUP is offering two webinars in the month of November to address the issues:

**Preparing Members for Janus**

November 16, 2017 • 3:00 PM – 4:00 p.m.

We’ll be discussing an organizing strategy to help prepare your members and your chapter for the fight ahead of us. We’ll review the importance of rep structures, one-on-one member conversations, new employee orientations, and good field messaging for your chapter’s Janus preparations.

**Janus-Proof Your Contract**

November 30, 2017 • 3:00 PM – 4:00 p.m.

As part of helping your chapter prepare for the Janus decision we’ll share several bargaining and legal suggestions that could help ‘Janus-proof’ your contract, and talk through some options to help improve our ability for planning work into the future.

For information on either webinar, visit the actionnetwork page on the AAUP website or contact communications@aaup.org.
AAUP State Conference Officers 2016–2018
President—Uchenna T. Nwachukwa, Counseling & School Psychology, Southern Connecticut State University.
Vice President—David L. Stolf, Education, Eastern Connecticut State University.
Secretary—Susan Reinhart, Art, Gateway Community College.
Treasurer—Irene Mulvey, Mathematics, Fairfield University.
In anticipation of holiday gift-giving, and well aware that food for the mind is the best gift of all, the Book Review Editor asked for suggestions from some members of the CSC Executive Board and from an Emeritus couple.

What she received was a list that comprised new and newish books on topics of all kinds in a good variety of settings. No matter how eclectic your circle of family and friends, then, you’re sure to find one or two perfect choices. So here with, Vanguard’s Holiday Gift Recommendations, and recommends:

**Ruth Anne Baumgartner**, CSC-member at-large and Vanguard Editor, says 2017 Man Book Prize winner *Lincoln in the Bardo*, a novel by George Saunders (Random House), is “completely overwhelming,” and Dinaw Mengestu’s *The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears* (Riverhead) is “a lovely, gritty, touching novel about African immigrants, family (actual and improvised), gentrification, love, and Washington, D.C.” She also found *All the Light We Cannot See*, by Anthony Doerr ( Scribner), winner of the 2015 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, “breathtakingly suspenseful, utterly beautiful, full of sadness and joy.” And she notes, “if you think like a theater director or musician, you’ll be dying to assemble some friends to join you in reading *Lincoln in the Bardo* aloud, just to hear the symphony of voices Saunders has created.”

For mystery lovers, Flo Hatcher, Executive Director, CSC–AAUP, recommends *The Thirds* by Jo Nesbo (An Inspector Harry Hole mystery), Flo writes, “The books in this series are quite dark but fascinating at the same time,” and she reveals that as the daughter of a policeman, her dark side (who knew?) comes naturally. And, if you prefer to spend the cold months of winter dreaming about gardening, Flo recommends *Two Gardens*: Katherine S. White and Elizabeth Lawrence—A Friendship in Letters: *Onward and Upward in the Garden* by Katharine S. White & Elizabeth Lawrence, edited by Emily Herring Wilson. “Katharine was an editor at The New Yorker for years, and the wife of E.B. White. The letters reveal much about flowers, flower catalogs, plant resources, and women’s work. Many of the plant varieties and their resources are no longer around, and the small-town women’s clubs that wrote newsletters filled with news of the day, including new varieties and propagation techniques, give glimpse into life in times gone by.”

The Weinbergers, Bill and Jill, professors emeriti of English, Central Connecticut State University, are happily retired in Florida. They are enthusiastic travelers, lately exploring Ireland and Scotland and reading Irish history and literature. Bill recommends Colm Toibín’s *Brooklyn*, The Master (a fictionalized biography of Henry James), and *Nora Webster*. Roddy Doyle’s *A Star Called Henry* is about Ireland ca. 1916 with a bit of what one may call magic realism thrown in (publisher is Scribner). Jill recommends Joseph Plunket’s *Strumpet City* (Gill & MacMillan), a long but very readable novel about the 1913 Labor Lockout in Dublin, a good suggestion for those of us who are tirelessly negotiating treacherous labor relations.

One of our regular reviewers, Joan Chrisler, has been enjoying Hogarth Press’ "Shakespeare Retold" Series, in which plots of Shakespeare’s plays are updated in novel form. Her favorites so far are Anne Tyler’s *Vinegar Girl* (a retelling of *The Taming of the Shrew*), Margaret Atwood’s * Hag-seed* (The Tempest), and *The Gate of Time* (The Winter’s Tale).

*Your book review editor*, also member-at-large of the CSC, heartily recommends Paulette Files’ *News of the World*: A Novel ( William Morrow). After the Civil War, in Texas, an itinerant news-reader (yes, in the pre-Internet era, most people got their news this way) is charged with delivering a young captive of the Kiowa back to her family. My only caveat about this book is that most people got their news this way) is charged with delivering a young captive of the Kiowa back to her family. My only caveat about this book is that

Calling All Book Lovers! Vanguard needs volunteers to serve as occasional book reviewers. Book reviews are expected to be 750 to 1500 words, double-spaced, and we promise not to ask for more than one review per year…unless reviewers want to do more! For Vanguard the ideal book reviewer is a full- or part-time faculty member or graduate student with a lively interest in and appreciation for academic issues that go beyond the disciplinary. As regular readers of Vanguard know, we include on our bookshelves works on the history and philosophy of education, current issues and trends in academia or pedagogy, biographies of important figures in education, and flights of fiction and fancy (we especially love satire and professor-detectives!), and are delighted to publish such reviews. Vanguard will also publish compendia of shorter book recommendations from time to time. We do not review scholarly works on narrow disciplinary issues. If you would like to join our list of reviewers, contact Jane Hikel, our Vanguard Book Review Editor, through the Conference office. She’ll suggest a book or approve your suggestion, and arrange a deadline for your contribution; she is especially interested in books written by our colleagues in Connecticut. If you love to read (and what academician doesn’t?), here’s your opportunity to contribute to Vanguard…. Why not volunteer today?

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**Conference Chapter Service Program**

The Chapter Service Program is a Conference-based initiative to develop local chapters as active advocacy organizations. The Connecticut State Conference–AAUP, in collaboration with the Assembly of State Conferences of AAUP National, will provide (for minimal local financial obligation) these services and others:

- **Chapter Leadership Training**
- **Analysis of Institutional Financial Data**
- **Consultation and Training in the Effective Use of Financial Analyses**
- **Training and Assistance in Chapter Committee A Work**
- **Consultation on Institutional Assessment**
- **Consultation on Faculty Issues in Use of Technology in Higher Education**

To take advantage of the Chapter Service Program, contact the Conference Office, attention Charles Ross, Chapter Service Program Director.

See also "Conference Announces New Chapter Service," p. 2. That service is free of charge.
Field Staff Members Honored at National Meeting

At the Plenary Session 2017 AAUP Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., Elena Tapia, CSU–AAUP President, offered two resolutions to honor Stephen Greatorex and Caryl Schiff–Greatorex, both retiring after more than four decades of service to AAUP.

The text of the resolutions is below; pictured is Prof. Tapia as she moved the resolutions, both of which passed unanimously.

**Resolution Honoring Stephen Greatorex for His Forty-One Years of Service to AAUP**

Whereas Stephen Greatorex, CSU-AAUP Business Manager, has served CSU-AAUP, National AAUP, and the National AAUP Field Staff Organization for forty-one years and is soon to retire;

Whereas Steve has served CSU-AAUP since 1976, when the Connecticut General Assembly passed Public Act 75-566, which allowed state employees to bargain collectively. At that time Steve, a recent graduate of Central Connecticut State University, worked tirelessly with his Prof. Dave Newton to organize CSU faculty and to inevitably win a contested election to be the exclusive bargaining agent for the faculty, which includes coaches, counselors and librarians;

Whereas Steve, over the many years, has worked closely with the other state employee unions to enhance and expand healthcare and retirement benefits, which are negotiated separately by the State Employees Bargaining Agent Coalition (SEBAC), where Steve is a highly respected and valued contributor, reflecting integrity on CSU-AAUP;

Whereas Steve Greatorex and Caryl Schiff-Greatorex were among the initial founders and are the longest serving members of the National AAUP Field Staff Organization. Both were involved in developing a Field Staff Handbook, salary study and other materials, still used today; and both were instrumental in assuring there were resources and training for the field staff serving on campuses across the country;

Whereas Steve, through his knowledge as Business Manager, but not necessarily as a function of that position, has generously shared his time and acumen in being Treasurer for SEBAC, Deputy Treasurer for the CSU-AAUP Political Action Committee, and for the National AAUP Field Staff Organization;

Whereas Steve, through the many years, has demonstrated a superhuman ability to faithfully attend very long meetings, to patiently explain the intricacies of dues, fees, salary formulas, healthcare, and retirement options and more, and all with kindness and professionalism;

Be it resolved, that the American Association of University Professors, on behalf of its members, expresses its deep appreciation and gratitude for his many contributions and boundless dedication; and wishes him well in all the years to come, and with his new endeavors in which he will be equally successful and valued.

**Resolution Honoring Caryl Schiff–Greatorex for Her Forty-One Years of Service to AAUP**

Whereas Caryl Schiff-Greatorex, CSU-AAUP Director of Member Services, has served CSU-AAUP, National AAUP, and the National AAUP Field Staff Organization for forty-one years and is soon to retire;

Whereas Caryl has served CSU-AAUP since 1976, when the Connecticut General Assembly passed Public Act 75-566, which allowed state employees to bargain collectively for their wages, hours and working conditions, signaling a very long period in which she gained and shared keen knowledge of the labor movement, the bargaining process and contract matters important to our members;

Whereas Caryl has provided thousands of hours of contract administration and grievance training education to newly elected CCSU-AAUP and CSU-AAUP officers over the years; Whereas Caryl has made innumerable contributions to labor, to collective bargaining and specifically to Connecticut State University-AAUP and its 3,100 members;

Whereas Caryl Schiff-Greatorex and Steve Greatorex were among the initial founders and are the longest serving members of the National AAUP Field Staff Organization. Both were involved in developing a Field Staff Handbook, salary study and other materials, still used today; and both were instrumental in assuring there were resources and training for the field staff serving on campuses across the country;

Whereas Caryl has been -- through it all -- amazingly good spirited, quick thinking, and resilient; Be it resolved, that the American Association of University Professors, on behalf of its members, expresses its deep appreciation and gratitude for her many contributions and boundless dedication; and wishes her well in all the years to come, and with her new endeavors in which she will be equally successful and valued.

The Executive Committee of the Connecticut Conference, American Association of University Professors, joins our colleagues in thanking Steve and Caryl for their service and wishing them well in the next chapter of their lives.