

Record of the Council June 12 and 14, 2015

The Council of the Association met June 12 and 14, 2015, at the Mayflower Renaissance Hotel in Washington, DC. President Rudy H. Fichtenbaum presided. Participating were members of Council (with the exception of second vice-president Susan Michalczyk and Harry W. Janes), parliamentarian Kerry Grant, general counsel Risa Lieberwitz, executive director Julie M. Schmid, and members of the AAUP staff. President Fichtenbaum called the meeting to order on June 12, 2015, and introduced parliamentarian Kerry Grant and new AAUP staff. The Council adopted its agenda and approved the minutes of prior meetings.

Report of the Secretary-Treasurer and Acceptance of Fiscal Year 2014 Audit

Secretary-Treasurer Michele Ganon reported on the Association's 2014 financial performance and presented the 2014 audit report. Ganon reported that the auditors had issued an unqualified opinion and the Council accepted the fiscal year 2014 audit report. Ganon reported on the Association's financial position and activities through April 30, 2015, comparing actual revenues to budgeted revenues and expenses and highlighting accounts receivable and cash flows.

Report of the President

President Rudy Fichtenbaum briefly addressed the Council on the status of the AAUP's response to threats to higher-education and faculty, emphasizing the Association is moving in a very positive direction.

Report of Committee A on Academic Freedom and Tenure

Henry Reichman, chair of Committee A on Academic Freedom and Tenure, presented the committee's report to Council. He referred to Committee A's statements recommending to the 101st Annual Meeting that it place the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, the University of

Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Felician College, and the University of Southern Maine on the Association's list of censured administrations, as well as its statement recommending to the 101st Annual Meeting that it remove Yeshiva University from the Association's list of censured administrations. The Council concurred in the four recommendations for censure and the one recommendation for removal of censure.

Report of the Committee on College and University Governance

Charles Baker, chair of the Committee on College and University Governance, reported on the AAUP's communications with the president of Sweet Briar College regarding its closing and termination of faculty positions in violation of AAUP principles and policies. He also reported on the status of efforts by Sweet Briar faculty members and alumnae to oppose the closure.

Campaign Updates

Senior program officers Gwendolyn Bradley, Christopher Simeone, and Michael Ferguson reported on the status of the One Faculty Campaign, Charter Campaign, and Centennial Campaign, respectively.

Report of Affirmative Action Officer

Gwendolyn Bradley, AAUP's affirmative action officer, presented the annual affirmative action report to the Council.

AAUP Faculty Compensation Survey Web Portal Redesign Proposal

Senior higher education researcher John Barnshaw reported on the need to redesign and upgrade the web portal for the faculty compensation survey.

Report of the Committee on Membership

Irene Mulvey, chair of the Committee on Membership, presented the schedule of dues for 2016, reflecting the increase in dues pursuant to the formula previously adopted by the Annual Meeting.

She reminded the Council that mandatory state conference dues will need to be reauthorized at the Annual Meeting in 2016. Professor Mulvey also reported membership totals as of May 15, 2015.

Election Committee Report

Election Committee chair and AAUP general counsel Risa Lieberwitz reported on the 2015 election, noting that no formal protests were filed and that the committee had no recommendations for changes to the election rules.

Election of 2016 Election Committee

The Council elected by acclamation Daniel O'Connor to the Election Committee.

Election of 2015–17 Nominating Committee

The Council elected by acclamation Jacqueline Aranté and Linda Carroll and by secret ballot Charles Baker to the 2015–17 Nominating Committee.

Report of the AAUP Collective Bargaining Congress

Howard Bunsis, chair of the AAUP-CBC, reported that the Department of Organizing is now fully staffed and on recent staff activities. These included assessing organizing targets at both public and private institutions, ongoing work to support and strengthen existing chapters, and work to defeat anti-union legislation in Ohio. He concluded his report by commending the work of the national staff. President Fichtenbaum commended AAUP-CBC vice-chair Paul Davis for his work with the Union County College chapter.

Report of the AAUP Foundation

Henry Reichman, chair of the AAUP Foundation, reported that the AAUP Foundation amended its Constitution to include a representative elected by the AAUP-CBC and that the AAUP-CBC elected Paul Davis to that position. Further, the Foundation has two new public directors, Martin D. Snyder and Joan Wallach Scott. Professor Reichman also reported that, pursuant to the development program jointly funded by the AAUP and AAUP-CBC, the Foundation has hired a consultant who is

working with the Foundation board to produce a development plan. He concluded his report by encouraging Council members to use the Amazon Smile program to donate a portion of the sales from their purchases to the AAUP Foundation.

Adoption of Resolution Honoring Jordan E. Kurland on His Fifty Years of Service as a Member of the AAUP's Professional Staff

The Council adopted the "Resolution Honoring Jordan E. Kurland on His Fifty Years of Service as a Member of the AAUP's Professional Staff" and recommended to the 101st Annual Meeting that it also adopt the resolution. The Council gave Kurland a standing ovation in appreciation for his half-century of service to AAUP.

Report of the Assembly of State Conferences

Hans-Joerg Tiede, chair of the Assembly of State Conferences, reported on the ASC's activities during the 2014-15 governing year, emphasizing the ASC's focus on implementing the conference development grant program that was approved by Council in June 2014. Professor Tiede reported that the ASC funded five conference development grants out of the remainder of its 2014 budget in addition to funding eighteen Summer Institute scholarships. He also reported that the ASC, coordinating with the Committee on Historically Black Institutions and Scholars of Color, conducted a regional meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, in March 2015, which was well attended.

Report of the Executive Director

Executive director Julie Schmid reported on staff work in responding to challenges over the past year, including the organizing campaigns, defeating anti-union legislation in Ohio, and responding to the threats to faculty tenure in Wisconsin. She also reported the status of personnel staffing and ongoing staff work to implement the strategic plan.

Business from the Annual Meeting

The Council discussed a request by the Annual Meeting to review the “Standing Rules Governing the Annual Meeting” particularly as to the deadline for submission of resolutions or proposals. The Council also discussed a suggestion to live stream future Annual Meetings.

Report of the Office of Staff Counsel

General counsel Risa Lieberwitz reported on the activities of the legal office, highlighting judicial decisions in cases in which AAUP submitted amicus curiae briefs. Associate counsel Nancy Long reported on the AAUP’s response to the Library of Congress’ request for public comments on proposed exceptions to the Digital Millennium Copyright Act. Senior counsel Aaron Nisenson reported on efforts to publicize the AAUP’s amicus work and seek out cases in which the AAUP can meaningfully participate as amicus.

General Good and Welfare

The Council thanked staff members Elona Jouben, Alexis Pearlstein, and Donna Banks, and consultant Mary Kinnison for their work on the annual conference.

Recognition of Outgoing Council Members

President Fichtenbaum, on behalf of the Association, thanked outgoing Council members Mayra Besosa, Angela Brommel, Jeff Butts, Rana Jaleel, Harry Janes, Cary Nelson, and Charlie Parrish for their service on the Council and to the Association and led the Council in a round of applause.