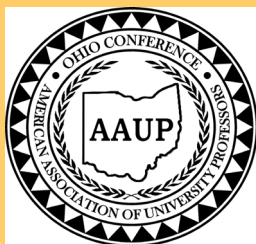


INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Message	1
Temporary Change	1
Calendar of Events	2
Brown Announces Final Passage of Higher Ed Bill	3
Retirement Plan- ning: Social Secu- rity	4
Kent State Univer- sity's 'Core Values'	4
Interested in Work- ing with the Ohio Conference	4
Campus Equity Week	5
University of Toledo Banned Books Ahoy!	6
Ohio Conference AAUP Awards	7
AAUP Membership Application	8
Ohio Conference Executive Commit- tee	9



President's Message

By James McNelis, Wilmington College

Higher education in Ohio is a lively place to be these days. Between challenges to academic freedom and shared governance; a newly elected state executive branch, and rethinking of the public college and university systems (along with a long-awaited acknowledgement that faculty's voice should be heard in that process, thanks to the change in government); the challenge of improving scientific and international knowledge in particular among the state's citizens, and of both retaining Richard Florida's "creative class," and attracting more of them from out-of-state—the mantra of one of my faculty colleagues is truer now than ever: None of us needs to go looking for extra things to do.

Even so, those things have a way of coming to look for *us*—such as our responsibility to support our profession by service in the AAUP. My own newly-begun term as President of OCAAUP, following in

the daunting footsteps of Paul Davis and our great advances during his tenure, epitomizes both the continuity and change that characterize higher education. The most recent previous conference president from my own Wilmington college was Larry Gara (1966-67)—best known for his still-standard text *The Liberty Line: The Legend of the Underground Railroad* (1961), and for having fought a draft-resistance case all the way to the Supreme Court in 1949. Larry, fortunately, is very much with us, and still teaches at Wilmington from time to time (he also just completed a chapter in a new book, *Founded by Friends: The Quaker Heritage of Fifteen American Colleges and Universities*, about those institutions founded over the years by the various American Quaker sects). Also still with us, less fortunately, is the case of his unjust dismissal by Grove City College, unresolved since 1963 and earning

them the place of dishonor as the oldest outstanding item on the List of Censured Institutions. If your chapter would like to hear this AAUP history firsthand, Larry tells the story very well, and may be available to speak upon invitation.

On the brighter side of more recent news, Tiffin College of Ohio deserves plaudits for working to remove their own censure.

We should enjoy this newly achieved censure-free condition of Ohio's colleges and universities while we can; how long it lasts will be determined by the actions of their administrations, not by our own.

(see **President's Message** on page 3)

Temporary Change

By Jaimie Pottorf, Executive Director Ohio Conference AAUP

Between September 30th and December 20th I will be out of the office to do volunteer work in South Africa.

During this time, Paul Davis, our Immediate Past President, will be filling in as Interim Executive Director. All methods of communication with the Ohio Conference will remain the same.

Please do not hesitate to contact any members of our Executive Board if you have any questions.

2007—2008 Calendar of Events



September 29th, 2007

Ohio Conference Executive Board Meeting
Time: 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
Location: Columbus Airport Marriott

December 8th, 2007

Ohio Conference Executive Board Meeting
Time: 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
Location: Columbus Airport Marriott

January 25th, 2008

Ohio Conference Executive Board Meeting
Time: 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
Location: Columbus Airport Marriott

March 4th, 2008

Statehouse Day
Time: 4:00 p.m.
Location: Ohio Statehouse, Crypt Room

April 4th—5th, 2008

Ohio Conference Annual Meeting
Time: April 4th 2:00 p.m.—April 5th 3:00 p.m.
Location: Columbus Airport Marriott

*** Agenda and Registration Form will be included in our next newsletter publication in early February**

ATTENTION

If you know an AAUP member who is not receiving this newsletter, or if your own address needs correction, please contact us at
ocaaup@ocaaup.org
or
(513) 312-2752

Opinions and viewpoints are that of the Editorial Staff and not that of the Ohio Conference or the National AAUP. Please contact the conference office if you have any questions or comments.

P.O. Box 9791 Cincinnati, Ohio 45209 Phone (513) 312-2752 Email ocaaup@ocaaup.org

President's Message

(from page 1)



Like any state conference, ours embraces a wide array of faculties working under varied conditions. We can't even divide our categories neatly by state/private and CBU/non-CBU, since our membership includes examples of both private-CBU (Wilberforce, the nation's oldest private HBC) and state-non-CBU (including OSU, the second-biggest university in the country). There are those who would think that such a widely varied group, with infinitely diverse backgrounds, priorities, working conditions, and personal interests could not agree on the time of day, much less on more substantial matters.

They would, however, be mistaken.

All of us stand united in our support for those among our chapters who are choosing to pursue unionization—an ever-

more-present possibility for many, since the Yeshiva precedent continues to crumble in state after state. So long as unions are caused by bad management—and they are—American higher education will continue to provide plenty of motivation.

All of us oppose the McCarthyite policy of the state of Ohio to demand signature of their Kafkaesque "Declaration of Material Assistance to Terrorists" letters as a condition of employment.

This might be summed up with a simple overstrike: Are you now, or have you ever been, a Communist "terrorist" sympathizer? As with the McCarthy-era loyalty oaths which obviously inspired this folly, such political theater designed to play to "the base" in the bleachers can serve no actual security purpose--since no undercover operative bent on murder hesitates to lie when necessary to complete the mission (and the list of banned groups extends well beyond murderers into ecological activism and other non-homicidal affiliations). What it does do is to advance the spreading pall of the American governments' continuing assault on the civil liberties of citizens and foreigners

alike, which continues to drain time and resources from the AAUP's other work. It is to be hoped that the change at the top of Ohio's government may result in making this problem moot. Until such time, our colleagues are urged to contact Ann Springer (aspringer@aaup.org) immediately should they come to know of an individual's denial of employment due to refusing to sign.

All of us support our colleagues at Antioch College.

As of press time, the situation is evolving too quickly for us to address in this hardcopy forum. However, we are gratified beyond words by the vigor and success of the alumni's activism in protests and fundraising that may reverse the College's closure. It suggests that faculty at many other institutions, whether in crisis or no, may be well advised to embrace the powerful leverage to be achieved when faculty, students, and alumni communicate well and frequently, and work together toward their common interests. From OCAAUP's perspective, the matter has already been taken over by National, which has corresponded with Antioch's board to request clarification of their actions. But it goes without saying that all of us continue to follow the matter with the closest interest, and that we support our colleagues, and the legacy of a college famous for "thinking different." There is too little of that in the management of American colleges and universities today, and too much "me-too" pursuit of the pseudo-corporate follies that lead so many of them towards the fate most commonly pronounced in postmortem verdicts on crashed aircraft: "Controlled Flight Into Terrain."

In conclusion—

Administrations seem to think they are themselves beset by terrorists when we demand the co-pilot's seat. But after a century of tragic experience, planes have two seats up front for a reason: someone has to keep an eye out for those pesky mountains that have a way of popping up when you least expect them.

BROWN ANNOUNCES FINAL PASSAGE OF HIGHER ED BILL

Ohio Would See Nearly \$800 Million Increase In Pell Grants Over Next Five Years

Washington, DC – As the cost of college continues to rise, U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH), a member of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee, today announced final passage of the *College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007*. This legislation would provide \$20 billion in additional college aid to students.

"Everyone who wants to go to college should be able to," Brown said. "This bill is the biggest step in helping middle class and low-income students get an education since the passage of the G.I. Bill."

College costs are at an all time high and family income and student aid have not kept up. In Ohio, between 2001 and 2006, the cost of attending four-year public colleges increased 53 percent and the cost of attending four-year private colleges increased nearly 30 percent. During this same time period, the median household income in Ohio increased only 3 percent.

(see **BROWN ANNOUNCES...** on page 5)

Retirement Planning: Social Security

By Robin E. Kelly, Assistant Professor—Business and Technology; Cuyahoga Community College

Many of us, particularly at the community college level, came to academics after a lengthy and successful career in private enterprise during which we contributed significantly to Social Security.

As you may know if you have begun your retirement planning, individuals who receive alternate pensions in addition to Social Security are severely penalized, and can receive as little as 62% of the Social Security to which they are entitled, based upon their contributions.

There are two separate provisions within the Social Security Act that are responsible for this inequity: The Government Pension Offset (GPO) and the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP). The NEA notes that over 300,000 individuals lose an average of \$3,600 a year due to the GPO alone. While this amount may seem insignificant, it can make a substantial difference in quality of life for older individuals, those with medical issues, or those without a personal support system.

The Social Security Fairness Act of 2007 has been initiated both in the Senate (S. 206) and House of Representatives (H.R. 82) to repeal these two provisions and assure that you are not denied full Social Security benefits based upon your decision to choose a life of public service.

The bills should be of particular interest to Ohio Conference AAUP members, as Ohio is one of only thirteen states where these provisions are actively applied.

Admittedly, a new academic semester is fraught with time constraints. Yet the import of this initiative is worth the five minutes required to notify your political representatives of your support. I urge you to do so, if not for yourself, for those academic colleagues who contribute so much to your institution.

Kent State University's 'Core Values'

By Kathryn A. Makra, J.D.; Executive Director, AAUP-KSU

Kent State University is currently involved in re-visiting its Strategic Plan. One of the key issues for faculty is the proposed removal of the concept of "academic freedom" from a list of KSU's "core values." Faculty have responded negatively to this proposed change, and they hope that the University Strategic Planning Steering Committee and President Lester Lefton will take this negative feedback seriously in their discussions. Special thanks to Steve Aby, Chair of Committee A, for supporting the AAUP-KSU viewpoint with a letter explaining that academic freedom is at the heart of what universities are all about.

INTERESTED IN WORKING WITH THE OHIO CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE BOARD?

If you would be interested in assisting with any of the Ohio Conference Committees please contact our main office.

Committees include:

- Academic Freedom
- Government Relations
- 2-Year Institutions
- Governance
- Economics

BROWN ANNOUNCES FINAL PASSAGE OF HIGHER ED BILL

(from page 3)

In the past 20 years, the cost of college has tripled nationally, forcing students to incur greater debt. Nearly two-out-of-every-three students have student loan debt, up from less than one-half in 1993, and the actual amount of debt from undergraduate loans also has soared. In the 2004-2005 school year, 66 percent of students graduating from four-year institutions in Ohio graduated with student loan debt. The level of debt for those students averaged \$20,000.

The *College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007* would increase aid for students applying for need-based grants and provide better repayment options for borrowers, capping their monthly payment at 15 percent of their income. It includes a loan forgiveness benefit for borrowers in public service jobs, protection for working students by not penalizing their earnings, and matching grants to states to improve college access. Ohio students would see more than \$797 million in Pell Grant aid over the next five school years.

The legislation cuts interest rates on new subsidized Stafford loans for undergraduates from 6.8 percent to 3.4 percent by 2011 and provides scholarships of \$4,000 per year for high-achieving students who commit to teaching high-need subjects in high-need schools. Ohio students would see nearly \$305 million more in loan aid over the next five years. In addition, the legislation increases funding for the Upward Bound program, which provides tutoring and other supports to disadvantaged students to prepare, apply to, and succeed in college.

"There is more work to do. We must prevent private student loan gouging and reduce the cost of education before an entire generation is crippled with high interest debt," Brown added.

The conference report has passed the House and now will be sent to the president to be signed into law.

OFFICE OF U.S. SENATOR SHERROD BROWN

For Immediate Release Friday, September 7, 2007

Contact: Bethany Lesser

(202) 224-3978

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Campus Equity Week: October 29 to November 4, 2007

Adopted from the Ohio Dominican University Newsletter, Volume 2 Issue 1 Fall 2007

The AAUP website defines Campus Equity week as the following:

Also known as Fair Employment Week in some states and in Canada, it is designed to draw attention to the dramatic decrease in the proportion of professors who hold tenure-track positions—now only 35 percent of the faculty in the United States. Part- and full-time non-tenure track faculty are often subject to exploitative employment conditions, and the dwindling number of tenure-track faculty threatens the quality of higher education.

Campus Equity Week occurs biennially and the most recent one was October 31 to November 4, 2005. During the week, faculty activists across the United States and Canada donned costumes, participated in hearings on university employment practices, gave awards to adjunct faculty, and hosted film screenings. Faculty design activities that best suit their local conditions, so goals and activities varied. Events were designed to put contingent faculty in touch with one another, support statewide legislation, inform campus communities about the exploitation of contingent faculty, or achieve specific change on campus.

University of Toledo

Banned Books Ahoy! Treasure Your Freedom to Read

2007 American Library Association Banned Books Week Vigil

(UT's 10th Anniversary of Celebrating the Right to Read and Think Freely)

October 4 (Thursday) at the UT Performing Arts Center

Program for the Free, Public Event:

9:00 a.m. "Reading Is Power!" Coffee, doughnuts and ideas with Dr. Mark Denham (acting associate dean, College of Arts & Sciences) and Dr. Marcia Suter (director, Main Library services)

9:30 a.m. "Reading for Love of Reading: A Poem by Pinsky and a Poem by Stevens," Dr. Sara Lundquist (chair, English Department)

10:00 a.m. "Nazi Germany and Book Burning," Dr. Larry Wilcox (History Department)

10:30 a.m. "Better Read Than Dead: Ban These Ten Books," Dr. Brian Patrick (Communication Department)

11:00 a.m. "We Are Strangers," Mr. Warren Woodbury (Toledo author)

11:30 a.m. "The Silent Battle: Censorship in Elementary Schools," Ms. Tara Schenkenberger (library media specialist, Penta Career Center)

Noon: "Literature, Freedom, and Dissent: *Reading Lolita in Tehran*," Dr. Linda Smith (Honors)

12:30 p.m. Keynote address, Dr. Paul Many (Communication Department, author)

1:30 p.m. "The Media's Contribution to the Decline of an Informed Citizenry and the Erosion of Democracy," Dr. Carter Wilson (Political Science Department)

2:00 p.m. "Last Places for Radical Gestures: Late Twentieth Century Art, Imagination, and Law," Dr. Mysoon Rizk (Art Department)

2:30 p.m. "Theatre: Scene or Obscene?" Ms. Irene Alby (Theatre Department) and The Glasscity Theatre ensemble: director, Mr. Cornel Gabara (Theatre Department); actors: Dr. Ben Pryor (chair, Philosophy Department and co-director, Program in Law and Social Thought) and Mr. Dave DeChristopher-Actor (Toledo author, actor); costume designer, Ms. Holly Monsos (chair, Theatre Department).

3:30 p.m. "Allen Ginsburg, HOWL, and City Lights Books on Trial," Dr. Tom Barden (director, Honors Program, English Department)

4:00 p.m. "Let's Play Jeopardy!" with Mr. Mark Horan (librarian, Carlson Library)

4:30 p.m. "Harry Potter and the Deathly Problem of Religious Censorship," Dr. Sharon Barnes (Interdisciplinary Studies)

5:00 p.m. "Freedom of the Press--Except on Campus?" Mr. Chris Ankney (editor-in-chief of *The Independent Collegian*), Ms. Melinda Lauber (news editor)

5:30 p.m. "The Battle is Never Won--Ten Years of Celebrating the Right to Read and Think Freely," The UT Banned Books Week Vigil Planning Committee, Dr. Paulette D. Kilmer (Communication), Mr. Brian Hickam (librarian, Carlson Library), and Dr. Linda Smith (Honors Program)

6:00 p.m. "Art Music" Concert with Mr. Erik Johanson in the PAC Rectal Hall

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Paulette Kilmer at pkilmer@utoledo.edu or Brian Hickam at bhickam@utoledo.edu or Linda Smith at Linda.Smith@utoledo.edu.

Ohio Conference AAUP Awards

JASTRAM AWARD

The Jastram Award is given selectively to members of the Ohio General Assembly who have distinguished themselves as proponents of higher education.

It is named in memory of Professor Philip Jastram (Ohio State University) who was an early leader of the Ohio Conference AAUP, and a long-time chair of the Government Relations Committee

KENNEDY AWARD

This award was established to recognize an individual who, in a given year, or over time, has made significant contributions to the cause of academic freedom.

KIRSCHNER-LEVINE AWARD

This award was established to be given periodically to a faculty member in Ohio who has made exemplary contributions in the areas of collective bargaining and/or women's rights.

The award honors the careers of two faculty members, Betty Kirschner and Maita Levine, who themselves contributed significantly to the furtherance of collective bargaining and women's rights in Ohio. Both were past recipients of the Marilyn Sternberg Award given by the Collective Bargaining Congress of the AAUP "to an AAUP member who best demonstrates the concern for human rights, the courage, persistence, political foresight, imagination, collective bargaining knowledge and skills of Marilyn Sternberg."

If there is someone you would like to nominate for any of these awards please submit documentation, preferably on letterhead, discussing in detail who your are nominating, for what award and why you are making your nomination. Please include contact information for both the nominee and yourself.

The Jastram Award is presented during our Statehouse Day; the Kennedy and Kirschner-Levine Awards will be presented during our Annual Conference Meeting.

Please submit to:

Ms. Jaimie Pottorf
Executive Director

Ohio Conference AAUP
P.O. Box 9791
Cincinnati, Ohio 45209

Email: ocaaup@ocaaup.org

Fax: (866) 245-1082

AAUP MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION – OHIO CONFERENCE

Check Membership category (2007 National Annual + Comprehensive Mandatory Conference Dues):

Full-time (\$188) Associate (\$142) Entrant (\$95) Joint (\$95)
 Retired (\$95) Part-time (\$48) Graduate (\$48)

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Preferred mailing address: _____

Daytime Phone: (_____) _____ - _____ E-Mail: _____

Tenured: Yes No

Academic Rank & Field: _____

Membership Status: New Member Renewal Reinstatement

Note: Membership will extend for twelve months from the month payment is received at the national office.

PAYMENT

Total Dues: _____ = _____ Total Dues Owed

Check: Amount Enclosed \$ _____ Please make check payable to: AAUP

I hereby authorize the AAUP to charge my credit card \$ _____

Visa MasterCard American Express Discover

Card No. _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail to:
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P.O. Box 9791
Cincinnati, Ohio 45209

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
September 1, 2007—August 31, 2008**

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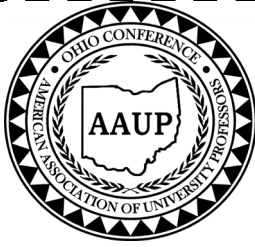
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The mission of the **American Association of University Professors (AAUP)** is to advance academic freedom and shared governance, to define fundamental professional values and standards for higher education, and to ensure higher education's contribution to the common good.

The Ohio Conference has more than 4000 members at public and private colleges and universities throughout the state. Members come from disciplines throughout the academy and receive Ohio Academe as a benefit of membership.



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