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President's Message

By James McNelis, Wilmington College

Viene la tormenta

My tenure as president of OCAAUP will be drawing to a close as this newsletter goes to press. Some looking back, as well as looking forward, at our major concerns—freedom and economics—seems appropriate.

• In the winter '08 newsletter, I viewed with alarm the prospect of “a full-on economic depression, a possibility that is starting to loom on the US horizon.” While this may not yet have come to pass, it has not yet clearly been averted either---a prospect that must prompt concern at both public and private colleges, which, like other American institutions, have

not had to face such a crisis during the modern era (or with modern cost structures and often-excessive administrative overhead as drags on their budgets). A small private college like mine seems sure to be whipsawed this year by energy costs alone, hurt on the one hand by students' difficulties with gasoline prices (and our own), and on the other by our winter heating bills, which may not be readily surchargeable to students already under financial strain. Our formerly-fortunate local community now epitomizes the economic hardships prevalent throughout Ohio, following the announcement that DHL will be eliminating as many as 8,000 jobs from our six-county area--a

development so catastrophic that both US presidential candidates have already had to take note of it. My own college may not be so directly impacted by this as other local employers, but it is hardly going to leave us untouched either; from the jobs of some family members of the college community, to the effect on local real estate values, we too are going to feel the sting of this for a long time to come.

• In the fall '07 newsletter, I bemoaned “the spreading pall of the American governments' continuing assault on the civil liberties

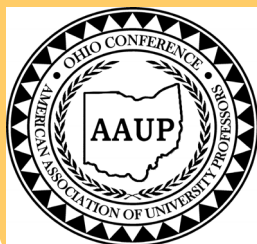
(see *President's Message* on page 3)

Government Relations Committee Report

By Dave Patton, Associate Professor Emeritus, The Ohio State University

The Ohio Conference held its annual Statehouse Day on March 11, 2008. The highlight of the day was the presentation of the Jastram Award to State Senator Randy Gardner from Bowling Green. He was recognized for his years of support of higher education, especially as a member of the Senate Education Committee. (Shortly after Statehouse Day, Gardner was named to the House seat representing Bowling Green.) Other legislators in attendance included Senator Roberts, Representatives Barrett, Letson and Sykes and aides to Senators Austria, Spada and Wilson.

(see *Government Relations* on page 4)



2007—2008 Calendar of Events



September 13th, 2008

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

December 13th, 2008

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

February 7th, 2009

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

TBD

Statehouse Day
Time: TBD
Location: Ohio Statehouse

April 17th—18th, 2009

Ohio Conference Annual Meeting
Time: April 17th 2:00 p.m.—April 18th 3:00 p.m.
Location: Columbus Airport Marriott

*** Agenda and Registration Form will be included in a future newsletter publication**

Antioch Petition

Dear colleagues,

Please endorse our petition in support of Antioch College (please scroll all the way down to see the text of the petition and the petition link).

The petition has been signed by over 1100 academics at this point, including Noam Chomsky, Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, Judith Butler, Fredric Jameson, Nel Noddings, and Michael Apple.

Leon Botstein (President of Bard) has called Antioch "the founding college of the American progressive movement," and, as you have likely heard, it is now in danger of being permanently shuttered down.

Antioch College faculty, students and our alumni have worked very hard ever since last year's decision of Antioch University Board of Trustees to close the campus by June 30, 2008. After the initial shock, the faculty, alumni, students, and the local community came together in an unprecedented effort to keep the College alive. Through this effort our dedicated alumni have raised more than 19 million dollars in cash and pledges for the College. This far exceeds the projected 6 million dollar operating deficit offered as pretext for the closing.
(see **Antioch Petition** on page 7)

President's Message

(from page 1)



of citizens and foreigners alike.” But even I would not have predicted the Congress would cave on the FISA struggle, and grant the president power to spy with impunity on private communications within the US without let or hindrance. A more recent decision is even more appalling: on July 15, the Fourth Circuit Appellate Court ruled, in the case of Ali Saleh Kahlal al-Marri, that the US military has the power to arrest American citizens—within the US—and hold them indefinitely, in military incarceration, without charges, trial or other redress, based solely on the unsupported claim that the citizen is an “enemy combatant.” I have unfortunately in

this space already expended the adjective “Kafkaesque” on the Ohio “Declaration of Material Assistance to a Terrorist Organization” law; but even if I hadn’t, it could not do justice to this unbelievable ruling.

Dr. Werner Weinberg, of Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, wrote in 1982 that “I remember that as a child I sometimes caught the phrase: ‘*Der musste nach Amerika*’ -- that is, “So-and-so had to go to America” (“Why I Did Not Leave Nazi Germany in Time,” *Christian Century* 3/21/1982 p. 478). Will this phrase soon need revision as “*Der musste aus Amerika?*” For myself, I have a standing invitation to visit long-term in a Mongolian yurt that adorns a cousin’s back yard in Munich (long story). But most Americans don’t have a German cousin with a yurt. Nor do they speak German (as I do—at least, well enough to

get by).

It might be better if we could put things to rights inside this country while there may still be time to do so. Along those lines, the Ohio ACLU reports that, at least in the case of non-faculty state employees, they have come to the conclusion that they could not after all successfully challenge the DMA law (mentioned above)—so we are not off to a very good start.

- Good news: As of this writing (July 19th), the off-again, on-again prospect that Antioch may be reborn as an independent private college is back on. It may well be that the Nonstop Liberal Arts Institute (nonstopinstitute.org) will continue for the time being to implement their plan to teach in a volunteer/community setting and to continue to exemplify the former ideals of the institution to which they devoted much of their lives. I have offered to teach a course with them in addition to my regular duties; it seems (and also feels like) the least one can do.

- Not as good news: On a related topic, the common interest of which I wrote in that fall newsletter between the private and public faculties of Ohio has taken a new and unwelcome form: Antioch-McGregor’s former president has now been elevated to the Ohio Board of Regents, as vice chancellor of academic affairs and system integration

(see *President’s Message* on page 4)

Human Trafficking and Prostitution Conference

On September 18 and 19, 2008 The University of Toledo will host the 5th Annual Conference on Prostitution, Sex Work and Human Trafficking. The purpose of the conference is to bring together researchers and practitioners in an effort to lay the groundwork for future collaborative research, advocacy, and program development and to educate social service, health care, and criminal justice professionals on human trafficking and the needs and risks of those victimized by the commercial sex industry. Abstracts are currently being accepted for conference participants who would like to present at the conference. Proceeds from the conference will benefit Second Chance which is a social service program that works with trafficked youth and prostituted women. Online registration and more information about the conference is available at the conference website www.ProstitutionConference.com or you may contact Second Chance at 419-244-6050.

Government Relations Committee Report

(from page 1)

The Conference continues to be an active member of Health Care Advocates for STRS (HCA). After several years of study and discussion, HCA has become a key supporter of the STRS-initiated House Bill 315 which provides dedicated funding for the STRS Health Care Program. Without this increased funding STRS retirees face the almost certain elimination of the current health care insurance benefit.



As a result of its ongoing communication with the Governor's office and Chancellor Fingerhut, the Conference has been invited to sit on the Advisory Committee for the Regent's Seniors to Sophomores program. Conference Government Relations Committee Chair Dave Patton has assumed this position and is very interested in hearing from faculty whose institution is sponsoring a Seniors to Sophomores program with a local school district. Please communicate with him at <patton.4@osu.edu>.

President's Message

(from page 3)

for the unified state University System of Ohio.

Since the change in governors, OCAAUP has welcomed the unaccustomed respect and attention to our views demonstrated by the executive and legislative branches of state government. It is to be hoped that this will continue to be the case. But it is difficult to construe the hand-picking of the former president of an institution currently under the highest level of review by AAUP's national office (for the gravest possible wholesale violation of the rights of tenured faculty) as something that bodes well for either the governance role, or the well-being, of the faculty to be employed in that system.

OCAAUP will soon be facing the challenge of transitioning both CBU and non-CBU state faculties into whatever framework can be negotiated within the new system. It seems inevitable, too, that we as well as AAUP National will have to come to grips with the need of private faculties to seek the relative economic and governance security that unionization can afford. I speak now as a private college professor, not as OCAAUP president *per se*: If AAUP is willing to debate the pros and cons of unionizing graduate students, it seems logical to note also that the tenure-track faculties of America's private colleges constitute our largest untapped pool of potential lifetime recruits, particularly since Yeshiva has fallen in case after case. Better that faculties public and private should make common cause, rather than be dispersed among teachers', service-workers', and even auto-workers' unions (Carroll College, Wi. has a UAW-affiliated faculty union). Perhaps National's CBC arm, under the restructuring recently approved, should develop a private-CBU sub-section, in the event that National decides to actively support the unionization of private faculties.

If it cannot, we will have to go our own ways, as America's professoriate continues to fight what Tolkien's Galadriel called "the long defeat"—enduring, as the elves did, because it's the right thing to do, even with no eventual prospect on the horizon but a dignified passing-out from this world. But like the elves, tenured faculty are long-lived; perhaps some of us will still hold our positions at such time when the era of faculty downsizing may come to an end, and rebuilding can finally begin.

—At the end of James Cameron's "Terminator," a Mexican boy gestures to thunderclouds and yells "Mira, mira! Viene la tormenta!"—look, a storm is coming. A child could indeed see that, both in our state and across our country, it may well be true, for college faculty as well as everyone else.

The Pros and Cons of Web Based Teaching: What Works, What Doesn't

By Molly Sergi, History Department, Kent State Geauga Campus

This summer marks the second year that Kent State University Geauga Campus has offered web based history classes. Full time non-tenure track professor Molly Sergi offers a range of basic liberal educational requirements in world civilization and United States history. There is a wide array of benefits in offering humanities and social sciences via the web. Students get the same content as a live class in a different delivery and format. Instead of limiting students to computer or technology classes, history is an inviting and challenging venue to teach through the web. The courses are obviously appealing: enrollment has peaked in each section. Quite a few students are taking classes overseas, or out-of-state (Israel, France, Georgia, California, and Illinois). Although our campus is small (about 1,200 individuals), we are able to attract students who otherwise would not enroll in the Kent system. Competitiveness and diversity allows the campus to contend with other web based programs and area universities.

Students find the flexibility of web classes appealing. They can basically write papers and post discussion responses on their own time. It's ideal for busy, independent, working people. Kent State Geauga is meeting a growing consumer demand and venturing into new markets. Our student body is mostly contrived of traditional and adult commuter learners.

We have a wonderful support group and systems network department located on campus. Not only has this department trained, offered technological assistance, but also created a communication junction with other campus departments and faculty. We share experiences on a regular basis.

Gauga Campus gets real feedback from students because they are encouraged (forced) to read, comprehend, and write their own interpretations of essays and class discussions. Three days a week responses are posted to various historical questions and readings, and students are encouraged to comment and critique their peers. The shy pupil is less reluctant and intimidated by the web than perhaps a traditional classroom.

But there are difficulties! Do not fall behind: this holds true for students and faculty. It's easy to become overwhelmed by the volume of material. Check your email and homepage daily.

Be clear and concise with instructions and emails. I tell students they can call me in my office, or visit the campus for face-to-face interactions. Create a list of web protocols outlining expected behavior. For example, emails will be addressed in 24-48 hours. Respect is an important part of live classroom behavior and web based classes have the same requirements. As with any technology there are glitches. Provide emergency contact numbers or help-desk information.

This is a fantastic way to teach! Who said history is stagnant and never-changing? Experiment with the technology and be willing to explore.

I'd like to hear from other faculty teaching humanities or social sciences. What are your experiences? What problems have you encountered?

Phone: (440) 834-4187
Email: Msergi@kent.edu

Former Antioch Faculty Create Nonstop Liberal Arts Institute

By Scott Warren, Philosophy & Politics, Nonstop
July 6, 2008

On June 30, 2008, the operations of historic 156-year-old Antioch College were suspended by the Antioch University administration and board of trustees, despite widespread national protest. Faculty and staff were evicted from their offices, building locks were changed, heartfelt good-byes were exchanged, and the campus was closed.

But the story does not stop there. It is only beginning. The spirit, legacy, values and educational mission of Antioch College are continuing in the name of the Nonstop Liberal Arts Institute (“Nonstop”) operating in the village of Yellow Springs – we face legal challenges if we use the name “Antioch.” Twenty-two former Antioch faculty members have developed a progressive and cutting-edge liberal arts curriculum that they will offer to students of all ages and communities in coffee shops, bookstores, churches, schools, businesses, parks, homes, and libraries.

This remarkable and innovative adventure is being funded by the energetic and dedicated alumni of Antioch College. Under the name Nonstop Antioch Movement, the Alumni Association established a College Revival Fund devoted to raising money and support for the revival of an independent and free Antioch College, and to keeping the Nonstop faculty and staff in operation. This is our current plan of action, pending the outcome of ongoing conversations between key alumni and board members to secure the College’s independence.

What is the essence of Nonstop?

1. It is an educational vision that keeps the DNA of Antioch College alive pending its resurrection. It is a vision dedicated to liberal arts learning for life, and in the words of founding president Horace Mann, for “winning a victory for humanity.” Nonstop is the vanguard of the revival of Antioch.
2. It is a commitment to carry on the educational mission of classroom, cooperative education, and community, while building new relationships and partnerships with alumni and the villagers of Yellow Springs (our new “campus”).
3. It is a return to our traditional values of shared governance and collective decision making that had been supplanted in recent years by corporate-style, top-down, secretive decision making. Nonstop has no administrators; the operations of Nonstop are coordinated by an “Executive Collective” of three faculty chosen by the community, and decisions are made with the input of all constituencies.
4. It is a return to the original meaning and soul of liberal learning with Socrates and Plato. The essence of this learning is the human and pedagogical relationships between teachers and learners, regardless of where that learning takes place. And that learning, in our view, is Nonstop!

For more information on the history and ongoing efforts of Nonstop, please consult the following websites:

- nonstopcollective.org
- antiochians.org
- saveantioch.org
- theantiochpapers.org

You can reach Nonstop by e-mailing nonstopinquiries@gmail.com

Dwindling power

By James McNelis, Associate professor of British literature, Wilmington College, Ohio; President, Ohio Conference of the American Association of University Professors.

As published in *The Times Literary Supplement* 27 March 2008

Geoff Pullum and I spent a number of years at the University of California, Santa Cruz (concurrently, in 1981-82), but in spite of our "Old Slug" network, I would like to set the record straight on some of the points he raised (Letters, 6 March).

He asserts that faculty rather than administrators hold the balance of power in American higher education, but faculty's power in major and leading universities is not as absolute as he implies. To take one example, about a decade ago the academic senate of the University of Notre Dame voted to disband since they were effectively powerless - only to be told that they lacked the authority to do even that.

His point is taken that the faculty at the "majors" may have far greater say, on balance, than is the case in the UK, but the larger issue revolves around US higher education in general.

There are about 3,000 US public and private baccalaureate-and-up colleges and universities. The overall percentage of institutional budget spent on instruction has shrunk from 81 per cent in 1930 to 55 per cent in 1988, with declines since then. Administrative staff numbers grow every year while faculty numbers stagnate. And while faculty pay has increased only 0.25 per cent after inflation in the past 20 years (compared with 12 per cent-plus in two years in Britain), administrative raises have beaten the rate of inflation for 11 consecutive years.

Beyond this reallocation of budget from education to administration, the most damaging change pervading US colleges is the steady erosion of tenure-track faculty positions, and even of full-time non-tenurable positions. In 1975, 57 per cent of faculty were tenured or tenure-track; in 2003, it was 35 per cent. During that time, part-timers rose from 30 per cent to 46 per cent of the total. We are America's disappearing profession, yet media discussions of the cost of college persist in suggesting that fictitious increases in instructional budgets are to blame.

Only tenured faculty can effectively challenge wrong-headed administrative priorities, and one needs to offer full-time positions to recruit professionals who have achieved terminal degrees at reputable graduate programmes.

Failing that, the *reductio ad absurdum* will be reached, and "all that will be left on the campus is the central administrative management function, the business office, and the essential function of quality control" (David Sumler, director of academic affairs, Maryland Higher Education Commission, quoted in *University Business*, January 2004).

Those pesky professors and students just get in the way.

Antioch Petition

(from page 2)

After what seems like an endless series of negotiations and re-negotiations with the University leadership, when proposal after proposal was rejected despite the amounts of pledges of support flowing in, the weekend of June 8 came and the University Board of Trustees stunned us by a resolution to invite a proposal from the College Alumni Association for a plan to reopen the College with its operations and governance made independent from the University system. Many among the college faculty and alumni do indeed believe that the University System has been suffocating the College for decades, and to turn it into an autonomous institution steered by its own independent board of trustees is needed.

(see **Antioch Petition** on page 8)

Antioch Petition

(from page 7)

In this regard we cautiously welcome the recent board resolution. We also find some concern in the vague terms of the board's declared desired outcome and of proposals much like this having been rejected by this same board more than once in this past year.

What we need at this point is the help of our colleagues from across the nation—we need as much of external affirmation of outcomes posited by this last Board resolution as we can get— hence this present petition. We need to keep pressure up on the Antioch University leaders, to make sure they live up to their stated intention of transferring the College to the alumni association who would then work to re-open it as soon as possible, preferably immediately, as a progressive residential liberal-arts college, with its tradition of tenure and unionized labor intact. One of the leading initial scenarios discussed by the University leadership was to close Antioch College for four years (just enough time to break the tenure system) and then re-open without tenure.

This is a highly relevant issue for all academics and higher-education professionals because it is a battle over shared governance, tenure, and good working conditions for faculty and staff at a liberal-arts institution.

Your endorsement and support are appreciated!

Sincerely,

Iveta Jusova (contact person for the petition)
Ijusova@antioch.edu or Ijusova@yahoo.com

<http://petition.antiochians.org/>

NOTE: THIS PETITION WAS DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY FOR ACADEMICS AND HIGHER EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS.

“Save Antioch College as a progressive residential liberal-arts college with a tenured faculty.”

We, the undersigned higher-education professionals, urge that Antioch College be reopened as a four-year residential liberal-arts institution at the earliest possible time, so that it can continue its historic mission of educating students to--in the words of its first President Horace Mann--“win victories for humanity.”

Antioch University's administration and Board of Trustees announced last year that the University would close Antioch College due to alleged financial exigency, without consulting the faculty or alerting alumni to the gravity of the situation.~ When alumni demonstrated significant financial support for an independent Antioch College, the Board rejected three viable plans to keep the College open.~ We believe that it is time for Antioch University to step aside and cede control of Antioch College to alumni and faculty holding the needed skills, resources, and determination to restore and maintain this institution.

In line with the recent Antioch University Board of Trustees resolution inviting a new proposal from the Antioch College Alumni Association, we call on the board to facilitate transfer of the College and its assets in a manner that will allow it to reopen as soon as possible under the able stewardship of faculty and alumni who have worked tirelessly to support this institution.~

We applaud the work of "Nonstop Antioch," a coalition of alumni, community members and friends dedicated to saving the College, and the ongoing parallel efforts of the dismissed College faculty to continue the Antioch College tradition of progressive academic and civic education in Yellow Springs next year.~ The Nonstop educational enterprise is built on Antioch's core values, distinguished by high academic standards, a co-op structure of work and study, dedication to social justice, and community governance.

We urge that this tradition be preserved, along with the tradition of tenure and unionized labor, in the form of an autonomous Antioch College.

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 deadline for all awards is
January 15th, 2009.**

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

Yes, I would like to join the AAUP

Please complete this form and mail it to the AAUP, P.O. Box 96132, Washington, DC 20077-7020.

If you have any questions, please e-mail membership@aaup.org.

This is a new application or an application for renewal.

Name _____
 (Please print) First Middle Last

Institution _____

Academic Field _____

Tenured? Yes No

Home Address (required*) _____

City State Zip Code

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City State Zip Code

E-Mail _____

Daytime Telephone _____

Please do not include my name on non-AAUP mailing lists.

Preferred Mailing Address Home Work

*We are required to use home addresses for AAUP election materials.

2008 Annual National and State Dues (Ohio)

	Annually	Quarterly	Monthly
Full-Time	\$195	\$48.75	\$16.25
Associate	147	36.75	12.25
Entrant	98	24.50	8.16
Joint	98	24.50	8.16
Retired	98	24.50	8.16
Part-Time	50	12.50	4.16
Graduate	50	12.50	4.16

Membership Categories

(Check one)

- Full Time:** Teacher, researcher, or academic professional at an accredited college or university
- Entrant:** Non-tenured *and* either new to the AAUP or new to a full-time appointment; for up to four years
- Part Time:** Faculty paid on a per-course or percentage basis
- Joint:** Person whose spouse or partner is a full-time member (shares one subscription to *Academe*)
- Graduate Student:** Enrolled at an accredited institution within the last five years and not eligible for another active membership category
- Retired**
- Associate:** A non-voting membership for all other supporters, including administrators and the public

My check payable to the AAUP is enclosed for \$ _____

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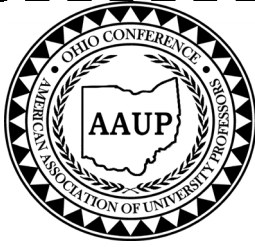
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Opinions and viewpoints are that of the Editorial Staff and not that of the Ohio Conference or the National AAUP. Please contact the conference office if you have any questions or comments.

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Association of University Professors**

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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.



P.O. Box 9791
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