

NYS AAUP Conference Executive Director Report to the Fall Conference 2008

Welcome all. Unfortunately several of our leadership team are not able to be with us due to health and other personal circumstances. We wish them our best in the endeavors that have kept them from joining us. We want to thank Hilbert College for welcoming the NYS AAUP Conference to their campus for this meeting. As well we want to thank Vinny Tirelli for agreeing to be our conference speaker. This report will chronicle the Executive Director's activities on our behalf since our Spring Conference in April, 2008.

Activities:

- National AAUP is interviewing four vendors for Association Management System software. We were contacted for our perspective and were of some slight help in giving feedback on the four vendors under consideration:
 - Association Anywhere By ACGI
 - iMis by ASI Vendor: Intuitive Business Concepts
 - Members Only by Members Only Software & Orchid Suite CMS
 - NOAH Alliance by JL Systems

The time for input was short and the invitation to attend the vendor presentation sessions in Washington DC was only days ahead of time and reasonable flight tickets could not be secured. We are hopeful that the final vendor choice will offer us significant improvement in membership services nationwide.

- An effort to find at least one contact person at all NYS Institutes with AAUP membership is on going and our site Institute contact web page has been continually updated to reflect our most current contact information. I will review carefully the VP's membership update data from this week and incorporate this newest data into our web site. If you have corrections or additions please forward them to me.
- nysaaup.org has been maintained and been kept up-to-date. Having an open forum has proved to be difficult to protect from spam. At this time the forum asks users not already registered to contact the forum administrator to enroll. 5500 spam users have been eliminated. A new forum will be installed that has more security features than what we currently have.
- Contributed articles for the NY Academe Newspaper.
- Contacted Jane Koretz about the status of the suspension of the Faculty Senate at RPI by President Shirley Jackson. This appears to be a governance dispute that is not yet resolved. Intend to follow up with the Faculty President Larry Kagen and Faculty Senate President Bruce Naumann. Both NYS AAUP Committee A and the National have had communications with RPI about this issue.
- Attended the 94th AAUP Annual Meeting was held June 11th through June 15th, 2007 in Washington DC. The NY contingent to the meeting was strong with fourteen of our representatives participating in Capitol Hill Day on Thursday, June 11th. It was my first Capitol Hill experience. We had meetings with both NYS senators and fifteen of our state's representatives. This is almost double the number of meetings scheduled last year.

- Cary Nelson announced a new high in AAUP membership due in part to the membership campaign that offers reduced dues to new members from non-CB Institutions. The reduced dues offer is still available to qualified new members when they join AAUP online. Back in April, 2008 the NYS Conference at the request of Cary Nelson, agreed to a reduced per-capita dues allocation for NYS new non-collective bargaining Institution members taking advantage of the reduced dues offering. The conference leadership agreed to this reduction for one year only. Our state membership was 5,015 back in April and as of October 7 is the membership is 4,935. It is disappointing to note that the reduced dues effort has not been successful in NYS. The cost of our agreement to reduced per-capita dues will not make a huge impact on our working income.
- Attended the 29th annual AAUP Summer Institute was held this year at the University of Rhode Island @ Kingston from July 24th – 27th. Excellent workshops were held on negotiating, conflict resolution, higher education data and research, faculty advocacy, shared governance, organizing, media relations, and preserving tenure to name only a few. Contacts were made for possible future Conference Keynote speakers.
- David Linton, who could not be here for health reasons, has offered to host our Spring Conference at Marymount Manhattan College.
- Assistance to several state faculty members seeking information and contacts for support for tenure and job related issues have been provided.
- Assisted the At-Large Conference leadership in organizing this conference.

Respectfully submitted,

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