

Joyce Furfero

Tenure, academic freedom, and shared governance – the three pillars of academic life and the foundation for delivering a quality college education. These three pillars are being rapidly eroded by monolithic corporatized colleges and universities. The trend away from collegial bodies to top-down dictatorial management structures and the inversion of numbers and importance of administrators and staff to professors is the number one enemy of intellectual inquiry on contemporary college campuses. This erosion must be stopped. I have been doing what I can on my campus at St. John's University, but what is happening at St. John's is just symptomatic of a bigger disease that can only be stopped by a united voice of the faculty. As an at-large member of the New York State AAUP Executive Committee, I promise to work to rebalance the academy and to refocus on the three pillars of higher education.

Joyce is Associate Professor of Economics and Finance at St. John's University, Queens, New York, and has been on the St. John's faculty since 1980. At St. John's the faculty are represented jointly by two unions: the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) and the Faculty Association at St. John's (FA). Joyce has been a member of both unions for about 25 years. She served as treasurer and a grievance officer for the FA. She is currently Chair of the Membership Committee and the Independent Council for the NYS AAUP.