

NYS AUUP Spring Conference
Executive Director Report
Tuesday, April 10, 2007

First off thank you for giving me this opportunity to be your executive director. I am proud of the opportunity and look forward to working with all of you!

This report will chronicle my activities on our behalf since starting January 1st, 2007. The topics I will cover are primarily related to establishing communications but will also include services that have been provided.

I have engaged in many hundreds of email exchanges relative to NYS AAUP since coming on board to well over a hundred recipients in varying size groups. Many of these involve several exchanges with the addition and subtraction of additional recipients. These communications have quite often been to addresses that have changed or have been recorded incorrectly and to people who are no longer doing what they did or to people too busy to reply or that reply weeks after being emailed. Getting on top of who is who and who does what and who can be depended upon for what has been a priority and I am confident that I am making excellent progress with this.

While I am not sure that everything will run smoothly at this conference, I am sure that there has been a continuous and organized effort lead by me to pull the conference together working with people as they are available to do what they could when they had the time and based on their own experience or lack there of for what they accepted to do. Thank you all for your help!

I am very excited that the conference is upon us and I am very much looking forward to discussing the future of AAUP on the institution, state and national levels. I hope you are as well.

Communications:

- Research and acquire a new domain name, nysaaup.org, for the conference and secure services from an ISP at a reduced rate that additionally offers us expanded web tools for our domain. Note that I have also secured the domain name of nysaaup.com and have set it to automatically forward to the .org site.
- Through the new ISP we can service 2500 email accounts. I have established accounts for all the conference leadership. All accounts will be first initial and last name @nysaaup.org (eg tpolicano@nysaaup.org). These accounts can forward to non-university accounts (my rule) for your convenience. Jeff Kraus, Kathy Cleaver, and Doug Anderson have taken advantage of this account and many others of you could easily do so.

Please see me for help if you are interested.

- Secured a toll free number for the conference that links to my cell phone. The number is 888 NY0AAUP (888 690-2287) that is as close as I could get to a vanity name.
- Contacted National for the current membership database. This was refused for fear that the info might be improperly used to spam or solicit the membership. I consequently asked that my request be put on the agenda of the National AAUP Executive Committee. Results are still pending.
- Using a list from last year that I obtained from Cathy Smith I have been contacting each and every chapter president to introduce myself, get updated chapter information, and to ask how the state conference might be of help. Forty chapters have contacted me and completed an online form updating their information. I have not been able to successfully contact five chapters after four tries. Marymount College of Fordham University is closing this May and the chapter is inactive. I have sixty-four pages of notes from these interactions. The current chapter list is on-line at our new site at:
http://nysaaup.org/contact/nysaaup_chap_presidents.htm
- Created a new web site at our new domain name nysaaup.org and transferred and reformatted all useful content from the current site. I will be asking permission from the conference to begin using this new site immediately and to have Doug Anderson auto-redirect anyone going to the old site www.nysc-aaup.org
- Wrote articles for the winter and spring issues of NY Academe Volume 31, Number 4.
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Services:

- Connected with Mike Mauer from National AAUP and we drove to together from Rochester to Finger Lakes Community College (FLCC) to present to the faculty the advantages of affiliating their independent union with AAUP. NYSUT also presented to FLCC. The faculty have decided to affiliate with NYSUT..
- Presented at Hilbert College. The faculty is very interested in what affiliation with AAUP can offer and are in process of forming an advocacy chapter. Kate Eskew has stepped forward to lead this effort. Also have sent them AAUP materials and our own NY Academe Newsletter. Hilbert has decided to affiliate with AAUP.
- Connected Steve Goldberg and Estelle Gellman with John Schlechty as private-sector college representatives to participate in a panel discussion on the topic "Institutional Best Practices: the Administrative Role and Responsibility in Higher Education" at Manhattanville Faculty Alliance on March 7, 2007.

- Three individual requests for help from AAUP have begun with faculty from SUNY Binghamton, and RIT.

Other:

- Attended a Cornell University sponsored Union Stewart training. Hailing from an advocacy chapter at RIT I wanted to expand my background on collective bargaining. I have also read two books by Mike Mauer.
- Will meet with Jeanine Plottel on Monday, April 16 for direction on planning our state presence at the National AAUP Meeting in Washington DC June 7-10, 2007. Registration info is available from our site home page.

Respectfully submitted,
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