

The Minnesota Academe

A Publication of the Minnesota Conference of the American Association of University Professors

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Summer-Fall2011

2011 MINNESOTA AAUP STATE COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS

Re-elected or continuing service:

Karen Vogel, Hamline University, professor, political science, immediate past-president (ex officio), 2011-2013

Jeremy Nienow, Inver Hills Community College, faculty, anthropology, president, 2011-2012

David Lesniaski, University of Saint Catherine, library and Information science program, director and treasurer/secretary, 2011-2013

Robert Entenmann, St. Olaf College, professor, history and Asian studies, director and newsletter editor, 2011-2013

Newly elected:

Eva Von Dassow, University of Minnesota, professor, classical and Near Eastern studies, vice-president, 2011-2013

David Bernstein, University of Minnesota, Coordinator of Development and Community Services, director, 2011-2013

Cass Dalglish, Augsburg College, professor, English, director, 2011-2013

2011 National Council Elections bring changes and Two Minnesota Faculty Members Now Serving

After the recent National Council Elections, the end of the 2011 Annual Meeting will see the following changes occur:

Newly Elected Council Members:

HENRY REICHMAN (History), California State University - East Bay (District I)

RACHEL ROIBLATT (Social Work), University of Nebraska Omaha (District II)

ALLEN ZAGARELL (Anthropology), Western Michigan University (District III)

BOB BOIKESS (Chemistry), Rutgers University (District VII)

CHRISTOPHER MOYLAN (English), New York Institute of Technology (District VIII)

KIM EMERY (English), University of Florida (At-Large Delegate)

JEANETTE JENAULT (Writing), Syracuse University (At-Large Delegate)

Reelected Council Members:

IRENE MULVEY (Mathematics), Fairfield University (District IX)

CECILIA FARR (English and Women's Studies), St. Catherine University (At-Large Delegate)

Former Council Members Returning to the Council

DAN MURPHY (History), Hanover College (District IV)

LINDA CARROLL (Italian), Tulane University (District V)

RUDY FICHTENBAUM (Economics), Wright State University (District VI)

CHARLES BAKER, French and Film, College of the Holy Cross (District X)

This means that Minnesota (District II) will continue to be well represented by both Cecilia Farr – as well as our own incoming MN AAUP President, Jeremy Nienow (Anthropology), Inver Hills Community College. Jeremy is currently filling a District II vacancy that was created when Donna Potts left National Council to sit as ASC Chair and will serve on National Council through 2012.

FROM OUR STATE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Minnesota AAUP Sees Focus Shift to Politics Within Education

by Jeremy L. Nienow

Beginning last fall of 2010, there has been an obvious surge in interest at the crossroads of Politics and Education. This shift was anticipated by the MN AAUP, even before the November elections, hosting several targeted events in the past year that reflect this new concern. Indeed, the MN AAUP has presented an award each of the last several years to individuals at these crossroads. The “Friend of Higher Education Award” has been given to legislative representatives and advocates alike. Below is a brief highlighting of three events of recent note. Look for information on future events as it becomes available on our website and via targeted emails. If you wish to be added to our email lists please contact Robert Entenmann (entenman@stolaf.edu).

Last Fall’s Forum on Higher Education Oct. 22nd, Hamline University.

Just prior to the November mid-term elections, whose ramifications we are witnessing first hand has educational unions come under increasing attack, the Minnesota State Chapter of the American Association of University Professors hosted a panel discussion on key policy issues impacting higher education. State Representative Tom Rukavina and Senator Ann Lynch (who was not reelected a few days later) were joined by Scott McMahon (Minnesota Private Colleges Council), Donna Peterson (University of Minnesota) and Mary Davenport (Minnesota State Colleges and Universities). The event, moderated by our own MN AAUP President Karen Vogel, drew several dozen faculty, students, and members of the public – the panel was a lively, informative, and intelligent look at the effects of our on-going budget concerns and the necessity of funding education.

MN AAUP 2011 Annual Meeting March 19th, Macalester College

This discourse was continued at the Association’s annual meeting. Although the event was smaller than the fall forum, the audience did have a solid mix of administration and faculty members – including union and non-union representatives, and the President of Mankato State. After a brief reception, Mary Davenport (Minnesota State Colleges and Universities) was honored with the 2010 Friend of Higher Education award. She went on to lead an informative discussion on the shifting landscape of Politics and Higher Education specifically looking at Wisconsin and here in Minnesota the reshape higher education committees at the State Capital. Individuals from all sides of the conversation weighed in, and perhaps the most encouraging part of the evening was the news from the University of Minnesota that their AAUP chapter had held successful elections – with several of the newly elect in attendance that night. The MNAAUP also presented its annual Sloan Award to David Emory from St. Olaf for his longstanding dedication to local higher education as well as AAUP ideals.

University of Minnesota Event: Economic and Political Challenges to the Public University, April 29th

The final event in this series came in April at the University of Minnesota’s Campus Club in Coffman Union. Cary Nelson, our AAUP President gave a keynote address followed by a panel with discussants Sandra Pappas (State Senator) and Carol Chomsky (Law Professor). The purpose of event was twofold: first the revitalization of the UofM chapter, and second a call to arms for educators in crafting an active role in our collective academic future. These series of events shows that Minnesota has been on the leading edge of on-going discussions related to the role of higher education and its increasing intersection with politics.

“We at Minnesota AAUP would like to remind our colleagues across the state about the continuing importance of shared governance, academic freedom, and the need for open, collaborative discussions about budget and curriculum decisions”

Profiles of newly-elected directors, Minnesota Council, AAUP

Cass Dalglish is a Professor of English at Augsburg College, Minneapolis, and a former journalist. Her books include *Humming the Blues*, a jazz interpretation of the Sumerian cuneiform signs in Enheduanna's Song to Inanna, and the novels *Nin* and *Sweetgrass* (finalist for a Minnesota Book Award). She is an alumna of St. Catherine University, and holds an MFA from Vermont College of Fine Arts and a Ph.D. from The Union Institute. She was recently inducted into the St. Catherine University Phi Beta Kappa chapter and also received the 2011 Distinguished Teaching and Learning Awards For Excellence in Mentoring and Advising from Augsburg College.

Eva von Dassow teaches the history and languages of the ancient Near East at the University of Minnesota. She is the author of *State and Society in the Late Bronze Age: Alalah under the Mitanni Empire* (2008), co-author of *Cuneiform Texts in the Metropolitan Museum of Art*, vol. III (2000), and editor of *The Egyptian Book of the Dead: The Book of Going Forth by Day* (1994; 1998). Her recent research focuses on the conceptualization of citizenship and the constitution of publics in ancient Near Eastern polities, written records as artifacts of cultural practice and temporal process, and the nature of writing as an interface between reader and reality. Since receiving tenure in 2007, she has become an advocate for the place of humanistic inquiry in education and for the participation of faculty, staff, and students in university governance.

David Bernstein is Director of Development and Community Relations in the Department of Theatre Arts and Dance at the University of Minnesota.

FROM THE NATIONAL AAUP OFFICE:

1. Faculty Forum column in Academe—we are always looking for submissions for the Faculty Forum opinion column. Details are here, below the info on feature article submissions: <http://www.aaup.org/AAUP/pubsres/academe/MS-submission-guide.htm>. Academe has national circulation among all types of members (from public & private institutions, research to community colleges, unionized & nonunionized faculties, contingent and tenure-track appointments, etc). So topics for Faculty Forum columns should be of fairly broad interest.
2. Chapter profiles in Academe. Every issue or two we profile a chapter, generally choosing those that have something to offer other chapters by way of experience & success. If you think your chapter would make a good profile, e-mail me (gbradley@aaup.org).
3. Facebook page. Ours is at <http://www.facebook.com/AAUPNational>. If you “like” it, you will see the news we post. You can also post things there that you think are of broad interest to AAUP members. If your chapter or conference has a page, let me know and I will add it to our page’s favorites. You can find other AAUP chapters & conferences through our FB page.
4. Twitter. Follow the main AAUP Twitter feed here: <http://twitter.com/#!/aaup>. The feed For Profit Watch is maintained by an AAUP staffer—it doesn’t represent official AAUP policy or positions, but often posts on topics of interest: <http://twitter.com/#!/forprofitwatch>.
5. AAUP Web site. It contains tons of material; of particular interest to those of you who are newsletter or Web site editors may be the press releases, which you are, of course, encouraged to reprint: <http://www.aaup.org/AAUP/newsroom/2011PRs/>
6. Flickr account. You are free to use the photos in our stream at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/aaup>.
7. YouTube. We have not been doing much with it lately, but we do have some videos up at <http://www.youtube.com/user/theaaup> and <http://www.youtube.com/user/AcademeMagazine>; feel free to embed in your own web site if they are of interest.
8. We are rolling out our new logo & have developed versions for each state. If you want yours, e-mail me (gbradley@aaup.org).
9. We maintain a reporter database; if you have good contacts with reporters covering higher ed in your area, feel free to send them in in case we don’t have them.

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Tools to Use and Tips for Organizing!

1. Check out the AAUP resources for evaluating institutional financial crises at:
<http://www.aaup.org/aaup/financial/mainpage.htm>
2. Develop a chapter website with links to national AAUP, resources from your own institution, policy statements, reports, etc.
3. Host an informal Open House or "Get to Know Your AAUP Members" Reception at the start of the school year.
4. Request an annual meeting with administrators to review key issues/ concerns/ directions for the academic year.
5. Host a faculty development workshop on institutional engagement and leadership as part of new faculty orientation.

HOW TO REACH MN COMMITTEE A:

The State conference legal defense fund has \$3,000 available to members or chapters needing legal council. Maximum grant is \$1,500 per chapter or \$1,000 per individual. To apply contact the

Phone: 651-523-2858
Fax: 651-523-3098
Dschultz@gw.hamline.edu

We're on the Web!!
www.mnaaup.org

HOW TO APPLY TO MN AAUP LEGAL DEFENSE FUND:

The State conference legal defense fund has \$3,000 available to members or chapters needing legal council. Maximum grant is \$1,500 per chapter or \$1,000 per individual. To apply contact the conference president Jeremy Nienow at jeremy.nienow@gmail.com

How to contact the Minnesota AAUP

Visit us at our website <<http://www.mnaaup.org>> or contact one of the state executive committee members listed here.

Members:

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Submissions welcome

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