

IL-AAUP State Conference

Minutes for meeting April 17, 2010, 9:30 a.m.

St. Augustine College, Chicago, Il

Present: Cary Nelson, President, AAUP, President IL-AAUP Michael Harkins, Vice President, Peter Kirstein, Ken Andersen, treasurer, council members Kurt Field, Matthew Abraham, Leo Welch, Peter Insley, John Wilson, Todd Price, Lisa Higgins Lee Maltby, secretary guests Joerg Tiede, Jim Matthews, Diane Vallero

1. Meeting began at 9:30 with welcome from Michael Harkins and thanks to St. Augustine for hosting the event.
2. Following introductions, minutes of October 24 were approved.
3. Officers report: President Harkins reported the following: that the website had been updated. Grant applications to national were submitted in time and had been accepted. The budget of the conference is fine. Most recent issue of Illinois Academe was outstanding. A copy of the new dues structure for members was distributed. Mention was made of Leo Welch's meeting and agreement with faculty at UIUC, as was Lee Maltby's meeting with the Department of Labor regarding voting procedures for the Assembly of State Conferences (ASC). Ken Andersen. also gave a talk at Chicago State University.

President Harkins also reported on a number of problems at institutions around the state, including faculty computers being seized by administrators and reductions in force. President Harkins reported communication with national seeking advice on various issues. One institution mentioned having difficulties included Shimer College. Some council members are also working to begin new chapters at Olney College and EIU. There was also a little activity connected to Illinois Academe and the reproduction of cartoons considered offensive by some Muslim academics.

President Harkins also mentioned the new voting procedures for the ASC's. Activity to create a chapter at Illinois Wesleyan is underway. Michael reminded council members of the summer institute to be held in July, the national conference in June in Washington DC, as well as the new leadership institute to be held in DC in February. Michael is also sharing information on chapter development grants with chapters around the state. Cary Nelson mention the value of contacting existing chapters around the state annually, and that record keeping at national had improved. John Wilson suggested 'adopting a college' to support AAUP locally and state-wide.

- b. Vice President Peter Kirstein deferred his report until time for the Committee A report.

c. Treasurer Ken Andersen reported on the budget, currently at a balance of \$42,597. 40.

He is still looking for monies from national. There is some difficulty predicting budget for the year, for variety of factors, including a fiscal year that is from April to March. Ken recommended giving Red Books to chapters, and asked (with the national president present) can we have a more refined budget adopted in fall meeting? Cary Nelson strongly recommended funding to SI, especially for a session on understanding college finances, and that there are some 'excellent opportunities' for training. John Wilson recommended the national conference. Cary Nelson described the conference as 'transformed.' He likened the conference in the past as a 'death march'

d. Lee Maltby had no report.

4. Committee A—Peter Kirstein reported on three current cases. The first involved a faculty at NWMC, Dr. Nalini Rajamannan alleged Dr. Patrick McCarthy was using FDA unapproved myxo ring in cardiovascular surgery. She was removed from clinical practice but not removed from research. There was an effort for a settlement but not has been reached. Committee A has advised on her rights and offered assistance.

The second case involves an Asst. Prof from DePaul, who is to remain unnamed at this point, who was recommended for tenure by dept., but no final decision. This person is being denied credit for work at previous institution. And this morning Peter reported receiving another call from DePaul, and this is a similar situation. Peter Kirstein also reported on another case of gender discrimination at DePaul. Matthew Abraham elaborated. Three female faculty filed suit against DePaul, with allegations of another process changed overnight related to tenure & promotion, a process at DePaul that appears to be not working. A third case involves Lewis University alleging retaliation and discrimination against a faculty member.

A question was raised regarding relations between state AAUP conference and national. When should we go to national? Cary Nelson described the two bodies working in a consultative relationship. Illinois committee A work costs should be funded, but could be supported more. In part this depends on the people at the state level. It is difficult to 'codify' decisions as the question of when to investigate is intense and can be expensive. Sometimes this decision is often political—what will the impact be, especially, with some HBC's and religious institutions?

5. Governmental Relations—report from Leo Welch

At SWIC on Wednesday 4/21, there will be a rally at the capitol organized by a coalition for higher education. The coalition is hoping for 10k attendance! Priorities are two items: funding & pension reform. Recently a two-tiered system for retirement, SB 1946 passed with NO consultation with unions. The bill still may undergo changes. Leo reported that university budgets are down 6% across the board, with other cuts as well. Another concern is the state law that covers community college tenure. It could be changed which would reduce tenure decisions and put additional pressure on faculty. Also, the state employees ethical act was changed to allow some 'political speech' on campus. Leo also present at the NLRB, the National Labor Relations Board. There is some hope that the

NLRB may revisit the Brown University decision. Leo reported that the future trend for higher education may well be privatization. Ken Andersen commented 'As publics go, so go privates, we are in this together.'

6. Other committees/reports: Lisa Higgins reported that a new policy manual at COD was passed by board. Faculty have filed a complaint with Labor Board. If the complaint is not resolved, it will go to the level of a grievance. Lisa reported that the educational philosophy changed, and faculty have a problem with the new philosophy. Lisa reported that the new philosophy is posted online and that the council pass concerns to her via email.
7. Elections & Voting guidelines. Michael Harkins reported on the guidelines to send delegates to national for the ASC. Three delegates will be sent. The nominations and elections will be done electronically. Nominations are open. We are doing this in order to comply with the Department of Labor guidelines for voting. The costs of doing the election were questioned. Cary Nelson stated that the costs of the election could easily be 50 cents per vote. John Wilson wondered if national should just forget the whole thing. Lee Maltby will be in touch with national, which includes a conference call on 4/20.

Lee clarified nominations for this year--they include:

President—two year term, Michael Harkins
Vice president—for two year term, Peter Kirstein

Nominations for new council members
JoergTiede, from Illinois Wesleyan University
Diana Vallera, from Columbia College
If elected(!) they will serve three year terms.

Council members—confirming last spring election (due to some lingering confusion)

Patrick Ryan, elected 09, serves until 12
Lisa Higgins, elected 09, serves until 12
Todd Price, elected 09, serves until 12
Elizabeth Hoppe, elected 09, serves until 12

8. Illinois Academe—Michael state he supports freedom of the press, but thought that cartoons of Prophet should not be posted on website. John Wilson reported that he will re-think process of Academe so that council members may review prior to print. Ken wondered if we have archive of older Academe.
9. Discussion on delegates to the national conference was table.
10. No new business
11. The council adjourned at 12:00 to a delicious lunch from the Culinary Arts Program at St. Augustine.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Maltby, secretary