

Illinois AAUP State Conference Fall meeting

October 24, 2009

Harper College, Palatine, Ill.

Present: Michael Harkins, president (& host par excellence), Harper College, Peter Kirstein, vice-president, SXU, Ken Andersen, treasurer, UICU, Matthew Abraham, Depaul University, John Wilson, ISU, Lisa Higgins, COD, Leo Welch, SWIC, Kurt Field, Bradley University, Peter Insley, Columbia College, Todd Price, National Louis, Lee Maltby, secretary

1. Michael Harkins called the meeting to order 10:09 a.m.,
2. Minutes approved as submitted, with Lee to clarify the length of terms for newly elected council members'
3. Officer's report
 - a. President Michael H. reported that old website was taken down(!), and that the new website has been successful in fielding interest and calls from around the state.
Blackburn AAUP chapter is growing and faculty have multiple concerns related to governance, \$\$, influence of faculty, communication, insurance costs, paycuts, layoffs, promotion issues. Issues of MAP funding were also raised
COD—letter sent, Michael shared copies with membership.
Illinois Wesleyan—chapter is developing, needs monies for activities. We need to determine criteria for funding chapter development. Questions were raised re: form, and approval process. Michael passed out guidelines from national that we can utilize.
Per capita grants—deadline is Dec. 1.
 - b. Peter Kirstein—again commented on website and value of Illinois Academe that was recognized, and have a link on website to Illinois Academe. Peter also requested that we need a new chair for committee A.
 - c. Ken Andersen—treasurer report, passed list of expenditures to committee, and we are under budget currently. Ill AAUP is now registered in Champaign county. Ken asked to recycle old laptop he received when he became treasurer. Ken also wants to archive materials and keep those at archive in library at UIUC. Motions were made to recycle laptop and allow Ken to archive material, seconded, and approved unanimously. Motion was made to act on grants for the per capita and chapter grants. Michael also asked that Ken provide a list of materials to be archived for future purposes. Basically materials older than five years will be archived.
 - d. Lee Maltby, secretary, no report
4. Website—Michael is to be 'point person' for website, some materials still need to be sent to webmasters. Peter requested that actual link (URL) be sent to all members, updated emails and pictures of executive committee. Also need to figure what is

going on with old website! Michael is to meet with webmaster next week. John W. suggested that Michael write something to be sent via email to membership, as well as Leo's column. Ken A. asked about chapter service to be displayed on website.

5. Committee A

- a. Pete K., reported requests for intervention from DePaul (& others), 4 faculty were denied tenure. Peter recommended that Com A. issue a report on tenure decision making process, esp. at DePaul. Issue of transparency is 'huge' at DePaul. Matthew A weighed in also. Issues of standards and expertise were raised, esp. by the University Board of Promotion and Tenure. Discussion on issues of processes on promotion and tenure ensued. Committee A will draft a report that will be forwarded to Lee and then on to the executive committee and council membership. A Northwestern faculty member was also denied tenure but the process appears to have stalled or perhaps ended.
- b. Lisa Higgins reported on situation at COD. Michael H. passed out copies of policies at COD. Lisa H. provided some history and updated committee on board membership at COD. Four of ten policies that board rescinded were passed and the board continues to play with the language of policies while gearing up for a fight over ABOR (Academic Bill of Rights). John W. suggested that the conference be more proactive and public in fighting these 'policies'. Lisa reported that National (with Gary Rhoades) has worked with NEA and IEA in support of these issues. Lisa will suggest a few ideas to the council on how to best fight these issues.
- c. Concordia—Michael H. situation is still 'brewing'
- d. Elmhurst—no news, need to make contact, probably Michael H.
- e. Harper—Michael H. reported process is still working
- f. Augustana—no information of what is happening there, Michael H. may contact them. Ken A. offered to go to Augustana if invited, perhaps with Kurt F.
- g. Eureka—Peter K. reported that national took up cause at Eureka, Peter K. will investigate to learn more
- h. UI-Springfield, no real knowledge of any action taken to organize there
- i. Rosalind Franklin School of Medicine, no current knowledge, issues of viability due to size of faculty

6. Governmental relations—Leo Welch, thanked John W. for his participation in Ill. Community College Conference, with presentation on academic freedom. Leo W. also shared a legislative report delivered at SWIC on October 10, 2009. Leo W. focused on issue of 'dual credit' system, where high school students earn credit at both high school and college. Issues of institutions double-dipping, students getting double credit with concerns over quality of courses were raised. But as the practice promotes college education, almost all support the practice (including legislators), except perhaps faculty who are concerned about quality and integrity of the courses. Leo W. also focused on the 'Pickering' case related to free speech rights and public concern. Proposed bill will allow faculty to speak to legislators freely without permission, and hopefully without fear of retribution. Last, Leo W. brought attention

to a bill related to freedom of speech of faculty being allowed to advertise their views via bumper stickers (buttons? office door postings?).

Part-time and tenure track—Peter Insley, ‘two quick things’, there is an AAUP chapter for PT faculty at Columbia College, and Peter is working to organize them. Also, Roosevelt, the City Colleges, and Columbia have formed a regional group within IEA and can thereby promote AAUP issues.

7. Spring conference—where, when, who? One topic could be corporatization. John W. suggested (as in the past) that we look for a co-sponsor such as CoCal, IEA, etc. Leo W. asked, can we include FTA, IEA, NEA as co-sponsors? Michael H. will contact Gary Rhoades to see how we can include some of these organizations. Several potential speakers were mentioned. Motion was made and approved to have annual state conference at St. Augustine College on April 17, with back-up date of April 10.
8. John W. mentioned potential date of publication for Illinois Academe in March 2010.
9. Michael appointed John. W., Peter I., Matthew A., Kurt F. to Committee A. Leo W. to governmental relations. Michael H. will follow-up with Elizabeth Hoppe on status of committee on women and minorities
10. In order to keep Ill. membership current on happenings around the state, email newsletters will be written monthly. Kurt F. is to give report in November, Peter I. in December, Lisa H. January, Matthew A. in February.
11. Lee is to contact Jerry Kendall to clarify which new members were appointed to which terms on the council.
12. A few closing comments on summer institute and annual meeting opportunities.
13. Adjournment at 12:12, lunch at Anthem Grill.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Maltby, secretary