

“PUBLIC SUPPORT” TOPIC OF AAUP LEADER’S TALK FEB. 22

Gary Rhoades, general secretary of the American Association of University Professors, will talk about “Gaining Public Support for Higher Education in an Era of Corporatization” during a visit to campus Monday, Feb. 22.

The event will be 4:30 p.m. in the Bundy Reading Room of Avery Hall. The public is invited.

Rhoades, who began serving as AAUP General Secretary in January 2009, is professor of higher education and director of the Center for the Study of Higher Education at the University of Arizona. He has been an ardent supporter of shared governance and of contingent faculty and graduate employees.

In a recent talk titled “Transforming Our Focus: Intellectual Capital, Economic Stimulus, and the Fourth ‘A’, Academics,” Rhoades criticized the devaluation of intellectual labor, both in and out of the

University, that has accompanied economic productivity measured in market terms.

“In framing higher education as a marketplace, in which the federal government channels money to consumers vs. providers, we have also systematically encouraged institutions to behave like enterprises in the marketplace. ... A key framing assumption in this public policy approach is that higher education is largely a private good; that the users benefit and so the users (and their families) should pay.”

Rhoades is author of two books — *Managed Professionals: Unionized Faculty and Restructuring Academic Labor* (SUNY Press, 1998) and *Academic Capitalism and the New Economy* (with Sheila Slaughter, Johns Hopkins University Press 2004). In both books, Rhoades grapples with the connections between restructuring faculty and heightened divisions within academia, the conditions

of part-time faculty, the politics of unionization, and intellectual rights.

(Continued on page 2)



Job Security Eroding, UW Professor Tells WSU’s AAUP Chapter



Employment security for faculty in Washington state is eroding, a University of Washington professor told an audience at WSU-AAUP’s inaugural event September 22.

Duane Storti, associate professor of Mechanical Engineering and vice-president of AAUP-UW, said employment security is eroding because of four factors:

- *Adjunctification*, or the pattern of eliminating permanent faculty who feel empowered to participate in faculty governance;

- *Commodification*, or the approach that faculty are temporary hired hands and that education can be “packaged content” to be delivered to “the consumer”;
- *Admini-stratification*, or the erosion of faculty governance because of the rise of an administrative class that is separate from the faculty; and
- *Katrinafication*, which is when a crisis is used as an opportunity to institute actions that are otherwise unacceptable.

(Continued on page 4)

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS

The AAUP works to protect all members of the profession: full-and part-time instructors; tenure stream and contingent faculty; graduate students, librarians, and academic professionals; union members and nonunion members.

For information on WSU-AAUP, visit www.wsu-aaup.org

All members and non-members are invited to join our listserv: <http://lists.wsu.edu/mailman/listinfo/aaup-wsu>

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WSU-AAUP Chapter Working with Faculty Affairs Committee to Fix *Faculty Manual*

The WSU-AAUP chapter has asked the Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) to create explicit procedures in the *Faculty Manual* to ensure faculty input when administrators propose reorganizations, consolidations, or eliminations of programs.

Many WSU faculty believe Faculty Senate was not sufficiently involved in reviewing some of the reorganizations, consolidations, and/or eliminations that occurred recently at WSU. The chapter is particularly concerned because the Faculty Senate has explicit authority to serve as the legislative body of the faculty and make recommendations in all matters requiring faculty action or approval of curricular and educational policies.

WSU-AAUP's recommendations were fashioned following AAUP policy which states that (a) "faculty have primary responsibility for such fundamental areas as curriculum, subject matter and methods of instruction"; (b) the long-term educational interests of the institution should always be paramount;

(c) and budget constraints alone are not appropriate to justify the discontinuance of academic programs. WSU-AAUP has consulted policies already in place at the University of Washington and the University of Idaho.

Partly in response to WSU-AAUP's request, this year the FAC has twice presented a new version of such a procedure to the Faculty Senate for discussion. However, the changes to policy that FAC recommends pertain only to program changes that result in faculty eliminations and do not cover all other situations in which faculty might be displaced and/or programs may be relocated.

WSU-AAUP encourages all faculty members to communicate with their faculty senator and/or the FAC concerning the vital importance of such procedures in the *Faculty Manual*. View the FAC's most recent proposal at https://connect.wsu.edu/exchweb/bin/re_dir.asp?URL=http://facsen.wsu.edu/current_agenda/ExhibitC_128.doc.

Rhoades Q&A

(continued from page 1)

Rhoades also will host Q-and-A sessions for faculty and graduate students concerning higher education employment issues, including policies and procedures, shared governance, and other concerns.

The sessions will be Feb. 22 in Neill 416, as follows:

10-Noon	Faculty
1:30-3	Graduate Students
3-4	Faculty & Graduate Students

History of WSU-AAUP

The first WSU chapter of AAUP was formed in 1930. By the 1970s, the membership had dwindled to two, one of whom was Glenn Terrell, the university president. In April 2009, in the face of a major economic downturn with serious educational and institutional consequences, a group of WSU faculty reestablished an advocacy chapter of AAUP on the Pullman campus. We invite all current and former WSU faculty, librarians, postdoctoral professionals, and graduate students to join us in trying to uphold the traditions of academic freedom and shared governance.

NEWS FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND NATIONAL AAUP

WSU Administrator Salaries Soar

The (Spokane) Spokesman-Review on Jan. 31 published a story which pointed out that from 2007 to 2009 “the money [WSU] spent at the very top of the pay scale rose by nearly 23 percent, more than three times the typical salary increase at WSU and well above inflation and average wage increases nationally.” During the same time period, faculty received small to no salary increases, some faculty and staff were laid off, some programs were cut or consolidated, and student tuition costs soared. The story is posted at www.spokesman.com/stories/2010/jan/31/university-salaries-soared/

What’s Happening at AAUP-UW

The University of Washington chapter of AAUP has been around since 1918 (one of

the oldest in the country), and it continues to be very active. For 2009-2010, Janelle Taylor, AAUP-UW president and associate professor of Anthropology, reports that the chapter is working on: (a) a statement about budget principals to help guide the current process in a reasonable direction, (b) problematic developments in grievance procedures, (c) the university administration’s agenda to convert to “Activity Based Budgeting” (ABB), (d) a redesign of the Faculty Senate so senators represent 40 constituents rather than the current 15, (e) and a statement on the practice of administrators receiving outside compensation for serving on boards of corporations, such as Nike. [See <http://depts.washington.edu/uwaaup>] Taylor adds that AAUP-UW also works “in less publicly visible ways to support faculty

faced with wrongful termination and other labor-related issues.”

AAUP Publishes New Journal

In national news, Cary Nelson, AAUP president and professor of English at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, announced in January a new on-line publication titled *The AAUP Journal of Academic Freedom*, which is the first academic journal devoted to that topic.

The inaugural issue features essays solicited by Nelson, who serves as its editor, while subsequent issues will be peer-refereed with standard editorial board procedures.

www.academicfreedomjournal.org/index.html

AAUP Is “Singin’ in the Recession”

Each year, AAUP national hosts a Summer Institute for training members in faculty advocacy and leadership. In 2009 the Summer Institute was held on the beautiful campus of Macalester College (MN), where AAUP members were serenaded by the Ad Hoc, Post-Tenure, Under-Appreciated Band — a bluegrass trio of AAUP-Akron veterans, including Dave Witt, Steve Aby, and Joe LaRose. Hear them sing “Disingenuous Blues” and other tunes at this URL:

www.aaup.org/AAUP/newsroom/highlightsarchive/2009/AkronBoys.htm

DISINGENUOUS BLUES

*Chalk dust on my fingers
Class notes on my mind
Endless committee meetings
Are widening my behind
Seems like indecision
Is the only campus news
I got the top-down management,
corporate structured,
disingenuous blues.*

*Department chairs tell me one thing
While deans have a different take
So many different big ideas
With no time for one to bake.
So I go hide in my office
Just to escape these deadly views.
I got the top-down management,
corporate structured, disingenuous blues.*

*The word comes down from the admin hall
The Academic Plan
An innovative strategy
To help the common man
With graphs and charts and narrative
Everything but clues
It's just a slightly different version
Of them same old disingenuous
I got them .pdf delivery system
Visionary corporate sponsored
Top-down management
Disingenuous baloose.*

FACULTY RE-ESTABLISH AAUP CHAPTER TO PROTECT FACULTY RIGHTS, PRINCIPLES OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Faculty from across WSU came together in March 2009 to re-establish an AAUP chapter on campus.

According to past chapter presidents Nick Lovrich and George Hinman, a fairly active chapter existed at WSU in the 1970s and 1980s, and there may have been a chapter as far back as the 1930s. Lovrich, currently Faculty Senate representative to the state Legislature, expressed excitement at seeing AAUP back in Pullman to represent faculty interests and rights.

Last year's economy and looming threats to faculty and programs were the catalyst for faculty to begin investigating what it would take to re-establish a chapter at WSU. At an early organizing meeting at Dupus Boomer's there was plenty of interest, and about 25 faculty voiced concerns that became priorities for WSU-AAUP.

The new president, Rich Alldredge, announced the re-formation of AAUP to the WSU Faculty Senate and

administration in April, noting that the chapter was "concerned that shared governance and due process may not be observed during imminent, expected program discontinuations."

AAUP members, he said, were calling for faculty input, adherence to nationally recognized AAUP guidelines and procedures, and amendments to the WSU *Faculty Manual* to bring it up to the standards of AAUP. In response to a request for faculty input on the current proposed budget cuts, WSU-AAUP has issued a statement and posted it on the Web site: www.wsu-aaup.org.

The chapter's intent is to work closely with the Faculty Senate and the WSU administration, protecting academic freedom and shared governance as well as providing research and policy/procedure examples toward positive, concrete change. WSU-AAUP meets at least twice a semester and welcomes everyone to attend.

Katrinification: WHEN A CRISIS IS USED TO JUSTIFY UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR

(Continued from page 1)

To curb these long-term trends, Storti urged faculty to think collectively rather than as individuals. More specifically, he advised faculty to serve on the Faculty Senate, on councils, and other governing bodies or committees. Additional ways faculty can help reverse destructive, long-term trends include volunteering on grievance panels, participating in AAUP, knowing the *Faculty Manual*, and recognizing an obligation to support faculty outside the tenure stream.

In 2003, Storti sued the University of Washington for violating the faculty handbook because the university president refused to

allocate a 2 percent annual merit salary increase as required by the handbook. A court ruled that the handbook was a binding contract. UW restored the 2 percent raise, awarding more than \$17 million to 3,000 faculty. Some shortcomings in WSU's *Faculty Manual*, including the lack of an independent appeals process for annual reviews, were also raised at the talk.

Storti serves on the AAUP National Membership Committee and is co-author of the AAUP report investigating the closing of Antioch College after its board of trustees declared a financial crisis. The event was sponsored by WSU-AAUP and the Washington State Conference of the AAUP. Slides from Storti's talk are posted at www.wsu-aaup.org/Storti_Talk.htm.

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