Should CSM form an AAUP Chapter?

Open Faculty Discussion

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Wednesday February 22, 2017
American Association of University Professors

www.aaup.org

• The AAUP is a nonprofit membership association of faculty and other academic professionals.

• AAUP’s mission is to advance academic freedom and shared governance; to define fundamental professional values and standards for higher education; to promote the economic security of faculty, academic professionals, graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, and all those engaged in teaching and research in higher education; to help the higher education community organize to make our goals a reality; and to ensure higher education’s contribution to the common good.

• Founded in 1915, the AAUP has helped to shape American higher education by developing standards and procedures that maintain quality in education and academic freedom in this country's colleges and universities.
AAUP as an Organization

In addition to the individual membership association, the AAUP has two sister organizations:

The **AAUP-CBC is a labor union**; its members are those chapters of the AAUP that engage in collective bargaining. Colorado is one of 29 states that does not allow participation in the labor union.

The **AAUP Foundation is a public charity**; it funds the charitable and educational purposes of the AAUP, including support for academic freedom and quality higher education.
AAUP's Policy Documents and Reports

• The "Redbook"
  ➢ Basic statements on academic freedom, tenure, and due process; academic governance; professional ethics; research and teaching; online and distance education; intellectual property; discrimination; collective bargaining; accreditation; and students' rights and freedoms.

• AAUP Journal of Academic Freedom
  ➢ Papers of scholarship on academic freedom and on its relation to shared governance, tenure, among others.

• Annual Report on the Economic Status of the Profession
  ➢ Faculty Compensation Survey report, *Higher Education at a Crossroads*.

• Bulletin of the American Association of University Professors
  ➢ Annual publication of academic freedom and tenure and governance investigative reports, standing committee and ad hoc subcommittee reports, new policy documents and revisions to previously published documents etc.
What are the benefits of being an AAUP Member (www.aaup.org)?

- Receive *Academe*, the bimonthly magazine of the AAUP, which analyzes higher education issues from faculty members’ perspectives and the annual AAUP Bulletin.

- Access member-only resources such as webinars, toolkits, expert opinions, policy statements.

- Discounted insurance programs.

- Do you want to join as an individual (for any reason).

- Pay membership fee ($60-$270/year, based on annual salary).
National and Local Organization

- Faculty join AAUP as independent members (CSM has a handful)
- Universities and colleges may organize local “Chapters”.
  - Over 500 accredited colleges and universities have individual Chapters
  - All AAUP chapters promote core AAUP principles
  - Additional chapter activities are determined by campus needs either in conjunction with faculty senates or separately. Some work with other local AAUP chapters on state-level issues.
- Chapters are grouped into a state Conference (https://aaupcolorado.org/)
- Colorado is ACTIVE!

  Colorado State University  Colorado State University-Pueblo
  Community College of Aurora  Community College of Denver
  Fort Lewis College  Front Range Community College
  Metropolitan State University  Red Rocks Community College
  University of Colorado at Boulder  University of Denver
Why are we assessing CSM’s interest?

• Boulder’s Chapter has provided several CSM faculty with direct support.

• Presidents of Boulder’s Chapter and the Colorado Conference have served in an advisory capacity while we consider CSM’s needs.

• We hosted an informational meeting last Fall with Boulder President (Marki LeCompte) and Treasurer (Don Eron).

• Faculty Senate has endorsed concept in Fall 2016 and will collaborate with our Chapter to develop broader perspectives on academic issues.

• Provost Boyd: “aware of this discovery meeting and supportive of faculty exploring all of their options”
How do we form a Chapter?

• We need seven faculty to join as individual members (we have several already).

• We must elect officers including a president, vice president, and either a secretary and a treasurer or a secretary-treasurer.

• We must establish byelaws (template provided by AAUP).

• Upon receipt of the names of the officers and a copy of the bylaws by the Washington office, the Association will extend official recognition to the chapter.
What could a CSM Chapter enable?

• Faculty advocacy on an individual basis, regardless of whether that person is an AAUP member.

• Faculty advocacy for groups with reluctant voice, including postdoctoral fellows, adjuncts, etc.

• Develop context at the State or National level to inform institutional policies; for example, breadth of policy regarding multi-year contracts for non-tenured faculty.

• Support for issues being considered by Faculty Senate; for example workload metrics.
Open Discussion

What are we interested in as academics at CSM where an AAUP Chapter would provide advocacy and breadth of perspective?

Put your name on our sign-up sheet so we can stay in contact. If you prefer privacy, send me an email at either wharriso@mines.edu or wharriso@outlook.com, or join me for coffee by appointment.