

Faculty Welfare Committee

“Excellence in Education”



From the Faculty Welfare Committee President: **Welcome to the FWC/AAUP**

Greetings to all from the FWC/AAUP. This edition of the newsletter will bring you up to date on activities that we have sponsored in the past few months, and inform you of events scheduled for the near future. We are working hard to fill George Lang's sizeable shoes, but we are determined to do so. Look for a special edition of the newsletter (see below), due out in early December, that will honor George's contributions to the FWC, to the AAUP, and to Fairfield's faculty.

Best regards, Kathy Nantz President, FWC/AAUP



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FWC/AAUP Officers

A Special Note about our next FWC Newsletter:

We are planning a special December issue of the FWC/AAUP Newsletter dedicated to our colleague, Prof. George Lang, who passed away on May 9, 2007 after a very brief illness. George was devoted to the principles of academic freedom and shared governance and all the associated rights and responsibilities that go with them. He was active in the FWC and the AAUP at all levels: last May he was Vice President of our FWC chapter, Secretary of the CT State Conference, and Treasurer of the Assembly of State Conferences. Help us celebrate an extraordinary colleague and his extraordinary life and career by contributing to our next newsletter. The FWC Steering Committee invites you to submit your stories, thoughts and memories of this remarkable faculty activist. Whatever you want to say and however you want to say it is appropriate. Send contributions to FWC President, Prof. Kathy Nantz at nantz@mail.fairfield.edu or to any FWC officer on or before November 30. And, as George always signed his emails: Academic Freedom for a Free Society. Peace.

FWC AND AAUP NEWS AND EVENTS IN BRIEF

RECENT FWC AND AAUP NEWS AND EVENTS:

AAUP SUMMER INSTITUTE 2007:

Prof. Susan Rakowitz and Prof. Irene Mulvey attended the AAUP Summer Institute, a four-day workshop at the University of Nevada, Reno. Both were awarded scholarships from the University of Eastern Michigan's AAUP Chapter to attend. Rakowitz, currently a member of the Faculty Salary Committee, attended sessions on analyzing faculty salary and compensation data and demystifying University budgets. Mulvey, Secretary of the General Faculty, attended sessions on History of the AAUP, Developing Shared Governance, and The Effective Faculty Handbook.

CAMPUS EQUITY WEEK:

Nearly twenty part-time faculty assembled in Alumni House on November 1 for drinks and hors d'oeuvres and to hear a report on the preliminary findings of a survey conducted during the summer, part of a research project funded by a grant from the Humanities Institute of the College of Arts and Sciences. The project, a feasibility study for the creation of a Coordinator of Part-time Faculty Concerns, seeks to find a way to better support the professional activities and professional lives of part-time faculty at Fairfield and move closer to the spirit of what Kathy Nantz, a member of the steering committee, refers to as "all one faculty." Presentation of the survey findings was timed to fall during Campus Equity Week as a way of emphasizing that aspect of the project. Chairs and program directors, deans, and support personnel will be included in the next phases of the grant research.

The grant is directed by Ruth Anne Baumgartner (Visiting, English); members of the steering committee are Liz Hohl (part-time, History), Kathy Nantz (Economics; Core Integration Initiative; president, FWC/AAUP), Larry Miners (Economics, Center for Academic Excellence), and Aaron Perkus (Associate Dean, University College). For more info, contact Prof. Baumgartner or any other member of the Steering Committee.

EARLY LEARNING CENTER UPDATE:

The Fairfield University Early Learning Center plans continue to move ahead. The building site has been selected, design plans finalized and the proposal is currently making its way through the Town approval process. On the programmatic side, an administrative consulting team has been selected to run the day to day business of the Center and a search is underway in the Graduate School of Education to hire a faculty member with partial administrative responsibilities in the Center. Progress thus far remains on schedule for a late winter lottery for the spaces in the program, with a late August 2008 opening date still on target.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET MORE INVOLVED?:

There are many opportunities to get involved and learn more about AAUP and shared governance. To find out more about these opportunities, contact any FWC officer.

Get involved

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR A
GALA RECEPTION SPONSORED
BY THE FWC ON NOV. 30
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE
GENERAL FACULTY MEETING!!**

ASC TRAINING FOR NEW AND EMERGING FACULTY LEADERS:

Irene Mulvey attended a two-day workshop for new and emerging faculty leaders at AAUP National Headquarters in Washington, DC on Oct. 25-26. Travel and all fees were funded by the Assembly of State Conferences of the AAUP.

UPCOMING FWC BROWN BAGS:

November 14 at noon in the FDR:

Brown Bag lunch with Prof. Marsha Alibrandi on The Spellings Report - government oversight and assessment in higher education and the implications for academic freedom. See a summary of the Spellings Report at <http://www.ed.gov/about/bdscomm/list/hiedfuture/index.html> The FWC will provide desserts to go with the ice cream!



December 5 at noon in the FDR:

One of the themes in the July-August 2007 issue of *Academe* is Feminism and Liberal Education. Theologian Julie Kilmer writes that feminist pedagogy is collaborative and can help us withstand assault from those who would shut down free inquiry. Read the article, *Reclaim Your Rights as a Liberal Educator*, at <http://www.aaup.org/AAUP/pubsres/academe/2007/JA/> (or we'll have copies on 12/5) and join a discussion at a Brown Bag lunch on December 5 at noon in the Faculty Dining Room led by Prof. Jocelyn Boryczka of the Politics Department. The FWC will provide desserts to go with the ice cream!

FWC ANNUAL PICNIC AND SOFTBALL GAME TO WELCOME NEW FACULTY

Fried chicken, beer, soda, corn bread, softball, disc golf, badminton, friends and colleagues, new faculty colleagues, gorgeous weather...a late summer day to remember...

And, as for the non-competitive and fun softball game: no one keeps score...that's our story and we're stickin' to it.



We say it every year and we *mean it* every year. Especially after last year's disappointing rainout, the 2007 Annual FWC Picnic and Softball Game to Welcome New Faculty was the best it's ever been. Many FWC members pulled together to make this a huge success. Kathy Nantz arranged for a delicious and plentiful picnic spread of fried chicken, cole slaw, corn bread, chips, fruit and more. Thanks to Susan Rakowitz for beverage and ice schlepping. Kraig Steffen got all the softball equipment for a fun and non-competitive game of softball. And, of course, lots more people contributed with planning and last minute help and set-up. Thanks to all since it requires each and every one of us with our unique contributions to make this the wonderful, welcoming event it always is.

This report on the game may have lost a little detail due to the time lag between the actual game and this report, but here goes. Teams were chosen, one team took the field and the other came up to bat. Some balls were hit and some were not. Of those that were hit, sometimes they were caught and sometimes not. Some of the plays at the bases were close and others not. As always, when the players began to get hot and thirsty, it was decided that the next inning would be the last. And, as always, even though all the players claimed to "not know the score", each knew exactly what the score was going into this last inning and were determined to win. The last play involved a run scoring during a questionable play at first: the team scoring the run thought the runner was safe, the team playing the field thought the runner was out - making this the third out and so the run would not count. (This reporter was told, by either John Orman or his father, that the elder Mr. Orman had been umpiring the game but later reports indicated he had been sitting in the dugout enjoying the beautiful day.) All agreed to let one of the kids playing make the call and Scotty Breault ruled in favor of the the first baseman which, coincidentally, resulted in

Scotty being a member of the winning team, shown celebrating above. During the time it took the players to walk from the field to the picnic set-up, all was forgotten and again no one could recall the actual score.

When we were all in one big group (some dusty and sweaty from softball and some not), John Orman began an extempore introduction exercise -- each person shouted out his or her name and how he or she is connected to Fairfield faculty and then tapped someone nearby to continue. We had more kids, parents, family members, partners, spouses, and just plain old friends than we've ever had before. We're already looking forward to next year!

It was a beautiful late summer day and many, many people took the opportunity to just chat over picnic food instead of playing softball. There were a variety of other activities for kids including crafts and badminton (Thanks, KNantz!), not to mention big, open, green fields for running on. Kraig Steffen brought a sackful of discs for disc golf and gave a bunch of kids an impromptu lesson in flinging the discs over the aforementioned big, open, green fields. Some of those kids showed real promise as up-and-coming disc golfers.

All kidding aside, the FWC Steering Committee thinks the picnic and softball game bring us together as a faculty in important and meaningful ways. It's pretty much the *only* event where all faculty and faculty families can get together to meet each other and make connections. We'd love to do more events like this. If you have any ideas on how we can get people together more often, please contact any FWC officer.

In the meantime, don't miss the upcoming *gala* reception sponsored by the FWC on November 30 in the SON auditorium immediately following the General Faculty meeting.



FROM THE ARCHIVES:

Snippets unearthed by the Secretary of the General Faculty...

Academic Council
May 16, 1988
Excerpt of minutes of meeting

Faculty Housing

Academic Vice President Stepsis reported on the efforts to increase affordable housing for new faculty. There have been several discussions with corporations and other sources on shared equity plans, under which the down payment on a home would be subsidized in return for a share of the equity. Town houses can be used by faculty but are only suitable for temporary use on an "as needed" basis.

Respectfully submitted,
Professor Lucy Katz
Secretary pro tem

The first college freshman class (men only) numbered 303. About 60 came from a sufficient distance to make commuting inconvenient. Of these 303 men, about 121 were veterans of World War II. For most of these veterans the tuition of \$200 per semester, their books and school supplies were paid for by the US Government...young man paid \$23.02 for the books needed for English, Mathematics, Economics, Religion, Spanish I, and History.

by Charles F. Duffy, S.J.
in "Chronicles of Fairfield University, 1942-1992, The Founding Years"

The Chronicles of Fairfield University were published in conjunction with the observance of the 50th Anniversary of the founding of Fairfield University and Fairfield College Preparatory School.

The Secretary of the General Faculty is always looking for files and information related to any aspect of the General Faculty, Academic Council, Handbook committees, ad hoc committees, etc. to add to the archives. If you have files you no longer want to keep, contact the Faculty Secretary at mulvey@mail.fairfield.edu

CHECK THIS OUT:

Here we list a variety of websites and/or articles that may be of interest to Fairfield Faculty. If you have an item that might be of interest to our readership, please send it along to any FWC officer.

National AAUP website:
<http://www.aaup.org>

Fairfield University FWC/AAUP website:
<http://www.faculty.fairfield.edu/rdewitt/fwc/>

"Defining Academic Freedom for 2007" from Inside Higher Ed:
<http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2007/10/29/aft>

"Contingent Appointments and the Academic Profession", a policy statement from AAUP:
<http://www.aaup.org/AAUP/pubsres/policydocs/contents/conting-stmt.htm>

"Freedom in the Classroom (2007)", a report approved in June 2007 by a subcommittee of AAUP's Committee A on Academic Freedom and Tenure.
<http://www.aaup.org/AAUP/comm/rep/A/class.htm>

Fairfield University General Faculty Secretary's website:
<http://www.faculty.fairfield.edu/gfs>



ABOUT THE FWC/AAUP:

The Faculty Welfare Committee/AAUP at Fairfield University is an ad hoc committee of the General Faculty and an affiliate of the national American Association of University Professors. Any member of the General Faculty at Fairfield University may join the FWC/AAUP by contacting the membership chair or any officer. Dues are set annually by the membership and can be paid in semi-annual installments or deducted from each paycheck. The FWC/AAUP promotes the professional and economic interests of the Fairfield University Faculty.

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