

Faculty Welfare Committee/AAUP Excellence in Education

e-Newsletter



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From the FWC/AAUP Executive Committee(s):

It is rare for the FWC to publish a newsletter after Commencement and even rarer for the faculty to hold a General Faculty meeting after Commencement, but that's where we are. This newsletter details the action the FWC/Action Committee engaged in at Commencement and details upcoming events. We are sending this newsletter out only by email in an attempt to reach more people more quickly.

FWC 2011-12 EC: R. DeWitt (President), J. Dennin (VP), B. Abbott (Secretary), R. Preli (Treasurer), J. Boryczka, S. Rakowitz, D. Strauss, K. Wheeler (At-large).

FWC 2012-2013 EC: J. Boryczka (President), J. Dennin (VP), B. Abbott (Secretary), I. Mulvey (Treasurer), S. Etemad, W. Kohli, D. Lippmann, C. Tromley (At-large)

PLEDGE TO FWC/AAUP LITIGATION FUND:

Members of the Faculty Salary Committee and members of the Faculty Welfare Committee/AAUP Executive Committee continue to be in contact with our attorney. All members of the General Faculty benefit from these consultations which are funded by the dues-paying members of the FWC/AAUP.

In the event that more robust legal action is required, the FWC/AAUP Executive Committee has authorized the creation of an **FWC/AAUP Litigation Fund**. Any member of the faculty may pledge any amount to the Litigation Fund. Do not send money at this time, but email incoming FWC/AAUP President Jocelyn Boryczka at jboryczka@fairfield.edu with your pledge in any amount. We hope that we don't have to collect on these pledges, but the FWC/AAUP Executive Committee thinks it is prudent to be prepared for all possibilities.

**Awarded the AAUP Assembly of State Conferences
Outstanding Chapter Newsletter Award
in 2008, 2009 & 2010**

FWC/AAUP NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

General Faculty

Meeting 5/31:

Please attend the GF meeting on 5/31 from 3:30-5:30 in Gonzaga Auditorium. The Faculty Salary Committee will report on their last meeting with the administration. We expect the FSC to provide guidance and recommendations, based on the advice of the attorney funded by the dues of FWC members, as we head into summer without a new Memo of Understanding. **Votes are expected, so if you cannot attend, you should assign a trusted colleague to vote as your proxy.**

FWC/AAUP Action Committee Meeting

5/31:

The FWC/AAUP Action Committee will hold a meeting in Gonzaga Auditorium immediately following the GF meeting. This meeting will be open to ALL members of the FWC/AAUP and ONLY open to members of the FWC/AAUP. Information on joining the 75% of your colleagues who are FWC/AAUP members is at www.faculty.fairfield.edu/fwc and membership forms will be available at the meeting.

Emergency Academic

Council Summer

Meeting 6/4:

The Academic Council schedules dates for summer meetings which are held on an emergency basis. FYI the AC is holding the first of these meetings on Monday 6/4 in CNS 200 from 3:00-5:00. There are two substantive items on the agenda: a report from the Faculty Salary Committee, and a discussion with the Conference Committee on their upcoming meeting with the Board of Trustees. AC meetings are open to all members of the faculty as observers; minutes will be posted on the Faculty Secretary's website as soon as they are available.

Board of Trustees

Meeting 6/7:

The Board of Trustees is holding one of its quarterly meetings on campus on Thursday, June 7. Our Committee on Conference with the Board of Trustees has a regularly scheduled meeting with the Academic Affairs Subcommittee of the Board. More meetings/events may be scheduled.

Alumni Reunion

Weekend 6/8 - 6/10:

The FWC/AAUP Action committee asks as many FWC/AAUP members as possible to save the date and time for a reunion event called the "Taste of Fairfield" held on Saturday 6/9 from noon to 3 PM on Barone Campus Center green. If you are available at that time and would like to be kept informed of FWC/AAUP plans, email FWC/AAUP Secretary Bill Abbott at wmabbott@fairfield.edu and you will be kept up-to-date.



Freshman Orientation:

Orientation for Fairfield's class of 2016 will take place on campus during two sessions. The first is June 21-22 and the second is June 27-28. Stay tuned.



FWC/AAUP Action at Commencement

From the Co-Chairs of the FWC/AAUP Action Committee:

We would like to inform the faculty of the action we engaged in at Commencement. A flyer was drafted and distributed to guests at Commencement as they arrived. The text of the small flyer is below. The intent of the Action Committee in carrying out this action was to put pressure on the administration to reach agreement with the FSC at its 5/18 meeting. Although no final agreement was reached on 5/18, some progress was made and another meeting between the FSC and the administration was scheduled for 5/24. This meeting is reported on elsewhere in this issue, and the Action Committee continues to monitor the situation and plan accordingly.

Many members of the Action Committee participated in deciding on and planning the event, and we thank all members for their input and suggestions. Thanks to the members who drafted the flyer and had it printed on Fairfield red paper. Thanks especially to the eight members who volunteered to distribute the flyers in advance of the undergraduate ceremony wearing their academic regalia.

The FWC Action Committee did not expect the heavy-handed tactics from public safety officers and Fairfield police officers. Our volunteer faculty members were told to stop distributing flyers and leave. Our volunteers remained polite and respectful, asking who ordered them to stop distributing flyers and what law or regulation that applied to a member of the General Faculty was being violated. Those questions enabled the volunteers to continue distributing the flyers until everyone in attendance was asked to clear the aisles as the ceremony began. The Faculty Secretary has asked upper administration for an explanation of what occurred concerning public safety officers and Fairfield police officers, and will follow up with the Academic Council as needed. In all, our member-volunteers distributed all 3500 flyers.

Professors Jocelyn Boryczka and Kevin Cassidy

Faculty Welfare Committee/AAUP
Fairfield University
Excellence in Education

On behalf of the Faculty Welfare Committee/AAUP, Fairfield's chapter of the American Association of University Professors, we congratulate our graduates. We acknowledge you, their families and friends, and all that you have done to bring them to this day. Thank you for sharing your students with us for these last four years. It has been our singular pleasure to get to know and work with the members of the Class of 2012. We wish them continued success.

Many faculty members are wearing red buttons on their robes today. These FWC/AAUP buttons are a show of support for our elected faculty colleagues still working with the administration on faculty contracts for next year. Despite our current differences with the administration, we want you to know that the faculty remain committed to our core academic mission and will continue our efforts to safeguard excellence in education at Fairfield. We hope you support our efforts; we may ask our graduates and their families to support the faculty more visibly as talks continue.

If you would like further information on the situation, FWC/AAUP Newsletters from this semester are available at www.faculty.fairfield.edu/fwc/ under Publications.

The Faculty Welfare Committee/AAUP at Fairfield University is an *ad hoc* committee of the General Faculty and an affiliate of the national AAUP. If you aren't a member, please consider joining. We promote the professional and economic interests, broadly defined, of the Fairfield University Faculty. All our activities are open to all members of the faculty but we are funded entirely by our dues-paying members.



**Academic Freedom
for a
Free Society**

Our Creative Proposal for Health Care Cost-Share Amounts:

We have often been told that when budgets are tight, we all have to sacrifice and when times are good, we will all share in the surplus. Currently, the administration is proposing that faculty pay 12% of health care premiums in 2013, up from 10% in 2012 - an *increase* in the neighborhood of 25%. Given that enrollment numbers for the fall look good, the FSC proposed the following, which has the effect of making real the promise of shared sacrifice when needed, and sharing in the surplus when possible.

- If on 10/1 (according to mutually-approved official sources), revenue from tuition and room & board exceeds budgeted revenue by 400K or more, faculty pay 10% of health care premiums.
- If on 10/1, revenue from tuition and room & board exceeds budgeted revenue by 200K to 400K, faculty pay 11% of health care premiums.
- If on 10/1, revenue from tuition and room & board does not exceed budgeted revenue by 200K or more, faculty pay 12% of health care premium.

An even better take on the same theme, is the following:

- If (according to mutually-approved official sources), revenue from tuition and room & board is within 200K of budgeted revenue, faculty pay 10% of health care premiums.
- If revenue from tuition and room & board is below budgeted revenue by between 200K and 400K, faculty pay 11% of health care premiums.
- If revenue from tuition and room & board is below budgeted revenue by 400K or more, faculty pay 12% of health care premiums.

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