

# Faculty Welfare Committee/AAUP

## Excellence in Education

### WELCOME NEWSLETTER



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#### **From the FWC/AAUP President.**

Dear Colleagues,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and on top of all the things you need to do as a faculty member at Fairfield University. I would start a list of all those things, but we only have so much space here!

There's a lot going on and I know how busy you are, so I'll be as brief as I can be.

- We were happy to host our *gala* reception after the GF meeting last Friday! (In case you don't know this, the fact that our receptions are called "galas" is due to long(est?)-serving FWC President Kathy Nantz. She called them "galas" and she made them gala. We're all just following in her gala footsteps.)
- Please, please, please see page 3 of this newsletter. We will be e-voting on a change to the FWC/AAUP constitution and we need everyone to vote!
- The Fall 2019 issue of *Academe* was guest-edited by Committee A Chair Henry Reichman and focuses on "Academic Freedom around the World." Members should have received a copy electronically (or in paper if you haven't opted out of hardcopy). It's also online at [aaup.org](http://aaup.org).
- AAUP filed an amicus brief in support of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. You can find it at [aaup.org](http://aaup.org) (under Programs/Legal Programs).
- Many groups (including AAC&U, National Coalition Against Censorship, and PEN America) joined the AAUP's statement urging the US Department of Education to step away from its dangerous path of political intrusion into curricular decisions that are best made by the faculty at Duke-UNC Consortium for Middle East Studies.
- GREAT pictures of last summer's AAUP Summer Institute are at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/aaup/albums/72157711164817371>. We would love to send a couple of our members to next year's SI. Watch this space for details.
- *Lots more* national news at [aaup.org](http://aaup.org) and CT Conference-AAUP news at [ctsc-aaup.org](http://ctsc-aaup.org)

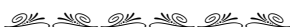
Happy rest of the Fall Semester,

Irene Mulvey

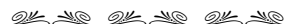
FWC/AAUP President

## Faculty Welfare Committee/AAUP NEWS AND EVENTS

**CONGRATULATIONS!** to our colleague and Faculty Welfare Committee/FWC member Professor Alfred Babo! Professor Babo (Department of Sociology and Anthropology; Program in International Studies) published an article, “Postwar Recovery and Student Academic Freedom in Côte d’Ivoire” in AAUP’s most recent *Journal of Academic Freedom* (Volume 10). You can check it out at [aaup.org](http://aaup.org).



**MANY THANKS!** to Dr. Hans-Joerg Tiede, Senior Program Officer at national AAUP, who spoke on *Academic Freedom in the Age of Trump* in Nyselius Library at the end of September. It was nice to see so many people from so many different campus communities - faculty, students, librarians, staff, community members and more! We have had requests for Dr. Tiede’s slides from people who were unable to attend. He asked that we email them to members and we will do that ASAP.



### AN UPDATE FROM OUR COLLEAGUES IN THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 30:

The facilities and maintenance workers chose to accept a last, best, and final proposal that Fairfield University presented in negotiations. While it does not include the union’s superior healthcare benefits offered as an alternative to the University’s plan, it represents a tremendous accomplishment by addressing and significantly improving the wage disparity amongst the licensed trades. It is worth noting that when management rejected the union’s healthcare alternative at a competitive total economic package on orders from the Trustees, the union petitioned and challenged the trustees and brought awareness to management’s unreasonable positions both in person with traditional informational rallies and online through direct social media campaigns. This solidarity and willingness to collectively urge the trustees and management be accountable for working conditions on campus was a key component to achieving this agreement. Also, with the campus growing by hundreds of thousands of square feet of

newly constructed buildings and the current staff to safely maintain the University smaller than a few years ago, the new agreement improves the outsourcing and adequate staffing issues by increasing headcount and strengthening the mechanism to address the work traditionally performed bargaining unit work is still done in house. We thank the faculty and, in particular, our Fairfield University Workers United partner, the Faculty Welfare Committee/AAUP, for your support, for your solidarity and for staying vigilant in this campaign. In solidarity, we can continue to improve working conditions for all workers at Fairfield University.



## On the e-vote to be held on amending the FWC Constitution

At the FWC/AAUP Membership Meeting on September 18, the members discussed a proposal to amend the FWC/AAUP Constitution in order to create a category of membership that would allow retired Fairfield University faculty to be members of our chapter. As explained at the meeting, this proposal is in response to a request from a retired faculty member who would like to continue to support the AAUP as a member of the FWC/AAUP. The current language in the relevant section of the FWC/AAUP constitution is shown below with the proposed new language shown in bold/underlined and red. (The full constitution and by-laws are on our website: [www.faculty.fairfield.edu/fwc](http://www.faculty.fairfield.edu/fwc).) It is our intent to offer retired faculty members the opportunity to join the chapter each year in the fall at a dues rate only slightly higher than the annual national dues rate for retirees in CB chapters. The 2019 national dues rates are \$212 for full-time faculty and \$107 for retirees; in 2020 those rates will be \$217 and \$110, respectively.

In order to amend the FWC/AAUP constitution, we need approval from 2/3 of our members. (This is a *very* high bar. More often than not, such revisions would require approval from 2/3 of the members present and voting at a meeting, with a reasonable quorum requirement.) As a result, we really need to conduct by email our vote to amend the constitution.

This brief note is intended to explain the proposal and to communicate to all members that the discussion on this matter at our meeting had absolutely no opposition.



### Article III - Membership

Any member of the General Faculty of Fairfield University may join the FWC/AAUP. Dues for such members are set annually by the membership and may be paid through payroll deduction or in semi-annual amounts.

**An individual who has retired from full-time faculty service at Fairfield may join the FWC/AAUP by paying annual chapter dues. Dues for such members are set annually by the Executive Committee and are paid directly to the Treasurer.**

An adjunct faculty member at Fairfield who is a member in good standing of National AAUP may join the chapter by paying chapter dues each semester. Dues for such members are set annually by the Executive Committee and are paid directly to the Treasurer.



**We will be holding our vote by email and we need all of our members to vote. Voting will be completely anonymous. We will not know how members vote, and we will not know whether or not particular members have voted. Please watch your email and follow the instructions to vote on this amendment to our constitution. Thank you in advance!**

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. All our activities are open to all members of the faculty but we are funded entirely by our dues-paying members. To join, contact any member of the Executive Committee.

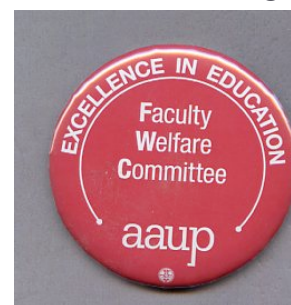
## **American Association of University Professors MISSION**

Advancing academic freedom and shared governance; defining professional values and standards; promoting the economic security of those who teach and research in higher education; organizing to make our goals a reality; and ensuring higher education's contribution to the common good.

## **Faculty Welfare Committee/AAUP MISSION**

We promote faculty welfare, broadly defined, through chapter programs and activities designed to advance academic freedom, advance the economic and professional status of the faculty, encourage faculty participation in governance, and inform the community about AAUP standards and policy statements to ensure higher education's contribution to the common good.

Need a new button?  
Contact any member of our fabulous  
Executive Committee  
(listed below)



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FWC/AAUP Executive Committee: Irene Mulvey, President; Maggie Labinski, Vice-President; Bill Abbott, Secretary; Paul Baginski, Treasurer; At-large members: Peter Bayers, Anita Fernandez, Anna Lawrence, Sonya Huber. Immediate Past-President Rona Preli.

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