

*Academic Freedom for a Free Society*  
**Akron-AAUP Monthly Newsletter**  
for March 2010

**RTP Revisions:** The new contract made some minor changes in the RTP article. **Each department is required to have its RTP guidelines approved by the end of Spring semester.** This should be considerably simplified, however, by a sensible agreement between the Akron-AAUP and the UA administration. Rather than include all of the contract's procedures and guidelines in each departmental RTP document, the department can simply include the substantive criteria for the retention, tenure, and promotion of faculty.

Thus, the procedures and timelines can simply be referred to at the beginning of your departmental document. An RTP guidelines document and template were circulated by the Akron-AAUP for possible use by departmental faculty; they are posted on the Akron-AAUP web site. However, the template is just a suggestion on how a department may accomplish the goal of focusing the RTP guidelines on the criteria. Since most departments had revisited their criteria for the first contract, they may be ready to send on with modest editing.

**CBC Representative to be Elected at April chapter meeting:** At the April chapter meeting, Akron-AAUP members will have the opportunity to nominate and elect a chapter representative to the June Collective Bargaining Congress (CBC) meeting at the AAUP annual meeting in Washington, D.C. The meetings run from June 9-12, though the CBC dinner and business meeting is being held on Thursday evening, June 10<sup>th</sup>. The CBC is the collection of bargaining unit AAUP chapters, and the meeting will include updates on developments and may also entail votes on some issues. Come to the chapter meeting and run or nominate someone. The election will be held at the meeting.

**\$1,000.00 Fall 2009 Enrollment Bonus:** Per Article 16, Section 10, of the expired AAUP contract, all faculty who were members of the AAUP collective bargaining unit at the beginning of Fall 2009 semester, AND who were members at the beginning of Spring 2010 semester, will be receiving a \$1,000 enrollment bonus (minus taxes and STRS) at the end of March. Enjoy!

**Election Results on Contract Ratification:** The final results of the vote on the collective bargaining agreement were as follows. Akron-AAUP chapter members voted on both a three year agreement and a one year agreement in order to ratify a four-year contract. On both votes, 95.9% voted YES and 4.1% voted No.

**Article 29: Non-Tenure Track Faculty:** Article 29 in the new collective bargaining agreement restructures non-tenure track faculty positions. Obviously many questions have arisen, and will continue to arise, as the processes for promotion to newly established ranks are first implemented. Members of the Akron-AAUP and University negotiating teams are meeting this week with the Associate Provost to review the details of the new article and to clear up any confusion as to meaning, original intent behind the language, and timing of promotions. We anticipate that a joint statement detailing a mutual understanding of the process will be forthcoming, much as was produced in regards to RTP.

**For the moment, the only action required by NTT faculty** is to submit to their department chair/unit head a notice of intent to seek reappointment for academic year **2011-2012**. This notice should be submitted by April 15th. Please note: Reappointment procedures for Fall 2010

are already well under way and are not affected by this new article. Promotions for eligible NTT faculty will not take effect until Fall 2011.

**Elections for Akron AAUP Treasurer and Secretary:** Nominations for the two Akron AAUP offices of Secretary and Treasurer will close on Wednesday, March 24th, at 5:00 p.m. Electronic Elections for these two positions will begin on Monday, March 29th, and close on Tuesday, April 13th at 5:00 p.m. Please consider nominating yourself, or another Chapter member. The Akron AAUP Constitution requires that all officers and nominated faculty be members of the Akron AAUP Chapter.

Contact Jennifer Holz, Past President at [drjenniferholz@yahoo.com](mailto:drjenniferholz@yahoo.com), or at [jh16@uakron.edu](mailto:jh16@uakron.edu) to nominate a Chapter member. Both officers will be voting members of the Akron AAUP Executive Committee. This is committee work that really does matter and is genuinely rewarding and meaningful.

Chapter members should watch for a separate announcement to participate in the vote from Dave Witt via Survey Gizmo on Monday morning, March 29th

**New Fees for the Health and Wellness Center:** The new agreement provides for a lower monthly membership fee for faculty. Some of our colleagues report that they had previously signed contracts for an entire year. They've been told by Wellness Center personnel that their contracts will not automatically be adjusted to the new rates. Faculty with such contracts pre-dating the new collective bargaining agreement may go to the Wellness Center and have a new contract drawn up for the remaining time on their existing contract and have the new fee applied to the time remaining. This is not necessarily Akron-AAUP's understanding, but it is the information being provided by the Wellness Center.

**The Ohio Conference of AAUP Chapters (OCAAUP) Annual Meeting:** OCAAUP will hold its annual meeting on April 16-17 in Columbus. This year, in addition to the business meeting, officer elections announcements, and workshops on AAUP Principles, the conference is recognizing Ohio State Representative Katherine Chandler for her work to preserve higher education in the state. OCAAUP will also be hosting the Collective Bargaining Congress Executive Committee's regional meeting series, beginning on Saturday, April 17th through Sunday, April 18th.

**Visit the Chapter Website Often - <http://www.akronaaup.org>**

**Akron-AAUP  
Communications Committee**