

Jeffrey A. Butts, Biology, Appalachian State University

Candidate Biography

Personal and Educational Experience: b 1947; A.B. 1969 Albion College; M.S. 1971, Ph.D. 1973 Bowling Green State University

Professional Experience: at University of North Carolina at Charlotte 1973-1979 Asst Prof, 1979-1981 Assoc Prof; at Appalachian State University 1981-1984, Assoc Prof, 1984-present Prof, 1981-1995 Dept. Chair, 1995-2001 Director of Hubbard Center for Faculty and Staff Support

AAUP Activity: Member since 1977

UNC-Charlotte Chapter: President 1977-1978, 1979-1980; Vice President 1976-1977; Executive Committee 1975-1981

ASU Chapter: President 1982-1999; North Carolina Conference: President 1986-1987, 1994-1996; Chair, Committee C 1989-1991; Executive Committee 1979-1982, 1983-1991; Chair, UNC System Council 1985; Chair, Membership Committee 1982-1983; Co-Chair Ad Hoc Committee on Restructuring of the North Carolina Conference 1979-1980; Chair, Constitutional Reform Committee 1988-1989

National AAUP: National Committee C (On Teaching, Scholarship and Service), 1989-1992; Ad Hoc Investigating Committee Savannah School of Art and Design, 1992; Chair, Ad Hoc Investigating Committee College of the Ozarks, 1995; National Council, 1995-1998, Executive Committee of the National Council, 1996-2010; Vice Chair, Assembly of State Conferences, 1997-1998; Acting Chair, Assembly of State Conferences, 1998-1999; Chair, Assembly of State Conferences, 1999-2002; Chair, AAUP Task Force on Elections, 2004-2007; Chair, *Ad Hoc*

Committee for Evaluation of the General Secretary, 2006; Secretary-Treasurer, American Association of University Professors, 2002-2008; Chair, AAUP Committee on Investments, 2002-2008; AAUP Restructuring Task Force, 2006-2008; Chair, AAUP General Secretary Search Committee, 2007-2008; First Vice President, American Association of University Professors, 2008-2010; Member Committee on College and University Governance, 2010-present

Candidate Statement

Like many other members, I joined the AAUP in response to a crisis at my institution. The faculty at that university joined together behind the AAUP banner and worked with the campus Administration to solve the problem that created the crisis. Since that time almost 35 years ago, I have had the privilege to have served in many roles at the local, state, and national levels in the AAUP.

The American academic system is unique and fragile entity that can only continue to flourish if there is a balance of power and responsibility between the faculty, the administration, and the governing boards. That necessary balance of power and responsibility is threatened, and has been for some time, by the commercialization of American higher education and a deprofessionalization of the faculty. I believe that the AAUP must respond to these challenges if our higher education system is to remain vibrant and creative. We must recognize the fact that a majority of American faculty are now contingent, i.e. not tenured nor in tenure-track positions. That balance between contingent and tenured or tenure-track faculty is not likely to change.

Therefore, we must systematically revisit AAUP policy statements to broaden the protections of due process and academic freedom to this new majority of faculty members. Certainly, collective bargaining by faculty is a powerful tool for the protection of faculty rights. However, collective bargaining is unlikely to become a possibility for faculty in the states comprising District V (our Council district). So, we must work harder to establish, maintain, and empower traditional advocacy chapters on campuses in this district.

I am proud of what the AAUP has done for American faculty. Our organization is the recognized voice of the American professoriate, and I believe we can meet our challenges and emerge as an even stronger advocate for the profession. If elected, I promise to bring all my experience and dedication to the task.

I can be contacted at
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