

Allen Zagarell, Candidate for District 3 AAUP National Office; Biography

Life Experience: I have a long history of social involvement. I took part in the civil rights movement, and have been involved in community organizing.

Academic Experience: I am a tenured, full professor in the Anthropology Department of Western Michigan University.

Research: I am an archaeologist with years of research experience in Asia. I am a *Fullbright* recipient; I have been awarded grants by the *Smithsonian*, *National Geographic*, the *American Institute for Indian Studies*, the *Deutsche Forschungs Gemeinschaft*, and *IREX*, as well as other funding sources. I have carried out projects in the mountains of southwest Iran, the jungles of South Asia, and Central Asia.

Education: I received my BA from the City College of New York, attended the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago, and received my PhD from the Freie Universitaet of West Berlin, in Near Eastern Studies and Ethnography. I speak multiple languages, including, German, Farsi, Tajik, Uzbek, some Portuguese and Spanish among others.

Union Experience: I have a *long history of union experience*. My father was a factory worker, and an active member of his union. My mother organized her office, and eventually a member of the UAW. In New York I worked as a full journeyman in the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. I have been quite active as a member of the WMU-AAUP, since coming to Western many years ago. I have served on all levels. I have served as my department's representative on the Association Council as College Representative on the Executive Committee, as a member of the 2008 Negotiation Team, and as Vice and currently the President of the WMU-AAUP Collective Bargaining Chapter..... I was recently elected to serve as a member of the Executive Board of the state MIAAUP.

Allen Zagarell Policy Statement

I am a strong supporter of the principles of the AAUP. The right to be heard and to participate in decision making is a matter of basic dignity. I believe the right of collective bargaining is the guarantee of those rights. I believe in an active organization interested in organizing, that extends the right of collective bargaining to our colleagues. I believe in faculty speaking out about the issues that affect their lives and our nation's educational policy. I advocate the highest level of cooperation between the AAUP and other faculty, academic and community organizations. For example, I strongly support the active cooperation between the AAUP and the AFT in organizing new collective bargaining chapters in various states. I have helped develop forums on state support for Higher Education as a pathway out of the economic morass my state has been bogged down in. In doing so we were able to involve the major unions, and other employee groups as well as the administration at my institution. In this sense I am in support of the initiatives undertaken by Gary Rhoades in attempting to develop a dialogue on the needs of Higher Education in the United States. Similar discussions have been initiated by our state American Federation of Teachers and I believe these organizations should work hand in hand in pushing this initiative.

I support strong state conferences and coordination between various chapters. The dangers of political interference in academic freedom and the cutting of support for education have become apparent. We need a strong and active national AAUP as well as active state chapters providing help and support to our members. Where there is no present possibility of collective bargaining we should actively be organizing advocacy groups.