



January 8, 2021

«AddressBlock»

Dear Professor «LastName»,

The American Association of University Professors (AAUP) needs your help in order to portray an accurate picture of the current state of faculty participation in institutional decision-making in the United States. It has been 20 years since the AAUP sponsored a national survey of shared governance. The 2021 AAUP Shared Governance Survey will provide crucial information about how the faculty's role in governance has changed over the last two decades and what the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on shared governance has been. **Your participation, while voluntary, is critical to this survey's success.**

You have been selected to participate in the 2021 AAUP Shared Governance Survey because of your current or recent role in shared governance at «University». **In the next few days, you will receive an email from me containing a link to the survey.** The survey is being administered at a random sample of 600 four-year higher education institutions, including yours. On average, the questionnaire takes about 30 minutes to complete. Please complete the questionnaire by February 22, 2021. **Upon completion, you will receive a \$10 gift card from Tango Card, a third-party service that provides gift cards to over 300 vendors as well as opportunities to donate the amount to charity.**

All reports about survey results will only provide aggregate information about the level of faculty participation nationally or by institutional type. No identifying information about individual institutions or individual faculty members, including information about the person who completed the questionnaire, will be made available in any reports.

If you have any questions or comments about the survey, or if you don't receive a link to the survey by January 13, 2021, please contact Joerg Tiede, AAUP Director of Research, at jtiede@aaup.org.

The AAUP is a nonprofit membership association of faculty and other academic professionals. Headquartered in Washington, DC, we have members and chapters based at colleges and universities across the country. Since our founding in 1915, the AAUP has helped to shape American higher education by developing the standards and procedures that maintain quality in education and academic freedom in this country's colleges and universities. We define fundamental professional values and standards for higher education, advance the rights of academics, particularly as those rights pertain to academic freedom and shared governance, and promote the interests of higher education teaching and research.

On behalf of the AAUP, thank you for your participation,

Hans-Joerg Tiede, Director of Research