The Council of the Association met November 14 and 15, 2015, at the Capital Hilton Hotel in Washington, DC. President Rudy H. Fichtenbaum presided. Participating were members of Council (with the exception of second vice-president Susan Michalczyk, Anne Friedman, and Cynthia Klekar), parliamentarian Kerry Grant, general counsel Risa Lieberwitz, executive director Julie M. Schmid, and members of the AAUP staff. President Fichtenbaum called the meeting to order on November 14, 2015, and introduced parliamentarian Kerry Grant and new Council members Kevin Cope, Zoran Gajic, Cynthia Klekar (absent), Jonathan Rees, and Diana Rios. The Council adopted its agenda and approved the minutes of prior meetings.

Report of the Secretary-Treasurer
On November 14, secretary-treasurer Michele Ganon reviewed the Association’s 2015 financial statements and presented the proposed 2016 budget. On November 15, the Council adopted the Association’s 2016 budget.

Renewal of Cost Sharing Agreement
The Council renewed the cost sharing agreement between the AAUP, AAUP-CBC, and AAUP Foundation for a one-year term.

Report of the Executive Director
Executive director Julie Schmid reported on staff activities including internal organizing; communications with chapters and conferences; communications work on shaping our message and furthering our use of social media; the work of the Department of Academic Freedom, Tenure, and Governance on censure investigations; and recent issues concerning academic freedom, tenure, and shared governance at the University of Iowa and in Wisconsin. Council members particularly
commended the improved communications via the Council update e-mails and member newsletters, emphasizing that they and members feel more informed and connected as a result of the increase in communications.

**Strategic Planning Presentation**

Members of the staff strategic planning steering committee reported on how staff are aligning their work with the goals and objectives established by the Executive Committee. They discussed prioritizing and integrating staff driven initiatives and activities with the fiscal year 2016 budget. President Fichtenbaum thanked secretary-treasurer Michele Ganon for her work in leading staff through the strategic planning process and led the Council in a round of applause.

**Report of Committee A on Academic Freedom and Tenure**

Henry Reichman, chair of Committee A on Academic Freedom and Tenure, presented the committee’s report to Council, highlighting the committee’s activities since June 2015. He discussed recently published statements and reports and several that are in progress, as well as communications with administrations making efforts to be removed from the censure list.

**Report of the AAUP Collective Bargaining Congress**

Howard Bunsis, chair of the AAUP-CBC, reported on organizing activities, including solo campaigns underway in California, New Hampshire, and Nevada. Professor Bunsis reported that further organizing opportunities are under consideration, including both solo and joint campaigns as well as campaigns to organize part-time faculty and academic professionals.

**Report of the Department of Organizing**

Director of organizing Jamie Owen Daniel reported on the activities of the organizing staff, including internal organizing at existing collective bargaining chapters and organizing of new advocacy chapters. She also reported on the status of the Nevada conference pilot project and its role in the Nevada organizing campaign.
Report on Nominations for 2016 Elections
Charles Baker, chair of the AAUP Nominating Committee, reported on the status of nominations for AAUP national elections in 2016.

Report on 2016 Elections
Gregory F. Scholtz, staff to the Elections Committee, provided a written report on key dates for the 2016 national AAUP elections.

Election to Fill District IV Council Vacancy
The Council elected B. Robert Kreiser to serve the remainder of the District IV Council term vacated by Hans-Joerg Tiede, who resigned so that he can join the national AAUP staff on January 4, 2016.

Election of Election Appeals Committee
The Council elected Kevin Cope, Nancy McKenney, Diana Rios, and Mehmet Yaya to the Election Appeals Committee and agreed that the committee itself will determine who will serve as the alternate.

Report of the AAUP Foundation
Henry Reichman, chair of the AAUP Foundation, reported on the Foundation’s activities, including working with the development consultant on a development plan, donor cultivation, the publication of the Foundation’s first newsletter, and recent grant requests made by the AAUP for support for the Journal of Academic Freedom, Academe, and Committee A work and investigations. Chair Reichman also reported on the status of the search for a development officer.

Report of the Assembly of State Conferences
Hans-Joerg Tiede, chair of the Assembly of State Conferences, reported that he will be resigning from the Assembly of State Conferences Executive Committee effective December 31, 2015, to take a position on the AAUP staff. Brian Turner will serve as interim chair until the next ASC chair election. Chair Tiede further reported on ASC activities, including reviewing recent applications for conference
development grants and the ASC’s focus on continuing to educate conferences on funding opportunities.

Report on 2016 Shared Governance Conference
Hans-Joerg Tiede reported that the 2016 Shared Governance Conference will be held September 30–October 2, 2016, at the Loews Madison Hotel in Washington, DC. The conference theme will be a celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the *Statement on Government of Colleges and Universities*.

Reapportionment and Redistricting of Council Districts
President Fichtenbaum reported that, pursuant to the AAUP Constitution, the Council authorizes the reapportionment and redistricting of the membership not less than once each decade and that redistricting was last approved in 2006. By consensus, the Council agreed that the Executive Committee will review what is required and refer the task to the appropriate committee.

Business from the Annual Meeting
The Council discussed a request by the Annual Meeting to review the “Standing Rules Governing the Annual Meeting” particularly as to the deadline for submission of resolutions or proposals. Council members all spoke in favor of maintaining the May 1 deadline; therefore no changes to the rules were made.

Executive director Julie Schmid reported on plans for the 2016 AAUP Annual Meeting and Conference on the State of Higher Education, the theme of which is racial, social, and labor justice, and solicited suggestions for featured speakers and programming.

Report of the Committee on Contingency and the Profession
Richard Gomes, chair of the Committee on Contingency and the Profession, reported on the activities of the committee, including participation in Campus Equity Week and the presentation of a workshop at the 2015 Summer Institute.
Report of the Office of Staff Counsel

General counsel Risa Lieberwitz reported on the activities of the legal office, highlighting judicial decisions in cases in which AAUP submitted *amicus curiae* briefs and particularly noting that AAUP submitted a joint amicus brief in the case of *Friedrichs v. California Teachers Association* pending before the Supreme Court of the United States. Associate counsel Nancy Long reported that the Library of Congress issued a ruling on October 29, 2015, expanding the exceptions to the Digital Millennium Copyright Act to include Blu-Ray format. She also reported that the legal department has extensively updated its guidebook on faculty handbooks as enforceable contracts. Formerly a printed guidebook, this resource is now available on the AAUP website as a member benefit.

November 2016 Council Meeting

The November 2016 Council meeting was scheduled for November 19–20, 2016, in Washington, DC.