The Council of the Association met November 19 and 20, 2016, at the Loews-Madison Hotel in Washington, DC. President Rudy H. Fichtenbaum presided. Participating were members of Council (with the exception of John Castella 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 19, 2016, and introduced parliamentarian Kerry Grant and new Council members Leslie Bary, John Castella (absent), Michael DeCesare, Sonya Hester, David Hughes, Katherine Kuhn, Caprice Lawless, Greg Loving, and Friedrich Schuler. The Council adopted its agenda and approved the minutes of prior meetings.

Report of the Secretary-treasurer

On November 19, secretary-treasurer Michele Ganon and chief financial officer Lynn Quinn gave a summary of the FY2016 year-to-date financial report and investment report, and presented the recommended 2017 budget.

Investment Policy

Secretary-treasurer Michele Ganon presented a revised recommended Investment Policy. The Council approved the revised Investment Policy.

AAUP/AAUP-CBC/AAUP Foundation

Senior counsel Aaron Nisenson presented the revised Cost Sharing Agreement between the AAUP, AAUP-CBC, and AAUP Foundation. The Council approved the revised Cost Sharing Agreement.

Report of the President

President Fichtenbaum addressed the challenges facing the Association given the result of the presidential elections and highlighted the need to continue to build the organization and mobilize faculty. He discussed the Association’s role in preserving higher education for the common good. The Council adopted a statement titled The Atmosphere on Campus in the Wake of the Elections.
Report of Committee A on Academic Freedom and Tenure

Henry Reichman, chair of Committee A on Academic Freedom and Tenure, reported on the activities of the committee and the recent Committee A meeting, at which the statement Threats to the Independence of the Student Media was discussed. On November 20, the Council approved Threats to the Independence of the Student Media.

Report of Committee on College and University Governance

Michael DeCesare, chair of the Committee on College and University Governance, reported on the activities of the committee on the status of institutions that are currently on the sanction list, and on the success of the October Shared Governance Conference.

Report of the AAUP Foundation

Henry Reichman, chair of the AAUP Foundation, and Edward D’Antoni, director of development, reported on the Foundation’s activities including the development plan, upcoming fundraising campaigns, and donations received.

Update on Development Program

Edward D’Antoni, director of development, summarized the activities of the Development Department including updates to the Foundation website and social media accounts with information on additional ways to give.

Selection of AAUP Council Member to Serve on AAUP Foundation Board

President Fichtenbaum directed the Council to select one of their members to serve on the AAUP Foundation board for a two-year term. The Council selected Maria Bacigalupo.

Report of the AAUP Collective Bargaining Congress

Howard Bunsis, chair of the AAUP-CBC, reported on the activities of the AAUP-CBC, including upcoming organizing plans and his work with advocacy chapters.

Approval of AAUP/AFT Joint Organizing Agreement

President Fichtenbaum presented the seconded motion to approve the renewed agreement between the AAUP and the American Federation of Teachers. The Council approved the renewal of the AAUP-AFT Joint Agreement.

Report of the Assembly of State Conferences

Brian Turner, chair of the Assembly of State Conferences, reported on the ASC’s activities, including upcoming workshops funded by conference development grants.
Report of the Department of Organizing and Services

Christopher Simeone, director of the Department of Organizing and Services, reported on the activities of DOS, including the Academic Year 2016/2017 Organizing Plan, and gave updates on pilot programs.

Report of the Executive Director

Executive director Julie Schmid recognized the work of the staff on the 2017 budget and on plans for shifting the work of staff in response to the presidential election.

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 upcoming events and organizing opportunities.

Update on Digital Organizing Program

Mariah Quinn, digital organizer, reported on activities and upcoming plans of the digital organizing program.

Contingency Planning

The Council discussed contingency planning.

Approval of 2017 Budget

The Council approved the FY2017 budget for the AAUP.

Report of the Legal Department

General counsel Risa Lieberwitz reported on the activities of the legal office, including the status of current AAUP amicus briefs in federal and state courts. Senior counsel Aaron Nisenson provided additional explanation of the department’s activities.

Planning for 2017 Annual Meeting

Executive director Julie Schmid reported on planning for the 2017 Annual Conference including the theme “The Rights and Freedoms of Students” for the 2017 Higher Education Conference.

Date for November 2017 meeting

The Council approved the dates of November 18 and 19, 2017, for the next November Council meeting.