

## STATEMENT:

I would like to request your support to help me serve on the leadership of AAUP. I ask for your support because I can

contribute with my diligence, caring for others, and deep desire to work to see an empowered faculty throughout the nation.

I have been an active senator at McNeese's faculty senate. I have helped organize various faculty senate sponsored events on the McNeese campus, such as town hall meetings with area legislators (2015, 2016, 2017) and forums with gubernatorial candidates (2015).

I attend the quarterly meetings of the Association of Louisiana Faculty Senates (ALFS), and have presented multiple times at ALFS.

I have been a member of the AAUP since 2012.

I will work to make sure that AAUP empowers faculty at both the **micro level and the macro level**.

At the **micro level**, faculty could be empowered in many ways. Here are three specific examples of things that AAUP could make universities do -

- 1) electing department chairpersons from faculty vote (as opposed to nominations and arbitrary appointments from administrators above),
- 2) creating teaching schedules with genuine faculty input (as opposed to systems in various universities that permit department heads to punish/target some faculty with 'tough' schedules and bless others with 'easy' schedules)
- 3) Creating Annual Performance Reports (for faculty evaluation) for each college/department with instruments designed by vote of the faculty (as opposed to deans and department heads imposing their will on faculty, while doing no research/teaching themselves !!).

At the **macro level**, I believe that AAUP can improve faculty morale and satisfaction by concrete steps such as:

- 1) Requiring each university to have an Ombudsman (and censuring those that do not)
- 2) reducing the number and salary of administrators, while giving faculty a raise every year (over and above cost-of-living adjustments)
- 3) requiring universities to have budget committees that have at least 40% faculty members.

Just the above steps would bring significant and serious benefits to faculty at American universities. I seek your support in making my dreams come true!

**BIO:**

Dr. Vipin Menon received his PhD in Computer Science from Tulane University in 2007 and joined McNeese State University that year.

He is a professional member of the ACM, IEEE, Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI),

American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE), Mathematical Association of America (MAA), and

American Mathematical Society (AMS). Dr. Menon's primary research interests include Artificial Intelligence, Databases

and Data Mining. His secondary interests are Algorithms, Web Technologies, and Computer Science Education. Dr. Menon serves

on the Steering Committee of the CCSC-SC (covering Louisiana, Texas, and Oklahoma) and was Conference Chair at the

25th Annual Conference of the Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges, South Central Region at St. Edwards University

in Austin, Texas in April 2014. Courses taught by Dr. Menon at McNeese include C Programming (Part 1 and Part 2),

Algorithms and Data structures, Programming in VB, Excel, Databases, Computer Organization and Architecture,

Artificial Intelligence, Web Programming, Operating systems, Algorithm Analysis and Design, Theory of Programming languages,

Advanced Database Management Systems, Theory of Computation, Independent Research, and a variety of special topics courses which are taught

as advanced courses at the graduate level such as Neural Networks, Computational Geometry, Complexity Theory,

Parallel and High Performance Computing, and Data Mining. He received tenure at McNeese in 2014.

Dr. Vipin Menon has served for seven years on the Faculty Senate of McNeese State University. This includes serving on the Executive Committee as member-at-large, vice-president, and three years as president of the McNeese Faculty Senate. He has served on many

university committees including the Academic Advisory Committee, EEO committee, Graduate Council, University Curriculum Committee,

Campus Development Council, and Commencement Committee.