

Yolanda Flores  
University of Vermont  
AAUP Statement

I am running for the seat in the Council because I hope to bring the energy, creativity, action, and perspective for higher education that I have displayed in positions of leadership in United Academics, the faculty union at the University of Vermont. Beginning as a departmental representative, I subsequently became a member of the Delegate Assembly. For the last five years, I have served in the Executive Council as a Member-at-Large. Serving in these various roles, I have organized or contribute to the organizing of films, speakers, reading groups, and teaching-ins related to social justice in higher education. In addition, for the last three summers, I have co-facilitated a workshop on “Social Justice and Minority Faculty” for the Summer Institute of the AAUP. I would be delighted to have the opportunity to serve my region and the AAUP by serving in the Council.

As a native Californian, I studied history and Spanish literature at the University of California, Berkeley, then earned an MA from the University of Chicago, and a second MA and Ph.D. at Cornell University. My research, teaching, and publication record is interdisciplinary and intersectional by analyzing the how “race,” ethnicity, race, gender, language, literacy, amongst other social markers influence the literary and cultural production of women of the Americas (U.S. Latinas, and Latin Americans—including Brazil). My second book is titled Claiming Home, Shaping Community: Testimonios de los valles and is a critique of the difficulty of access to public higher education for Mexican American individuals from rural, working-class, and agricultural communities into the University of California system. Thus, my professional status as a university professor is intimately linked to my union activism and to the pursuit of social justice in the academy. I thank you in advance the kind consideration of your work.