

REPORT OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

From June 13 to 17, the AAUP hosted the Ninety-eighth Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. Concurrent with the annual meeting was the AAUP Conference on the State of Higher Education, which included keynote addresses and presentations on current issues in higher education. Keynote speeches were delivered by Mary L. Washington, a delegate to the Maryland General Assembly; Mark Gaston Pearce, chair of the National Labor Relations Board; Gamelyn F. Oduardo Sierra, a recent graduate of the University of Puerto Rico's law school who has been active in defending public higher education; and French professors Katherine Kolb and Margaret Marshall, who spoke about their experiences at Southeastern Louisiana University.

Capitol Hill Day

More than one hundred AAUP members visited Capitol Hill to discuss legislation affecting higher education with their senators and representatives. They met with legislators and legislative staff from twenty-four states. This year's discussions centered on support for federal funding of research and on college affordability and access. Spiros Protosaltis, senior education policy adviser on the Senate HELP Committee, spoke at the Capitol Hill Day reception.

Censure

The annual meeting voted to place three Louisiana institutions on the list of censured administrations: Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge; Northwestern State University; and Southeastern Louisiana University.

LSU Baton Rouge was censured for actions taken against two professors, Ivor van Heerden and Dominique G. Homberger. An AAUP investigating committee's report found that van Heerden was improperly denied further appointment in retribution for his criticism of the Army Corps of Engineers in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. Homberger, a senior tenured professor, was removed from an elementary course and was denied the right to assign her students grades after her class's midterm exam grades were deemed too low by the course's coordinator.

The administrations of the other two institutions, components of the University of Louisiana System, were censured following their decision to terminate tenured



Mark Gaston Pearce, chair of the National Labor Relations Board, delivered a special plenary address. PHOTO BY MICHAEL FERGUSON.

faculty appointments in disregard of AAUP-supported standards. AAUP associate general secretary Jordan Kurland called the situation "the worst the AAUP has encountered of using cutbacks in funding as an opportunity to select unwanted tenured professors for release."

Georgina Smith Award

The Georgina Smith Award is given for exceptional leadership in the field of academic collective bargaining. Sara Kilpatrick, the executive director of the Ohio AAUP conference, and Deborah Herman, the executive director of the University of Cincinnati AAUP chapter, received this year's award for their outstanding work in the campaign to repeal Ohio's antiunion Senate Bill 5.

Iris Molotsky Award

The Iris Molotsky Award for Excellence in Coverage of Higher Education was given to journalists Daniel Golden and Oliver Staley for their series "Lost in Translation." The articles, which ran from May through December 2011 in *Bloomberg News*, examine the challenges that American universities face as they expand overseas, particularly in China. Golden

and Staley's findings "mean that universities should pay more attention to the trade-offs in terms of academic freedom and exploitation of foreign students," says Golden, who won a Pulitzer Prize for beat reporting in 2004.

Marilyn Sternberg Award

This year two people shared the Marilyn Sternberg Award, which is given by the Association's Collective Bargaining Congress in recognition of the AAUP members who best demonstrate concern for human rights, courage, persistence, political foresight, imagination, and collective bargaining skills. The award was given to Deanna Wood of the University of New Hampshire and

Vijay Nair of Western Connecticut State University for their outstanding careers as collective bargaining leaders in the AAUP and for their dedication to faculty rights and AAUP principles.

Assembly of State Conferences Awards

The Illinois Wesleyan University chapter won the award for outstanding chapter newsletter. Hopper Travel Awards, given to individuals attending their first annual meeting to help cover travel expenses, went to Susan Neville of the New York Institute of Technology and Mara Aruguete of Lincoln University and the Missouri conference.

This year's William S. Tacey Award, which recognizes outstanding service to a state conference over a number

FIFTY-YEAR AAUP MEMBERS

Edward Alterman
City College, City University
of New York

Paul Jerald Bangham
Mississippi

Cyrus W. Banning
Kenyon College

Manuel Berriozabal
The University of Texas at
San Antonio

George P. Blum
University of the Pacific

Arthur S. Brill
University of Virginia

Carl J. Burk
Smith College

William T. Burke
University of Washington

Peter W. Castle
Simmons College

Marlene Ciklamini
Rutgers University

Leonard M. Colelli
Pennsylvania

Marcia L. Colish
Yale University

Christopher Collier
University of Connecticut

John P. Crossley Jr.
University of Southern California

Joel A. Dain
University of Rhode Island

Thomas F. Dernburg
Tennessee

Mildred R. Donoghue
California State University,
Fullerton

De Witt S. Dykes Jr.
Oakland University

Virginia L. Earles
New York

Marshall Fixman
Colorado State University

Joseph Frankel
University of Iowa

Arthur L. Galub
New York

David C. Hampton
Wartburg College

Lawrence Herman
Ohio State University

Patricia J. Johnson
University of Massachusetts
Amherst

David B. Kaplan
University of California,
Los Angeles

Franz J. Kasler
University of Maryland College
Park

Hirschel Kasper
Oberlin College

Harry Keyishian
Fairleigh Dickinson University

Gerard L. Knieter
California State University,
Northridge

Basil P. Korin
American University

of years, was given to Don Eron and Suzanne Hudson of the Colorado AAUP conference for their tireless efforts to establish tenure rights for contingent faculty in Colorado and for their report about the Ward Churchill case for the 2012 volume of the *AAUP Journal of Academic Freedom* (<http://www.academicfreedomjournal.org/>).

The Ohio AAUP conference won the Alfred Sumberg Award, which is given to an individual or group to recognize excellent work in lobbying for higher education issues.

Resolutions

The annual meeting approved three resolutions: a resolution that expressed the AAUP’s deep concern over the

action of the University of Virginia Board of Visitors in seeking and obtaining the resignation of President Teresa Sullivan; a resolution expressing the Association’s appreciation to President Cary Nelson for his tireless service and dedication to AAUP principles; and a resolution calling on the AAUP and its affiliates to treat all staff members with fairness and respect.

The full text of the University of Virginia resolution is reprinted here:

The Ninety-eighth Annual Meeting of the American Association of University Professors expresses its deep concern over the action of the University of Virginia’s Board of Visitors in seeking and obtaining the resignation of

Arlo U. Landolt
Louisiana State University

Lewis P. Lipsitt
Brown University

Lester V. Manderscheid
Michigan State University

Philip Marcus
University of Connecticut

William L. Meyer
University of Vermont

David C. Montgomery
Dartmouth College

Jane R. Moore
Ohio

John C. Moore
Hofstra University

Robert D. Narveson
University of Nebraska—Lincoln

William L. Nyhan
University of California,
San Diego

Leon P. Ogilvie
Missouri

George B. Oliver
Randolph-Macon College

Seymour H. Pomerantz
University of Maryland
Baltimore

Paul C. Rosenblatt
University of Minnesota—
Twin Cities

Alan Rosenthal
Rutgers University

Eugene J. Rosi
Massachusetts

Charlotte S. Russell
City College, City University
of New York

John J. Schloss
University of Hartford

Mary Anne Siderits
Marquette University

Peter Simmons
Rutgers University

Jack E. Smith
Kent State University

Miroslav Synek
Texas

Helene Tzitsikas
Michigan State University

Robert I. Velzy
University of Wisconsin—
Platteville

Frank E. Wagner
University of Missouri—
Kansas City

Walter D. Wales
University of Pennsylvania

Michael A. Wallach
Duke University

John F. Walsh
Fordham University

Richard M. Warren
University of Wisconsin—
Milwaukee

Emil Wolf
University of Rochester

John A. Ziegler
Hendrix College

Arnold M. Zwicky Jr.
Stanford University



Linda Carroll spoke about investigations at Louisiana universities. PHOTO BY MICHAEL FERGUSON.

Dr. Teresa Sullivan from the presidency of the university, reportedly without previous or subsequent explanation to her, to the other chief administrative officers, and to the university's faculty and student body, of the specific grounds for its displeasure with her performance. By all accounts, President Sullivan's performance during her two years in office was strongly supported by the university's academic community. Responding to the governing board's action, the Faculty Senate Executive Council issued a statement declaring that it was "shocked and dismayed by this news. We were blindsided by this decision." Thirty-three department chairs and program directors of the College and Graduate School of Arts and Sciences have endorsed the senate's statement of protest, as have numerous other groups and individual members of the UVA faculty.

The AAUP's position, calling for a significant faculty role in contributing to judgments and decisions regarding the evaluation and retention of a president, is set forth in its statement on *Faculty Participation in the Selection, Evaluation, and Retention of Administrators*. That document provides that

[a]ll decisions on retention and nonretention of administrators should be based on institu-

tionalized and jointly determined procedures which include significant faculty involvement. With respect to the chief administrative officer, the *Statement on Government [of Colleges and Universities]* specifies that the "leadership role" of the president "is supported by delegated authority from the board and faculty." No decision on retention or nonretention should be made without an assessment of the level of confidence in which he or she is held by the faculty. . . . In no case should a judgment on retention or nonretention be made without consultation with all major constituencies, with the faculty involved to a degree at least co-extensive with its role in the original selection process.

The president and other academic administrators should in any event be protected from arbitrary removal by procedures through which both their rights and the interests of various constituencies are adequately safeguarded.

We join in the Senate Executive Council's dismay that due process for President Sullivan and the legitimate interests of the UVA faculty have been ignored in the precipitate action taken by the Board of Visitors. We join in calling upon the board to reconsider its decision. ■