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Right Flier: Newsletter of the AAUP-WSU Volume 15, Number 3, 2014-2015

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The Right Flier

The Newsletter of AAUP-WSU

Volume 15, Number 3
2014-2015

Editors: Marty Kich and Linda Farmer

Statements of Candidates For Positions on The Executive Committee

At-Large NTE Representative

J. Michael Bernstein

I am currently a Lecturer for the Raj Soin College of Business having served as a member of the faculty for over ten years. During this time period I also served as Assistant Dean for the College. I hold a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and a Juris Doctor from Ohio Northern University. Prior to coming to WSU I was in private practice, served as a Magistrate-Judge for the United States District Court, Northern District of Ohio, Western Division and as a Magistrate for The Mercer County Common Pleas Court.

I feel that my background, education, and experience would be a benefit to serving on the Executive Committee especially as I now teach Business Law and our required course for management and human resource majors in employment law. This presents me with the unusual opportunity to have the skill in understanding and implementing the requirements of employment law as it pertains to our continued work with WSU in maintaining the highest standards of professionalism for members of AAUP-WSU.

Since stepping down as assistant dean I am also a member of the University Undergraduate Programs Committee, appointed to represent the faculty on the Faculty Governance Committee and serve as a member of the recently created University Pre-Requisite Checking Committee. In addition, I have been appointed by Dr. Fichtenbaum as a member of the National AAUP Accreditation Committee.

I strongly support the recent statement of our President, Dr. Mary Kich when it comes to addressing the serious problems that have been created by the huge increases in adjunct faculty as a problem that must be addressed as we move forward to improve Wright State University.

Burhan Kawosa

Burhan Kawosa is a Lecturer of Finance in the Raj Sooin College of Business at Wright State University. He was awarded the "Outstanding Teacher Award for Finance and Financial Services" in 2005, 2006 and 2007 and also received the "President's Award for Excellence in Teaching: Outstanding Instructor" award for 2007.

He earned his MBA from Wright State University with concentration in Finance where he was awarded the "Outstanding MBA Graduate in Finance."

He has been at Wright State first as a student and then faculty for more than a decade and understands the importance of the role that faculty play in the success of the university. For the university to succeed in its mission, the rights of faculty must be respected and with faculty development is a prerequisite for student development.

At-Large TET Representative

Mel Goldfinger

Dan Slilaty

Daniel Slilaty came to Wright State in 2001 and is currently a professor in the department of mathematics and statistics. Dan is an active and dedicated researcher in the field of combinatorics with a respectable record of securing external grant funding. He has a firm belief in the importance of academic freedom, shared government, the preservation of tenure, and the collectivization of university faculty.

Rebecca Teed

I am an associate professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences at Wright State University. I received my Ph.D. in Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior 1999 from the University of Minnesota. Before I came to Wright State University in 2004, I taught U.S. troops overseas with the University of Maryland's European Division. My research involves investigating past climate change using microfossils preserved in lake sediment. I've been getting papers published and had several students present at national meetings. The AAUP is one of the principal reasons I've been able to do that; they helped me fight for lab space and negotiated for faculty professional-development funds in the CBA. Most of the classes I teach are geology courses for our education majors, so I'm also studying effective techniques for cooperative learning and whether student-centered classrooms increase content mastery. Currently, I serve as an associate editor for the Journal of Geoscience Education.

The issues that the union is addressing are obstacles to our work, both at the national and institutional level. We're fighting to be allowed to do our jobs: teaching students university-level content and modern job skills in the classroom, and engaging them in research, creative work, and community service. We need printers, academic freedom, reasonable wages, and decent benefits

(among other things) in order to do our jobs effectively. Since the AAUP has contributed to my success, I'm hoping to get involved and to help others.

Communication Officer

Kevin Duffy

I am an Associate Professor of MIS in the Raj Soin College of Business at Wright State University. I joined the faculty at Wright State in September 2004; I'm now completing my 11th year here. Since joining the faculty, I have taught courses at the undergraduate level in Information Systems Analysis and Design, Database Management Systems for Business, and Information Systems Project Management, and at the MBA level in Information Technology and Business Transformation. I also teach courses (e-commerce and technology enabled business, and business process management) at the graduate level in the MIS degree program. I completed my doctoral studies in Management Information Systems at the Florida State University. Prior to this, I completed a BA degree from Eckerd College in Literature in 1978, and an MA degree in Literature from the University of Pittsburgh in 1982. I earned an MSIS from the University of Pittsburgh in 1992.

Geoffrey Owens

Geoffrey Owens received his Ph.D. in anthropology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He has taught over 10 different course offerings at Wright State University, many of which were innovative upper level courses never previously offered. He also was recipient of the 2010 CTL's award for Faculty Development, and the 2011 General Education Excellence in Teaching Award. He served briefly as the coordinator for Area Two of the General Education program and was co-chair of the Department Committee for the Conversion to Semesters. He has supervised independent studies for numerous graduate and undergraduate students as well. He feels that the position as Communication Officer for the AAUP presents an opportunity to further his previous work in faculty and curriculum development, thereby creating a work climate conducive to effective higher learning.

In 2010 he was recipient of a Wenner-Gren Foundation Post-Ph.D. Research Grant to continue his research in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The results of this research has been disseminated through numerous professional presentations, such as at the meetings of the American Anthropological Association, the Semiotic Society of America, *A Suburban Revolution?* conference sponsored by York University in Toronto, and through a seminar at the Centre for African Studies at the University of Edinburgh. In addition to conference presentations, he has published in peer-reviewed journals such as *Africa*, *Ethnohistory* and the *Journal of Anthropological Research*. He has additional publications in preparation. These presentations and publications focus on his areas of expertise in urban farming, the ethnohistory of precolonial Tanzania, urbanization and peri-urban growth.

Stephanie Triplett

My name is Stephanie Triplett and I am a Clinical Instructor in CONH. Before joining the WSU faculty, I worked as a nurse and a hospital administrator in the local community. I continue to remain active with professional organizations to ensure that nursing graduates successfully enter the dynamic healthcare workforce.

I have been a passionate member of AAUP-WSU since I was first eligible in 2013. While many NTE's in the CONH were skeptical about the possibility of unionization, I quickly saw the importance of

faculty having a voice in deciding how we go about our business of teaching, scholarship, and service. Thankfully, I was able to recruit other faculty to this point of view, and the NTE elections were successful.

I have been fortunate to have opportunities to work with the AAUP leadership to improve the working conditions for our faculty. I am the CONH-NTE Chapter Council Representative and served on the 2014-2017 NTE-TET Negotiating Team. These experiences have led me to tremendous respect for the dedication and expertise of our Executive Committee. Jim Vance has set the bar high for the level of detail and transparency that our members expect. I plan to work with members to ensure that they are getting the information they need in the format and delivery method that works best for them.

I am looking forward to this excitingly opportunity to serve AAUP-WSU as the Communication Officer. I appreciate your support and your vote.

Secretary

Gretchen McNamera

I am a Lecturer in the School of Music and in my eighth year of teaching here at Wright State. I have spent one year (2013-14) on the Executive Committee as the first NTE representative after initially unionizing. During that time I became familiar with the 'system' so to speak and am constantly intrigued by what it takes to make a difference. I was also able to travel to the AAUP Summer Institute where I learned more about contract writing, due process, and the like. I am running for Secretary to stay in the loop, if you will, and to continue to learn and grow as a faculty member. I am keenly interested in equity and understanding how to go about effective change that supports a positive learning environment for our students and a positive teaching environment for our faculty. My hope would be that, as Secretary, I will support the work of the AAUP, develop a deeper understanding of the contract by which I am working under, maintain excellent meeting minutes, be an advocate for AAUP-WSU, support increases in membership, and establish great relationships with others who have similar interests.

Treasurer

Tom Rooney

I would be honored to serve as our chapter's treasurer. I have been a faculty member in Biological Sciences since 2006. Prior to Wright State, I was steward for the Teaching Assistants Association (American Federation of Teachers Local 3220) at the University of Wisconsin, where I maintained 100% membership levels in my unit for several consecutive years. As a member of the AAUP Executive Committee, I will provide leadership on issues of academic freedom and shared governance. As treasurer, my highest priority will be to ensure that our budgets are sound, transparent, and reflect our member needs.

President

Marty Kich

Over the last half-decade, I have truly felt very privileged to serve in the leadership of our chapter, our state conference, and the national Collective Bargaining Congress. I have had the opportunity to work with many inspiring colleagues who have demonstrated an unflagging commitment to public higher education, to our students and our institutions, and to the continuing importance of the faculty in the governance of our institutions.

Some of what we do may seem to have little impact, and some of it has an impact that can be seen only with the advantage of some hindsight. But much of what we do has a very direct and immediate impact. When we can negotiate better working conditions for faculty or when we are able to assist a faculty member in realizing some of his or her professional promise, the work is incredibly rewarding.

As the AAUP celebrates its centennial, and as our chapter prepares to move forward following the retirements of some of the long-serving, core members of our leadership, I feel a responsibility to preserve what has been accomplished, to meet the new challenges that will inevitably arise, and to create a framework in which the leaders who succeed us are able not only to continue the work of the Association and our chapter but also can bring a renewed vigor and creativity to that work.

Nominating Committee Member-at-Large

Marlese Durr

I am wish to serve as a member of the AAUP-WSU Nominating Committee to continue to continue helping to bring talented members of our community into AAUP-WSU positions of leadership. In doing, I will continue to help **“Our”** union flourish.

I am a Professor of Sociology, and I have been a faculty member at Wright State University since 1994. I received my Ph.D. in Sociology from the University at Albany in 1993, an M.A. in Sociology from the University at Albany in 1985, an M.A. in African American Studies from the University at Albany in 1979, and a B.S. in Liberal Studies from University of Detroit and SUNY-Albany in 1978.

I have served as President of the Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) in 2014-2015, as the President of Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) in 2004-2005, as the Chair of Gender & Society Publications Committee, on the Lewis Coser Award Committee of the American Sociological Association in 2014-2015, on the American Sociological Association Status on the Women Committee from 2015-2017, on the Publications Committee Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS) from 2013-2015, and on the Editorial Board American Sociological Review (ASR) from 2004-2007.