

NEWS

AAUP preparations for negotiations continue at Jan. 20 Faculty Bargaining Issues Forum

The AAUP Executive Committee and Bargaining Team are continuing to prepare for formal negotiations with the College administration.

The next step is gathering faculty input on specific concerns, during a Faculty Forum on Bargaining Issues on Jan. 20.

Chapter President Paul Davis said, "About 70 percent of our bargaining unit members replied to our online survey, and many added comments as well."

"This high level of participation gives us an excellent overall view of faculty opinions as we prepare to go to the bargaining table," Paul said.

"However, for some issues we would like to get additional input through face-to-face conversation," Paul continued. "That's why we're conducting the Forum."

The Forum will take place on Jan. 20 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the Main Building Conference Center rooms 344 and 346. The Forum is open to all full-time faculty members.

Paul described the Forum as a "continuous open meeting"

and said faculty members can arrive and leave whenever their schedule permits.

The Forum will have tables designated for discussion of specific concerns including:

- Faculty duties on a semester calendar
- Program and Area chair duties and responsibilities
- Professional development and evaluation of faculty
- Compensation

Paul said each table will have a facilitator and a note-taker, to ensure that all input is available for review by the Executive Committee and Bargaining Team.

Faculty Chief Negotiator Geoff Woolf said the Forum data will help the Bargaining Team refine proposals.

"The feedback we received through the online survey was valuable," Geoff said. "Through the Forum, we hope to gain specific information related to some of the most complex bargaining issues."

AAUP Exec to discuss Workload Committee recommendations

Paul said the AAUP Executive Committee and Bargaining Team members have held several Friday afternoon meetings to review information from the online survey and discuss possible bargaining proposals.

see Bargaining / 2

AAUP Bargaining Issues Forum

Open to all full-time faculty members

Thursday, January 20, 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Main Building Conference Center

Bargaining / continued from 1

"A lot of points of view are expressed and discussed in these meetings," Paul said. "Before any proposal is finalized, we want to be sure we are accurately representing faculty needs and concerns."

In addition, the Executive Committee and Bargaining Team are reviewing reports and recommendations from the AAUP Workload Committee.

Bargaining Council Co-Chair Debbie Bogenschutz said the Workload Committee has been collecting data and examining details of workload and faculty

duties at other Ohio two-year colleges that use a semester calendar.

Debbie said, "We've been talking to our colleagues throughout Ohio, as well as reading articles and books about faculty work and how it's perceived nationwide."

Debbie said that the Workload Committee's findings and conclusions will be discussed at the next meeting of the AAUP Executive Committee.

Paul said the AAUP expects to file formal paperwork soon

to inform the administration that AAUP is ready to begin negotiations.

"We know that even after the paperwork is on file, it usually take a while before both sides are ready for substantive talk at the bargaining table," Paul said.

"We really hope the administration will share our goal of completing these negotiations efficiently so we all can get back to focusing on helping our students succeed," Paul added.

AAUP shirts will be available at Forum

AAUP chapter members who have not yet picked up their new AAUP golf shirt can get a shirt while attending the Bargaining Issues Forum on Jan. 20.

AAUP Secretary Peggy Rolfsen said that only a few

faculty members still need to complete the form that was used to process shirt orders in Early Fall.

"Along with specifying shirt sizes, the form gathers contact information that will allow our AAUP Communication

Committee to reach faculty members quickly when necessary during negotiations," Peggy said.

Anyone with questions about picking up AAUP shirts or providing additional contact information should get in touch with Peggy.

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