

**Augusta State University chapter of the
American Association of University Professors
Minutes of membership meeting of Friday, 18 January 2008**

Members Present: Jim Benedict, Mike Bishku, Angela Bratton, Jurgen Brauer, Beverly Collins, Mark Fissel, Christie Launius, Robert M. Scott, Mike Searles, and Raymond Whiting.

I. The meeting was called to order by chapter president Mark Fissel at 2:30 pm. A quorum was present and confirmed by Jim Benedict, treasurer.

II. Old Business.

a. The minutes from October 19, 2007 were read and approved as corrected.

b. Officers' Reports

i. President - Mark Fissel reported the election of officers was drawing near.

ii. Vice President - Mike Bishku reported on his efforts to recruit members. While faculty members express interest in this organization, many are reluctant to join the national AAUP in order to be part of the local chapter.

iii. Secretary - None.

iv. Treasurer - Jim Benedict reported the chapter has 14 paid members. Currently, there is \$664.57 in the checking account and \$35.49 in the savings account.

c. Spring program - Discussion of "The Nature of a University" was postponed since Dr. McClelland-Nugent was not present. The members expressed their desire to continue providing a program each semester. This is time consuming and Mark Fissel will determine if Dr. McClelland-Nugent has adequate help for the program this spring. Members indicated their willingness to help with this program.

III. New Business

a. Membership - Membership has been stable from year to year, and is expected to be near 20 members this year. Jim Benedict reviewed the membership list and pointed out the diversity of departments represented by the members.

b. Election preparations - The election of a president and treasurer will take place in March. Many topics have been addressed by this organization. The discussions have been enlightening, especially when senior faculty members are present and give the history of how policies and practices developed on this campus. Some members expressed their desire to have a seasoned professor volunteer for the position of president.

c. Faculty Policy Committee - This committee continues to benefit the campus in many ways. Elections are coming and members are encouraged to consider serving the university through this committee. The weekly Monday meetings require a substantial commitment of time.

d. Risk Management - Individuals have heard the term used to limit the number of tenured positions. With limited tenured positions, administrators could be more flexible and cost effective in determining which faculty members continue to serve a university. This organization is concerned about the quality of education if this policy is used in Georgia. Jim Benedict will contact Kathy Schofe to inquire about the possibility of a risk management program impacting tenure at Augusta State University.

IV. New Business - None

V. The meeting was adjourned at 3:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beverly Collins