

# **Augusta State University Chapter American Association of University Professors**

## **By-laws**

**(As approved by membership on 2 December 2005)**

### **Article I - Name**

The name of this organization is the Augusta State University chapter of the American Association of University Professors.

### **Article II - Purposes**

The purposes of this chapter are to:

1. Support the policies and goals of the Association as set forth in Article 1 of the AAUP constitution, and in all matters act in harmony with the principles and procedures of the national Association and its constitution;
2. Facilitate the cooperation of teachers and research scholars in universities and colleges, and in professional schools of similar grade, for the promotion of the interests of higher education and research, and in general to increase the usefulness and advance the standards, ideals, and welfare of the profession;
3. Defend academic freedom at Augusta State University and throughout academe;
4. Encourage faculty participation in governance at Augusta State University;
5. Protect and advance the professional status and interests of all faculty;
6. Facilitate the dissemination of information on higher education principles and practices;
7. Inform the academic community about AAUP standards and policy statements and develop necessary and proper chapter programs for the accomplishment of the aforementioned purposes. Some such programs may be, but are not limited to, academic freedom and tenure; status of women and minorities; professional ethics; accreditation of colleges and universities; elections, dues, and chapter organization; relationships with local, state, and federal governments; faculty participation in college and university governance; and the economic status of the profession.
8. In furtherance of the purposes described above, but not in limitation thereof, the chapter shall have power to conduct studies; to disseminate statistics and other information; to engage in appropriate fund raising activities; to conduct promotional activities, including advertising and publicity, in or by any suitable manner of media; to hold such property as is necessary to accomplish its purposes; and to employ individuals to further its purposes under Article II. This chapter is organized and operated for the above stated purposes, and for other nonprofit purposes. No part of its assets, income, or profits shall be distributable to, or inure to the benefit of, any individual, except in consideration of services rendered.

## **Article III - Members**

Eligibility for membership in this chapter shall extend to all current and retired faculty members and graduate students at Augusta State University who are national members of the American Association of University Professors. All chapter members in good standing may vote in chapter matters.

## **Article IV - Officers and Organization**

Eligibility for office within the ASU chapter of AAUP shall extend to all members except associate members and graduate students. The officers of this organization shall be the president, vice president, and secretary/treasurer. The term of office shall be two years. Officers may serve no more than two consecutive terms. The duties of the secretary/treasurer may at the discretion of the executive committee be apportioned to two individuals.

*President:* The duties of the president shall include carrying out the policies of the chapter, exercising general supervision over the activities of the chapter, and presiding at meetings of the chapter and executive committee. The president shall be a member ex officio of all committees.

*Vice president:* The duties of the vice president shall include those usually appertaining to the office and those delegated by the president. In the absence of the president, the vice president shall serve in the president's stead.

*Secretary/treasurer:* The secretary/treasurer shall keep a record of all proceedings and correspondence of the chapter, certify chapter delegates to the Association's annual meeting, prepare or oversee the preparation of newsletters for distribution to the faculty if such shall be desired, maintain official contact with the Association, and keep an accurate record of all funds received and disbursed. At the request of the executive committee, the secretary/treasurer shall prepare an annual chapter budget and report of finances, and submit them for approval. It shall be the duty of the secretary/treasurer to remit to the Association and/or to the applicable state conference any dues collected on behalf of the Association and/or conference. In the absence of the president and the vice president, the secretary/treasurer shall preside at meetings of the chapter.

When an officer has resigned or is disqualified, the office shall be filled by a special election of the chapter, which shall be held as promptly as is feasible. The executive committee is empowered to fill vacancies in any elective office until a special election is held. The person so elected shall hold office for the remainder of the term.

## **Article V - Dues**

The chapter may establish chapter dues. Any chapter dues will be established by a secret ballot vote conducted among voting chapter members. The vote may be conducted either by campus

and first class mail ballot or, after reasonable notice, at a regular or special membership meeting. Chapter members in good standing must have paid current AAUP dues and any mandatory conference and chapter dues.

## **Article VI - Committees**

### *A. Executive Committee*

The executive committee shall consist of the elected officers of the chapter, the immediate past president, and two members elected at large. The majority of the executive committee shall constitute a quorum for conduct of business of the committee.

The executive committee shall assume responsibility for the chapter's continuing effective presence at the institution, keeping all positions on the executive committee filled as vacancies occur. The executive committee shall:

1. Meet regularly;
2. Respond to faculty members seeking assistance;
3. Conduct the business of the chapter between meetings;
4. Regularly recruit members and encourage maintenance of membership;
5. Make necessary appointments to complete an unexpired term of any officer;
6. Set the agenda with appropriate notice for chapter meetings;
7. Consult regularly with the administration on matters of mutual interest; and
8. Respond to inquiries from the media.

### *B. Membership Committee*

The membership committee shall regularly recruit new members and encourage the maintenance of membership. Working with the secretary/treasurer and other applicable chapter officers, the committee shall promote the establishment of a voluntary dues deduction plan and other appropriate plans to encourage membership recruitment and maintenance.

### *C. Other Committees*

The chapter may create additional standing and ad hoc committees as necessary to promote the welfare of the chapter. The chair and members of these programs shall be appointed by the executive committee.

## **Article VII - Meetings**

The chapter shall hold regular meetings, but shall meet at least twice each academic year.

Special meetings of the chapter may be called by the president or a majority of the executive committee. Written notice of such meetings shall be provided to each member by the secretary/treasurer of the chapter at least five days in advance of the meeting date. The president

shall call special meetings of the chapter within seven days of being so directed by the executive committee or by a petition signed by ten percent of the members.

The quorum required for the transaction of business at all meetings of the chapter shall consist of 20 percent of the members.

### **Article VIII - Dissolution**

The chapter may be dissolved by either of the following two methods:

1. A majority vote of the members, provided that a notice setting forth the reasons for dissolution, an explanation thereof, and known objections thereto shall have been sent to each member at least thirty days prior to the vote.
2. The chapter fails to have a legally constituted meeting of its membership for any unbroken two-year period.

Upon dissolution of the chapter, its assets shall be distributed to the national AAUP.

### **Article IX - Amendments**

These bylaws may be amended by majority vote of the members, provided that a notice setting forth the proposed amendment or amendments, an explanation thereof, and known objections thereto shall have been sent to each member at least thirty days prior to the vote. Any member of the chapter may initiate an amendment.

### **Article X - Rules of Order**

Roberts Rules of Order Revised shall be the authority for this chapter in matters of procedure not specified above.

Enacted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(President)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Vice President)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Secretary/Treasurer)