

American Association of University Professors University of Iowa Chapter

2003-2004 Officers

President: Peter Hansen, Chemistry

Vice-President: Lois Cox, Law

Secretary: Katherine H. Tachau, History

Treasurer: Kathleen Clark, Nursing

Minutes

Executive Committee Meeting

June 4, 2003

Present: Andrews, Baldus, Bishara, Cox, Hansen, Kottick, Tachau, Valentine, Wachtel

Location: Room 103 Schaeffer Hall.

1. President Hansen called the meeting to order at 7:40.
2. The minutes of the March 31, 2003 Executive Committee were accepted. Corrections were made to the minutes of May 12, 2003. Andrews moved, Bishara seconded, that the latter be accepted as amended. The motion carried.
3. **Committee Reports:** We then proceeded to committee reports:
 - a. Recruitment Committee: Baldus reported that there was no news from this committee.
 - b. Committee A: Baldus alerted us to an emerging issue regarding a faculty member from the College of Business, who has been in touch with Committee A.
 - c. Baldus brought us up to date on a committee headed by Ekhard Ziegler that is drafting a provision for the University Operations Manual that will permit a faculty member to file a grievance requiring, after decanal reviews, that the provost's office reveal to the faculty what the results of questionnaires that decanal review committees had received showed.
4. **Old Business:** Baldus, with Tachau and Wachtel, reported on the meetings of our delegation with the Altmaier Committee (charged with potential revisions of the University's Promotion & Tenure standards). This evolved into a discussion of Andrews' helpful e-mail of 6/02/03 regarding possible revisions (with an eye to wider circulation) to the document that Baldus and the delegation had prepared for the Altmaier committee.
 - a. Regarding Andrews' item 4 (delegation item 10), Tachau explained why she believed that all annual reviews of the probationary period (and not solely the third-year review) should be a mandatory part of the dossier. In essence, these reviews should not be construed as private, personnel records, but as the department's record of its annual advice and notice to candidates; if a department's P & T committee and DCG are to evaluate the dossier with respect to the department's promotion standards, they each need to know whether and how the department has provided consistent interpretation of the standards and the candidate's progress toward meeting them. (As not all members of the P & T committee and/or DCG may have been present, or eligible to vote, for the entire probationary period, this may be the first time such members may have access to this record.) Consensus was reached that this is a good idea.
 - b. Regarding Andrews' item 3 (delegation item 9), we agreed that the College P & T Committee also needs to provide a detailed narrative report in the event that it disagrees with

the DCG recommendation regarding a particular candidate. Tachau noted that, when this document comes to the Faculty Senate Officers, she will stress the importance, not to mention correctness, of the AAUP's position.

5. New Business:

- a. Lois Cox's appointment to Committee A was universally lauded.
- b. Walt Dobrian and Mark Weiger were proposed as new members of the Executive Committee. Pres. Hansen will proceed with invitations to them.
- c. AAUP/Board of Regents Liaison: we discussed how to proceed to implement Pres. Skorton's proposal to us in April, at the annual meeting, that the UI AAUP chapter should develop its own relationship with the board of Regents, and agreed on the value of our role in helping its members, as non-academics, understand the centrality of academic freedom to the value of universities, and tenure as the sine qua non of that freedom. Cox urged us to co-ordinate with the AAUP chapters of Iowa State and the UNI as well (another Good Idea). After several further fruitful ideas from the assembled, Hansen agreed to draft a letter to Skorton asking for his thoughts on how to proceed; Tachau promised to provide list of dates of scheduled regents meetings (available at www2.state.ia.us/regents/meetings).
- d. After brief discussion of the need for a chapter website, Valentine and Andrews agreed to work on this. Wachtel reminded us of her willingness to code what we place on it.
- e. Clinical doctorates: This item of the agenda was reached at ca. 9:05 p.m. Andrews reported on the growth of "clinical doctorates" as a genre of non-research doctorates, and his concerns about their potential for undermining academic values, science, and faculty cohesion. Tachau pointed out that a few of these non-research doctorates are medieval, so are likely to persist; there was a general sense that this issue should be discussed at greater length, when the executive committee's mind is fresher.

This brought us to the recognition that our the rest of the agenda should be postponed to the next meeting, which will be scheduled in July, 2003. We adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine H. Tachau