

Candidate Biography

EDUCATION

1977-1981 BA Hanover College
Hanover, IN 47243

1981-1988 MA, PhD Northwestern
University, Evanston, IL 60201

TEACHING

1982-1988 Northwestern University
Evanston, IL 60201

1987-1988 Indiana University Northwest
Gary, IN 46408

1988- Hanover College, History
Department, Hanover, IN 47243

AAUP

1990's–Present - various positions in
Hanover College Chapter, including
currently serving as President
1995 - Executive Board, Indiana

Conference
1995-1996 – Vice President,
Indiana Conference

1996-1998 – President, Indiana
Conference

1998-2002 – Past-President,
Indiana Conference

2000-2006 - National Council
Representative for District IV – AK, IL, IN,
IA, KY, MO

2002-2010 - Executive Board, Indiana
Conference

2007-2010 - National Council
Representative
for District IV – AK, MO, IA, IL,
IN, KY, TN, DC, VA

2010- President, Indiana Conference

The AAUP is at a crossroads. Our Association is the conscience of the American Academy. Sadly, for too many it is a conscience grown increasingly distant.

The most profound challenge facing us is the need to expand our aging membership. Our numbers in advocacy chapters have been declining for years. High dues didn't help. Many of our colleagues balked at the price of an association they see as irrelevant to their everyday concerns. We must combat the impression that the AAUP is merely an expensive echo chamber, a gathering place for the haves and not the have nots.

To do this we must wage a struggle for the hearts and minds of our colleagues, on the ground most academics know. We must devote more of our resources to strengthening our chapters and conferences. Only in the states, on every professor's home campus, can we convincingly make the case that the AAUP is a vital organization, worthy of support. A handful of organizers in Washington and mass mailing campaigns are not going to deliver us the people needed to revitalize the Association. Appeals to history and principle must be connected to the real and pressing issues professors face on campus. Only dedicated colleagues, properly supported and familiar with local conditions, can do this. To rebuild our membership we must shift resources to grass-roots organization on the chapter and conference level, publicizing and taking advantage of the new dues structure.

In an era when higher education is beset by vocationalism and managerialism, and assaults on tenure and academic freedom, it is imperative that we nurture the professorate of the future, thereby preserving the victories of the past. Given the forces working to transform academe, we cannot afford the luxury of doing nothing. We need to demonstrate that the AAUP continues to be a relevant force, one that can enrich all our professional lives.

The national office can't do it all. We must better organize locally to defend ourselves from threats, and, more importantly, to promote our ideals of academic freedom and shared governance.

We must accept the risk of change.