

Candidate Statement

Kenneth A. Barrick

It was an honor to serve as your “at-large” national council member for the past two years. I would appreciate your vote so that I can put my experience to work for a second term. It is my goal to strengthen AAUP, and make it more responsive to member issues and requests. I take pride in being your independent voice on the national council, with no political agenda except to think broadly about our collective and traditional faculty interests, even when doing so is unpopular. I will stand up for your rights.

AAUP experienced important changes during my first term. The organization was split into three units: (1) the AAUP, (2) the AAUP Collective Bargaining Congress, and (3) the AAUP Foundation. It is my goal to maintain the AAUP’s core mission—the strong defense of academic freedom and shared governance. Therefore, I will be vigilant to ensure that the new organizational framework does not dilute our core mission. It is especially important to maintain the AAUP’s share of the budget and staff time. Also, several important AAUP staff retired in the past few months, and it is my goal to see that these positions are refilled with strong advocates for our core mission, and are not left vacant or shifted to other priorities.

I encourage you to make a donation to the AAUP Foundation, as one of its goals is to provide some funds to help defray the legal costs of individuals defending their faculty rights.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with your questions or concerns. I thank you for your support of AAUP, and would appreciate your vote as I seek re-election to the AAUP National Council.

Biographical Sketch

Kenneth A. Barrick

Ken currently serves as an Associate Professor of Geography at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. His teaching experience spans about 29 years, and includes courses in physical geography and natural resource management. He authored Alaska's first environmental studies program, and created new courses in wilderness concepts and national park concepts.

Ken's research interests include both the social and natural sciences. Published works include topics in wilderness resource economics, the nutrient ecology of trees at the alpine treeline, and the environmental management and protection of hydrothermal resources (including geysers and hot springs). Ken's new book was recently published, entitled "Harrison R. Crandall: Creating a Vision of Grand Teton National Park."

Ken is completing his first term as an "at-large" representative on the AAUP National Council. At UAF, he also serves on the Representative Assembly of the faculty union (United Academics). He served 8 years as the Chair of the UAF Geography Department, and 2 years on the UAF Faculty Senate (including the Faculty Affairs Committee). Ken also served the Fairbanks community on the Fairbanks North Star Borough Wildfire Commission, and as a member of the National Ski Patrol.

Ken obtained his B.S. in Geography at Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, his M.S. in Geoenvironmental Studies at Shippensburg, his M.S. in Economics at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, and his Ph.D. in Geography at Southern Illinois.