

Unit Ties

February 2002

Published by
PSU-AAUP

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A Call to Activism—Write Your Legislator Now!!

*Sarah Andrews-Collier
PSU-AAUP President*

As this newsletter reaches your boxes, the Oregon State Legislature will be reconvening in Salem to decide where and how PSU, along with other OUS institutions, will take budget cuts this biennium. Among the Oregonians represented by PSU are 19,029 students, 1151 full-time faculty, and 835 staff. The overwhelming majority are taxpayers and voters. I find it frustrating to reflect upon the fact that it will most likely be business as usual in Salem. The hopes and needs of the faculty, staff, and students of PSU—like the hopes and needs of other Oregonians—will be largely ignored during this special session. For example, there is heavy discussion underway about raising tuition for the Oregon University System schools.

I believe that there is ongoing neglect of higher education in general and PSU in particular by our lawmakers. This time this neglect can't be attributed to the governor. In what feels like the most positive statement on higher ed since he took office, Governor Kitzhaber recently called for legislators to hold higher education harmless. This is logical given the high unemployment rate in the state and given the role our institutes of higher learning play in re-educating the workforce. We also know that the budget shortfall is not the fault of the legislature, who have been very supportive of higher ed for the last few years. It is also not entirely the fault of the voting public or of other constituencies in the state. We, the faculty, have to take ownership of the fact that, on most days, we are not doing enough about any of this. Too often, faculty are invisible.

We cannot let the fact that we are employees of the OUS system, and partial beneficiary of our fellow taxpayers and voters, neutralize our right to a voice on the ap-

propriation of state finances. Faculty have as much right as anybody to a voice in the public agenda. We have increasingly less responsibility to our fellow taxpayers (who are our employers) than most other state employees because it has been years since state allocations have kept pace with higher education's operating budget. **We have some responsibility to fellow taxpayers but silence isn't one of them.** Our concern for the fate of higher ed funding should be no different from our concerns as citizens, voters, and taxpayers about K-12, transportation, corrections, human services, economic development, land use planning, etc.

We cannot let the trends that have happened within the academy come to dominate our actions outside the academy. On university campuses today, faculty are more inclined to focus on their scholarship and teaching and less inclined to participate in the community. This is due to the fact that it is easier to retreat into our scholarship than grapple with the complexity of broader issues. Likewise, it is easier to focus on teaching because the gains are more measurable. Both approaches are less confrontational and risky, but by choosing to remain silent we do ourselves a disservice off campus as well as on. Moreover, we do our students an even greater disservice—we set a poor example of the role they must play in a just society.

We cannot afford to ignore the principle that teachers' working conditions are students' learning conditions. It does not seem to be a crime in any but the education and helping professions to want comparable compensation and a workplace environment equivalent to that experi-

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Lobbyist Report

Tom Barrows
Dave Barrows & Associates

The Oregon Legislature is preparing to meet in Special Session beginning Friday, February 8 in order to deal with a projected \$830 million shortfall in the General Fund for the 2001-2003 biennium. The Governor and the legislative leadership have not yet come to agreement as to how this budget hole should be filled. Under the Governor's proposal, the Oregon University System (OUS) would take a cut of \$44.5 million. This is a reduction of 5.5% and is considerably higher than the 3.3% that community colleges or the 2.2% that K-12 are being asked to cut. The Higher Ed Lobby Network (HELN) has been meeting to work out a strategy to deal with the proposed cuts. The HELN is asking that the legislature reduce the Governor's cut to the OUS by \$16 million, which would mean that the system would only have to absorb a cut of \$28.5 million. This would mean a reduction of 3.5%, which is still very significant. The message to legislators is that the additional funds should be returned to the system and not earmarked for specific programs. This would spread the cuts throughout the system and not force any single entity to cut a disproportionate amount.

The legislative leadership has designated five members of the legislature to be the team that comes up with the budget solution. These five are Sen. Lenn Hannon (R-Ashland), Sen. Peter Courtney (D-Salem), Rep. Ben Westlund (R-Tumalo), Rep. Susan Morgan (R-Myrtle Creek) and Rep. Kurt Schrader (D-Canby). These legislators, together known as "the Group of Five" have been

meeting over the past few weeks in an attempt to come up with a single plan that everyone can agree to. It is hoped that there will be a plan with enough support before the Special Session begins, so that the legislature can quickly do its business and go home. If there is not an agreed upon plan, there is every indication that this could be a long and drawn out Special Session. (The latter seems to be the more likely scenario.)

The dynamics of the upcoming Special Session took a turn last month with the Oregon Supreme Court throwing out term limits for legislators on the basis that the original ballot measure violated the single subject rule for initiatives. There are several legislators that would not have been able to run for reelection that now can. This could have an impact on how these folks view the proposals being presented in the Special Session since they will have to answer to the voters once again if they run for reelection. Four of "the Group of Five" were "termed" and now all five are planning to run again.

We will closely watch the Special Session as it unfolds and we hope that we will be able to help minimize the cuts that the Oregon University System is forced to endure. **It is important that legislators hear from their constituents that OUS should not have to deal with too large a cut and that any money put back should be put back into the system and not into designated programs.**



Help Protect Higher Education!

Tell your state representatives and Governor Kitzhaber that any further cuts to the higher education budget beyond those we took in the last regular session of the legislature would have serious repercussions for the faculty, staff and students of PSU.

Please help in educating members of the legislature about what further cuts will mean to the PSU community. In particular, please write a letter to your state legislator urging him/her to do all s/he can to protect the higher education budget during the special session. Check out our website (<http://www.psuaaup.org>) to view a sample letter to a legislator, to find out who your representatives are, and to send your legislators and the governor an email.

Parking Time-Shares Available

During the last round of contract negotiations, PSU-AAUP and the University agreed to work together improve parking accessibility for PSU faculty—especially for those faculty on the East Side of campus who do not have easy access to the reserved lot behind the Extended Studies Building.

In order to address the parking needs of faculty whose jobs require them to leave campus regularly (but not daily), the University has agreed to provide a limited number of "time-sharing" parking spots. These "time-sharing" slots would be controlled by academic units, and the academic units would be able to schedule the use of these spots for individual faculty members. Faculty members would still need a valid parking permit but there would be no additional charge to use these spots. These spots would ensure reserved parking during your allotted "time-share" hours.

In a few weeks, Parking and Transportation will be surveying department chairs regarding faculty need for these "time-sharing" spots. **If your job requires you to work off-campus on a regular basis and if you would like the option of using one of these "time-sharing" spots, please notify your department chair so that that information can be forwarded to Parking.**

If you have any questions about "time-sharing" parking spots or about the departmental survey, please contact the AAUP office (4414) or via email at aaup@psuaaup.org.

Membership Has its Privileges

The PSU-AAUP Membership Committee has been hard at work over the past two quarters building chapter membership. Over the past four months, we have seen a 22% increase in our membership levels—thanks to the hard work of the Membership Committee and to dedicated Unit Reps and other member-activists!

Full membership in the chapter is important. Your full membership dues make it possible for the chapter to negotiate the collective bargaining agreement, to protect academic freedom and the right to due process, and to lobby in Salem and in Washington, DC to ensure that there is funding for higher education.

Recently, the PSU-AAUP Membership Committee has teamed up with local union friendly business to provide the following discounts to our full members.

- 10% discount on all purchases at **Annie Bloom's Books** in Multnomah Village
- 10% on all purchases at **Hot Lips Pizza** (1909 SW 6th Ave.)
- 10% discount on all purchases at **Broadway Coffee** (1924 SW Broadway)

These discounts are in addition to the cap and gown reimbursement, the childcare reimbursement, and the discounts on insurance policies offered through the National AAUP.

These discounts are available only to full members of PSU-AAUP. In order to receive these discounts, you will need to show your red PSU-AAUP Membership Card and your PSU faculty/staff ID. If you are a full member of PSU-AAUP, you will be receiving a red PSU-AAUP Membership Card in the mail over the next week. This red card also contains important information about your rights as a PSU-AAUP member and your legal rights under Oregon labor law.

If you are not yet a full member of PSU-AAUP but would like to become one, please fill out the application form on page 8 of this newsletter and return it to the AAUP office (mail code AAUP). If you have any questions about your membership status or about our chapter, please contact the AAUP office at 4414.

Welcome New Members!

Jeff Baffaro	Extended Studies
Mercedes Benton	Student Development
Horia Boboia	Art
Lawrence Clow	Upward Bound
Sally Eck	Student Development
Michael Emch	Geography
Eleanor Erskine	Art
Elizabeth Flores	Chicano/Latino Studies
Inez Freeman	Upward Bound Program
Jil Freeman	Communication Studies
Darrel Grant	Music
Bonnie Kanter	Information & Academic Support
Thomas Kindermann	Psychology
Marion Latiolais	Math
Marie Lo	English
Carmen Losli	Biology
Carol Martin	Student Development
Gabriela Martorell	Psychology
Ridwan Nytagodien	Black Studies
Melissa Padilla	Admissions
Jay Peterson	Educational Opportunity Program
Vicki Reitenauer	Women's Studies
Karl Rusterholtz	Biology
Alex Ruzicka	Geology
Tom Seppalainen	Philosophy
Sandra Shapshay	Philosophy
Elizabeth Snyder	Summer Session
Kimberly Springer	Black Studies
Gisele Tierney	Communication Studies
Janelle Voegele	Center for Academic Excellence
Ines Warnock	Foreign Languages & Literature
Rachel Webb	Math
Kathleen Weigant	Graduate Studies

Have a Voice in Your Union: Run for the 2002-03 PSU-AAUP Executive Council

The PSU-AAUP Nominations and Elections Committee is still seeking nominations for the following positions on the 2002-2003 PSU-AAUP Executive Council:

- President
- Vice President of Collective Bargaining
- Vice President of Grievances and Academic Freedom
- Four Councilor Positions

The Executive Council is the governing body of the PSU chapter of the AAUP. The AAUP represents the interests of all Academic Professional and Instructional Faculty who are .5 and above FTE through collective bargaining and contract maintenance. The Association also defends the principles of academic freedom, due process, and tenure.

Each position is a two-year term from 2002-2004. Each position includes a commitment of one weekly lunch meeting (from 12:00-1:00 on Thursdays when classes are in session). Those elected begin their terms on April 25, 2002. For a position description for the open positions please see the PSU-AAUP constitution at www.psuaaup.org/constbylaws.html.

To be eligible, candidates must be full members of PSU-AAUP by the election date of April 12, 2002. A list of all eligible members is posted on our web site (www.psuaaup.org). We encourage you to nominate yourself.

Nominations are due in the AAUP office by 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 12. You may either send your nominations via email (aaup@psuaaup.org) or you may send them in writing to the AAUP office (mail code AAUP). If you have any questions about the nominations process, please contact the AAUP office at the above email or by phone at extension 4414.

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enced by family, friends, and neighbors in business and other professions.

Do become more active by choosing this very important battle: PSU-AAUP and the university urgently need you now—this week—to send three simple messages to your governor, your state senator, and your state representative that PSU can't take further budget cuts. Tuition at OUS institutions is equal to or higher than other states, and full-time faculty salaries remain 19.4% behind those of PSU's national comparators (www.ous.edu/irs/factbook/WEBfaculty/salbiggs.htm). It is a small thing, but if you and each of your students spent approximately 5 minutes on this task, that would mean 21,000 Portland messages sent to the legislative and administrative branches of state government—the equivalent of a revolution.

To send a message to your state senator and/or representative you don't even need to know who they are. Just fill out the form at: www.leg.state.or.us/writelegsltr/writeset.htm, and by entering your name and address, you will be automatically matched to either your state senator or your state representative To send a message

of encouragement to the Governor, fill out the form at: (<http://www.governor.state.or.us/governor/mail/mailform.html>). You may also access the above links from our website (<http://www.psuaaup.org>).

This is all your message has to convey:

It is essential that the Oregon Legislature preserve current funding and increase future funding for Portland State University. Oregon needs a more educated electorate to function in the 21st century. Oregon citizens need the right to public education, especially in a time of high unemployment and economic uncertainty. Oregon's university faculty and staff need equitable wages and benefits to do their jobs well.

* (In the OUS system the sum total of these individuals is 69,000+ students and 11,700+ faculty.)

Help Make Your Union Stronger!

Do you want to become more actively involved in your AAUP chapter but don't know where to begin?
Consider serving on any of the following!

Unit Rep. Team

- Attend one unit rep. meeting per quarter
- Transmit information from AAUP office to unit members
- Transmit information from unit members to AAUP office
- Sign-up members in your unit

Time commitment: Not more than 5 hours/quarter

Membership Committee

- Identify and recruit unit reps in un-represented departments and units
- Develop and implement membership recruitment plans
- Work closely with unit reps to recruit members
- Work closely with unit reps to educate members about issues important to the AAUP and the University community as a whole

Time Commitment: Not more than 5 hours/quarter

Grievance Committee

- Attend grievance committee meetings and workshops
- Work with other committee members and AAUP staff on representing members in workplace grievances
- Work with other committee members and AAUP office staff on protecting members workplace rights

Time commitment: Not more than 6 hours/quarter

Legislative Committee

- Work with AAUP's lobbyist and other committee members on raising AAUP's visibility in Salem
- Work with other committee members on educating members about legislative issues and encouraging them to take an active role in the political process
- Build alliances with other state AAUP chapters

Time commitment: Not more than 5 hours/quarter

Phone Tree Team

- Phone list of 15-25 members with information about upcoming union events.

Time commitment: Not more than 2 hours/quarter

Mailings Team

- Help office staff with preparing mailings (i.e., stuffing envelopes, sticking labels, etc.)

Time commitment: Not more than 2 hours/quarter

If you'd like to serve on any of the above committees, contact the AAUP office either via email (aaup@psuaaup.org) or phone (4414).



Attention!!

Recently we changed Internet Service Providers. As a result, our email address has changed. Our new address is:

aaup@psuaaup.org

Please make a note of it—the old address will quit working in about a month.

Our web address is:
http://www.psuaaup.org

Wanted

Retired university professor and wife seek furnished apartment or house from July 1, 2002 for 9 to 14 months. Non-smoking and no pets. Please contact:
Herbert Goldhor,
39 Maple Court
Champaign, IL, 61822
or
email: goldhor@alexia.lis.uiuc.edu

PSU-AAUP Executive Council & Staff

The AAUP Executive Council is committed to being available to you. Please call or email a council member or the AAUP office with any concerns or questions.

Name	Title	Dept.	Phone	Email
Sarah Andrews-Collier	President	TA	5-4603	andrewscolliers@pdx.edu
Martha Hickey	VP of Collective Bargaining	FLL	5-5290	hickeym@pdx.edu
Beverly Fuller	Treasurer	SBA	5-3744	beverlyf@sba.pdx.edu
Louise Paradis	Secretary	CARC	5-4970	paradisl@pdx.edu
Jacqueline Arante	Councilor	ENG	5-3574	arantej@pdx.edu
Randy Blazak	Councilor	SOC	5-8502	cfrb@pdx.edu
Tucker Childs	Councilor	LING	5-4099	childst@pdx.edu
Larry Crawshaw	Councilor	BIO	5-4209	crawshl@psu4.pdx.edu
Michael Harvey	Councilor	LING	5-5456	harveyem@pdx.edu
Christina Luther	Councilor	IES-ISFS	5-5468	luthercl@pdx.edu
Ron Witczak	Councilor	IES-SA	5-8246	witczakr@pdx.edu
STAFF:				
Julie Schmid	Chapter Coordinator	AAUP	5-4414	aaup@psuaaup.org
Susan Cerasin	Administrative Assistant	AAUP	5-4414	aaup@psuaaup.org

**American Association
of University Professors**

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We're on the Web!
www.psuaaup.org



American Association
of University Professors

The American Association of University Professors (AAUP), established in 1915, is the only National Organization exclusively representing faculty of higher education. AAUP has pioneered the fights for tenure, academic freedom, and due process for all faculty.

The Portland State Chapter (PSU-AAUP) operates as both a professional association and as the exclusive collective bargaining agent for all PSU faculty employed at least .50 FTE.

***Faculty Working Together for Superior
Education.***



**American Association of University Professors
Portland State University Chapter
Membership Application**

Name _____

Last

First

M.I.

Campus _____ Home _____
Mail Code _____ Address _____

Academic Field & Rank _____

Extension 5- _____ Email _____

Automatic Deduction Authorization

As provided under ORS 292.043, I authorize the monthly deduction of my dues to the American Association of University Professors, Portland State University Chapter. The amount of the deduction is based on my salary and AAUP status, and is calculated by the AAUP office and the Payroll Office. The monthly deductions will continue until I provide written notification to the Payroll Office.

Print Name _____

Signature _____

Department _____

Date _____

SS# _____

Annual Dues

Normal Annual dues for PSU-AAUP members are 3/4 of one percent (.0075) of academic salary. Non-tenured Active Entrant dues (must be new to AAUP) are 3/8 of one percent (.00375, half of normal dues).

Send completed form via campus mail to mail code "AAUP"