

Unit Ties

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Lobbyist Report—The 2nd Special Session

Tom Barrows

Dave Barrows & Associates

The second 2002 Special Session of the Oregon Legislature has come and gone. The Governor called the Special Session on Monday February 25, in an effort to deal with the estimated \$830 million budget shortfall. The Legislature met throughout the week and adjourned late in the evening on Saturday, March 2. The battle this time around centered on the Governor's request for tax increases, especially an increase in cigarette taxes of up to 50 cents a pack and beer and wine taxes up to 5 cents a drink. The Republican leadership announced going into the Special Session that they would not look at new revenue sources and would instead focus on making cuts and using existing funds as a source of revenue in the short term. The Legislature passed out a package of bills to fill the budget deficit; however the Governor has vetoed some of these bills.

According to the OUS budget office, the package that the Legislature passed out in the second Special Session includes cuts to the Oregon University System of \$43,805,705 or 5.4%. The Governor's proposal going in was to cut OUS by \$49,468,987 or 6.1%. With the Governor vetoing much of the legislative package, it is now up to him to make cuts in the General Fund.

On March 13, Governor Kitzhaber announced the cuts that he was proposing to fill this hole. The administrative reductions that the Governor announced include a cut in the OUS budget of **\$71,095,372 or 8.8%**. **The specific cuts for PSU include a reduction of \$7,092,892 or 4.9%**. There is still some question as to whether the Governor has the authority to make selective cuts and there is a real possibility that the Legislature may challenge the Governor's right to make these cuts. The Governor has expressed his intent to call the Legislature back into Special Session for a third time in June, after the next revenue forecast is released.

On another note, Tuesday, March 12, was the deadline to file for elective office in Oregon. There is always a great deal of hoopla surrounding the final hour or so. There were no real surprises this year, although everyone was watching to see if Speaker of the House Mark Simmons (R-Elgin) would run for reelection. Redistricting put him in the same district as Rep. Greg Smith (R-Heppner). Rep. Smith had said that he would not run if Simmons did, so there were quite a few folks watching the big board to see whose name would go up for that district. In the end Speaker Simmons decided not to run, so Greg Smith will likely be reelected to the House. The only other really interesting item was that Superintendent of Public Instruction Stan Bunn decided to run for reelection. Bunn is facing a large number of ethics charges against him because of personal use of a state car and cell phone. The outcome of those charges could seriously impact his ability to be reelected.

The New PSU-AAUP Contracts Are Here!!!

You should have already received a printed copy of the new PSU-AAUP Collective Bargaining Agreement via campus mail. The new contract can also be accessed online at:
<http://www.oaa.pdx.edu/OAADOC/REFDOC/AAUP.pdf>.

If you haven't already received a copy of the contract, please notify the AAUP office at 4414 and we will have one sent to you.

Welcome New Members!

Joel Arick	Special Education
Sandra Banke	Linguistics
Susan Bert	Special Education
Patricia Blasco	Special Education
David Brande	University Honors
Julie Brown	Graduate School of Education
Don Dickinson	School of Business Affairs
Louis Elteto	Foreign Languages & Literature
Lori Fitch	Music
Michael Flower	Honors & Center for Science Education
Merri Garcia	Educational Talent Search/Upward Bound
Patricia Gildroy	Special Education
Kathleen Godfrey	Foreign Languages & Literature
Charles Gray	Music
Melissa Harrington	Linguistics
Kathryn Harris	Linguistics
Kris Henning	Administration of Justice
Tera Hoffman	Special Education
Richard Hugo	Geology
Claudia Ideler	Linguistics
Martha Kierstead	Office of Research & Sponsored Projects
Kathleen Merrow	Honors
Yuki Monteith	Curriculum & Instruction
Katherine Morrow	ESL & International Special Programs
Jessica Nelson	School of Business Administration
Masami Nishishiba	Public Administration
Andrea Price	International Education Services
Daniel Rogers	School of Business Administration
Isaka Shamsud-Din	Art
Neal Wallace	Public Administration

Collective Bargaining Update—A Chance to Appeal Health & Dental Plan Choices & Dependent Coverage

Martha Hickey,
VP of Collective Bargaining

During the 2001 contract bargaining cycle, the AAUP Collective Bargaining Team met with PEBB and discussed the opportunity to appeal for re-enrollment for health & dental benefits. This appeals period was to take place after the 2001/2003 PSU-AAUP Collective Bargaining Agreement had been ratified and signed. This appeals period was agreed to because the legally mandated October 2001 deadline for benefits enrollment resulted in faculty having to make benefits choices without information on the employer contribution rate. As a result of this meeting, members of PSU-AAUP bargaining unit have the option to appeal to re-enroll in a different benefits plan or to change their dependent coverage choices.

In the 2001/2003 PSU-AAUP Collective Bargaining Agreement, the employer contribution for benefits has been changed to introduce a tiered system and a subsidy for the cost of insurance coverage (see Article 31). According to PEBB's consultants, these changes in the contract are considered equivalent to a qualified family status change under current IRS regulations. Individual faculty members may therefore appeal to re-enroll and make changes in their coverage. There are certain provisions that affect the changes that can be made.

1) If a faculty member's coverage costs are higher in 2002.

Since all costs for 2002 are covered through a combination of the employer contribution rate and an OUS subsidy, only those who have **lost cash back** are affected by this provision. These individuals may now choose to opt out, if they have other medical insurance coverage, or change their current coverage to a less expensive medical and/or dental plan; or remove dependents from coverage.

Those who opt out of their medical plan will receive a monthly opt-out amount that is based on the percentage of the tiered rate for individuals. (The amount varies depending on the type of dental coverage, but is approximately \$170/month.)

2) If a faculty member's coverage costs are lower in 2002.

This provision affects those individuals who previously opted out or had out-of-pocket expenses in 2001, e.g. those with Regence Co-Pay and Providence coverage for Employee & Spouse or Family, ODS Family, and, possibly, Kaiser family depending on the dental plan.

Faculty who opted out may appeal to enroll in a plan. Faculty enrolled in a plan may appeal to change to a more expensive medical and dental plan and add coverage for dependents. There is no new opportunity to opt out for faculty who fall under this category.

The deadline for appeal is Friday, April 19, 2002. In order to appeal for re-enrollment, faculty must send an appeals form and a completed benefits enrollment form to PEBB's offices in Salem (775 Court St. NE, Salem, OR 97310). These forms are available in the PSU Human Resources office.

If you have any questions about the above, please contact the AAUP office at 4414.

Coming soon...

PSU-AAUP 2002/03 Executive Council Elections

Full members look for election ballots in your campus mailboxes by April 1, 2002

A Short Guide to the New PSU-AAUP Contract

During negotiations, the Association and the University agreed to reorganize the contract and group articles together under topic headings. What follows is a chart listing where to find the most commonly referenced contract articles. The chart includes the new location of these articles, the location of these articles in the 2000-01 contract, and the information covered in the article.

Where do I find more information about...	Article location in the 01/03 PSU-AAUP Contract	Article location in the 00/01 PSU-AAUP Contract
Salary Levels and Raises	Article 30	Article 25
Health & Dental Benefits	Article 31	Article 26
Timely Notice for Non-renewal of Appointments	Article 14 (reference to Promotion & Tenure Guidelines)	Article 11 (reference to Promotion & Tenure Guidelines)
Academic Professional Job Family Structure & Info. About Annual Performance Reviews	Article 17	Article 12
Fixed-Term Instructional & Research Faculty	Article 18, Appendices G1 & G2	Article 41
Promotion & Tenure	Article 14	Article 11
Professional Development & Support (Development & Travel Funds)	Article 19	Article 40
The Grievance Procedure	Articles 28 & 29	Articles 20 & 21
Peer Review (Post-Tenure)	Article 16	Article 16
Family & Medical Leave Act (FMLA) & info. on stopping the tenure clock	Article 32	Article 27
Nondiscrimination	Article 13	Article 15
Past Practices	Article 8	Article 17

Want to Get Involved in Your Union? Read On!

Do you want to become more actively involved in our 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 8 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 AAUP (5-4414) or send in the form on p. 6.

PSU-AAUP NEW MEMBER RAFFLE

PSU-AAUP wants to thank new members for making a commitment to PSU-AAUP by joining the union. We are running a Parking Raffle for new members who join the union between January 1, 2002, and April 30, 2002. Six new PSU-AAUP full members will win:

Reimbursement for one-month's on-campus parking

OR

Reimbursement for two-month's of the Tri-met Passport + two free parking scratch-offs

In order to be eligible for this raffle, you must be a new member of the union and the AAUP office must receive your signed membership application no later than April 30, 2002. If you would like to join the union, please fill out the membership application on Page xx and send it to the AAUP office. Drawings will be held on March 29 & on April 30.

No membership dues have been used to pay for this raffle.



American Association of University Professors: Portland State University Chapter

Yes!!! I want to help build my union!!!

Name: _____

Date: _____

Department: _____

Work phone: _____

Email: _____

I am interested in:

____ Serving as a Unit Rep
tee

____ Serving on the Grievance Commit-

____ Serving on the Membership Committee
tee

____ Serving on the Legislative Commit-

____ Serving on the Phone Tree Team

____ Serving on the Mailings Team

If you are interested in any of these committees or teams, please fill out the above information and return to PSU-AAUP, 232 SMC (Mail Code: AAUP)



Attention!!

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

aaup@psuaaup.org

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

Emails sent to aaup@teleport.com will be
returned to the sender.

Wanted

Retired university professor and
wife seek to rent a two-bedroom
apartment or house in the Port-
land area for the months of
June-August 2002.

Please contact:

Herbert Goldhor,
39 Maple Court
Champaign, IL, 61822
217-359-5636

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**

PO Box 751
232 Smith Memorial Center
Portland, OR 97207

Phone: 503-725-4414
Fax: 503-725-8124
Email: aaup@psuaaup.org

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"