

AAUP General Chapter Meeting
Minutes – October 20, 2015
Fireside Lounge

Chapter President Bryan Spiegelberg called the meeting to order at 11:50 am.

President's Welcome

- President Spiegelberg welcomed the membership.
- Robert Winter memorial service scheduled for November 18, 4:30 at North Hall 202.
- The membership was reminded about the Fall Cocktail Party taking place October 23, 4-7pm, at Trenton City Museum, Ellarslie Cadwalader Park.
- Health screening and flu shots available today at BLC.
- The Minutes of September 22 were approved.

Treasurer's Report

- The Treasurer's Report and the Budget were shared with the membership.

President's Report

- President Spiegelberg updated the membership on the failed negotiation with President Dell'Omo. Despite a legal contract between the University and Rider's AAUP, in August President Dell'Omo asked the AAUP to make concessions. After analyzing all financial documentation provided by the Administration, the AAUP made a proposal which included a wage freeze and an extension of the contract for two years so that the financial situation and enrollments may stabilize. President Dell'Omo rejected this proposal.
- Vice President Art Taylor offered insights into the University's financial situation and the recent negotiation with President Dell'Omo.

Contract Administrator's Report

- Jeff Halpern explained the details of the AAUP proposal to the Administration. It was quickly rejected and there has been no communication between the parties since. On October 19 President Dell'Omo sent a letter to all Rider faculty stating, "without an acceptable proposal from the AAUP, we must now move forward and fulfill the responsibility of stabilizing our financial future." Jeff Halpern explained potential ramifications, including the prioritization task force, the next contract negotiation, and layoffs. A Q&A followed.

Jeff Halpern's report was interrupted twice by fire alarms thereby delaying the meeting and leaving little time for other items on the agenda.

President's Report

- President Spiegelberg discussed a letter that Arlene Wilner sent to the Executive Committee in August suggesting a list of policy and procedural proposals for change. The anonymous letter claimed to represent the views of bargaining unit members across campus. President Spiegelberg expressed a desire to have an open dialogue and announced the creation of an online forum for discussion to increase

transparency, “The AAUP Lounge” at www.rideraaup.net. Additionally, President Spiegelberg invited all bargaining unit members to consider volunteering to run in the 2016/2017 officer elections.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nuria Sanjuán
Recording Secretary
October 25, 2015