**SC AAUP Spring Conference Summary Minutes**

**March 30, 2019**

* 10 am: Dr. Andrew T. Hsu, new President of the College of Charleston delivers the **keynote address** and takes questions.
* **Conference Business**
  + Mark Blackwell FMU calls the meeting to order at 10:40.
  + Minutes from the SC AAUP Fall Conference minutes are reviewed.
  + Mark Blackwell FMU reports contacting the national AAUP about a reduction in membership fees for adjuncts. The issue is pending national reorganization.
  + There was no budget report. Mark Blackwell FMU estimates the SC AAUP has a $5000 surplus.
  + David Bruzina USC Aiken is elected to replace Brian Bunton Coastal Carolina as SC AAUP Secretary.
  + Shawn Smolen-Morton FMU is elected to 1-year term as SC AAUP Treasurer.
* **New Business**
  + On Mark Blackwell’s motion, the conference votes to fund Amanda Warren USC Aiken and SC AAUP Vice President, so she can travel to the upcoming National AAUP conference in Crystal City. The cost will be around $1500. She will be accompanied by Blackwell and Smolen-Morton who are funded through SMU.
  + There is a brief discussion of the proposed restructuring of the national AAUP by Amanda Warren who represented the SC AAUP at the recent GA AAUP conference. This topic is taken up again after lunch.
  + Mark Blackwell and Amanda Warren will discuss her attending the upcoming \_\_\_\_ meeting in Atlanta.
* **Old Business**
  + Mark Blackwell asks about the shared governance survey discussed at previous meetings.
  + Amanda Warren presents the google doc administrative overstep clearing house idea proposed by the USC Aiken chapter. Each chapter in the SC conference would roll out a similar clearinghouse for complaints about administrative overstep allowing chapters to both address issues and collate information. There is discussion about using university resources for AAUP business.
  + The conference agrees to forego discussion of chapter awards.
  + Julie Eichelberger College of Charleston presents her work on behalf of adjunct faculty at the College of Charleston, including setting up an Adjunct Oversight Committee and producing a report on best practices for handling adjunct faculty. Best practices include: pay and benefits for adjunct faculty comparable to other with similar qualifications, comparable hiring and evaluation—formative not just evaluative—practices for adjunct faculty, a career ladder, adjunct faculty involvement in department and institutional governance, support for adjunct faculty development and scholarship, an institutional staff plan determining acceptable adjunct faculty levels, and explicitly communicated respect for adjunct faculty at all levels of the institution.
* **The conferences breaks for lunch and resumes at 2:25 pm**
  + David Bruzina USC Aiken presents a plan for Equity Week in the Fall. He asks chapters to designate an Equity Week representative and asks for a volunteer to handle the press release. He will follow up on this. He proposes that Coastal Carolina University be awarded the AAUP Champions Prize in 2019 for converting 44 adjunct positions to full-time instructor positions with benefits.
  + Amanda Warren discusses her visit to the Georgia AAUP conference and the discussion of proposed changes in the national AAUP structure. The SC conference shares other regional conferences concerns about a proposal that would award delegates and votes on the basis of numerical membership. The concern is that smaller advocacy chapters and chapterless members would be left with representation. The conference agrees to explore coordinating with neighboring AAUP conferences in North Carolina and/or Georgia, holding one annual state and one annual regional conference instead of two state conferences. The conference also agrees to push for a voting delegate representing advocacy chapters and chapterless members in the region. Mark Blackwell offers to begin working on a 2-year plan laying out 3-5 common goals.
* **State of the State**
  + Mark Blackwell notes that the proposed Campus Free Expression Act does not seem to be gaining momentum. He will look into the progress of the 2018 Anti-Semitism Bill. He notes Dr. Turn is suing Coastal Carolina University, accusing one faculty member and the Dean of false testimony about a physical attack.
  + After some discussion of the process for involving faculty in the search for a new USC Columbia and system president, the meeting adjourns at 4 pm.