

From [Dean Saitta <dsaitta@du.edu>](mailto:dsaitta@du.edu)
Sent Sunday, September 16, 2007 4:58 pm
To [Cathy Jones <cjones@aaup.org>](mailto:cjones@aaup.org) , Marki LeCompte <marki@markilecompte.org>
Cc Myron Hulen <mhulen@webaccess.net> , don.eron@hotmail.com , Suzanne.Hudson@colorado.edu , Indira Gupta <indira1vijay@yahoo.com> , ken_bonetti <kenecon2004@yahoo.com> , Laura Connolly <Laura.Connolly@unco.edu> , Lucy Graca <lucygraca@comcast.net>
Subject Re: Visit to Colorado

Hi Cathy,

I have the same concern as Marki. We're a fledgling chapter here at DU and we don't have the issues that Boulder does. But we're worried all the same about the national AAUP's response (or lack thereof) to the issues in Boulder. The Boulder chapter has been an inspiration to us, with nearly 100% of our chapter supporting their position on the Churchill case. When I sent a copy of my "AAUP MIA" post about the Churchill case that appeared on Inside Higher Ed (last May 31) to you, Jonathan Knight, and Roger Bowen, among others, I didn't hear a peep in response. This was disappointing. I'm used to memos to administrators disappearing into black holes, but I thought it would be different with our AAUP leaders. I understand that there are brushfires all around the country. Perhaps my message was impudent and impolitic for a newbie chapter prez. However, the state of academic freedom and faculty governance in Colorado being what it is—and given our widely recognized status as a sort of national "ground zero" for political attacks on the professorate—you would think that a conversation would have been in order...if only to create some confidence that the national office is paying attention.

That said, I thank you for your help in getting our chapter up-and-running, and I'm looking forward to the meeting on the 29th.

Dean

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----- Original Message -----

From: Marki LeCompte <marki@markilecompte.org>

Date: Sunday, September 16, 2007 11:38 am

Subject: Re: Visit to Colorado

To: Cathy Jones <cjones@aaup.org>

Cc: Myron Hulen <mhulen@webaccess.net>, don.eron@hotmail.com, Suzanne.Hudson@colorado.edu, Indira Gupta <indira1vijay@yahoo.com>, ken bonetti <kenecon2004@yahoo.com>, Laura Connolly <Laura.Connolly@unco.edu>, Lucy Graca <lucygraca@comcast.net>, Dean Saitta <dsaitta@du.edu>

Dear Cathy;

We'd love to see you, and will plan to do so. We'll welcome any help you can offer. However, quite frankly, it's very hard to get the membership numbers up when it's clear that the national organization isn't willing to do anything to really support the most egregious violations of academic freedom here in Boulder. Our experience is that our own hard work goes to naught when we need help from the big guys in Washington. And it isn't just us. We know from discussions with chapters elsewhere that asking the national office for real backup regarding academic freedom leaves us with egg on our faces. And that hurts our credibility incredibly.

We'll look forward to seeing you and to discussing this and other issues!

Marki LeCompte

----- Original Message -----

From: Cathy Jones

To: Marki LeCompte

Sent: Friday, September 14, 2007 11:32 AM

Subject: Visit to Colorado

Dear Marki,

I hope that your semester is off to a great start. Sorry for the short notice, but it looks like I'll be able to make it out to CO this month after all. I haven't booked a flight yet, but I will be there on the 29th for the state conference meeting and also before/afterwards to do some work on campus. What is your schedule

like around that time? I'd love to help you folks work on getting those membership numbers up, especially as you begin to explore alternative ways to focus attention on academic freedom at CU.

Best,
Cathy

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