

**Subject:** AAUP Statement Regarding Professor Arthur Gilbert  
**Date:** Friday, May 20, 2011 4:00:16 PM MT  
**From:** Dean Saitta  
**To:** Gregg Kvistad, Christopher R. Hill, Amy King  
**CC:** Dean Saitta

Dear Provost Kvistad, Dean Hill, and Ms. King,

DU's AAUP chapter met on Wednesday, May 18th and approved the following statement regarding the Arthur Gilbert suspension:

"We'd like to see the policy and procedures that were followed in removing Professor Gilbert from his classroom and banning him from campus. At present, ODEO policies (found on its DU webpages) indicate that anyone accused of harassment *"...will be informed of any complain [sic] filed against you and provided with an opportunity to respond to the specific allegations."* ODEO policy also stipulates that *"the burden of proving sexual harassment [as defined in the official DU policy] rests with the accuser."* We'd like to see DU's "forced administrative leave" policy as it pertains to faculty classroom speech. If such a policy doesn't exist, we should develop one that will guarantee rights of due process for faculty (or, the "process that is due" faculty) so that procedures aren't conjured on the fly and capriciously applied. The AAUP chapter will help to develop such a policy if one doesn't exist. In addition to concerns about procedures we have serious concerns about the academic freedom dimensions of this case and the chilling effect that it could produce in the classroom (if such effects aren't already being experienced in Korbel and elsewhere). APT revision should include inserting stronger language protecting academic freedom. Our chapter has already formally recommended this as part of our input into the APT revision process. The AAUP chapter and Faculty Senate should also pass a resolution reaffirming the importance of academic freedom protections to a healthy, vibrant university community."

AAUP recommended policy and procedures for dealing with sexual harassment complaints may be found here:  
<https://portfolio.du.edu/pc/port?page=2&uid=15048>

Respectfully,  
Dean Saitta

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