Hi All-- Here's some news regarding APT and AAUP matters:

APT Vote: Scott Leutenegger just sent an email informing the DU faculty that it's time to vote on the revised APT document, recently passed in the Senate. There are some good things in the revision that the AAUP worked hard to get, including:

- a beefed up section on academic freedom, especially where it concerns a faculty member's freedom to participate in institutional governance without negative consequences;
- multi-year contracts for NTTF faculty that offers them greater job security;
- recognition of Faculty Review Committee powers (in section 7.4.2) to "recommend remedies either for procedural inadequacies or for inequities or injustices" in promotion and tenure review.

I don't like the proposed name change for Lecturers to "Teaching Professor" for reasons discussed on the Senate blog, but it wasn't worth voting against the document for that reason given the positive things we got.

Some AAUP recommended changes that I thought would better protect tenure probationary faculty rights didn't get into the revision (specifically, some changes in sections 5.4.7 and 5.4.8). Also, in the course of reviewing the document at the 11th hour I discovered some other language that potentially lends itself to abuse of tenure probationary faculty rights. It was too late to do anything about that language for this revision. However, there's Senate Executive Committee support to look at this language in a future APT revision. That revision could come sooner rather than later. Right now there's some urgency to pass the revised document before Chancellor Coombe leaves office.

AAUP National Vote: Those of you who are members in good standing should have received (or will soon receive) a ballot for the national election. If you're wondering who to vote for, the Colorado AAUP has endorsed these candidates: Rudy Fichtenbaum, President; Hank Reichman, First Vice President; Susan Michalcyzk, Second Vice President; Michele Ganon, Secretary-Treasurer. Their opponents claim that these folk aren't supporting advocacy chapters as much as they could be, preferring to work with collective bargaining chapters. We don't think that's true here in Colorado. They have been great supporters of what we're doing in the state and are helping us boost advocacy chapter membership.

Leadership of DU Chapter: I've given it a lot of thought and I think it's time for me to give way to someone else to be President. It's been 7 years since chapter revival, and thus it's a good time for me to take a "governance sabbatical." Moreover, I turn 60 this year, my kid Joe enters East High School in the fall, the APT struggles have taken a lot out of me, and I've been absolutely terrible about calling chapter meetings. So, the stars are aligned in such a way that I think its time for me to give way. Someone PLEASE think about taking on the AAUP work. It has been really rewarding,
especially the substantive victories that have helped individual faculty. Plus, you meet really interesting people as a member of the Colorado AAUP Executive Committee. And, the years ahead are likely to be very important on our campus with a new Chancellor, several new deans, and lots of strategic planning around where DU is headed. If you’re interested please let me know, OK?

Many thanks, and I hope everyone has a great spring break!

Cheers,
Dean

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