

AAUP

Voice

Read About

Faculty Survey
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March 18, 2013

"Academic freedom for a free society"

FACULTY SURVEY

In order to represent the faculty, especially during contract negotiations, it is critical for the AAUP leadership to develop an understanding of faculty members' interests and views on their working conditions and on the University generally. One way to accomplish this is through discussions among AAUP Steering Committee members and AAUP department representatives, and by attending to the issues that faculty members bring to the AAUP by their telephone calls, emails, and by happenstance meetings. Another long established means of ascertaining faculty views is by conducting a survey. While all methods of gathering and understanding faculty viewpoints have their limits, including surveying members of the faculty, the survey is the most systematic means available.

The AAUP Executive Council surveyed the faculty early in spring semester 2013 as contract negotiations were beginning. **The results of the survey are available on the UD/AAUP web site at <http://www.udel.edu/aaup/2013survey.pdf>** All faculty members, indeed all members of the University of Delaware community, are encouraged to read the survey results. All of the results are posted, both the answers to fixed questions and the comments that faculty respondents wrote.

Faculty members responded to the survey in record numbers. 489 faculty members, both AAUP members and nonmembers, responded to the survey. This is well over the 250 to 300 respondents that has been typical during prior contract negotiations. In addition to answering the fixed questions on the survey, an unprecedented number of faculty members took the time to write on issues of concern to them, often passionately and in detail.

Over the next several weeks, the AAUP Executive Committee will be analyzing the survey results. Even a cursory review, however,

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indicates broad based concerns with RBB, morale at the University, and the role of the faculty in administrative searches. These concerns, as well as others raised by the survey, require discussion and action in a variety of forums, including contract negotiations.

If you believe that activities like the faculty survey are beneficial to you and to the University, please join the AAUP if you are not a member. The AAUP is the only organization on campus that represents all full-time faculty members. Please use the attached form to join.

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AAUP Voice

A. Timothy Spaulding

The AAUP Voice is the official newsletter of the University of Delaware Chapter of the American Association of University Professors.

The Voice appears four times a year, twice in the fall semester and twice in the spring semester.

The Executive Council acts as the editorial board. During contract negotiations or when otherwise warranted, Bargaining Team members also participate on the board.

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Hours: M-F 8:00 - noon