

### Mission

“The mission of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) is to advance **academic freedom** and **shared governance**; to define fundamental professional **values and standards** for higher education; to promote the **economic security** of faculty, academic professionals, graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, and all those engaged in teaching and research in higher education; to help the higher education community **organize** to make our goals a reality; and to ensure higher education's contribution to the **common good**...” – *aaup.org*

- <http://blogs.whitman.edu/aaup/>
- See also Recent Activity (next column)

### Why Join?

Academic freedom in teaching and scholarship, shared governance, a prerogative over the curriculum, due process in employment, and any degree of economic security... **We must not take them for granted!** The faculty has earned its standing through advocacy, and our profession has been and remains challenged by societal forces. The AAUP is the premier faculty organization in higher education. Our local AAUP chapter strives to provide education and support on key matters related to our mission.

- See also National and/or Local Challenges
- See also Selected Historical Accomplishments

### How Do I Join?

Joining the national AAUP is easy, and the dues are on a sliding scale based on academic income. This enrolls you in our local chapter, which has no membership fees. To join, go to: **<https://www.aaup.org/membership/join>** (Faculty with professional development funds from the college may use them to cover the membership fee, as with other professional organizations.)

### Whitman AAUP Chapter Goals

- A strong faculty role in shared governance
- Defending academic freedom
- Giving non-tenure track (NTT) faculty a voice
- Protecting the institution of tenure
- Faculty-administration relations
- Advancing the teacher-scholar model
- Organizing for appropriate compensation
- Preserving faculty control of the curriculum
- Keeping faculty informed about the principles, history, and challenges of our profession

### Recent Chapter Activity

- Successful motion for faculty-led periodic review of the president and provost
- Advocacy for affordable faculty housing
- Defending the 9-month academic year contract
- A regular “Hour of Power” for members/allies
- Advocacy for safer work during the pandemic
- Advocacy to protect NTT faculty jobs in 2020
- Opposition to discontinuing the practice of multi-year appointments for NNT faculty
- Successful motion to add an NTT faculty rep on the faculty committee on compensation
- Protests against austerity measures
- A call for transparency in budgeting
- A call for equity in compensation
- Faculty education about budget matters
- Opposition to the erosion of sabbatical leave
- Advocacy for an open presidential search
- All-faculty discussions on shared governance
- *Scholar Strike* and *Debt Reveal Day* activity
- Successful motion on unauthorized recordings

### Selected Historical Accomplishments

- One of the nation’s earliest AAUP chapters
- Advocacy for competitive salaries
- Implementation of **peer review of personnel**
- **Academic freedom in the faculty code**
- Adoption of **due process in dismissal**
- **Tenure** and the **sabbatical leave** program
- Faculty approval of the AAUP’s *Statement on Government of Colleges and Universities* (and its amendments)