From the NYS AAUP President’s Desk:
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PROFESSION ALONE
In 2000 Robert Putnam published a book titled Bowling Alone that advanced the claim that Americans were losing a sense of shared endeavor, of collective pleasures and pursuits, the kind of bonding once achieved in innocent group outings like bowling leagues where the act of rolling balls down a strip of wood was merely an excuse to get together in common interest and humanity.

The idea was not unlike earlier observations such as Tom Wolfe’s “Me Generation” and Christopher Lasche’s “Culture of Narcissism.” I am struck by how apt these analyses are for what is becoming of academic employment. Increasingly, we are Professing Alone.

The political and military tactic known as “divide and conquer” is usually thought of as a means by which wily generals turn sub groups against one another so as to more easily defeat all of them. There may be no group more prone to fall victim to this strategy than college and university professors.

We are peculiarly singular, despite our engagement with students and our fondness for terms that help us avoid the fact that we are workers. We like to call each other “colleagues” rather than co-workers. Our boss is called a Dean or a Chair. We don’t say, “I work at XYZ university,” but rather, “I’m a chemist, a historian, a psychologist, etc.” It’s as though “work” were a word that is not servicing the students and the educational and social missions that they were intended to serve.

Meanwhile, it is harder and harder to drum up support for collective faculty action in the face of ever more demanding expectations from those in authority. If we are to arrest the erosion, let alone begin to reverse it, we must find ways to join forces in defense of the institutions and the status that once made the American system of higher education the envy of the world.

ripples from the election — yeshiva review
Although news of the federal budget, tax rates, and cuts in the so-called “entitlement programs” has over-shadowed post-election discussions of any other topic, there are consequences of Barak Obama’s reelection that are of particular interest to higher education. Perhaps the one with the greatest long-range impact concerns the continuing functioning of the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) and its upcoming review of the 1980 Supreme Court Yeshiva Decision that virtually stripped professors at private institutions of the right to petition for collective bargaining rights.

Had Gov. Romney won, it is probable that the NLRB would have been severely curtailed through de-funding and the appointment of anti-union Board members. As it is, there are still major impediments to progressive action from the Board, and the anti-union forces are well organized and well-funded. Yet there are a few glimmers of hope, chief among which is the petition now under review to grant bargaining rights to the faculty at Point Park University in Pittsburgh. That drive, organized by the Communication Workers of America, was favorably received by the Labor Board but curtailed by a Federal Court intervention.

The Court ruled that the NLRB must review the case to see if the circumstances that prevailed at the time of the Yeshiva Decision were still validly evident to prevent recognition of the Point Park faculty union.

The national AAUP has submitted an amicus brief to the Board in support of the faculty as have several major unions and other education related organizations, including the American Federation of Teachers (AFT).

The case will be watched closely by all sides and its outcome will likely have an impact for decades to come.

The guest speaker at the New York conference was Dr. Albert Simone, retired former President of RTI (1992-2007) as well as former President of the University of Hawaii. Dr. Simone’s address focused mostly on the problematic role of sports in higher education though he expanded his remarks to cover many aspects of administration-faculty relations.

Repeatedly, he claimed that in many regards higher education is “out of control.” And, repeatedly, he stated that the key to bringing university systems under control was through shared governance with faculty. In fact, he was quite blunt in stating, “In the absence of shared governance, the university is out of control.” By this he explained that the institutions were not servicing the students and the educational and social mission that they were intended to serve.

In order to advance those ends, one of his most innovative contributions to RTI was the establishment of an office of ombudsman for all employees and a system whereby faculty, staff and students were invited to attend all general meetings of the Board of Trustees and to be informed of all Board actions and initiatives. The Executive Committee of the Faculty at RTI receives copies of the full agendas and are invited to attend all Trustee meetings, aside from those when the Board goes into Executive Session for discussions of specific personnel matters.

It turns out that many college boards allow members of the community to attend their meetings, a practice that should be adopted universally.

At the national conference the most interesting and useful discussions were Packets of materials that have been prepared by the national AAUP and distributed at both the president’s desk and the programmatic sessions. These materials are available for downloading from the AAUP website https://www.nysaaup.org. You will find several sessions provided by the president’s desk on NYSAAUP Conference and the Review.

The three-day conference opens tomorrow with the State AAUP Round Table and Report of the National Conference. The opening keynote will be delivered by Dr. Jerry Falwell Jr., president of Liberty University and former Chairman of the Board of Directors of MTSU. The keynote will be followed by the National AAUP Business Meeting.

A complete list of plenary speakers and session topics is available at https://www.nysaaup.org/Winter2013.html.
Call for Nominations for the Assembly of State Conference Executive Committees

Nominations are being solicited for the offices of chair, vice chair, and member at large of the Assembly of State Conferences (ASC) Executive Committee. Any eligible candidate whose name is recommended to the ASC Nominating Committee by representatives from three or more state conferences shall be included among the nominees. In accordance with Department of Labor regulations, the ASC Constitution, and the national AAUP Constitution, election of the ASC chair will be conducted by mailed ballot in March. The ASC vice chair and member-at-large offices will be elected at the June 14, 2013, ASC meeting in Washington, DC, by conference delegates to that meeting. Completed nominations must be received by 5:00 p.m on Friday, January 25, 2013. Nominations may be e-mailed to the committee at ascnominations@aaup.org or sent via US mail to ASC Nominating Committee, c/o Jenn Nichols, 1133 Nineteenth Street NW, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20036. For details about the ASC nominations and elections procedures, please visit http://www.aaup.org/AAUP/about/asc or write to ascnominations@aaup.org.

The ASC Nominating Committee members in accordance with the ASC Constitution and Bylaws, are Tim Blessing (PA), John McNay (OH), and Warren Zemke (IA).

The Journal of Academic Freedom Seeks Articles on Freedom and Globalization

The AAUP’s Journal of Academic Freedom (http://www.aaup.org/AAUP/permissions/jaf) seeks scholarly articles relating to the topic of academic freedom and globalization. How is the expansion of US higher education around the world and the increasing international integration of academia affecting academic freedom? In what ways, conversely, is the globalization of higher education transforming academia within the United States, shifting and impinging upon traditional notions of academic freedom?

Some of the topics that might be germane to this discussion include:

- **Academic freedom at satellite campuses** such as NYU-Abu Dhabi and Yale-Singapore. How does the expansion of the liberal university into such authoritarian locales affect its mission and the forms of academic freedom enjoyed by scholars at such institutions?

- **From the Occupy movement in the US to the uprisings in Chile**, the last year or so has seen a wave of student protest. These protests have often targeted the increasingly privatized, corporate character of education around the globe. In what ways have these protests highlighted issues related to academic freedom?

- **The Palestinian Boycott Divest Sanctions (BDS) Movement** picked up steam and generated significant controversy in recent years in the US and Britain. The AAUP rejects this campaign, largely on the grounds of academic freedom. Can a case be made for endorsing the campaign without infringing academic freedom? How might the previous history of academic boycotts inform our perspectives on this issue?

- **Around the globe, austerity is being imposed on academia in the wake of the Great Recession.** What is the impact of specific austerity measures on academic freedom? Where can we look to see how things might be done differently?

- **During the last year, so-called Massive Online Open Courses (MOOCs) have exploded in popularity**, with large international student subscriptions to both for-profit and not-for-profit online courses offered by elite US private institutions such as MIT and Stanford.

- What is the impact of such MOOCs on education and academic freedom in developing nations?

**The due date** for papers on the topic of academia and globalization is January 31, 2013. In addition to accepting scholarly papers relating to this topic, the Journal of Academic Freedom continues to welcome submissions on eclectic topics. Electronic submissions should go to jaf@aaup.org and must include an abstract of about 150 words.

The journal uses the sixteenth edition of the Chicago Manual of Style and authors should anticipate that if their article is accepted for publication, it will need to be put into Chicago style. The journal continues from page 6.

From the NYS AAUP President’s Desk:

presentation I heard was by Rick Legon, the President of the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB), the respected body that advises Boards of Trustees on best practices for institutions of higher education. On the topic of Presidential assessment, Legon was forceful and unequivocal in his recommendation that such periodic reviews should be open, transparent and involve all constituencies of the community. He explained the value of the “360 degree review” as the best way of getting a complete sense of the strengths and weaknesses of administrative leadership. He also recommended that the results of evaluations be made public in some form as a demonstration of the leadership’s commitment to universal rigor and transparency. Furthermore, it turns out that the AGB offers to provide the service of conducting administrative reviews as a neutral, outside consultant.

The AGB publishes a comprehensive guide titled, “Assessing Presidential Effectiveness.” Here’s the description from the AGB website as well as the link for further information:

In this publication, Richard Merrill focuses on the president’s responsibilities to the board, and other decision-making systems and relationships. An assessment should be an opportunity for the board to deepen its understanding of the president and the organization,” he writes, “to connect and integrate elements of its own responsibilities, to intensify its engagement with the institution and to broaden its influence in shared leadership.

Chapters on the board’s responsibilities in appraisal and development, annual and comprehensive assessment, procedures and protocols, and policies and materials, as well as valuable resources and links provide perspectives, tools and forms for presidential assessment and a solid for institutions to begin this most important process.

Drawing on his background as president emeritus of the University of Richmond, Merrill, now president of the Teagle Foundation, not only shares personal experiences but also situates the theory and practice of presidential evaluation in the landscape of higher education today.”

If we really want to claim that we have created a climate of assessment, this would be a step in the right direction.

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NYS AAUP Executive Director’s Report

agreement [http://apunews.org/apunews/2013-november-8] that the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB) and the New York State Association of Colleges and Universities (NYSAAC) have signed an agreement in principle to work toward the development of a comprehensive, voluntary quality assurance program for New York State’s higher education institutions.

1,000 NYS members from the SUNY system or about 1/4 of our state conference membership.

We have been concerned about Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and State University of New York (SUNY) Chancellor Dr. Nancy L. Zimpher’s NYSUNY 2020 Challenge Grant Program because the plan essentially privatizes the SUNY system. The grant applications under this initiative are required to leverage private sector resources and meet several criteria, including:

- Ways the school will bring the local community and stakeholders together through the Regional Economic Development Councils to spur local economic development and contribute to regional revitalization
- Strategic partnerships, such as public/private partnerships, to increase academic and economic benefits
- Endorsem ents from surrounding local governments in support of the plan
- Funding mechanisms, such as capital financing, tuition increases and private sector financing
- Details for expansion, including faculty to be hired, property to be purchased and for what purpose

Central to the grant criteria, as I read it, are industry-partnered, capital financing, tuition increases (possibly at the individual school levels as opposed to SUNY wide), and private sector financing? Are individual SUNY campuses now for sale to the highest bidders? Will tuitions for gaining a public education in our SUNY schools now be based upon market conditions on a school-by-school competitive basis?

The NYSCAAUP also supports the Campaign to Repeal Pathways [http://www.psc-cuny.org/our-campaigns/faculty-staff-and-students-mobilize-pathways-town-hall/]. CUNY expects to implement a new system of general education requirements and new transfer guidelines across the University. The centerpiece of this initiative is a 30-credit general education Common Core. Each CUNY college can require its four-year degree students to take another 6 to 12 credits of general education through the College Option. Importantly, once elected at one CUNY college, these general education credits will carry over seamlessly if a student transfers to another CUNY college. Pathways also allow gateway courses for a number of popular majors. While the goals of Pathways are admirable the program curriculum was dictated by the administration shortcircuiting the full participation of CUNY faculty essentially usurping their academic freedom.

There is only a few of the major issues facing higher education in NYS. The AAUP and the NYS Conference of AAUP need your support. Please maintain your membership and urge your colleagues to join as well. Also, please do join us at our New York State AAUP Conference Spring 2013 at Marymount Manhattan College in New York City.

If you have comments or questions regarding the above information, you are encouraged to contact our office at 212-997-5579 or the AAUP Hotline at 800-727-8888.

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NYU Arts and Sciences Faculty to Consider No Confidence Motion

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billion, has also generated immense opposition from the Green-

wich Village community, and acute concern among students

who already shoulder one of the largest debt burdens in the

country (40% more than the national average). A group of fac-

tulty (NYU Faculty Against the Sexton Plan) has filed a lawsuit

against the plan.

The administration’s pattern of unilateral decision-making
dates to John Sexton assumptions of office almost a decade ago,

though it surfaced most visibly, as an issue of faculty concern,
in three areas; the university’s treatment of employee unions, its

demands, on the part of faculty senators, to revive the eroded

customs of faculty governance have also met with resistance

from the administration.

It took seventeen months for the administration to respond
to a senate council proposal for minor reforms in procedure.

To demonstrate that it is engaged in consultation with faculty, the

administration often selects favored faculty to serve in an un-

authority on high.

This ad hoc practice has been a particular source of faculty

frustration, adding to the general mood of discontent.

Andrew Ross is President, NYU-AAUP chapter

NY James AAUP Executive Director’s Report

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are for the Executive Council of the NYSC Steering Committee

and for the NYSC delegates to the AAUP Assembly of State

Conferences 2013 meeting.

The following nominations were received:

NYSC Secretary 2013-2015: Cecilia McCall, PSC/CUNY

NYSC Treasurer 2013-2015: Pat Cilho, Syracuse University

NYSC At Large Member 2013-2015 and AAUP ASC

Delegate 2013: Jeffrey Baker, Monroe Community College

NYSC At Large Member 2013-2015 and AAUP ASC Dele-

gation 2013: Open

Please look for the candidate statements elsewhere in this

issue and on the nysaup.org website.

The NYSC Election Committee is:

John Polimeni [ Chair [ John.Polimeni@acphs.edu ],

Frank Higman [ fhigman@aol.com ],

Irwin Yellowitz [ yellowitz@aol.com ]

The committee has submitted the following amendment to

the NYSC Constitution [ http://nysaup.org/library/ nysaup_constitution.htm | Article IV Election of Officers and

At-Large Executive Council Members, Section 4 in order to

improve the election process:

All nominations must either 1) include statements with signa-
tures or 2) be in e-mail format. In the event that the nomination is

in email form, the email heading (email address, date and time

sent, and name of the nominator) must be copied into one email

or file that will be sent to the elections committee.

Nominations not be addressed to the Elections Committee

and should be sent to the Chair of the Elections Committee.

Nominations must include statements with signatures or e-mails

from at least six (6) members of the Conference from no less

than two (2) chapters or institutions.

The Elections Committee may verify any nominating state-

ment or e-mail.

All candidate statements and biographical information must

be submitted prior to December 30. Candidates must follow the

guidelines of the Election Committee concerning the form and

length of these items. Candidate statements and biographical in-

formation will be distributed to the membership with the ballot.

Please get back to us with your comments and suggestions

concerning their recommendation. The amendment will be on

the agenda of the Spring Meeting and will be included on the

AAUP Spring election for NYSC Conference member endorse-

ment.

Last Spring the United University Professionals (UUP) de-

cided to disassociate from AAUP effective at the end of this year.

Again we hope that the UUP will reconsider and that we will

soon be joined together

New York State AAUP Executive Director’s Report

By Tom Policano

Our New York State AAUP Conference Fall 2012 was held at Rochester Institute of Technology. Our New

York State Conference Spring 2013 will be held April 19th-20th, 2013 at Marymount Manhattan College in New

York City.

Additional information can be found on the home-

page of the New York State AAUP Conference website [http://nysaup.org].

The conference at RIT focused on conference busi-

ness and concerns of faculty attending from RIT. Our keynote speaker was Dr. Albert J. Simone. Dr.

Simone was president of Rochester Institute of Technology from September, 1992 through June, 2007. He

is the eighth president in the university’s 178-year history. He was formerly president of the University of

Hawaii System and chancellor of the University of Hawaii at Manoa for nine years (1984-1992).

He is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Beta Gamma Sigma and Phi Kappa Phi, he is the author of several

books and numerous journal publications on the appli-

cation of mathematics, statistics and computers to eco-

nomics and business.

Just a few of Dr. Simone’s professional accomplishments

include; Past Chairperson of the Board of

Trustees of the New York Commission on Independent

Colleges and Universities; Federal Reserve Bank of

New York; HSBC Bank USA Advisory Board; State

Higher Education Executive Officers; Advisory Council

on International Services; Advisory Group on Interna-

tional Arbitration; National Collegiate Athletics Associ-

ation I Presidents Commission.

Dr. Simone’s address focused on intercollegiate

sports and its impact on education. The talk was very

well researched and included many alarming statistics about

the costs and practices central to fielding success-

ful Division I teams.

I believe it is fair to say that Dr. Simone, who is an

avant-sports enthusiast, believes that significant re-priori-

tization is warranted in order to check the abuses that re-

sult from the “must win at all costs” mentality that

currently exists. The question and answer session that

followed addressed questions relating to the inappropri-

ative expenditures and even bullying that impact athletic

for which they have intercollegiate athletes in their classes.

Please note that the NYSC is holding an election for the

offices listed below in Spring 2013. These positions

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AAUP President Calls for Moratorium on CUNY Pathways

AAUP National President Rudy Fichtenbaum has called on

AAUP members to sign a national petition calling for a morato-

rium on the implementation of Pathways at CUNY.

Fichtenbaum said that “This is a watershed moment for higher

education. The ‘reform’ agenda that brought relentless testing and

widespread privatization to K-12 schools has surfaced in higher

education.

Forthy years of public policy focused on access to college

is being replaced by a single-minded demand for increased gra-

duation rates—whatever the cost in academic quality.

Fichtenbaum noted that “The battle for educational quality is

being fought hard by faculty and staff at The City University of

New York (CUNY), a long a focal point in struggles for educational

justice.”

The AAUP President asserted that “CUNY’s educational mis-

sion is under attack. Chancellor Matthew Goldstein and the

CUNY Board of Trustees, led by Benno Schmidt, Jr., are trying to

impose a diluted system of general education, ‘Pathways,’ that

seeks to save money at the expense of students’ learning.

Facing intense faculty resistance, the CUNY administration has

resorted to threats and intimidation. Under the pretext of easing

student transfer and increasing graduation rates, Pathways will de-

liver a minimal curriculum for CUNY’s working-class students: it

removes science lab requirements, limits foreign language re-

quirements, and cuts back on faculty time with students in English

classes.

Pathways is an attempt to move students through the system

more quickly even as budgets are cut—by reducing academic re-

quirements. Pathways is austerity education for an austerity econ-

omy.”


New Draft Statement on Confidentiality

A new AAUP draft statement argues that requiring faculty

members to sign confidentiality agreements as a requirement

to serve on university committees is in most cases incongru-

tent with widely accepted standards of shared governance and

with the concept of serving as a representative.

This argument does not apply to faculty serving on promo-

tion and tenure committees and similar bodies, where faculty

are in no way a representative, but instead are elected to ex-

ercise their own professional judgment in interpreting and

applying faculty-established criteria relevant to these areas.

The argument has limited applicability to search commit-

tees for administrators
Dear Colleagues,

CECELIA MccALL

Education: BS (psychology) - Regents (now Excelsior) College; MS (counseling) - Syracuse University; Ph.D. (psychology - educational specialization) - Capella University.

Employment: Adjunct Associate Professor of Psychology, Monroe Community College (Rochester); Online faculty and subject matter expert (psychology) Excelsior College (Albany). Formerly Adjunct Professor at RIT (Rochester).

Organizational Experience (number of years): National Board of Directors (7), chapter chair (5), society treasurer (1), Regents (now Excelsior) College; Adjunct Director (1 ½), Monroe Community College Faculty Association (NYSUT/AFTEA). Previously served one year term as Delegate-at-Large to the New York State Conference of AAUP.

Professional and Organizational Development: Completed AAUP Association of State Conferences leadership training in Washington, D.C. Participated in two NYSUT Community College Conferences. Presented several papers and a poster at national meetings of the American Psychological Association. Presented on adjunct faculty and online teaching issues at three AAUP conferences on the state of higher education. Participated in AAUP Capitol Hill Days.

Candidate Statement: NYS AAUP has done well in protecting academic freedom and integrity. There is much more to do. Continuing funding cuts and the decline in tenured faculty have hurt higher education. Anti-unionism is rampant.

The faculty and professional staff members at my college are working without a contract for the first time in 40 years. The University of Rochester engaged in a protracted dispute with SEIU represented non-academic workers over benefits. SUNY wants to cut programs and staff at Downstate Medical Center and other campuses.

AAUP needs to help members determine the true funding situation at their colleges and act on the current state of affairs regarding non-tenured faculty. Several national surveys have become available in the last few years that need to be reviewed and addressed. There is strength in numbers, and at the state-wide level we need to encourage the formation of new chapters and the recruitment of new members.

For NYS AAUP Treasurer 2013-2015:

PATRICK CHINON

Biography: Patrick Chinon is an Associate Professor of Law & Public Policy at the Whitman School of Management of Syracuse University. He has been a member of the AAUP since 1979, and has been Treasurer of the NYS-CAUP since 1996.

Campaign Statement: I have served the NYSC to the best of my ability for a number of years, and hope that our members see fit to allow me to continue doing so for the next two years.