

WMU-AAUP President's Report
Cathryn Bailey
July 1 – July 23, 2021

- planned and facilitated several Officers Meetings, Executive Committee meetings, and a special all-member Chapter meeting
- composed detailed emails to the Chapter about various issues, including WMU financial transparency, academic labor concerns, and negotiations-related concerns
- responded to and directed numerous member questions and concerns by phone, Zoom, email, and in person about, e.g., negotiations, pandemic safety, working conditions, and more (including faculty from CAS, Fine Arts, Health and Human Services, and more)
- supported Chapter communication efforts, for example, on the blog and on social media, including critical communications related to negotiations
- collaborated with staff and with the negotiation team to direct effective outreach efforts and relationship-building initiatives with members, including preparations for a Chapter social event, a presentation at WMU's new faculty orientation, and scores of congratulatory messages to individual faculty members
- remained in contact with the heads of other employee groups about issues of shared concern, especially important as several of us are involved in contract negotiations with WMU
- interfaced on a number of issues with the WMU administration, for example, FOIA requests and grievance matters, as appropriate to the Chapter president
- worked closely with other officers to support their ability to be responsive to member questions and concerns, including with the grievance process in ways appropriate to the Chapter president; helped get newer officers oriented and up to speed
- worked with the Nominations and Elections chair to clarify processes and to communicate about them
- interfaced with the local media as appropriate to the president
- explored strategies for enhancing the Chapter's transparency, information flow, and communication norms, all of which will be ongoing efforts
- attended multiple negotiation team meetings; remained in close contact with the team about various issues
- collaborated with office staff colleagues to ensure that daily business is conducted smoothly and safely, including updating Montague House building safety, and initiating plans for social events and more