

Vice President Report for the WMU-AAUP Executive Committee

Prepared by Natalio Ohanna, January 11, 2021 through May 14, 2021
(this report is representative, rather than all inclusive)

Assisted the Chapter President on a daily basis regarding communications, statements, Chapter strategies, and in the planning of Officers, Executive Committee, Association Council and Chapter meetings

Assisted the Grievance Officer in individual and Chapter grievances, and in other contract-related issues (e.g. Arts. 42, 33, 41, 17, 12, etc.)

Helped develop a poll on pandemic-related issues per a motion passed at Chapter meeting

Meetings with TAU, PIO and AFCSME leadership

Meeting and email communications with WMU-AAUP attorney

Meeting with AAUP national leadership

Meeting with SPAA and Counseling Services faculty

Chaired regular WMU-AAUP provost meetings

Meeting with president Montgomery, Nancy Mansberger and president Bailey on restructuring plan, Fall course modalities, prioritization of faculty vaccinations, and student initiative to recognize Juneteenth

Communicated with members to prevent suspension of dues payments or to encourage the resumption of dues-paying membership

Assisted members in workload-related issues in the College of Health and Human Services, the College of Education, and the College of Fine Arts

Numerous individual consultations with Chapter members by email, over the phone and by Zoom, which have taken the place of traditional office hours

Issues of broad scope:

- New hybrid faculty-administrator position in the Office of Academic Labor Relations
- Research misconduct policy in conflict with the Agreement
- The prospect of mandatory vaccination at WMU
- Working and teaching modalities for Summer II and Fall 2021
- Policy on hiring outside of Michigan and impact on current and future faculty
- Tenure in the context of transition from faculty specialist to traditionally-ranked faculty
- Diversity and inclusion in WMU-AAUP
- Investigation of workload increases and potential violations of Art. 42
- The use of the Employee Handbook in Art. 22 investigations
- The use of legal counsel as regular review board member in Step Two grievance
- Misinterpretations of Art. 41 (Preference) by multiple chairs