



TENNESSEE CONFERENCE

September 1991

NEWSLETTER

Conference Meeting on October 5

The Tennessee Conference of AAUP will hold its Fall Meeting on Saturday, October 5, on the campus of Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville. The meeting will open at 10:00 AM and end at 3:00 PM, with a continental breakfast and conversation at 9:30 AM. Breakfast and the meeting itself will be in the Alumni Lounge on the 3rd Floor of the University Center. A map of the campus is printed on p. 3 of this newsletter.

The Conference meeting will include, in addition to the usual reports from officers and committees, a screening of the interesting documentary video, "Keeping in Mind," about the notorious academic freedom cases at the University of Michigan in the early 1950s. A chapter discussion or program on academic freedom would be good preparation for the October 5 meeting; some recent publications which could provide discussion points or symposium themes are listed on p. 4 of this newsletter.

Please plan to attend the Fall meeting, meet your colleagues from around the state, and speak about the concerns on your campus. You will also have a chance to meet some members of the Executive Committee of the Kentucky Conference, who will be joining us as guests.

Please return the registration form at the bottom of p. 3 to Gil Fernandez by September 27. The \$10.00 registration fee will cover the breakfast and luncheon for those who register in advance.

Nominating Committee Appointed

The Constitution of the Tennessee Conference provides for elections of officers in each even-numbered year. Your participation in the nominating process is essential. The Constitution says, "Conference members shall be invited to recommend candidates for consideration by the Nominating Committee,

and the Nominating Committee shall be encouraged to select a slate of candidates that is diverse with respect to geography, gender, race, and type of institution. Provision will be made on the ballot for write-in candidates." The election will be held in March, 1992, and those elected will assume office on June 30. Please recommend candidates for the offices of President, Vice-president from independent/private institutions (who is first vice-president), Vice-president from public institutions (who is second vice-president), and Secretary-treasurer, to one of the members of the nominating committee:

David Lee (Chair), Germanic Languages, 701 McClung Tower, UTK, Knoxville
37996-0470, or by Bitnet at dlee@utkvx.

Norman Ferris, History, Box 187, MTSU, Murfreesboro
37132.

William C. Schrader, History, Tennessee Tech,
Cookeville 38505.

Financial News from THEC

At its quarterly meeting in August, the Tennessee Higher Education Commission listed the following consequences of the recessionary economy and the failed tax reform initiative:

- State appropriations for education in FY91-92 that are lower than in any of the three preceding years, even though enrollments have grown by 19,000 students.
- Higher education formula funding at its lowest level (84%) in 16 years (since 1975-76).
- Some 5400 eligible needy students who will be denied financial aid grants.
- Reduction of contract education programs with Tennessee's private colleges.
- No funding for capital projects.
- Elimination of some positions.
- No salary increases.
- Reduced class offerings.
- Reduced hours for libraries and computer labs.
- Restricted travel.
- Increased class size.
- Reduced campus maintenance.
- Postponement of new academic programs.

And so forth. The list continues. For a more personal account, see "Frustration at U. of Tennessee: Proposed 10% Budget Increase Becomes a 10% Cut," **Chronicle of Higher Education**, 4 Sept. 1991, p. A35.

AAUP Presence at State Meetings

The meeting schedules for THEC and for the governing boards of TBR and UT are listed below. If a meeting takes place near you, please attend, take colleagues, introduce yourselves to the regents, trustees, or commissioners, discuss spending priorities on your campus, and especially stress the role of the faculty in making decisions about continuation of faculty positions and academic programs. After the meeting, please send a note about decisions taken at the meeting, plus any documents you may have collected, to the Conference President (Bob Glenn, 615-974-1923, or glenn@utkvx.bitnet).

- **Tennessee Board of Regents**

September 19–20, 1991, @ Austin Peay
December 12–13, 1991, @ Shelby State

- **Tennessee Higher Education Comm.**

Oct. 25, 1991, @ THEC office, Nashville
Jan. 31, 1992, @ Legislative Plaza
April 24, 1992, @ Memphis State Univ.
Aug. 14, 1992, @ Northeast State Technical
Community College, Blountville
Nov. 6, 1992, @ THEC office, Nashville

- **UT Board of Trustees**

Sept. 27, 1991, @ UTK

Progress on the TIAA-CREF Change

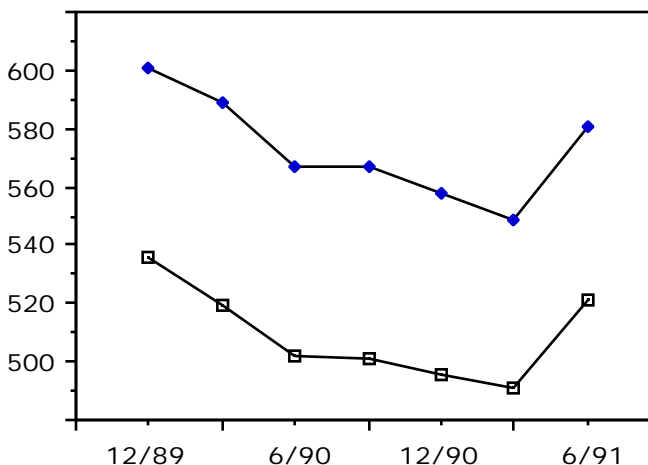
At its April 1990 meeting, the Tennessee Conference recommended that the public colleges retirement plan be modified to allow transfer of pension accumulations to a vendor other than TIAA-CREF. That change was adopted by the 1991 General Assembly as Public Chapter 116. A system is now under review for soliciting bids for participation in this optional retirement program, and, according to the director of the procurement project, "A number of vendors have already expressed strong interest in the ORP and we anticipate that the bid process will be very competitive." Competition, and the likelihood of improved benefits for public college faculty, were the primary considerations which led AAUP to

recommend the change. Contracts with at least two, but no more than three, insurance companies should be signed in April 1992 by the Consolidated Retirement System.

Conference Membership Up

For the first time in several reporting periods, Conference membership has increased. As of June 1991, the Tennessee Conference has 581 members, of whom 521 are "active" members. That is an increase of roughly 6% from March 1991, when the corresponding numbers were 549 and 491. The following graph represents our membership figures for 1990–91:

As vital decisions are being made about salaries,



appointments, and the even the continuation of academic programs, it is important that Conference membership continue to grow. Please take time to speak with one or two colleagues about AAUP, stressing its mission since 1915 in promoting academic freedom and responsibility, and its work for the interests of women and minorities in the profession, for faculty participation in campus governance—such as in the control of athletic programs, and related concerns. And remind untenured colleagues that they can join AAUP at a substantial reduction in dues. Please send the Conference President (Bob Glenn, 615-974-1923, or glenn@utkvx.bitnet) the names and addresses of prospective members and they will receive additional information about AAUP from the Conference and the national office.

[Map inserted here.]

Please return this form to Professor Gilbert Fernandez, History, Tennessee Technological University,
Box 5064, Cookeville, TN 38505, *by September 27.*

I plan to attend the Fall meeting of the Tennessee Conference on October 5, 1991.

Name _____

Institution _____

_____ I enclose the \$10.00 registration fee. (Make checks payable to
Tennessee Conference, AAUP.)

_____ I will pay the registration fee when I arrive.

Literature on Academic Freedom

Among several recent publications on academic freedom, the following would be especially useful as program or discussion items in preparation for the Fall Conference meeting. First, there is Ellen Schrecker's **No Ivory Tower** (Oxford Univ. Press, 1986), an excellent history of McCarthyism on the campuses with extensive discussion of the Michigan cases which are the subject of the documentary video we will be seeing. Also, there is a good review article by Clisby Louise Hall Barrow, "Academic Freedom and the University Title VII Suit after *University of Pennsylvania v. EEOC* and *Brown v. Trustees of Boston University*," **Vanderbilt Law Review**, 43 (Oct. 1990), 1571-606, which is considerably broader in focus than the title might suggest. And finally, the Summer 1990 issue of **Law and Contemporary Problems** (vol. 53, no. 3) will be of interest to all members of AAUP. It is a symposium, edited by William W. Van Alstyne, called "Freedom and Tenure in the Academy: The Fiftieth Anniversary of the 1940 Statement of Principles." The contents are as follows:

Foreword	William W. Van Alstyne	1
The 1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure	Walter P. Metzger	3
Academic freedom and the First Amendment in the Supreme Court of the United States: an unhurried historical review	William W. Van Alstyne	79
Ideology and faculty selection	Judith Jarvis Thomson	155

Artistic freedom and academic freedom	Robert M. O'Neil	177
Academic freedom, hate speech, and the idea of a university	Robert A. Smolla	195
A functional analysis of "individual" and "institutional" academic freedom under the First Amendment	David M. Rabban	227
Academic freedom in religious colleges and universities	Michael W. McConnell	303
Academic tenure and academic freedom	Ralph S. Brown & Jordan E. Kurland	325
"A higher order of liberty in the workplace": academic freedom and tenure in the vortex of employment practices and law	Matthew W. Finkin	357
Academic freedom: a bibliography	Janet Sinder	381
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Contribute to Your Newsletter

Chapter officers: please send news about chapter elections, programs, and membership to the Newsletter editor, David Lee (Germanic Languages, 701 McClung Tower, UTK, Knoxville 37996-0470, or through Bitnet to dlee@utkvx). The deadline for the next issue of the Newsletter is **November 1, 1991**.

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