

Constitution of the University of Michigan-Flint Chapter of the AAUP

Article I - Name

The name of this organization is the University of Michigan-Flint chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP or the Association).

Article II - Purposes

The Purposes of this chapter are to:

1. Support the policies and goals of the Association as found in Article I of its national constitution...to facilitate a more effective cooperation of teachers and research scholars in universities and colleges, and in professional schools of similar grade, for the promotion of the interests of higher education and research, and in general to increase the usefulness and advance the standards, ideals, and welfare of the profession.
2. Defend academic freedom at the University of Michigan-Flint.
3. Encourage faculty participation in government at the University of Michigan-Flint.
4. Protect and advance the professional status and interests of all faculty.
5. Facilitate the dissemination among members and nonmembers of the Association of information on higher education principles and practices.
6. Convey the policies and views of the Association to administrators, governing boards, and local and state legislative bodies, and the general public.
7. Participate in the state conference of chapters.
8. Develop necessary and proper chapter programs for the accomplishment of the aforementioned purposes.
9. [When appropriate] to promote collective bargaining for the accomplishment of the aforementioned purposes.

In furtherance of the purposes described above, but not in limitation thereof, the chapter shall have power to conduct studies; to disseminate statistics and other information; to engage in various fund-raising activities; to conduct promotional activities, including advertising and publicity, in or by any suitable manner of media; to hold such property as is necessary to accomplish its purposes; and to employ individuals to represent the chapter in lawsuits, negotiations, and for other purposes. This association chapter is organized and operated for the above stated purposes, and for other nonprofit purposes, and no part of any net earnings shall inure to the benefit of any member.

Article III - Members

The membership of this chapter shall be limited to those persons who are National members of the American Association of University Professors with the status of Active member.

Chapter membership shall become effective upon payment of chapter dues in an amount determined by the Executive Committee and as approved by a two-thirds vote at a meeting of the chapter. The Chapter Executive Committee will be responsible for confirming membership in the Chapter when notifying the levy of chapter dues.

There shall be three classes of members of the Chapter:

1. Active. A person employed by the University of Michigan-Flint in the capacity of full-time faculty member, and who has a fifty (50) percent or greater teaching appointment, is eligible for Active membership in the Chapter.
2. Associate. Any person employed by the University of Michigan-Flint as an adjunct instructor, or a full-time faculty member with less than a fifty (50) percent teaching appointment, may be an Associate member. Associate members may attend all meetings of the chapter, and participate in discussions, but may not vote or hold office. However, the chapter President may select an Associate member for special tasks with the approval of the Executive Committee.
3. Emeritus. Any Active or Associate member who retires from the University of Michigan-Flint may be transferred, at his or her request, to Emeritus membership. Emeritus members may attend all meetings of the chapter, and participate in discussions, but may not vote or hold office. However, the chapter President may select an Emeritus member for special tasks with the approval of the Executive Committee.

Article IV - Officers and Organization

The officers of this organization shall be a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, membership chairman.

The term of office shall not exceed two years. Persons so elected may serve two consecutive terms.

President. The duties of the president shall include carrying out the policies of the Chapter, appointing all committees of the Chapter, exercising a general supervision over the activities of the Chapter, and presiding at meetings of the Chapter and Executive Committee. The president shall be a member ex officio of all committees, but the president shall not be counted in determining a quorum in these committees.

Vice President. The duties of the vice president shall include those usually appertaining to the office and those delegated by the president.

Secretary. The duties of the secretary shall include keeping a record of all proceedings, and correspondence of the Chapter, sending such notices as may be required, keeping the roll of members of the chapter, certifying Chapter delegates to the Annual Meeting, preparing newsletters for distribution to the faculty [in the absence of another person delegated to that responsibility], maintaining official contact with the National Association, its officers and staff.

Treasurer. The treasurer shall receive the dues of the members and keep an accurate record of all money received and of all disbursements, promote the establishment of dues deduction to facilitate the recruitment and retention of members, prepare an annual budget and report of finances, and submit for approval an annual chapter budget. The treasurer shall preside at meetings and assume responsibility for the leadership of the Chapter in the absence or withdrawal of the president, vice president, and secretary, and until a new Executive Committee can be elected.

Membership Chairman. The membership chairman shall supervise the regular and continuous recruitment of new members, using suggestions supplied by the National AAUP and others as may be applicable to the institution. The Executive Committee shall constitute the core of the Membership Recruitment Committee.

Grievance Officer. The Grievance Officer shall be responsible for supervising the grievance procedure at the institution. The Grievance Officer shall consult with—and may be consulted by—faculty regarding grievance procedure issues, report regularly to the Executive Committee, advise the Executive Committee regarding potential grievance procedure violations and implement Executive Committee decisions. The Grievance Officer shall be appointed by the Executive Committee for a two-year term and may be reappointed.

Vacancies

1. Resignation. When an officer has resigned or is disqualified, and there is one year or more left in that officer's term of service, the office shall be filled by a special election of the Chapter. The Executive Committee is empowered to fill vacancies in any elective office until a special election is held. The person so elected shall hold office for the remainder of the unexpired term.
Any officer may resign at any time by giving written notice to the president or to the secretary of the Chapter.
2. Recall. All members of the Executive Committee are subject to recall.
 - A. A two-thirds (2/3) vote by the members at a regularly scheduled meeting, or a petition signed by thirty (30) percent of the chapter members, shall cause a recall election to be conducted within one (1) month.
 - B. Upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of Chapter members casting ballots, the officer shall be recalled and shall vacate his or her seat on the Executive Committee.
3. Other conditions. Should circumstances arise where there is but [one] remaining officer, an *ad hoc* nominating committee shall be appointed by the remaining officer to recruit from Active members candidates to run for Executive Committee office.

Article V - Committees

Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall consist of the elected officers of the Chapter, the immediate past president, and [two] members elected at large. It shall act as a governing body of the Chapter, but only in pursuit of a prior resolution of the chapter or as needed to uphold the constitution. The majority of the elected members of the Executive committee shall constitute a quorum for conduct of business of the Committee.

The Executive Committee shall assume responsibility for the Chapter's continuing effective presence at the institution, keeping all positions on the executive committee filled as vacancies occur. Among the duties of the executive committee are the following:

1. Meet regularly with a partially open agenda to enable response to any faculty member seeking assistance.
2. Conduct the business of the Chapter between Chapter meetings.
3. Regularly recruit members and encourage maintenance of membership in established members.

4. Make necessary appointments to complete an unexpired term of any officer, if less than one year is left to the term.
5. Set the agenda with appropriate notice for Chapter meetings.
6. Consult regularly with the administration on matters of mutual interest.
7. Respond to inquiries from the media.
8. Supervise the preparation and distribution of a newsletter to inform members and other faculty of recent activities of local and national importance.
9. Promote the establishment of a dues deduction plan to encourage membership recruitment and membership maintenance.

Nominating Committee. A nominating committee of four members, appointed by the Executive Committee, shall broadly represent faculty at the University of Michigan-Flint [in small chapters, with a minimum membership, the Executive Committee may serve as the Nominating Committee]. The Nominating committee shall submit at least two (2) candidates for each office to be filled. The names of all candidates shall be sent to members by the secretary at least one month before the chapter election meeting. Additional nominations of candidates for elective office may be submitted from the floor by an Active member of the Chapter. A plurality of votes shall be required for election to any office.

Candidates for elective office shall be Active members of the Chapter who have familiarized themselves with the Association's body of knowledge, its principles, and procedures, and who have enthusiasm for active promotion of, and campus-wide understanding and appreciation for, AAUP principles.

Standing Committees. A chapter may create standing and ad hoc committees from time to time as they are deemed necessary to promote the welfare of the Chapter's program at the institution. The chair and members of these committees shall be appointed by the Executive Committee. [Some standing committees may be as follows:

- Academic freedom and tenure
- Status of women and minorities
- Professional ethics
- Accreditation of colleges and universities
- Membership, elections, dues, and chapter organization
- Publications and library
- Relationships with local, state, and federal governments
- Faculty participation in college and university governance
- Economic status of the profession]

Article VI - Meetings

The Chapter shall hold regular meetings, not less than twice each academic year.

Special meetings of the chapter may be called by the president or a majority of the Executive Committee. Written notice of such meetings shall be provided to each member by the secretary of the Chapter at least five days in advance of the date selected. The president shall call special

meetings of the Chapter within seven days when directed by the Executive Committee or by a petition signed by ten percent of the members of the Chapter.

The quorum required for the transaction of business at all meetings of the Chapter shall consist of 20 percent of the Active members of the Chapter.

Associate members of the Association may attend Chapter meetings at the invitation of the Executive Committee.

Article VII - Amendments

This constitution may be amended by the three-fourths (3/4) affirmative vote of a quorum of the Chapter at a regular or special meeting, provided that a notice setting forth the proposed amendment or amendments with reasons thereof and setting forth any known objections thereto shall have been sent to each member at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting. A petition of ten (10) percent of the Chapter membership may also initiate amendments. The approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the Active Membership responding to a written ballot under the preparatory conditions cited above shall constitute approval.

Article VIII - Dues

Chapter dues shall be levied upon Active Members only, the amount to be determined annually at the Spring meeting of the chapter. Payment of current national AAUP dues and chapter dues shall be a prerequisite for Chapter membership.

Article IX - Rules of Order

Roberts Rules of Order Revised shall be the authority for this Chapter in matters of parliamentary procedure.

Enacted this _____ day of _____ in the year _____.