

Summary of the March 21, 2011 meeting of the Loyola Chapter of the AAUP

There was a continued discussion about the handbook, tenure and the contractual rights of the faculty. Prof. Robert Garda, from the College of Law, was present and entertained questions from the members who were present. . The group viewed the Faculty Handbook as clear on the issue of tenure and the fact that the Handbook (chapters 4-16) are contractual. Professor Garda agreed with this interpretation.

The remainder of the meeting addressed issues that we felt were necessary in order to move ahead with the lifting of censure from the administration.

1. The revisions to the *Faculty Handbook* need to be completed and accepted. It is crucial that the revisions include the recommended changes the URTC made in 2009. [Barring any unforeseen problems, this will likely happen by the end of this semester.]
2. It has been years since new faculty have received a hard copy of the *Faculty Handbook* as part of their orientation to the university. The membership felt that it would appropriate for every member of the university to receive a hard copy because many may not be aware of changes that have been made, especially since Katrina. Any subsequent changes to the handbook can be sent to faculty as PDF files or notices sent to faculty that changes are available online for downloading. [The provost has already agreed to do this.]
3. The chapter feels that it is most important for President Wildes to call a faculty assembly during which he will affirm that the handbook is our contract and that he will abide by it in the future. We feel that it is important that he take questions from the faculty regarding Pathways, and that he provide to the Board of Trustees a written report of the proceedings of this assembly.
4. The chapter is awaiting the finished assessment of Pathways from the joint sub-committee of the University Senate and Standing Council on Academic Planning (SCAP), and its recommendations. [This is scheduled for the April meeting.]
5. The chapter believes that continued dialogue between the administration and faculty is essential for trust to be re-established. This can be best achieved through a return to the processes and procedures of shared governance as outlined in our handbook.