



Health Care Today

C. Dennis Simpson, WMU-AAUP Health Care Advocate

The number of providers in the BCBSM PPO continues to increase in the Kalamazoo area. This is a result of two factors. First, the WMU administration's promise to encourage (leverage) provider groups into the PPO network of providers. Second, is that patients, such as yourself, are encouraging (demanding) their health care provider join the network. In both cases this has produced successful results.

The Chapter has been working with a meaningful number of faculty on appeals to BCBSM. This advocacy has resulted in significant four figure bills, previously having been denied by BCBSM, now being paid as part of your benefit. These bills have spanned dentistry, mental health and internal medicine. It has become obvious the advocacy and appeal system to BCBSM, when applied tenaciously, will provide desired re-

sults. You are encouraged to use this system to obtain maximum payment of your health care costs.

The projection for 2007 is for health care costs to continue to increase in double digit percentages nationally. This undoubtedly will be a point of discussion in the 2008 negotiations. It is strongly suggested you access and review the Health Care Benefits Summary and Health Care Guide on the Chapter's website at www.wmuaaup.net.

Your opinions are requested as to what needs to be addressed regarding health care in the 2008 negotiations. Also note that the Chapter health care advocate is available to assist you in understanding the complex nature of our health care benefits. Contact the Chapter office, 345-0151, if you need this assistance.

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Jo Wiley

Contract Administrator

Heidi Vogley

Grievance Officer

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WMU-AAUP Officers & Health Care Advocate Bios

Paul T. Wilson, WMU-AAUP President

Paul T. Wilson, Associate Professor, College of Education, has been active with the WMU-AAUP since 1999. From 1999 until 2004, Paul was the Executive Committee member for the College of Education. Paul has served on many AAUP, University and Department committees including, but not limited to: AAUP Task Force on Chapter Concerns; Employee Health & Wellness Advisory Committee, AAUP Liaison; Health Management Group, AAUP Liaison; Health Care Advisory Committee, AAUP Liaison; WMU representative to Michigan AAUP; North Central Accreditation General Institutional Requirements (#9-11) Committee; Campus Master Plan West Campus Focus Group; Tenure & Promotion; and Ad Hoc Department Policy Development Committee.

As the WMU-AAUP President, Paul collaborates closely with the officers and the Execu-

tive Committee to meet the Chapter's membership needs.

Jo Wiley, Vice President

Jo Wiley is a faculty specialist in the Business Information Systems department of WMU's business college. In addition to teaching multiple sections of college's required freshman writing course each semester, she teaches two of the Business Communication minor's required courses and the baccalaureate writing class. Her main areas of interest are communication processes and informational technologies and their relationship with each other within business.

Jo has served as her department and/or program Association Council Representative for much of the past ten years and was the Chapter's Information Officer during 2003-2004. She sees her current position as vice president of the WMU Chapter of the AAUP as an opportunity to increase communica-

tion, connectivity, and collaboration amongst the membership and also to serve as a faculty advocate in many University and community arenas.

Lisa Whittaker, Grievance Officer

Lisa Whittaker, Associate Professor, College of Aviation, begins a two year term this fall as the AAUP grievance officer. Lisa joined WMU in August, 2000. She has served the university on both the Undergraduate Studies Council and the Technology and Operations Council. Prior to working at WMU, she spent seventeen years in the aviation industry. Her background as a technical product support representative for major aircraft manufacturers provided her with a foundation in customer relations, negotiating, researching and resolving issues in a timely manner, and also recommending preventative action. These skills can now be applied to the job of grievance officer.

Lisa will be working closely with the contract administrator to facilitate resolution of faculty’s issues. She is looking forward to the opportunity to work with the chapter membership as well as the entire WMU AAUP organization.

Heidi Douglas-Vogley, Contract Administrator

Heidi Vogley, Master Faculty Specialist, College of Health and Human Services, begins a two year term, beginning during the Fall 2007 semester, as the AAUP Contract Administrator. Heidi joined WMU in January of 1993. Within the university as well as the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology, Heidi has served on the General Education Assessment Committee, the Van Riper Lectures Planning Committee, and the Academic and Clinical Education Committee. She has also assumed the role of Continuing Education Administrator and has become the advisor for the Western Michigan University chapter of the National Student Speech-Language and Hearing Association.

Before coming to Western Michigan University, Heidi participated in a number of clinical and supervisory roles within area hospitals, home health agencies, and rehabilitation centers. Heidi also served the American Speech-Language and Hearing Association as a Program Evaluation Review Team member in which she had to review and assess clinical and hospital-based departments of speech-language pathology and audiology in terms of their adherence to national standards.

As Contract Administrator, Heidi will collaborate closely with the Grievance Officer to meet faculty needs. Heidi is looking forward to working with the entire WMU AAUP community.

Galen Rike, Treasurer

Galen Rike, Associate Professor, University Libraries, has been active in the AAUP for over 40 years. Galen has served as the WMU-AAUP Chapter Treasurer since 2005. His WMU-AAUP Service includes: the Executive Committee representative for Support Units (Library and Counseling Center) since 2005; the Association Council Representative for University Libraries from 1998-2004; the AAUP representative to University Assessment Steering Committee; and served on Ad Hoc Committee to Evaluate Administrators.

Galen works closely with the officers and Executive Committee members to meet the Chapter’s membership needs.

C. Dennis Simpson, Health Care Advocate

Dennis Simpson is a Professor in the Physician Assistant Department in the College of Health and Human Services and directs a program within the Department. He has been at WMU for over 30 years . During his tenure at WMU he has received over 30 million dollars in grants/contracts from state agencies, federal agencies , corporations and foundations . He received his bachelor and master degree from the University of Louisville and his doctoral degree from Indiana University. While at WMU he has served as an unit representative to the AAUP Association Council on 3 occasions, served as the College representative to the AAUP Chapter Executive Committee for 2 terms , served as the AAUP Chapter Vice-President for 2 terms and also served as AAUP Chapter President . Dennis has served 3 terms as a Faculty Senator and currently is a member of the Executive Board of the Faculty Senate. He represents the Senate Executive Board on assigned Councils. He has extensive publications in articles and authored 5 books. He has been honored with the WMU Distinguished Service Award .

Currently he serves as the volunteer Health Care Advocate for the AAUP Chapter and writes the health care updates and health care articles for the *Advocate*.

Mark Your Calendar

Association Council Thursday, September 20 4:00pm Room 157, Bernhard Center	Chapter Meeting Thursday, October 18 4:00pm Room 157, Bernhard Center	Tenure & Promotion Workshop Details to be announced	Winter Retirement Seminar for Under 50 Spring Semester 2008 Contact the Chapter if you are interested
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Important Dates For Fall 2007

Tenure Timeline

September 17	Latest date for department chairperson to notify faculty members of eligibility for tenure considerations and/or promotion.
October 17	Latest date for department chairperson to convene the first meeting of the DTC and/or the DPC.
October 17	Latest date for faculty member to submit tenure file to DTC and/or promotion file to DPC.
November 15	Latest date for DTC and/or DPC to inform faculty member of recommendation.
November 19	Latest date for faculty member to inform DTC and/or DPC of intent to appeal.
November 26	Latest date for DTC and/or DPC recommendations, together with supporting data, to be presented to the department chairperson and, for promotion, to the CPC.

Promotion Timeline

September 17	Latest date for department chairperson to notify faculty members of eligibility for tenure considerations and/or promotion.
October 15	Latest date for department chairperson to convene the first meeting of the DTC and/or the DPC.
October 15	Latest date for faculty member to submit tenure file to DTC and/or promotion file to DPC.
November 15	Latest date for DTC and/or DPC to inform faculty member of recommendation.
November 19	Latest date for faculty member to inform DTC and/or DPC of intent to appeal.
November 26	Latest date for DTC and/or DPC recommendations, together with supporting data, to be presented to the department chairperson and, for promotion, to the CPC.
November 26	Latest date for the dean to convene the first meeting of the CPC.

WMU-AAUP Fall Office Hours

Paul Wilson, President

Monday	9:00-12:00
Tuesday	3:00-5:00
Wednesday	9:30-12:00
Thursday	2:30-5:00
Friday	1:00-3:00

And by appointment

Jo Wiley, Vice President

Monday	9:30-3:30
Wednesday	8:30-3:30
Friday	12:00-3:00

And by appointment

Heidi Douglas-Vogley Contract Administrator

Wednesday	8:30-12:00
Thursday	3:00-4:30
Friday	12:00-3:00

And by appointment

Lisa Whittaker, Grievance Officer

Monday	8:30-1:00
Thursday	1:00-4:30

And by appointment

Letters to the Editor Policy

In order for a letter to be considered for publication, submissions must adhere to the following:

- Authors of such letters must expressly request publication in the WMU-AAUP *Advocate*.
- Author's names will be published with the letter.
- Authors are required to cite their information accurately. It is not the responsibility of the Editorial Board to check the validity of information.
- Letters should not exceed one page, typewritten, single-spaced. In the event letters exceed the one page maximum, editing is in the control of the Editorial Board.

Letters to the Editor become the property of the Chapter and will not be returned to the author(s).

The publication of such letters is entirely in the control of the Editorial Board.

The publication of a letter is not an endorsement of the Author's statements by the WMU AAUP or the Editorial Board.

The Editorial Board will not publish letters that in its judgment could be slanderous, discriminatory, or libelous remarks against an individual or a group.

Those interested in submitting letters should send a word-processed document as an e-mail attachment to staff@wmuaaup.net with the **Subject: Letter to the Editor**. Or, individuals may drop off a disk with the digital file.



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED