



Update from the Montague House

First, thanks for your support regarding concerns we recently shared with you about the WMU-AAUP's Montague House rental lease with WMU. Your emails and calls shaped the conversation and helped the Chapter during the discussion with WMU administration. In short, we advocated for changes in the proposed lease that will keep our financial responsibility within reasonable limits. Again, thanks for your input and support on this critical issue. It's yet another reminder that when we stand together, we can achieve our goals.

There are a number of other important contractual issues - some resolved and some ongoing - that members should be aware of:

- As part of the Chapter's ongoing response to serious faculty workload concerns, a workload appeal, described in Article 42.10.3 "Work of the Unit: Workload, Class Sizes and Scheduling of Classes", has been initiated on behalf of a faculty member. Natalio Ohanna, contract administrator, has met with the faculty member several times and evaluated the department policy statement. The issue is failure of the WMU administration to include service and research as part of the workload calculation, resulting in a workload that exceeds the recommended parameters set forth in the Agreement. The Chapter seeks a satisfactory resolution of what we see as a failure by WMU administration to properly determine workload as set forth in the Agreement (Article 42).
- A violation of Article 10.4 "Anti-Discrimination and Affirmative Action and Sexual Harassment" has affected a member. Quick action was taken.
- The Chapter successfully supported a faculty member with concerns about "Permanent Interdepartment Transfer Process." Article 48.2.9.1, which allows the faculty to modify the trial period, was shortened, as requested by the faculty member.

Monday June 10th (9:30-11:30 a.m.) we'll be serving coffee at the Montague House. One topic we're especially interested in discussing is privacy and the use of FARS data. If you have concerns about the FARS (formerly PAR) reporting system - either about the product itself or how the information is being used by WMU Admin - we would especially love to see you on Monday. We hope to have an update for the Montague House lease as well.

Mark your calendar! The WMU-AAUP faculty BBQ is scheduled for Thursday, September 5, from 5-7 p.m. at the Montague House. Please R.S.V.P. to staff@wmuaaup.net by Friday, August 16.

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