

October 17, 2016

Report submitted by Michael L. Levitan, President, VU AAUP

I attended the 2016 PA AAUP Annual Meeting on 10/8/16 at Susquehanna University. The following describes a discussion and motion passed at that meeting.

As many of you may be aware, the Association of Pennsylvania State College and University Faculties (APSCUF) is moving ever closer to striking as the state of Pennsylvania refuses to adequately support its State System of Higher Education (the largest provider of higher education in the Commonwealth and the tenth largest in the US: 14 universities from Bloomsburg to West Chester, not to be confused with Penn State, Temple, Lincoln and the U. of Pittsburgh).

The faculties at these colleges and universities have now gone 468 days without a contract, and the chances of a proper settlement, one that benefits students and workers, diminishes with each passing day.

THEREFORE, we, the Pennsylvania State Division of the American Association of University Professors, in assembly at our annual state conference on October 8, in support of our colleagues at the affected institutions and their students and in support of the true goals of higher education, have passed the following resolution:

Whereas the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education plays a vital role in the higher education system in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania;

Whereas the administration of Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education has created a fictive fiscal crisis to justify cuts in their core educational mission;

Therefore, be it resolved that the PA AAUP expresses solidarity with faculty at the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education and their representatives, APSCUF, in their fight for quality education in Pennsylvania.”