CONSTITUTION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS

As approved by a unanimous vote of the University of Central Oklahoma AAUP Executive Committee.


Article I: Purposes

1. To develop, promote and protect academic freedom, shared governance, academic responsibility and due process for professors and students.
2. To promote and protect excellence in the development and refinement of knowledge, cognition, and scholarly inquiry in the search for truth.
3. To advance the standards and ideals of the profession and to promote the interests of higher education.
4. To promote and protect effective faculty participation in the governance of the University of Central Oklahoma.
5. To develop and maintain an organization, which is effective in meeting its purposes.
6. To promote the economic status of the profession.
7. To promote cooperation among members of the University of Central Oklahoma chapter and to facilitate fellowship among members of the profession at the University of Central Oklahoma.

Article II: Membership and Meetings

1. Membership in the University of Central Oklahoma chapter is composed of all members of the National Association at the University of Central Oklahoma. Membership is open to all full time faculty, adjunct faculty and graduate students.
2. A general membership meeting may be called by a vote of those present and voting at an Executive Committee meeting.

Article III: Officers

1. Officers of the organization shall be: President, President-Elect, Secretary and Treasurer or other officers appointed by the President and approved by a majority of the Executive Committee.
2. To ensure continuity, the president and president-elect will serve for a term of two years beginning in 2014-2015.
3. Nomination of officers will be accomplished no later than an April Executive Committee meeting. Members will be notified during the spring semester that a particular meeting has as one of its purposes the nomination of officers for the ensuing academic year. Nominations can also be made through electronic means by notifying the current President once a call for nominations has been made.
4. Election shall be by ballots, electronic or otherwise, sent to each member in the University of Central Oklahoma Chapter. Not less than 10 working days should be allowed for the return of ballots. Electronic and write-in votes are valid and shall be tabulated like all other
ballots. Elections shall be completed and new officers shall assume office on June 1 each year.

4. A vacancy occurring in any office shall be filled by a majority of the Executive Committee at an official meeting of the Committee or through a vote by electronic means administered by the President.

**Article IV: Executive Committee**

1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chapter officers, the Immediate Past President, any state AAUP officers on the UCO faculty, any UCO faculty on the national AAUP Council and up to five representatives of each of the Colleges at the University of Central Oklahoma. Representatives of the Colleges will be elected by the Members and local affiliates of that College only. Representatives will be elected on a ballot which will be sent out with the ballot to elect Chapter Officers. The Executive Committee shall conduct all Chapter business between meetings called of the general membership. All Officers and College Representatives shall be members of the national AAUP and local affiliates of the University of Central Oklahoma Chapter on or before October 1 of the academic year of their terms in office. Anyone failing to meet these requirements will automatically forfeit his/her position on the Executive Committee.

2. The Executive Committee shall regularly meet each academic year at least and when deemed necessary by the President. A planning session may be held in the summer to plan for the ensuing year.

3. 50% of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum. Business may not be legally conducted without the required quorum; however, Executive Committee Members can also vote electronically, thus helping to establish a voting quorum at any given meeting.

4. Each Executive Committee member shall have one vote; proxies shall not be permitted.

5. A vacancy occurring in any college representative position shall be filled by a majority of the Executive Committee at an official meeting of the Committee.

6. The Executive Committee can vote on issues, conduct business and meet through electronic means.

7. The president has the authority to appoint members to the Executive Committee at her/his discretion; this may include sergeant-at-arms, parliamentarian, and a grievance officer. However, a majority of the Executive Committee can override any presidential appointment.

8. The president must email a copy of the UCO Faculty Handbook and the current constitution with a list of the names of the Executive Committee to the AAUP national office annually.

**Article V: Executive Committee Meetings**

1. Members of the Executive Committee and all members shall be notified at least two working days in advance of each meeting of the Executive Committee. However, the president can call an emergency meeting at anytime. The notice will include the date, time and place where the meetings will be held.

2. Unless stated otherwise in this Constitution, Robert’s Rules of Order will be followed at all meetings of the Executive Committee or general membership meetings.

**Article VI: The President may appoint chairpersons and members of standing committees. The standing committees may include the following:**
Committee A on Academic Freedom and Tenure
Committee on College and University Shared Governance
Committee on Membership and Dues
Committee on Representation of Economic and Professional Interests
Committee on Government Relations
Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession
Committee on the Economic Status of the Profession
Committee on Contingent Faculty
Committee on Graduate Students
Committee on Grievance

The President, with the approval of the Executive Committee, can make committees dormant or create new committees.

Presidential appointments to all standing committees are subject to the approval of a majority of the Executive Committee. All chairpersons of standing committees should be members in good standing. Being in good standing means to have dues currently paid up to the national, state and local AAUP. Being in good standing means to have dues currently paid up to the national AAUP.

Grievance Committee:

This will be an ad hoc committee, convened only when a faculty member brings a specific grievance to the chapter. When the grievance has been satisfactorily addressed, the committee will be dissolved. The committee will be chaired by the chapter’s President, who will appoint two members to fill the ranks of the committee. The committee will hear the issue or issues to be addressed, and will undertake an investigation to determine the merit of the complaint. The committee will not issue any statement, position, or opinion regarding any issue without the approval of the UCO AAUP Executive Committee. In the case of divided opinions within the Grievance Committee regarding a particular case, the chapter’s President-Elect will weigh in with the deciding opinion. Only current members of UCO AAUP may be considered for the Grievance Committee. Possible members do not need to be a member of the Executive Committee. UCO AAUP will in all circumstances work in collaboration with departments, colleges, and the university administration to arrive at equitable and acceptable resolutions of grievances brought by faculty.

Ad hoc Committees, whose chairpersons are not automatically members of the Executive Committee are the following:

- Distinguished Scholar Committee
- Distinguished Service Committee
- Outstanding Teacher Committee
- Distinguished Service Committee
The President shall appoint the chairpersons and the members of ad hoc committees subject to approval of the majority of the Executive Committee.

**Article VII: Finances**

National dues are set by the national AAUP.

**Article VIII: Reports**

1. A chapter newsletter, web site, or other publication shall be regularly distributed to all members and local affiliates of the University of Central Oklahoma Chapter.
2. Publication editors or webmasters may be appointed to the Executive Committee by the President subject to approval by a majority of the other members of the Executive Committee.

**Article IX: Constitution Effective Date**

This Constitution will take effect immediately upon the approval of a majority vote of the AAUP-UCO Executive Committee. Every revision of the Constitution will be signed by every member of the standing executive committee and the original copy filed by the Executive Committee in the AAUP-UCO archives located in the University of Central Oklahoma Chambers library.

Every change to the Constitution will be followed by the date of that particular change. Each time the constitution is amended, the date will appear at the top of the document.

**Article X: Amendments**

Proposed amendments to this Constitution shall be submitted in writing to the Executive Committee prior to a vote by the Executive Committee. Executive Committee members can vote on amendments at meetings and through electronic means. Members who are in good standing (see Article IV) will be allowed to vote on all constitutional changes.