We are approaching the end of our first official year as a chapter, looking forward to welcoming new members of the Executive Committee and new colleagues in the Fall. We have had a great year.

Here is a short highlight reel of what we've accomplished:

- The Chapter’s official launch on September 1 was attended by over 100 members of the faculty, and ignited a rapid growth in membership. *The Wesleyan Chapter’s reach impressed AAUP President Irene Mulvey, who attended the chapter launch: “From the perspective of [the] National AAUP, it’s amazing what this chapter has done in a short time,” Mulvey said. “The fact that the Wesleyan faculty has gotten such high numbers of members so quickly, I don’t think it’s [going to] stop…. I think that really says something about the need for a collective faculty voice on campus and the desire for faculty to make sure they have [a] voice.”*

- The Chapter launched a bold vision for a fully staffed university with academic freedom for all with our “One Faculty” Campaign. The product of over 6 months of research by faculty in multiple chapter working groups, the Campaign addresses chronic departmental under-resourcing, declining tenure-line density, and increasing faculty disenfranchisement. The launch received coverage in the Argus: [Wesleyan AAUP Chapter Launches “One Faculty!” Campaign Calling for All Faculty to Receive Tenure Protections](#)

- We formed a Resources Working Group to study issues of compensation and other forms of financial support (benefits, GISOS, etc.) at Wesleyan and peer schools.

- In the Fall of 2021, when the 7 refounding members first met to form the chapter, a total of 4 Wesleyan faculty members belonged to the AAUP. As of today, our chapter has 144 members: 32% of all faculty (and 36% of all full-time faculty). We have members in every department, college, program, and unit on campus.
- In the interest of greater participation, the chapter advocated for faculty to vote on the modality of faculty meetings. The vote was overwhelmingly in favor of holding meetings on Zoom for 2022-2023.

- For both Fall 2022 and Spring 2023, the Chapter called for stronger COVID policies from the Administration, and provided statements (Fall, Spring) for faculty to include on course syllabi around masking. The Administration reinstated the COVID Dashboard and provided free masks and free testing kits to faculty.

- Based on recommendations of our Contingent Faculty Subcommittee, the Chapter successfully advocated for an amendment to the motion on mentoring statements to explicitly include contingent faculty. The underlined text was added by the amendment. (For further details, see the minutes of the November 1, 2022 and December 6, 2022 Faculty meetings.)

Resolved, that departmental mentoring statements and mentoring of faculty include discussion of the candidate’s pedagogical methods and the evidence used to evaluate teaching excellence, based on the Memo on Evidence of Teaching Excellence. *This motion applies to all faculty in the academic unit in all appointment categories with appointments for more than one year.*
The Chapter’s Faculty Handbook Working Group successfully brought forward a motion to charge the Academic Secretary with maintaining an archive of all changes to the Faculty Handbook. (For further details, see the minutes of the February 28, 2023 and April 11, 2023 Faculty meetings.)

Resolved, that the Academic Secretary shall create and maintain a public archive of digitized faculty handbooks that includes handbooks from at least the last seven years; and that the Academic Secretary will devise an effective method for keeping track of changes to the faculty handbook and making these changes publicly available on an annual basis.

We established channels of communication with Institutional Research and received detailed current and historical faculty array and salary data. The VPAA has agreed to provide this data to the Chapter on a yearly basis going forward.

The Chapter established a formal relationship between the AAUP Chapter and the Wesleyan Student Assembly, and met informally with AAUP chapters at Trinity College, Connecticut College, George Mason, Quinnipiac, and Fairfield to lay a foundation for future collaboration.

As this first year comes to a close we want to remind you to renew your AAUP membership with the national office!

To renew your membership:
1. Log in to the member portal
2. Go to the Memberships tab on the left to renew

There is much to look forward to and more exciting work ahead. We will be participating in the new faculty orientation in the Fall and are looking forward to hosting Howard Bunsis who will present on Wesleyan’s financial status.

If you would like to get involved with any of our working groups or committees – Faculty Handbook (advancing faculty governance through the handbook), Recruitment (help recruit members!), Faculty Resources (compensation, benefits), and Contingent Faculty (matters of special concern to non-tenure-line faculty) – or if you have other ideas for the Chapter, please reach out! You can reach the chapter executive committee anytime individually or collectively at this email, or on Slack.