

Last year was a time of a quick and ever-changing academic landscape. FHSU-AAUP worked hard to keep you informed of and shape changes, policies, and circumstances across campus. We worked with Administration, Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, and Student Senate on issues related to teaching evaluations, merit/tenure/promotion/post-tenure review, and economic stability. During the pandemic, academia needs to react quickly, which is a Herculean task given how slowly academia typically moves.

Although no merit raises were available this year and Move to Market was paused, we are on relatively solid footing compared to other institutions around the state and the country. As of July 2020, our enrollment has not drastically declined; our financial health is stable; our faculty are creative and engaged in providing the best, and safest, educational delivery to students; staff is working hard to keep us all safe and healthy; and student are excited to begin classes in the fall.

As in the past, we have pulled together using our collective ingenuity and strengths to forge a safe and strong path ahead. Other institutions have not been so fortunate to work closely with their administration policies to help shape the academic landscape of the upcoming year making sure that faculty concerns are heard and respected. No plan is perfect. No personal safety is guaranteed. However, we can work together to adapt to the new academic climate to serve our students, community, state, and nation to get through this together.

If FHSU-AAUP can do anything to help you, please feel free to reach out to any member of executive leadership. We are stronger together. If you would like to know more about FHSU-AAUP or would like to join our chapter, please visit <https://fhsu-aaup.org/> for meeting agendas/minutes, officer information, and membership applications.

More voices are more impactful. Thank you for all you have done, and continue to do, for our students. I hope your next academic year is outstanding in only good ways.

Stay safe and healthy,

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