

Welcome back to campus for the start of another great year. Thank you all for joining us today.

I am Janett Naylor-Tincknell, President of FHSU chapter of the American Association of University Professors. This is my last two year term as president and I look forward to working with faculty, staff, students, and administration to strengthen shared governance, membership involvement, and faculty engagement.

At the Biennial Meeting of AAUP chapters in June, AAUP members from across the country voted to approve the joint endeavors of AAUP and the American Federation of Teachers and by extension, the AFL-CIO. By combining the AAUP principles of shared governance, academic freedom, and strong faculty with the lobbying power, resources, and brawn of AFT, educators from preschool through higher education joined forces to strengthen academic institutions. This alliance is an opportunity for every teacher, instructor, professor, librarian, and program specialist to make their voices heard. The vote was a resounding YES with over 90% of AAUP members supporting the initiative. The resources of AFT are now available to AAUP chapter members, including discounts, student loan forgiveness assistance, and political clout.

Also, over the summer, FHSU-AAUP chapter members voted to approve the negotiated changes to the MOA. We worked together to update the Non-Tenure Track promotion article, the Summer Contract/Virtual College article, and updated several other articles to reflect more equitable practices. As you all know, we agreed to a 5% merit based salary increase. Thanks to all for that wonderful news when times of inflation and cost of living are ever increasing. The pay increase may help some of our families' economic burdens.

We did not have time to get to every area of concern in the MOA but we made great strides and tackled some big issues. We still have some outstanding issues that need to be addressed but the negotiations teams worked into the summer spending up to 6 hours a week discussing MOA changes. We are happy with what we achieved even if we weren't able to get to all we hoped.

As we look forward to this next academic year, I hope to reexamine the FHSU-AAUP by-laws and committee structure to help foster more diverse involvement and reach more goals. I also hope to work with the shared governance presidents to strengthen information sharing and efforts to be a proactive unit to better serve our campus constituents.

FHSU-AAUP plans to keep advocating for your concerns through the processes outlined in the MOA and through meetings with administration, faculty, and staff.

Our chapter works diligently for the principles of academia. If you want to join AAUP or have questions, please feel free to contact any member of the executive team or go to our chapter website at fhsu-aaup.org

Thank you for all you do for the university and our students. We hope you have a productive, supportive, and fun-filled year.