

# AAUP

American Association of University Professors

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*Academic Freedom for a Free Society*

March 14, 2008

Dr. Tullisse A. Murdock  
Chancellor  
Antioch University  
150 E. South College Street  
Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387

Mr. Arthur J. Zucker  
Chair, Board of Trustees  
Antioch University  
2012 Prescott Pl  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27615

Dr. Andrzej Bloch  
Chief Operations Officer/Chief Academic Officer  
Antioch College  
795 Livermore Street  
Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387

Dear Chancellor Murdock, Chair Zucker, and Dr. Bloch:

In our letters to you of August 7 and September 19, we set forth our concerns arising from faculty complaints that the manner in which Antioch University had decided to declare financial exigency and determined to lay-off tenured faculty was inconsistent with widely accepted AAUP standards. Your decision not to respond substantively to our queries has heightened our concerns.

In our last letter of March 4, we urged the Antioch University trustees "to keep working with the ACCC [Antioch College Continuation Corporation] to reach an agreement that will allow the college to continue its operations uninterrupted." We understand that the ACCC has since submitted to the trustees a draft letter of intent for its immediate consideration. We understand further that the university's board of trustees is scheduled to meet this coming week to review the proposal and to formulate its response. We urge the trustees to give the utmost serious attention to the ACCC proposal with a view to reaching a decision that will permit the college to remain in operation beyond June 30.

Chancellor Tullisse A. Murdock  
Chair Arthur J. Zucker  
Dr. Andrzej Bloch  
March 14, 2008  
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We will be watching further developments closely, and hope to learn that an agreement has been reached that will ensure the college's continuing and uninterrupted existence. Absent such an agreement, we shall determine our further course of action consistent with our established policies.

Sincerely,

Anita Levy, Ph.D.  
Associate Secretary

- cc: Professor Tom Arysman, Faculty Senate Steering Committee
- Professor Jill Becker, Faculty Senate Steering Committee
- Professor Susan Eklund-Leen, Faculty Senate Steering Committee
- Professor Pat Mische, Faculty Senate Steering Committee,
- Professor Paul Davis, President, Ohio Conference AAUP

In our letter to you of August 7 and September 19, we set forth our concerns arising from faculty complaints that the manner in which Antioch University had decided to decide financial exigency and determined to lay-off tenured faculty was inconsistent with widely accepted AAUP standards. Your decision not to respond substantively to our queries has heightened our concerns.

In our last letter of March 4, we urged the Antioch University Faculty to work with the ACCC [Antioch College Construction Corporation] to reach an agreement that will allow the college to continue its operations uninterrupted. We understand that the ACCC has since submitted to the trustees a draft letter of intent for its immediate consideration. We understand further that the university's board of trustees is scheduled to meet this coming week to review the proposal and to formulate its response. We urge the trustees to give the utmost serious attention to the ACCC proposal with a view to reaching a decision that will permit the college to remain in operation beyond June 30.

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# AAUP

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March 4, 2008

Dr. Tullisse A. Murdock  
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Mr. Arthur J. Zucker  
Chair, Board of Trustees  
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Dr. Andrzej Bloch  
Chief Operations Officer/Chief Academic Officer  
Antioch College  
795 Livermore Street  
Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387

Dear Chancellor Murdock, Chair Zucker, and Dr. Bloch:

We continue to watch developments regarding the future of Antioch College with keen interest, and have read the statement recently issued by the Antioch University's board of trustees reconfirming its June 30, 2007, decision to suspend the college's operations effective June 30, 2008. The recent decision has apparently sparked renewed efforts by the Antioch College Continuation Corporation (ACCC) to keep the college open with its current faculty carrying-out their teaching responsibilities. This office has not of course been a party to the discussions between the board of trustees and the ACCC, and therefore we are in no position to propose specific recommendations to help resolve the college's serious financial problems. In view, however, of Antioch College's historic importance in American higher education, and noting that the AAUP has long called on governing boards to consider all feasible alternatives to terminating faculty appointments when faced with dire financial problems, we urge the trustees to keep working with the ACCC to reach an agreement that will allow the college to continue its operations uninterrupted. We do not doubt that this is a daunting challenge, but one worth making every effort to overcome.

Sincerely,

Anita Levy, Ph.D.  
Associate Secretary

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Professor Jill Becker, Faculty Senate Steering Committee  
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