Dear Colleague:

For the first time this year part-time faculty members at a college or university are eligible for membership in the American Association of University Professors; as President of the University of Cincinnati Chapter, I want to extend an invitation and to urge you to join the largest college and university faculty professional organization in the United States.

Today higher education faces many serious problems - a leveling off or decline in financial support and an end of federal support of much scientific and medical research at a time of spiraling inflation, a paucity of positions for young teachers and scholars, pressures for early retirement and abdication of tenure rights, continued challenges to academic freedom, a loss in confidence by the general public and a generalized questioning of the role and purpose of education. These and numerous other problems at all levels call for faculty members to join together to promote those ideas and principles that unite them, selecting intelligently what must be retained and what should be scrapped as higher education adapts to lead and to serve in a challenging world.

Over the years the AAUP has been the only agency to work exclusively and consistently on behalf of faculty at American universities and colleges. Its efforts in defense and promotion of academic freedom and tenure, faculty governance and women's rights are well-known. It continues to work in all of these areas, and within the last year it has expanded its activities and now has governmental relations personnel, both at national and state levels, devoting their efforts toward explaining and defending higher education. In these matters the AAUP could do more if it represented and had the financial support of more of the faculties, full and part-time, at both colleges and universities.

On the local level, the University of Cincinnati Chapter, the largest in Ohio and the 13th in rank in the nation, has helped establish the present policy of term appointments for department heads and other administrative personnel. It has successfully argued for the grant of indefinite tenure at the rank of assistant professor when special circumstances are involved and has surveyed part-time faculty to determine what their problems are and in what ways the Chapter may assist them. It has vigorously defended tenure rights, fought for cost-of-living salary increments and has supported the publication of faculty and administrative salaries, required by law in public institutions. It has urged the University to adopt more expeditiously an affirmative action plan, and it has committed itself to and has campaigned with much of its resources for a collective bargaining agreement with the University Board of Directors.

We are all aware that change is occurring in higher education, both at Cincinnati and nationally. Each faculty member, who wants a voice in what this change shall be, ought to join the AAUP to influence its policies and to have leverage to improve the academic environment both nationally and locally. With your support and participation the AAUP can be a stronger instrument of thoughtful change, preserving the essentials of higher education, the dignity of the profession and ensuring adequate and fair remuneration of the faculty. Won't you join us now?

Yours very truly,

David L. Sterling
Chapter President
NEW MEMBERSHIP DUES PRORATED AS FOLLOWS:

MEMBERSHIP YEAR: All members join on a calendar year basis.

- Joint Membership: A husband and wife who are both Active members may request a Joint membership.
- New Membership: A husband and wife who are both Active members may request a Joint membership.

Dues are $200 per year for Active Membership. Joint membership is $350 per year. New members join on a calendar year basis.

Eligibility: To be eligible for Active Membership, an individual must have faculty status in an accredited educational institution (or in an institution that is a candidate for accreditation) and be a member of the Russian Educational Association or an equivalent organization.