Join Us on February 23

Brooker Bill, Privacy Issues at Columbia Meeting

The Missouri AAUP Conference will be held on February 23 in Room B231 in Brady Commons on the University of Missouri Campus in Columbia (see map). At 10:00, Kathleen Markie, of the MU General Counsel’s Office, will address the conference on issues of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the new federal court rules on electronic discovery that include emails.

Erika Gubrium of the Berkeley AAUP Office will conduct two workshops dealing with issues of intellectual diversity. First, she will address basic organizing and communication strategies, and second, government relations—and in this case, waging a media campaign against HB 1315, the Emily Brooker Higher Education Sunshine Act, a redux of last year’s Intellectual Diversity bill.

More information on HB1315 will be available at the conference and also in the next issue of Missouri Academe. The opening paragraph of the bill is printed below, however, and explains why we will again need to close ranks in the coming months to defeat this intrusive political legislation.

(HB1315) The provisions of this section shall be known and cited as the "Emily Brooker Higher Education Sunshine Act". As used in this section, "intellectual diversity" is defined as the diversity of ideas that provides the foundation of a learning environment that exposes students to a variety of political, ideological, religious, and other perspectives, when such perspectives relate to the subject matter being taught or issues being discussed. As used in this section, "free exchange of ideas" includes intellectual pluralism and students’ right to learn in an environment that exposes them to an abundance of new knowledge, different perspectives, competing ideas, and alternative claims of truth.

Room B231 Brady Commons,
University of Missouri, Columbia
9:00 Registration Coffee/ Juice/Pastries
Order lunch (from Quizno’s menu)

First General Session
10:00 Welcome
Keith Hardeman, AAUP Conference President
10:15 “Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act”
Kate Markie, General Counsel Office, UMC
11:00 “Intellectual Diversity: Organizing and Communication Strategies”
Erika Gubrium, AAUP National Staff
12:00 Lunch

Second General Session
1:00 “Intellectual Diversity: Waging a Media Campaign Against HB 1315”
Erika Gubrium

Conference Business
2:00 Brief AAUP Business Meeting

Conference Speaker Profiles
Kathleen Murphy Markie has been a member of the General Counsel’s Office since 1987. She represents the University of Missouri on a wide range of matters, including faculty and student issues, grievance and disciplinary procedures, discrimination, research dishonesty, human subject research, privacy rights, employment, contracts and computing issues. Ms. Markie came to the University from the State Public Defender's Office (1985-1987) where she was First Assistant, Appellate Division, representing indigent criminal defendants in their appeals before the appellate courts of Missouri and in petitions for certiorari before the United States Supreme Court. She began her legal career as a law clerk to Judge Robert T. Donnelly of the Missouri Supreme Court and as a Research Attorney for the Missouri Supreme Court. Ms. Markie received her bachelor’s degree with majors in philosophy and English, magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, from the University of Massachu-
Erika Gubrium has two master's degrees (one in Horticulture; the other Science Teaching) and a Ph.D. in Social Foundations of Education (University of Florida), with a focus on labor history within K-12 public education. She has published articles in the fields of molecular and evolutionary genetics, proteomics, and qualitative research methodology. In addition to her academic background, Ms. Gubrium worked extensively on campaigns with graduate assistants and faculty during her years as a graduate employee in Florida. She has continued this work for the three years she has served on the national organizing staff of the AAUP. She also serves as co-staff for AAUP’s Committee on Contingent Faculty and the Profession.