

25 April 2006

John R. Ohle, President  
Wartburg College

Dear President Ohle:

The executive committee of the Wartburg chapter of the American Association of University Professors has asked me to convey its appreciation for the decisions you communicated to the faculty in your April 20 e-mail memorandum.

We are pleased that you will recommend that the Board of Regents delay action on its proposed handbook amendment and that the search for the Saemann Chair in Multicultural Community Engagement has been postponed until the fall. We are especially pleased that the college will follow the normal faculty search schedule in attempting to fill the chair and that, as announced earlier, you will consult with Faculty Council and ART to determine the search procedures.

We are encouraged to learn that you reached these decisions after hearing what faculty had to say at the April 13 faculty meeting and after recent conversations with faculty, especially the members of Faculty Council.

Though we deeply regret their resignations, we share your high appraisal of the exemplary contribution that Janice and Kim have made to the college in their years of directing the Global and Multicultural Studies program.

Finally, we applaud your decision to improve faculty-administration communication by inviting Faculty Council to meet regularly with your cabinet and by exploring an expansion of that committee's duties to include advising the president.

These decisions indicate a commitment to the style of academic decision-making that the chapter had endorsed in its April 11 letter to the Board of Regents—one that is shared, open, transparent, and accordant with college policies. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Greg Scholtz

cc: Executive Committee, Wartburg College Board of Regents  
Vice President for Academic Affairs Ferol Menzel  
Wartburg AAUP