



# DEAR WRIGHT STATE STUDENTS

The full-time faculty members at Wright State do **NOT** want to go on strike—but we must draw a line in the sand to protect the quality education that WSU students deserve.

The administration imposed on faculty a contract that we believe will compromise the quality of your education. This contract removes protections that currently allow a high level of access to qualified faculty. We cannot allow students to suffer from declines in educational quality if faculty must teach more and larger classes, if critical courses are offered less frequently, and if WSU cannot recruit and retain the best educators and researchers. **We are fighting to save the individualized attention, challenging coursework, research opportunities, and high-quality teaching that make Wright State a great university for students.**

## Want to help? Here's what you can do to support WSU faculty:

- 1) Contact President Schrader and the Board of Trustees and tell them you want to maintain the quality of education at Wright State by making sure faculty don't have to compromise their ability to teach, support, and provide research opportunities for you. Ask them to negotiate with faculty! President Schrader may be reached at ([cheryl.b.schrader@wright.edu](mailto:cheryl.b.schrader@wright.edu)) or by calling (937) 775-2312.
- 2) Stay up to date. Follow the AAUP-WSU on social media and post your support:
  - Facebook: AAUP Wright State University
  - Twitter: @aaupwsu
  - Instagram: @aaupwrightstate
  - #fighting4Wright
  - #students4faculty
- 3) Volunteer. We need student allies to help us get the word out to other students about the strike. If you are interested in volunteering, contact [aaupwsu@gmail.com](mailto:aaupwsu@gmail.com) or stop by the AAUP-WSU office in Medical Sciences 113.
- 4) Talk with your **family** and **friends** about the importance of affordable, high-quality public education in the state of Ohio and why it is crucial to support the Wright State faculty in their efforts to achieve a fair contract that preserves quality for you and for future students.

For more information, please visit our website at <https://aaup-wsu.org/>

# AAUP-WSU Strike FAQ for Students

## Why has the AAUP called for a strike?

On Friday, January 4, 2019 Wright State's Board of Trustees voted to impose a contract on the full-time faculty represented by AAUP-WSU. **Faculty do not want to strike**, but we have been left with no alternative in order to maintain the quality of education our students deserve.

The administration's imposed contract allows changes that will mean less opportunity for individualized attention to students, and less time for faculty to engage in groundbreaking research and scholarship. This imposed contract creates working conditions that will make it more difficult to attract and retain faculty at WSU. We have already lost **90 full-time faculty** since 2016--faculty members who have not been replaced. Fewer faculty means fewer course offerings for students and potentially slower progress toward graduation.

## Why can't faculty just negotiate with the administration for a different contract?

We have been trying. Since January 2017 — **two years** ago — AAUP-WSU has been working to negotiate a successor to our previous collective bargaining agreement (CBA). The previous CBA expired in June 2017, and we worked under the terms of that contract for 18 months as we continued attempts to negotiate a new agreement. The contract that went into effect on January 4 was **imposed** by administration, not negotiated with input from both sides. Administration has refused to meet with AAUP-WSU to negotiate since October 9, 2018. **AAUP-WSU remains ready to negotiate.**

## Is this dispute about money or raises? Isn't the university in financial distress?

It's not primarily about money, but about working conditions, such as the number of classes we have to teach and the job security of the non-tenure eligible faculty. The economic issues that are in question are not about pay raises, anyhow. They are about avoiding an enormous pay cut through much higher health insurance costs and having no opportunities to teach in summer.

We all know that the university faced financial challenges. However, WSU avoided fiscal watch and ended the year with a \$10 million surplus--all under the terms of the prior collective bargaining agreement. Faculty compensation did not cause the financial issues at WSU. In fact, full-time faculty salary and benefits cost only **17 cents** of every tuition dollar. During negotiations, AAUP-WSU made concessions to save money and proposed further cost-saving measures that were ignored by administration.

## Will there be classes if faculty strike?

Faculty will be on the picket lines and not in classrooms. The administration decides whether classes are held. However, striking faculty members will not be in class.

## What happens to tuition and financial aid if faculty strike?

Contact RaiderConnect in 130 Student Union with questions about accounts, financial aid, and registration via phone at (937) 775-4000 or email at [RaiderConnect@wright.edu](mailto:RaiderConnect@wright.edu).

## When will the strike begin?

The earliest possible date a strike could begin is Tuesday, January 22. **However, no official strike date has been set.**

## What does this mean for accreditation standards if unqualified people are called in to teach?

You should immediately contact the Higher Learning Commission, the accrediting body that assesses Wright State at (800) 621-7440 or (312) 263-0456, if you have concerns about the qualifications of any replacement teacher.

## How can I stay informed? What if I have other questions?

Connect with AAUP-WSU via email, online, and on social media:

- Email: [aaupwsu@gmail.com](mailto:aaupwsu@gmail.com)
- AAUP Web site: <https://aaup-wsu.org/>
- AAUP-WSU Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/AAUP-Wright-State-University-636430523091526/>
- Twitter: [@aaupwsu](https://twitter.com/aaupwsu)
- Instagram: [@aaupwrightstate](https://www.instagram.com/aaupwrightstate)