



May 17, 2021

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Dr. Miles K. Davis  
President  
Linfield University  
900 Southeast Baker Street  
McMinnville, Oregon 97128

Dear President Davis:

After conferring with members of the senior professional staff and reviewing the available information, the AAUP's executive director has authorized an investigation into the case of Professor Daniel Pollack-Pelzner. As our letters of April 30 and May 4 indicated, Dr. Pollack-Pelzner's case raises issues of academic freedom and due process that call for further examination by our Association.

In situations of this kind, which involve developments of interest to the general academic community, our long experience has indicated that it is desirable—in fairness to the institution's administration and governing board, the affected faculty member or members, and the institution as a whole—to establish an ad hoc committee composed of professors from other institutions who have had no previous involvement in the case to conduct its own inquiry without prejudice.

The AAUP's staff will provide the ad hoc committee with relevant available information for its examination, and the committee will arrange to interview you, Professor Pollack-Pelzner, and other involved individuals to ensure that all parties have the opportunity to present their positions. The committee will submit its report to the Association's standing Committee A on Academic Freedom and Tenure, which authorizes publication. Prior to publication, the staff will circulate a draft text of the report to the principal parties with an invitation for comment and factual corrections.

We shall be writing again soon with the names of the ad hoc committee members and an estimate of the date at which the committee will be contacting you for an interview. In the meantime, we would emphasize the Association's receptivity in this case, as in all others, to a resolution that would preclude the necessity for the investigation now authorized.

Sincerely,

Gregory F. Scholtz, Director  
Department of Academic Freedom, Tenure, and Governance

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Cc: Dr. Susan Agre-Kippenhan, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Professor Ingrid Flanders, Chair, Faculty Senate  
Professor Sharon Bailey Glasco, President, Linfield AAUP Chapter  
Professor Michael Dreiling, President, Oregon AAUP Conference  
Professor Ramin Farahmandpur, President-Elect, Oregon AAUP Conference  
Professor David Luebke, Vice President for Academic Freedom and Governance, Oregon  
AAUP Conference  
Professor Daniel Pollack-Pelzner