

# WHY WORK WITH THE AFT & AAUP?

The logo for the Campus Faculty Association (CFA) is located in the top right corner. It consists of the letters 'CFA' in a white, bold, sans-serif font, set against a black shield-shaped background.

► Tenure-stream and non tenure-stream faculty at the University of Illinois face a daunting set of challenges: stagnant salaries, disappearing pensions, and the threat of drastically altered health-care, lack of a faculty voice in governance, shrinking support for graduate education, uncontrolled increases in class size and under-funding for the academic mission as a whole. At no other moment in our history has there been such a need for a powerful faculty union.

► When CFA membership authorized the Executive Committee to pursue cooperation with a union, we rigorously researched several options, and after a lengthy process of deliberation, decided to cooperate with AFT/IFT (American Federation of Teachers/Illinois Federation of Teachers) and the organization they frequently partner with, AAUP (American Association of University Professors). Our goal is to achieve collective bargaining and a union contract for faculty at UIUC.

► AFT/IFT/AAUP played a central role in helping the University of Illinois at Chicago faculty gain legal recognition as a union. This was an important factor in our decision. AFT/IFT/AAUP are engaged in organizing campaigns at Research 1 universities across the country and bring decades of experience and depth of knowledge of the issues in higher education. We will be drawing on their research, legal, and financial resources, as well as their organizing expertise in our unionization campaign at UIUC. AAUP—the first faculty union in the United States—has special expertise in academic freedom, shared governance, and tenure and promotion issues. They have been a forerunner in establishing standards of academic professionalism. As of August 2011, AFT/AAUP have rented an office in Champaign, have assigned six staff members to help with our drive, and have been meeting with the Organizing Committee weekly.

► The real task of union building is ours; we, the faculty are creating our own organization and defining our goals for the union and the university's future. This is an exciting time. We invite you to help organize our future.

**TALK TO A CFA MEMBER TO FIND OUT MORE.**

[www.cfaillinois.org](http://www.cfaillinois.org)

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