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**OAKLAND UNIVERSITY CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY
PROFESSORS (AAUP) FILES UNFAIR LABOR PRACTICE AGAINST THE UNIVERSITY**
Negotiations Failed to Produce a Tentative Agreement

ROCHESTER, MICH--Oakland AAUP filed an unfair labor practice charge with the Michigan Employment Relations Commission (MERC) that cited the administrators of Oakland University for a number of violations.

Labor attorney Jim Moore presented the filing which held Oakland University in violation of four fair labor practices, including bargaining in bad faith with the intention of not reaching an agreement and failure to provide their chief negotiator with the proper authority to reach an agreement.

Teachers charge the administration with failing to bargain in good faith. The remaining complaint faults the university with failure to provide information required for bargaining. Oakland University refuses to provide the union with important documents regarding the upcoming medical school partnership with Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak.

Unfair labor practice is a punishable offense in the state of Michigan. If found guilty of unfair labor practices, Oakland University would be subject to public censure and must comply with the judge's ruling.

When asked about the administration's response to the filing, OU media relations director Ted Montgomery refused to answer.

AAUP and Oakland University have been negotiating faculty contracts since May 19. There are three major issues at stake. The first centers on protecting the faculty's ability to make decisions about hiring, review, and curriculum. The second seeks to avoid a penalty-based health care plan, and the third challenges the university's claim to the faculty's ownership of their ideas and research. As of Thursday morning, faculty and supporters began picketing OU's main campus in Rochester. The picketing is expected to resume after Labor Day.

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If you'd like more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview with AAUP Rep Liz Barclay, please call 248/202-7692 or email her at barclay@oakland.edu