2007: Keynote Speaker Cary Nelson on "The End of Education"

AAUP President Cary Nelson gave the keynote address for our annual North Carolina AAUP conference, at the new FedEx Global Education Center. Nelson’s speech title is not overblown rhetoric. We are at a crossroads in higher education, and the signs of degradation are everywhere – from increasing reliance nationwide on underpaid and overworked lecturers to spiraling tuition costs linked to state and federal funding cuts to ambivalent public support for core concepts of academic freedom. Nelson writes: "For decades, no one talked much about shared governance, because it was taken to be the natural condition of the university. But the war against the faculty aims to make faculty members merely governed employees, who have no role in shaping their institutions. The values evoked by shared governance are already slipping away. Only organized resistance will preserve them."