

Track Faculty

Members Work to Build a Community and

Members from all over campus have been working hard to build an organization that will be able to defend our livelihoods and negotiate a contract that we can be proud of. Members have attended department meetings from the Business School to the English Language Center to departments throughout the College of Arts and Letters. Members attended several events to raise visibility of the organization. And, of course members have been meeting to negotiate the contract with the administration's representatives.

We have had seven negotiation sessions with the admin's team.

Our team is made up faculty from all over campus, led by Andy Corner from Advertising, Stephen Thomas from Zoology, Adan Quan from Anthropology, Don Power from Labor and Industrial Relations, and Penny Gardner from Writing, Rhetoric and American Culture. After initial exchange of proposals, we moved to negotiating the non-economic issues and of this writing we have reached a tentative agreement on five articles. In general, the progress we have made is respectable as we can expect the pace to accelerate as the teams become used to each other's styles. The major barrier so far has been management's persistently negative and aggressive tone. We continue to be relentlessly polite in the hope of building a strong working relationship.

Members have also been working to build community on a department by department basis. There have been meetings in several departments, with each averaging ten attendees. Don Power has presented at all of the meetings, bringing people up to date on the progress at the table as well as informing them

about their rights and roles as union members. The feedback has been very encouraging. Leaders have expressed the feeling of an increasing positive response after the department meetings. Having a meeting in every department sends the message that the union is here to stay and that we have the right to use on-campus spaces to talk about the union's goals.

We have been organizing across campus for a variety of events as well. We had fifty people in matching "UNTF Says Go Green!...but fixed-term faculty aren't recyclable!" T-Shirts at a MSU Women's Basketball game on Feb 28th. We are also having weekly visibility lunches where members will be wearing matching T-Shirts. The purpose of these events is to draw attention to the widespread role of UNTF members on campus. This is just the start, so stay tuned to hear about future actions. These kinds are the events that we need to build a strong organization!

Upcoming Events

- **Pancake Breakfast**
March 28th, details TBA
- **Visibility Week**
March 29th-April 2nd
- **Membership Meeting**
March 31st, details TBA
Vote on the constitution and elect officers!
- **Visibility Lunch**
EVERY Tuesday at 11:30am
In the International Center.
Socialize and snack with other members while making UNTF's presence known!
- **Bargaining Action Membership Meeting**
April 15th, details TBA
Help secure a good contract!

**As always,
contact UNTF
to help
plan and implement
these important events!**



March 2010

Bargaining Dates

Typical schedule is
Monday & Thursday

1pm-5pm

Upcoming

March 22nd & 25th

April 1st

April 5th & 8th

**Contact UNTF for
the valuable
opportunity to
observe a session!**

Ask a member...

Q: What is going on with the merit pay situation?

A: All employees eligible for 2009-2010 raise should see their merit pay in their April 2010 paychecks, retroactive to October 1st, 2009.

Q: What does signing a card and becoming a UNTF 'member' mean?

A: Official union membership makes you eligible to vote on our upcoming contract and for Union officers, and eligible to run for Union office or participate in Union committees. Members also receive all communications from the Union about the progress of bargaining, and other matters. All you need to do is contact the UNTF office for your card.

Q: Why hasn't someone from the union contacted me?

A: The union's goal is to give everyone the opportunity to become a member and to express his/her opinions about our organization. We have been attempting to contact all UNTF represented employees, but because of the amount of turnover and the delay in receiving an updated list from the University there are some eligible nontenure-track faculty we have not been able to contact yet. If we have not been contacted, please contact UNTF.