



# FA Courier

## *Welcome to the 2012-13 Academic Year!*

☺ Greetings Faculty! I am returning as President of your Faculty Association for the 2012-13 academic year. This is a privilege, however bittersweet. I was eagerly anticipating the marvelous FA leadership that Krista Graham would have provided. I have great respect for Krista and her decision to take advantage of a wonderful and well-deserved career opportunity at Georgia State University.

I will strive to serve in the spirit of strength you deserve and continue focus on the best interest of all. I am sincerely grateful to Tim Connors who agreed to serve for another academic year in the role of FA Past President. I look forward to working with your FA Executive Board. I appreciate their commitment to your union.

The Faculty Association is **Your** union. Your involvement is critical. Reach out to your FA Department and FA College Representatives. **Every faculty member is vital to our FA Team!**

### **President-Elect Nominations**

The position of FA President-Elect is vacant. The faculty member in this role serves one year as President-Elect, a 2<sup>nd</sup> year as President, and a 3<sup>rd</sup> year as Past President. The election for President-Elect will occur at the Fall General Membership meeting on September 26. Send your name and/or the names of faculty colleagues to Laura Frey ([frey11m@cmich.edu](mailto:frey11m@cmich.edu)) and Tim Connors ([conno1td@cmich.edu](mailto:conno1td@cmich.edu).)

Please consider serving. Laura and Tim look forward to working with you, as President-Elect!

## **We are Not Forgetting**

Much has been said by members of the administration about "healing" and "moving forward" but words not accompanied by supporting action will not get the job done. In an interview with CMLife this summer, I made the following statement: **“On behalf of the FA, it is important that the administration is aware that problems continue to exist with communication, transparency, and equity of support to faculty. The fundamental issues present throughout the 2011-12 academic year, have not yet been made right by the administration. There were inequities in terms of treatment to faculty as well as violation of faculty Constitutional rights demonstrated by this administration in early Fall 2011. If the administration has a commitment to a positive campus community, there is a lot of ongoing conversation that has to continue throughout the next academic year.”** As President of the FA, I am committed to whatever genuine opportunities we have to heal and to move forward but it is important that both the membership (and the administration) know that we – all of us in the FA – have not forgotten words and deeds from last year.

## **Fall 2012 RPT Deadlines**

Faculty individual application is due in the department by September 20. See Article 14, 2011-14 Agreement (p. 31). The Agreement can be found on the CMU FA General Website: <http://cmufa.com> (click on “About Us” on this home page).

## **Academic Calendar – Joint Statement of Support**

Dr. Laura Frey, Faculty Association President, and Matt Serra, Executive Director of Faculty Personnel Services, announce the following to the CMU community:

Letter of Agreement #9 of the 2011-2014 Agreement between Central Michigan University and the CMU Faculty Association dealt with possible changes to the academic calendar. It noted the existence of an Academic Senate ad hoc committee and provided that if the Academic Senate voted to recommend changes to the academic calendar, both CMU and CMUFA had agreed to reopen Article 24 (calendar) of the contract.

Last Spring, following lengthy and widespread discussion, the Academic Senate did vote to recommend changes to the academic calendar. Now, the Faculty Association and Central Michigan University, following additional discussion, have committed themselves to implementing this new academic calendar in the Fall of 2014.

## **Academic Calendar – Sharing Your Viewpoint**

Central Michigan University and the CMU Faculty Association announced earlier today that they have agreed to implement the new academic calendar recently recommended by the Academic Senate, beginning with Fall semester 2014. Any calendar change of this magnitude brings with it an assortment of technical issues. We want to address as many of these as possible during the next two years.

If you are aware of a technical issue connected with your program or area of work that must be addressed so that the new academic calendar can be implemented successfully in Fall 2014, please forward this issue to **both** Laura Frey, CMUFA President, at [frey1lm@cmich.edu](mailto:frey1lm@cmich.edu) and Matt Serra, Executive Director of Faculty Personnel Services, at [serra2jm@cmich.edu](mailto:serra2jm@cmich.edu) as soon as possible. Please do this even if this matter was addressed in conjunction with the Academic Senate discussion.

## **Fall General Membership Meeting**

Wednesday, September 26 at 4:00 p.m. in UC Auditorium. Please plan to attend. The election for President-Elect will take place. Refreshments provided.

## **Protect Working Families - Constitutional Amendment Campaign**

A coalition of labor organizations, small businesses, and faith-based organizations through the Protect Our Jobs Coalition (POJ) (<http://www.ProtectOurJobs.com>) coalition **needed 322,609 signatures but they collected and filed more than 684,000 signatures** with the Secretary of State to place a constitutional amendment protecting collective bargaining rights in the Michigan constitution on the ballot in the November election. This constitutional amendment will be a vote for collective bargaining and protect working families to:

- Protect workers' jobs, benefits, safety, and wages
- Help create the middle class and will help keep current working families in the middle class
- Provide a counter weight to the politicians and CEOs who want to bust unions and cut wages
- Give workers their voice and the right to speak up

On August 15 the Board of Canvassers split two to two on placing the constitutional amendment for collective bargaining on the ballot in November. This has the effect of keeping the proposal off the ballot. The two Democratic members of the Board voted to allow the people to vote on the proposal, while the two Republican members of the Board voted to keep it off the ballot.

The refusal of the Republican members of the Board of Canvassers to place the proposal on the ballot occurred despite the fact that the petition contained nearly twice as many signatures as was required to put the proposal on the ballot and despite the fact that the form of the petition had been pre-approved by the Board of Canvassers prior to the petition drive beginning.

The Protect Our Jobs Coalition filed a lawsuit in the Court of Appeals seeking an order to place the collective bargaining proposal on the ballot. In addition, POJ filed a motion with the Michigan Supreme Court to bypass the Court of Appeals due to the need for a quick decision in order to get the proposal on the November ballot. The matter will proceed in the Court of Appeals until and unless the Supreme Court decides to grant the motion to bypass, which would immediately send the case to the Supreme Court.

CMU FA will be working with the MEA and our CMU Joint Union Council on this important topic. Stay Informed.

### **Upcoming Events**

- August 30: FA Canopy at Football Pre-Game Activities (TBD)
- September 8: FA Canopy at Football Pre-Game Activities (1:30-3:30 p.m.) (3:30 p.m. game time)
- September 19: Trustee-Liaison Meeting (typically at 5:00 p.m. in University Auditorium) (contact President's Office)
- September 20: BOT Meeting, (contact President's Office for details)
- October 20: Homecoming Parade and FA Canopy at Football Game (Morning Parade, Afternoon Game) (more details in October)

## **Spring 2013 RPT Preparation**

If you are interested in spring promotion, please attend the RPT luncheon, 11:30-1:00 p.m. on Friday, October 19 in Lakeshore Room, University Center. Bring a copy of your department bylaws. RSVP to Laura Frey, ([frey11m@cmich.edu](mailto:frey11m@cmich.edu)) by October 12.

## **Additional Information**

CMU FA General Website: <http://cmufa.com>

Michigan Education Association, <http://www.mea.org>

MEA Bill Tracker at [www.mea.org/gov/pdf/bill\\_tracker.pdf](http://www.mea.org/gov/pdf/bill_tracker.pdf)

National Education Association, <http://www.nea.org>

## **FA Logo on Your Clothing**

Jill Stalter, owner of In Stitches (620 North Fancher, in the alley), is able to put the FA logo on all types of clothing. Jill has shirts, etc., for sale or you can provide your own clothing. If you are interested, call her at 989-775-8666.

## **FA T-Shirts & Scarves**

The yellow FA T-shirts are free and available in S,M,L,XL, XXL, XXXL.  
The yellow FA scarves are \$5.00. Contact Laura for both ([frey11m@cmich.edu](mailto:frey11m@cmich.edu)).

## 2012-13 FA BOARD MEMBERS

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