



# FA Courier

## ***2014 Bargaining: Moving Forward in Strength and Solidarity***

The 2011-14 Agreement has been ratified, and yet it is clear that it has brought little satisfaction to the majority of the Association membership. Despite the disappointment and frustration that we may feel (perhaps justifiably so), now is not the time to turn against the Association and/or one another. Now is the time to regroup, reengage, and re-channel our energy as we move forward in preparation for bargaining in 2014.

YOU have the same guts, strength, and desire TODAY that was shown on August 15 when WE filled the conference room at the Comfort Inn to give the FA Bargaining Team the authorization to call for a job action. YOU have the same guts, strength, and desire TODAY as the turnout on August 21<sup>st</sup> when WE filled the auditorium at Mount Pleasant High School. YOU have the same guts, strength, and desire TODAY as you demonstrated on August 22<sup>nd</sup> when WE took historic action in the first work stoppage by CMUFA. You changed past practice to establish a new future for collective bargaining at CMU.

Your questions and expressions of frustration at this time are part of the process that can make us FA Stronger; the current FA leadership is keenly aware of this need for reflection and membership outreach. Our future strength requires us to establish and maintain a united future vision.

The FA Executive Board started subcommittee work on this in January and will be reaching out to membership in the near future. Our work for 2014 bargaining begins now. What do YOU want in FA Strength in June 2014? The FA needs YOU.

### **Board of Trustee Meetings on February 15 & 16**

February 15: Trustees-Faculty Liaison Meeting, 5:00 p.m., Lake Michigan Room, UC

February 16: BOT meeting, 9:00 a.m., 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, UC

The Faculty Association has reserved the Lake St. Clair & Lake Huron rooms and BOT meeting will be streamed into these rooms. Refreshments will be provided. If you want to address the board, it is best to contact the President's Office in advance to complete a "request" card.

### **Share Your View: February Chats**

Stop by and share your thoughts with Laura on FA issues. This is the first in a series outreach opportunities to be offered in Spring 2012. Drop-in:

- 11:30 – 1:30 p.m., Monday, February 13, Lake Superior Room, UC
- 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., Thursday, February 15, Lake Superior Room, UC

## FA Spring Elections

FA strength is the result of your involvement and your leadership. Please consider running for an office on the FA Executive Board. There are a number of positions up for election this year including President-Elect (3 year commitment), Secretary (1 year term) and several College reps (2 year terms). Contact Tim Connors, (conno1td@cmich.edu) for additional information or to submit your self-nomination!

## Mount Pleasant Human Rights Ordinance

Please put Monday, February 27, at 7:00 pm on your calendar to attend the City Commission meeting to support the formal presentation of the proposed ordinance by the Steering Committee of the Initiative for a Human Rights Ordinance. Visit [www.MPWelcome.org](http://www.MPWelcome.org) to find the draft of the proposed ordinance and the letter of support presented to the City Commission, and sign the on-line petition asking the Mt. Pleasant City Council to pass the ordinance.

## RPT Luncheon – Save the Date

Fall 2012 Reappointment and Tenure? Now is the time to begin your preparations. CMU FA Spring 2012 RPT Luncheon hosted by Marcia Mackey and Laura Frey.

**Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 – 1:00 p.m., Location TBD**

Box lunches provided. Please RSVP by 5:00 p.m., March 13 to Marcia Mackey ([macke1mj@cmich.edu](mailto:macke1mj@cmich.edu)) or Laura Frey ([Frey1LM@cmich.edu](mailto:Frey1LM@cmich.edu)).

## CMU Joint Union Council

The CMU Joint Union Council represents all collective bargaining units on campus. It is important to have faculty volunteers represent CMU FA. This group will meet soon and needs your involvement. Contact Laura ([Frey1LM@cmich.edu](mailto:Frey1LM@cmich.edu))

## MICHIGAN HOUSE COMMITTEE PASSES MORE ANTI-UNION BILLS

On a party line vote, the House Oversight, Reform and Ethics Committee passed on 1/31/12 House Bills 5023-5026, a package of anti-union bills meant to curtail the powers of labor unions:

- HB 5023--fines striking public employees one day's pay and their union \$5,000 for each day of the strike, expanding the penalties beyond the current rules that only apply to public school employees.
- HB 5024--sets fines and restrictions on members and their unions for mass picketing.
- HB 5025--requires an employee's annual written authorization to have their union dues deducted from their paycheck by employers.
- HB 5026--eliminates the prohibition against employers advertising for strike breakers.

Check the status of bill that MEA is currently tracking in the Legislature, <http://www.mea.org> (click on "Bill Tracker"- right margin on MEA home page)

These bills now go to the full state House for consideration **Contact your state representative.**

## FA Work Stoppage Checks – Supporting 2014 Bargaining

Please consider donating 50% of your work stoppage check to “FA Crisis Fund 2014”. You can make your check out to CMU FA. Mail to: CMU FA (MEA office, 625 N. Main Street, Suite B, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858).

## 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.

CMU FA Crisis Website: <http://cmufaccc.org>

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

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