



FA Courier

The Future of Your CMUFA

The future strength and role of your CMU Faculty Association is entirely in your hands. Yes, we now have Right-to-Work legislation in Michigan, but that does not mean the end of our Association. We maintain the foundation of all collective bargaining rights for the duration of our current contract. Even after the expiration of this contract, the administration is still obligated to bargain with us.

All of us that make up CMUFA, including you, are the steadfast employment watch-dog at CMU. There is no other entity on this campus that looks out for your employment well-being as a tenure-track faculty at CMU than CMUFA. We are all in this together; everyone's participation is important.

It is in your best interest to have a strong union. We use that strength to stand-up for our rights on this campus. We increase our chances to have a strong union when we maintain our strong union membership.

Historically, CMU FA has been strong; I see no reason for that to change. It is true that our union strength is being challenged; outside forces would like to destroy collective bargaining and in that, destroy the foundation of a fair, equitable workplace for tenure-track faculty at CMU. **The only way we lose strength is to give it away.** There is no logical reason for us to give away our own strength.

CMU FA strength for our next contract bargaining begins now. The FA Executive Board needs your involvement to volunteer for the: (a) FA Bargaining Team, (b) Crisis Team, (c) Data Collection Committee, and (d) Communications Committee. Information is provided on the following pages.

I am proud to serve you and proud to be union strong!

Laura

FA Bargaining Team: Call for Applications

The FA Executive Board has initiated the process and timeline to select the FA Bargaining Team for the next contract negotiations. Interested faculty will be asked to submit a short vita and provide some background relative to experience with bargaining. Knowledge of the current contract, and ability to commit to the time necessary to bargain a fair contract for the membership will be important.

See page 5 for application details. If you are interested, contact Laura Frey (Frey1LM@cmich.edu). Applications are due at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 1st. The FA Executive Board will conduct interviews on March 20 and 21.

FA Crisis Committee: Call for Volunteers

The FA Executive Board has activated crisis preparations for our next contract bargaining. We are seeking faculty volunteers to serve Crisis Co-Chairs for the FA. In addition, faculty volunteers are needed for the following Crisis Committees: (a) Picket, (b) Finance, (c) Crisis Headquarters, (d) Crisis Communication, (d) Job Action Policy, and (e) Hospitality. If you are interested, contact Laura Frey by 5:00 p.m., March 1 (Frey1LM@cmich.edu).

FA Data Collection Committee: Are You Interested?

Are you interested in data collection? The FA Executive Board is activating a team of faculty volunteers to begin research and data collection that will assist the FA Bargaining Team for the next contract bargaining. Send your name to Laura Frey by 5:00 p.m. on March 1 (Frey1LM@cmich.edu).

FA Communications Committee: Sign-up

Faculty who are interested in assisting CMUFA with spring communication outreach are invited to volunteer for the FA Communications Committee. We want your assistance to update our Celebration Cinema ad, disseminate new flyers, develop radio and television ads, and outreach to community businesses. Send your name to Laura Frey, ASAP (Frey1LM@cmich.edu).

FA College-Level Faculty Meetings – Spring 2013

The college-level FA meetings are being held between January 28 and February 28. Contact your FA College and FA Department representatives for details (see page 6 for a list of College reps). Your involvement is important.

FA at Women's BB Game on February 10th

Faculty recognition and CMU Women's Basketball! It is a win-win! Join CMU FA at 2:00 p.m. on February 10, as we show our support for the CMU Women's Basketball Team. Faculty can pick up their free general admissions ticket at the McGuirk Arena box office by using their CMU Faculty ID. Wear your yellow FA t-shirt! (If you need a yellow FA t-shirt, contact Laura, at: Frey1LM@cmich.edu)

Open FA Board Positions

Currently, there are FA Executive Board vacancies for the CEHS FA Representative and one of the CST FA Representatives. This is a great opportunity to get involved. If you are interested, please contact Laura Frey, ASAP (Frey1LM@cmich.edu).

FA Executive Board Meetings – Open to Faculty

Faculty are welcome to attend FA Executive Board Meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. on January 31 at the MEA Office, 625 N. Main Street, Suite B, Mount Pleasant, MI.

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), Treasurer (2 year term) and several College reps (2 year terms).** Contact Tim Connors (conno1td@cmich.edu) for additional information or to submit your self-nomination!

Spring RPT Luncheon – Save the Date

Fall 2013 Reappointment and/or Spring 2014 Tenure? Now is the time to begin your preparations. Attend the CMU FA Spring 2013 RPT Luncheon:

Friday, April 5, 11:30 – 1:00 p.m., Maroon & Gold Room, University Center
Box lunches provided. Please RSVP by 5:00 p.m., March 29 to Laura Frey (Frey1LM@cmich.edu).

Additional Information

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

UniServe Director: Melvina Gillespie, email: MGillespie@mea.org; local office
ph.: 989-772-5922;

Local MEA Office: 625 N. Main Street, Suite B, Mount Pleasant, MI 48858;
ph.: 989-772-5922

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

MEA Bill Tracker at 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 (Frey1LM@cmich.edu).

Application for FA Bargaining Team

As part of our ongoing preparations for bargaining a new contract, it is time to form the Bargaining Team. The process for selection of the team is as follows: (1) Interested faculty should submit information and responses to questions (see below) by 5:00 p.m., Friday, March 1; (2) interviews will be conducted on Wednesday and Thursday evening, March 20 and 21 from 6:00-9:00 pm; (3) the FA Board will meet in special session on Thursday, March 21 to make the final selection.

If you are interested in being considered for the Bargaining Team, please submit (**via e-mail**) the following to Laura Frey (Frey1LM@cmich.edu) by the March 1 (5:00 pm) deadline:

1. Short (3 page maximum) vita.
2. Provide a brief statement indicating the skills and/or experiences, including past bargaining experience, you would bring to a bargaining process. Please also include examples of any administrative experience and your involvement in the university beyond your own department (e.g., Global Campus, university committees and/or task forces, etc.).
3. On a scale of 1 (low) to 5 (high), rate your overall knowledge of the current contract.
4. With which aspects of the current contract are you **most** familiar?
5. With which aspects of the current contract are you **least** familiar?
6. The schedule for bargaining has not yet been determined. In all likelihood, the bargaining team will begin its preliminary team-building activities this semester, and hold regular meetings during the 2013-14 Academic Year. The team will devote a substantial portion of summer 2014 to bargaining. Do you have the time and flexibility in your schedule to commit to the time demands of bargaining? Do you have any pre-existing commitments that would restrict your availability to bargain during summer 2014?
7. There is no direct compensation for your service on the Bargaining Team. However, your FA dues will be waived for the length of the resulting contract.

Thank you in advance for your willingness to be considered for this important function of the FA.

Laura

Laura M. Frey
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2012-13 FA BOARD MEMBERS**PRESIDENT**

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