



Bargaining Update

MAHE Negotiations Update –

The Association engaged in two full days of bargaining activities last week. Monday's session was slow and unproductive. The LCC Board of Trustees held a special closed session on Monday, August 8th. It was for purposes of negotiations and a lease agreements. In public comment, MAHE president, Cindy Storie, shared her disappointment with the Board on our behalf. Unfortunately, the process has stalled. New ideas are being brought to the table, instead of focusing on proposals to get our contract completed. Bargaining has lasted over a year and a half, with steadily increasing legal costs, so Storie requested the Board give their team direction to have bargaining wrapped up for the beginning of the new academic year.

Thursday's session took a productive turn with the Association and the College exchanging proposals. The Association's proposals reflected changes to the employment practices language. The College presented compensation, vacancies, and seat limit proposals. At our next session we will resume discussions. We have scheduled three full-days of negotiations the week of August 22.

State Legislative Update:

While the legislature continues its assault on education employees, we do have some specific information to share about what has been signed into law at this point. We have no worries about Health Care at this juncture since we have a closed contract through June of 2013 for health care. This can always change with new bills being signed into law, but at this point we are safe. However, since we are working under an expired contract, we will not be receiving any step increases in our salary nor any educational advancement raises until we settle a contract. Also, any negotiated increases are prohibited from being retroactive due to Public Act 54 signed by the Governor on June 6, 2011. On a positive note, the new tenure, probation, evaluation and due process law does not include community college or university faculty.

Need a legislative update? Check out:

<https://10-ecc.groupsite.com/main/summary>

This web site will give you recent Michigan legislative activities and information provided by your Lansing area and Flint area MEA staff.

General Membership Meeting

BARGANING UPDATE

Wednesday,
August 24, 2011
A&S 170 1:00-2:30

New UniServ Directors Join MAHE's Team

Rulesha Payne has been assigned to represent the MEA units at Lansing Community College. She will be taking on bargaining and grievance responsibilities for our local. Rulesha is excited about the opportunity to work again with Higher Education Units. Beginning in 2005 as an MEA UniServ, she worked with Lake Michigan College Faculty, Flint UTF, Kent County, Ionia County, and Berrien County faculty. (UniServ are staff assigned to our local from MEA.). Prior to employment by MEA, Rulesha worked for 15 years as a teacher for the Kentwood Public Schools.

Payne's trainings and union experiences have provided her with the foundation to be a strong advocate for MAHE members. While working for the MEA, she helped lead Michigan Education Association Women and Minority Internship Program; Rulesha is an NEA UniServ Professional Development Program Graduate; While teaching in the Grand Rapids area she served her local as the Kentwood Education Association Vice President; Bargaining Team Member; Grievance Chairperson; and Building Representative. She also holds a Masters Degree in Educational Leadership.

Education is Rulesha's passion! To have a job that helps her remain connected to education and advocate for individuals that work for learning institutions in many capacities motivates her. We have a lot of motivation to supply at LCC!

Kevin M. Karpinski, began working as a UniServ Director at MEA in 1996. He is now assigned to the Faculty and Professional-Technical Units at Mott Community College, the Faculty at Baker College of Flint, Lansing Community College Faculty, ESP, PT-CTU, FMA in addition to the Michigan State University APA unit. Kevin's previous assignment with MEA was as UniServ Director for school district groups in Ingham and Clinton County. Prior to MEA, he worked as a Contract Administrator for the Clerical-Technical Union of MSU and was a faculty member in the Labor Education Program under the College of Labor and Industrial Relations.



In addition, Karpinski worked in the private sector in the airline industry from 1981 through 1992 when the era of hostile takeovers, mergers and liquidations prevailed for many workers in numerous transportation companies. While serving as a Local President (1,500 members) and eventually as a District Vice-President (33,000 members) He gained grass roots experience as a union activist.

He is recognized as a national trainer on Saul Alinsky community organizing methods and served on the cadre of trainers for the National Education Association. We expect all of this training will help us as we deal with our current bargaining crisis.

Kevin volunteers in youth entrepreneurial programs for the Prima Civitas Foundation and the Michigan Bio Alliance. His creation, "Mind Design" has been in operation as an "idea lab" over the past few years and it has been a popular selection at the Youth 4-H expo for young entrepreneurs. Kevin's community work connects him to LCC, MSU and Mott. He brings a non-traditional perspective to labor-management relations. As a current business owner, labor advocate, and volunteer for a number of economic development programs and boards, he hopes to be an asset to our membership. He plans to attend membership and Sentate meetings and, and is looking forward to meeting and serving MAHE members.

**Please Attend the
General
Membership
Meeting**

**A&S 170
1:00 - 2:30
Wednesday,
August 24, 2011**