UMass Amherst

MSP MSP <msp@umass.edu>

MSP Bargaining Call for Participation

1 message

MSP <msp@umass.edu> Thu, Oct 1, 2026 at 1:19 PM
To: All Unit Email List <allunit@groups.umass.edu>

Hello everyone!

This Spring, almost every union on campus will be back at the bargaining table, and MSP is no exception. The officers of the MSP are pleased to call for all active members to participate in our next round of bargaining – we need everyone's ideas and effort to succeed!

There are many ways to get involved, and all of them are an important contribution!

- Talk with your colleagues – **join the Solidarity Team** that's aiming to have a conversation with every member in the bargaining unit about what matters to them for this contract and beyond! Join us October 27th and November 16th for a fun and interactive workshop on having these conversations. More details and RSVP at: https://forms.gle/squrun2safvSPtJZ9https://forms.gle/squrun2safvSPtJZ9 or write to msp@umass.edu if you can't make it to the workshop but want to join the team!

- Commit to **attending a campus-wide action mid-day on October 22**, where we'll join the other campus unions at lunchtime for pizza (11:30am in the Cape Cod lounge) and a rally outside Whitmore to let campus leadership know we want their support in advocating for Fair Wages Now! for all higher ed workers! And, on November 20th, get on the bus to Boston for a statewide rally to make the demand of the legislature and governor!

- Once bargaining is underway, are you the kind of person who wants to plan events and actions, and to turn people out in force? Then let us know as you'll want to **join our Contract Action Team**! Or, maybe you have a specific interest in an issue that's important to members – we'll be forming teams to research those issues, to draft proposals, and to recruit member-experts to testify in bargaining and to attend bargaining. Let us know what matters to you! **Use this link to sign up for these and other important roles, described below.**

- Or maybe you'd like to be directly involved at the table? Our contract contemplates a four-member **core bargaining team** consisting of three faculty and one librarian**.** Let us know if you want to **nominate yourself** (or someone else -- ask them first!) to serve on the team. We ask that nominees meet with a current officer who has previously served on a bargaining team before being placed on the ballot to have a conversation about the role, its load, and its responsibility. And of course we welcome inquiries from any member who wants to talk informally about the role before accepting a nomination. We expect to open the election at the end of October, and we'll send another reminder before we close nominations on October 16th.

- Another great way to familiarize yourself with the bargaining process is to **commit to joining bargaining sessions as a "silent bargaining representative"** and witness the negotiations as part of "expanded bargaining." Again, we'd be happy to chat if you have questions about this role!

Sign up for specific roles using the links above or email MSP@umass.edu. We look forward to hearing from you!

In solidarity,
Jacquie Kurland and Marc Liberatore

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Massachusetts Society of Professors
The union representing faculty & librarians at UMass Amherst.

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