

April 23, 2024

Bargaining Update

Bargaining continues! The parties met again on Wednesday, April 17th to exchange and discuss counter-proposals. Our goal remains to settle a strong contract before our current contract expires this summer.

There are several crucial administration counter-proposals we have not yet received—most importantly, their salary and economic proposal. Among our highest priorities in this round of bargaining are robust increases to long-stagnant salary floors and promotional increments, appropriate across-the-board raises to keep up with inflation, and retroactive merit. Given the campus's extremely strong financial position (a \$112M budget surplus in FY23 [1]), we expect a serious reply to our proposals. Other unions across the state have already negotiated economics at the table, and so we expect our administration's economic proposal soon.

We will be meeting near-weekly with the administration in May, and will continue to keep you updated—and to ask for your help and testimony!—as we continue our work.

In solidarity,

Jeremy Smith
Kate Hudson
Katie D'Urso
Lori Reardon
Marc Liberatore
Sigrid Schmalzer

[1]

<https://www.umassp.edu/sites/default/files/publications/FY25%20-%20FY29%20Financial%20Forecast.pdf> page 8, linked from <https://www.umassp.edu/budget-office/reports-and-initiatives/annual-operating-budget-and-financial-forecast>