

Subject: MSP Bargaining Update
From: MSP <msp@umass.edu>
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To: All Unit Email List <allunit@groups.umass.edu>

Your bargaining team has been hard at work for the past month and a half. The administration has finally responded to our compensation proposal with a proposal of their own -- a terrible one. While our proposal raises floors and promotional increments, improving compensation for faculty at every level, theirs fails even to guarantee the across the board cost-of-living raises provided by the governor's parameters. The Administration made clear that they see cost-of-living raises, such as the one we received last year, as "gifts." They are disinclined to acquiesce to our reasonable proposals around equity, or to tap into the enormous campus budget surplus reported at the Board of Trustees (earmarked for "strategic investments"). They have also proposed numerous take-backs, including a proposal that will increase precarity of employment for NTT faculty. Many other proposals are still in play and will continue to be the subjects of continued bargaining.

We are pausing bargaining for the summer, but when we return in the fall, we'll come back recharged to work with the other unions to push back against these proposals. Be ready to mobilize in the fall to help win a fair contract!