

January/February 2016

YOUR UNION

Union of Nontenure-Track Faculty
at Michigan State University
Local 1855 AFT, AFL-CIO

Nominations for UNTF Executive Board

The UNTF Executive Board will be elected this May. The current Executive Board began serving in May 2014 but our constitution calls for the Board elected this May to serve a three (3) year term. We are currently accepting nominations for officers. The following nine (9) offices are to be filled:

- a. President
- b. Vice President
- c. Secretary
- d. Treasurer
- e. Chair – Organizing Committee
- f. Chair – Negotiating/Grievance Committee
- g. Chair – Communications Committee
- h. Chair – Solidarity/Political Action
- i. Chair – Finance Committee

The duties for each position are in the UNTF constitution. A copy of the constitution is available from the UNTF office or the UNTF website. The UNTF President, by virtue of her/his office will also serve as a delegate to the American Federation of Teachers convention and conventions of its affiliated offices.

Nominations must be in writing and will be accepted until 5:00 pm on **Friday February 29, 2016**.

You may nominate someone by e mail (elections@untf.org) or by sending it to the UNTF office (2990 East Lake Lansing Rd, Suite 201-E, East Lansing 48823). Nominations must be received by UNTF by **5:00 pm** on Friday February 29, 2016 to be considered.

You must be a member in good standing to nominate someone. Nominees for office must be a member in good standing for at least six (6) months prior to the election. You may nominate yourself or another member. Members who are nominated and willing to serve must affirmatively accept their nomination.

The Election will be overseen by a committee of members appointed by the UNTF Executive Board. The members are Cheryl Caesar, Carmen De Lorenzo, Jason Price and Dave Ragan.

UNTF Membership Meeting February 2nd

Our spring General Membership Meeting is open to all full members in good standing. It is **Tuesday February 2nd at Beggar's Banquet** on Abbot Road across from campus. Appetizers will be served at 5:30 and the business meeting will start at 6:00 pm. Hope to see you there!

New UNTF Organizer Whitney Dziurka

The UNTF has hired a new full-time organizer, Whitney Dziurka. Whitney graduated from Central Michigan and has been working as an organizer for their graduate student and teaching faculty union.

Whitney fills the position formerly held by Elizabeth Pellerito who moved to work at the University of Oregon.



Whitney will work with UNTF represented faculty and academic staff to develop internal organizing and servicing. She can be reached at the UNTF office.

Whitney previously has worked exclusively in politically conservative Right to Work shops, and has a tremendous union background in her family. She, as well as all her family members, have been in or still are union workers, and so she comes to us with an acute understanding of how important being a union member is. In her free time, Whitney enjoys reading about labor history and policy and creating artwork.

Professional Development Travel Funds Available

The UNTF Executive Board is pleased to announce that we will once again offer the Professional Development Travel Fund in spring 2016. The PDTF provides grants of \$200 to full members who are attending out of town conferences or other trainings for purposes of professional development. This semester the board has allocated a total of \$4,000 for the trainings. If the office receives more applications for grants than moneys available, the board will choose recipients via a lottery system. The application can be found on the UNTF website and should be submitted by February 29, 2016.

“In a perfect world each department would fully fund the professional development of their entire faculty. But that is not the world we live in. Some departments give fixed term faculty and academic staff, the lowest paid, the least resources.” said **Penny Gardner**, UNTF President. “This fund, while giving small grants, can make the difference for some fixed term faculty”

Contact us

2990 E. Lake Lansing Rd., Ste. 201-E
East Lansing, MI 48823
(517) 203-0880
office@untf.org
www.untf.org
www.facebook.com/UNTF1855